

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL**

**WELCOME TO OUR ANNUAL PARISHIONERS MEETING APRIL 2026** - I hope you will take the time to read all the reports on our website.

These reports highlight some of the fantastic work being done in Mistley by local organisations.

We are rightly proud of all of them and their contribution to our village. I hope we will all continue to work closely together. The PC is committed to help wherever possible.

Manningtree Rotary deserves special mention as always. We often see them clearing pathways and are always happy to help out at any events. The Welcome Home Field also benefitted from a generous donation as did many other local groups.

Our Cricket and Rugby and Bowls and Football Clubs provide first class sports facilities, results have been fantastic and as you will see in their reports, they are developing junior and teams as well.

Mistley Kids Club continue to provide excellent services to children who really appreciate the help they get.

Village Hall has continued to improve its facilities, has a new kitchen and solar panels and is busier than ever with numerous local events.

Mistley Parish Council is proud of you all and will provide whatever support we can. What has the Parish done this year:

Firstly, we should all thank Susan, our Clerk. She has given us exceptional service and provided our parishioners with quick and well researched replies to all their queries.

Our risk assessment process is now well embedded. These are conducted on all play areas, the three allotment sites and our churchyard's. These have highlighted issues for attention for as diverse as worn hinges on swings, unstable gravestones, to falling trees. Hopefully we are keeping Mistley safe for everyone to enjoy.

Our Community Orchards, one by the allotments at River Reach the other larger one on the new field adjacent to the Rugby Club are now two years old, are looking fantastic and have just been pruned. Hopefully we will not have to water them quite so much this year.

Sam Forrester, our Warden, has again excelled in keeping Mistley litter free, fixing any issues from seats needing refurbishing to rebuilding fences.

Last year Knobbly received some TLC, in the form of a protective fence and we have struggled to stop it being vandalised continually. We will be looking at better alternatives.

Keith Garwood. Our Footpath warden, probably the only person in Mistley who knows where all the foot paths are, he alerts us to any problems such as fallen trees or waterlogged pathways.

Finances. Our balance sheet is healthy, our budgeting is good and our reserves are robust. As Mistley has grown we have a little more money to improve the Parish and we even manage to reduce the precept (cost to you) again this year.

### Future Projects

Sports club leases. We are almost ready to complete the Rugby Club lease which will give them security for the future, the Bowls Club lease will hopefully be completed in the next few months.

The bus shelter along Harwich Road has been replaced and the new one looks really smart.

Mistley Parish Council is happy to take feedback and listen to your ideas all through the year.

**Cllr Paul Nutter - Chairman, Mistley Parish Council**

