

HUNTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

23RD MAY 2022

REPORTS OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

King George V Playing Field Committee

By Steve Jones

The playing field is managed on behalf of the Parish and Parish Council by a committee of volunteer trustees with two representatives from each of the sports clubs (bowls, cricket and football) and the Parish Council.

The committee manages the ongoing maintenance of the field and play area, including grass cutting and strimming, repairs to the car park, bin emptying, etc.

Over the past 12 months, the maintenance and uplift of the play area has included the provision of a new safety surface under the swings, a replacement platform on the multi-play, new grass protection grids in the entrances, a new litter bin and an additional picnic table.

Looking forward to the coming year, the committee are exploring options for new equipment in the play area, which could include a ride-on springer rocker for the younger children or outdoor musical instruments. The committee are also looking at replacing the old little owl nest box as well as installing other nest boxes around the site.

Any suggestions for additions / enhancements to the playing field are always welcome and the committee can be contacted via the Clerk to the Parish Council, or you are very welcome to join our AGM, which is being held in the cricket club pavilion at 8pm on July 13th.

Hunton Village Hall Committee

By Annette Trought

The Village Hall has had a new kitchen installed, thanks to the hard work of Sue Pinks, but due to Covid restrictions it was not possible to have an event to celebrate it. The Centenary of the hall is in 2026 which needs to be celebrated.

New toilets and flooring will be installed this year and future projects include new windows and heaters. A lot of work is being done, at some cost, but it is necessary to future-proof the hall.

The Committee would like to bring more entertainment back to the hall, hopefully with the help of Mike Summersgill.

Community Orchard

By Annette Trought

The Community Orchard Group is a small group, whose activities stopped due to Covid and other circumstances which have made it difficult to do much work on the orchard. There have been some wildlife recording events. Hopefully some events can be organised in the orchard in future.

The Community Orchard did not cost anything – it was fully funded.

There are two picnic tables in the orchard area. Although a working party has not been to the orchard recently, David Heaton has mown the grass and everything is growing well. The gate has been taken off at the moment as the gate post needs replacing.

Peace Cottages Charity
By Liz Oliver

There have not been any new residents in Peace Cottages in the past 12 months. Of the five residents, four women and one man, three have close relatives living in West Street which is very beneficial for their well-being.

There have, however, been changes in the trustees. Very sadly, Alison Ellman-Brown, who was also church warden, died in June, the former rector and ex-chair of the trustees, Peter Callway, retired in September and Roger Sawtell will be leaving us, as he is due to move from the village very shortly. Alison had been a trustee for 17 years and Roger has served nearly 18 years. We still have a very efficient team of trustees, however, Lisa Halliday, Celia Kennedy-Sloane, Fay Joyce, Ian Pinks and myself and shortly Graham Dolman is due to join us as the trustee appointed by the Parish Council.

A large part of this past year has been taken up with the heating of the almshouses. Radiators in all the cottages have been replaced and, despite various problems, were all installed in time for the onset of cooler weather last autumn. Heating and insulation are, of course, a major concern and we are now looking at making improvements to double glazing of windows and possibly also of the doors.

The other major item has been the quinquennial, a thorough inspection of the properties by a surveyor which takes place every five years. Fortunately, the report, carried out very recently, has not revealed any major problems and the surveyor considered the properties to be in good condition. However, various matters, such as external painting, repairs to the guttering and the provision of a French drain do need attention and these are being addressed. We are also currently obtaining quotes for enlarging the car park at the rear of the property to make more room for the residents and any guests or tradespeople.

Of course, the regular maintenance of the almshouses is always ongoing and issues such as the odd patch of damp, and minor repairs, are dealt with quickly. The hedges and grass are cut regularly. Some of the existing flower beds may have to be grassed over as there are no longer any very keen gardeners among the residents.

The Almshouses Association celebrated its 75th anniversary in August last year and, to mark the occasion, a tea party was held in the Village Club to which residents and their relatives, trustees, and former trustees were invited. It was a fun afternoon and was a chance for all involved in the running of the almshouses to get to know each other better.

We are lucky to have the facility of almshouses in the village and also to have a strong team of trustees to look after them.

