

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
OF
CLEEVE PRIOR**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
AT 7:30 ON WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 2015**

01 Chairman: Mr Peter Howe

02 Present: S Arble (Clerk), P Howe, and 24 members of the public

03 Apologies: R Lasota

04 Minutes of the 14 May 2014 Annual Parish Meeting were approved.

05 Chairman of the Parish Council Report by Cllr Peter Howe:

Throughout the year many things have been brought up and actioned by the Parish Council, funded basically from budgeted forecasts within the PC accounts along with certain grants that we managed to secure along the way.

The start of the new council year got off to a flying start in May 2014 with Kissing Gates being installed around the villages' footpaths. Fencing on the footpath at the rear of the Travellers site was also reinstated.

The old see-saw was deemed unsafe by inspectors and so the schools playground benefited from a new 3 Seated Hopper, as part of an ongoing update of the play area.

The Council hired a consultant (Elizabeth Mitchell) to act on its behalf, in its fight to protect the Conservation Area of the village from being developed with 20+ houses on Froglands Lane. As most of you will know by now we won our case by having the application by Mr Farmer refused and then went on to win against his appeal that was to be lodged several months later.

The large berm adjacent to the traveller's site which had a shipping container buried within it was removed, and the huge amount of waste on the CPO land was tidied up and levelled. To date we are trying to find suitable contractors that will collect the plastic bags etc that have been trapped within the levelled soil, leaving the good job done looking a little untidy, so watch this space, I would like to see this cleaned up as soon as possible.

The Green, at the request of residents that live there, has had two new signs with "The Green" on them, making deliveries easier in the future.

The village now has a Defibrillator installed on the outside of the school. Training was arranged on 9th May for 24 people, unfortunately only 7 attended what was a very good demonstration of first aid and use of the defibrillator, another training day may be arranged in the future.

After a lot of back and forth communication, and help from Alastair Adams, the village is expecting to have super fast broadband installed by the end of September 2015.

The PC decided it would help fund some larger Parish Projects, and resolved to spend £10,000 towards the Church Clock Restoration, WMVHall repairs and painting and The Field Barn refurbishments/repairs.

A talk was held in the village hall about Smart Water and how it is used in the fight against crime. The PC subsidised parishioners 50% of the cost of any Smart Water purchased from the meeting, some 25-30 people took up this offer.

A survey of the Parish lights was conducted and no immediate concerns were found, although 2 were repaired following the report.

The NDP is now nearing its final stages, the consultation document has been sent by WDC to all households within the village and any observations/ replies should be done before the 30th June and sent back to WDC. I would like to thank the Steering Group for voluntarily pursuing the very complicated process that has been the back-bone of the document so far. A big thank you to Mike Heelis for his work over the past 18 months and a thank you to Tom Carr for taking on the Chair to take it to its final stages of referendum and we hope its final implementation.

As you can see above, these are just some of the things achieved this year, the Parish Council has worked tirelessly over this and previous years for the good of the village, its volunteer Councillors have strived to do their best, in the face of tough decisions some of which might not be to everyone's choice. I would like to thank Jules Franey, Kevin Mellor and Becky Rowland for their hard work this year, they have now decided to stand down and we wish you well. We have new challenges ahead for this year, starting from day 1 for the new elected Parish Council; again we will strive to do our best by making decisions best reflecting the needs and future safeguarding of the village as whole.

A parishioner thanked the Parish Council for the Church Grant.

A parishioner thought it might be time to replace the posts around The Green. ACTION: P Howe to raise the matter with the Parish Council.

Defibrillator placed at school because the school was keen to house the device and the Memorial Hall is a listed building.

06 Statement of 2014/15 Council Accounts by the Clerk to the

Council: The Clerk reports the precept received in 2014/15 was £21,000 (no increase from 2013/14) and the total income received was £47,439.78. The balance of funds carried forward to 2015/16 is a healthy £42,202.67. It is anticipated that reserves will continue to be accumulated in the coming years to offset replacement costs for street lights and major War Memorial Hall work.

