

Flyford Flavell, Grafton Flyford and North Piddle Parish Council

Annual Report 2010/2011

Planning

This has been another quiet year for planning but a great deal of work went into overturning the District Council's recommendation to approve a traveller site on the junction of New Hill and the A422. Two applications were made and eventually refused and to date there has been no appeal.

Village Design Statement

A draft VDS has now been produced and is of a very high standard. Government planning policy is changing quite radically under the Localism Bill and this will be a vital part of the planning regime in our parish. We are waiting to find out what the final policy will be before completing and publishing the VDS.

Parish Website

Information about the work of the Parish Council including dates of meetings, minutes and contact details of your councillors can be found on the website at www.theflyfords.co.uk.

Flood Alleviation

Most of the concerns arising from the 2007 floods have been addressed but investigation and improvement work does still continue in North Piddle

Traffic Management

This year has seen the introduction of the Traffic Activated Sign which is deployed around Flyford every other month. We share this with Upton Snodsbury and it will be used on New Hill, Radford Road and Bishampton Lane. So watch out!!!

Highways and Footpaths

Generally the highways are in good condition in and around the parish although there are about a dozen nagging issues, which seem never to be resolved. Your councillors are aware of the encroachment problems on Old Hill and the dreadful drainage on Libbery Lane for instance and do regularly nag the authorities about them.

Please report any concerns you have to your councillors or the clerk at markbroughtontaylor@mac.com. Please note that the verge along the lanes generally belong to the Highways Authority and it is illegal to obstruct it in any way.

Precept

Some of you will have noticed that the precept rose this year by about £9.00. Sorry for this but it must be offset by the reduction last year and no increase in the previous two years. This only really takes it back to where it would have been if we had followed inflation for the past four years. The extra spending has been incurred on the traffic activated speed sign and the sponsorship of the telephone kiosk in Flyford Flavell. It is unlikely that we will need an increase next year.

Councillors

Following the elections in May we now have a full compliment of councillors. Names and addresses are on the back of this report. Please note the dates of forthcoming meetings up until the end of 2012.

Phone Box

The Parish Council has taken the step of sponsoring the phone box outside the Post Office in Flyford. It is a case of either the Parish Council taking responsibility for it or lose it. We can adopt the kiosk for a one off fee but the telephone service will not be retained. We opted to keep the service but the cost of this is £300 a year. We will review this commitment each year in September.

Thanks

Thanks go to all those councillors that have served the council during the year including Tony Weston and Gavin Webb who retired at the election and Richard Davey, John East and Joy Rosco who have just joined. Special thanks to the stalwarts who soldier on and David Smallcombe for chairing the council.