

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 24TH MAY 2016

This, my first year as Parish Council Chairman has seen some planning issues present themselves and decisions made by higher authorities which have not been received well by this Parish Council or its residents.

Oak Trees, Highwood - Following a fire there in February 2016 the Parish Council and Highwood residents were watching the site with interest as repairs seemed to be ongoing. Planning Officers decided the plans to convert the barn were no longer viable and so the mobile unit should not be onsite. We are waiting for Enforcement action to be taken regarding the mobile home.

Eastham Grange new build - following its refusal the applicant has decided to Appeal, we wait to hear the result from that.

Caspian Lodge Field Shelter - Planning permission was required. Malvern Hills District Council have written to the applicant and the Parish Council have asked MHDC to press for a retrospective planning application to negate any further applications or alterations in the future.

Robins End Cottages, Rhyse Lane – The issue regarding foul water running onto the road has now been repaired and the road resurfaced. The new drainage system seems to be working satisfactorily. Our thanks to our County Cllr in resolving this longstanding problem.

In the autumn of 2015 we had the sad news on the death of our District Cllr Gill Farmer, she worked with the Parish Council for many years and our condolences went to her family.

We would like to thank our newly elected District Cllr Caroline Palethorpe who has visited the parish and has proved helpful in assisting us with some matters we have had need to push, such as planning.

John Inge has now officially retired from his duties as former Chairman and Councillor. The Parish Council, on behalf of all the Parish, would like to thank John for his hard work and dedication to Eastham over the years which are numerous indeed. I would like to thank John for his support during the early months into my chairmanship.

I would also like to thank Jen and Beryl for their work on the bridleways and footpaths these last few months. They are now official Footpath Officers with the full support of Worcestershire County Council.

Lastly can I thank the other Cllrs for their support over this year and to our Clerk Sue who has been invaluable in her support to me and I hope we continue to work together for a good while longer.

Paul Arnold – Chairperson of Eastham Parish Council