The accounts are currently being internally audited by Mr Richard Fletcher. An external audit will take place after a four week consultation period ended 7 May in which the public had the right to inspect the accounts. The inspection period is closed, but any parishioner wishing to examine the accounts is invited to make an appointment with the Clerk.

07 Mr I Robinson, Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee:

Eight committee meetings were held during the year. Four committee members retired – Lis Hughes, Liz Lee, Annamarie Heelis & Kath Robinson.

Their service to the committee was acknowledged and thanks given. We also welcomed on to the committee Heather Romanov, pre-school, Georgie Roberts, to represent the PCC & co-opted member Richard Evans. John & Jennie Haywood were also co-opted to the committee in line with the requirements of the drinks licence. David Boyle had been invited to join the Committee in January 2015.

Ian Robinson agreed to stand as chairman & was duly elected. Susan Mortimer remained as secretary with Rosemary Perl as treasurer. Ron Taylor agreed to continue as supporter of the treasurer and his input has been invaluable.

The committee reviewed the organisation & agreed to spread the day to day work of the Memorial Village Hall between 3 sub-groups,

1. House Sub-Committee: to deal with all matters related to running the Hall, to include technical matters, routine maintenance, liaison with caretaker and lettings secretary, and Hall users. It will include Susan Mortimer Chris Nicholson, Pat Cooper, Kath Robinson and Richard Evans.
2. Entertainment Sub-Committee: to include Ian Robinson, Caroline Sheen, Rosemary Perl and Annamarie Heelis.
3. Christmas Sub-Committee: to deal with the December activities and to include Rosemary Perl, Susan Mortimer, Mary Sylvester and Georgie Roberts.

Review of the Year

Finances

It was reported in February that we had to raise £5000 on fund raising during 2014 just to break even, which meant the need for an increased number of events.

We had pressure early in the year, with unforeseen maintenance which was supported by a grant from the Parish council of £1500, later followed by a further £1500 discretionary grant to support the hall.

The events this year did not realise the forecast budgets due to low ticket sales, & other events in the village which conflicted with dates.

The 200 club was restructured to bring it in to line with the legal requirements of the Lotteries act & the opportunity was taken to increase the subscription & the prizes.

As can be seen from the numbers of groups & individuals using the hall, the income from hire is still on a downward trend, especially with the Pre-school not always being able to meet their rent obligations & having large arrears. This apart, an analysis of the hire rates against those of surrounding halls showed that we needed to raise the fees to keep abreast of inflation. This was done along with a simplification of the fee structure.

It was understood that the increase of the hire rates would not be sustainable by the Pre School & with Doreen's retirement as caretaker the opportunity has been taken to restructure the outgoings of the Village Hall & to make the daily running of the hall sustainable & not reliant on fund raising,

The basis of the restructured agreement with the Pre School is a through a contract which outlines

- The increased charges
- The arrears & the spread of their repayment over an extended period

- The reduction of the pre-school rent in lieu of caretaker duties closely aligned to their operation.

It is hoped that through the restructuring of the finances, this will also help the pre-school survive in the village.

Hall Hire

The most regular users are still pre-school. The short mat bowls have taken an extra session this year, now having 3 a week. The Parish Council & their planning sub group have also been big users, however, the planning subgroup will drop off their bookings in 2015 as the plans are now being formalised.

The Greenwoods have increased their use of the hall for dance lessons outstripping their 2013 use by September this year. Other village users on a monthly basis are Women's Fellowship, The Chroniclers, Bridge & Whist. We have adhoc use by the PCC, Residents groups & Players, but the use of the Hall by individuals in the village is still very low.

The Hall still serves the community through its use at elections, the police point & the regular opening of the tea room & library. We have unfortunately lost since 2013 the WI, who folded this year, along with the Spanish group.

Fund Raising and Other Events

Chris Nicholson once again organised an annual bar licence which only covers events in the Hall.

Friday/Saturday 28/29 March, Murder Mystery, in conjunction with the Players.

There were two successful performances each with a meal, with the two organisations splitting the profits.

Hall Quiz Nights. Alternating with the Kings Arms these were held throughout the year & have been well supported.

