

## Chairman's Report.

Good Evening All and Welcome.

As usual. This has been a mixed year. We have not had quite as many planning applications as in previous years; maybe we are getting a full Village !

Starting with the Village Hall. The front car park has been resurfaced; a gate has been installed in the rear car park beside the container. This has two main aims: to facilitate the access for a mower to cut the strip of grass beside the Hall and also to allow pedestrian access to the Hall particularly on bonfire night, without going across the whole car park. Hopefully it will serve these purposes.

Whilst on the subject of the Hall. The pond on Blacksmith's Field has been cleared, the newts are now visible. Our thanks to Roger Beecroft for this work. Roger dug the pond when it was first 'built'; he was very amused to see that the seat he built years ago, still in position and functioning. Roger is also going to take over the cutting and maintenance of the Wildflower Meadow, once again an area he created and looked after for a few years.

CIL monies have enabled us to pay for these works to be carried out. We have also agreed to use this money to pay for the widening of the door between the pool room and the lounge in the Hall as part of the upgrading to the lounge area of the Hall.

A survey was carried out re what equipment to add to that already in place on Blacksmith's Field. There were not enough in favour of a skatepark to install one. It was also decided that the cost of a table tennis table was too high given the small response in favour. A zip wire was agreed upon and is in the process of being built. We are also looking at where to put a basketball 'net'.

My thanks to Mr Barnes for his work at Lilley's Wood. Three benches have been purchased for the site, yet to be installed; once again, thanks to CIL.

The footpath leading up to the church along All Saints Rd has been cut back, hopefully this can be cut and kept in a better state than in previous years . I feel a tribute must be paid here to Paul Scully who, with his partner Pat, worked hard over the years to keep this path clear. Also to the Hardingham's who helped cut it for us last year. Hopefully, now, we have a bit of funding towards keeping it in a better state.

At last, the A140 junction with All Saints Rd has been resurfaced and a speeding limit of 30mph for this length of All Saints Rd is to be installed. A noticeboard for that end of the village is under discussion.

An extra dog bin has been placed at the entrance to the first footpath in Sally Woods Lane.

My thanks to all the Committee Members who have worked over the year to achieve these goals; Jennie Blackburn, the Parish Clerk, for telling us what we can and can't do; Matthew Hicks our SCC Member for helping us achieve items, particularly Highways-related and our MSDC representatives for their support.

Sue Haynes

Chair, Creeting St Mary Parish Council