

**MINUTES OF THE FROYLE
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

held in the Village Hall on **Wednesday 20th APRIL 2016** at 8.15 pm

Present:

Mr MJ Wells, Chairman
Mrs. L. Bourne
Mr. I. Deans, Parish Councillor
Miss JJ Gove, Parish Councillor
Mr. I. Macnabb
Mrs. J. Wallis
Mr. N. Whines, Parish Councillor
32 members of the public
Clerk

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs. B. Milam, Mrs. S. Nonhebel, Mrs. A. Roberts, Mrs. Weatherall

2 MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON 22nd APRIL 2015

The minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 22nd April 2015 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3 MATTERS ARISING

None

4 REPORTS FROM VILLAGE GROUPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

4.1 The Froyle Archive (Mr. C. Booth)

2015 was supposed to be a quieter year than the previous few following the completion of “Lest We Forget” and culminating in our last Archive Open Day on June 14th which commemorated the 40th Anniversary of the founding of “The Froyle Archive”. Sadly we did not get a large number of visitors on the day, thus re-confirming our decision to make the 2015 Open Day our final one.

And then, in the autumn, it was announced that the 1939 National Register was to be released to the public. For those of you who are unaware this register, listing the personal details of every civilian in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was a critical tool in coordinating the war effort at home. It would be used to issue identity cards, organise rationing and more.

For historians this would be a very important record as, for most of us, the forthcoming (*in 6 years' time*) 1921 Census would be the last made available in our lifetime. The 1931 Census was lost in a fire on Saturday, December 19th 1942 – not as a result of enemy action – and the 1940 Census was never taken, making the 1951 Census available around 2052.....

However, under pressure from many researchers it was finally agreed to release the 1939 National Register which had been taken on the evening of September 29th 1939, a little over three weeks after the outbreak of World War 2. The enumerators were charged with the task of visiting every household in Great Britain and Northern Ireland to collect the names, addresses, marital statuses and other key details of every civilian in the country, issuing identity cards on the spot.

The information in the Register was updated until 1991 and as well as aiding the war effort, was used in the founding of the NHS.

In February the full database went online and we were able to download a complete record for Froyle. This has proved to be fascinating as there are many names there that will be familiar to those people who have lived in the village for some time or been involved with Gardening Club Shows and Trophies.

I have run off a dozen copies, along with an explanatory sheet of notes, that you can take away

tonight, and, of course, the complete Register is available on the website at froyle.com/recordmenu.htm

We continue to host websites for the Parish Council, Froyle Fête, the Church Vestment Group and the Village Design Statement as well as publishing the web version of the Village Magazine - usually available to our readers worldwide by the 23rd of the preceding month - and we maintain links to local Doctors, Businesses, and village organisations.

All this is made easier by the generous grant from Froyle Parish Council whose support has been invaluable over the years, and greatly appreciated – thank you Parish Council.

At the end of last year's report I said "..... *who knows, a relative of Albert Ward may even turn up on June 14th.*" Albert Ward, you may remember, is the mystery name on the War Memorial. Well, nobody did, or even the person who puts the Scrivener Cross on the War Memorial every Remembrance time.

But, last week, we received via our Facebook page a link to a new release of the National School Registers from the National Archives. Froyle School shows an Albert Ward, born in June 1877 attending as a student between October 1882 and August 1883, along with his brother Arthur and sister Kate. Could this be the connection between Albert Ward on the War Memorial and Froyle? A new search has begun!

4.2 **The Meeting Place** (Mrs. G. Bradley)

The Friday morning Meeting Place held in the Village Hall continues to be very busy and we are always pleased to welcome newcomers. We serve coffee and tea and wonderful homemade cakes from 9.30 – 12 noon. As well as many Froyle residents, we regularly have visitors from surrounding villages, also a group of cyclists from Fleet who come during the summer months, and one of their team takes his turn in the kitchen in the winter. We also have regular visits from the local PCSOs who are happy to answer any police related queries. We celebrated our quarter century birthday in October with a glass of bubbly for everyone and a beautiful cake supplied by Linden Homes. We were given a brief history of the Meeting Place by a regular, who was also celebrating a big birthday.

