

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS – JUNE 2018

Annual Parish meeting

The Annual Parish meeting was held on Thursday 19th April. This year representatives from Bishops Hull Hub, Bishops Hull Flower Show, Bishops Hull Badgers and St. Peter and St. Paul's Church all attended and gave presentations. The Tree Warden and Bishops Hull Village Hall Playing Fields Trust were unable to attend but submitted reports. A summary of the meeting is below:

Amanda Gallacher representative of the Bishops Hull Flower Show was present. She advised that the Flower show will be held on Saturday 11th August. Ahead of the Flower Show the annual scarecrow competition will take place along with the hanging basket competition. In addition, a Flower show social event will be held on Friday 22nd June.

Tilda Gibbs representative from the Bishops Hull Badgers group was present. She advised that a total of 50-60 different families have attended the group. They have a group of volunteers who help each week. She thanked the Parish Council for the grant of £500 and advised some purchases have been made including a messy table. The group is continuing to thrive and new friendships have been made by families attending the group.

Rev Hughes advised that church attendance figures are rising. Many events are held at the Church including the monthly coffee mornings and family events. The latest pancake party had attendance of 100 people. Work is progressing within the Church to install a toilet and kitchen facilities, plans are currently being drawn up by the architects and it is hoped the work will be carried out and completed by Christmas.

Richard Holland representative from the Hub was present. He advised planning permission has been submitted and a target decision date of 14th May has been set. To date no objections have been received. Quantity surveyors have been instructed, along with a local contractor to produce costings for the project. The Hub has ringfenced funds of £248,000.00 and a donated fund of £15,000.00 towards the project. Fund raising is well underway, the recent Easter egg hunt raised £500. A village open day is planned for 16th June and an autumn ball is anticipated. The Community Council for Somerset are assisting the Hub with grant applications.

The Clerk read the tree Wardens report:

Detailing updates on the health of trees within the Parish, information about the Netherclay Community Woodland and details about rare trees within the Parish. He also expressed a wish to encourage tree planting, particularly if a specimen is removed.

The Chairman read the report from Bishops Hull Village Hall & Playing Fields Trust advising that the building of the new pavilion has commenced. With the bad weather and unexpected costs, the original building costs have now increased by £18,000. It is hoped to be completed by mid-July. They advised that they have applied for planning permission for phase two of the project to refurbish the old pavilion, to include new toilets, kitchen and meeting area. It is estimated phase two will cost of £100,000. The Parish Council has earmarked CIL funds of £17,000 and the Trust is seeking additional funding to complete the project.

The Chairman then gave his annual report. He started by remembering the late Chairman Rod Porter and talked about the contribution he made to the Parish Council over the years, and that he would be sadly missed. He thanked those present for their presentations and updates. He praised the progress made by all three Trusts this year as being remarkable. He advised that the new pavilion is well on its way to completion, this time last year it had not received planning. The Hub Trust last year had only just formed, now it has charitable status, submitted planning for the hub and have achieved promises for half of the funding required to fully complete the village facility.

He advised of other notable achievements in the village, such as the continued success of the Community News distribution by a team of 33 volunteers to over 1600 households every month.

The village web site continuing under the management of Jill Coldicott

The Parish Council Face book page is seeing more use for the sharing of information, requests for help and queries. It has grown by 100 users over the year and now has 228 Members.

Additionally, we mustn't forget the other groups operating, working parties that help to keep the community woodland in good shape, the allotments, the footpath walkers all who keep the parish functioning as a village community.

Darren our street cleaner has continued to provide an excellent service over the past year with a total of over 400 miles of pavements cleaned in the last year, in addition he has cooperated with the DLO in clearing leaves and has distributed and spread grit and salt during the 'Beast from the East' bad weather events.

He thanked the Members of the Council who have supported the Parish with their time attending meetings and dealing with particular responsibilities or sitting on advisory groups and supporting the village trusts. He praised the election of John Hunt in the role of County Councillor and advised without his support it would be impossible for him to continue in his role as Chairman. John's influence in this role is already being reflected in activity in the Parish and beyond.

He also advised that we are lucky in this parish to have the continued support of two active District Councillors Ian and Julia and we are shortly to meet our newly appointed Village Agent Sally Mitchell who I am sure will be an asset. He thanked the work and support of the Clerk.

To finish he ran through a list of organisations and activities that the council has contributed towards this year:

Dog bin emptying, Allotment charges and Maintenance, Open day for Hub and others, War memorial plaque replacement, Parish Remembrance Day wreath, Bench maintenance, Flower show

St Margaret's Hospice, Bishop Hull Badgers, Overgrown vegetation removal, Hedge laying at Netherclay and committed to supporting the foot bridge repairs. All for less than £1.90 per month for a band D house. He then asked residents if they wished to ask any questions.

SLINKY BUS SERVICE IN BISHOPS HULL:

The Slinky Bus is an accessible bus service provided by Somerset County Council. It can be used for a variety of reasons e.g. getting to a hospital appointment. You will be eligible to use the Slinky Bus if:

- You do not have your own transport
- You do not have access to a public bus service
- Or have a disability which means you cannot use public transport

If you are eligible you can register for the service, and book a journey (24 hours' notice required) Concessionary passes can be used.

For more information phone: 0300 1232224 or visit: www.travelsomerset.co.uk

To enable The Parish Council to make an informed decision we would like to know if you would be interested in accessing this service, as they may be able to fund this service on different days in Bishops Hull. Please indicate below and drop your completed form to the Village shop or email a response to bishopshullquestionnaire@gmail.com

Would you be interested in using the Slinky Bus Service YES or NO

If YES – Which days and times

.....