

Stretton Parish Council would like to thank those of you present tonight.

This meeting celebrates this Parish Council's third year's accomplishments and the ambitions for the new year.

The major projects and events undertaken have been :

A new footpath surface was laid along Station Walk and a new gravel path along part of the Jinny Nature Trail. These have received positive comments.

During December there were some solar powered Christmas Trees erected on the lamp posts along Station Walk.

A series of activity days were organized for the Young People over the six weeks school holidays. Unfortunately it seemed like it rained every Wednesday of the holidays which led to some cancellations and rearrangements to the days and activities. Additional financial support was awarded from the Stretton Ward Councillors for these days.

Wildflower areas were sown on Station Walk and Beech Lane which proved to be popular with lots of positive comments and this will be repeated here and on other pieces of Parish Council land.

The Parish Council have continued promoting events to commemorate WW1 and need to thank Parish Councillor Malcolm Goode for his time, knowledge and commitment. With 2018 being the Centenary there is going to be a big event in the Town on the Saturday and also a couple of events on the Sunday in Stretton.

The Parish Council supported the first Stretton Gala in May 2017 and thank the group for their continued commitment and time to doing it all again on Saturday 19th May 2018 on the Church Field.

Financial aid has been given to both local and national charities and groups which have an impact on the lives of Stretton parishioners, such as St Giles Hospice and St Mary's Church.

Areas belonging to the Parish Council – Jubilee Playing Fields, Bitham Lane Community Park, Millennium Garden, The Jinny Trail, Station Walk, Woodland Walk, Beech Lane and The Green – have continued to be maintained. The Parish Council have also continued to mow the Churchyard.

The Council year ended with trespassers on the Jubilee Playing Fields carpark despite the area being securely locked. This has proved to be very frustrating..

The website – www.strettoncommunity.co.uk – is regularly updated. Anyone wishing to have an event or item included should contact the Clerk.

The Parish Council would like to recognize the efforts of the following people:

Mrs Amanda Smith, Parish Clerk.

The members of the Priory Centre Management Committee, who continue to undertake the running of the centre.

Mrs Carole Allen who works very hard to keep both the Priory Centre and Jubilee Fields Changing Rooms in good repair.

Mr Christopher Winson as Grounds Maintenance Person, who has kept the parish land areas tidy and in good order.

Mr Graham McCulloch who deals with the specific areas of the Millennium Garden, The Green and the land at Beech Lane.

Mr Arthur Stone (Jed) for locking and unlocking the gate onto the carpark at the Jubilee Playing Fields.

Finally we would like to advise that newspaper reporters are invited to all meetings. Parishioners are always welcome at the Parish Council meetings which are usually held on the first Tuesday in the month at 7.00pm in the Priory Centre. Agendas are displayed in the Parish Council noticeboards and on the website.