26 April: Billy Connealy and Matt Woosey. Cancelled due to low ticket sales

21 June, Midsummer event at Field Barn, in conjunction with Heritage Trust: this would have included live music and entertainment. Cancelled due to Heritage Trust expanding an earlier craft fayre to involve an evening event which conflicted with the combined event.

12 July, Village cricket match (not a Memorial Hall event). The village hall provided food for this very successful afternoon.

16 September: Doubled Up and Frank Cinelli.

18 October: Mervyn Stutter.

29th November "Tankus the Henge", Cancelled due to low ticket sales.

Major Summer Projects

There were no major improvements planned during the year but there was the unfortunate breakdown of two boilers which needed to be repaired, this was carried out along with the repair of the kitchen window & the new letter box. Thanks again to Simon Davis for re-polishing the floor during the summer.

Christmas Events

Thanks must be given to the Christmas Sub Committee for the organisation of the very successful events during this period. Once again a Bring and Buy Sale at the end of November raised the funds for another Senior citizens Christmas lunch.

The Christmas Fayre was a profitable and enjoyable event. Thank you to all the village organisations that ran stalls and then give half their profits to the Hall. Special thanks go to Mick Hughes who took orders, collected and sold Christmas trees and holly wreaths. The trees were of very good quality and the one erected outside the Memorial Hall looked beautiful and was very much admired. We are grateful to the Parish Council who paid for this tree and the one used in the school and then the church.

Santa Claus again arrived at the Hall in style this year in Rod Carless's splendid Austin. Thank you again to Chris Nicholson and Georgie Roberts, who made the afternoon for the children with their performances in Santa's Grotto.

The management committee and its team of helpers once again prepared and served Christmas lunch for over 50 senior citizens. Six meals were delivered to people at home. Special thanks go particularly to Shirley Taylor and her team who cooked the meal, and also to the large team of helpers, who decorated the Hall, served the drinks, waited at table and washed up afterwards.

Entertainment was provided by the school children and was followed by excellent carol singing from the audience led by Julie Ellis. This was very much appreciated.

Votes of Thanks

The committee would like to take this opportunity to thank so many people: Doreen Yapp, retiring this year, for her work as Caretaker and Bookings secretary, Susan Mortimer for her commitment and efficiency as secretary and Rosemary Perl for managing the finances and to Ron Taylor for his wisdom and support at all times. To the three sub committees without whose efforts we could not have maintained the Hall throughout the year, and a big thank you must go to Jennie and John Hayward for their management of the bar at all our functions and who so meticulously stock take and record our purchases.

08 Neighbourhood Development Plan Chairman, Mr T Carr:

Residents will be aware that the draft of policies proposed for the Neighbourhood Development Plan have been mailed out for the statutory consultation period, due to end on 30/6/2015.

These policies are the result of several years of collecting survey data, listening to residents at open events and consulting with statutory organisations. The policies are just a summary of this information gathering. No attempt has been made to insert policies for any reason other than to reflect this information process.

The principle purpose of the consultation stage is for the NDP team to receive opinion on whether the policies represent all of the topics in an appropriate way. It is not too late for new topics to be included or for existing policies and text to be amended. As with the content of the plan to date, any changes will need to be backed up by evidence of support for the change. Please remember that the plan must align with National and South Worcestershire policy or it will not pass independent inspection.

The next stage of NDP team work will be to promote your response to the circulated draft (as we did on Polling Day) and to then analyse responses after the consultation period closes. Amendments that can be statistically justified will be made prior to submitting the plan to Wychavon for their approval and inspection. In the event that any issue emerges that is splitting opinion, a further period of consultation with residents will be considered.

It is hard to predict a time scale for these next phases so at this time I cannot say when the plan will be returned to us for referendum. It is the aim of the NDP team to keep the process moving as quickly as we can, without risking missing a critical step, to get the protection offered by an NDP available, to influence development in the parish.

