**Clerk’s Report March 2023**

1. **Kings’ Coronation Celebration**

The road closure application has been resubmitted with all necessary information and consultation is close to completion with no restrictions having been requested.

 As with previous village celebrations the road closure will take place between the two pubs.

Planning of the various elements of the celebration are to be reviewed at the Parish Council meeting on 27th March.

**2. Parish Asset Register**

Inspection of the Parish Assets is now complete, and the updated Register will be posted on the Council Website in line with the Council’s year end responsibilities. Some maintenance will be needed, particularly of the benches, representing an opportunity for a handyman to work on the Parish Assets.

**3. Quarterly Internal Audit**

The Finance Committee has completed its Quarterly Internal Audit for the final quarter of 2022 and the Report will be posted on the Council Website.

**4. VAT Return Status - Previous 4 Years**

The Council is waiting for a VAT repayment for the previous 4 year, however the Council has not received the payment due to a backlog at HMRC.

A further claim will be submitted reflecting position at year end. Future VAT claims will be made using the Scribe finance software and an online HMRC system, affording greater visibility at HMRC.

**5. Four Crosses**

The Parish Council have reported the “temporary parking area” at Four Crosses and have been assured by Devon County Council that the area is to be cleared and reseeded by the contractor.

Devon County Council are also reviewing what to do about the shiny surface on the “gas box” as it is causing a safety concern with car headlights reflection off it.

**6. Potholes/Sunken Road Surface – Waddeton**

These have been reported to DCC -Reference W231606635

**7. Sunken Road Surface – Duncannon Lane/School Hill**

This has been reported to DCC - Reference W231606640

**8. Community Employment Building**

The Parish Council are reviewing applications from prospective tenants of the building.

**9. Police Advocate Scheme**

The Council has registered with the Police Advocate Scheme through which the Council will be better placed to deal with any speeding issues, particularly at the Narrows.

Items from the previous Clerks’ Reports

**10. Water leak on the footpath at Duncannon Lane**

The water logging on the footpath was subsequently confirmed to be from a water pipe, the leak has now been rectified by a contractor.

**11. Cavanna hedge cut and repairs to the stile bank at the Narrows**

Despite much communication from Devon County Council and the Parish Council with Cavanna no progress has been made with either of these issues.

It is now too late to cut the hedge due to bird nesting, but the Council will continue to seek a commitment date as to when the cut will take place.

We will continue to urge the repair to the bank by Cavanna, then Devon County Council will be able to reinstate the stile.

**Rob Barber**

**Clerk to Stoke Gabriel Parish Council**

**27th March 2023**