

Priors Marston Parish Council

Annual Report 2024/2025

Council Members

- **Chair:** Laura Lucas
- **Councillors:** John Franklin, Pete Dunkley, Robyn May, Sarah Mills
- **Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer:** Emma Hooker

Key Achievements in 2024/2025

Playground Maintenance & Development

- **Ongoing Care:** Conducted monthly safety inspections and executed repairs to various areas of the playground, including flooring and climbing structures.
- **Future Planning:** Initiated a community consultation to gather input on replacing the 25-year-old play structure. A working group, led by Cllr. Mills and the Clerk, will oversee the project, seek funding, and engage with suppliers.

Planning

- **Applications Reviewed:** Provided feedback on 33 planning applications, including:
 - Tree works: 14
 - New dwellings: 2
 - Conversions to dwellings/holiday lets: 5
 - Extensions: 3
 - Other (e.g., changes of use, new garages, listed building works): 9

Village Maintenance & Environment

- **Pathway Care:** Regular weeding and cutting back of the Blue Path.
- **Signage Updates:** Cleaning and updating of various village road signs.
- **Verges & Drainage:** Collaborated with Highways to repair damaged verges and address drainage issues on Keys Lane. 100% of the drainage gullies had been inspected and cleared
- **Asset Management:** Maintained the village defibrillator and updated the asset register and maintenance plan.

Digital & Community Engagement

- **Online Presence:** Regular updates to the village website and Facebook page, ensuring compliance with the Transparency Code.
- **Communication:** Utilized email distribution lists to keep residents informed.

- **Community Initiatives:**
 - Established a litter-picking volunteer group and organized two successful events.
 - Supported the Volunteer Speed Action Group alongside County Cllr Chris Kettle. Data supplied from the speed survey and signage options discussed
 - Engaged with SDC consultations, including planning policies.

Infrastructure & Safety

- **Street Lighting:** Completed a comprehensive street light survey.
- **Safety Inspection:** Conducted a RoSPA inspection of the playground.

Goals for 2025/2026

- **Playground Project:** Continue community consultation and collaborate with suppliers to secure funding for the new playground.
- **Footpath & Rights of Way:** Assess and review the condition of village footpaths and rights of way.
- **Parish Plan Implementation:** Work with other village organizations to action the strategies outlined in the new Parish Plan.
- **Asset Maintenance:** Adhere to the maintenance plan for all village assets.
- **Communication:** Maintain regular updates on the village website, Facebook page, notice board, and in The Parish News.
- **Village Maintenance & Environment Ensure:** Regular inspections of drainage around the village to prevent further issues.

For more information or to get involved, please contact the Parish Clerk at emma@priorsmarston.org or visit our website: www.priorsmarston.org
