

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2024 PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Over the last year, Everdon Parish Council has continued to meet on a regular monthly basis, usually on the second Monday of the month. By the time I retire as a Councillor next year, I will have completed 23 years on the Parish Council, with the last 13 as Chairman, so it will be an appropriate time for new, possibly younger Parishioners to take over. All Councillors are volunteers, so give freely of their time, for which I thank them.

Most agenda items have been routine and have included the condition of the roads and pavements, together with the effectiveness of the village drainage system.

Whilst most planning applications have been non-contentious, the attention of the Parish Council has been brought to a couple of unacceptable applications which did not enhance the village in any way. Thankfully, one of these was declined by the Planning Authority and the other is currently being investigated. It is hoped that the new infrastructure within the Planning Department at West Northamptonshire Council will result in more positive results to such issues in the future.

The Parish Council was recently able to financially assist the Village Hall, Fete Committee and Outdoor Learning Centre with their proposed 50th Anniversary celebrations.

The Speed Indicator Device (SID) on Stubbs Road, which was damaged by a car in December of last year is currently subject to an insurance claim, which should be settled soon by the offending driver's car insurance providers.

Finally, please remember that the Parish Council exists to serve the community of Everdon, so your interest and support is extremely important. Local elections will take place in May of next year and there will undoubtedly be a number of vacancies on the Council, so anyone who is interested in serving the village should initially contact The Clerk. If there aren't sufficient candidates to form a Parish Council, then decision-making and control will be exercised by West Northamptonshire Council and any truly local voice for Everdon will be lost.

Kevin Nichols

Chairman, Everdon Parish Council