

Chairman's Annual Report - May 2011
Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council.

This year has seen the impact of new Cheshire West and Chester policies as they affect the Parish, notably the replacement of the grant-supported street orderly arrangement by a centralised CWaC street cleaning service. Our thanks go to Harold Withe who has kept the parish clean and tidy these many years, but whose services are no longer financially supported by the new Authority. There have also been extensive consultations by CWaC on various rural planning matters, which will affect our future

We await the Localism Bill which promises more influence over local planning matters by your Parish Council in consultation with local residents. I can only stress how important it is for the local community to become involved in the consultation and review process. In light of the Localism developments the Parish Plan is being re-visited and up-dated as a necessary pre-requisite.

Your Parish Council has reviewed a steady stream of planning applications, mainly concerned with understandable and reasonable enhancements to domestic properties. Unfortunately, a disproportionate amount of time has been devoted to the incremental planning applications for 2, Townfield Lane which have flown in the face of residents' wishes and which have also been granted, following appeal, and very much contrary to the wishes of the Parish Council and CWaC.

Your Council presented its views to the Boundaries Committee, which eventually decided to create the new ward of Tattenhall, to include Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall, as well as our close neighbours Beeston, and to which Councillor Mike Jones has just been elected. We thank Cllr. Jones for his frequent attendance at Parish Council meetings and his continuing efforts on behalf of parish residents.

Regarding "normal business" your Council has progressed plans for funding the overdue refurbishment of the War Memorial, held back on committing expenditure on the long-planned village sign, given the challenging financial climate, persuaded CWaC to recognise the hamlets of Beeston Brook and Brassey Green with appropriate signage, supported the enhanced re-cycling initiatives of CWaC and, once again, monitored traffic speeds through the village and lobbied for reduced speed limits

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We look forward to serving parishioners in 2011-12, assisted by some new Council members. We welcome the views of local residents either at the public sessions before each Council Meeting or through personal contact with individual Councillors.

Finally, I must pay tribute to our Parish Clerk, Phil Sanders, who is leaving us at the end of May and who has served your council with devotion and distinction over the past years. We wish him well in his new career.

Gordon Ibbotson,
Chairman