

Annual Parish Meeting

NPHPC Chair's Report 2023-24

This has been a year in which I, as the new Parish Council Chair, have faced two very rarely encountered situations within the Parish – i.e. the horrendous floods of 9th May and the Travellers who illegally occupied the second Webbers Meadow on 23rd August.

The Parish Council has been a collective effort and has achieved much during the year. I wish to thank all of the Councillors for their endeavours, but especially my Vice Chair and the Parish Clerk for giving me their personal support and for their own demanding work.

There are so many people that I also wish to thank: -

1. Members of the Public who have attended meetings to give comments to the Council
2. Volunteers such as Ted Swan & Gill Cameron Webb and their teams of volunteers for their involvement in such sterling work on the ground with footpaths & tree plantings; and Bob Sercombe and Paul Vernon for maintaining the flagpoles and flags.
3. Jess Bailey, our Devon County Councillor and Chris Burhop, our East Devon District Councillor for their help and ongoing support, especially in respect of Road & Traffic Safety aspects. They have also been involved with issues within the Parish such as Red Bridge & Flooding which has greatly impacted Harpford and with Back Brook.
4. Members of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) Working Party who took on the responsibility for the daily opening/closing of the MUGA, maintenance & bookings for this refurbished and newly reopened facility. It has proved to be an invaluable Community asset and is being enjoyed by both Parishioners and local sports teams.
5. Volunteers of the Community Café who donated £1,500 towards the replacement bridge at Venn Ottery, bought the power sweeper and drag mat for the MUGA surface and paid for the repairs to the War Memorial which had been irreverently damaged by children.

I am fully aware that it has been a difficult, and sometimes stressful year for many Parishioners, but I look forward to a better year for all and I am sure that the Parish Council will strive to achieve just that.

Susan P. Tribble

29th April 2024