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**Lea by Backford Parish Council**

**Chairman's Annual Report**

**Monday 10th May 2021**



**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
**2020-21**

Whilst enjoying my 5th year in office as Chairmen for Lea by Backford Parish Council, I can honestly say this has been the most challenging of years for all of us. The ever changing responsibilities of the Council certainly keep the position both challenging and rewarding.

COVID changed things for all of us and made us consider new ways of undertaking council business with the inevitability of working on line and slowing responses to issues down. I am pleased to report how well the councillors adapted to ensure our business continuity. Well done all.

My thanks must certainly go to all of the Parish Councillors for all of their help in supporting me in his role. During the past year the team has been rocked by the fairly sudden loss of one of the stalwarts of the village and one who was born and bred in the area having the most in depth knowledge of all things local – Councillor Fred jones. The council misses his lively contributions during meetings and we look forward to accommodating an election in the forthcoming months to fill his very large wellington boots!

We also wish Councillor Robin Leigh on his comeback from ill health and look forward to supporting him in continuing with the good work he does in supporting local issues in the community.

The local Election this year otherwise has been uncontested. This means many of my fellow Councillors will be back in post and continuing the excellent work they do on behalf of the Council.

During the past year the Council has worked hard on behalf of its parishioners and items of note are: -

* Facilitating council meetings on Zoom
* Facilitating overview of planning applications
* Contributing to the development of the village hall project
* Monitoring local speeding issues and working with Mollington parish council to develop lands to improve this
* Working with Mollington Parish and Backord Parish on the development on the local newsletter supported by borough councillor Simon Eardley
* Introduction of new websites and this was undertaken as a collective with Backford and Mollington Councils in order to ensure value for money.
* Ensuring our countryside areas are kept clear of litter (thankyou to Jacqui Reeves our amenity cleaner)
* Considering and implementing new projects such as the new noticeboard in Demage Lane
* Working to improving the drainage issues along Grove Road, Demage Lane and Station Road which Councillor Fred Jones and myself took a particular interest in.

As always, the Council strives to improve itself and its facilities on behalf of parishioners.

As you can see, Lea by Backford Parish Council has achieved a great deal this year and the Council will continue to plan local improvements things for the future.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the dedication and commitment of a fantastic team. As such, I would like to thank the all Members of the Council for the work they have carried out on behalf of parishioners during the past year.

I would also like to thank our team of Council staff who have assisted us over the past year and not least Borough Councillor Simon Eardley without whom we would have strugged to achieve our goals on behalf of parishioners.

And last but by no means least my special thanks go to Mrs Deborah Jones, Clerk to the Council.

It has been an honour and a privilege to have served as Chairman of Lea by Backford Parish Council during the past year. I believe that our actions have had a continued positive impact on providing constantly improving facilities within the Parish and will continue to do so in future years.

Best Regards,

**Cllr Richard Jones**

**Chairman of Lea by Backford Parish Council**

**8th May 2021**