

## Chairman's report 2016-2017

The year has been a difficult one for the Parish Council with a great deal of additional work to the norm. In April we learnt that the Park development had gone to appeal and was decided by the Planning Inspectorate in favour of the developer. The Parish Council recognised that some development was inevitable but the scale proposed was far larger than the PC thought compatible with the existing village. We have been disappointed by the lack of the developer to engage with us to try to mitigate some of the impact. We hope to discuss the "reserved rights" with Jackson and Jackson in the near future.

The condition of village roads has been a concern and LCC Highways have been contacted to express that concern. Multiple pot holes in estate roads and the poor condition of Church Lane after the completion of works by Anglian Water have been raised with the authority. At the end of March members of the PC accompanied Mr Trevor Hines, the new Highways officer, around some of our roads to highlight the problems. Financial constraints will no doubt limit their ability to cover all work but the most urgent.

We have obtained grants of money to purchase new goal posts for the sports field and have now installed them on the pitch. With the commencement of work in Poachers Lane we hope that the transfer of this land to the Parish will take place soon.

Our Christmas tree event was a great success and enabled the Village Hall committee to expand the event helping to raise much needed funds for the hall. We were disappointed that a problem with the installation of CCTV at the village hall has led us to have to take action to recover money from the installation contractor.

Our annual Sports day was a success in spite of the weather and one is being planned for this year