

CHAIRMANS REPORT 2023-2024

The Parish of Arley means a great deal to us all. It isn't just a place where we live but it is much more. My memories of the Arley of old is full of friends, relatives and a real community spirit. Everybody knew everyone else and a welcome and smile was readily forthcoming. This was at a time when Arley Colliery was open and the village enjoyed the benefits that the National Coal Board provided.

Since the colliery closed in 1968 it has become more difficult to maintain a closeness amongst Parishioners. Time moves forward and so must we. We have maintained and improved our assets and wish to do more. We support and assist our local school and work to get better facilities for everyone.

I look forward to announcing our Hilltop football field pavilion project with plans and proposals to all Parishioners but we are still held up with problems not of our causing but hopefully we will be able to overcome.

Likewise, with Gunhill Recreation Ground which needs work but finding funding is difficult at the moment.

A matter of great concern to us is the development of the abattoir site, Glendale, in Old Arley. This is a serious intrusion to Parishioners living near to this development and affects everyone. Whilst this is a matter for NWBC Planning Dept we must monitor this and assist wherever we can.

I want to thank our Parish Councillors for their hard work and also wish to thank our Borough Councillors for their support and assistance.

Finally, congratulations to Jodie Gosling for being selected to stand as a Labour MP for this ward at the next general election. Jodie has always fully supported this Parish and works tirelessly for our villages.

Martin Langley

Chair