

DENMEAD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16



Denmead Parish Council
The Old School
School Lane
Denmead
Hampshire PO7 6LU

This Annual Report has been produced with the intention of helping the residents of Denmead become more familiar with the work of the Parish Council. The report presents a summary of the activities and responsibilities of the Council during the past year.

CONTENTS

Members of the Council 2015-16
Membership of Committees
Work Groups
Council Staff
Parish Council website
Parish Scene
Chairman's Report
Councillors Attendance
Financial Report
Committee Reports

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL 2015-16 (as of 11 March 2016)

Cllr Kevin ANDREOLI <i>Chairman of Council</i> <i>Chairman of Planning Committee</i>	6 The Meadow, Denmead, PO7 6YJ	Tel: 9243 1429
Cllr Paula LANGFORD-SMITH <i>Vice-Chairman of the Council</i> <i>Chairman of Highways & General Purposes Committee (H&GP)</i>	Hazelwood, Forest Road, Denmead. PO7 6UE	Tel : 9225 5979
Cllr Ian BROWN	Hazelwood, Forest Road, Denmead. PO7 6UE	Tel: 9225 5979
Cllr Carolyn HARGREAVES	Meadow Farm Cottage Worlds End, Hambledon, PO7 4QU	Tel: 9225 4459
Cllr Felicity HULL	Seymour Cottage, Forest Road, Denmead, PO7 6UA	Tel: 9226 1977
Cllr Anne HUNTINGTON	St Christophers, Lower Crabbick Lane, Denmead, PO7 6UQ	Tel: 9225 4306
Cllr Helen JACKSON	10 Great Mead, Denmead PO7 6HH	Tel: 9378 9489
Cllr Neil H LANDER- BRINKLEY	High Trees, Thompsons Lane, Denmead, PO7 6NB	Tel: 9225 1484
Cllr Stefan NIENALTOWSKI	11 Little Corner, Denmead PO7 6XL:	Tel: 9225 9879
Cllr Neil RUSBRIDGER	44 Maple Drive Denmead, PO7 6QQ	Tel: 9226 4416
Cllr Ken SCHOLEY Chairman of Amenities	65 Anmore Road, Denmead, PO7 6NT	Tel: 9225 2393
Cllr Gary WEST	St Elmo, Hambledon Road Denmead, PO7 6PS	Tel: 9225 3733
Cllr Mark WILLOUGHBY	21 Forest Mead Denmead PO7 6UU	Tel: 9236 8305

Contact details for Councillors are also posted on the Parish Noticeboards and listed on the Parish Council website www.denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk and in the Denmead Scene

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2015-16 (as of 11 March 2016)

All Councillors sit on the Parish Council
Chairman and Vice Chairman are voting members of every Committee

FINANCE ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Council Chairman, Vice Chairman, Committee Chairmen and Vice Chairman of Planning

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Committee Chair 2015-16 – Kevin Andreoli (Chairman) Ian Brown, Carolyn Hargreaves, Felicity Hull, Anne Huntington, Paula Langford-Smith, Neil Rusbridger, Stef Nienaltowski, Mark Willoughby

HIGHWAYS & GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

Committee Chair 2015-16 – Paula Langford-Smith (Chairman), Kevin Andreoli, Carolyn Hargreaves, Anne Huntington, Helen Jackson, Neil Lander-Brinkley Neil Rusbridger, Ken Scholey, Gary West

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Committee Chair 2015-16 – Ken Scholey (Chairman), Kevin Andreoli, Ian Brown, Felicity Hull, Helen Jackson, Neil Lander-Brinkley, Stef Nienaltowski, Gary West, Mark Willoughby,

SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS 2015-16

Footpath sub Committee	Gary West (Chairman) plus Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council, Carolyn Hargreaves, Mark Willoughby Plus co-opted members [non councillors] R Dawe, B Gibbs and P Stallard
Youth Provision Working Party	Felicity Hull (Chairman) Mark Willoughby Neil Lander-Brinkley and Neil Rusbridger plus Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council
Landscape Working Party	Jerry Harrison (Chairman) Felicity Hull, Neil Lander-Brinkley, Ken Scholey

THE COUNCIL STAFF

The Parish Clerk:	Tony Daniells.
Contact details:	Denmead Parish Council The Old School School Lane Denmead Hampshire PO7 6LU Tel: 02392 247947 Email: clerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk Office Hours: 9.30am - 1.00pm Monday- Friday (Afternoons by appointment)

THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

The Parish Council maintains a website at www.denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk The website lists contact details for members of the Council, District Councillors and the local County Councillor. Editions of the Parish Scene are maintained on the site as a useful reference source. Local businesses and social and community groups are represented.

