

## **Hatley Parish Council Chairman's report – May 2017**

Hatley PC has had a busy and productive year; I've listed the main highlights here:

The best news is that the Friends of Friendless Churches have finally taken possession of St Denis' church and have been organising access and contractor visits in order to get the restoration work started. We will be marking the occasion with a celebration in the very near future.

Superfast broadband has finally been installed and residents can now apply to their internet providers and benefit from this service. It is very early days and there is no feedback from residents yet on its success.

We have installed a new set of swings on the play area and look forward to moving this project forward in the coming year.

The new speed monitoring sign has just been installed; again, this is very recent so it's not possible to measure levels of success. We are currently seeking volunteers to help move the equipment periodically in order to ensure the village sees a reduction in traffic speeds.

The PC recently joined the Community Highways Volunteering Scheme. CCC encourages residents to participate in local working parties which assist in the upkeep of their neighbourhood.

Sadly, Philippa Pearson resigned from her role as H St G church rep this year. Philippa did a fantastic job; she was a tireless advocate for the church and organised a variety of annual events as well as producing a regular Parish newsletter. The PC has taken on the production of the newsletter as it is such a valuable communication tool for the community. I'd like to thank Philippa for all her hard work and her contribution to the parish.

Hall bookings have seen an upturn this year; partly because the HVA have been promoting it through their regular coffee mornings and also because we have employed some new marketing techniques which have been successful. We are indebted to Clive and Jill Weightman for continuing to offer their caretaking services on a voluntary basis.

Looking forward the PC has plans to address road safety at North Lodge and we hope to try and reduce the number of deer deaths by installing some warning signs on both approaches to the village.

Thank you to the HVA for their successful fundraising throughout the year. Their presence has helped promote the hall's facilities to a wider audience and their monthly coffee mornings offer a chance to catch up with neighbours and foster a real sense of community.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers at our annual litter pick; it isn't a very pleasant task but those who take part do so with enthusiasm and good humour.

Thank you to Peter Mann for continuing to update and maintain the website.

Thank you to our District Councillors Bridget Smith and Sebastian Kindersley for their contributions to the parish; their regular attendance at our meetings and all that local advice and information they willingly offer.

Thank you to the residents who regularly attend and contribute at parish council meetings.

And thank you to my fellow councillors and to our clerk Kim Wilde, for your hard work and support throughout the year.