

**CLERK'S REPORT ON PARISH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**  
**FEBRUARY 2005**

At the February meeting, I was asked to report on the following matters

Traffic issues near the school

Members learned of the concerns expressed to the Headteacher of Hertford Heath JMI about irresponsible driving practices and poor parking near the School. Andrew Crumpton had carried out a number of traffic surveys and used the data to show parents the issues they were responsible for. Each time, things got a little better for a while but then deteriorated.

The Parish Council felt that a police presence when children are being dropped off and collected might help to remind parents to drive and park responsibly and PC Paul Scott said he would try to get a police constable up to the school. He also explained that in another area he has provided the Headteacher with a letter to be sent to parents and this had proved effective. He will do the same here.

Andrew Crumpton advised members that he had tried to set up a "walking bus" where parents dropped their children off at a set point (eg the car park of one of the pubs) and the children walked the short distance to school. The "bus" also did the return journey. If any parent would like to join this, could they contact Andrew (420874).

Speeding and parking in the village

Members also expressed their concerns at the numerous instances of speeding and illegal parking on the pavements. PC Scott explained that the speed monitoring device (which the Council had tried to use last year) was still being repaired. He did say, however, that a mobile speed camera may be set up if enough people write to Hertfordshire Highways expressing their concerns. The address is:

Martin Sears  
Hertfordshire Highways  
Hertfordshire House  
41-45 Broadwater Road  
WELWYN GARDEN CITY  
AL7 3SP

Village of the Year Competition

The Parish Council decided to enter Hertfordshire's Village of the Year 2005 competition. There are a number of different categories in which the village should score highly, including Environment and Building Community Life. A small group comprising Gillian Thornton, Andrew Crumpton, Martin Nash and William Ashley will be working on completing the application over the next few months. William's knowledge of the competition will be invaluable – Brickendon has won the Small Village of the Year for a number of years. If you would like to help in this new project, please let me know.

Playground plan

Plans for the improvements for facilities for teenagers and younger children are being finalised and costed. The supply and installation of all the equipment the Parish Council hopes to include will cost at least £20,000. Fencing and other items will of course add to this. The Council is now looking for funding for this ambitious plan. It has already secured two contributions from developers but there still remains a long way to go.

#### East of England Plan

Can I remind you that consultation on this ends at 5:00pm on 16 March. You can comment via the web – [www.eera.gov.uk](http://www.eera.gov.uk) – or in writing. I have forms if you need more.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 7 March 2005 in the Mission Room starting at 7:30pm. Members of the public are always welcome.

Carolyn Morgan  
Clerk to the Council