

Chairmans Statement

Welcome to Petrockstowe's Annual Parish Meeting.

When I was considering what to put in this statement, my main thought was how lucky we are to be living here, not just in this beautiful part of the country, but in this great village where the sense of community is so strong.

Of course much of this is due to those who voluntarily give their time for the benefit of this village:

The Baxter Hall Committee who manage to keep our hall up and running & provide us with a venue for such varied entertainments.

Our newsletter which, thanks to Jane's hard work as editor, keeps us up to date with all the happenings in and around the village. Not forgetting the Ford Motor Company which prints it and David's group of volunteers who distribute it.

The Ladies Group who raise such a lot of money for the Parish and give us fun events too.

And all the other village groups which educate, entertain and inform us.

Many thanks to you and all the other unsung volunteers who keep the War Memorial looking good, cut grass and pick up litter and generally keep the village looking cared for.

I am sure Cslr Jeffs is pleased and relieved that the Play Area is finally completed. It was paid for completely by grants, that she single handedly sourced and money raised by village events. I think everyone will agree that it is a brilliant asset. The Art Group are coming up with some ideas for a mural on the surrounding blank walls and we look forward to seeing the result of their talents. If the exhibitions in the Hall are anything to go by it should be something really special.

Other good news is that our REV. Susannah has been granted permanent residency. I think all would agree that the village wouldn't be the same without her.

Thanks must go to our Clerk, Fiona who battles away behind the scenes getting a grip on all the new bureaucracy which can impact on the well being of the village and also MY thanks to all the councillors for their support throughout the year.

Several small planning applications have been dealt with through the year and up until recently they have not been controversial. We now have to deal with the

possibility of development at Syncocks farm. This is only at pre-planning stage and we are pleased that R.C.A. Regeneration are consulting with the village. Please be assured that the Parish Council will be keeping the village up to date with any information we receive and that we will represent your views to the very best of our abilities.

We face an interesting next 12 months – locally, nationally and internationally but as a village with such strong community values I think we can progress with optimism.

Thank you.