THE DENMEAD SCENE

The Denmead Scene is circulated to all households in Denmead four times a year, in March, June, September and December. For information about items in the newsletter or to submit articles for publication please contact the Parish Clerk on 02392 247947.

Parish Scene Editor : The Clerk

Distribution : John Lewis

Schedule of meetings attended by parish councillors and membership of main committees and sub-committee during the period of 1st April 2015 to 11th March 2016

	Full Council	Amenities Cttee	Finance, Admin and Personnel Cttee	Highways and General Purposes Cttee	Planning Cttee	Foot paths Sub-cttee	Total number of meetings
Numbers of meetings held	8	7	8	7	17	5	52
Cllr Kevin ANDREOLI	8	6	7	7	16	3	
Cllr Ian BROWN	8	6			17		
Cllr Neil H LANDER-BRINKLEY	7	5		5			
Cllr Carolyn HARGREAVES	6			3	12	3	
Cllr Felicity HULL	8	7	7		16		
Cllr Anne HUNTINGTON	1				1		
Cllr Helen JACKSON	1	1					
Cllr Paula LANGFORD-SMITH	8	5	8	7	17		
Cllr Stef NIENALTOWSKI	4	3			5		
Cllr Neil RUSBRIDGER	6			5	12		
Cllr Ken SCHOLEY	7	6	3	3			
Cllr Gary WEST	5	5	6	6		4	
Cllr Mark WILLOUGHBY	7	7			12	3	

The shaded areas indicate that the parish councillor is NOT a full member of that Committee or Sub-Committee and does not attend meetings. Reasons for non-attendance are recorded when known and held in the Parish Council office. **This list is not comprehensive. Parish Councillors also attend other meetings such as working groups and external meetings with other organisations regarding matters concerning the Parish of Denmead. Some Councillors have not been a member of a Committee throughout the full year.**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2016

Presented by Councillor Kevin Andreoli
to the Annual Parish Meeting at the Pavilion, Ashling Park, Denmead
on Tuesday 15th March 2016.

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## **Chairman's Report for year ending March 2016**

On April 24<sup>th</sup> 2007 I stood up to open the Annual Parish Assembly (APA) as the newest member of Denmead Parish Council. I did not anticipate on that evening in the War Memorial Hall that nine years later I would be writing my first report to the APA as the Chairman of your Parish Council. It is a privilege to take on the role.

It is not an easy task to write this report without stealing the thunder of the reports written by the Chairs of the Council's Committees. But here goes.

### **2015 – Another Year of Change**

As Councillor Lander-Brinkley wrote in last year's report, this time last year we were anticipating the formal acceptance (the 'making') by Winchester City Council of the Denmead Neighbourhood Plan. This duly took place on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 and the Parish Council looked towards carrying it forward. We have since seen planning applications for two of the allocation sites, and a working party of the Council is planning the provision of extra facilities in Ashling Park which should be funded by such developments.

If any of you read my article in December's Denmead Scene then you will know that we are anticipating that cutbacks at higher level councils will have a knock-on effect on what we are expected to do and we are already budgeting for increased expenditure on such things as landscape management. For several years we have paid for 50% of the cost of the village public toilets, a facility much appreciated by visitors and residents alike. I can foresee a time when the village will have to pay the full cost, or lose them.

Another example of cutbacks which have already had an effect on the Parish Council is the fact that during the year we completed the purchase from Hampshire County Council (HCC) of the Community Centre in School Lane. HCC decided to dispose of the Community Centres it owns and your Parish Council felt we had no choice but to take it on to ensure it stayed as a public facility. The Denmead Community Association will continue to run the centre and they are now paying rent to the Parish Council instead of Hampshire County Council, but the asset is now part of the Parish Council's holding on your behalf.

### **Finances**

This time last year The Chairman informed you all that the Parish Council had started paying off the loans taken out to pay for the Pavilion. This process has now been completed and the Parish Council has no loans outstanding. This process was overseen by our Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) Jennie Hanman, who holds a tight rein on our finances and ensures we satisfy our internal and external auditors. Your Parish Council remains financially sound.

