

- Good evening, nice to see you all here, I intend to give a brief overview of the major events that involved the council over this last year followed by an opportunity for you to ask questions on these or any other topic
- As mentioned last year 3 people stood in the Parish Council election, Neil, Sandra and myself. Neil stood down as chairman due to other commitments and we subsequently co-opted Barry, Laura and Richard to complete the team
- I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts this past year and add special thanks to Neil for the 8 years as chairman and Ian, the Clerk, for all his work (not to mention holding my hand)
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- Looking over the events of the past 12 months there have been 3 major items dealt with by the council
- Changes to the planning process, the Affordable Homes application and traffic & roads
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- As a result of the government's changes in the planning process we conducted the Neighbourhood Plan survey in order to answer questions posed by AVDC
- if you remember every household in the village was asked to give their view on what level of development should take place in the village for both housing and employment
- The responses were analysed by AVDC and the conclusion was that residents of Mursley are prepared to accept a limited expansion of the village in terms of homes so long as it did not destroy the character of the village (we have a copy of the response to AVDC available if anyone wishes to see it)
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- you will no doubt have seen that the notice board has been erected on the Affordable Homes development which was given approval after all these years of trying
- the developers, Hastoe Housing Association, have appointed builders who are at present finalising the plans with a target to get some people or families in before Christmas. The builders are signed up to the "Considerate Constructors code" if anyone has a query about the development
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- With regards to traffic - in December the BCC speed limit review, which started in 2003, finally came to fruition with the re-siting of the 30mph signs on the Whaddon Road & Station Road. I believe this has been beneficial in terms of reducing speed of vehicles entering the village.
- Unfortunately the rest of Whaddon Road was not deemed to be unsafe to the degree it required down grading to a 50mph zone as we had expected, however we continue to press the Transport authorities to monitor the situation especially since the recent spate of accidents
- We also press BCC on the poor state of repair of Whaddon Road, but of course the response nowadays is that there is no money is available. Can I suggest that everyone writes to Brenda Jennings, our County Councillor, to try to get this road given a higher priority for repair (we can of course supply her address)
- the council continues to explore possible options to reduce speed along Main Street with the intention of seeing what can be done

- for example we accepted that we will run Speedwatch, the scheme which allows the public to get actively involved in monitoring the speed of vehicles travelling through their village, if sufficient volunteers come forward. Rather than talk about it in detail now I propose we can elaborate in the question and answer session
- Any scheme, or indeed the feasibility study to identify and cost any proposal, will have to be financed by the village and to that end after 3 years not increasing the village precept we decided to have a small increase this year as a contingency for a possible scheme.
- The village will be consulted before any major traffic scheme is introduced
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- Before I conclude perhaps it is worth mentioning the forthcoming Jubilee celebrations and the fact we have decided to enter the Best Kept Village competition this year
- Although the PC has no direct input into the planning or organisation of the forthcoming village Jubilee celebrations we did provide support in the form of a “pump priming” loan to help kick start the planned event.
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- Now it is your opportunity to ask questions of the council on these or any other topics