



**North Weald Bassett Parish Council Annual Report 2012-2013**  
**‘A Year of Working Together’**



This year, 2012 – 2013 has been a year of ‘working together’ with other local authorities and we have once again provided our services to Essex County Council by running the Library on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings when the Parish Council offices are open. We do not get any remuneration from Essex County Council for this service and manage to provide this to Parishioners out of the precept. However this has meant that we have once again seen an increase in members of the public into the Parish Council Offices for the third year running, and we are very pleased that this is happening as we feel that even more people are using our services.

I am indebted to my Vice Chairman, Brian Eldridge and to all our Councillors, many who have worked so hard this year to achieve so many things in the parish. Also to Susan De Luca and her hard working staff, Adriana, Jo and Sammy for their continuing support throughout what has been a very busy year. We have once again been successful with our bid for grant funding with an £8,185 award from the Essex County Council Big Society Fund and a new piece of play equipment will soon be installed in Thornwood Play area to replace a piece which is over 25 years old, and we have also received, £4,375 from the Community Initiative Fund towards the new Stage. This income received from grant funding this year represents 9% of our total precept.

Our Planning Committee actively and responsibly chaired by Councillor Eldridge has dealt with more than 120 planning applications, and remember we always like to hear your views on planning applications so please come along and take part in the Planning Meetings if they are relevant to you. .

Our Environmental Committee ably led by Councillor Mulliner has planted bulbs throughout North Weald, overseen the allotments and the Cemetery.

We have worked hard in dealing with the proposed EFDC Local Plan by consulting local residents regarding the future of North Weald Airfield by holding two Public Meetings.

The Graffiti and Vandalism Update Meeting was once again an example of the community coming together and working in partnership with each other. Thanks again to Councillor McCormack and also to Nicky Dorrans: Chairman of North Weald Village Hall for the use of the hall free of charge, and for the Police and Councillors including District and County in giving up their time in attending.

Distribution of various mailings throughout the parish by numerous residents including the Scouts and Beavers together with their parents, and residents in Hastingwood and Thornwood Common – so many thanks for prompt assistance with this, especially sometimes at incredible short notice.

In this Queens Diamond Jubilee Year we saw the Picnic hosted by North Weald Village Hall which was a very successful event, and once again we hosted the Annual Service of Remembrance, and welcomed the Norwegians both young and not so young to the Parish.

As always my role as Chairman brings me into contact with many organisations, too many to mention here, but Thornwood Seniors, Neighbourhood Action Panel, Royal British Legion, Hastingwood Village Hall, Epping Forest District Councils Play In the Park team, Countrycare, Tree Officers, and Norway House and their Children’s Christmas Party, Scribbles (thanks to Derek Tringham – also called Santa Claus) have all featured at some point during the year, Special thank you’s go to Chris Collins for help with the Garden by the Flagpole, Janet Abbott our Bookings Secretary at Thornwood, Sue & Peter Hebden for Caretaking the Village Hall, Kevin Hebden and Gary Woods for Maintenance throughout the Parish and our Allotment Wardens.

Thanks also go to our District and County Councillors for their assistance in what has been a very busy year.

Why not pop in and meet your Councillors in the Parish Office on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning between 9.15am and 1.15pm.

**Councillor Cyril Hawkins**  
**Chairman, North Weald Bassett Parish Council**

