

6. CHAIRMANS REPORT

Cllr Brenda Baker - Thank you all for coming to this meeting and for your interest in our village and the Parish Council. There is always much that is routine in the Parish Council meetings but there are also interesting discussions to be had and sometimes, occasional controversial things too.

We have dealt with fewer planning applications this year, only 20 and received 8 decisions. The application for houses on the Woodnesborough Road remained something we discussed although we are not the council involved. We also received an amended proposal for the Charity Pub to which we again objected as we believe it to be over development.

As a council we continue to deal with matters relating to the new Village Hall which has been open for 3 years. It is being very well used and as such is a great asset to the village. The plans for the play area are in place and work will begin shortly but have had to scale back the initial plans due to funding availability.

As a council we were involved in the tribute evening for the end of WW1 and we provided a display for the Flower Festival in the Church.

Speeding remains a concern in the village and the SID unit, Speed Indicator Device, which has been placed at various points around the village is providing useful. We continue to make our data on traffic speeds on the Woodnesborough/Sandwich Road available to Sandwich council and DDC in respect of concerns over the planning application on that road. As a council we have made a donation towards the printing of the Village Magazine to enable it to be given free to each household.

Our Clerk, Sarah Wells, continues to be invaluable to the council and to me as Chair of the Parish Council. I would also like to offer my sincere thanks to all my colleagues on the council and to Allister Boniface, my vice Chair, for their continued support last year. We have lost David Woodward from the council this year. As many of you know he had moved away and I have been grateful for his experience and knowledge and we all wish him and Julia well.

My grateful thanks go to Ken and Linda Butcher for their continued work in providing flowers at the top of Fir Tree Hill and also for all they do at the Village hall. I think we all agree that the flowers are a delight and improve the look of the village. We very much appreciate the work of Robert Atkinson in keeping our village clean and tidy and Sue Atkinson for the flowers at the entrance to the village near Polders Gardens. The Parish Council website is very user and mobile friendly, please take a look as it keeps everyone up to date with the functions of the Council.

Thank you for listening to me and if you have any questions I will do my best to answer them. There were no questions.

The Clerk explained that this is normally when the Council Finance report would be delivered, however as the meeting was early this year due to the Parish Council elections, the accounts were not yet available as the Council year end is 31-3-19. Once the Accounts had been prepared they would be posted on the Parish Council website.

KALC Awards Scheme

The Kent Association of Local Councils Award is to acknowledge and give recognition to those that have made a significant contribution to their local community. The Scheme is supported by the High Sheriff of Kent, Chairman of Kent County Council and Mayor of Medway Council.

The Chairman explained that this year the award was going to couple for their tireless service to the

community over many years. The Award was given to Ken and Linda Butcher for planting the flower bed at Fir Tree Hill, gardening work at the New Village Hall as well as helping with numerous local groups and societies in the community.

Unfortunately the award certificate had not arrived yet, however it would be forwarded as soon as it was received.

7. REPORTS

a) Dover District Councillor Paul Carter.

Cllr Carter listed all the services Dover District Council provide for local residents, he also gave information on the Brexit preparations, recycling figures, the Great British Spring Clean, Deal Pier refurbishment, parking fees and the Council Tax for 2019/20.

b) Dover District Cllr M J Holloway

Cllr Holloway had sent a written report that was read out by the Chairman.

c) DDC – Chris Townsend – Strategic Tourism Manage.

Mr Townsend gave a talk on the District Councils plans to increase tourism to the district and how this could benefit local communities.

d) KCC – Councillor Sue Chandler

Cllr Chandler gave a report including information on the Council financial situation, adult social care, children social services, schools, highways maintenance, the Kent Resilience Forum and the possible effect of Phase 3 of Operation Brock on local villages.

She told the meeting that KCC also deliver some £40m worth of non-statutory services including community wardens, country parks, Young Persons Travel Pass, housing related support for the most vulnerable and Member Grants.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and all those that had spoken and closed the meeting at 9.12pm.