

## Chairman's Report 2018-19

The major achievement of the last year has been broadband enhancement. Fibre broadband had been implemented in Flyford Flavell, but broadband speeds outside the village remained woefully slow. The parish council worked to develop an affordable fibre broadband scheme with the lead taken by Steve Nesbitt. Extensive work and negotiation saw costs fall from £188,000 to £52,000 to connect a further 90 properties. In parallel grants were found which reduced the householder contribution to nil. A contract was signed on 7-9-18 for implementation within 12 months. I understand the majority of the work is almost complete and 90 householders should soon have the opportunity to connect fibre direct into their homes.

Progress on village green enhancements had slowed with just one bench being agreed and installed in the prior year. The working group was reconstituted in October, and a lot of potential improvements explored. Further bulb planting was agreed and £200 made available, though just too late for the 2018 planting window. Four more benches have been agreed. These have been purchased and are waiting installation. A litter bin has been agreed. Play equipment and planting and landscaping proposals have been developed and are ready for public consultation. Water and electricity supply are under investigation, together with further improvement to the grass surface.

A sign for Flyford Green is still being investigated.

We have dealt with twenty two planning items in the past year. The majority were supported by the Parish Council. A few were opposed, with mixed success.

The improvements to Flyford Church have been completed with the implementation of a heating system. The New Homes Bonus grant of

£5295 has been made and the Parish Council has funded 50 community chairs.

We have supported the Three Parishes Hall to investigate further enhancement and potential extension. A proposal was developed, but is currently on hold as funding is required for a bat survey.

We nominated Tony Hughes for the Jubilee Recognition Award from Wychavon. I am delighted that he won and accepted the award on behalf of all those who have supported the Three Parishes Hall over the years.

The Grafton Society is being wound up and we have received a donation of £1500. This money is to be used for the benefit of the rural area.

Having seen a low incidence of crime in the Parishes for some time we had a significant increase in burglaries and some vandalism. This has prompted investigation of Neighbourhood Watch and Smartwater. These are both planned for consultation

We are planning a public consultation event in June. This will include village green enhancements, Neighbourhood Watch, Smartwater, and how we might further improve communication to the local community.

We have continued the Lengthsman scheme, and also held a recent litter pick.

Various potholes and road defects have been reported and a number of repairs carried out. Resurfacing is currently being carried out for Bishampton road which it is hoped will repair the road damage at the edge of Flyford Flavell.

We reviewed our GPDR compliance and have appointed a Data Protection Officer and implemented a compliant email communication system, using mailchimp.

We tried a combined, Three Parishes, annual parish meeting this year and held it at Flyford First School. This was very successful, with over 20 attendees and a good variety of input.

The precept was reviewed and agreed to be increased by 4.0%. The precept is still well below the national average for small parish councils.

Steve Nesbitt resigned as a councillor earlier this year, and I would like to record my personal thanks for his excellent work on broadband. I would like to conclude by thanking all our councillors for their valuable contributions and input, Rob Adams and Linda Robinson for their continued strong support at County and Wychavon, and to Gayle Rowe for her service as Footpath officer. Particular thanks are due to Richard Davey, for excellent support including chairing several meetings and our Clerk, Mark for his continued strong service.

David Waide

14th May 2019