

## IPSDEN PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL SUMMARY - 2020

Your Parish Council has largely been able to continue with its duties as normal during the global Coronavirus pandemic. The only noticeable change has been the requirement to cancel the usual bi-monthly public meetings in the village hall. However, we transitioned to holding the meetings via Zoom. We publicised the arrangements and access to link codes on the website and can happily report that the meetings have been attended by all Councillors and our Clerk as normal, as well as good numbers of members of the public. Government advice is to continue to hold meetings in this way for the foreseeable future, so for those interested in attending, please keep an eye on the village website at [www.ipsdenvillage.co.uk](http://www.ipsdenvillage.co.uk) for announcements regarding forthcoming meetings. Please also keep an eye on the website for Coronavirus news and seek help via [ipsden\\_support@btinternet.com](mailto:ipsden_support@btinternet.com) or phone David Coldwell on 01491 681857 if you are required to self-isolate and need assistance with supplies.

Many Parish Council activities and duties are routine and rarely hit the headlines, they range from planning submissions to SODC through to arrangements for dog bins! A few of the more public matters attended to this year have included:-

- completion of a phase of safety measures on the A4074 (see the full report on the website in the April edition of The Window),
- playground repairs to the timber wall, goal posts and picnic benches,
- modification of the playground to enable re-opening and safe use during the pandemic,
- maintenance of certain ditches and paths (in the absence of OCC attendance),
- a donation to the church of £1000 to help with funding for the new WC,
- new employment arrangements with our litter-picker to empty dog waste bins. Note that this was to avoid an eightfold increase in charges from Biffa because SODC have stopped subsidising this service at short notice,
- replacement of the failed Armistice Oak and its broken inscription plate.

Parish councillors have also considered and supported a number of requests from residents, one of which included opposition to a proposed DMMO at Hailey requiring research and attendance at meetings with OCC officers.

A sad piece of news is that our Clerk, Amanda McCrea, will be leaving us after 5 year's dedicated service. Amanda has carried out her duties with an extremely high level of care and professionalism. She has also been a pleasure to work with. Councillors are sad to see her leave, but we wish her well and are pleased to welcome Moira Holloway who will take over the role of parish clerk from 1 October 2020. Contact details for the Clerk remain the same - [ipsdenpc@gmail.com](mailto:ipsdenpc@gmail.com) .

Should residents wish to see more detail regarding parish council activities, minutes of meetings are published on the village website and on the noticeboard at the village shop. All villagers are also invited to join the village group email list in order to receive notices regarding county, district and parish council information; please email -[ipsdenpc@gmail.com](mailto:ipsdenpc@gmail.com) stating Village Group Email in the subject line if you wish to be included. All addresses are held in confidence by the Clerk, and outgoing mails will not show any other addresses.

Finally, whilst potholes are a big problem for all of us, the parish council is forbidden from dealing with them. Only the OCC roads contractors are allowed to attend to them. Please use the following link to have potholes attended to - [www.fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk) . It generally works within ten working days.

Ipsden Parish Councillors thank all in the village for their support.

Nick Miller, John Jeffery, Heather Llewellyn, Wendy Clark, David Coldwell