**Chairman’s Report Year May 2020 –March 2021**

This has been a very challenging year for the whole community, but one that has also seen how well our local community can pull together to help one another in times of need. I would like to thank everyone in the community who has taken time to help others and to provide essential services for those who have been isolating due to Covid 19.

The Parish Council has continued to function throughout the year, but having to move to online meetings and reduced contact.

Despite covid projects have continued and this has seen the progression of the Village Plan, which Michael hopes to present to the village very shortly and the completion of the play area refurbishment.

The council increased the precept to £28,620 which has again been spent mostly on the general upkeep of the village including grass cutting, street lighting and the ongoing light maintenance replacement.

Traffic and particularly speeding through the village continues to be a major concern to the majority of residents. This year the NMCSW has increased the number of speed warning and monitoring signs and continues to monitor and report on the frequency and time of speeding drivers, in the hope that this information can be used to implement more permeant speed prevention measures.

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

The play area team lead by Katherine successfully secured the grant to allow the refurbishment of the play area. Despite being hampered by the weather the play area has now been completely refurbished and although the official opening will be in September the park is already in use and provides a wide range of play activities for all ages. The team have worked tirelessly over the last year, under challenging conditions to make this project a success and I am sure it will be enjoyed for many years to come.

The village pond has continued to be improved with additional planting and on going maintenance. Trevor and his team have continued to ensure that the pond is a thriving haven for wildlife.

You will also start to notice a number of areas where we are looking to encourage more birds, wild flowers and insects, through the introduction of managed hedge and grass cutting to support and encourage wildlife in our village. This is an ongoing project which should see results over the coming years.

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

I would again 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.