



PAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

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PAINSWICK

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There is vacancy for a Parish Councillor in the Painswick Ward following the recent resignation of John Clifford; to whom we pass on our thanks and best wishes. Plus, we still have a vacancy for a Councillor in the Slad Ward. We hope to be able to fill these vacancies imminently as several candidates have expressed an interest, although it is not too late should you wish to be considered – just contact the Clerk.

The conversion of the old toilets into business units in St Mary's Street is a success; as we are now able to assist two local businesses to flourish – Rupert Aker's Art Gallery is an added bonus providing a much appreciated 'draw' for visitors to Painswick. In an effort to ensure we are making the best use of our assets we have also let out part of a storage unit to the local award winning Bespoke Flower company.

We have taken on an apprentice who is on course to achieve her NVQ level 2 in Horticulture – she has already transformed the garden in front of our Town Hall (our thanks to the Yew Tree W.I. for sponsoring this project). By taking on an extra set of hands, this has also enabled us to do extra little jobs around the villages that we wouldn't normally have the resources for. Our thanks to both George and Leighanne who are doing an excellent job in keeping the villages and cemetery looking their best.

The Parish Plan got a refresh and we launched our new website. The new website provides information from the Parish Council but also has useful links to the local organisations and other services www.painswick-pc.gov.uk. The Council are applying for the Local Council Award Scheme and are aiming for the top 'Quality Gold'. To be awarded this status we must prove that we are at the forefront of best practice and we excel in our governance, community leadership and council development – always looking to improve and embrace new opportunities. Congratulations to Roy our Clerk on successfully passing the criteria to allow the Council to adopt 'The General Power of Competency'.

The Council has recently responded to the consultation with regards proposals to divert the Bridleway on The Beacon; our thanks to all those who contacted us, this proved most helpful.

We are grateful to Cllr Abigail Smith and the Speed Watch team, for their continued efforts in being a visual reminder that speeding through the Painswick is unacceptable. We also appreciate the extra clearance work carried out by David Allott and the late Alan Hudson (to whom we fondly remember).

The Parish Council assisted Play Painswick with the first further phase of their project; with the installation of fitness equipment, table tennis table, zip wire and basket swing. They are still fund raising for more play equipment and a circular path for the Recreation Ground.

The Parish Council are pleased to support various organisations and events including ACP, Artburst, The Feast and the Tourist Information Centre. We would like to thank all the volunteers who give up their time to ensure that our villages flourish, with a special mention to

our Footpath Inspectors, Community Library, Play Painswick, PSALMS and the Beacon Conservation Society.

Finally, I wish to pass on my appreciation to my fellow Councillors and staff at the Council for their continued support and for ensuring that things run smoothly and projects get fulfilled and within budget.