

Outgoing Chairman's Report 2020/2021

This report covers the six months from November 2020 to May 2021. This shortened period is due to the deferral of the 2020 AGM consequent on Covid 19.

The broadband project has now seen all grant properties connected and their vouchers validated. A compensation case is being pursued for the delay with the intent to give any compensation to charity.

We have dealt with 9 planning applications in the past 6 months. Six were supported by the Parish Council, and three were opposed. Of the opposed applications, one is still under review by Wychavon, one was approved by Wychavon, and one has been withdrawn.

The South Worcestershire Development Plan has continued to progress with the next major step being public consultation due November/December 2021.

Concerns were submitted regarding proposed national planning changes. A revised White Paper is about to be made public by the government.

The Parish Council investigated the implications of creating a Neighbourhood Plan, and held a public meeting on 30th March for Parishioners interested in supporting the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan. This had very limited attendance, falling well short of the 8 or so necessary to create a committee. We agreed not to progress further at present and to review again after 6 months.

We have supported the Three Parishes Hall with their planned extension. The building work has just completed in time to allow our AGM on the 18th May to be held in the hall.

A temporary Christmas tree was provided by the PC for the village green. A permanent Christmas tree was very kindly donated and installed by John Broderick early in 2021. The raised beds have been implemented on the Village Green and already look very colourful and attractive. A Wychavon Legacy grant has just been approved which gives us enough money to implement the play equipment and the next stage of tree planting. We expect to place the orders imminently, for the play equipment to be installed this summer and the tree planting this autumn. Meadfleet Community fund have also agreed to provide nesting boxes, a bug hotel and wildflower seed.

An investigation is in progress regarding Flyford Pond, including the possibility of bringing it into community ownership, and carrying out some improvements.

The Flyford Village Sign is on order with installation expected in the summer.

We funded Neighbourhood Watch and speed limit signs for parishioner's bins, and these have mostly been distributed and fitted.

We have continued the Lengthsman Scheme. The litter picks have been disrupted by the latest lockdown, and are proposed to re-start in the autumn.

Following the submission of our A422 Road safety petition, the County Council has developed a road safety improvement plan. We are awaiting further consultation with

the County and Neighbouring PCs on this. We have also developed a Transport and Highways plan, which is currently out for parishioner consultation.

Ditch clearing has been carried out along the Bishampton Road to alleviate flooding concerns.

We are in progress with major improvements to our PC website. These are aimed 1) at improving access and legibility and making it compliant with latest requirements; 2) at improving our communication to all our Parishioners. Ceri Bennett has been leading this and also agreed to set up a PC Facebook link to the Flyford Social Facebook page.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on 17th May 2021 as a zoom meeting.

Pauline Wakeman has recently resigned, due to moving house, after many years of excellent service. I am very pleased to welcome Andrew Short who has agreed to re-join the PC in addition to his role as Footpaths Officer. We are still 2 councillors below a full complement and are looking for interested parishioners to put themselves forward.

Rob Adams has resigned as County Councillor after very many years of excellent support. Linda Robinson replaces Rob as our County Councillor and also continues as our District Councillor.

I would like to conclude by thanking all our councillors for their valuable contributions and input, and Rob Adams and Linda Robinson for their strong support at County and Wychavon. Particular thanks are due to our Clerk, Mark for his continued excellent service, including regular councillor briefings during Covid.