

**BROCKWORTH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 16 MAY 2018**

There were 36 people present including representatives from: Brockworth Primary Academy, Brockworth Elderly Groups, Brockworth Youth Trust, Tewkesbury Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, St Georges Church, Gloucestershire Police

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

**1. Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17 May 2017 were received with no comments.

**2. Annual Report of the Chairman of the Parish Council – Cllr J Hunt**

The Chairman outlined the main points of his report, which was circulated to all present and can be read at Appendix 1.

**3. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

The finance figures for 2016/17 were circulated to all present and can be read at Appendix 2.

**4. Report from Schools**

Mr Bradley Nash gave a report from Henley Bank High School. This report can be read as Appendix 3.

**5. Report from Representative of the Police**

There were 3 representatives of the Police present, Sargent Jones, Constable Jones and the PCSO Lawson. Their report can be read as Appendix 4

**6. Report from Representative of Brockworth Allotments and Garden Association**

Mr Richards gave a report on the Brockworth Allotments and Garden Association. This report can be read as Appendix 5

**7. Report from local Youth Organisations**

Tim Berry gave a report from the Brockworth Youth Trust which was circulated and can be read as Appendix 6.

No report received from Brockworth Scouts.

No report received from Army Cadets

**8. Report on Brockworth's Clubs for the Elderly**

Cllr Carole Neal read out the reports for the Welcome Club and Brockworth Day Centre which can be read as Appendix 7.

**9. Report from the Tewkesbury Borough Councillors**

Cllr Ron Furolo gave a report from the Borough Cllrs which can be read as Appendix 8

**10. Report from Gloucester County Council Representative – Cllr Robert Vines**

Cllr Robert Vines was unable to attend and provided a report which was circulated and can be read as Appendix 9.

**11. Report from local Organisations** Revd. Jane Walden St Georges Churches report can be read in appendix 10.

## **12. Public Question Time**

Resident enquired if the Council had any details on the progress of a new doctor's surgery, as the current surgery can't cope with all the residents, and the waiting time for appointments is 3 weeks. The Council have no answer to that question at the moment, the only information that we have is that they are still looking for a suitable site to build a new doctor's surgery on for Huccelcote and Brockworth. There are plans for a new surgery on the Perry Brook site.

There being no further reports or questions from members of the public, the meeting closed at 20:05.

## **Appendix 1 – Chairman’s Report**

### **Introduction:**

This annual report relates to the work of Brockworth Parish Council for the year 2017/18 and describes the principle activities which it has undertaken over that period.

### **Planning:**

In 2017/2018, the Parish Council was asked to comment on 56 planning applications. There are always difficulties and differences of opinion when determining planning applications, particularly in areas covered by Green Belt and AONB. Brockworth Parish Council is always concerned about the future housing development and the consequential impact it has on its roads and other local services.

As you are all aware, the 1500 house development known as the Perry Brook was passed for development, but at the time of writing this report, we do not have a date when the building will begin.

In addition to large developments, your Council comments on household developments and change of use applications and hope you find it helpful when Councillors pay a visit to affected neighbouring properties in order that we can take their comments into consideration when dealing with these on your behalf.

Your Council also covers the following areas:

### **Rights of Way:**

The Council is always looking to ensure Rights of Way are kept clear, notifying Highways of potholes in roads and pavements and ensuring that waste and dog bins are emptied and in good condition. Doggie bags are available from the Community Centre, at a cost of 50p per pack, which is restricted to two packs per visit.

The Parish Council is very fortunate in having an effective working relationship with the staff at County Highways. It is not possible, due to workload and financial constraints, to rectify every highway, flooding and environmental problem immediately but the Parish Council has been grateful for the prompt responses and action it has received from them.

I am aware that a lot of resident have complained about pot holes which you have reported and have taken a long time to be filled. The reason why this often happens depends on the size and depth of the hole. For deep and large holes, the time to fill them is 24 hours. For medium size holes, it can take 3 weeks to 3 months. Small holes can take 6 weeks to 6 months. I agree that this does not help when you are using the same bad road every day. However, we are constantly requesting Highways to get them filled as soon as possible.

### **Parks and Open Spaces:**

This year has been mainly general maintenance on the parks with services taking place on equipment. The biggest maintenance has been on the safer surfaces as they have needed to be replaced and touched up in Pound Farm and Mill Lane Playing fields.

