

# ANNUAL REPORT 2007/8

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As another year goes by in the life of Cam, in the background there has been a lot of work by Cam Parish Council to fulfil its ambitions for the village in the coming year and beyond. The Cam Parish Energy Project has had an impact on the Village's carbon footprint. Virtually all public buildings in the parish have had energy surveys done, the reports of which suggest ways of saving energy, with small grants available to help with funding of improvements.

Joint projects involving the District Council and other town/parish councils include work to re-introduce a night bus to the GL11 area, so people from this part of the district are able to use the facilities such as the cinema in Stroud.

The progress on the Chapel Street site has been disappointing this year, certainly not the progress hoped to be made by those involved. It has seemed very much a case of one step forward and two steps back. Having said that, we have progressed further than we ever have before and now the development is being delayed by legal negotiations and red tape. Once these issues are resolved, physical progress on the site will be relatively quick. I will not take a guess at this point when spades will break ground as I don't wish to build up anyone's hopes.

The Parish Council's recreation and leisure committee manage the village's play grounds and allotments among other things and with the JPlay project continue to add to the attractions at the Jubilee field. You can not help but notice the latest addition of the climbing boulders. More on this later in this Newsletter. As well as our regular newsletter, we are looking into developing the Cam Parish Council website to improve the access to information about the Council's work.

Thanks must go to our Clerk for the work that she does to make everything we do as Councillors for Cam Parish Council run as smoothly as it does.

I can not complete this report without a mention of former Councillor Gilbert "Bert" Elliott, who sadly passed away on 23rd March. Bert stood down from Cam Parish Council last year after more than 40 years of service to the people of Cam as a Parish Councillor; he is sadly missed by many.

My 2<sup>nd</sup> year as Chairman of Cam Parish Council has been a busy but enjoyable one; busy due to being Chairman of District Council also. My hope for Cam is that I and my fellow Councillors can continue the work which we have started to make sure that Cam continues to be a place that people want to live in