Atworth Parish Council, Parish Assembly 15th April 2015
Chairman's Report

Positives:

- WWI Centenary was marked by the restoration of the Clock Tower especially the Memorial Plaques .We took advice from the History Group and also County Hall. This was recently completed and facilitated by Grant Funding Area Board funded projects in the last year
    - £2895.00 Clock Tower
- Landscaping contract for mowing verges and the recreation ground has been renewed with extended service provision, more specifically, gateways inclusion and weed clearing
- We continue to maintain an excellent working relationship with our local Police. The surgeries held in the village have proved useful. We are grateful for the time and care put in by PC Dalton and his team.
- The W.I continues to do a splendid job as Village Caretaker. The Parish Council are very grateful for their hard work, often in dreadful weather.
- Traffic and parking related issues remain, but we continue to work with County Hall to progress waiting restrictions in specific areas. We are also very anxious to deliver a much safer pedestrian crossing.
- The Parish Plan Update is almost complete following some intensive work being carried out by the Steering Group, ably 'steered' by John Polhill
- The Plan is now complemented by the results of a recently completed Rural Housing Needs Survey which was distributed to all households in Atworth
- Area Board meetings, we maintain a presence at both these important meetings and related sub groups, community area transport group, community area partnership, health, community safety, etc. Time spent at these meetings is well worth the effort and funding from these bodies can be secured for local projects.

Looking outward

1. APC was represented at the Wiltshire Assembly and joined their campaign against Child Sexual exploitation.
2 .As Parliament Week partners, we, together with David Webb, had an extremely useful event with Atworth Youth Club
3. Nationally the Royal British legion promoted having a Lights Out event for WWI Centenary Remembrance. We produced our own assembly at the Clock Tower in the late evening. It was very well attended and we had excellent feedback that it was a significant and thought provoking event. Thank you to Rodney Price and Lynn Spencer for their help and everyone who attended.
4. We represent Atworth on the Community Safety Area Partnership. There is a scheme called Safe Places which Neston Park Farm Shop and The White Hart have joined.

However, on the negative side:

- Speeding through and beyond the village remains an issue. We are working with Wiltshire Council to improve matters.
- Village Magazine and Village Website has no replacement editor since Paul Tyler left the village.
- Atworth experienced some serious flood damage in 2014, both to residential properties and the Youth Club. The Parish Council is keen to work closely with external agencies to offset any future risk. We need volunteer flood wardens

Other issues:

We, as a consultee of Wiltshire Council, have considered 16 Planning Applications during the past year. The proposed solar farm at Little Chalfield is now the subject of an appeal. I have a set of documents concerning the appeal to loan out should anyone want them.

Steve Jordan gave up dealing with the flags in the village, but Andy Cable volunteered to take his place.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their work and support over the past year. I would also like to acknowledge, in advance

of the reports you are about to receive, the hard work of the many volunteers and others, without whom this Parish would be vastly poorer. We thank you for your contributions and achievements.

Cllr Effie Gale-Sides –
Chairman, Atworth Parish Council April 2015