In my report last year, I stated that the Section 106 money for the MUGA to be co constructed on Pound Farm which was being held up by planning as you are probably aware that has now been erected and is being used and enjoyed by the youth in the Abbotswood area, as in the past they would have to come and play at the community centre.

The Parish Council continues to look after the Nature Reserve on Green Street. Many thanks go to the residents who volunteer their weekend mornings to maintain and tidy the area. The Council and the wildlife are very grateful.

### **The Community Centre:**

Over the last 12 months we are pleased to say that the building has been extremely busy with the room bookings continuing to increase. This achievement has been to the well-maintained building and the pleasant and courteous way all the staff welcomes and looks after visitors during their time here.

The coffee shop is no doubt an asset, as there are always good breakfasts, lunches and refreshments available from 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday, all at reasonable prices together with a smile and a welcome. We also hold a Senior Citizens Luncheon Club every Friday at 12 noon for Brockworth residents at a cost of only £4.00 for a 2-course cooked lunch and includes a cup of tea or coffee. To ensure you get a seat, bookings should be made in advance as we are only able to seat 30 people. The quick lunch bar with ready-made snack, salads and sandwiches and the new children's menu has gone very well.

The extension to the Community Centre which I reported last year is still ongoing. The building of the extension is delayed due to trying to obtain grant money in order for it to proceed. The present economic situation which could last for a few more years makes it difficult to obtain any grants, especially for large sums which the Council will need to go forward.

### **Brockworth Newsletter:**

The bi-monthly Parish Magazine is now being produced quarterly by the Parish Council and you will notice some of the advertisements and pages are now in colour (including the Parish Kitchen). As we have taken on the advertising from the previous printer it means we will be able to show a profit and reduce the Parish cost. The delivery will still be carried out on our behalf by the local Scouts.

### **Taxi Vouchers:**

The taxi voucher scheme is still running and very successful. Vouchers are provided for the disabled and Senior Citizens to the value of £76. Along with the vouchers, there is a list of participating taxi firms that will accept the vouchers and can be used any time.

**Library:**

The library which was transferred to the Brockworth Community Project has now been open under new management for over six years and is improving each year. However, they still need more people to use it and of course still needs money in order to be able to continue to run it. The Parish Council has again supported them with a £750.00 grant for books which is budgeted through the Parish Council precept. The Community Project also applies for various grants from other organisations.

**Mill Lane Path:**

The Parish Council have been seeking funding to complete the path around Mill Lane Playing Field. The hope is to create a walkway to allow pushchairs, wheelchairs, runners, dog walkers and all those who use Mill Lane Playing Field easier access to access the field and other parts of Brockworth.

**Youth Service:**

The Brockworth Youth Trust took over the youth services in the Youth Centre on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2017 and is developing to offer increased youth services in Brockworth. The Council is very pleased with the service that Brockworth Youth Trust is providing.

**Financial:**

At the end of this year 2017/2018 the accounts showed a healthy balance allowing the Council to approve a budget for 2018/2019 which required an increase in the Parish Precept (Council Tax). The annual accounts continue to identify specific items of possible expenditure held in the reserve account for such matters as the maintenance and improvements to our Community Building, Play Areas etc.

**Appreciation:**

On behalf on the Council I would like to thank the new Clerk Mrs Mariska Smook and the Assistant to the Clerk Miss Julie McMahon for the excellent work they both have carried out over the past year, it has been a pleasure to work with them. There have been many new challenges this past year, including new Health and Safety Regulations so that the Parish Council is working safe and within the law.

I would also like to thank all the other staff who work hard to ensure that the community centre is at its best to welcome all residents and visitors who hire our rooms for functions.

I would also like to thank the Community Payback group for all the hard work that they have done all over Brockworth in the past year.

**Jim Hunt**

**Chairman – Brockworth Parish Council**

**May, 2018**

## **Appendix 2 – To receive a statement of the Parish Council’s Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2018.**

The precept received by the Parish from Tewkesbury Borough Council for 2017/18 was set at £169,057.00

Staff costs were £83,462.54 in the last year which was slightly more than the previous year. This figure does not include agency cover and contractors hired.

