

## Chairman's annual report 2019/2020

As we pass what has been a challenging end to the year, it's now time to reflect in summary on matters the council has addressed over the past twelve months.

### **Roads and Parking**

We continue to monitor and inform South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) on traffic and road maintenance issues. We have actively lobbied their officials directly, through our unitary representatives, and through our local MP with some success. Matters raised have included speeding, anti-social parking, litter, and highway maintenance, and although we still have some way to go, progress has been made. Successes include increased speed checks, new signage and road markings, and an application for a comprehensive review of traffic measures within the parish.

### **Planning**

In the past year the council has considered around a dozen routine planning applications, continued to lobby SGC for clarification on the development of the car park south of junction 18, and brought to a close a long running complaint relating to the compliance of the traveller's site on Norley Lane. We have held SGC planners to account on behalf of residents for their poor handling of recent complaints and have received apologies and their assurance that the causes have now been addressed.

### **Amenities**

We have worked closely with the various voluntary groups that manage our local amenities including the village hall, playground, playing fields and pavilion, and the village pond. During the year we have provided financial, administrative, and practical support to those groups wherever possible, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank their members for the hard work that they have put in to maintaining and administering those facilities for the parish.

### **Finance**

We are pleased to confirm that the Council's reserves remain secure and that we were able to produce a balanced budget for the 2020/21FY. Regular audit checks are in place and will continue to ensure that correct financial procedures are followed.

### **Representatives**

We thank our SGC Councillors, Stephen Reade and Ben Stokes for their work in keeping Tormarton Parish Council up to date with what is happening at the Unitary Council level and for the lobbying they have carried out on our behalf.

### **Acknowledgements**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Tormarton Parish Councillors and our outgoing Parish Clerk Gill Penberth their hard work and support during the year. I would also like to welcome our new Clerk, Jack Turner, who joins the council from the start of the new financial year, and wish him every success in his new role.