

BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairmans Report in place of cancelled Parish Council Meeting due to be held on 11 June 2020 at 7.30pm at Fanshaws Room, Brickendon Lane, Brickendon Liberty

1. Current Situation:

Since the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a pandemic on 11 March 2020, and the UK's national lockdown ordered on 23 March 2020, the two Parish Council meetings scheduled for 26 March and 11 June 2020 have been cancelled.

Notwithstanding the Parish Council together with the Parish Clerk have kept in touch via email, telephone and its Whatsapp group and wherever it has been reasonably possible to do so, has progressed matters to the best of its ability in the prevailing circumstances.

2. Update on Matters Arising from the meeting last held on 23 January 2020:

The required reparations to the Village Green following the firework display parking have had to be postponed and revised arrangements will need to be made in due course.

The replacement with 2/3 removal posts into the current post line to facilitate mowing of the area has been postponed and revised arrangements will need to be made in due course.

The informal meet and greet session held on 25 January 2020 was well attended and considered to be success by all - the PC thanks all those involved in its organisation.

The moss clearance and repair work to the surface undermined by tree roots at the tennis courts has had to be postponed and arrangements will need to be made in due course.

The reported failure of the streetlamp on Fanshaws Lane has been logged with the Highways Dept.

The reported dangerous roadside parking just over the brow of the Bayford Station bridge has been logged the local police and the Clerk has sent an email to Bayford PC to ask them to do the same.

The reported cause of the flooding on and around Well Pond Green has been logged with the Highways Dept.

With regards to the required reparation work to the existing play equipment on the Village Green, this has been discussed and decided that a complete revamp of all the play area was something which needed some further thought and investigation and accordingly it has been decided to progress the required works at the earliest opportunity.

Cllr Roberts has spoken with the resident re the outside light on one of the properties overlooking the Village Green who has agreed to mitigate its effect.

3. Fanshaw's Room Committee:

As with the PC meetings, the FRC's meeting scheduled to be held over the course of the last 3 months have been cancelled. Notwithstanding among others, Brenda Lambie has been in discussions with several parties about forthcoming events and in particular the fete scheduled to be held on 6 September 2020 - at the date of this

report no decision has been made as to whether or not it should be held.

It remains the intention in the event that the 2020 Village Fete takes place to "sub-contract" out the parking aspect and arrangements for the same still need to be confirmed as does the appointment of a "manager" to oversee the process.

A local Volunteer is required so please contact Brenda Lambie directly if any one is willing to take on this role.

Unfortunately, the summertime event scheduled for 19 June 2020 has been cancelled.

There has been a new dishwasher purchased for the kitchen in Fanshaws and unfortunately whilst installed immediately before lockdown it has subsequently been found to be faulty - discussions are in hand to have it repaired/replaced.

4. Highways Matters:

The documents relating to speed control and reporting by residents are under review and a proposal for potential action will need to be discussed in due course

It should be noted that there will be a requirement for volunteers to undertake monitoring together with the completion of a petition and once decided an article will be included both in the Newsletter and on the PC website.

Re repairs to the un-adopted road on the village green, whilst it remains the case that the Golf Club had not as yet completed the reparations agreed and whilst the local residents have affected a temporary "fix", a long-term solution is still to be discussed and agreed with all the affected residents who need to come together with the PC to determine what their respective responsibilities are.

5. Incidents of Local Crime:

Whilst currently I don't have an up to-date report, I note from my reading of the local Owl messaging web-site the incidence of scams relating to CV-19 issues is on the rise so we should all remain alert to any sort of cold calling both via the several media platforms as well as any direct residential contact.

6. Neighbourhood Plan:

A new date needs to be arranged to discuss the next move.

7. Planning Applications:

Due to the prevailing restrictions on movement and meetings, the PC have not been able to conduct any site visits, notwithstanding wherever possible it has commented on planning applications based on its local knowledge - see attached updated schedule.

8. Environment:

Re the information board for Brambles Wood, this has now been installed by William Ashley and well received by local walkers etc - unfortunately, the intended celebration ceremony had to be cancelled.

The registration by the PC of ownership of Brickendon Lane village verge remains outstanding.

The extension of the path extending across the green towards the station has been postponed and revised arrangements will need to be made in due course.

Re the old EV11 post box, Cllr Roberts has still to undertake the work to remove the back section.

Re the renovation of the Telephone box – the planned works have been postponed and revised arrangements will need to be made in due course.

9. Parking in Brickendon Village:

Whilst new restricted parking signs have been installed on the village green fence lines and within the Fanshaws car park - it is very disappointing to report that there continues to be a significant incidence of inappropriate /illegal parking within the confines of village and particularly around the Green. Despite our best efforts to discourage this parking, those responsible remain resolute. Given this situation we will be reviewing our next course of action and if required will need to consider erecting physical barriers to curtail this parking notwithstanding the inevitable expense this will entail.

10. Finance:

The end of year financial statement and payment of accounts have been reviewed and have passed our internal audit process and accordingly have been approved

The next PC meeting, subject to confirmation, is scheduled to be held on Thursday 23 July 2020 at 7.30pm in Fanshaws.

Cllr Tony Roberts
09 June 2020