

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Most importantly, I would like to thank all of the Councillors – new and old, who volunteer their time in helping our community be a great place to live and work. I would also like to thank the staff who ensure that our Council runs as smooth as possible.

Following on from the recent elections, we are fortunate to be keeping most of our existing Councillors. I would also like to congratulate Ann Newton, who was also re-elected as our District Councillor again. Ann works tirelessly to help our community and individuals who need support with various local issues. The past year has been exceptionally busy. As previously mentioned, with tightening budgets at District and County level, more and more burden is being passed to the Parish Council. However, we do liaise with the relevant authorities, and forge solid working relationships to ensure we can get the best service possible.

Whether by the Parish Council directly or through the Trusts, we have seen some wonderful improvements and initiatives over the past year. To name but a few – we have a vast selection of litter picking tools and materials, which can be loaned to any member of the Parish, should they wish to participate. Albeit a disappointing start despite advertising and promotion, the tools are available at any time should residents wish to utilise them.

We have finally finished the replacement basketball court on Framfield recreation ground, which I know many young people have been eagerly waiting for.

The WW2 Centenary red oak trees have been planted on all of the recreation grounds. Although it will be many years before they become a prominent feature, they have been laid with a plaque so that their commemorative importance can be seen and respected.

Repair works are being undertaken behind Framfield Memorial Hall. This should make it much safer when walking from the Hall to the recreation ground.

All of the halls have had substantial remedial works and redecoration works, not only to make them more aesthetically pleasing, but to bring the buildings up to current standards and regulations. There is much more planned, and it is an ongoing task managing the precept and funds to ensure that funds are spent appropriately. We have been lucky to receive a couple of donations and grants in the past year, and it is heart warming to receive these funds, and put them to good use.

I must continue to mention the Village Market, which is run by our dedicated volunteers and their families. There is a wide range of crafts, preserves, cakes, plants, tombola, raffle and the infamous café which offers a great place to relax and chat with friends. If you haven't visited before – please do as the funds go straight into the Hall refurbishment works to keep our village landmarks in tip top condition. More details can be found on our website.

Finally, I would like to reinforce the need to drive carefully and respectfully in and around the Parish. There are a lot of single-track lanes, blind bends, roads without verges – each with their own risk to other road users, pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders alike. Please be mindful that anything or anyone could be around the next corner and keep our community safe.

Keith Brandon
Chairman, Framfield Parish Council