The Community Centre cost £108,055.23 to run in the past year which is a decrease on the previous year. Several expenditures were necessary to maintain the now 10-year-old building. The Community Centre’s income has decreased from the previous year:

£65,103 in 2011/12  
£81,378 in 2012/13  
£83,273 in 2013/14  
£83,786 in 2014/15  
£77,141 in 2015/16  
£81,072 in 2016/17  
£66,977 in 2017/18

### Grants and other services

During the past year, the parish council has given out grants to local groups totalling £25,720. (list below). We continued the taxi voucher scheme for qualifying residents at a cost of £950.00 We have also continued to provide Citizen Advice Bureau services to Brockworth residents through the Community Centre which cost £3,120 for the year. In 2017/18 the Parish Council were able to assist Brockworth Primary Academy with a small grant of £750.00 to put a gate in at the back of the school leading to Mill Lane playing field.

### Grants & Donations awarded to:

Poppy Wreath 2017  
Welcome club  
Brockworth Community Project (Youth & Library)  
Brockworth Primary Academy  
Royal British Legion Woman’s Section  
Millbrook Academy  
Brockworth Youth Trust

### Public Open Spaces

In addition, the council spent £12,965.60 on grass cutting and £7995.24 on Parks & Open Spaces.

### Rights of Way

The parish council continued with the Parish weed spraying service which cost £750.00 in 2017/18.

The year end accounts are being audited soon but are available to view by appointment.

Income & Expenditure for **Community Centre** year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018:

	2017/18
<b>Income</b>	
Hall Lettings	£ 12,089.40
Conference Room Hiring's	£ 9,950.56
Meeting room	£ 2,644.39
Office 1 Hire	£ 8,108.85
Office 2 Hire	£ 2,342.68
Office 3 Hire	£ 5,328.73
Youth Centre Lease	£ 2,370.86
Misc. Hire income	£ 1,505.20
Catering Income - Kitchen	£17,762.07
Catering Income - Hiring's	£ 4,873.99
Bad Debts	£ 0.00
	<b>£ 66,976.73</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Salary costs (including contractors and agency cover)	£ 53,671.46
Business Rates	£ 7,599.00
Gas	£ 2,430.42
Electricity	£ 3,789.98
Maintenance	£ 15,141.07
Equipment	£ 5,089.25
Cleaning	£ 2,604.44
Training	£ 1,721.00
Office expenses	£ 387.45
Telephones	£ 2,071.52
Security	£ 5,418.48
Health & Safety	£ 1,988.10
IT/computer	£ 167.00
Redecorations	£ 0.00
Repairs to damage caused	£ 0.00
Catering expenditure	£ 5,311.49
Water Rates	£ 664.57
Staff Cover	£ 0.00
Publicity	£ 0.00
	<b>£ 108,055.23</b>

Income & Expenditure for **Parish Council** year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018:

	<b>2017/18</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Precept	£ 179,005.00
Interest Received	£ 205.97
Burial & Cremation Fees	£ 7,191.69
Allotments	£ 100.00
Other Grants	£ 0.00
Sale of Dog Bags	£ 876.05
Village Income	£ 0.00
Misc Income	£ 301.10
Advertising Parish Magazine	£ 1,050.09
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 188,720.90</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Parish Council Staff Costs (including contractors and agency cover)	£ 66,945.05
PC - Office Costs	£ 10,333.43
Advertising & Brockworth News	£ 724.10
Professional Fees & Subscriptions	£ 8,854.21
Training and Health & Safety	£ 937.60
Insurance	£ 2,548.04
Rates	£ 174.00
PC - Audit Costs	£ 880.00
Computers Costs	£ 2,630.95
Members Expenses	£ 1,380.00
Youth Grants	£ 24,696.00
PC - Maintenance	£ 0.00
Chairman's Allowance	£ 200.00
Doggy Bags	£ 949.00
Bins (Dog & Litter)	£ 15.00
Parks & Open Spaces Costs	£ 12,909.64
Allotments	£ 115.86
Cross Hands Meadow (Shell Land)	£ 70.00
PROW Costs	£ 750.00
Sec 137 & Other Grants Given	£ 3,431.43
Burial Ground Grass Cutting	£ 8,051.20
Burial Ground General Maintenance & Hedge Cutting	£ 1,154.00
Burial Ground Development Costs	£ 3,195.00
TBC & CAB Advice Centre Support Costs	£ 2,496.00
Library Support	£ 750.00
Taxi Voucher Scheme	£ 950.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 155,409.08</b>

