

# PAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

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## **ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18**

***By Cllr Martin Slinger Chairman of the Parish Council***

An extremely busy year for the Parish Council, it is celebrating; as we have been recognised as a top Council after being awarded the Local Government Quality Gold Accreditation (one of only 35 out of over 10,000 Town and Parish Councils in England). The Panel were highly impressed with the community involvement and this award is a recognition of the community's achievements.

Our Tourist Information Centre won an award from the Association of Industrial Archaeology for the best re-creative use of an industrial building for their home in the Grave Diggers Hut.

Our first apprentice has successfully passed her NVQ2 in Horticulture and has left a legacy in her design of the Town Hall gardens, we are now in the process of giving another youngster, Lucas Edney the opportunity to undergo this training. We are carrying out lots of improvements to our lovely cemetery, which has seen us being able to re-erect several of the tombstones and we are carrying out some landscaping.

Play Painswick is raising funds for new play equipment and there have been several successful fun events, including Picnics in the Park and an Arty Party held by St Michael's Bistro with an auction from our local artists. We have a new Toddler Group in the village, meeting on Friday mornings in the Painswick Youth and Community Pavilion which is proving very successful, our thanks go to the volunteers that run the group.

The Council are working with the Cotswold Conservation Board and I can confirm that a successful bid for some European Funding to promote Painswick and the Cotswold Way as a Tourist Destination has been approved. The funding will allow us to 'create' new walks and produce new notice boards and leaflets. We are extremely fortunate that we have an army of volunteer Footpath Inspectors and the Cotswold Wardens have installed several new kissing gates – ensuring good access to our beautiful countryside, they have also carried out some much needed scrub clearance on "Jacks Green" Sheepscombe.

The Community Post Office is an important asset, but we ask our residents to remember to support this vital facility throughout the year and our sincere thanks to our Post Master Rahual Gigu for this excellent service.



A recent anonymous donation has allowed the purchase of a “Tommy” who stands proudly on the Memorial Ground, we have also planted some poppies around the War Memorial and they should start to blossom very soon.

We have recently carried out a Traffic Survey to gauge the communities feelings in regards to the installation of a traffic calming scheme, the results were very close with 52% in favour and 48% against, given the close vote the Council have agreed not to pursue a full traffic calming scheme at this stage. However, the Council is engaging with its MP and the Police & Crime Commissionaire to ensure that speed checks and enforcement action is carried out throughout the parish.

I can report that the Council is working with Sealed Knot, who organise military re-enactments and it is hoped to run a large event in Painswick in 2019.

The Council have adopted the accounts for the year which are available for public scrutiny in the Parish Office.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Council Members the Council Clerks and Handyman and all of the Community Volunteers that do so much to make Painswick such a wonderful Parish.