



STROUD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Tuesday 17th April 2018
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Parish Councillor Update

During the last year Cllr Ony Rogers resigned from the Parish Council for personal reasons. On behalf of the Council I would like to thank Ony for all her hard work, particularly around footpaths and the annual litter pick.

Following Ony's resignation and managing the legal requirements for finding a new Councillor, Council have co-opted Michelle Snow onto the Council. I am sure many of you know Michelle who has lived in and around the Parish for a number of years and has been our Parish Clerk in the past. Michelle comes to the Council with over 10 years' experience in local government.

Your other Parish Councillors are:

- Alan Burges, Vice Chairman, with responsibility for Langrish School and bus shelters;
- Carl Foulston our tree **warden** with responsibility for the Recreation Ground and planning;
- Dave Paul, with responsibility for Communications (website and newsletters);
- Oliver Howe with responsibility for the Community Forum;
- David McKinney, Chairman, with responsibility for the Parish Plan;
- Liz Foulston is the Parish Clerk and the Responsible Financial Officer.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking our County Councillor, Russell Oppenheimer and District Councillor, Nick Drew, for their support during the last year. I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors and the Clerk for their continued support and the work they have done on behalf of the community.

Finance

The precept, which is the amount of money requested to run the affairs of the Parish, was £12,545 in the financial year 2016/17. This financial year there has been a further decrease of the precept by 2.2% to £11,941. This is the third year in a row that the precept has been reduced (0.50% 2014/15, 1.48% 2015/16 or 4.18% in total).

The precept covers the salary of the Clerk, hire of halls for Council meetings, training courses, mowing contracts for the recreation ground, emptying dog

waste bins, cleaning of the bus shelters, playground safety inspections and for general maintenance and repair of Parish assets. Further information regarding the Parish Council's accounts are available on our website (www.stroud-pc.gov.uk) or can be requested from the Clerk.

Grants

In the last financial year, the Council has been looking at larger projects in the Parish and although we are yet to receive the funding we have secured grant funding for Community Speed Watch, flashing speed signs for the A272 and new goal posts for the recreation ground.

The Council are always keen to look for alternative sources of funding to reduce increases in the precept while still making enhancements to the Parish.

Planning

The Council reviews every planning application submitted in the Parish and in the last year, there have been 10 such applications.

There are now several Tree Preservation Orders in the Parish, the most recent being the tree line separating the two paddocks on the proposed development land in Ramsdean Road.

We now have 2 presentations one from Nick the Parish Lengthsman and secondly from Rob Hall from Cala Homes. After each presentation there will be time for questions and I would be grateful if you would give your name before asking your question.

SDNPA/18/01777/FUL submitted 30 March 2018 and validated 5 April 2018. There is a 13 week public consultation period for planning applications and your views do matter.

**David McKinney
Chairman of Stroud Parish Council.**