Jennie has also seen us take our first steps into the world of electronic banking. Until very recently Parish Council were forced by law to pay every bill with a cheque signed by two parish councillors! After many promises by successive governments this requirement was finally removed and we can now pay our suppliers by electronic means. Having just got all this set up and working smoothly we discovered that our bank was closing the local branch! Like a lot of you, your Parish Council protested to Lloyds about the closure. Like a lot of you, we got an acknowledgement of our letter and nothing else. It looks like the Post Office will see some of the Parish Council's business in the future.

## The Village

For several years we have been joint employers, along with Bishop's Waltham and other Councils, of Heidi Isa, the Town Centre Development Manager. Those of you in business in Denmead will be aware of her as the organiser of the Denmead Business Forum and the associated networking events. She has also produced the Denmead Business Directory which is just about to be republished, and organised the electronic version of the directory. When you receive your updated copy please keep it and make use of the listing of local businesses.

Heidi is also responsible, along with the village centre shops, for organising the activities in the village centre. She has introduced the Chicken Run near Easter, Apple Day in the autumn, and has increased the activities at the annual village centre Carol Service at Christmas. She was also instrumental in the introduction of the Village Centre Card. In order to help Heidi in her endeavours to improve the use of the village centre for family events, the Parish Council has this year given her a modest budget of her own. Please come along to these events and help maintain our sense of 'village'.

We continue to support local groups with grants and provide youth club facilities three nights per week in the Pavilion. Those of you attending tonight have been fed and watered by members of the Denmead Activity Nights (DAN) the youth club for our younger residents.

We are still responsible for the upkeep of most of the landscape around the village, the play areas, the dog bins, the benches, the public noticeboards, and also for managing the burial ground. A lot of people I meet think the Parish Church owns the burial ground – you own it via the Parish Council.

## The Future

Last year The Chairman wrote about our attempts to join with other local councils to provide facilities that individual councils could not afford. Our attempt to provide a service, along with Bishops Waltham and Swanmore, of our own Accredited Community Support Officers fell through when it proved impossible to attract suitable candidates. Denmead Parish Council reluctantly withdrew from the plan last June. Bishop's Waltham and Swanmore have continued to try to establish the service but have yet to succeed. We are, however, continuing to meet with other local councils to explore the possible ways we may work together to provide services which individually we would struggle to afford.

I cannot end without thanking our Groundstaff and Rangers who look after the green spaces, the trees and shrubs, and the play and sporting facilities, and also thanking our Office Staff who look after the administration, the finances, the members of the public who contact us, and most trying of all, the thirteen councillors.

In the next few years we will be bidding farewell to our Clerk Tony Daniells and our Deputy Clerk Kelvin Andrews as they reach retirement age, so we are already starting to plan the succession. They will not be easy to replace.

Finally I must thank the other unpaid, unsung, and often underappreciated members of Denmead Parish Council – your councillors.

