

## **CHAIRMAN'S 2021 REPORT TO THE COUNCIL**

This year has been a very difficult year for everyone but together we have managed very well. I would like to thank our PREP team and volunteers for the wonderful work they have done in supporting everyone and in particular Roger Gorman who worked tirelessly coordinating everyone and producing the monthly bulletins.

Another major achievement has been the rolling out of hyper fast broadband in the parish. Our thanks to the broadband team and the volunteers who work so hard on making this happen in particular John Lyons, Pip Tedcastle.

With Council work everything has slowed down due to Covid restrictions, we coped with Zoom meetings, my thanks to all councillors who persevered and to the Clerk for all her hard work. One of our long serving members retired Doddy Hayhurst who will be greatly missed and we wish him well.

We had to provide many more bins due to much more dog walking in the district, our Crooklands bus shelter mysteriously disappeared overnight and had to be replaced, however we had requests for it to be moved to the other side of the road and other requests to keep it where it was so in the end, we opted for both. The train on the play area got vandalised however the offenders were caught on CCTV and dealt with. The saga of the seats and toadstools raised quite a lot of consternation due to the council being unable to accept liability for them until all the necessary paperwork and insurance cover had been arranged but once sorted, we were pleased to go ahead.

The Clerk and Councillors thanked the Chair for all his hard work throughout the year, working with the B4PRN team, with the PREP team, with the 1<sup>st</sup> Responders, repairing the Play Area all in addition to carrying out Council business remarking it would be a sorry place without all his time and effort.

Martin Smith

Cllr Martin Smith  
Chair of Preston Richard Parish Council