Tom Carr, Chair of the NDP Working Party; tomcarroct@aol.com
NDP group is: Peter Howe pjh@uk2.net, Andrew Rooney ar91105@gmail.com,
Natalia Brown natalia@first-breath.co.uk, Brian Taylor
briantaylor1454@btinternet.com, Mike Heelis mike@heelisconsulting.co.uk,
Steve Mathews smatthews_mpd@yahoo.co.uk, Teresa Woodbine
twoodbine@icloud.com, Nick Berry nickbury@go-plus.net

T Carr confirmed that WDC is the correct address for the NDP Working Party.

09 Residents Association Chairman, Mr D Harvey:

The Cleeve Prior Residents Association (CPRA) currently has a committee of just three, which means it has sufficient numbers to operate under its terms of association. However, as two of the three committee members have full time jobs which can take them away from home it leaves the committee with little time to be pro-active in its undertakings. We would therefore urge anyone who feels that they could take an active role in the Residents Association to get in touch.

The approach that the CPRA has taken over the last year has been to take a 'watching brief' over issues in the village. The main activity of the CPRA has been to ensure it has been represented at the majority of Parish Council meetings, commenting where appropriate on local issues via the open public forum element of the meetings. Obviously it is not possible to represent the views of all of the residents all of the time, we have tried to ensure that comments made have been representative of views made known to us by residents.

The main planning issue over the last year has been the Froglands Lane application, and as the Parish Council and certain local residents have been actively involved in fighting this application, the CPRA has not been able to add anything except for support as individuals via the normal planning process, but has been standing by to assist if requested.

For information, the current committee comprises of: Phil Bannister, Nick Bury and Duncan Harvey.

10 Mr T Carr, WCC Parish Paths Warden:

The group of local volunteers, led by Alan Saunders of Littleton, and the County Countryside Service work to make walking the 50+ paths in and around Cleeve Prior enjoyable for residents and visitors.

Our aim is to improve access to the countryside with minimum impact on biodiversity so as not to lose the essential feel of being in the countryside.

The equipment financed by Parish and County, now at the disposal of volunteers makes the maintenance of paths quicker, safer and less fatiguing.

We would especially recommend at this time in May, a circular walk from the top of Mill Lane, along the ridgeway towards Offenham, taking the diagonal path down to the river Avon, walking back along the river to Mill lane. The English Blue Bells in the centre section of this woodland walk are beautiful, complemented by the chance to see the Heron and Kingfisher often seen along the river.

Volunteers have recently also taken on the duty of maintaining the Parish Wharf and common areas of the Parish allotments. The Parish Wharf is a lovely quiet place to sit and enjoy the river, with passing narrow boats and bird life for added interest.

If you would like to report the need for path improvement (or just say you have enjoyed a walk!) please e-mail Tom Carr using this address tomcarroct@aol.com.

With thanks to the volunteers.

A parishioner offered thanks to T Carr and his team for their effort on behalf of the parish.

11 Mr A Adams, County Councillor Report:

The Good news today is Superfast Broadband is coming to Cleeve Prior by the end of September 2015, but may be even sooner! Cleeve Prior is connected to the Bidford on Avon cabinet number 12 and BT Engineers have already surveyed it as detailed on the website <http://www.superfastworcestershireshire.com/cabinet-status> , so I guess it will be sooner!

Reminder - once BT have installed the fibre optic cable and fitted the new cabinet, any resident will then have to contact their ISP and ask for an upgrade to Superfast. It does not happen automatically, you need to subscribe to it!

Let's remind ourselves what has been achieved over the last year in Cleeve Prior as far as County Council matters:

- A. **Highways Infrastructure around the village:**
 - i Road repairs to the Main Street and the B4085
 - ii A large section of roads in the area surface dressed
 - iii Hedges trimmed with enforcement letters issued
 - iv New entrance gates erected to try and slow down traffic
- B. **Flooding at the corner near the pub.** WCC Drainage team visited Cleeve Prior checked all drains and culverts and cleared them where necessary.
- C. **New fencing in the Gypsy site** - fitted to prevent dogs escaping onto the Bridle Way
- D. **Quad bikes on the bridle path - the** police worked with the residents of the gypsy site, and this activity stopped.
- E. **Burglaries** - there was a worrying spike in burglaries after Christmas in the area, but the police have carried out surveillance, and people have been arrested.
- F. **Schools concerns** – there was genuine worry about the future of the Middle School in Blackminster when 6 out of 7 of the feeder schools were considering adding a 6th year. As many are now academies, it is the

responsibility of the school governors to make such decisions, but I urged everyone involved to talk to each other and agree a way forward.