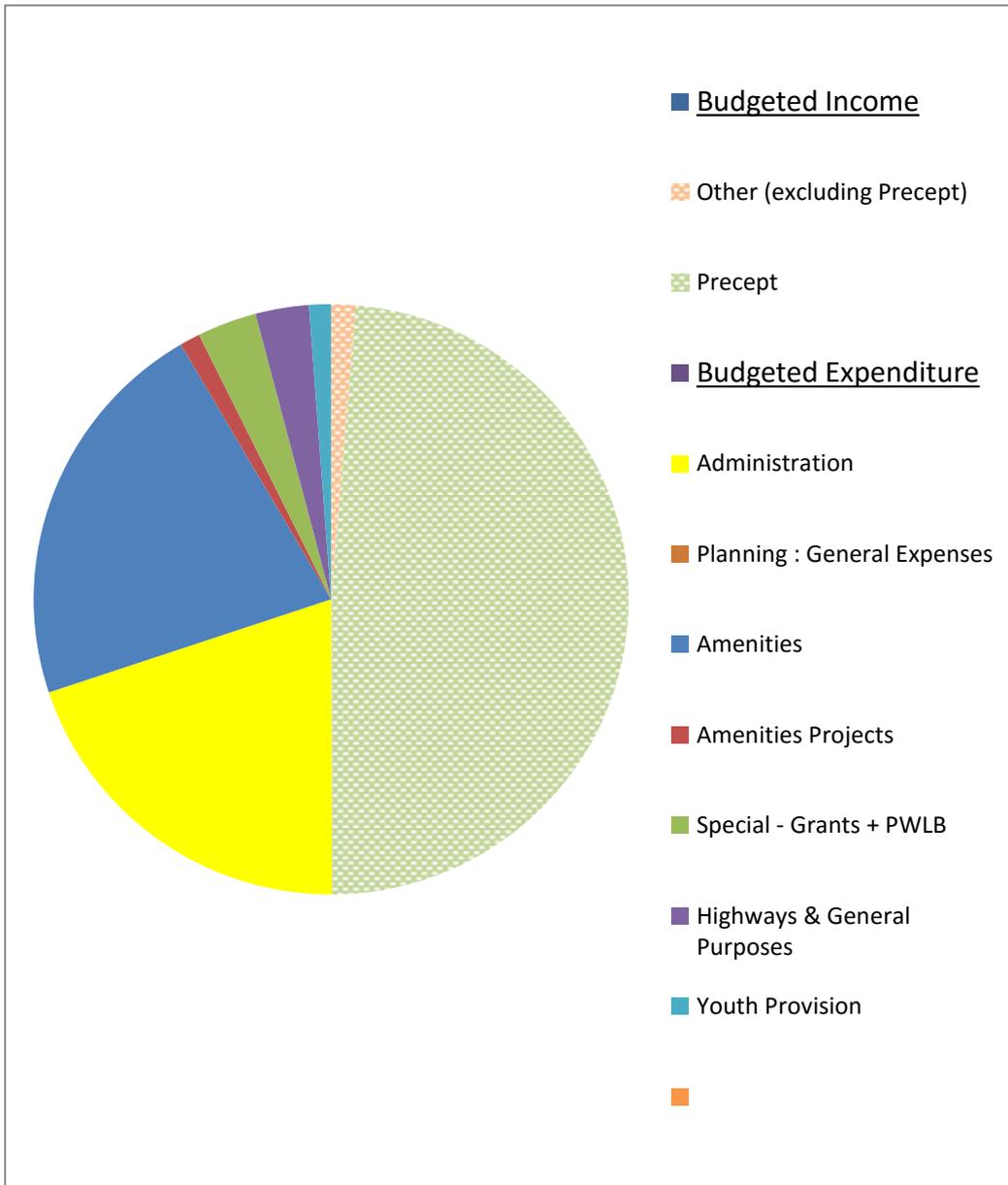
Councillor Paula Langford-Smith the Vice-Chairman  
Councillor Ian Brown  
Councillor Carolyn Hargreaves  
Councillor Felicity Hull  
Councillor Anne Huntington  
Councillor Helen Jackson  
Councillor Neil Lander-Brinkley  
Councillor Stefan Nienaltowski  
Councillor Neil Rusbridger  
Councillor Ken Scholey  
Councillor Gary West  
Councillor Mark Willoughby

Thank you for attending the Annual Parish Assembly

Councillor Kevin Andreoli  
Chairman 2015 - 2016  
Denmead Parish Council



## 2015/16 Budgeted Income and Expenditure



### **Budgeted Income**

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Other (excluding Precept) | 9,580.00   |
| Precept                   | 352,548.50 |

### **Budgeted Expenditure**

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Administration              | 144,501.00 |
| Planning : General Expenses | 0.00       |
| Amenities                   | 157,179.00 |
| Amenities Projects          | 8,000.00   |
| Special – Grants + PWLB     | 23,438.00  |
| Highways & General Purposes | 21,010.00  |
| Youth Provision             | 8,650.00   |

For further information and breakdown of the Council's accounts, please view the detail on the Parish Council's website under the heading of Finance



## Denmead Parish Council Planning Report 2016.

During 2015 the planning committee considered 101 applications, each one being visited by at least two councillors. An analysis of these applications shows that, as before, we disagreed with Winchester in approximately 10% of cases.

With the backing of our district councillors we took some of the more contentious applications to the Winchester City Council Planning Development Control Committee but once again we rarely won our argument. There are currently 4 applications at appeal.

The Public Enquiry into the application for traveller accommodation behind The Chairmakers public house in World's End upheld Winchester's decision to refuse to allow the site.

We have now the Public enquiry for the Caravans in Inhams Lane to look forward to in April. This is being held at the Denmead Community Centre.

Since last year we have seen the development at River End completed and occupied, with some of the adjacent land allocated as mini allotments.

Your Planning Committee has monitored the plans for the West of Waterlooville (WoW) Major Development Area. It has commented on all the planning applications for the area and has made representations to the joint planning committee which decides the applications. (Havant and Winchester jointly decide.)

