

## WAKES COLNE PARISH COUNCIL

### Chairwoman's Report

Wakes Colne has certainly come back to life as a community this summer! What wonderful events – the Rock Choir, the Jubilee Picnic, the Open Gardens and the Abbeygate Concert Band – have been organised, supported, participated in and enjoyed in just a few weeks from late May and mid-June. Thanks to all those who contributed to make much-needed meetings up and new memories as well as raising funds for our churches and the village hall.

Together with Chappel Parish Council, in late May we held our Annual Parish Meeting in the village hall, when we reported on our work during the past year in the parish councils and members of other local organisations came together to talk about what goes on and what is planned. Plenty happening and its good to see some new people joining in and helping out, including new residents from Wakes Hall. We will be distributing our annual report to all residents of Wakes Colne during July/August.

Wakes Colne Parish Council, through Section 106 funding from a local barn conversion, was able to provide four large planters outside the bus shelters at the crossroads and plant them up in patriotic colours before the Jubilee weekend. We also now have water butts behind each bus shelter, so please, if you have time when you pass, pick up a can and add some water to keep the plants going.



This year's Plant & Seed Swap opening was kindly undertaken by Peter Chillingworth. There were initially a lot of plants which soon disappeared as have those which have been added as top ups by a few people. Please remember to bring plants to Swap as that is the only way it will keep going.

The same goes for the telephone book exchanges. The Lane Rd telephone book exchange is in need of books. So please sort out some books and leave there.

We have just learned that we have been successful in obtaining funding through the Local Highways Panel for new signage indicating narrow lane unsuitable for heavy vehicles at the entrances to Lane Rd. Hopefully this will help to preserve this lovely rural road. We are still awaiting permission to locate a Vehicle Activate System outside the village hall, which we hope will slow traffic.

The footpath working group will be out and about this summer, undertaking clearance activities. And we are still looking for another councillor to join us. If you are interested, please contact the clerk: [parishclerk@wakescolne.org](mailto:parishclerk@wakescolne.org) We should like to welcome our new Ward Cllr. William Sunnucks who will be attending our meetings from September.

Early in September we plan to hold a get together in the village hall for those interested in participating in an oral history project for our village to discuss how this may be done and to bring our memories to life. I am aware of some who have much to contribute, but don't be shy, just contact me on [chairperson@wakescolne.org](mailto:chairperson@wakescolne.org) if you would like to join in. And look out for notices of the event which will be posted.

Monica J. Taylor