

Report to the Parish Council from Ward Cllr Brian Mattock – May 2019

As you will be aware, I was elected to the Council last year to represent the Chiseldon and Lawn Ward. This includes the communities of Chiseldon, Hodson, Badbury Park and Lawn. Three areas with different issues and priorities.

From a Borough perspective, I was appointed Chair of the Council's Resources Committee, (an overview and scrutiny committee). That committee has considered a number of strategic issues/functions of the Council relating to its financial and "estate" responsibilities.

I have also been Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee and Chair of the Council's Appeals Committees. I am one of the three Borough Councillors sitting on the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Authority so would be happy to follow up any issues Parish Councillors have during the year relating to the activities of the service.

In addition, as an elected member I have attended and been selected to sit on a number of other Boards/Committees representing the interests of Swindon.

Locally within Chiseldon I have reported numerous individual issues relating to highways and environmental matters including repairs to street lighting, potholes and tree maintenance together with dealing with individual personal and confidential matters raised by residents.

The resurfacing of stretches of highway in Hodson Road and Mays Lane is great to see completed and I appreciate that there is more to do.

Fionuala Foley has also been doing a tremendous job representing the interests of the community during the year and it is fair to say the most significant issue affecting the area related to housing/development matters that the Parish Council has also been heavily involved in. A huge amount of time recently has been dedicated to arrangements leading up to the Borough elections and as I said at your last meeting, the Council will be looking at the pros and cons of moving to a four year cycle for all councillors, moving away from the present arrangement of electing a third of councillors each year. A report will be considered by the Borough Council on this matter later this year.

Jenny Jeffries as you know has now been elected as ward councillor for Chiseldon and Lawn and together we will continue to work with the Parish Council and residents to ensure that the voice of the community is heard.

Can I conclude by thanking Clair, Parish Clerk for the close working arrangements that we have to coordinate and action both borough and parish matters and the Parish Council for their support.