

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 10th November, 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), along with County Councillor/District Councillor Humby. District Councillors Mclean and Miller sent their apologies, although they have been in contact with the Clerk over the month.

As notification from WCC has not been received yet stating whether an Election request has been made for the Parish Councillor vacancy Councillors will make a decision at the December Meeting.

Cllr Delmege has looked at two sites and one site along Wintershill for the Speed Indicator Sign and these will be discussed with HCC Highways to see if approval might be possible.

The gym equipment at Durley Recreation Ground is progressing and plans for the equipment have been put on the noticeboards, website and sent to individuals who have shown an interest. Feedback has been positive and Councillors agreed that once funding is in place we will place an order for 6 pieces of equipment. The Clerk is applying for a County Councillor Grant, the Open Spaces Fund and has received a donation from a resident. This will hopefully cover 3 pieces. Councillors are hoping that businesses or residents might like to sponsor some equipment so that we can include a variety of gym equipment. Each piece costs £1,500 - £2,000. If any business or resident would like to sponsor or make a donation then please get in touch with the Clerk via e-mail at durleyparishcouncil@gmail.com or by post at "Homefield", Kytes Lane, Durley, Southampton SO32 2AE. We would love to be able to install this equipment as soon as possible so that it is ready to use in the spring of 2021.

The Revised Durley Parish Plan Questionnaire has been delivered to every household by Councillors and the Clerk at the beginning of November. It is hoped that all residents will find a little time to complete this and let us know your views – especially on planning, broadband, mobile phone signal, climate change and other issues in Durley which are important to us all. Deadlines are often short when we receive consultations and it would be helpful to have your comments so that we are ready to respond.

County Councillor Humby gave a County Council Report stating that during lockdown highways work has continued, and the gritting lorries have been out during the recent cold weather. Recycling Centres are staying open during this current lockdown, and the booking system is still in place and appears to be working well. A Meeting has been held with HALC to discuss better working relationships with Parish Councils. CC Humby said that Schools in the area are doing well during this current emergency and then he gave an update on the current Covid-19 situation in Hampshire.

Cllr Delmege and the Clerk attended a WCC Parish Briefing and reported that the items discussed were the NHS Hospital Update by Alex Whitfield NHS, a Covid-19 update from WCC, the WCC Budget, a Local Plan Update and updates on the Economic Strategy and Climate Change greening plans.

The Clerk informed Councillors that she had received a Local Hero Award for Durley Parish Council from the Mayor of Winchester. This was given for all the hard work that Durley Parish Council has done to keep their residents safe and well during this current emergency.

Cllr Watts reported that all was well at Durley Recreation Ground, but unfortunately football matches have had to be postponed again for a month during this current lockdown.

Cllr Rutherford said that the play equipment was fine at The Sawmills. A further inspection has been made in the buffer area at The Sawmills and there are 2 gates which need to be blocked off which still could get access into the area. There has been a Japanese Knotweed plant found in the buffer area which has been treated by a professional company and this will be kept monitored.

Cllr Watts gave a Neighbourhood Watch Report and informed Councillors that a theft has taken place in Parsonage Lane recently and that scams are still circulating.

Cllr Rappini reported that he has been following up a complaint about the number of hgv lorries which are using Greenwood Lane. This is causing road erosion and flooding issues. Large lorries travelling through Durley Brook Road/Durley Street will be monitored as it is believed they could be going to a development in Bishops Waltham. A vehicle which appears to have been abandoned in the layby outside of Hunters Moon has been reported to the Council, so the Clerk was asked to report this. Fly tipping in Manor Road was reported, the Clerk will also report this so that it is removed.

Councillors discussed the Precept for 2021-22. After looking at the financial situation for this year it is obvious that the Hall hire is down and we do not know how long the Hall will be closed or partially open for hirings so we anticipate a loss of £2,000 - £6,000 from the Hall. Therefore, Councillors agreed that we would add £2,000 onto our Precept for next year to try and recover some of the cost. A Financial Report was given by the Clerk for November.

The Clerk gave a Hall Report stating that the bookings have now ceased again for a month due to the latest lockdown. Neil Ellen has sourced some LED lights which will be used to decorate the fascia on the Hall when Durley lights up. Greg who laid the new Hall floor has kindly offered to re-varnish the floor for us during this period when the Hall is not being used. Councillors wished to thank Greg for offering to do this for us.

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