

W P C Chairman's Report 2013

2012 has been a memorable year for the residents of the Winterbournes and Hurcott. We began with the re-opening of Winterbourne Cricket Club after ten years of closure. The Jubilee celebrations to commemorate our Queen's sixty year reign were held at the newly opened cricket ground making it a local and national day of celebration.

The Winterbournes were back on the map in July when we celebrated the passing of the Olympic Torch through our villages, a very memorable event. Looking back at my report at this time last year I stated that we were working towards enhancing road safety throughout the villages. Thanks to funding from the Amesbury Area Board we have a new uncontrolled pedestrian crossing in Winterbourne Earls and another planned to be placed near to the Post Office. We have put into place an Emergency Response Plan which has been distributed to every household and an Initial Response Plan Emergency Kit is installed in the Glebe Hall.

The Neighbourhood Plan has successfully begun and the steering group are driving it forward , ably assisted by two of our Parish Councillors, Steve Bucknell and Peter Biggins.

Nothing in life ever runs completely smooth and at the end of October we saw the Broken Cross Bridge closed for re-construction. This was a huge inconvenience to parishioners and businesses and thankfully it is now finished and normal life has resumed.

Flood awareness continues at Hurdcott and possible steps to decrease the threat are continually monitored. Many thanks to councillors Charles Tarver and George Sheppard for their continuing efforts on this issue.

The coming year looks challenging due to financial constraints , but we hope to have new equipment installed at the Amenities Area this year , Maureen , Becky , and Mel have been working hard investigating grant possibilities and equipment available , and we hope to have an opening ceremony to unveil new equipment and a plaque to commemorate the area being assigned to the Queen's Jubilee ' Fields in Trust' meaning it will remain permanently the Parish Recreation Ground.

Our allotment expansion programme is now complete and will continue to be used for many years to come by parishioners and residents throughout the valley.

The Glebe Hall continues to be a great asset and is commendably run by the Glebe Hall committee, and our Village Link magazine goes from strength to strength thanks to our talented and hard working editor Jenny Head , ably assisted by her husband Henry.

This year we welcome two new councillors on board, Mari Ostli-East and Sharon Arnott, and I look forward to working with them in the new council. I would like to thank Becky for the work she has done throughout the year as she is leaving us, although no doubt she will maintain an interest helping me to maintain my sanity.

John Randall left us during the year due to family commitments and I would like to thank him for his commitment throughout his council service.

Charles Tarver did not restand due to ill health but we hope to re-instate him now his health is restored.

Firsly I would like to congratulate Mike Hewitt on his very successful re-election as Unitary Councillor and alsdo thank him for his hard work and dedication in assisting our Parish Council throughout his previous administration.

I would like to thank all the people through out the parish who enrich our lives ; those who distribute the Village Link, The Bourne Valley Horticultural society who have planted the Jubilee Tubs through the village, to all those who run clubs, the Bourne Valley Day Centre, Scouts and Brownies . To John Brown who administers our website ,along with many other voluntary activities in the village, and to all those who make the Winterbournes a special place to live

And finally to the person who holds the Parish Council together and makes it successful and a priviledge to be part of, our clerk Melanie Thomas.