

## **Clerk's Report Village Council Meeting March 2021**

**Residents' letters/emails** – these have been circulated as necessary

**Annual Leave** – Sam took 3 days and Rebecca took 3 days annual leave over the February half term. Sharon also had leave, as did Ceri.

**Training** – Sam and Rebecca attended the following training course: Employers in the LGPS, Starters and opt outs, as well as Leavers and Retirements, Completing Starter, Leaver and Estimate Forms.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, they both had training with RBS on the End-of-Year accounting procedure.

Rebecca also attended a virtual Clerks meeting with Trevor Lego

The Clerk has also put their names down for end of year pension training and is waiting to see if this is free of charge or not.

**Covid-19** – the office is once again closed to the public for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lockdown until further notice

**Three Crowns** – No more news at the moment. Much of the staff appear to be on furlough

**Replacement Bin** – Following on from a car fire, one of our post mounted litter bins was destroyed. A replacement will cost approximately £160.00 excl. VAT.

**Footpath by the Three Crowns** – the footpath is still currently closed by WSCC. They keep sending closure notices which I laminate for Ceri to put up. However, WSCC have informed me that they now have the money to repair the path in this financial year, but the contactors are very busy, so there is no date as yet as to when the repairs will take place.

**Winter Management**. Winter gritting routes remain unchanged from last year. The Winter Management Plan has been updated and is on the website. Ceri has checked and mixed the grit/salt bins. Ceri has had to re-fill some grit boxes

**Youth Club**: Letters were sent to the 2 Youth Workers informing them of the Councils decision to close the Youth Club for the foreseeable future.

**Shopping Bus**: The shopping bus was suspended for the week of 27<sup>th</sup> March until further notice.

**Speed Indicator Device**: the West Sussex CLC SID was located in Woods Hill Lane for a little over a week. Brian has distributed the analysis

**Update on Tennis court access system**:– the courts have been having treatment for moss and MSDC are cutting the trees back by the courts to hopefully create less shade for the moss to grow.

**Bench for Bishops Green** – We have accepted Eric's quotation for a new bench on Bishops Green to replace the old broken one. A metal poppy that belonged to Gwen Shuttleworth will be incorporated into the design and the bench will be dedicated to Gwen with a plaque.

**Anti-social behaviour** – the graffiti has been reported to Open Reach and they will send someone out to hopefully remove the 'artwork' within 48 hours, although noting has been cleaned off to date. The developer was also emailed to ask if someone would clean up the graffiti on the hoardings outside the Lewes Road site, again, no cleaning has taken place to date

**Allotments:** I have received a further 2 requests to be put on the waiting list for allotments this week (22<sup>nd</sup> Feb)

**Wall Hill Road footpath** – the owner of 1, Quarry Cottages has now cut back his hedge as agreed and this information has been relayed to Richard Speller. Richard Speller has confirmed that phase 1 – levelling the verge should happen ideally before the end of the financial year

**Dog Bins** – We have had our invoice from MSDC for emptying the dog bins – this will come to £905.52 excl VAT. I have had numerous residents contacting me about bins not being emptied, so I have asked Ceri to carry out a dog bin audit, so we can ensure that what MSDC have listed and what we have match. At a weekly charge come April of £3.11 per collection, per bin, we have to make sure that the operator MSDC use are indeed emptying everything we are paying for and quite clearly at the moment, this hasn't been happening.

The dog bins MSDC say we own are:

180 – Allens Close

181 – Hammerwood Rd/Cansiron Lane junction

182 – School Lane

375 – Ivydene Lane

393 – Lewes Road

**2021 Census** – this takes place on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Rebecca Roberts  
Clerk to the Village Council