The build of the two new Care/Residential Homes is well under way, but sadly we have yet to see the completion of the road link between the Taylor Wimpey and Granger sites. This link will enable the children in the Taylor Wimpey site to walk to the new school on the other side of the river without having to cross Hambledon Road at least twice.

The road link will also ease the pressure on Darnel Road as it will provide an alternative route to the Household Waste Recycling Centre.

As reported last year the Denmead Neighbourhood Plan has become part of Winchester's planning regulations having been 'made' (formally accepted) by Winchester City Council on April 1<sup>st</sup> last year. At the end of February 2016 Winchester City Council accepted the new version of the Denmead Village Design Statement, a document which basically defines how we would like the village to look. This new version compliments the Denmead Neighbourhood Plan and it was revamped by members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, mostly under the hands of Mr Peter Ambrose.

We have now seen two applications for developments under the Neighbourhood Plan. The one for the old Baptist Church site in Anmore Road was not objected to by the committee. The one for the site at Kidmere, adjacent to Kidmore Lane and Hambledon Road was strongly opposed. Neither has been determined yet.

You may have noticed that some of the office space in the Parklands Business Park has been converted to housing. This is as a result of a Government initiative to allow empty offices to be converted without requiring planning permission. Unfortunately such homes do not count towards the allocation for Denmead as covered in the Denmead Neighbourhood Plan, neither do they provide any financial benefit to Winchester or Denmead Councils. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and the Parish Council both wrote more than once to the relevant Government Ministers complaining that not only did this undermine the

Neighbourhood Plan housing allocations, but also the definition of Parklands as a Business Park. Winchester are sympathetic but cannot do anything. The Parish Council have enlisted the help of our local MP in making further representations to ministers but we aren't holding our breath. In the meantime the companies operating in Parklands are telling us of their concerns over these developments, particularly from a health and safety standpoint

Kevin Andreoli  
Chairman

## **Denmead Parish Council Highways and General Purposes Committee** **Chairman's report for 2015/2016**

### **Introduction**

The Highways and General Purposes Committee (H&GP) of Denmead Parish Council deals with all aspects of the local roads, greenways, drainage and footpaths within the parish boundary.

All repairs to the roads, road drains and footpaths are carried out by the Highways Department of Hampshire County Council and the role of the H&GP committee of the Parish Council is to work closely with them to ensure that our village gets the best possible service.

Other responsibilities of the committee include the provision and maintenance of the following services:

- Village street lighting (through the Private Finance Initiative)
- Christmas Tree lights
- Village bus shelters
- Village dog-waste bins
- Financial support for the public toilets in the village centre
- Speed limit reminder signs
- Greenway name signs
- Maintenance of trees, seats and bollards in the village centre
- The village burial ground

### **Projects this municipal year**

The H&GP committee has delivered many projects during the last year including:

- Working with Hampshire County Council on their Operation Resilience programme to make significant improvements to the village including
  - Resurfacing Ashling Park Road
  - Provision of a footpath from Bunkers Hill roundabout to Creech Woods to enable safe pedestrian access
  - New 'Gateway' and speed limit reminder signs at entrances to the village
  - Installation of 32 dropped kerbs and tactile paving to improve accessibility
  - Removing the tarmac on the Roundabouts at Hatchmore and Bunkers Hill and planting the roundabouts and surrounding area with shrubs and trees
  - Improving the pathways and also the parking areas near to the Junior school to alleviate some of the parking issues at peak times
- Installation and sponsorship of three planters and a bench in the village centre to improve the visual amenity and enjoyment of the village centre, removal of the waste and dog bin from the flower bed at Ashling Park Road, replanting of the flower bed via a Community Support Day from the roadworks contractors
- Working with the police and Winchester regarding anti-social parking near the Schools
- Provision of a new dog bin at The Fox and Hounds

- Refurbishing our village flag pole
- Preserving our Village Heritage through
  - refurbishment of the milestone at Milestone House at Well Hill on Hambledon Road which is listed in Hampshire Treasures and Hampshire Heritage Gateway
  - re-carving and re-painting the original village centre milestone which had deteriorated beyond being able to reattach the plate
  - erecting a new milestone on the Village Green to house the original milestone plate
  - restoring the Finial Ring at Bunkers Hill
- Purchase and installation of two defibrillators – one at Cornerstone and the other at The Old School
- Completion of work on sections A and B of Footpath 26
- Establishment of a Community Speedwatch team of volunteers with the help of a grant from the Police and Crime Commissioner

## **Burial Ground**

The management of the burial ground includes the annual trimming of hedges and the pruning and removal of trees where necessary.