### **Appendix 3 – Henley Bank Highschool Report**

Bradley Nash gave a report from Henley Bank High School introducing himself as the Head Teacher and gave a brief history on his journey to becoming head teacher. Mr Nash explained that since starting he has put in a new behaviour policy as he is aware of the history of the poor behaviour at the school. It was mentioned from a resident that the anti-social behaviour is so bad that if they are in school uniform what is the school able to do to help with this. Mr Nash explained that when children leave the premises all children are handed over to parents, however in school uniform they have an element of duty to raise aspirations of the children and teach them respect and how to act. If they have been informed of bad behaviour in school time or when leaving it will be dealt with. Mr Nash informed us that he has been to the local shops and informed them that any trouble by his pupils they can contact him and he will deal with it. Disruption to learning is not accepted. It was raised that the behaviour policy is too extreme. Children that come to the school are also out of the area and any behaviour problems outside of the school will affect them at that school. It will not be tolerated and explained he has an open-door policy and has welcomed visits to the school, such as parents, police and youth workers to interact with the children.

### **Appendix 4 - Report from Representative of the Police – PCSO Lawson**

PCSO Lawson gave a report on the criminal activity in the area which was

	2017/18	2016/17
Threats/Violence /Harassment	86	68
Sexual offences	16	18
Burglaries	35	36
Theft	118	90
Fraud	6	8
Criminal Damage	60	58
Drug Offences	21	10

There is a small percentage increase this year.

Members of public spoke out about the anti-social behaviour around Brockworth at this present time. The police asked that any issues with anti-social behaviour need to be reported to them as they are unable to help without it being reported. The non-emergency way to contact is on the 101 number or 101 email and it can be marked as anonymous if you request it. If it is an emergency then contact 999.

Resident also raised concerns that the people in Brockworth don't feel safe and would like to know what are the police going to do about this. Police responded that for the police to be able to do anything regarding these incidents, it needed to be reported to the Police and residents needs to make statements to the Police. Because of cutbacks in the Police they can't patrol areas as much as they would like to and they have got a large area to cover.

Resident also raise concerns regarding a group of youths that intimidate the employees working in the local shops, and all the employees receive from the police is an incident number and no

more information on what is happening. Police responded that they are still investigating these incidents.

Allegations were made that youths are using and dealing in drugs. Police responded that they are investigating these allegations, but the procedures have changed regarding the arresting of minors and it is difficult to charge them. The parents of these youths are not co-operating with the police.

Resident also raised concern that PCSO's are being send out to investigate complaints but they have no power of arrest, why can't proper officers attend scenes. Taxes went up for more money for the Police but where is that police? The Police officers present were no able to comment on this statement

### **Appendix 5 - Report from Representative of Brockworth Allotments and Garden Association**

Mr John Richards gave a report on behalf of the allotment association. We have got 100 allotment plots of which 97 are cultivated. Our water supplier has changed and we are now on the commercial side, and are being charged for the water that we use.

Resident asked if they can obtain a plot for the youth to grow vegetables in. Mr Richards answer yes but they will need an adult to help them, supervise them and teach them how to garden.

Question was also asked on how for you apply for an allotment? Your name and phone number will be handed to the chairman of the Allotment association and he will be in contact when there is an allotment plot available.

### **Appendix 6 - Report from Brockworth Youth Trust (Youth Report)**

Brockworth Youth Trust has now been operational for 10 months after opening our doors for the 1<sup>st</sup> time on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2017 for two sessions a week.

We have listened and will continue to listen to what the CAYP of Brockworth need; we will always put them at the heart of everything and it is they who continue to steer the way forward and help us develop to ensure their rights, aspirations, desires and needs are met and protected. The Centre currently runs a variety of activities including indoor caving, pool, table tennis, football, equipment to play their own music and Gaming consoles to play Wii sports and other games. The Centre staff are currently working towards running a Babysitting Workshop in collaboration with PATA, First Aid awareness including CPR, choking and AED workshops and have just assisted in the running of our first Virtual Reality Road Code workshop which was attended by students from Chosen Hill and Henley Bank High School.

We work closely with the Parish, The Police, Henley Bank High School and other agencies to promote positive change in Anti-social behaviour; our strict behavioural policy ensures that CAYP's behaviours is are challenged even when the Youth Centre is closed.

The centre has over 2800 footfall since opening with an average of 35 CAYP per session.

