

Chairs Report 2022 – 23

A Right Royal Year!

All of us approached 2022 with the anticipation and excitement of the Platinum Jubilee Year Celebrations that lay ahead. It became a year filled with national change, the likes of which are ordinarily seen only once in a generation. We can now look back with fondness and deep appreciation for the service of our late Queen over her 70-year reign, and having just celebrated a coronation weekend, look forward in hope to the future and the reign of our new monarch King Charles III.

In May 2022, the PC decided to mark the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, on behalf of the village, by contributing to the 'Queens Green Canopy'. This initiative led to the planting of seven trees (two native oaks and five flowering cherries) in an avenue within the moat area. The planting ceremony, carried out in November 2022, was very well attended and supported by the many groups that make up our community. Those trees, along with a time capsule put together by a range of local groups and placed in the ground at the same time of planting, will hopefully provide an attractive legacy to mark those seven magnificent decades of service for generations to come.

The village came together again on a Sunny May afternoon in 2023 to celebrate the coronation weekend with a fun filled afternoon on the village green for all to enjoy!

A Big Thank You

We kicked off 2022 with the first ever annual community meeting and awards evening. Held in the village hall, over sixty people attended, with awards being presented by our local MP Helen Morgan and local councillor Simon Jones. It would be great to repeat this every year but the amount of work that goes into putting events on like this requires a huge amount of volunteer time.

Volunteers are an important theme and at the time of writing the village needs new volunteers to fulfil a number of vital roles.

- The Village Hall committee needs a booking secretary.
- The Village Magazine, if it is to continue and flourish, needs new contributors and helpers.
- The recently formed Community Led Plan group, who are beginning to explore local priorities in order to refresh the current parish plan, needs volunteers.
- The Parish Council itself also has a vacancy for a new councillor. It is a real shame to lose an active member of the council such as Barry Bell who has contributed so much over many years.

Your PC have made great strides this year in some important matters for the village. Most notably resolving land ownership issues that have remained clouded in uncertainty for almost 40 years and building on and enhancing the strong relationship between the PC and our exciting and relentless VH Committee, under the leadership of their chair Judi Pridding.

We should all be thankful to Judi and her VH committee who have done wonderful things this year with the village hall, building on the foundations laid by Neil Duxbury over the preceding decades.

We are now in our second year of our new ground maintenance contract, and I am sure you will agree that, along with other ongoing maintenance, the work they do keeps our village looking great for all to enjoy!

Looking ahead to this coming year

We have made a start on the development of a new Community Led Plan to update and replace the last one published in September 2017. Look out for opportunities to contribute your thoughts and ideas to that small working group during 2023.

We still await the adoption of Shropshire Council's (SC's) much delayed Local Plan, which has been developed over the last 7 years. The Local Plan 'identifies SC's vision and framework for the future development of Shropshire up to 2038; It assesses the needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the local economy, community facilities and infrastructure; and seeks to safeguard the environment, enable adaptation to climate change and helps to secure high-quality and accessible design'. As many of you know, what the plan means for Hadnall is a change from 'Countryside' to 'Hub' status with the building of approx. 52 houses in the village, 40 on SC's preferred site to the South of Wedgefields and another 12 built within a tightly defined village development boundary.

Thank you to those councillors who have selflessly given up so much of their own time and energies over the last year for the benefit of all. It has been an interesting year with us working through and resolving, at times, a number of controversial issues. It is to their credit that they have stood firm and resolute, continuing to provide high levels and quality of services despite one of the lowest precepts of any of our neighbouring comparable parishesⁱ.

Thanks also to Simon Jones, our local councillor, for his support and advice over this last year.

Finally, once again, I would like to place on record my thanks for the support and sound advice provided by our Clerk, Alison Utting, over this last year. We are fortunate to have Alison as our clerk and a quick glance at the website, maintained by her for us all, gives just one insight into her meticulous and professional approach to the roleⁱⁱ.

John Harrison Chair Hadnall Parish Council

**Hadnall
Parish
Council**

ⁱ <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/council-tax/charges-and-billing/current-council-tax-band-charges/>

Council tax year 2023/2024*			
	Band A	Band D	Band G
Astley	£1,366.07	£2,049.09	£3,415.16
Upton Magna	£1,366.10	£2,049.14	£3,415.24
Hadnall	£1,368.86	£2,053.28	£3,422.14
Baschurch	£1,372.06	£2,058.08	£3,430.14
Myddle	£1,373.85	£2,060.76	£3,434.61
Grinshill	£1,384.73	£2,077.08	£3,461.81
Cockshutt	£1,385.17	£2,077.75	£3,462.92
Shawbury	£1,386.15	£2,079.22	£3,465.37
Clive	£1,386.75	£2,080.12	£3,466.87
Ryton X1 Towns	£1,389.35	£2,084.02	£3,473.37

ⁱⁱ <https://www.hadnallcouncil.co.uk/>