Annual Parish Meeting
Chairman's Report
23 May 2018

In the past year the main concerns of the council has been issues regarding Planning and the speed of traffic in the village.

As regards planning, though the Parish Council is only a consultee in the planning process our views are considered by the planners and we are also seen by people of the village as an important conduit for their views. I mention this because we have had a couple of applications which were contentious. It is our duty as a Council to listen to our constituency but to make recommendations which we believe are for the benefit of the community as a whole. I believe that we have succeeded in that objective.

Regarding traffic, at our meeting on 23 March 2017 Councillor Philip Atkins, Leader of Staffordshire County Council, gave us hope that we may be able to make some progress on the issue of the speed limits in the village, though there would be financial implications for the Parish Council in this. To that end we decided to try to build up our reserves for a future need to contribute to this if we get agreement to a lower speed limit.

The mobile phone coverage in the village is still poor, but we hope that this will be improved when aerials are installed in the church tower, which will benefit the church as well as residents.

We hope that we will soon have internet in the Parish Hall as a result of co-operation between the Parish Council and the Parish Hall committee. This will benefit the Council to access information during meetings and will make the hall a more useful venue for other users.

Finally I would like to thank all my fellow Parish Councillors and our Clerk, Julie Sadler,for all their support and help over the past year, particularly Councillor Smith for his work on Risk Assessment and Insurance and also Councillor Bland for her work on the villageWebsite. I would also like to thank our Borough Councillor Ed Barker for attending many of our meetings and for his help, particularly with planning applications.

Rob Watkin