BROKENBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REVIEW 19th May 2021

Finances
We have accumulated funds over the last two years but have set in motion several actions which will make use of the excess. We are not allowed to hold significant reserves. The precept has been maintained at the 2020 level. A set of accounts is available. Our thanks go to Tony Hole for acting as auditor.

The Horse Guards
Unfortunately the sale fell through, so Arthur Grun is still looking for a new purchaser. Naturally we would resist demolition and a housing development.

Planning
Councillor Tallon has attended several meetings, which addressed the lack of control over new developments in and around Malmesbury, despite the Neighbourhood Plan. The latest government pronouncements are not encouraging.
There is an outstanding application for a "solar park" at 5 ways, which is likely to succeed.

Speeding
Villagers living along and using Main Street are sensitive to speeding traffic. We are reviewing the installation of a flashing speed monitor sign.

Litter
We continue to be beset by litter from cars and vans as well as walkers. We are grateful that Poppy Aird helped clear the verges as part of her Duke of Edinburgh application. It is suggested that cctv surveillance might catch some litterbugs.

Graveyard
The pressure on burial plots has been relieved by the side extension of he graveyard thanks to the generous gift of land from Lord Suffolk. The legalities have proved very expensive. Some details regarding trees and maintenance have yet to be settled.

WiFi
Gigaclear have extended their network throughout the village and are in the process of connecting individual properties. This has encouraged the Council to set up a website which should be available this summer. Our thanks go to Mike Fraser for his technical assistance.

Fosse bridge at the ford
Repairs to the bridge approaches are outstanding and may incur significant costs to the parish.

Councillor changes
We were sorry Councillor Caroline Appelby resigned. Recently retired John Bartholomew, whose legal background will be valuable, replaced her.
All six Councillors were returned unopposed at the May election.

I would like to thank all the Councillors, the Clerk Mrs Warner and County Councillor John Thomson for their valued contributions throughout the year.
We also thank the Abbey for allowing us to meet here, now that the Covid restrictions have been lifted.

Bob Tallon