

Pyecombe Parish Council Annual Report 2017-2018

Today, life in rural locations across the country faces the same threats from over development and insufficient infrastructure, and Pyecombe, it seems, is no exception.

A visit from a Senior B.T. Project Manager a year ago today, gave us hope that hi-speed Broadband was slowly reaching rural locations like ours, once funding became available, but alas, to date, not all the village is yet fully up to speed with our Broadband connection.

The past year has seen new residents arrive in the village, including the newly constructed houses in Forge Close, and we welcome them and all other new residents to our parish.

Lorry parking in London Road continues to be a problem, near the Church Lane junction, together with parking along this road, making passing difficult and the junction itself hazardous. Following a requested site visit for a West Sussex Highways Officer, a T.R.O. restricted parking plan was put together, supported by the Parish Council. This request is due to be discussed at a County Local Committee (CLC) meeting soon, when, should it be granted approval, possibly help to go some way to alleviate this problem area.

There were 18 planning application received during the year, 15 of which were approved and 1 refused with 2 currently awaiting a decision. As with all planning applications in our parish, the constructive views and observations of the Parish council continue to be submitted to South Downs National Park, who as always, has the final decision to determine the outcome.

One application, however, brought concern from the Council and residents alike, when a proposed dwelling with its entrance just a few metres away from the same hazardous junction at the bottom of Church Lane, was re-submitted for a pair of semi detached dwellings, which although originally refused by Highways, is currently awaiting the outcome of an appeal by the applicant.

With regards to the children's play area, whilst we have currently secured some funding towards overhauling and updating the facilities, we are still a little short to be able to proceed, however we have applied for further funding in the hope that our plans can be implemented in the not too distant future.

On all these issues we are assisted by our local West Sussex County Councillor Joy Dennis, and our local Mid Sussex District Councillors, Colin Trumble, John Wilkinson and Anthony Watts-Williams, and I take this opportunity to thank them all for their continuing support in the past year.

With the long awaited replacement dog bins having been installed earlier this year, and hopefully a replacement wooden signpost soon, the Parish Council has supported the 'Love Your village' initiative set up by a volunteer group in the village, and we encourage residents to become involved.

Dawn Langston has been our Parish Clerk throughout the year, together with the voluntary role as Editor of the village newsletter, and I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of us all, to thank Dawn, for her tireless and total dedication shown to us in the past year.

My thanks also, to my fellow Councillors for their contribution and assistance in the past year, as we welcome, once again, all new residents to Pyecombe, and if they or any other resident wish to raise any issue of a village concern, please feel free to contact myself or any other Councillor to discuss further.

Your Parish Council meets on a regular basis, every other month, where meetings are held alternately both here in Pyecombe Church, and at Wayfield Park Farm Shop, as a public meeting that remains open to you all.

David Wilson
Chairman Pyecombe Parish Council