

**HERONGATE AND INGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
HERONGATE AND INGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 22ND MAY 2012
AT ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH HALL, INGRAVE, AT 6.30PM**

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Over the past year the council has held 10 meetings all including a Public Forum at which residents were welcome to bring issues to the attention of the Parish Council. The Press was usually present and has reported on many of these in fine form. Our thanks go to the gentlemen of the Gazette and representatives of other newspapers.

Our Borough Councillors have sporadically attended, notably in the run-up to elections. However, our County Councillor is ever present. This list is due to change as one Borough Councillor is also a Parish Councillor.

Despite the Localism Bill the Parish Council has, this year, focused on "top-ups" to general maintenance within the villages and has carried out works to Ingrave Common, the Playing Field, Park Lane Common and the Church Hall Common.

The Parish Council has brought the community together for a number of prominent occasions including the lighting of the Christmas tree and planting of the Diamond Jubilee Community Orchard. We contributed to the celebration for the Royal Wedding but would not wish to take credit from the Flower Show for that tremendous event.

The new Clerk has settled into the role and its training and now leads us in procedure and meetings. Our new Responsible Financial Officer has been well received by our Internal Auditor.

Regarding finances, you will be aware that our reserves are helping to keep our Precept to 50% of its level at the previous year but it is unlikely that this will continue for another year.

The Council has committed to assist St. Nicholas Church to increase burial space and is now looking into churchyard maintenance in a joint venture to consolidate the level of upkeep and public participation.

The Parish Council has agreed a Community Support Plan which it is now endeavoring to work into a fully functioning scheme.

Should anyone wish to gain further detail on any of the Parish Council work, it is hoped that a new website will be available in the next month, with contact details for all Councillors.

**CLLR ALAN MARSH
CHAIRMAN**