

Bishop's Waltham *Matters*

December 20
Issue 53

Welcome

The Mayor of Winchester, Councillor Patrick Cunningham, recently visited us to thank some of the people and traders who have helped our community in various ways during the past 7 months.

He followed this up by announcing his "Local Hero Awards" scheme, several members of our community, including your Parish Council, were recognised as such.

Coming only one year after being awarded the "Hampshire and Isle of Wight Village of the Year", these awards continually provide confirmation of what a wonderful community we have in Bishop's Waltham.

As we move closer to Christmas, I hope that we will be able to celebrate in a relatively normal manner and look forward to 2021 and hopefully an end to the pandemic.

Terry Wilson
Chairman



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Since early in the first lockdown the Parish Council and its Committees have been meeting virtually. In line with the legal requirements all of these meetings are open to the public. Details of how to join are included on every agenda. Agendas are still being posted on the noticeboards and on the Council's website.

A few highlights from recent meetings:-

Parish Council:

Grants awarded to Bishop's Waltham in Bloom, Meon Valley Heartstart, St Peter's PCC and Home-Start.

Reviewed the High Street arrangements for COVID-19 secure shopping.

Co-opted a new Councillor – Kevin Jones.

Considered the licence application for the Sainsbury's store.

Finance, Policy & Resources Committee:

Regularly reviewed the financial impact on the Council of COVID-19.

Monitored the progress of the Jubilee Hall car park.

Commenced the budget setting process for 2021/22.

Held meetings with WCC and HCC and other interested parties in regard to a Southern Footpath/Cycleway.

Planning & Highways Committee:

Following the temporary changes to the High Street during the lockdown, the Committee has appointed a Working Group to consider options for permanent traffic management in these areas.

Held a meeting with HCC to consider a location for additional cycle racks in the town (these will be installed next to the bus shelter in the Square).

Held a virtual meeting with Nationwide Platforms and Elliotts to discuss concerns raised by neighbours in the area.

West Hoe Cemetery Management Committee:

A programme of works for clearing and replanting has been adopted.

Publicity for the pet cemetery agreed.

New Footpath Gates

Walkers will be pleased to know that two stiles have been replaced by gates on the network of Rights of Way footpaths in Bishop's Waltham Parish. They are on the boundary of the private property of The Limmers at the boundary of Upham parish. This is a popular route, particularly for those who enjoy slightly longer distances. It is included in two of our walks leaflets, 'Exploring Bishop's Waltham' and 'Pub Walks around Bishop's Waltham'. These can be obtained at The Jubilee Hall or at the map board by the parking ticket machines in the town centre car park. Hampshire County Council Countryside Team provided the gates and Bishop's Waltham Parish Council kindly paid for their installation. We are lucky in Bishop's Waltham in these difficult times to have over 50 Rights of Way footpaths which can give great enjoyment and a feeling of well-being. Please remember that they are all on private land, most of which gives the landowners their livelihoods.

Walkers should keep their dogs under control, stick to the footpaths, avoid livestock and treat the countryside with respect.



Insect Hotel

The Community Development Committee has worked on a project with the town's Men's Shed group to install an Insect Hotel in a hedgerow at Priory Meadow. The Men's Shed group built this amazing structure and positioned it as a very desirable residence for our insect

community in the meadow.

Many thanks are given to the group for their help with this project.

Fritillary Planting

A small team, organised by the Parish Council's Community Development Committee, planted 200 fritillary bulbs at Priory Meadow in early October.

We hope the community enjoy the 'snake head' fritillaries – a beautifully shaped flower once commonly seen in British meadows.

A big thank you to all those who helped with planting.



Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day events were a little different this year.

Before the second lockdown restrictions started, we were able to attend the Dedication of the Garden of Remembrance Service on Wednesday 4th November 2020.

Due to restrictions, the Sunday Remembrance Service from St Peter's was held online only.

Then, at 11am on Tuesday 11th November, to commemorate Remembrance Day, the old air raid siren was sounded in the High Street to begin the two minutes silence. Wreaths were individually placed on the War Memorial by community groups and organisations.



Play Park Resurfacing

Works have been undertaken to repair worn and loose surface edging at play parks.

The council has enhanced the surfaces for children with visual impairments.

The bright yellow edging makes the areas easier to see where the surfacing starts and shows where the landing space is at the end of slides.



Tree Planting

Various trees (including fruit trees) have been ordered and plans are underway for planting in the grass areas at Langton Road/Morley Drive.



Priory Park Skate Park Update

Despite many repairs made over the years, the Skate Park at Priory Park has failed two health and safety inspections.

Unfortunately, it does not conform to current safety standards and the Council has made the decision to remove the dangerous ramps and level the deteriorating concrete base.

The Council is now seeking residents' views as to the future use of the site. Please contact the Parish Council Office on admin@bishopsvaltham-pc.gov.uk with any ideas you may have for the Council to consider.



Spotlight on: *The Jubilee Hall Car Park Expansion*

We are pleased to announce that The Jubilee Hall Car Park expansion project is now complete. Car parking charges will commence from Tuesday 1st December 2020.

Charging period 08:00 – 18:00 Monday to Saturday

Sundays and Bank Holidays – free



Parking Tariff

Up to 2 hours	Free
Up to 3 hours	£0.60
Up to 4 hours	£0.80
Over 4 hours	£1.20
Disabled Badge Holders	Free

Terms and conditions can be found on our website:-

http://www.bishopswaltham-pc.gov.uk/Jubilee_Hall_Car_Park_33742.aspx



Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the staff and councillors at Bishop's Waltham Parish Council



Contact Us

For all enquiries relating to Parish Council matters or facilities, please use the following details:-

Address: Parish Council Office
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Bishop's Waltham
SO32 1ED

Telephone: 01489 892323

Email: parishclerk@bishopswaltham-pc.gov.uk

Web: www.bishopswaltham-pc.gov.uk

Council and Committee Meeting Dates

(All meetings are currently held online until further notice. Details for public access can be found on the meeting agendas uploaded to our website or on the town noticeboards)

December 2020

1st	Finance, Policy & Resources Committee
8th	Parish Council
15th	Halls and Grounds Committee

January 2021

5th	Finance, Policy and Resources Committee
12th	Parish Council
19th	Halls and Grounds Committee
25th	Community Development Committee
26th	Planning & Highways Committee

February 2021

2nd	Finance, Policy and Resources Committee
9th	Parish Council
16th	Halls and Grounds Committee
22nd	Community Development Committee
23rd	Planning & Highways Committee