

Due to the Coronavirus restrictions there is no Parish Annual General Meeting this May.

THE chairman report below and the additional reports usually presented at the meeting have been forwarded to our Councillors and those on our information mailing list. These reports are also available on our Web site www.northcurry.com

2019 – 2020 AGM Report

Your Parish Council has had a busy and interesting year with many achievements, however let me begin by informing you Mrs Marion Cotley-Burt retired from the Council earlier in the year due to health restrictions and we would all like to thank her for her tireless work. We all miss her being part of the team of Councillors.

We have been successful in co-opting two additional Councillors and we now have the full Council of 13 members. We welcome Mrs Helen Griffiths and Mr Maurice Wilkins to the team.

Our new and improved web site is up and running and I take this opportunity to thank our Web Master for keeping it up to date and relevant.

This year we have seen the completion of the Lockyer's Field development and the allotments transfer to us has been completed. A warm welcome to all our new residents both there and throughout the Parish in General.

All our allotments, in Greenway, Loscombe Meadows, and Lockyer's Field are fully let but should anyone be interested in the future our parish Clerk holds a waiting list so please call the office or send an e mail to be added to it. Your Parish Councillor allotment contact is Mrs Jeanne Leader who will liaise with allotment holders should there be any queries.

The safety works, new pavement, signage and lights to the school have been completed along with added signage throughout the village and is proving successful.

Following a request for a 20mph limit through the centre of the village, at our request SCC carried out measurements of the speed at certain points in the village. Following the findings, they were pleased to announce that under new guidelines North Curry meets with the requirements to establish a 20mph speed limit through selected areas in the village centre. Unfortunately there are no funds available for the work from SCC however the Parish Council have agreed to finance the works at the approximate cost of £20,000.00 made available from our Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds received from the recent developments. Investigations are underway to determine where the 20mph area will be enforced. This may take some time due to the impact of Covid-19, however we look forward to its installation.

The Parish Council were pleased to receive a grant to the school for payment to improve and decorate one of the mobile classrooms in an effort to make it a better environment for the pupils as well as a substantial grant from the Parish CIL funds for a new play area for pupils. It was great to receive a letter from the children and see photographs of them using and enjoying the equipment.

Unfortunately the Corona-virus, is now holding up some of the projects we have agreed, The Bus shelter and seat at the top of Oxen Lane, The delivery of the updated welcome/ information booklet to name just a few, It is also preventing the operation of Speed Watch at the moment, however I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Meeham and his assistants for all their volunteer hours and hard work over the year.

We still continue to renovate our black and white road signs and posts, and you should see further progress as the weather improves.

Our footpaths continue to be well maintained by our Councillor Phil Stone with the assistance of his volunteers. Many more replacement kissing gates have been installed and that more will continue in the coming year.

The White Street Woodland which is maturing with wildflowers, bird boxes and walkways maintained by the wildlife group is favourite of many Parishioners. This pleasant space is for everyone so please visit and enjoy.

Following our successful litter pick in the autumn and agreeing to make both the spring and autumn litter picks annual events, the spring one was unfortunately cancelled due to the Governments guidance on social distancing and subsequent lockdown but the picks will be reinstated when life returns to normal.

North Curry Playing Fields and North Curry Sports continue to prosper and reports on their past years activities will be available on the website.

I give many thanks to my fellow Councillors for all the time, input and support given so freely, to Somerset West And Taunton Councillors P Stone and S Buller and our County Councillor D Fothergill, to the pink paper editor, coordinator and delivery volunteers, to the many, so very many volunteers, young and old supporting and looking out for others during this coronavirus shutdown. To our health centre and to our Village shop and post office and all others out there doing their bit for the Parish and Parishioners throughout the year and specifically during this challenging time.

As a closing message, during this period of shut down, agendas for our Parish Council and Planning Meetings will still be advertised on the Notice Boards and Web site. Our main (remote) meetings are still being conducted on the second Wednesday of the month both Councillors and Parishioners are invited to put forward any comments or concerns etc. by 12 noon on the day of meeting. At 7.30pm Parish Councillors, using Zoom, will meet to complete the business.

Minutes will continue to be available on the Website as normal

Keep safe and take care

Tina Stodgell

North Curry Parish Council Chairman

1st May 2020

