

Chairmans Report to the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting of Temple Cloud with Cameley Parish.

I would like to start this report by welcoming everyone to tonights meeting.

It has been a very busy year for the Parish Council, with some land mark and over due changes. It has also been the year we said Hello to so many and Goodbye to a fair few more.

This report and meeting also reminds us that another 4 years have past and elections beckon for both Parish and District Councillors. So my first farewell is to those councillors who are not seeking re election. We thank you so much for your service to our Parish and wish you well in whatever direction life will now take you.

But there are others who have already left us, having moved out of the area. In particular I would like to pay tribute and my personal thanks to Maria Musins and Jo Swift. In many respects they are both irreplaceable but we must try hard!

This has also been the year we have said goodbye to our long serving village operative, Andy Chick, a familiar face in so many roads and normally with a smile on his face. But we have been very fortunate to secure the services of Philip Edwards. In post such a short time but already making his mark, not just for his thoroughness but his excellent photographs and willingness to engage. Between Philip joining and replacing Andy we were very lucky that Kelvin stepped into the breach and in addition to his own duties kept the bins in good order and many other unseen jobs. Temple Cloud in Bloom also mucked in, keeping the A37 pavements swept and tidy. To all, a very big thank you.

The village hall has gone from strength to strength and finally it now has a car park we can all be proud of, recently finished off by the preparation and planting to the

central border. I know the additional and upgraded lighting has been particularly welcomed.

On the playing field, very sadly, we have said goodbye to Temple Cloud Football Club who despite valiant efforts could not secure sufficient players to make the team viable.

We are likely also to have to say farewell to the changing rooms. They have deteriorated to a worrying and expensive degree and with no one wishing to use them, despite public appeals of interest, the Parish Council have sought tenders for demolition.

In June we said "Hello" to our new village signs, standing guard at each end of the A37 and in September after a public competition, a design by resident Hilary Sawtell, was chosen as the village logo and adorn the signs.

Also in June work was completed on rejuvenating the Village Hall as a first step. I would hope in 12 months time we will be able to report on further progress.

Throughout the year, 2 issues have hovered, not too far above our heads. The first is making Temple Cloud an Air Quality Management Area by BANES. This in itself brings a statutory responsibility on the Authority to monitor pollution and take action to reduce the problem. As I write, we now know the next piece of work required will have funding from the new financial year and we look to progress and proposals as the year progresses.

The second, is the gloriously named HELAA, Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment. In short, where can we find development land. A number of landowners have submitted some of their fields for development. As part of the planning process, we as a Parish Council have submitted Character and Site surveys on those sites. In short, as we are already substantially over our target for

new homes we would not welcome any further large scale developments. At the time of writing, a developer is interested in building 150+ properties in Clutton and has already sponsored an initial exhibition.

We currently await BANES latest statement and proposals. We will keep everyone informed. As a Parish Council we were able to get BANES to hold an exhibition in the Village Hall showing all the current development proposals and many villagers came along to see for themselves and offer their thoughts.

2018 also saw the death of long standing Parish Councillor, Gwenda Harvey. She is already much missed and will be long remembered for her service and wonderful smile.

Some things never change, sadly, irresponsible dog owners who either do not clear up after their animals or even more curious, those that bag it and then throw the bags into others gardens, even the school has not been immune. On one weekend, Kelvin collected nigh on 25Kgs of dog mess from the playing field. I can only reiterate what I have said too many times in the past, if you see an irresponsible owner, please remind them, if you see them again, take a photograph, preferably and report it to the Council.

Now that Brandown Close has finally been completed (fingers crossed) and all the houses occupied I can say a collective WELCOME to you all. I hope your new life in our village is all you hope it to be. The locals are friendly and your Parish Council is here for you, so please use us, engage with us, ask us, tell us off if necessary but what we do, we do for you.

One of your fellow new residents is Jenny, our Parish Clerk, so loved the village after getting the job she went native and bought a house here. I personally have so much to thank her for, her quiet efficiency, a good listener, her technical expertise.

The Parish as a whole would be a poorer place without her and I hope she stays for many years to come.

Last year I wrote “.....looking to serve the interests of All the community should be our aim and honest endeavour”

For me, it still is.

Tony Hooper

8th April 2019.