(The view of the WCC is that the 3 –tier education system will not exist in 10 years time. 95% of school children already use the 2 –tier system in the UK, and it is easier to recruit teachers for such schools. All areas that currently have a 3-tier structure will gradually move over to a First School, and a Secondary School system. However, careful planning between schools will have to take place to make sure this happens without harm to our children’s education.)

- G. I used part of my divisional fund to help buy some materials for the Cleeve Prior Heritage Trust to repair their paths, and their roof. I also helped to buy a special lawn-mower for the path warden. I also provided a grant of £1000 to Blackminister School to help them produce a school brochure and some promotional banners.

One parishioner commented that quad bikes remain an issue in the parish.

12 Mr B Taylor, Chairman of the Cleeve Prior Heritage Trust and the Millennium Green Trust:

The Trust has had an eventful and successful year thanks mainly to the hard work and enthusiasm of the dedicated team of volunteers and trustees. We have also been delighted at the support from parishioners at our events and hope we can do even better this year.

Managing some 27 acres of traditional orchard and open spaces [The Millennium Green] is like running a small farm, but with no livestock; on one day a week. Much of the time is devoted to managing grass and weeds in summer, and pruning, scrub clearance and spraying in winter and spring. Along with hedging, ditch clearance, painting, gate maintenance and oiling padlocks.

The tractor mower and flail, bought with help from the Parish Council, has been essential to the management programme, and is in use every week. On top of this we have carried out numerous projects to enhance the property, from clearing the ditch on Quarry Lane, to felling the huge willow on the front verge at Field Barn, clearing the frontage and rebuilding the culverts in the ditch, and generally tidying the front aspect by the Community Orchard.

We maintain the Forest School area off Quarry Lane and recently the Vale of Evesham School has been bringing a group of infants to the Wildlife Sanctuary. We hosted sixth-formers from Alcester Grammar School for a day’s work experience in June, and have arranged two working mornings for parishioners to help maintain the Millennium Green.

The Field Barn complex and Community Garden is the hub of the Trust, and we are working hard to enhance the property and make it more of a Community centre to augment the Memorial Hall, more for summer use. Last spring we dug up the stone path inside the garden and re-laid with a gravel surface, providing better disabled access and a lot kinder to the feet. The stone entrance to the main barn was also dug up and re-laid to improve ease of access, a massive stone jig-saw that took weeks to complete.

We continued our work with the electrical upgrade, putting in a new ring main in the kitchen and more lights and sockets where needed. The kitchen

upgrade was started with an enlarged hatch, and has progressed with the installation of hot water, extra work - surfaces and wall and floor units, a very professional job, done mainly by volunteers.

We had a serious break in and burglary in April, and subsequently had to install a new alarm system with cameras, lights and a link up to PHX Security who offer a 20minute response service. We feel we had to spend this money to protect the Barn and its contents, but were disappointed in the lack of help from the local authority or the police.

We had some excitement during one event when the chimney of the wood burning stove overheated, but luckily it was spotted before anything caught fire and steps have been taken to prevent that happening again.

The Trust is very conscious of the need for better toilet facilities, which we feel would enhance the property and make it more accessible to families and the older generation. Grant aid is now actively being sought, now that we have been advised on the problems and how best to design the new facilities and we hope for action this year.

Over the year the trust has held several community events, the Easter Celebrations, focusing on the children with competitions and an egg hunt; the Plum Pick and Pimms, more for families and picnics; and the Food and Craft Fair in June our major fund raiser, where over 400 people came to enjoy the stalls and sideshows and of course the novelty Dog Show. Together with the evening event we raised over £1800, a super result and a real country show feel to the whole day. A lot of hard work but very rewarding.

We held a village meeting in the Memorial Hall in November when we summarised our work and progress of the previous year, connecting with the local community and receiving valuable feedback.

