

## **From the Chairman**

I hope this third published Annual Report will give you an idea of what the Parish Council has been doing. We are really anxious to move forward with new projects for the parish, but need ideas from you.

Sadly we have not been able to develop our parish website during the past year, as we have not had any volunteers to work on this. Terry at Tiger Media has put our Minutes on each time, but it would be good to try and develop this a little further and it needs input from you. Please let us have ideas of what you might like to see on it. It is there to keep you in touch with what is going on in the parish. We are really keen to develop this a little more and would love pictures or notices from you all. Please contact the Clerk if you are at all interested in helping with this.

[www.symondbury.org.uk](http://www.symondbury.org.uk)

We always put up agendas and minutes in Broadoak, Eype, Pine View, Symondbury and West Cliff. One of our targets this coming year is to improve the noticeboards around the parish

## **Symondbury School**

We are pleased to continue to have our meetings in the school and have enjoyed seeing the new improvements to the school building.

## **Meetings**

Our meetings are on the second Tuesday of every other month (January onward) at 7.00 p.m. in the School. Do feel free to attend our meetings, and there is always an opportunity to raise issues during the meeting in the Democratic Half Hour (or five minutes!). We have very few members of the public attend our meetings, though the Annual Meeting was well attended last year.

## **Local Councillors**

Gillian Summers, District Councillor and Geoff Brierley, County Councillor, attend our meetings occasionally and we are always grateful for their input and advice. PC Iverson, our community officer, is always most helpful on his visits.

## **Planning Applications**

We have dealt with 41 applications this year, a \* increase on last year. There have been few major concerns on planning in the parish this year, but we always make an effort to check each application with those in that area.

## **Vital Villages Parish Plan**

The Housing Group has had to take a back seat for the present, as they have not been able to identify any sites for building or development. However, they are always trying to identify buildings which could be converted into affordable housing, or sites where housing could be

built. Any suggestions from the community would be most welcome.

A planting scheme at Starfarthing Copse, Eype, has taken place, with a view to improving the area around the Caravan Park. Thanks to the Chisnalls and Richard George for initiating this, with a grant from WDDC.

## **Footpaths**

We have not had too many issues with footpaths this year, but if anyone has any problems, do let us know.

## **Allotments**

Clifford Harp is our Allotments officer and deals with any issues. We are delighted that all our allotments are filled at the moment.

## **Roads and Transport**

The continuing concern with the A35 has taken quite a bit of our time and we have participated in meetings with Oliver Letwin and the Highways Authority. Recent developments indicate that all the reports and surveys done to date are being shelved and budgets for road improvements are being slashed. We will continue to try to keep this on the priority list.

We have good contact with Clarence, the department of DCC responsible for road maintenance and endeavour to keep them up to date with the requirements for

minor works around the Parish. Do call them yourselves 0800 232323 if you spot something that needs doing, or contact David so that he can add it to his schedule.

## **Bridport Local Area Partnership**

We are on the Steering Group of BLAP which endeavours to bring together as many community groups in and around Bridport as possible. We can always learn from listening to others, and the sharing of ideas and information has been most useful as well as the louder voice created by several communities joining together to raise issues.

## **Pine View Play Area**

Unfortunately no-one has come forward to develop this area, so it will remain a wildlife reserve for the present.

## **Correspondence**

Our clerk has dealt with nearly \* items of correspondence. The wider use of email has greatly cut down on costs and speeded up communication.

## **Clerk and Councillors**

David Wragg, our Clerk, is continuing his training to gain his Clerk's qualification which will enable us to raise our standards considerably and become a Quality

Council. With the reorganisation of Local Government looming, this will enable Symondsbury PC to take on more responsibilities which in turn will hopefully allow us to deliver better service to the community.

We have been attempting to update our procedures over the last few months, which sounds boring, but should ensure that we are in a position to take on our new responsibilities. We have set up a policy Committee which meets on the alternate months from council meetings. This is a chance to look at some issues in a little more depth, an example being discussion of the Sustainable Communities Bill which received much interest in Bridport recently.

We have sadly said farewell to Cllr. Roy Lidington, who has been with us for over 12 years. The experience he brought with him will be much missed and we wish him well in his retirement. Julia Colfox has offered herself for co-option.

Grateful thanks to all the other councillors who make the effort to attend meetings and investigate any issues which arise.

### **Finances**

We increased the precept slightly last year but with expenditure at £3,600 we are continuing to eat into our resources, and have had to precept for an increase to £5,800 for the coming year. With the

opportunity to build up funds, we can look to undertake projects this coming year such as provision of better noticeboards, small environmental schemes, etc.

For charitable donations we try to select those that apply specifically to our parishioners, and those that would not be funded by other councils. Please let us know what you might like us to be involved with.

Our Accounts are always open for inspection, but I give below a brief summary of our income and expenditure, to give you an idea of where your money goes.

### **Summary of Annual Accounts**

#### **Income**

Precept	£3,000
Grant (tree planting)	£438
Other	£256
	<b>£3,694</b>

#### **Expenditure**

Admin (Clerk)	£2,283
Admin (Other)	£631
Rent (Allotment)	£140
Subscription	£25
Grant (tree planting)	£438
Donations	£68
Symondsbury PCC	£400
West Cliff Noticeboard	£40
	<b>£4,025</b>

## **SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2005/6**

### **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Thursday 4th May 2006  
7.30 p.m. in Symondsbury School**

**A chance to hear renowned  
expert Professor Denys Brunsten  
talk about our Jurassic Coast  
Refreshments!**

#### **Councillors 2005/6**

**Amanda Streatfeild (Chairman)**

**Roy Lidington (Vice Chairman), Ronnie Baker, Mike Davis, Clifford Harp, Harry Harrison, Selwyn Holmes, Vince O'Farrell, Peter Smith**

**Ancient Monuments Officer: Paul Atterbury**

**Footpaths: Carol Alner**

**Clerk: David Wragg, Acorn Cottage,  
Broadoak, Bridport, Dorset DT6 5NN**

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