

## **Westbury Area Board Report**

### **Westbury Town Council**

Since my last report there has been little movement on the plan for the Town Council to take over the running of the Play Areas. We do not yet know by what mechanism the take-over will be achieved. It will be done either by use of a long lease or by asset transfer. On the plus side the Town Council have paid for the swings in Grassacres to be refitted. Additionally a new piece of play equipment has been installed in the Chestnut Park play area.

This report had to be written before the Christmas Fayre and Lights switch on events were held. Hopefully these will be very successful events but I shall be able to give a verbal report at this meeting.

Looking to the future I have to advise people that Wiltshire Council are going to stop doing things that they are not statutorily obliged or are not required due to safety considerations. This means that Westbury Town Council could well be taking over more assets and functions from WC. This will have a knock-on effect on the precept. It will have to rise if these services are to be maintained. At the time of writing the precept rise for next year is unknown but rest assured the Town Council will try to ensure that any rise is kept to the minimum commensurate with maintaining services.

I would like, on behalf of the Town Council, to wish everybody a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Stephen Andrews

Mayor of Westbury