We have had several fund raising events during the past year. In September we joined in the Macmillan Coffee Morning and sent over £200 to the charity. This was followed in November by a visit from the local RNLi fund-raising group with a selection of Christmas cards and gifts. A donation of £42 was made. The Christmas Meeting Place welcomed Father Christmas who arrived on a bicycle. As usual we had carol singing, a quiz and a raffle. Mince pies and mulled wine were served.

At our Easter Meeting Place, we had the usual decorated egg and best Easter bonnet competitions – we would love to see more entries for these fun events! A good crowd enjoyed hot cross buns.

Thanks to the generosity of all we have sent donations during the year to St Michael's Hospice and Piam Brown Ward.

Thanks go to all those who make Friday mornings in Froyle so special. To Royston and Toby who set up the chairs and tables, Patty who gets us organised in the kitchen and Lori who does the rotas. Thanks also, of course, to all who regularly bake those delicious cakes and those who help in the kitchen. Last but not least thanks to those who stay and help to clear up at the end of the morning. It really is a joint effort.

The Meeting Place Team

4.3 **Neighbourhood Watch** (Mr. J. Thursfield)

Report much the same as last year, ie the Neighbourhood Watch continues as before and appears to work well. There are twelve people on the team, who look out for suspicious vehicles etc. They telephone this information to Mr. Thursfield, who then contacts the police etc.

4.4 The Gardening Club and Flower Show (read by Mrs. Blunt)

2015 was another successful year for the club. Finances remain healthy and membership including attendance at meetings is very satisfactory. We had excellent speakers on spring and autumn flowering plants and an inspirational talk on 'Thrive', an excellent Horticultural charity working with people suffering from depression, autism or physical disability. The new monthly competitions were also very well supported. We had several outings, visiting Bramdean House, Hill House, Alresford, and a day trip to Beth Chatto's famous garden near Colchester.

Another very strange year weather wise gave us cause for concern with the shows especially last autumn following the cold wet summer. Surprisingly after such an early start, this year's Spring Show was excellent and the judge was very complimentary about the high standard of daffodils and spring flowers. Sadly we have decided to suspend the autumn show for this year at least as it was not supported as a village event and the committee has continued to decline in numbers. I always feel that Magazine editors don't understand that shows are VILLAGE EVENTS and not just for members. In spite of requests shows are only given space as continuing news and not given advertising space.

Anne Blunt's Flower Arranging Workshops have stimulated us and brought in new blood and money to the club and Geoff Hawkins has been carrying out workshops to demonstrate gardening skills. It is a shame more young gardeners do not take advantage of these as they are informative and you can ask Geoff the most basic questions and he will always help in a friendly way. Refreshments are always appreciated.

We are carrying on at the moment with neither Secretary or Show Secretary and a diminished committee but I am informed we are in a good position compared to other clubs.

Brenda Milam

4.5 Fête Committee (Mr. I. Whitmore)

The last few fêtes have been extremely successful, last year in particular was very well received with good feedback from many of those attending. What helped was the exceptionally good weather, a factor which is so important on fête day. Takings were again just short of £5000 and a contribution of £2500 was again made to the Village Hall.

We continue to offer a traditional village fête which is not commercialised and excellent value for money.

Mary Knowles, who has been the fête chairman for the last eight years and who has led her team with great humour and some organisation, has now stepped down and on behalf of all those who have served on the committee over those years may we thank her for her tremendous contribution.

Taking over is daunting enough but especially since 2016 is the 70th year of the Froyle Fête, so who better to officially open it this year than our Parish Council Chairman Mick Wells. So let's hope for a successful fête but above all for good weather, a really important factor in its success.