We really want to change some of the negative perceptions that the Youths of Brockworth have experienced and we hope we will continue to develop, provide high standards and value for money Youth Services for the Parish.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Brockworth Parish Council for their trust and continued support and we really look forward to our future collaboration.

Question were asked from a resident if any of the members of staff grew up in Brockworth? Mr Berry confirmed that he and his daughter grew up on Brockworth.

Member of Brockworth Link asked why can't the two Youth Services collaborate? Mr Berry answered that the tried to he went to see Haley, and Mr Berry was informed that she has left now. Mr Berry requested that the new manager should come and see him and they can then work together. Mr Berry informed the meeting that he is working closely with the Police to deter anti-social behaviour.

A Resident also asked if the kids are ever asked what they would like for youth services. Mr Berry answered that they do that and put the kids at the heart of everything that they do. Resident comment that Churchdown has got a better Youth Centre than Brockworth, why is that? Cllr Furolo answered that that Youth Centre was build with S106 money, and that there is not that much money around anymore.

Questions were also being asked if the MUGA at the back of the Community Centre are going to be removed to get more parking spaces. The Chairman of Brockworth Parish Council answered that this is not true, the extension of the Community Centre will not be able to materialise until the Council can get the funding for it. The MUGA will move to Mill Lane when the extension will be built.

### **Appendix 7 - Report on Brockworth's Clubs for the Elderly**

Cllr Carole Neal delivered the following reports on behalf of Brockworth Daycentre and St Patrick's Welcome Club:

#### **Brockworth Daycentre**

The Brockworth Daycentre is a lunch club which meets on Wednesdays 10-1pm in the Youth Centre. It has existed for nearly 35 years, during which time the membership numbers have fallen from 40+ to 11 today, which includes 4 helpers who collectively run the club. The Club have closed after Christmas because there were just not enough members and because of a lack of funding to pay the rent.

#### **St Patrick's Welcome Club**

The Welcome Club continues to meet on Wednesday afternoons during school term time. Meetings are held in St Patrick's Church Centre, Brockworth, from 2.00pm – 4.00pm. Numbers are diminishing and New members are always very welcome. They have only 8 members at the moment.

### **Appendix 8 - Report from the Tewkesbury Borough Councillors**

Cllr R Furolo explained that there is a team of three councillors who represent Brockworth on the Borough as well as the Parish Council and will be the spokesperson tonight.

Cllr H Turbyfield was the mayor for Tewkesbury until yesterday, and Cllr R Hatton will be the mayor for this coming year.

Cllr Turbyfield is the Chair for Tewkesbury Borough Council meetings, sits on Licensing, Overview and Scrutiny and Standards Committees. He is also a member of the Devolution Working Group

Cllr Ruth Hatton is the support member for built the Environment, and sits on Licensing, Overview and Scrutiny and Planning Committees.

Cllr Ron Furolo is a portfolio holder for Financial strategy. He sits on the Executive, Licensing and Planning Committees. He is also on the Leisure Centre Strategic Partnership Board, and Tewkesbury Leisure Centre Partnership Board. Working groups, he sits on is Commercial Property Investment Board, Economic Development and Tourism Strategy Reviews Working Group, Tewkesbury Borough Plan Working Group and Transform Working Group.

#### Finance and resources

Tewkesbury have acquired this year a further 3 commercial property investments which brings our total investment to £31.1 million. This generate a net return of £1.15 million. Top floor of the Public Service Centre has been refurbished and 1/3 has been let by CommScope. Overall income received from PSC partners for rental purpose is £184k

#### Economic development

Tewkesbury have continued to work with their neighbouring authorities and key stakeholders to promote local and strategic national benefit of an improved junction 9. They are also working with Gloucestershire County Council and other partners to secure funding to improve junction 10 to benefit the delivery of key sites and wider accessibility. The Community Development ten supported over 100 community groups throughout the year to apply for funding. This took the total funds granted to over £1 million since July 2015.

#### Customer Focuses Services

The public service centre refurbishment is underway, costing £2.3 m. This is a real transformational project and will ensure we maximise the operational capability of the building to deliver services to meet the needs of our residents. We have a commitment to maintain and improve a culture of continuous service improvement. One of our key front-line services is Development Services and there is an ambition to make this service as efficient, effective and economical as possible.

