Thanks are due to our very helpful ward councillor, Anthony Alford who regularly attends our meetings, keeping us informed of County developments, following up any of our concerns and representing us with Dorset Council over sometimes stormy issues. We wish him well for the future.

We are saying goodbye to two parish councillors this evening. They have both been stalwarts, generously giving their time and effort to look after our community.

David Last, who joined the Council in June 2019 has in recent years monitored village roads and drains, to the benefit of the parish, ensuring Dorset Council carry out necessary works. David's contributions to parish council deliberations are notable for their quiet authority and good sense, often backed up by research into the issues under consideration. We wish him well for the future.

Geoff May, our vice chairman joined the council in June 2017. Geoff has played a central role in many aspects of Parish Council life. Geoff helped formulate the Loders Neighbourhood Plan and later as a Councillor played a key role in writing the PC responses to both the Government and County planning consultations. He was the architect of our current business plan, a key member of the CEEAP group leading on Renewables, and the protection of the River Asker. Geoff has generously given us the benefit of his professional expertise, working very closely with our clerk over the years on all matters financial. We wish him well for the future.

This is also my last Loders Parish Council meeting. I have been a Loders Counsellor for 33 years and its Chair for about 22 years. It's been a privilege and a joy to have worked with so many wonderful Loders residents over the years—so many talents, enthusiasms, and generosity.

This is the last meeting of the present Loders Parish Council The next meeting, in May, will be the first of a newly elected Loders Council. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our councillors for the huge amount of time and energy they have generously given to our community throughout the life of this council.

It is as true today as it has been in all the years that I have written the Chairman's annual report that, together, we have enabled the Parish Council to carefully husband the Parish Council's resources and to ensure that our Parish interests continue to be well served.

Michele Warrington
Chair, Loders Parish Council
April 16th 2024