Chairman's Report – 17/11/2025

The chairman would like to thank:

1) Any residents and councillors who have helped to clear drains and report issues on fix my street All help (even just for one nearby drain) is very much appreciated

   We are in the season where drains become blocked easily with falling leaves, Si any help with clearing drains in the future will be very much appreciated. BANES do not have enough resources to keep the drains continually clear. We therefore rely on volunteers to clear drains. If you have a drain outside your house or see a blocked drain, please clear it or report it on fix my street. Some villages have an "adopt a drain" policy where volunteers agree to clear/report 1 or more drains.

2) Triangle Planting / Clearing – The Triangle was cleared and replanted by Cllr Gay, Cllr Weatherill and members of the public. Tom Wood (Greenacres Farm) supplied the plants. Many thanks to all involved. (Some of the begonias in the planters have died in the frost)

3) Dan Parr / Banes Highways Team – The team have been out dredging / clearing out most of our problematic drains and have been working on solving the issues of the raised manholes. They have been working proactively to solve issues before they occur. They are still considering long term preventative measures.

   Gravel remains on the Triangle because on the several occasions that they have come to clear it a car has been parked on the double yellow lines

4) All members of the council for their continuing unpaid support and extra volunteering from themselves and their families throughout the year. Your support is very much appreciated.

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The Chairman would also like to wish all members of the council, ward councillor and parishioners a "VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR".

Bristol Climate and Nature Partnership – 30K funded opportunity – 8 January deadline
Gren Canopies, Sustainable Transport, Cycle hangars et. Does anyone want to put any proposals together for this funding?

Chew Valley Lake Recreational Trail
We have received minutes from the "Chew Valley Lake Recreational Trail" plans and understand that New Manor Farm are objecting to the route across their farm, due to littering and unsociable behaviour. Observations of cyclists in our village/nearby cycle tracks suggest that most cyclists (especially large groups) continue to use the road rather than the tracks.

Drinks at the "Crown Inn"
Councillors are invited for Christmas Drinks after the council meeting in order to meet the new landlords.

Notes on other sections:

Highways / Footpaths/

Issues that have been reported are:-

- 6 blocked drains
- Gravel on the side of the road
- Damaged bollard
- Flooding – several times on the A368

Issues that need reporting are:-

- Steps from the footpath bridge leading into "Great Ground" are breaking up and could cause an accident
- East Harptree Coombe Batch – The footpath on the side of the style from Great Ground is under water and looks like it has sunk. Molly Brook is blocked. This is currently impassible without wellies.



A lead person for the speeding / antisocial behaviour around the lake needs to be decided. This person would be a central point and the person to report back on issues at the council meeting, but not necessarily attend all meetings. Other councillors could attend and report back or minutes could be obtained. This is an important issue which will become worse in the spring / we have police support so an ongoing presence/interest from our council is desirable. The highways lead is currently Cllr Dom Hooper who also has experience/training in Community Speed Watch.