

STAPLEFORD TAWNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's report for the year ended 31st March 2019

The winter of 2018 – 2019 was much less severe than the previous one, despite this there are still more pot holes developing in places which will need to be repaired this summer.

Once again we decided to leave the precept unchanged this year.

There have been several planning application in the Parish this year, all of them have been discussed at PC meetings and our views expressed to EFDC.

As reported last year fly tipping is continuing to be a huge problem, thankfully the Council usually clear the rubbish quite quickly but it is becoming an almost daily job to report new fly tips.

Virtually no road salt has been used this year following the mild winter. The current stock held at Mount Farm is 1 tonne.

Sadly the Mole Trap was closed on the 1st January 2019. Dave and Jean Kirtley have run a very successful and popular pub for about 25 years but sadly they have found the current financial climate too difficult for them to be able to continue. The Parish Council would like to thank them for providing a focal point for the local community for many years. Stapleford Tawney Parish Council have been approached by many people, all wanting to know whether it is likely that the pub will re-open. This is out of our control as it is up to the Kirtley's to decide how best to proceed. We have however spoken to them to let them know how popular the Mole Trap is and how important it is to the local community. Having been approached by so many people STPC decided to prepared an ACV (Asset of Community Value) in the hope that it might give the local community the time to put a business plan together to run the pub with a group of local enthusiasts. We have delayed submitting the ACV to EFDC because we didn't want it to impede any efforts the Kirtley's were putting in to finding someone to take it over. As of today, 7th May 2019 it still hasn't been submitted. We are still keen, as are many locals and customers from further afield that the pub will re-open at some point in the future.

Following Juliet's first full year as Parish Clerk I would like to thank her for the very efficient manner in which she has taken to the role.

Once again I would also like to thank all the councillors for their hard work this year, the attendance rate at meetings has again been very high and everyone has put in as much time as is required when necessary.

Stuart Galloway

Chairman S.T.P.C.

STPC web site: www.essexinfo.net/stapleford-tawney-parish-council/