Hunton Tree & Pond (and Flood) Warden
By Mike Summersgill

There hasn't been much to report on Hunton's trees and ponds in the past year or more, as apart from Ash die-back still continuing here and there, the main aspect of my Tree role has been to manage the Parish 'estate', which constitutes the trees on the Recreation Ground. We had our 18-monthly external assessment done in April, and a couple of storm-damaged limbs were identified in perimeter trees, plus some deadwood in a couple of oaks on the field; work will take place soon.

We have started to create a Jubilee copse/hedge area for the Queen's 70th accession celebrations, but this will take another couple of years to bring on and plant. We started with village volunteers planting a hedge line in late March using 950 sprigs provided by the Parish, but the dry April hasn't helped their establishment too much. We are awaiting a national 'Copse in a Box' to arrive for the Primary School children to assist in growing saplings from seeds as a project; we also have an offer of some oak saplings to extract from an orchard next Autumn, to go into that area of the field. I would however note the planting of 45,000 trees in the fields south of Church Wood a couple of years back now, which are showing great signs of coming on well, and are worth a perimeter walk round there.

In the past few months, I have ‘qualified’ as a (the) Flood Warden for the Parish, after Environment Agency on-line training but have still to get my ‘gilet jaune’ so that I can try to stop traffic ploughing down a flooded West Street next time. More significantly, I will be updating a list of premises that might be affected by future fluvial flooding (plus some rainstorm sensitive areas), to build upon work done after the 2013 river flooding event and to ensure that they have signed up to the EA flood alert system and have precautionary systems in place for both protection and (hopefully not) evacuation.

Mike Summersgill (Tel: 820429, Mob: 07779-367412)

Hunton Walking Group By Mike Summersgill

The Walking Group has been functioning since 2011 and tries to go on a 2-hour morning walk twice a month; currently the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Numbers on a Walk can vary between 6-16 people, and the pace is very gentle; it also involves having a social drink/chat in a pub after the walk! In the past 12 months, after a long gap since October 2020 (for obvious reasons), the Group finally held its 200th Walk on 1st June on familiar paths around Buston Manor and Yalding, then had drinks in the Club afterwards to celebrate. Since then we have completed another 19 walks, taking in Rochester and Maidstone town walks (to avoid winter mud) and extending as far away as Egerton and West Peckham, but generally keeping within a few miles of Hunton nowadays. Sometimes, wind or rain means a walk being cancelled at short notice, but on one occasion the pub visit was still undertaken.

We shall be saying farewell to our leader since the Walks began, Ann Sawtell, when she moves away in the near future, but Phil Nichols and Mike Summersgill (and sometime Roger Lee) will keep finding new ‘circular’ routes based on pubs, and we hope to garner more newbies on our way to Walk 250.

Hunton WI & Hunton Ladies Group By Christine Summersgill

In January 2022, seven years after it had been reformed, the 18 members of Hunton WI voted to close. It became one of the 15 out of 150 Wis in Kent that have closed since Covid.

Hunton members felt there were three main reasons for wishing to close. Firstly, over half of the £44 annual fee went towards running WI nationally and it was felt Hunton WI saw little in return. The bureaucracy had become increasingly laborious since switching to electronic communication which is accessed through a website that was onerous to use. Lastly the same committee had served for over seven years and no members had been willing to replace them.

At a meeting of about 20 ladies at Hunton Club in March 2022 it was decided to form a Hunton Ladies group so the social aspect of WI could continue. This is a more informal arrangement with only a treasurer. The members take it in turns to arrange an activity at each meeting which takes place on the last Wednesday of each month at Hunton Club. The first meeting was held on 27th April. New members are very welcome.

Hunton Gardening Club By Lesley Lee

Hunton Gardening Club is an informal group of locals who enjoy gardening and related topics. The last review was at the May 2018 meeting. Two social events were held in Hunton Club in 2019. The first included a talk from a member of the Agricultural Development Board and the second a talk on mushroom foraging.

There was a 'Corona' gap in our activities but, in February this year, the group finally met again catching up over supper. This was followed by a presentation from a representative of Kent Wildlife Trust including ideas on how to make our gardens more wildlife friendly.

In the past, members of Hunton Gardening Club have enjoyed visits to castles, gardens and farms. Recently a group enjoyed a very informative evening touring parts of Clock House Farm. More people were interested in this tour than could be accommodated on the first visit so another is planned. Contact me if you would like to be included.

At the last Hunton Fete, in the summer of 2019, the Plant and Produce stand was well supported by locals purchasing, as well as donating, items. Sales that day, and following the event, raised just over £600 for village projects. As there will not be a Fete this summer, we will run a Plant and Produce sale at the Club on Saturday 18th June which I hope you will support.