4.6 The Froyle Village Magazine (Mr D. Robertson)

1. Editors as last year (Ian & Madeleine Black, Ian Whitmore, Sarah & Phil Roberts, Yvonne Irvine, David Robertson).
2. Format of magazine hasn't changed much in the year but we are endeavouring to bring the Froyle.com website a bit more into focus - the web address is on the cover for example, ditto the Village Hall web page (in the body of the magazine). The magazine website is now more prominent (within Froyle.com).
3. We have endeavoured to make the content, the order and the adverts more structured. Regular contributors now receive an alert a few days before press date. Froyle ads are given prominence.
4. New regular columns:
 - a. Parish Council news is now regular and prominent on the first page;
 - b. Wine (and NB the cocktail challenge – we hope and expect the PC to be entering!);

- c. Medicine for the Soul;
 - d. Speedwatch;
 - e. Wildlife;
 - f. Bentley School.
5. We had a Christmas story competition which was reasonably subscribed - thanks to the PC for financing the prize – we may repeat the exercise this year but TBC.
 6. Although we do not wish to be too political, if we, the editors, feel a subject is worth raising, eg rubbish, then we have had no hesitation in accepting such contributions either for or against. Similarly from time to time we have exercised our editorial right to ruthlessly exclude anything from whatever source which we consider to be (non-paid-for) editorial advertising.
 7. We are endeavouring to establish exactly what the readership of the magazine is – as a start we have asked Chris Booth to put a counter on our web page within Froyle.com to see how many hits we have. As and when we get some definitive numbers, there may be some merit in maybe reducing the number of printed copies – although there may be a degree of offset through new residents at Froyle Park.
 8. We have standardised the advertising rates and now there are only two, namely half and full page, with a premium to be paid by non-Froyle residents. Our aim has been to make the magazine close to if not actually quite self-financing. Advertising space has continued to be in demand as we do not wish to go to more than 50% of pages being adverts, so there is from time to time a waiting list.
 9. We are grateful to everybody who helps us in whatever shape or form, particularly the distributors, headed by Jane Macnabb, Chris Booth, who nobly puts our often scrambled contributions on to the website, and Jerry Cullum at Treloar printers who seems to be able to produce the magazine on time no matter how late we are sending it to him: TO YOU ALL A BIG THANK YOU.

David Robertson, pp the Editors

4.7 Froyle Village Hall Trustees Report (Mr. D. Robertson)

Reported at the Froyle Village Hall Management Committee annual general meeting on 20th April 2016.

4.8 Village Agents (Mrs. M. Black)

As Village Agent I am a volunteer for Age Concern Hampshire, signposting older residents to information they need, for example on benefits, help with heating, blue badges, and information on the latest scams. All enquiries are treated as confidential. In Froyle, residents support each other well so there are not many enquiries. I have received training on filling in forms for Attendance Allowance, and go to cluster meetings with other local Village Agents.

Better Balance for Life is most successful here. BB is a joint initiative between HCC and Southern Health NHS Trusts, aiming to keep older residents fitter and safer at home. Sue Sharman ably leads these regular classes on Wednesday afternoons. We exercise to music, and those who want more of a challenge use weights and exercise bands. We finish with tea, biscuits and chat. Do come!

Madeleine Black

4.9 The Church in Froyle (The Rev. Y. Dubreuil)

Looking back over 2015 the main events and special services included the following:

- o Following on from the powerful tribute to the Froyle men who died on active service during the First World War at our 2014 Remembrance Service, we continued throughout the year to commemorate individuals on the mid-morning Sunday service closest to their date of death including the 2015 Remembrance Service. Our thanks again to Andy Jeffs for the research and planning which goes into the preparation for all these services.
- o The Community Group organised a successful and social Songs of Praise in February of last year and recently repeated the experience. The format clearly works: everyone votes for their

