

Ugborough Parish Council Annual Report For 2024-2025

It has been a very busy year for the Parish Council.

1. We are delighted that three of our long term projects have finally come to fruition:

The installation of the 20mph scheme in Ugborough Village – thank you for your participation in the consultation which played an important part in the process. This project was funded by us using monies set aside over a few years in anticipation of success in getting this off the ground

Opening up the School Playing Field for public during out of school hours – thanks to the school for the considerable time and effort they also put into this and for the group of volunteers who now manage the access and monitor usage

The installation of a **Bus Shelter at Filham** – this has been agreed by Devon County Council and we will be joint funding with them – watch this space!

2. We have also not only secured the repair of the **conduit light** this year but also gained permission to and funded ourselves the overdue decoration of this important listed structure.
3. Considerable investment has also gone into **Bittaford Play Area** – new equipment and landscape and tree maintenance. We plan to further improve this asset over the next couple of years with a rewilding project and further equipment for toddlers.
4. Ugborough Parish has a new **Community Speedwatch Group** at Bittaford and an **invasive species working group** – new volunteers are always welcome
5. We continue to work with Devon County Council being part of the **Parish Paths Partnership scheme**. Our footpaths are regularly surveyed and maintenance work identified and dealt with as soon as possible to keep the paths accessible for you to enjoy
6. We invest a significant amount of our budget in hiring a **private Lengthsman contractor** to undertake regular work on our non-classified roads to prevent flooding in our parish
7. Designated Councillors attend **Devon and Cornwall Constabulary monthly webinars, Dartmoor National Park meetings and a joint parish lobbying water quality group** to ensure you are represented, heard and benefit from local initiatives.
8. We continue to manage our local **burial ground on Parsonage Lane** dealing with moles and invading sheep in addition to ensuring the general upkeep
9. We are delighted to have **grant funded** South Hams Citizen Advice, Ivybridge Ring and Ride, Ugborough Newsletter, Bittaford Planters, Ugborough Planters and South Hams Community Action this year. Money is also held for the “Atyourconvenience” project

10. We remain in a sound financial situation with **money held in reserves to support long-term plans**
11. **Our website** continues to grow with information on council business, our footpaths and bridleways and the invasive species group. There will soon be a community information page.

I cannot finish without thanking our out-going Chair Joan Fletcher for her commitment and hard work over the years. We were so sorry to lose her and really miss her experience and input.

We welcome Cllr Alan Hall who was co-opted in March - a welcome representative for the west of the parish (Filham area)

Finally, none of this would have been possible without the support and hard work of your Councillors and parish clerk.