

Annual Chairman's Report 2023/24

I am so proud to be able to present the Annual Report for what has been my sixth term as Chairman of Marstow Parish Council. I thank my fellow Parish Councillors for electing me to serve as the Chairman during 2023/24. It has been both a pleasure and an honour.

Our main achievements of 2023/24 were:

1. Doubling the number of defibrillators in the Parish taking us from two to four, with Marstow being a large spread out area adding these two additional defibrillators is a big plus for the Parish. The new locations are Greenway Cottage, Glewstone Rd, HR9 6AT and Castle Cottage, Glewstone Rd, HR9 6HP. These two new locations cover more of our residential areas in the Parish and are both now registered and live. The Parish Council have resolved to maintain these units with annual inspections and replacement parts, as required.
2. The newly painted 30mph roundels – installed by the Parish Council through the community model scheme were highly visible to road users and it is hoped will improve driver awareness and safety.
3. Fly tipping incidents – these were all reported by the Parish Council and have been removed by Balfour Beatty.
4. Following discussion, it was resolved to maintain the precept at the present level being reminded of the increased costs experienced by residents and families.
5. Maintenance work – Balfour Beatty and our locality steward have provided cost effective maintenance work on drainage issues and repairing grips and gulleys as well as pot hole repairs where budget costs have allowed.

Matters that remain outstanding which we are still pursuing progress :

1. There are a couple of road signs on the A40 Pencraig which need to be replaced/repared. We have contacted Highways England more than once regarding this however, this is still incomplete.
2. Flashing 50mph sign Pencraig, the sign is no longer working (flashing) we have been in contact with Highways on 10th April 2024 and our contact area manager has responded that he has requested the “engineer visit report” to study and will have a meeting to discuss our concerns and suggestions.

I would like to take this opportunity to make some thank you's starting with Tom Dudzic who has been instrumental in our pursuit to add more defibrillators in the Parish. I attended one of Tom's defibrillator courses which was very well presented and proved to be both educational and enjoyable. I highly recommend anyone who has not been on a course or if you are looking to have a refresher to contact Tom at ross.cfr.manager@outlook.com

I would also like to thank David Alexander and Kirsten Kysow from West Mercia Police who have both attended several meetings and have offered good communication and advice.

Thank you to Phyll Hannah and everyone involved at St Matthews Church, we all thoroughly enjoy the warm welcome you give us at every meeting, keeping us warm in the winter months and providing us with teas and coffee and most importantly plenty of chocolate biscuits (my apologies there aren't ever many left, our clerk has a sweet tooth!).

If anyone is looking to attend some of the church events and show them some support all the information can be found on their website at www.marstowchurch.org

A warm welcome to Mandy Mclelland who has recently joined us on Marstow Parish council in February'24 and who has already been a keen help with our additional defibrillators. We look forward to having you as a addition to our strong team of councillors

Lastly, I would like to thank all of our Councillors for their time, support and hard work continuing to carry out their important roles locally. This helps to keep our residents safe whilst improving the environment for us all to enjoy.

The Parish Council Members and Staff would like to wish all residents a lovely relaxing and peaceful summer.

Alfred Williams, Chairman 2023/24