- favourite hymn, Yann provides an interesting potted history of the hymn and music and we are all rewarded afterwards with wine, nibbles and a good gossip! The Community Group also put on a very happy open air pet service in July and an excellent Harvest Supper.
- A particular sadness both for Froyle and for many throughout the Benefice was the death in May last year of Stephen Thomson, our organist. The Thanksgiving Service held in the church in June was a wonderful celebration of his life, attended by many of his former (and now in many cases distinguished) music students, and accompanied by some hugely uplifting tributes and musical contributions.
- Stephen would have enjoyed the brilliant piano playing of Julien Cohen as part of the Choir of Jesus College Cambridge, who gave us an extraordinarily high-quality, eclectic programme of sacred and secular choral and instrumental music in June last year.
- Earlier that month, the Vestments Group had probably their most successful display yet on the Gardens Open week-end last June.
- Our choral events, in particular the Advent service last year and – fresh in our memory – the Choral Eucharist on Maundy Thursday last month, were among the most remarkable achievements of our Church in the last twelve months. The *thank you* supper for Martin and the Choir was also a happy occasion. Now we have to think through where we go from here.

Services generally: In terms of attendance, our numbers have been reasonably steady. On a normal Sunday service (mid-morning HC or Evensong) our average attendance in 2015 was about 33 – higher of course at special services, e.g. 55 at Harvest Festival, 73 at the Remembrance service. Our Christmas service attendance last year was even higher than in 2014 (433 people attending the Carol Service, Crib Service, Midnight Mass and Christmas Day). Numbers at regular services are strengthened (flattered) by prospective wedding couples. Whatever the service, the church, as every year, always looks breathtakingly beautiful and perfect for the occasion. Our thanks for this go primarily to our unusually talented flower arrangers, the Vestments Group and the church cleaners.

Music and choir: After ten years in which he has led the choir to heights they had previously not dreamt of, Martin Colbran has sadly stepped down as director of music/choirmaster. His final service was last year's Advent Service, although he kindly came back to lead this year's Maundy Thursday Choral Eucharist. Following on from Stephen's tragic death, 2015 has left us with a challenge as to where we now take Froyle's fine tradition of church music. We are certainly not short of talent. We are particularly blessed to have Jane Palmer living in Froyle. Although she is committed elsewhere for part of her time, she has extended the time she can devote to playing the organ at Froyle - between Jane and Andrew Hunter-Johnson, who has also kindly agreed to help more, they can cover the organ playing at most of the Froyle services. Jane has also nobly volunteered to lead the choir, starting with a discussion to be held shortly as to the best direction for the choir to take going forward. We want to support a regular choir in Froyle and also contribute to Andrew's vision of a Benefice choir which can come together for the quarterly Benefice services.

Weddings: We had ten weddings in Froyle church in 2015, with nine scheduled for this year. Some of them proved very difficult to manage – others were a delight. Now that the Froyle Park venue itself seems to be more actively managed, co-ordination is getting better and we will, we hope, get better at spotting and dealing with issues before they get out of hand. We continue to welcome at our regular services in church prospective wedding couples, who often have to travel quite some distance to attend our services. These couples without exception add to the enjoyment and sense of occasion at our regular services.

Governance: Tying in with what is envisaged in the pMAP, we continued in 2015 to develop the "Interest Groups". These were formed in 2014 to try to provide over time more consistent and informed decision-making on key aspects of the Church's activities than the PCC on its own could expect to do. They are intended to work in conjunction with the more long-standing Community Group. These Interest Groups are still finding their feet, but their areas of activity are as follows:

Fabric Group: This Group, under the chairmanship of Mike Starbuck, is intended to take a more holistic and long-term view of the church building, its repair and maintenance requirements and

the uses to which it is or could be put. The Group is currently analysing the Quinquennial Inspection report, delivered in February, following last year's church architect's inspection of the building and churchyard. The Group is at the same time looking at the church's facilities and functionality – e.g. heating, lighting, possibilities for some kind of kitchen facilities – with a view to recommending priorities on which we should focus in the coming three years. In the meantime, the Group has applied on behalf of the PCC for a government grant to re-tile part of the chancel roof, and has been dealing with a number of running repairs.

