

Annual Shutford Parish Meeting

Chair's report for 2018/19

I would like to thank the Councillors for their support during this year and special thanks to George for his advice and knowledge for us newbies to the council. Also to Helen and Carolyn for the time and energy they have put into applying for grants, negotiating with the contractor and generally getting the new playground project started. Of course many thanks to David for all his work as Clerk and putting up with my constant emails and for guiding me through the dos and don'ts of PC work. A special thanks to Helen as her role as Vice Chair has been incredibly supportive.

Making Shutford a lovely village to live in is not just up to the PC so thanks go to others who regularly pick up litter, clear up after their dogs and also keep up the planters at the entrance to the village and the various tubs around the village looking bright and colourful.

Key achievements during 2018/19:

Highways

- New road signs for the Dairyground and High Street
- New restrictions signs for large vehicles
- Five Ways junction markings repainted after reporting from villagers and PC
- With a huge amount of help from Mervyn Benford, a trail bus service to/from Banbury is to be introduced in June.

Allotments

- Seed fund for allotment holders to spend on water tanks
- With assistance from plot holders, removal of rubbish from Thistle Hill allotments
- Proposal to increase rent from plots have been discussed based on principal that any money exceeding the rent to Broughton will go into a fund to improve the allotment
- A new contract for rent of plots has been drafted and will be implemented in Sept 2019

Play equipment on the Dairyground

- Carried out the survey for playground equipment on the Dairyground and acting on the results, phase 1 of the project has been completed with the replacement of two sets of swings
- Applied for several other grants for the extra equipment and awaiting results
- Set up a working group to involve young families to help with fundraising and the potential additional equipment

Environment

- The tree behind Weavers Row is now down after many years of requests to OCC
- Donation to the Village hall for the steps up to the church
- Contacted BT and got old phone box removed

- Erected John Yeoman's bench

Other

- Introduced on-line banking for the Parish Council
- Set up a specific email list and sent out Thames valley alerts and general information that is not directly related to the village

Actions to carry forward to 2019/20

Highways

- Continue to report potholes and encourage villagers to use Fix My Street

Allotments

- Finalise plans for removal of metal rubbish still
- Market two vacant plots on Thistle Hill
- Rent increase and renumbering of the plots to be agreed by PC
- Water tanks to be purchased with seed fund agreed by PC

Environment

- Continuation of the playground project pending funding
- Work with the residents of the Dairyground regarding the placing of new equipment
- Continue to pursue OCC to gain permission to take over the maintenance of the land behind Weavers Row to be used as a quiet nature area