

## “Parish Council ~ Chairman’s January 2021 Update”

Hello everyone

I would like to start by wishing you all a very happy and optimistic New Year.

I would like to convey a special thanks to all those involved with the village Christmas tree and the nativity display, it all looked amazing and we received many compliments from the members of the community and neighbouring villages. Also, a big thank you to those who left their lights on during January to keep the village a little brighter in the evenings.

I would once again like to say a big thank you to vicar Mary for her excellent work over the past year, especially with her zoom services on Sundays. If you would like to join the zoom church services, please keep an eye on the village website [www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk](http://www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk) for details. Thank you Mary, God Bless you.

Parish Council business continues as usual, with meetings still being held in a virtual setting the main areas of business are currently:

### **Conker Field:**

The tree management work project will now be concluded during January / February, the new hedge on Station road has been planted and plans to plant new replacement trees will be reviewed over the coming months. The new entrance sign will now hopefully be fitted during February and other signage has already been fitted. The new litter bins have been ordered and we hope to have them installed by the end of February.

### **Coronavirus:**

Once again many of us are confined to home due to the latest lockdown rules so, I would appeal to you again to keep an eye on vulnerable neighbours within the community and if you are able to help with shopping, medication etc. please do. Many of us are very blessed with being able to walk around our village each day as part of our daily exercise but I would just ask that everyone is considerate of others and observe social distancing when doing so, including on the playpark and playing field. We appreciate there are areas in the village where pathways are not very wide or only on one side of the road, so please take extra care in these areas and try to give way or avoid getting too close to others. Perhaps an idea we could consider, where there are pathways on both sides of the street / road is for people to use the left hand side (in the direction they are walking) so everyone’s walking in the same direction..just a thought!

### **Dog Poo**

Unfortunately, recent weeks have seen this problem get worse rather than better and again I appeal to all dog walkers to **watch your dog, pick up its poo, bag it, bin it!** To try and help with this problem and encourage people to pick up their dog mess we are trialling some poo bag dispensers sited around the village, if this initiative lead by Councillor Kague Brown works we will consider installing more robust larger dispensers. Please remember you can report dog fouling direct to Charnwood Borough Council online at [www.charnwood.gov.uk](http://www.charnwood.gov.uk) or on 01509 634564.

**Flooding:**

The village has suffered recently with the wet weather resulting in some flooding around the centre of the village and in the valley across to Thrussington and a number of residents have again asked about obtaining sandbags.

The PC have once more made enquiries as in previous years and again the response from Borough Council is that they do not supply councils with sandbags and residents are responsible for purchasing their own supply.

However, I can report that CBC have agreed as a one off, they will allow us to have a small number of bags for highly vulnerable / non-mobile residents which will be managed by the village flood wardens once received.

**We must stress, these are for vulnerable / non-mobile residents only.**

**Neighbourhood Plan (NP):**

Subject to some minor changes we plan to submit the new Neighbourhood Plan to CBC during February 2021. More details will be displayed on the website

[www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk](http://www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk) as it becomes available.

**New Projects:**

The PC approved the budgets and precept at the January meeting and have a number of projects are planned for 2021 including:

Additional Benches, locations & potential sponsors

Environmental, Nature and Wildlife ideas including more trees

Village Planters would you like to adopt one?

We would welcome comment and feedback on any or all of these topics from Parishioners.

Specific details of these can be found on the village news website

[www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk](http://www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk) .

**Rearsby Village News website:**

If you have any information you would like us to add please let us know via email

[councillor5.rearsbypc@btconnect.com](mailto:councillor5.rearsbypc@btconnect.com) or [councillor2.rearsbypc@btconnect.com](mailto:councillor2.rearsbypc@btconnect.com)

Don't forget the next PC meetings (via ZOOM) will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021 & 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.30pm for more details see [www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk](http://www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk) or the PC notice board next to the Packhorse bridge.

Thank you & please KEEP SAFE ~ Martin Cooke (Parish Council Chair)