Fundraising Group: This Group, under the chairmanship of Nigel Bulpitt, is intended primarily to look at funding options for capital projects proposed by the Fabric Group. Pending such proposals, the Group is looking at various events aimed at general fundraising and at greater use of the church building. This Group brought us the IDMC Gospel Choir, the “Teas on Tuesday” held at the church on every Tuesday last June (to be repeated this June – worth coming along), and will experiment by organising a winter crafts event in the church instead of the Christmas fayre at the Froyle Village Hall. It is also organising the stained glass lecture in May announced in the April magazine, and is looking at promoting an awareness of legacies as a way of donating to the Church in Froyle.

Worship and Services Group: This Group is chaired by the Vicar. Its role is to look at how we worship in Froyle generally, at whether we reach all parts of the community as effectively as we can, at the facilities available to help us develop our faith outside formal worship and at the spiritual aspects of pastoral work. The Group's challenge is to extend the reach of our worship and facilities for developing our faith without undermining what our core congregation values about Froyle Church. A small example: the Group is currently looking at whether to have bibles in pews (proposed answer: yes), which involves grasping the nettle of which version of the bible we should have (proposed answer: NRSV, although readers wanting to read from the King James or any other version would of course be free to do so). The Group also organised an evening training course on reading in public, and is looking to run a second such course; it is also promoting the ‘GraveTalk’ discussion at the Village Hall in May which is flagged in the April magazine.

Community Group: This Group has a different history, having developed of its own initiative over time to act as a dynamic liaison between the Church in Froyle and the village community. It organises, for example, the pet service and the Songs of Praise service, the harvest supper, the recently introduced soup lunch following the harvest festival, and more generally lends vital support to many activities where Church meets community, including the spring jumble sale and the Christmas fayre (and this year, we hope the winter crafts event in the church).

A Collective Thank You

All Church activities require a huge effort from a large number of volunteers. Many of these volunteers have multiple roles and have already been mentioned in one or more capacities, but thanks must go to all those who help make the Church in Froyle what it is – in particular, members of the PCC, the Interest Groups, the choir, our organists, the readers in church and the leaders of the Intercessions, the sides people and “setters up” in church, the bell ringers, the flower arrangers, the Booths who arrange thoughtful and timely stories in the Clive Barter Display cabinet and those on the cleaning rota, all those who help with Sunday School and the range of community events in which the Church is involved.

My thanks to David Perryman for his invaluable assistance. Clergy numbers in the Benefice will be *reinforced* this summer when Christopher Ogilvie Thompson is ordained as a curate on Sunday 3 July in Winchester Cathedral. Do attend his ordination if you would like to – it will be a splendid event, and we will be arranging transport for those who wish to avail themselves of this.

4.11 Froyle Baby and Toddler Group (Mrs. S. Nonhebel, read by Miss Gove)

The group would like to thank the village hall committee for their continuous support this year enabling the toddler group to run. We are also thankful to District Councillor Glynis Watts for a grant received in June 2015 to replace some of our worn out toys.

Since September 2015 and with a lot of advertising, the number of attenders has finally increased (around 10 to 12 families attending each Thursday during term time) and we are now in a better financial position than we were this time last year. We are spending money on refreshments and crafts only.

The group is now attended mainly by childminders from surrounding areas, and only by four Froyle families attending regularly making the number of helpers at a record low (this will decrease to only two Froyle families from September 2016 once some of the children start big school unless of course more people join). We have not yet had any new families from the new houses in Froyle Park attending and joining in with the fun. We are, however, determined to keep the group running as all our children do enjoy the weekly meetings so much!

Sylvie Nonhebel

4.12 **Froyle Good Neighbours** (Mr. J. Sexton)

Froyle Good Neighbours continues to operate at a low but effective level. This is not a reflection of lack of enthusiasm within Froyle Good Neighbours, simply the high level of internal support that the Froyle community provides. We experience less than ten requests for assistance each year and our worthy band of a dozen or so volunteers provide assistance where possible or, where not, information about where support can be found. As we have always made clear, our role is to provide emergency assistance to keep villagers safe and comfortable and, obviously, the relatively mild winters have made emergency events less likely.

We continue to be supported by Hampshire Good Neighbours although we receive no direct funding now, just the comfort of public liability insurance cover. Should calls for our services increase, we will seek further funding from Hampshire and recruit more volunteers.

