

## Shrewton Parish Council Chair's report for Annual Parish Meeting.

This has been a busy year for Shrewton Parish Council. I would like to thank everybody for work they have put in and for the support that has been given to me.

Shrewton has eleven Parish Council seats, following last year's local elections we started the year with eight Parish Councillors but I am pleased to say that we were joined by Beth Dunlop who was co-opted onto the Council in February. Beth has become our Dementia champion and I wish her well in this role.

One of the purposes of the Chair's report is to provide a report on the state of the Parish Council's finances. At the start of the year the bank balance was £32317.49. Income from the precept was £30,780 and expenditure was £20,098.00 so we spent less than our precept. Our end of year balance was £46,285.00, we ring-fenced £10,000 for traffic calming measures (sadly our bid to Wiltshire Council for physical traffic calming measures was unsuccessful but it is hoped that another attempt will be made later this year) and £15,000 is held as a reserve fund. For the forthcoming year the decision was taken to maintain the precept at the same level as last year - £30,000.

One of the duties of the Parish council is the distribution of grants. We distributed £7,025.00 in grants, £5,000 of which was a grant to the Village Hall in support of the refurbishment of the play park.

Of course, there are day to day expenses that are incurred such as the Clerk's salary, hire of the hall for Council meetings, insurance of Council assets and public liability, and subscriptions to the National Association of Local Councils (which provides us with a source of information). We have had a small increase in the cost of village maintenance and some more litter bins are being provided; in addition to the cost of the bin we also have to pay for them to be emptied. If anybody would like a detailed breakdown of expenditure this is available from the Parish Clerk.

Outside of Parish Council meetings Council members have attended meetings of bodies such as the Community Area Transport Group, Southern Area planning meetings, Community Area Boards, Flood Warden meetings and the Neighbourhood Tasking Group. All Councillors are volunteers and I would like to thank Councillors for the time and dedication they have shown in their various roles.

Richard Harris,

Chair, Shrewton Parish Council.