

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF STANLEY AND STANLEY COMMON PARISH COUNCIL
TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2019**

The year post 2018/19 has once again been one calling for great care with regard to the finances we had available. The pressures on our financial resources remained with us but we were able to maintain the 'core' activities, such as grass mowing on both of the recreation grounds and to have at least some hanging baskets in both villages.

The agreement we have with a local farmer regarding the maintenance of the Fallow Field worked satisfactorily and this without expense to the Parish Council.

We did have to address a problem within the Stanley Common changing rooms. The showers in the changing rooms had not been properly maintained and we had to spend £1600 to bring them back into proper working order. This of course depleted our reserves and also presented us with a costly lesson regarding the ultimate responsibility that falls to the Parish Council.

We were happy to respond positively to a request from the playgroup management and were pleased to allow a tarmacked area to be installed which allows the children to be out in the open but in a secure area. The work commenced on this project just prior to the end of this fiscal year. We also were able to purchase a speed gun for use in traffic calming exercises and the necessary training regarding its use is in hand.

Finally, I want to record my thanks to my colleagues on the Parish Council for their work during the past year, in particular colleagues T George, B Lowe and T Mazillious who retired from the Parish Council. Often, the work done does not receive the appreciation it deserves and often the Parish Council cannot respond instantly to requests due to the procedures that have to be observed. Nonetheless progress has been made and we were happy to welcome the return of Mr Colin Tomlinson as a co-opted member of the Parish Council. Colin has served previously and brings much valued experience.

Cllr M Cheetham MBE