

Hayfield Newsletter

Annual Parish Newsletter May 2025



An Update from the Chair

With the arrival of Spring breathing new life into the parish promising an abundance of Summer colour, I take a moment to look back on Parish Council's achievements over the past year.

The major expenditure for 2024 was the resurfacing of the tennis court and replacing the fence, money having been put aside over three years to fund this project.

The ground maintenance team were kept busy with our three main facilities: Old School Field, Valley Road and the Clough in Little Hayfield. The Spring and Autumn planting of the hanging baskets and planters provided us with spectacular displays bursting with colour throughout the seasons and I'm looking forward to another colourful year.

Looking ahead to future projects you'll see some major activities in Valley Road Park this year, with a new set of swings planned to replace the old ones, adjacent to the bridge. The toddler area will be expanded, and improvements made to the grass surface for better access to the slide. I'm sure this will be met with approval from our younger residents!

It's been twenty years since the hardstanding area on the Old School Field was established, and it's time now for some essential maintenance. A project has been established to improve the condition of the stone surface, and currently a management plan is being drawn up to cover the varied boundary areas of the field to maximise habitat and diversity. The storage facility will also be upgraded.

The Clough will see work on the general access within the site with management of the vegetation.

The Parish Council Office will be upgraded to meet with current standards.

As ever, I welcome your input and suggestions for what the Parish Council could do to improve the village, and very much hope to meet you at our Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 21st May at St. Mathew's Church Hall. Pre-meeting, light-refreshments will be served at 7pm and the meeting starts 7:30pm. Please come along and have your say.

David

David Gouldthrope, Chair



July 2024 marked my first anniversary of being Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer to Hayfield Parish Council; and of doing a job I absolutely love. Key moments that stand out for me were our annual Bonfire Night and the Christmas Light Switch On; both events being a huge success with amazing turnouts.

One of the biggest Council projects was the restoration of the tennis court at Valley Road Park, and it's been a pleasure working alongside Councillors Michael Conway, Lisa Bevins and David Gouldthrope on this project. It's wonderful to see the court being so well used.



I'd like to take this opportunity in thanking our amazing Maintenance Assistant, Chas Wrigley, and contract gardeners, Chris and Graham, who work exceptionally hard all year round, and are the backbone to the amazing events and in keeping the village running.

My full report can be viewed on the website: www.hayfield-pc.gov.uk

I hope you'll come along to our Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 21st May at St.Mathew's Church Hall. Pre-meeting refreshments will be served at 7pm and the meeting starts at 7:30pm.

Hannah

Hannah Mason, Parish Council Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

More Projects at Valley Road Park

With grateful thanks to our anonymous donor the Bike Track has been updated and proving to be a great success with young cyclists. Valley Road Park will also see a lot of renovations, including a new swing set in a fresh location; improvements to the toddler play area and other maintenance will enhance the park even more. We are in the early stages of big plans for the Old School Field, including a new storage unit which will bring a more functional and aesthetic storage solution.



Communications



Our Communications Working Group was reconstituted in January 2025 with the goal of enhancing the transparency, accessibility and engagement of Hayfield Park Council's communications. Our key initiative so far include - Development of a new Communications Policy, approved in March 2025; Exploring the use of digital engagement tools, such as SurveyMonkey, to increase and encourage participation with residents and expanding social media use to make Council updates and information more accessible.

Moving forward we aim to implement further improvements to ensure all residents are informed and can engage in local decision making. Residents will be able to learn more about this project to participate in future debates can register their interest at the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 21st May at St.Mathew's Church Hall, 7:30pm. Pre-meeting refreshments will be served at 7pm. We looking forward to meeting you.