

DURLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic Durley Parish Council are not able to hold face to face Meetings, but have been meeting virtually. We have been carrying out business as usual where possible and supporting residents who require help.

Durley Parish Council held their Monthly Parish Council Meetings on Tuesday 8th September, 2020. Cllr Delmege (Chairman) chaired the Meeting. Also in attendance were Cllr Childs, Cllr Watts, Cllr Rutherford, Cllr Brenchley, Cllr Rappini and the Clerk (Mrs Anne Collins). Our County and District Councillors were not involved in the Meetings, but have been in regular contact with the Parish Council.

New location sites for the Speed Indicator sign along Durley Street, Wintershill and Parsonage Lane have been looked at, but roadside clearance is a problem in many locations. We are still looking at suitable sites and will recommend any to HCC that seem viable.

As the Public Broadband Meeting is not able to be held for some time Councillors agreed that the Clerk could contact the Hampshire Broadband Team and ask for a virtual Meeting with Councillors to try and move this issue forward. Mobile phone signal in Durley is also poor and it was agreed that this should be discussed at this Meeting to see if this could be discussed alongside the slow broadband speeds.

More residents and visitors have been walking the footpaths in Durley over the last few months and any issues which have been reported are followed up.

The Updating of the Durley Parish Plan will commence shortly. The Clerk will arrange a Meeting with Councillors to look at the Questionnaire which will be distributed to all households in Durley so that feedback can be given. It is important that we get the views of residents, particularly on planning issues as the new Winchester Local Plan will soon be available for consultation.

It is hoped that a socially distanced Meeting with representatives of DPC and a play equipment company to discuss where we could put some keep fit equipment at the Recreation Ground, and also a rotating swing at The Sawmills. We hope to be able to obtain Grants towards both of these projects.

The Clerk reported on the Southern Parishes Meeting held on 3rd August. Relationships between Parish Councils and Planning Teams, the new Enforcement Plan, website accessibility, future speakers, emergency plans and an Update from HALC were all items on the Agenda.

The Memorial Hall is now in use for some of our regular hirers if they can socially distance and adhere to the Government Guidance and Hall regulations. A disclaimer needs to be signed by the hirer. Parties and some of the regular hirers are not able to come back yet, but it is hoped that as restrictions are lifted we could increase the capacity by the end of the year. The Management Committee are following guidance and this can be revised at any time. During the period the Hall has not been used the dishwasher has been installed, the former PO Room has been redecorated and handrails etc. have been varnished in the car park.

A donation towards the Churchyard maintenance was agreed, along with the Insurance renewal for the year.

Cllr Watts said that the restrictions are working well at the Recreation Ground and football has returned. Some maintenance work has been carried out at the Pavilion whilst it has not been in use.

A Neighbourhood Watch Report was given by Cllr Watts and it was noted that the Nottingham Knockers were in the area again, dog thefts were occurring and horse trailers are being stolen. Scams are still on the increase.

Cllr Rappini reported that Wangfield Lane is open again now that the bridge has been demolished. The Clerk asked if Councillors could consider 3 issues to raise with HCC Highways as a priority. It was agreed that the repairs needed in Heathen Street to stop the road from sinking, the reinstatement of Wintershill where it is cracking and an HGV ban through Durley would be our top priorities. A Planning Application for sand extraction and backfilling with 435,000 tonnes of inert waste/materials was discussed and Councillors agreed that a comment should be made on highways grounds. It was also agreed that a comment should be made that dashcam should be able to be used to help HCC fine drivers who use Durley as a rat-run and who do not deliver to the village.

A Financial Report was given by the Clerk for August and September.

Anne Collins
Clerk to Durley Parish Council
durleyparishcouncil@gmail.com