As in past years, volunteers take turns to mow the grass at St Mary's Churchyard and occasional Working Party events help maintain both inside the church and the area round it. More helpers are always welcome. These efforts encourage couples to hold their weddings at the Church and use the excellent facilities across the road at our Village Hall.

Everyone is welcome to join this group. There is no membership fee – I simply keep a membership list and circulate everyone with details of meetings or things which might be of interest. Contact me for more information.

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Hunton CEP School

By Iain Simmons

So much has happened at the school in the last two years.

Significantly, a fantastic headteacher, Anita Makey, started in January last year. Prior to her appointment, the school had not been functioning well. So, it was a delight that an OFSTED inspection in May last year graded the school as 'good'. This turnaround was down to the hard work of the headteacher, the staff, and a refreshed focus by the Governing Body. It has been a pleasure for me to be the Chairman of Governors through this time of great improvement.

The school is now almost unrecognisable in its appearance. It has been tidied, decorated and reconfigured to maximise its potential. Notably, the outdoor space is now much improved, especially for reception class and by the recent addition of the new building; for learning and recreation. The PTA have played a big part in the improvements and continue to support the school well. For example, the May Fayre last weekend, which was enjoyed by all.

As the school continues to improve, the number of pupils attending has increased from 81, when Anita took over, to 102 currently. From September, the school will be full; with 105 pupils.

The school appreciates the much increased practical and financial support from the local community; from individuals and organisations; thank you. Additionally, the number of volunteer helpers has increased; any offers of help are always received gratefully.

The pupils behave well and are a delight. We hope that you all enjoy the regular features from the school, as we share our life through the pages of the Hunton Herald and social media.

Lastly, the school wish to thank Sue and Steve Wyles for keeping the children safe, whatever the weather, when crossing the road; over the last three years. Happy retirement!

Hunton & Linton Pre-School

By Kathy Reid

The Pre-School currently has 49 children on roll; we are at full capacity for all of our sessions with a waiting list for children to start with us in September. For the first time ever we have been full since January. We will be losing 27 of our children to 'Big School' this year, feeding to many local Primary Schools: Hunton Primary, East Farleigh, Coxheath and Loose, but also further out to Horsmonden, Tiger Primary and Paddock Wood. Hunton Primary School is taking the largest proportion of our cohort, with 8 children attending from September.

Financially this year we have been lucky to have been able to keep stability and although we have been hit hard by Covid – having to close for one week due to most of the staff having had it - this is not something that has affected us too much and we are now building back up our funds and purchasing some beautiful new equipment and resources. We have a beautiful new garden to enjoy now; we have artificial grass so the children can enjoy this area come rain or shine and without a dusty layer on them!!

We have also been lucky enough to be able to offer one member of staff an opportunity to go on forest school training and working hard to complete this, meaning we can appreciate and enjoy even more the beautiful surroundings we have. We also have two members of staff completing their level 3 training and one member of staff who has completed her training this year.

We have been excited to get back to our normal face to face events, holding our first event at Easter where we were able to invite parents and the local community to join us for our bazaar, where we raised a brilliant amount of just under £900. During Covid we had to postpone these and continued with our online raffles which helped boost our fundraising but as you can appreciate just isn't the same. We will be using our fundraising money to take all of the children on role to the Rare Breeds Centre near Woodchurch, as well as offer transport to and from the farm as well. We are looking forward to holding more events like these throughout the year.

We are looking forward to celebrating the Queen's Jubilee with a picnic and party this week as well as many activities based around the Queen during her reign for the children to enjoy.

We are really eager to be able to keep in touch with our local community we look forward to building back our contact with Hunton School and with the Church too. We are also hoping to visit to the Bowls Club before we break up for the summer too, if there is anyone else who can offer some time/and activity we would love to be involved, please do contact us.

St Mary's Church

By James Forster

The Ministry team suffered a number of losses last year. Alison Ellman-Brown sadly died unexpectedly after a brief illness in July, Rev. Eileen Doyle also died in the year and Rev. Peter Callway retired which means we have been without either a Rector or Churchwarden since mid-August 2021. We thank and remember them for their contributions over the years.