John Sexton, Chairman

4.13 **Froyle Nature Conservation** (Mr. B. Clark)

In our second year, Froyle Nature Conservation Group (also known as Froyle Wildlife) has been busy with various projects and walks and talks.

Wildflower area on rec: Seed sown last September germinated well and the cornfield annuals should start flowering in May. Thanks to the PC for purchasing the seed. Preparing the ground took 14 individuals over 100h worth of volunteer time. The area will have its first cut at the end of July. This will allow the perennial wildflowers that take longer to establish some room to grow.

Wildlife pond near Gid Lane: Good news! Work started on the new pond near Gid Lane in April with permission from Froyle Park Ltd. The contractor digging the pond is expected take 3-6 weeks and excavations can be seen from the footpath along the Lime Avenue. The project is funded by developer contributions through East Hampshire District Council. Once completed, our advice from wildlife pond experts is to let the pond colonise naturally over time. For more details see website <http://froylewildlife.co.uk/new-pond-near-gid-lane-2016/>.

Bird sightings: An initiative to record 11 particular bird species in Froyle in 2015 is finished now. Thanks to the 17 individuals who managed to log 143 records. This comprised 253 individual bird sightings covering 18 one-kilometre map squares in Froyle. The results can be seen at <http://froylewildlife.co.uk/recording/bird-recording-2015/> and red kite and yellow hammer were seen most often.

Website information: You can find out what species of birds, plants, bats, butterflies and moths have been seen in Froyle in recent years. There are downloadable copies of past surveys including a 1771 inventory of woodlands with outline shapes that are recognisable on today's OS maps (evidence of semi-natural ancient woodland). Also there's a map of the 18 SINCs in Froyle. A SINC is a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation and are designated by Hampshire County Council.

Photo competition 2015: We had 38 entries taken within the parish of Froyle and depicting what people value in local wildlife. The winning images and some entries can be seen at <http://froylewildlife.co.uk/froyle-wildlife-photo-competition/>

4.146 Speed Watch Group (Mr. D. Robertson)

Not received.

5 VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT (Mr. P. Roberts)

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the VDS group I am pleased to report that in the last twelve months we have made significant progress with the Village Design Statement. The VDS group met on five occasions and have incorporated a significant number of revisions (and hopefully improvements) into the draft VDS. In particular, updates were made to reflect ongoing developments at Froyle Park and recent changes in the planning framework.

A draft of the document was inadvertently presented at the Alton Forum in June 2015 and, although it was not adopted, EHDC reported that there were no comments from the Policy team. The VDS group, with an eye on the finishing post, took that as a good sign and decided to push towards final publication.

In September 2015, Chris and Annette Booth kindly reviewed the draft using their perspective of the Froyle Archive. In October, John Sexton also kindly reviewed it on behalf of the Parish Council.

After a short pause for Christmas, final additions to maps, photographs, layout and captions are now being completed in order to bring us to the final version for submission to EHDC by the end of April.

Whilst recent changes in the planning environment may have shifted the balance towards development, the VDS will provide a clear expression of the views of village residents and also a snapshot of Froyle, both in terms of the built and the natural environments. We will ask Chris Booth to publish the final version on Froyle.com and there will be a small number of printed copies available for residents.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the VDS team and our reviewers for their hard work in getting us to this position, within striking distance of the line.

Philip Roberts

VDS Group: I.Deans, K.Foster, Y.Irvine, A.Potter, P.Roberts, N.Whines

6 REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR (Mr. M. Kemp-Gee)

Hampshire's Children's Services Department is one of just ten in the country rated as good and the only county where the leadership is rated as outstanding.

Hampshire has specifically prioritised child social care and added £12.5m to that budget whilst the capital programme for new schools and building improvement is the largest ever at £248m.

At secondary age, over 98% of children get into one of their top 3 choices. Examination results are above the national average and 84% of primary schools are rated good or outstanding.

Funding for youth services has been safeguarded in the budget for this year.

