



Mickleham Parish Council

March 2024 – Report

The meeting began with the sad news that David Ottridge, a long-standing Councillor, and the Council's Responsible Finance Officer (RFO), feels that he must offer his resignation as from our meeting on May 8th, due to ill health. The Chair reported on David's huge commitment to the Council and his appreciation of his wise counsel and support. The role of RFO will be taken over by our Parish Clerk, Feena Graham but a new Councillor will need to be found to fill the vacancy left by David's resignation. Please do contact either Feena Graham or David Ireland if you would be interested to know more about the role of Councillor and the vital contribution of the Parish Council to our community's well-being.

Sergeant David Sadler and colleague attended the meeting and reported on Police matters as relating to the community. In particular support was asked for the problems arising from visitors parking on double yellow lines in the Old London Road. He referred us to the Traffic Enforcement department who now work weekends as well as weekdays.

Several Councillors had responded to the Rights of Way consultation and were attending the Norbury Park Working Group meeting in the Village Hall on 14th March. There was further discussion about the change of terms of the tenancies held by those living in properties previously owned by Surrey County Council. District Councillor Chris Budleigh reported on his research into the possibility of providing some kind of affordable housing in Mickleham and Westhumble. The Council gave their full support to this effort which, were it to be successful, would enable the community to encourage younger families to our area. It was however acknowledged that it would be a considerable challenge to secure such housing.

The new picnic tables will shortly be installed in the Recreation Ground to celebrate the King's Coronation and a tree is to be planted in the Churchyard to commemorate Judy Kinloch's considerable contribution to the community in her role as Parish Councillor. The bus shelter in the centre of the village has finally been repaired, the cost being met by an insurance claim from the delivery company whose lorry damaged the shelter. Quotations are also being sought to replace the notice board at the Dell close entry to the Recreation Ground.

The Summer Fair committee is making good progress with plans for the event, to be held in the Rectory Garden on Saturday 6th July. The Parish Council will be providing funding to meet some of the set-up costs.

The next Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday May 08th** and will include the Annual Parish Meeting, which members of the community are encouraged to attend.

David Ireland (Chair)