

Chairmans Address AGM 2018

I would like to thank you all for coming and take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors for their support over the last year, especially to my Vice Chairman Colin for his help.

The year has been eventful, our hopes for faster Broadband have been realised and the work to gain a better mobile signal continues. We saw two masts offered over the year which were not the will of our community, so we continue to look at alternatives.

The Parish Council have continued to pay for regular grass cuts to the green and due to lack of volunteers and the mower standing idle we took the decision to give it to the Village Hall committee, in lieu of a grant and a new grant to the Village shop was also awarded during the last twelve months.

We have also provided the Church with a grant to maintain the Churchyard, this year we have learned that the Church Yard is almost full and will need to be closed. A committee to help the Council and the Church find a way forward has started their work and we look forward to a resolution.

The Flood problems are still being addressed, my thanks to all of those who regularly check drains and grating in the village to keep us safe. Plans are also under way to do more flood alleviation in the autumn. My thanks to all those people who attended flood warden training and continue to be committed to helping the village should we be needed.

The Parish Council have continued to monitor the Planning applications which come before us and have been disappointed to be overruled by Teignbridge at times.

We are a community and as such we need to pull together and work together for our village. This year marks 100 years since the young men of our village walked into Newton Abbot to enlist for the 1st World War, full of hope and fully expecting to come back to the village & community that they had grown up in. I am the 5th Generation of my family to serve on this Council. To be an elected member of a Parish Council is an honour, which I have taken seriously, its about doing the right thing for our village and its environment as well as the good of those who choose to live here, now and in the future.

Being a Parish Councillor is about the community, not about personal points of view and not for settling petty vendettas. Next May the Parish Council will be standing for re election and I would urge people to start think about standing. Please come and have a chat if you have any questions. At the end of the day, we are unpaid representatives who give their time for the love of the village, I hope that everyone remembers this.

In conclusion I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Clerk for all the hard work she put in for the Parish Council and the Village. As legislation and administrative duties are made ever greater by the local Council and Government, so the need for a someone who keeps up to date and keeps us on the straight and narrow is ever more important, so thank you Rachel.