

“Parish Council ~ Chairman’s March 2021”

Hello everyone.

The first few weeks of 2021 have been very mixed with the Covid19 vaccine rollout gaining momentum, more people out exercising and some challenging weather to persuade us to stay in by the fire.

It is good to hear so many of you when I am out walking have had your first jabs and let us hope this continues over the coming months to allow us to hopefully see some return to a new normal during late spring early summer.

Parish Council business continues as usual, with meetings being held via Zoom the main areas of business are currently:

Benches: We launched the new “Bench Project” in January and were delighted to receive several offers of sponsorship which are greatly appreciate and those people will be contacted in due course by the Clerk. The PC initially approved new benches for the playing field and conker field and continue to welcome suggestions from the community on other possible locations.

Church Services: A quick thank you to vicar Mary for her continuing zoom Church Services, very much appreciated by Rearsby residents and surrounding villages. Service details can be found each week on the village website.

Conker Field: The tree management work project should now be concluded during March as will the new entrance sign. The new litter / poo bins have finally been fitted after months of discussion however, we appear to be having ongoing issues with Serco (Charnwood BC contractors) about emptying the bin at the top of the field and unfortunately if this can’t be resolved we may have to consider re-siting this particular bin. Larger dog poo bag dispensers are being ordered and will soon be installed in the field. Two new benches have been approved for the field and will be ordered shortly. The Tree project for the village including new tress on the conker field will be reviewed again at the March PC meeting.

Coronavirus: Many of our residents are still confined to home due to the ongoing 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.

Dog Poo: The new Poo bag dispensers seem to have been a success and as mentioned earlier we are looking at putting larger dispensers in the conker field and the playing field. There seems to be some improvement in certain areas but we still have a few individuals who don’t watch their dogs or simply can’t be bothered to clear up their mess.

Please watch your dog, pick up its poo, bag it, bin it, it’s your responsibility!
Please remember you can report dog fouling direct to Charnwood Borough Council online at www.charnwood.gov.uk or on 01509 634564.

Litter Picking: I wanted to thank those villagers who have been doing some litter picking around the Parish and I particularly wanted to mention Ed Offer and his

brother Sam who have been doing a litter pick each week since February 2020 as part of their DOE award. We also have another young man in the village (Luke Carroll) who has started a similar litter pick program for his DOE award as well as adopting one of the village planters.

Neighbourhood Plan (NP): The Parish Council has formally issued the Submission version of their reviewed Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents to Charnwood Borough Council in accordance with Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. Charnwood Borough Council is now consulting interested parties on this submission, in accordance with Regulation 16 of the same regulations for a six-week period. Relevant information and documents are displayed on the website.

Planters: The “Adopt a Planter Project” has been a great success with all three village planters now being adopted for the coming year, one each by the WI, the Cooke family and Luke Carroll, thank you to all.

Rearsby Village News website: Please take the time to look at the village website www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk and if you have any information you would like us to add please let us know via email councillor5.rearsbypc@btconnect.com or councillor2.rearsbypc@btconnect.com

Tree Project: The “Tree Project” was discussed at the February PC meeting with initial plans for new / additional trees on the Conker field and Playing field. We did ask for suggestions from residents but to date there has been very little feedback. If you have any suggestions for possible new tree locations in the community, please contact the Clerk.

Wardens: We would like to extend a special thank you to Rita Meade who has served as a flood warden for the village for many years and has recently decided to stand down. We currently have vacancies for a Tree Warden, Heritage Warden, Snow Warden, we also now require another Flood warden to support Paul Matts. If you are interested in learning more about one of these important roles and would like to become an active member of the community and possibly become a Village Warden please contact the Clerk.

Don't forget the next PC meetings (via ZOOM) will be held on the 4th March 2021 & 1st April 2021 at 7.30pm for more details see www.rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk or the PC notice board next to the Packhorse bridge.

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