

**HERONGATE AND INGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL  
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT  
ANNUAL ASSEMBLY  
HERONGATE AND INGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2011  
AT ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH HALL, INGRAVE, AT 7.15PM**

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The last year has been one in which many changes have occurred, starting with a new Government which has signaled a desire to delegate much greater responsibility to the lowest tier of Government. I believe, we are ideally suited for this responsibility as we are still relatively new so we have no preconceived or entrenched positions in the community.

We were saddened to witness the loss of the Community Bus due to the lack of a volunteer driver from within the village. I would like to express our thanks to Eric, our previous driver, for all his efforts over the years in this role. It would be heartening to believe that a new driver/organizer could be found.

We have continued to maintain vigilance over planning matters and our thanks go out to Cllr. Roger Watkins for maintaining and encouraging contact with the Planning Authority.

Our Emergency Planning Project is now continuing apace thanks to tremendous help from within the community. I believe we would benefit from the reinstatement of interest once expressed for the First Response First Aid Scheme which was put forward by a tax payer a few years ago.

The snows of the early winter period were adequately coped with by our own contractor and obviously the County Highways staff. We now have a selection of salt bins across the Parish, with one more awaiting installation. I am pleased to announce that a residents' co-operative has been formed to distribute salt at crucial positions in the Middle Road/Common Road area and thanks are due to Mr. Hayes for this initiative.

During the latter part of 2010 and ongoing into the New Year a lot of time has been spent on preparation for the Localism Bill by Government and growing the Council into a properly constituted and organized authority capable of taking on the challenges of the devolution of responsibilities.

On a personal note, I would like to give thanks to the previous Clerk, Tracey Oliver, who put in time and effort beyond the normal demands of the job. I would like to welcome the new Clerk, Theresa Grainger, who I am certain will extend the tradition through the forthcoming years.

**CLLR ALAN MARSH  
CHAIRMAN**