

Mickleham Parish Council

Report – May 2022

Chair's Report

The past year has been a busy one for the Mickleham Parish Council, with a number of issues needing to be resolved.

Covid restrictions clearly continued to affect a number of activities, although the Council has been meeting in person for the whole of the year, albeit socially distanced for most of the year.

At our first meeting of the year on May 24, 2021, Graham Clark was elected to the role of Vice Chairman and David Ireland and David Ottridge re-elected as Chairman and R.F.O respectively.

Working groups were established to explore certain issues, including applications to Surrey C.C's 'Your Fund' for additional equipment for the Playground and the establishment of suitable barriers to secure footpaths and bridle paths in our area. The second of these applications was eventually withdrawn and the first failed to get funding.

The Working Group to co-ordinate the consultation and development plans in Norbury Park continues to function under the guidance of John Lowes but the consultation process has been delayed on several occasions.

The Community WhatsApp group is thriving and the Church Community Group has organised a number of successful activities, including a picnic at Juniper Hall, the Harvest Supper, Advent Windows and most recently a Skittles Evening.

Traffic calming on the Old London Road remains a challenge. The Vehicle Activated Speed Camera has been installed; the Community Speed Watch team is now back in action and the proposals for additional traffic restrictions are due to be implemented very shortly.

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The trustees of the Mickleham Playground Association maintain this much used facility and have a number of new volunteers to assist with its regular safety checks. Two acts of vandalism were reported and the damage addressed.

The new Council Notice Board at the junction with School Lane and Byttom Hill was installed and is much used.

A number of other matters have arisen since the last Annual Parish Meeting, including the appointment of a new Parish Priest, the Rev'd Dr Sandra Faccini. The new café and coffee shop, 51Degrees North, opened in April and is much appreciated, as is the new management of the Running Horses by the Little and Large Pub Company.

The 'Local Plan' has been carefully examined and a response submitted by Mickleham Parish Council in November 2021. The final report on the 'Local Plan' is due later this summer.

The Boundary Review Commission's proposals have also been thoroughly examined and a response made both by the Council and by individual members of the community.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee is to be celebrated on June 3-5 with a number of joint community-based activities, including a tea party and live music event in Westhumble and a Civic Service and Big Lunch in Mickleham. To celebrate this historic occasion Mickleham Parish Council has presented a tree, which is to be planted in the new churchyard extension.

Other issues have also been discussed but time prevents the writer of this report from detailing them all. Suffice to say that one change decreed from on high demotes your chairman to an item of furniture in future reports!

Thanks must be expressed to our Parish Clerk, Feena Graham, for keeping us so well informed and in order and to my fellow Councillors for their continuing hard work on behalf of the community.

David Ireland - Chair(man)