The garden waste has been a significant project running for the whole financial year. It has delivered the transition of all our customers moving to one renewal date and the implementation of a sticker licence. To date over 14 000 customers have subscribed with 72% subscribing online. This is a positive contribution to our digital agenda.

We continue to support the Citizen Advice Bureau with a grant £53,000. This has helped to support over 1,000 residents.

We have cracked down on enviro crimes and have issued more than 20 fixed penalty notices. Along, with successful prosecution throughout the year. New policies approved such as Public Space Protection Order (dog fouling) and Fixed Penalty Notices.

Member of the public asked what benefit did Brockworth get from Tewkesbury Borough Council since the last AGM. Cllr Furolo answered that is a very difficult question to answer, as they have to convince 38 other Councillors that Brockworth Parish must benefit above the other Parishes. S 106 money has not been distributed fairly to Brockworth, and a lot of the Perry Brook S106 money is going for a new rugby club, a new MUGA and a new playground, all which will benefit a small group of the 7500 residents in Brockworth.

#### **Appendix 9 – Report from Gloucester County Council Representative – Cllr Robert Vines**

County Council tax increase was 4.49% this year - listed on Council Tax bills as 2.5% GCC increase and ASC levy of 2%. Whilst it's one of the lowest increases of shire councils in the whole country - it's still more than we would like to increase.

However, 2% of the increase is ring-fenced for Adult Social Care where demand is rising 4 - 5% a year. Good success in providing services to allow more people to remain their own homes, reducing the number in care homes.

There is also increasing demand and costs of protecting vulnerable children. The number of Children in Care has risen about a third in the last two years to nearly 700. Children's Services are budgeted to cost £16 million a year more.

Two weeks ago, GCC started its spend of £150 million to give our highways network a once in a generation upgrade. Across the county you will see extensive resurfacing - to cut down future potholes, as well as more white lining; more footway schemes and more road drainage schemes. This has been the worst Winter for Gloucestershire since 2009. We've already undertaken more than twice as many gritting runs as last year. It's also been a long winter so potholes have taken longer to repair. For potholes repairs to be successful long term the temperature needs to be above 5 degrees C.

Strategic Roads Network. Government has committed to funding the "missing link" on the A417. Total cost of £500m. It's also agreed to undertake an appraisal for Junction 10 on the M5 (West Cheltenham) to increase capacity and build in to a full junction (so join/leave both in North and South directions).

Public Rights of Way (PROW) officers brought back under GCC control.

Each county councillor has a budget of £20,000 to spend on local highways at their discretion, together with a £30,000 pot over three years for wider community support - which can be highways, youth activities or other community needs.

£50 million capital budgets approved towards new school (Cheltenham South East) and school improvements across the county - primary and secondary.

Plans now in place for 97% of Gloucestershire residents/businesses to have access to faster broadband. Percentage is rising all the time as we work out solutions for smaller settlements and more remote properties.

Council playing important role in providing 5000 apprenticeships across the county.

Welcome substantial additional national funding of £40 million for Gloucestershire Royal and Cheltenham General Hospitals.

Countywide spend on Mental Health services up. Take up on Flu vaccinations also higher.

All GCC libraries protected with enhanced services at many.

Road Safety Community Hub has been relaunched for residents and parish councils to log online their road safety concerns which are dealt with by a team comprising police, GCC Highways and Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue.

We are planning a roll out of a number of Electric Vehicle charging points across Gloucestershire.

## **Appendix 10 – St Georges Church**

Revd. Jane Walden of St Georges Church reported that there are not a lot of people attending church. We have younger families also attending now but the majority is older people. Church is open between 10-4 on week days with no damage to the church. Youth's do come into church and do ask some questions. We had a May fair last week, like we have every year, Ice cream Sunday in August, Christmas fair on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November this year. The tree festival is becoming very popular. We do open the book in local primary schools reading some bible stories for the children. We hosted the remembrance service in the community hall. We have a coffee morning in the front of the church hall every Monday, which is open to everybody. We also have a needles and natter group on Thursday mornings. We had 31 christenings last year, 21 weddings, and 30 odd funerals. We will have 22 weddings this year. We continue to take advice on our church building, and the Bishop will come and have another visit to our Church. The graves are

still sliding into the brook, and there is still no money available to fix the bank. We are busy with GDPR, and we will contact you to see if we can keep your details.