

Chairman's report 2007-2008

During the year we were joined on the Parish Council by Dominic MacKinnon, David Poulter and John Perry, whose elections completed our quota of councillors.

We also said goodbye to Declan Moody, and hello to Carol McClung as our new Community Warden, and Andrea Beard, our new Police Constable.

All three committees of the Council had new Chairmen during 07-08, and I would like to thank George Barlow, Roger Birkett and Andrew Grice for taking on their committees.

The year 2007-08 has been filled with activities, most of which were successfully resolved, others are still frustrating us.

On the plus side, with hard work by Paul Neary, we obtained two significant grants that have allowed the Memorial Woodland project to become a reality.

We gained a grant to help finance a football wall on the recreation field, (soon to be installed), and a grant to provide a loop hearing system in the main hall at the village centre.

The children of Tangmere Primary School designed posters which urge drivers to "kill your speed", a first move to control speeding through the Village.

The Tangmere Celebration Day in June raised £4,000 towards the St. Richards Care Unit appeal, and on the back of this event, the 2nd Tangmere Scout Group was formed.

We had a drainage system installed in the car park of the village centre that has removed the pond, and fitted bollards to prevent damage to the patio at the centre.

We fully funded the provision of a Litter Warden, made progress on the Spitfire Court project, including opening the footpath to the bus stop (much to the relief of local residents), and finally saw the footbridge to Boxgrove installed.

We heard the conclusions from the Planning Inspector into the soundness of the Core Strategy for development in Chichester District covering the next 20 years. We are committed to reviewing our Parish Action Plan in 2008, and resubmitting our aspirations for Tangmere based upon the views of the village residents.

On the minus side however, there has been little progress on the Aviation Museum plans, nor any progress to resolve the bottleneck at the One-Stop shop. Rowdy behaviour still persists, and under-age drinking persists in the village.

We are challenged by major housing developments in the village, with 107 houses being built at the Fire-station site, and an application for 160 on the grain-store site. We need to make sure that these developments are sensibly phased in order to minimise the disruption to the village.

I would like express thanks to Moya, our Parish Clerk, from the whole Council for her continuing hard work on their behalf. Her challenge this year is to help achieve Quality Parish status for Tangmere Parish Council.

I would like to thank all the residents who have contributed to our discussions, and all the voluntary work they have done with us. It is our aim to continue closely involving our residents so as to fulfil our role of representation.