Other events of an educational nature were staged; a Pruning course in late January was very successful as was the Willow Weaving course at the end of March. A pottery class was started in the autumn, and we have had several visits by individual groups. We are constantly reviewing ways in which our facilities may be of use to society, from educational to environmental awareness from use by children to the development of a visitor centre, from the study of natural history to more sport. All very dependent on an improvement in the basic facilities.

In the autumn 2013 it was discovered that a roof purlin in the main lias stone barn had rotted and would have to be replaced, removing the tiles and rafters before installing the new main beam and then recladding. A big job, over £5000, but we have secured grant aid from Severn Waste, through 'Welcome to our Future', for which we are extremely grateful, and we hope to complete this May.

As many will appreciate with a Charity that produces little and has no income stream from visitors we are dependent on aid and donations for our work. Insurance for public liability, the buildings and equipment is over £1000 a year, and running costs and office costs do not go down.

The Trust is indebted to Natural England for its subsidy under the Higher Stewardship scheme and to Defra for the Single Farm Payment [an EU grant] which secures some £5000 per year. We are also indebted to our Parish Council for their considerable support and our County Councillor for funding from his allowance.

We have been delighted by the local support; parishioners have donated about £500 in this last year, including several donations by quiz winners!! Thank you.

Our finances are tight but not precarious, and although we have numerous projects, from fencing along the frontage, cladding an open shed to installing a new heating system, with local support and the team of volunteers we have high hopes for the future.

An extract from the accounts shows that income for the year was	£13,480
The total payments were	£13,619
The Current account at 31 st March	£5,292
The reserves on deposit [for land purchase]	£15,792

A copy of the accounts is available on application.

13 Ms N Brown Report:

My second year on the Council has been a busy and productive one. Peter Howe has chaired us through some challenging issues that have demanded focus and integrity on the part of team. The PC has been stable with all members continuing through to completion of the year. Regrettably some members have stepped down in the recent elections and I take this opportunity to offer my heart-felt gratitude to **Jules Franey, Kevin Mellor & Becky Rowlands** who have been dedicated colleagues throughout the last year. Paul, Peter and I are going forwards as members of the newly formed Parish Council team to continue our service to the local community.

Progress report - headlines

Froglands Lane - Development appeal overturned

The big development this year was successfully opposing the housing planning application for Froglands Lane by engaging the services of a consultant who fought on our behalf to overturn the appeal. The battle was long and arduous but tenacity paid off. We were fortunate in that the WDC finally agreed the 5-year land supply with central government, which means that there is not so much of a risk of speculative planning applications meeting with approval as there has been in years gone by.

Cleeve Prior Plan – initial draft agreed and circulated for consultation and feedback

The Cleeve Prior Plan saw considerable progress this year under the stewardship of Chairman Mike Heelis. Big thanks to Mike for his efforts and we welcome Tom Carr to the Chair for the upcoming year. Jed Griffiths, a planning consultant was engaged in 2014/15 and he has been supportive in helping us arrive at a set of draft policies which reflect the needs of the local community as reflected to us through the local surveys and open forum workshops. The content of the draft plan has recently been circulated to the parishioners for the consultation period, which commenced **May 1st and continues until June 30th**. During the consulting phase all parishioners have an opportunity to feedback views and opinions about the content of the plan. Then a final draft will be agreed before submission for assessment and consideration by WDC, ahead of the local referendum.

The unexpected development during this process has been the speculative housing development suggestion of the gypsy traveller site, which was initially put to the NDP team. It quickly became apparent that this issue was beyond the remit of the NDP, since the neighbourhood plan was not seeking to identify development sites in the village and also lacked the authorization to engage directly with developers. I would like to take this opportunity to

thank each and every member of the Cleeve Prior Plan team who have volunteered hour after hour this year to create a document that will support us to protect and enhance a beautiful Cleeve Prior village today and for years to come.