The Burial Ground is entirely self-funded and fees are not used to supplement other Parish activities and projects. The council does not seek to profit on fees charged and despite a small increase this year, fees remain hundreds of pounds lower than Winchester, Havant and Fareham.

## **Projects for the coming year**

As well as continuing to undertake our allocated responsibilities in the coming year there are additional projects we are currently working on:

- Working with the Hampshire Rights of Way Officer to improve footpaths and finger posts
- Refurbishment of Finial Ring signposts to preserve our village heritage
- Visual improvements to the village centre through the installation of further planters
- Working with Hampshire Highways to improve the road markings on Green Lane/Frenchies View to better signpost directions and stop lorries turning in Frenchies View
- New dog bin at Masons Walk
- Completion of work on Footpath 26

## **Acknowledgements**

I extend my thanks to Gary West, who has been my vice chair for this municipal year, for his invaluable work as Chair of the Footpaths Committee. I would also like to formally thank my fellow H&GP committee members for their support and contribution over the last year, the Denmead Parish Council ground staff for the high standard of general maintenance and finally to the Deputy Clerk of the council for his invaluable advice and assistance.

P Langford-Smith

Chairman- Highways and General Purposes Committee  
March 2016

## AMENITIES

Prepared by Councillor Ken Scholey

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### **The Amenities Committee – What we do...**

Of the four committees that make up Denmead Parish Council, The Amenities committee has the largest budget and widest remit simply because of the diversity of the activities for which it has responsibility. It is made up of ten councillors all of whom spend a lot of time involved in its smooth running. For ease of administration the Committee is split into four working parties empowered to make decisions and to report back to the parent committee for ratification.

Some information about each of these follows.

**The Landscape Working Party.** Led by Mr Jerry Harrison it is responsible for overseeing the general upkeep and maintenance of over ten miles of hedgerows, over eight hectares of grassland, the preparation and care of the football and cricket pitches in Ashling Park, and the regular inspection of play areas and other open spaces within the Parish. Apart from the seasonal routine maintenance, the ground staff complete project work as time allows.

The Parish Council fully recognises that none of this would be achievable without the commitment of our hard working ground staff. They do an excellent job in preserving the amenity value of the village throughout the year and in all weathers. Special thanks should go to them for their continued efforts in keeping the drainage ditches owned by DPC clear and running.

**The Youth Working Party** is led by Cllr. Felicity Hull. Working together with various youth workers there are activities for different age groups occurring on different nights throughout the year. Efforts continue to be made to reach out to the new development West of Waterlooville to those inhabitants of houses that fall within our boundaries.

**The Sports Sub-Committee** has now gone back to its original format of a Sports User Group meeting. It provides a forum allowing representatives from all the sporting groups in the village to meet. Sports users include Denmead Bowls Club, Denmead Cricket Club, the football clubs of Denmead Youth Football Club (juniors), Denmead Warriors (junior) Denmead Wanderers (adult) and AFC Denmead (adult), Denmead Striders, Denmead Tennis Club, Ville Bowmen. The clubs all continue to flourish and we strive to provide the best possible facilities with what we have available.

**The MUGA Working Party** - Has just been set up to manage the provision of the new MUGA (Multi User Games area) in Ashling Park which we envisage will incorporate 2 extra tennis courts to enhance the well used tennis facilities already present at Denmead Tennis Club. This is a large and expensive project which will need careful planning. As well as contributions from development in the village, grants will be applied for and currently the design and specified size / usage elements are being planned by the working party together with any parking / disabled access which hopefully will also enhance the Pavillions use as a venue / facility.

There is also a regular **Liaison Meeting** held with the **Forestry Commission**.

### **What we did this year.**

In the summer, a 'pop-up' café ran from the Pavilion for the benefit of users of the park and playarea.

A new Car park was constructed at Goodman Fields (on the outskirts of Denmead) that will enhance the usage of the fields for leisure activities.

We put in extra play equipment in Mill Close and the Barn play areas.

DPC bought a new vehicle for the ground staff.

The New allotments at River End were established and they are all currently allocated to local residents.

**Plans for next year.**

Next year's plans include encouraging use of the Parking/Leisure area at Goodman Fields with the inclusion of a larger picnic area .

The pop up cafe proved uneconomic and is unlikely to run next year.

Cllr K Scholey