

**Bradpole Parish Annual Meeting
Chairman's Report 2016
Thursday 7th April 2016 7.15pm
Bradpole Village Hall**

Over the past 12 months the Parish Council has been involved in the following activities within the Parish.

- May 2015 saw the Elections for Town and Parish Councils. There was insufficient candidates for the role of Councillor within Bradpole Parish. Therefore the previous Councillors were automatically elected together with a new member Cllr Ian Harvey. I was re-elected by a majority of Councillors as Chairman, with Cllr Steve Spear as our Vice Chairman
- Repair work has been carried out to the fence at Gore Cross Green and also the hedge in Pageants field has been cut back. Hedging and tree works have been carried out along The Gore, with the hedge on the east side been laid. Hopefully this work will make it easier for the Parish Council to maintain the area. Although some people seem to be using The Gore to dispose of their own garden rubbish.
- The Railway Crossing Gates and Fences have been repaired and refurbished.
- A new Play Tower and safety surface has been installed in Pageants Play Area. The Play Area is still been well used by the children, it is safe area for them to play in away from any busy roads. A new goal post has recently been erected in the field for people to use for a "knockabout"
- Thanks to grant from Cllr Coatsworth Divisional Officers Fund, new goal post have been purchased for Gore Cross Green also another picnic bench which will help to encourage use of the open spaces by everyone in the Community. The cutting of the grass in Gore Cross Green has been increased to once a week between April and October which has resulted in the ground been in a better condition. Also there has been a decrease in the amount of dog fouling on the Green, so hopefully this will continue to improve.
- Restoration work has been carried out on the War Memorial and King Charles Stone. The work on the War Memorial is still in progress.
- In 2014 we commenced a 3 year plan to try and eradicate the Japanese Knotweed in Townsend Way, the first year's result was encouraging but time will tell. Treatment will restart this month.
- The Council has worked with local residents in regard to several issues including objecting to a Planning Application at Pymore which is causing local residents to have great concerns over health and environmental issues.

- Councillors have considered 26 Planning Applications over the year and also 4 applications for tree work. Councillors encourage residents to make the Council aware of any concerns they may have over Planning Applications that might affect them.
- Continuing employment of the Lengthsman , he has carried out many task that were previously carried out by District or County Council, but owing to budget cuts they no longer do so it falls back on to the Parish Council to carry out these task. This situation is likely to continue and increase into the future.
- In 2014 Bradpole Parish joined with Bridport and four other parish council to for Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Harvey and Cllr Dendle have represented the Parish on the Steering Group and Joint Councils. Unfortunately no one from the Community has come forward to sit on any of the groups. Over the past months Cllr Harvey and Dendle have raised concerns in regard to the fact that the Parishes seem to be side lined at the meetings. This resulted in the Parish Council calling an extraordinary meeting last month to discuss the future of Bradpole within the wider plan. A decision will be made at the April Parish Council meeting which follows this meeting.
- Thanks to the commitment of Cllr Baker the Bradpole Parish Web Site is thriving with up to date information and the site is receiving several hits a day.
- The Council during the year carried out and review and updated all our Policies and Procedures. All of which can be viewed on the Web Site. The Council's work needs to be transparent to everyone.
- The Parish Council supported the Village Fete in May with several Councillors in attendance, also Vision 2030 launched its first public consultation in regard to the Wider Neighbourhood Plan.
- Councillors continue to work in partnership with other agencies to ensure the safety and well-being of the community as a whole.
- Regular responding to correspondence and parishioners comments.
- Remembrance Service – Attended by the Clerk together with Cllr Mason who laid a poppy wreath at the memorial.

Once again the next 12months will be a challenging year for all Parish Councils coping with financial restraints and less work been carried out by WDDC and DCC.

The Parish Council strives to work with the community, the Council alone cannot overcome many of the Parish problems without the cooperation of local residents.

N. Chilcott, Chairman Bradpole Parish Council

