

HATHERTON AND WALGHERTON PARISHES ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 19 MAY 2014

The Chairman will welcome any members of the public who may be attending and advise that immediately following the Chairman's Annual Statement, members of the public may raise any queries or comments either in relation the Annual Statement or any other matter.

Annual Statement

The Parish Year which ended on 31st March 2014 was another busy year for the Parish Council.

Homewatch

Councillor Liz Wilson continues to act as Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for the two parishes. She liaises with Victoria Moulton, the Police Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator and forwards information to Parish Councillors and the cluster coordinators.

Policing

Police cluster meetings have continued so that more detailed information from the Police can be shared with parishes and parish policing priorities agreed. These are held quarterly and the Parish Council has been represented by Councillors Don Marshall and Liz Wilson. General priorities are speed enforcement and prevention of anti-social behaviour. The meetings have also been used to disseminate information about the work of the Nantwich LAP, and Sharon Angus-Crawshaw (Nantwich LAP Manager) has attended.

Planning

In the past year there has been a considerable number of planning applications, of both domestic nature and business development. Your Parish Council examines all submitted plans, and when considered necessary, consults with local residents, following which the Council will submit appropriate comment, which on occasions may lead to the application being 'called-in' by our Ward councillor.

Highways

A speed limit along the A51 through Walgherton has been introduced by the Borough Council. A 40 mph speed limit has been introduced in the vicinity of the Boars Head junction.

There are still concerns in the area such as speeding along B5071 and the numerous accidents in the vicinity of Fields Farm on the A529 although there have been some improvements by Cheshire East Council, and we continue to liaise with Audlem Parish Council. Hatherton and Walgherton are represented on the Nantwich Local Area Partnership Highways Forum by Cllr Chettle and is thus in a good position to report and influence highways issues.

Finance

The accounts and internal controls of the Parish Council have been examined by the Auditors and found to be satisfactory. Over recent years the Council has reported its intention to build up a modest reserve and in this it has been successful. The Council's Balance sheet and Receipts and Payments report are available for inspection upon request.

Your Council has once again provided a donation of £200 to the Audlem Community Responders, a service which provides urgent medical response in the area.

Communications

The Parish Council has a website which provides information about Parish matters and links to other useful websites. The web address is www.handwpc.org.uk. You can also follow the Council on twitter @handwpc.

The Council

The Annual General meeting gives me the opportunity to publicly thank all the Council members for their time and contribution during the last twelve months, in particular those members who have attended meetings across Cheshire to represent your parish. The Council has a new clerk in Christine Knibbs, who we are lucky to have, and have said farewell to Mark Robinson who had served the Parish well. Don Marshall has tendered his resignation from the Council after many years of admirable service and I'm sure you will all wish to join me in thanking him accordingly.

Audlem and District Community Action

Your Council is represented on this Community Trust by Cllr Knibbs.

Litter Picking Event

This year's litter picking has yet to be organised.

This concludes the Annual Report for 2013/14 for Hatherton and Walgherton Parish Council. I will now take any questions or comments.