

Parish Council annual report

It's been a year of change. Twelve months ago we attended the funeral of Alan Ariss on the day of the annual meeting. Alan had been vice-chairman for many years, but stood down as his health deteriorated. Maureen Lankester was voted in as vice-chair at the annual meeting of the parish council, but resigned in October when she and Brian moved to Glemsford.

Bridget Sumner and Madeline Gray were invited to join the council, they accepted and were duly co-opted in October.

And in February Julie Rix stepped down after 39 years as parish clerk, with Nicola Smith taking over at the April meeting, when tributes were paid, and a presentation made, to Julie.

On planning Babergh councillors overruled their officers to grant planning permission for four houses at Newmans Lodge.

Lynwold put in an application for four houses in February and, following a number of protests, submitted a slightly revised application. We are still waiting to hear the outcome.

Data protection occupied a lot of time, and it was only late in the day that the government decided small parish councils would not have to get an outside agency to handle their dp. So we have been spared that cost, but as you will have noticed from the documents received, Nicola has been very busy ensuring we comply.

We had to increase the precept because our audit fee had gone from nothing to £200, thanks to government changes to regulations.

The road sign in Bridge Street, retrieved from the river around 12 months ago, has yet to be replaced, something we have noted at each meeting.

And finally. Thank you to everyone for your support over the last 12 months.