**Chairman’s Report Year May 2018 –May 2019**

As my 3rd Year as chairman, I would ask if anyone would like to step forward to come and assist in the running of the parish they would be very welcome, as new ideas are always very welcome. Should they also wish to be Chairman they are even more welcome.

The council increased the precept to £26,210 which has again been spent mostly on the general upkeep of the village including grass cutting, street lighting and light maintenance replacement along with the installation of the disabled toilet at the village hall. This gave an over spend of approximately £1,900. At the end of the year the council has £53,000 in reserve to complete projects and support the village going forward.

Traffic and particularly speeding through the village continues to be a major concern to the majority of residents. This year the NMCSW has been actively monitoring the traffic and reporting on the frequency and time of speeding drivers, in the hope that this information can be used to implement more permeant speed prevention measures. We are evaluating some new speed devices which we hope will be added shortly to the existing signs to help make drivers aware of their speed.

We are currently facing uncertain times with HS2 and the East West express way along with the ongoing interest in large scale housing developments in the village. The parish council will continue to monitor the central and local governments positions on these projects and report this back to the parish and if appropriate take action and work with other parish’s and action groups to influence the final decisions on these projects.

The proposed housing in the village is still a major concern to many, and the proposal for a large scale housing development met with overwhelming support to fight such developments. Although large developments are not welcomed the development of the village is something that will happen and involves us all and to assist with the development of the village, the village plan group have been working hard to gather all the information required to provide a plan of how we wish our village to be developed, Michael will give you more information on this.

The council has focused this year on a number of projects :-

The resurrection of the village magazine has been a major success with subscriber numbers rising and advertising revenue increasing. The parish council has made an undertaking to continue to subsidies this as it is still a vital medium to get information to the parishioners. I hope you all agree the Rachael, Di and more recently John are doing a sterling job.

The Village Hall has its new disabled facilities and we still plan to improve access further to the hall this year.

We have completed the rear storage area allowing pre-school to easily store equipment inside, making clearing the hall quicker, allowing more room for other users, with less disruption.

We do still need Volunteers to help with the running of the village hall and would welcome anyone who can help to please let us know.

You may also notice that the new village pond is full and plants have been planted. I would like to thank Rob and Paul along with everyone has helped with this project.

We have also continued the replacement of the village street lighting which will be an ongoing project over the next 5 years.

The play area team lead by Katherine has submitted the first grant application, which we hope will be successful and allow us to start the redevelopment of the play area.

I would like to thank again everyone who has given up their time, money or both to help with projects within the village. We could not run and improve this village without your generosity and help so long may it continue.

On behalf of the whole parish council thank you for your dedication and commitment to the Parish.