

Stawley Parish Council: Annual Parish Meeting, 6th June 2023

Chairman's Report

This is a summary of what the Parish Council has been up to over the past year.

Membership & Responsibilities

The Council lost the services of Simon Buttars during the year due to his resignation after many years of faithful service for which he was thanked. Sarah Jones was co-opted as a Councillor in December 2022. As a result of this change the responsibilities were changed as follows:

Paul Musgrove –Chairman, Clerk and Website

Sarah Jones - Footpaths

Pat Sweet – Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

Clive Wall – Planning

Matt Vellacott – Roads

Finance

The Parish Precept in 2021/22 increased to £2,969. However due to some revaluations the cost per household stayed much the same as the previous year.

The account for the year is circulated with this report. The major expense for the year was again the refurbishment of a fingerpost; this year it was the one at the junction in Greenham which needed a number of new fingers to replace the utilitarian flat steel posts previously used. Pat Sweet as the RFO is heartily thanked for her work and ability in bringing in a balanced account.

Planning

There were no controversial planning applications during the year. The formation of the new Somerset Council has brought with it a new format for responses to planning from Parish Councils.

Highways & footpaths/bridleways

Sarah Jones is working with The Ramblers to ensure that all the footpaths in the Parish are recorded correctly on the definitive map. We continue to report pot holes and other problems in the local roads which are, in the main, no worse than the rest of the County.

Website

The www.stash.org.uk website covering both Stawley & Ashbrittle continues to be updated with news of Stawley Council Meetings, the Parish News and other local interest stories.

Conclusion

Stawley Parish Council continues to work due to the time given to it by the Councillors to whom I give my thanks. There have been no major problems during the past year so there were only five meetings.

Paul Musgrove

June 2023