

## The Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report

Over the past twelve months, there have been some changes to the membership of Woodwalton Parish Council. In July last year, we welcomed Linda Lee onto the Parish Council and, in March this year, David Pinder resigned. We are very grateful to David for his contributions to our work, particularly on the Local Highways Initiative.

We have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor – which our Clerk has advertised – if you, or anyone you know, is interested please let Caroline know.

Financially, we have raised the annual precept by £500. We did this primarily with the trees in mind, as it is anticipated that further work will be required, especially on the trees on the village green.

At our July meeting last year, we confirmed that all of the “Solar gift” monies (£25,000) were held in the Parish Council's reserve account, pending further considerations of how this money can best be used – for the benefit of the Parish as a whole. This matter was considered at the Residents' meeting, held in September last year, when residents were asked for their views about four main issues highlighted in the Community Led Plan – the Village Hall, Road Safety, litter under Green Lane Bridge and the Village Greens.

The Residents' meeting recommended that a survey be carried out on the Village Hall. Therefore, £361.20 of the “Solar gift” funds have been spent in this way. It is hoped that the survey will be discussed at another Residents' meeting in July this year.

The Residents also supported the proposal for a revised application to the Highways Improvement Scheme. This application was successful and it is intended that the Residents be consulted further on this at the July Residents' meeting.

The Village Greens and litter under Green Lane Bridge will be also be included on the Residents' meeting agenda.

On the subject of Road Safety, we now have a Speedwatch Team and we contribute towards the cost of Speedwatch equipment, shared between three parishes – Upwood and the Raveleys, Wistow and Bury. We are extremely grateful to the volunteers who have given of their time in this regard.

Two Parish Council representatives have joined Village Hall Committee. We will hear more about that at this evening's Parish Council meeting and we look forward to contributing to and supporting the Committee in Village Hall matters.

Our Parish Council website continues to be enhanced by our Clerk, Caroline Bradley. In addition to information on Parish Council meetings, it also carries additional information, such as links to local organisations.

Anglian Water has commenced works for the mains sewerage project and we very much look forward to completion.

I wish to thank all our Councillors – past and present, County and District – and our Clerk, for their guidance, help and support.

Finally, I would like to thank the parishioners who attend our meetings as members of the public. We appreciate the contributions that you make to inform our discussions before they commence and we hope that public representation will increase.