We are now in an interregnum but the first round of advertising generated no applications. A new advert went out on 22nd April with a closing date of 6th May and interviews are scheduled for 29th May (assuming we get one or more applicants). Wendy Simmons is representing Hunton's interests, and we are very lucky to have her commitment and experience in support of this process. Although we have no churchwarden currently the PCC are sharing duties between them.

The loss of revenue during Covid lockdowns has exacerbated the shortfall of income to expenses so the church has been run at a significant loss for the last two years. We hope that the return to being able to hold one-off events, as

well as weddings and funerals, will help get us closer to a break-even position and allow the new compost loo to be used to greater effect! By way of example, on 9th July the internationally acclaimed virtuoso D'Arcy Trinkwon will give an organ recital for about 60 minutes, to be followed by sparkling wine. Tickets are available now from Sue Scott or Liz Oliver!

The average Sunday attendance was 14 with greatly increased attendances at a number of "special" services (Remembrance Sunday, Harvest and the very lovely Christmas Eve Carol Service to name the three most notable with attendances of ca 80 to 110). During the year, 4 baptisms, 1 marriage and 1 funeral service were held in the church.

At the Church APCM, many people were quite rightly thanked for the support that they give St Mary's but there are a few people that perhaps stand out above the rest:

- 1) David Jones has been tireless at all times and instrumental in holding services in Hunton when other churches in the benefice chose to close their doors; we are also blessed to have Marian Greensill as our organist.
- 2) Links with Hunton School have improved thanks to the efforts of Anita Makey (Head), Becky Parham and Iain Simmons.
- 3) The churchyards, and the church itself, have been lovingly maintained by a group of volunteers and we cannot remember them looking better.
- 4) The Friends continue to provide invaluable encouragement and support.

Friends of St Mary's **By David Heaton**

After a fairly short interval due to Covid, the Friends have continued to fund works that help to maintain the fabric of the church. You may have seen the scaffolding being erected today around the church and, whilst this is up, the Friends will be funding a number of items of remedial work including the repointing of the south face of the tower. A grant from the Friends of £4,000 will help with this.

The church is by far and away the oldest building in the village; it is Grade 1 listed and has stood at the centre of village life for about 900 years. I worked out that about 35 generations of Hunton residents have been hatched, matched and despatched in that time. I believe it has possibly seen four future prime ministers worship here. It has unique stained glass windows and, as was discovered in recent years, a main door that dates back to the time of Henry V and Agincourt. However, to maintain a building like this is not cheap which is why we would like to encourage as many people as possible to become members of the Friends and we will be placing details of how to join in the Hunton Herald and on the Hunton Facebook page.

I would like to thank my fellow trustees for their support and to welcome Andy Sharpe as a new trustee.

Like many organisations, Covid put a stop to fundraising until the Panto last October when we ran the bar. This year we are planning to have a firework display on the recreation ground on 6th November: a good way as any to celebrate the end of Covid. So, put the date in your diary and watch for further details in the coming months.

Hunton Bowls Club **By Les Hill**

I'm Les Hill, Chairman of Hunton Bowls Club. As we all know, as a result of the pandemic the last two years have been challenging times financially for all clubs. For us, 2020 was a particularly worrying time as we had just completed replacing our changing rooms and the Club's bank balance was at an all time low. Thanks to the generosity of our members, who continued to pay their membership during the closure of the green, we were able to bring our finances back on track.

Last year, thankfully, when the green opened at the end of May, we were able to resume the new season playing in the Weald and Maidstone & District leagues. We even managed to play all of our own competitions, despite social distancing and other restrictions being in place at the time.

We were unable to organise any of our fundraising events which we rely on heavily throughout the short season to keep our finances on track. However, we ended the season in September with another disaster when the mower decided to blow up after 25 years of hard work. Yet another expense! The estimate for a new machine was just under £6,000. Angela took the lead on fundraising and, using her extensive networking system, raised the money to purchase a new mower. Thank you, Angela.

As of this year, we have 39 members and are looking forward to the new season. We have a full fixture list with friendly, Weald and Maidstone & District games. Plus our own competitions, all to be completed by the end of September.

We have also arranged various fundraising events, including quiz and Uno nights, a race night and our Open Day tournament which will, hopefully, give our finances a much needed boost.

Finally, on behalf of Hunton Bowls Club, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council, the Field Committee, the Hunton Herald, the local Church and our own members for their support and financial help with the replacement of our new changing rooms in 2019 and most recently the purchase of our new Dennis mower.

