

Yeohead & Castleton Parish Council
AGM
Chairman's Report 2010/2011

This has been a very interesting twelve months, mainly due to the new government and the drastic cuts that they have had to enforce on each and everyone, including our council which has complied to the letter by not increasing our precept for the next year, of course we have had to make some economic cuts and we were fortunate in having a surplus from last year to balance our budget.

Thanks must go again to all our councillors, especially our retiring councillor Jill Oliver who has served Poyntington parish admirably during her term of office. My report would not be complete without a special mention for our clerk who keeps the ship steady and true at all times.

Once again thanks have to go to Jim Hart for more valiant work. Last year it was The dog walk in Sherborne and this year vast improvements to the Osborne to Sherborne Castle walk. His friendly persuasion achieved a grant from the DCC Countryside Access Department to purchase and install Kissing gates etc; On the subject of gates most of them on the bridleway to Poyntington have been refurbished to assist horse riders and safely contain farm animals.

Also in Osborne an adventure trail has been installed and a sign to help the poor satnav drivers to find The Grange Hotel safely and be aware of resident ducks.

Not unexpectedly, even though being told money was ring fenced, Dancing Hill junction improvements has been postponed until goodness knows when.

The council dealt with 20 planning applications during the year, six more than last year, none of which were too controversial .

Finally, sadly, the HMRC in their wisdom have changed the regulations dealing with income tax payments to Parish Council payed staff. Changes like this do little for the moral of Clerks and I can see many resignations including our own.