

As usual I looked back at last years report from the Annual Assembly to see how the year had gone.

The remedial work on the roads, following the sewerage scheme construction is now partly complete with the remainder scheduled for High Road and the Barracks to be completed soon.

The new footway, reported last year, is presently under construction and this will be a big improvement on the previous grass edged path

Our success in the Village of the Year continued in 2005 when we won the Community Category, which is judged on a county wide basis. Parson Drove was judged Fenland District category winner. Congratulations and thanks to all who help with this.

I reported last year that the 30mph has now been approved and will be funded from the jointly funded minor improvement budget. New signage, a change of interactive signs to display '30' plus two additional interactive signs will be supported by four kerbed build outs with reflectorised spring back 'keep right' signs to help self enforce the speed reduction. This work, costing a further £10,000 is planned for the coming financial year. This is ongoing but expected to be finished soon.

At a Public Open Meeting, held on April 21st, a working group was formed to work on our Parish Plan. We were successful in obtaining a £1500 grant towards the project costs. The independent working group meets on a regular basis and is currently working on the questionnaire.

The Council was successful in funding a scheme to pipe and fill the drain at the front of the village Playing Field. The project cost of £15,000.00 was jointly funded by the Parish Council, FDC, the Playing Field Committee, the Amenity Project Committee and local business goodwill contributions. The work was completed on time and that area is now greatly improved as a result.

On the 10th July we held VE / VJ day celebrations. Cllr Mrs. Hall worked on a project to mark the event within the village. A successful funding application allowed invited guests to have Afternoon tea and entertainment in the Village Hall. This really successful event, appreciated by all who attended, also provided a lasting reminder in the form of memoirs recorded for future generations.

During the year the development, off High Road, commenced. This has caused, and will continue to cause, a certain amount of disruption in the village. The problems at present are associated with the access road and laying of services to the site. Hopefully the situation should improve as the building work progresses. The effect of this large development within our village, especially the school, will not be known for some time.

The village website continues to grow, thanks must go to John Timms at Design Site for his input.

I was invited to attend the Luncheon Club in May to see how successful the club is. It was a very enjoyable lunchtime but I couldn't believe how noisy it was!

As well as our usual donation this year we contributed to the Church Hall improvements and made a contribution of £250 to help the school with heating the swimming pool.

Unfortunately we end this year with the resignation, for personal reasons, of Mrs. Atkins. Pat has always been active and effective member of the Parish Council and although she will be missed we thank her and wish her well.

As a Council we continue

- To be consulted on all planning applications and make comments and observations as appropriate.
- To administer our Parish affairs and finances
- To comment on all matters concerning the Parish at District and County levels

Thanks must go to PC Coales for her work in the community and her regular attendance at our meetings.

My thanks must go to all the members of the Council for their input and involvement during the year. A special thank you to those of you who have attended any meetings, seminars or presentations for or on behalf of the Council.

Finally special thanks to our Clerk, Rosemary, for all her hard work during the year.