Hunton Wanderers Cricket Club **By Steve Jones**

The club had a very successful season last year, with our first eleven finishing as champions of their division in the Kent Regional Cricket League by just 4 points and bringing home the club's first silverware for a number of years, which was a great achievement.

2021 also saw the club's Secretary & Ground Manager recognized as one of only 20 county-wide winners of the Kent County Cricket Volunteer Reward Programme.

With the season now in full swing, we are looking forward to what we hope will be a full schedule of games unaffected by Covid. We have home games throughout most of the summer, so if you're visiting the playing field on a Saturday and there's a match on, please pop across and say hello and we may even be able to offer you a cup of tea if we're not fielding!

We are always looking for new players to join our friendly, sociable and inclusive cricket club and you can find details of our club on the ECB's Play Cricket website, where you can also follow our results and progress throughout the season.

Hunton Football Club **By Scott Elliott**

The Football team have just finished the season in the Rochester and District league. The name of the league says all you need to know about how hard it is to maintain a local football club, with no Maidstone league in existence any more. So getting a good mixture of aged players every week is success. This is in no small part down to the commitment of our chairman David Elliott and other committee members.

We would like to place on record the club's thanks to the Parish Council for supporting an investment into the changing rooms. The last major refurbishment of the facility was in the 1990s, completed by the club and its players. This work is underway with electrical work completed this month. This weekend it continues with players and club management painting and decorating the building.

This reaffirms the football club's commitment to keeping Saturday men's football running at Hunton. For the first time in the club's history we are fielding a veterans' football team, which is exclusively made up of ex Hunton players who have played over the last 40 years in order to retain an affinity for the club and village. The men's team will play in the Rochester league again this season.

But the club, Parish Council and village should be proud that we are one of the oldest clubs in Kent still in existence. We were formed in 1898, so this season marks our 125th year.

Hunton Village Club

By Roger Lee

Since there was no Parish Meeting last year, this report covers the period from May 2020 when the club had to close. It re-opened with strict COVID guidelines for 3 months later in that year but had to close again in November 2020. The Club reopened again in May 2021 but did not hold any significant Club events until August 2021. We are grateful to Maidstone Borough Council who provided grants to cover our losses during these periods.

The first major event of 2021 was the very successful Beer and Gin Festival in September which attracted about 200 people. Since then the Club has hosted:

- 4 weekend walks and lunches
- 2 quiz nights
- 2 music nights
- Packing tea boxes for the local community
- Tea for the Alms Houses
- Monthly Gents evenings
- WI meetings (now ladies' night)
- Monthly Needles and Natters
- A film night
- Gardening Club meeting and supper
- A volunteer's evening
- Yoga mornings
- Hunton Book Group
- New Year's Eve party
- Parish Council party

The Club is open to members on Wednesday and Sunday evenings when regular dart playing also takes place, however, we don't have sufficient darts players to re-join the 2 local leagues. We are very much a community facility but are constituted as a members' club. Under the terms of our licence non-members cannot buy alcoholic drinks. We currently have just under 100 members but are striving to increase this number; membership only costs £20 a year.

Following the creation of a kitchen, the Club has invested a significant amount to replace the old toilet area with new gents, ladies and disabled facilities as well as much needed new storage cupboards. Thanks go to Roger Ward for carrying out and managing this project. We have also replaced the damaged fencing on one side of the Club.

At the AGM in December 2021, Gil Robertson announced his intention to step down as Chairman as well as committee members Celia Kennedy-Sloane and Bob Wallond. I would like to thank them all for their efforts over the last few difficult years. Gil remains on the committee to be joined by Pete Bishop and Mike Dixon with myself as chairman. Thanks also to the volunteer bar staff, event organisers, Committee members and Trustees (especially Phil Nichols) without them the Club could not continue to exist.

Hunton Book Group
By Christine Summersgill

Hunton Book Group has 7 members and meets on the second Wednesday of the month at Hunton Club, where we discuss the book that we have read that month. Yalding library arranges to have the books available. New members are always welcome.

Books that the group have enjoyed this year include:

- The Sealwoman's Gift by Sally Magnusson which was based on a true story about Icelandic slaves.
- Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman and
- A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towels.

