

Annual Report 2015/16

We have dealt with fourteen planning items in the past year. Five were opposed by the Parish Council. These included an appeal to build new houses off New Road which was dismissed. They also included a further application to build 4 new houses off Bishampton road, the planning outcome for this is currently awaited. The rest were supported by the Parish Council.

The houses are now all finished and occupied on the Bloor Homes site at Flyford Green. The adoption of the Public Open Space has taken much longer than expected due to various issues. The Swale was not built to the original specification and has required significant remedial works. The PC requested the finished Swale be approved as safe and sustainable by Wychavon District council Drainage Officer. This has been done, and a health and safety report has been completed by Bloor Homes. The legal agreement has been amended to include the Swale and the total maintenance sum increased to £92,000. The landscaping of the POS has taken place, but not carried out in accordance with the originally approved scheme. It transpires that Wychavon Planning agreed an amended landscaping scheme with no reference to the Parish Council or the District councillor. There was also considerable delay in completing the landscaping of the POS and creating the Bus stop, pavement, visibility splays, and reinstating the verges, due to Bloor Homes requiring a Highways permit. At the time of writing we are ready to sign the legal documents as soon as they are completed by Bloor's solicitor.

We amended our Standing Orders to make provision to invest the POS monies (when received) to achieve an income to be used for long term maintenance of the POS. We have also identified a proposed investment route of The Local Authorities Property Fund operated by the CCLA for Local Authorities. This is waiting independent financial advice, and receipt of the monies from Bloor Homes, before a resolution is taken.

To celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday we have ordered enough commemorative coins to give one to every child under 16 in the 3 Parishes. There will also be a celebration lunch on 12th June organised by the Flyford Flavell social group. The PC have made a grant of £250 towards this and also resolved to fund tables for the FFSG for £963.60 from the Communities grant.

We have various grant monies available, or becoming available, for Arts, Communities, and New Homes bonus. We are awaiting a proposal for the £1200 pounds Arts Grant. We need to consider how best to use the further Communities grant and New Homes bonus. I understand there will be more than £10,000 available over the next few years.

The speed of traffic into Flyford from Radford road has been raised as a concern. Highways have reviewed this and propose no action. We have an open action to re-measure the speed adjacent to the exit from Flyford Green.

The South Worcestershire Development Plan has been approved without adding any further building land in our parishes.

Good progress has been made to improve the Flyford Church community space, with encouragement from the Parish Council.

A grant of £ 300 was made towards removal of dangerous trees in Flyford churchyard.

A public meeting was held to assess support for reinstating the Flyford Village Stores. Members of the public were then invited to put any proposals forward. Nothing substantive has been received. The Parish Council have not directly proposed a scheme to reinstate the shop as we do think we should be in any way seeking to compete as a Parish Council with the Alcester Road Service Station and Shop.

A grant of £150 was made to assist Flyford Flix to start operating. We made several rate relief grants for local businesses that support our community.

We have continued the Lengthsman scheme, and Alan Farnsworth continues to give very good service to our community.

Drainage on Libbery lane continues as a major outstanding issue. Some potholes have been repaired, but new ones have now appeared. There is also an issue of water coming onto Bishampton road from a leaking pipe off the highway.

Two litter picks were completed in October and April, and 3 dog fouling signs have been ordered for Flyford Flavell following an increased incidence of dog fouling.

We reviewed the Smartwater property marking scheme and decided not to pursue it as a Parish council.

The precept was reviewed and agreed to be increased by 1.9%

I would like to conclude with my personal thanks to all our councillors for their valuable contributions and input. My thanks go to Rob Adams and Linda Robinson for their continued strong support at County and Wychavon, and to Gayle Rowe for her service as Footpath officer. Particular thanks are due to our Clerk, Mark for his continued considerable contribution.