

September 2020 Look Out contribution.

### **Parish Council News in brief...**

Owing to the Coronavirus, we had our first Virtual meeting by Zoom on the 28<sup>th</sup> July, which was attended by a full committee and also by County Councillor David Finch and Ward Councillor Wendy Scattergood. For our first attempt it went well and we also had a contributor in the public participation session. The meeting only lasted for 1¼ hours.

If you want to participate or just see what we do and from the comfort of your own living room, ask Diane for an invite to our 22<sup>nd</sup>. September meeting.

Our minutes are posted on notice boards and on the website, but if you would like a hard copy, (also available in large print or Braille), please let our Clerk know: Mrs Diane Jacob, tel: 07907 63 11 72 or e-mail: [wickhamstpauls@hotmail.com](mailto:wickhamstpauls@hotmail.com)

### **Here is a brief summary of what was discussed.**

#### **Planning Matters.**

We had seven planning applications to consider varying in minor alterations to a small housing estate. Your councillors have time to consider the merits of each, several weeks and sometimes months before we make comment to Braintree Planning. This means the discussion at the Parish meeting can be generally short and is a summary of comments. Most of the current applications were straightforward, however one in particular caused some concern in the village and a petition of some 140 signatories was raised with some 2-dozen letters of objection. The Parish Council considered in depth the application and agreed unanimously to support the parishioners in their objection.

More information is contained in the minutes and on the BDC website.

#### **Recreational Equipment**

We agreed to extend the run off at the end of the slide as children were reported as flying off the end and landing with a bump! This will be done by September.

We are also making modifications to the slide steps in October and replacing the matting underneath the swings in April 2021.

#### **Long Gardens.**

There have been delays caused by the affects of Covid-19 on resources, but Highways have now agreed to meet with a Parish Councillor in September to discuss the issues concerning speeding through the A131 Long Gardens.

#### **Village Hall Ponds.**

We will be clearing all the brambles and willow surrounding the pond 2<sup>nd</sup>. week in September, as it needs a tidy up.

#### **Post Box on Church Road.**

We had several requests for a post box with a larger opening and following discussions with the Royal Mail, they have agreed to replace it in about 4-6 months time, hopefully before Christmas. It will be red and loyal to the Crown i.e. E11R.

#### **Footpaths.**

We reported 3 paths / bridges to Highways and they are dealing with them. Again with the Covid-19 situation their resources are stretched so it may take some time. There are some splendid walks around our village and we aim to keep you safe and if you see anything that needs attention, please let your Councillors know.

#### **Other news ....**

We were very sad to receive Dave Sear's resignation to the Parish Council and although Dave was only with us for a short time, his contribution was invaluable and he will be missed. This means we now have two vacancies and if you are interested in joining us please contact the Clerk for an application form.

The Parish Council have a **grant procedure**, so that any local organisation may apply for a grant / funding. There is an application form and guide available, please contact Diane our Clerk. The applications need to be received by the end of October, in order to be considered at our November meeting and if accepted, added to our 2021 / 2022 budget.

### **Wickham St. Pauls Parish Council Responsibilities:**

We hold bi-monthly meeting to discuss local matters with residents and our roles and duties include maintaining land we own, (The Green), local planning advisory and support concerns and projects of residents. Your initial contact ideally is with your Parish Clerk, but your Councillors are always there to offer assistance where we can. Our thanks to all our residents who do contact us direct with their concerns and suggestions and we will continue to address them to the best of our ability.

Clerk: Diane Jacob, tel: 07907 63 11 72 e-mail: [wickhamstpauls@hotmail.com](mailto:wickhamstpauls@hotmail.com)  
Chairman: Derek Stokes tel: 01787 269284  
Vice-Chairman: Martin Cooper tel: 01787 269236  
Councillor: Janice Barlow  
Councillor: Angela Johnstone

Wickham St Pauls Parish Council website: [www.e-voice.org.uk/wickham-st-pauls](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/wickham-st-pauls)

### **Braintree District Council Responsibilities:**

Some of the services they provide include refuse and recycling collections, street cleaning, enforcing environmental and other legislation, planning applications.

Your Ward Councillor for Stour Valley South is Mrs Wendy Scattergood.

Website: [www.braintree.gov.uk](http://www.braintree.gov.uk)  
Address: Braintree District Council, Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree.CM7 9HB  
Tel: 01376 552525  
Email: [csc@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:csc@braintree.gov.uk)

### **Essex County Council Responsibilities:**

Some of the services they provide include Highways, traffic management, libraries, adult and social care, education.

Your County Councillor is Mr David Finch.

Website: [www.essex.gov.uk](http://www.essex.gov.uk)  
Tel: 0345 743 0430  
Email: [contact@essex.gov.uk](mailto:contact@essex.gov.uk)

**Westminster Member of Parliament** is Mr James Cleverly MP

Email: [james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk)

### ***Other happenings...***

#### **Belchamp Morris (including the 'Wickham Chapter')**

Sadly, we're still not allowed out to play, (much to the relief of the public), but we sit at home holding our sticks in anticipation.

On the subject of sticks, they do need replenishing, so if anyone has access to any Hazelwood we can coppice, please let me know. We also need pheasant feathers, so if you can get hold of any, again please let me know. Derek 269284.

Look us up on [belchampmorrismen.co.uk](http://belchampmorrismen.co.uk) email us at: [info@belchampmorrismen.co.uk](mailto:info@belchampmorrismen.co.uk)

## **Flag Flying Programme.**

3 September	Merchant Navy Day	Red Ensign
6 September	W.St.P. Home Cricket Match	W.St.P.
9 September	USA 9/11 Anniversary	Stars & Stripes
12 September	W.St.P. Home Cricket Match	W.St.P.
15 September	Battle of Britain Day + Birthday of Prince Harry	RAF or Union flag
21 September	Women's Institute anniversary	Essex W.I.

A full list of our flag flying days is posted on the village notice board and on the W.St.P. website.

The St. George flag will be flown most of the time in between other appointed flags. The W.I. flag will be flown on the second Tuesday of each month and the Wickham St. Paul's flag will be flown when there is a home cricket, providing it does not clash with other flags.

### ***Food for thought!***

If it wasn't for electricity, we'd all be watching television by candlelight!

*Derek  
050820*