Huntonwatch
By Sue & Steve Wyles

Although crime levels have been less than in previous years, we have still received reports of the following:

- Several thefts from outbuildings and land (tools, batteries and mowers being the main targets)
- Anti-social behaviour, particularly involving vehicles
- Fly tipping, especially in the Barn Hill / Hunton Hill areas
- Trail bikes being ridden around private land, the playing field and along footpaths
- Attempted dog thefts
- Purple graffiti daubed around the village
- Suspicious vehicles in various locations
- Increasingly sophisticated scams being received by text, phone, email, messaging apps etc.
- A dead rabbit bagged and dumped in a hedgerow
- A drone being flown over buildings and private property
- Increased numbers of speeding vehicles
- A rise in the number of people failing to clear up after their dogs (for which a fixed penalty of £100 applies throughout the entire borough)

Hunton has not had a regular PCSO since Alan Hunter moved on, which makes liaison with Kent Police more arduous, but we have recently been in contact with the Community Warden (James Watson) and the MBC Dog Warden (Emma Weston) and found them both to be extremely helpful.

During the early stages of the pandemic, Huntonwatch organised a service for villagers who were unable or unwilling to collect their medications from the three local surgeries (Marden, Coxheath and Yalding) and we offered the same service during the second lockdown, although the take up was much lower that time. Sincere thanks are due to all those volunteer drivers who helped operate these services and to the Parish Council for supplying and funding a dedicated Huntonwatch mobile phone.

Huntonwatch can only help keep Hunton a safe and pleasant place to live with the support of our Members and, of course, the Parish Council and we would like to place on record our thanks for that support.

Hunton Herald
By James Forster

The Herald continues to be produced and delivered by a rotating team of editors and Lisa Halliday and her loyal group of distributors and I thank them all for their support. Dudley Farman continues to manage the layout of every issue and we couldn't function without him.

We continue to generate a surplus of advertising revenue over costs (although the costs of the Business Directory have risen quite sharply over the last two years).

This has allowed us to donate £3,494 over the last two years, to the church towards a compost loo and general running costs, to the village club for a new picnic bench and to the bowls club towards a mower. Our current balance is healthy and we look forward to supporting other village causes in the future.

Overall the Herald now relies on volunteers to carry out approaching 50 tasks so this is a real village effort and, we hope, a valuable resource.

Traffic & Road Safety Working Party

By Jonny Goddard

Road conditions and speed limits:

Iain Simmons and I are jointly responsible for Roads and Traffic on the Parish Council and we liaise with Jennie Watson at KCC Highways, who assesses all traffic related proposals for Hunton. Since the AGM in 2019 various works have been completed around the village.

For example, these projects include painting SLOW signs on road surfaces, installing road narrows signs, pedestrian signs on the Hunton Hill section of the Greensand Way and carrying out speed surveys on East Street to assess whether a lower speed limit should apply.

Current work in progress includes the installation of kerb stones along the verge outside Hunton School; and KCC have agreed to install tractor warning signs near Brickyard Cottages to alert drivers to the new farm access gates opposite each other.

We're currently looking at two further projects and we would be interested to gauge the level of support before taking them forward:

The first is to install Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) along West Street near the school.

Response from parishioners: A show of hands indicated that parishioners supported the use of SIDs on West Street. A West Street resident said she would have been happy to have them installed. Another resident suggested locating a SID near the telephone exchange as there are no houses there. It may also be worth using the SpeedWatch equipment to measure speeds and supply the information to KCC.

The second is to install a mirror opposite Bensted Close.

Response from parishioners: One resident thought it was a good idea as it is difficult to see. Cllr Goddard advised that the Parish Council would be happy to pay for the mirrors. Other residents felt the Bishops Lane and The Square exits on to West Street were also dangerous. One resident advised that there could be an issue of liability if someone relies on the mirror and misjudges the distance of an approaching vehicle. Cllr Goddard will take advice from Jennie Watson.

Traffic & Road Safety Working Party:

The group meets irregularly as matters require. In the past 18 months, it met three times in January and August 2021, and March 2022; another meeting is due in June. The group consists of 8 residents, 3 of whom are Parish Councillors; it is now chaired by Mike Summersgill and advises/requests to the Parish Council meetings when necessary. Items under discussion over the past period have been related to speed limits and positions of 'warning' road signs, plus discussing various points raised by villagers about road traffic aspects like verge damage, drainage issues, kerbing and misdirected HGVs.

It is considering how to re-energise the SpeedWatch and LorryWatch activities that existed pre-Covid, and volunteers from the village would be welcome in order to 'staff' the SpeedWatch equipment.