Funding for short breaks for children with disabilities also safeguarded for another year. £1.8m added back by councillors.

More extra-care places for the elderly. Target increased from 500 extra to 700 extra places plus new build provision for young adults with disabilities.

£28m of public investment putting us on target for 95% coverage of superfast broadband across the county with plans being developed to help the final 5% in more remote rural areas.

Road users have voted Hampshire roads maintenance top in the country.

Hampshire's country parks, through successful Lottery funding and capital funding from HCC, will get an extra £15m investment making them even more attractive, with more modern facilities and attaining commercially viability, while the New Hampshire Cultural Trust (HCT) has successfully taken museums and galleries out of council funding, making it easier to attract lottery and other money for these great facilities.

Hampshire now has the lowest council tax precept of any county, whilst services are rated as good or outstanding.

7 REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR (Ms G. Watts)

Not received.

8 REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL (Mr. M. Wells)

Once again, planning applications have played a large part of the Parish Council's time.

We have had several changes within the Parish Council in recent times, the workload put upon the Council has been a major factor in this. Not only do we have our regular meetings, we have many extraordinary meetings, meetings between ourselves when something can be settled easily, and meetings at the National Association of Local Councils level. Three councillors also have a monthly meeting with the management of the Froyle Park venue. We have also spent a considerable amount of time in discussion with EHDC planners dealing with day to day operating issues here. There is also time spent, at home, researching, especially for planning issues.

I thank the outgoing councillors, Karen Potter, John Sexton and Mark Cray for their input and welcome the newer councillors, Ian Macnabb, Jo Wallis and Lauraine Bourne, and look forward to them taking an active part.

We continue to fund the Village Magazine. The Parish Council thanks the editors for their commitment and hard work, not forgetting the distributors who get the magazine to you, the villagers.

In Westburn Fields, Lower Froyle, the development replacing four houses with eight is nearing completion.

In Upper Froyle, a further application by the Nicolas James Group to build three houses in place of the single storey garages next to Jephson House was objected to by Froyle Parish Council, and refused by East Hants District Council.

NJG have also applied to put a 63 bay car park alongside the avenue leading off Gid Lane. Froyle Council have objected to the application due to this being outside the settlement policy boundary area. We await EHDC's decision on the application.

As a result of the building works, developers contributions of £55,000 have been received: £10,000 has been used for the repair and restoration of vestments, £20,000 towards the construction of the wildlife pond, £15,000 for community transport and £10,000 towards a scheme for solar panels for Froyle Village Hall.

Parish Council grants awarded in the past year mirror last year's, beneficiaries are Victim Support, Baby and Toddler Group, the Froyle Archive and Binsted, Bentley and Froyle Care Group. £940 in total, again the same as the previous year.

The notice board and map case on Jubilee Green has been erected and we are awaiting delivery of the walkers map, and updated Millennium map.

Consultation is taking place regarding the recreation ground children's play area. We have been told by children that a favoured playground is at Crondall. Three councillors have made a site visit. We have obtained the manufacturer's catalogue, and continue to consult with the children as to their favourite pieces of equipment, subject to items that are within our budget. It is a probability that the play area will be grassed over, as recommended by RoSPA, but within the hard wearing parts a cellular system that allows grass to grow through would be installed. We will therefore save the cost of replenishing the bark regularly.

An individual, fairly new to the village, met with two councillors with an idea for the redundant Football Hut. The Parish Council has not yet had an opportunity to discuss the proposal. Until we meet as a council, I am unable to update you further on this.

As always, the Parish Council thanks to all the representatives of Froyle's groups: to County Councillor Mark Kemp Gee, District Councillor Glynis Watts, clerk Philippa, Auditor Phil, and my thanks to the Parish Councillors of Froyle.

We as a village always seem to have a lot going on, not only the Parish Council, the amount of groups and organizations, and the community spirit for a parish this size, does us proud and I take this opportunity, on behalf of the Parish Council, to congratulate all of you that do your bit!

9 ANY OTHER MATTERS RAISED BY ELECTORS

None.

Date.....

Chairman.....