

Sibford Ferris Parish Council - Chairman's Report May 2019

The Parish Council held 6 Parish Council meetings and 2 Planning Committee meetings during the year.

We started the year with 3 candidates standing for election so all were elected un-opposed.

At our annual PC meeting in May we co-opted John Wass to join Adrian Lamb, Ginny Bennett and Simon Rayner as councillors. At this meeting in May it was agreed to purchase a new grit bin to be sited in Cotswold Close - it finally arrived last month!

Later in the year we co-opted Amy Taylor as our 5th councillor but also had to say goodbye to our clerk. We would like to thank Graham for his efforts on our behalf in his time as our clerk. We still have to find a replacement for this role but in the meantime the councillors are looking after the role between them.

The Cotswold Close play area is showing its age and will need replacing soon. We have a small group looking at designs and seeking grant aid for the project, with Ginny Bennett acting as the council link, so hopefully we can get things moving in the coming year. We would like to offer a huge thank you to John and Lyn Woodvine and Anita Spencer for carrying out regular inspections of the play equipment and highlighting problems in need of attention. We also need to thank Sibford School for looking after the MUGA and the fitness equipment next to it.

During the year we considered 11 planning applications ranging from tree maintenance in the conservation area to the Hook Norton road application. Many thanks to Ginny Bennett who spoke at the CDC Planning meeting last month on the Parish Councils behalf.

We are trying out a new form of Annual Parish Meeting jointly with Sibford Gower Parish at the Village Hall on Thursday 9th May.

Finally I need to thank Ginny, Simon, John and Amy for their input to meetings and work behind the scenes during the year.

Adrian Lamb.