Other tasks and achievements

- A Traveller site fence – a high fence was erected by WDC along the bridal path in response to a local call for secure fencing to keep dogs from the traveller site off the bridal path. Councillor Alastair Adams, on behalf of CPPC, negotiated the funding and the work has been successfully signed off.
- B In response to a locally expressed need a defibrillator was purchased and put in position at the school to support local residents who may need heart resuscitation. The PC investigated cost effective options and provided suitable training for local residents to use the new equipment.
- C A 3-seat hopper was purchased by the PC to improve the aging see-saw in the playground. The new equipment was fitted with suitable safety mats and is now enjoyed by the children at the local school.
- D Footpath maintenance continues under the stewardship of Alan Saunders and local resident Tom Carr who have worked tirelessly to open up new paths and improve existing routes with new wayfinder markers. The PC to support the footpaths team purchased new equipment, such as a footpath mower/edger.
- E A large wind turbine application was turned down, due to the disproportionate size of the proposed turbine. Local opposition was noted and reflected back to the planners.
- F There has been a substantial clean-up of the traveller site verge and CPO land where a concealed container had to be removed. At the same time dumped refuse was removed and all overgrown foliage was cut back and ditches excavated to improve the entrance to the site.
- G The PC responded to local concerns about house security by researching, presenting and providing access to the product Smartwater for local parishioners at a cost effective rate.
- H There was an allocation of grant funding to local causes which supported Memorial Village Hall, CP Heritage Trust & St. Andrews church to increase local services and amenities.
- I A street light survey was undertaken to ascertain the quality and performance of our local network of streetlights.
- J The local bus stop was renovated to improve the roofing and general maintenance.
- K Ongoing pressure for superfast broadband has finally paid off with BT connecting Cleeve Prior in the next few weeks.
- L A local traffic survey is taking place to ascertain what to do about the on-going speeding issues in the village.

The Team

Clerk Sean Arble continues to support and serve the councillors through his clear and effective administrative handling of our affairs. He has a good grasp of procedural protocol and has been of great support this year once again. Further to that we have had some good support from our County Councillor Alastair Adams who has been loyal in pursuing our requests with the WCC. District Councillor Lasota has applied to join the Parish Council in the upcoming year due to a keen interest in the traveller site development. We welcome all new members of the team onboard.

Continuation and Communication

Thank you to Susan Mortimer for continuing to design and produce the local newsletter and also to the people who distribute the newsletter each month.

The PC has updates in the newsletter most months and we endeavour to get Cleeve Prior Plan updates in there also. Regular communication can be a challenge though so we ask local residents to help us by keeping an eye on our online resources through the Cleeve Prior website and facebook page. Also we remind local parishioners that monthly meetings are public and each month there is a public question time slot where local opinions/experiences can be aired and shared with your local councillors.

Thanks again to everyone who made 2014/5 an enjoyable year on the Parish Council. It has been a most interesting year learning how to balance one's own personal perspectives with reflecting the needs of the community at large, which is clearly the ultimate goal of the Parish Council.

Parishioners concerned as to when CPO site would be cleared.

14 Mr A Taylor, Chairman of the Cleeve Prior Bowls Club Report:

Cleeve Prior Bowls Club will always be indebted to the Parish Council, who helped financially to create the club many years ago. Since its inception the Bowls Club has used the Village Hall for all of its events, paying a reasonable rent for approx. 3 hours use of the hall and its facilities for each session. Until this year we used the hall on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday evenings. We now use the hall on Tuesday afternoons, Tuesday evenings and Thursday evenings.

The Tuesday afternoon session and the Tuesday evening session use the hall from the beginning of September to the end of May each year.

The Thursday evening session play all year long. Our aim is to provide a bowls club for all of the community.

As a village club we did understand that Village Hall fees would occasionally need to be increased. When fees were recently increased, the club agreed to absorb the extra charges and will happily continue to support the village hall, but of course we hope that the increased fees for use of the hall will not be further increased in the near future.

As a village based club we are open to be used by anyone in the village who wants to join us. As our web-page states, we can only accommodate probably eight members per session, this is due to the area constriction posed by the village hall.

As our village web-page states.....Cleeve Prior Bowls Club is open to the entire village. If more people want to join, then we can possibly create extra sessions to cope. Please look at our website!!!!

15 THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:20PM