Every year it seems that much of the Council's time is taken up with reporting problems right across our large Parish area, mostly to do with Highways but also footpaths, fly tipping and general maintenance. This past year has been no exception and I want to say again a huge thank you to fellow Councillor's and many residents for their tireless efforts in reporting issues, that mean a lot to everyday living in our beautiful neighbourhood. Once again the annual litter pick went brilliantly in both Lewknor & Postcombe, and Biffa collected the 45 bags full very quickly!

Our big news this year has been that we said goodbye to our Clerk Barbara after 12 years of keeping us all in order, but even bigger news is that our new Clerk Donna is as competent at organising us!

Also, we said goodbye to Les Gordon, and thanked him for many years contributing to the Council, and we do miss the humour too! Just last month we co-opted Andrea to the Council and look forward to her expertise and help.

We're very pleased to report that we were successful in securing an SODC Capital Grant for 50% after accepting Solar Generation UK proposals to site twenty six panels on the Hall roof, this will give huge benefit to the future cost of running the Hall and hopefully will lead us to greener credentials. We are actively trying to apply for other grants to make up the difference, so if anyone is aware of organisations please do get in touch.

During this year we've seen the village shop given a makeover and rented by a local wedding dress Company as the tenant.

A defibrillator awareness evening arranged by the Community Heartbeat Trust was well attended in October. Brand new noticeboards for Postcombe and South Weston plus three planters in Postcombe to brighten up the grassed area at the entrance to Box Tree Lane. A big thank you to those who ensure all the planters are stocked and looking lovely, including the two at the entrance to Lewknor.

The Postcombe Speedwatch team have been very active for the second year; once again you have been warned!

Planning does seem to increase year on year, often creating more home space for residents and enhancing our valued group of villages. The largest of which this year is a sympathetic application approved for Knapp Farm, Lewknor, one of the many listed sites in the village.

We are aware that several more applications are imminent, so the Council does urge all residents to submit their views in reply to new applications.

Lastly to thank fellow Councillors, and Donna for their attendance at training sessions, often taken in their own time, it all contributes to ensuring the smooth running of Parish Council.

Caroline Hjorth