

## Rushbury Parish Council Chairman's Report April 2020

Dear Parishioners,

It is very strange having to present my report in writing rather than at our Parish Meeting, which of course the current lockdown does not allow. I hope this report finds you well and you continue remain so.

The Parish Council want to bring you up to date on what they have been doing for the past year.

Your Parish council has been engaged in its duties as a consultee in Planning Applications and have done our best to look at applications in a fair manner, as you may already know we are only consulted and on some occasions decisions go against our views and recommendations .

The recent and ongoing Planning Application for the Longville Arms went to the Planning committee recently who unanimously refused it.

It was good to see the tremendous success of the pop up pub nights at the Rushbury Village Hall which shows that the 200 or so people attending the first event alone, point to what could be achieved if the Longville Arms was reopened. Sadly the pop up nights can no longer take place until lockdown restrictions are relaxed. I am sure that you will join with me in congratulating The Village Hall Committee and all involved.

We pleased that the Speed limits in Wall under Heywood have been completed under consultation with West Mercia Police, so we now have two enforceable speed limits in the Parish.

A new police Sergeant, Damien Kelly, has been appointed to the South West Shropshire Safer Neighbourhood Team, which covers Ludlow, Bishops Castle and Church Stretton areas, we welcome him and hopes he has a successful time with us. When these unsettling times improve, we will put him to the test, to get our speed limits enforced on a more regular basis.

As many of you know we have been trying to get improvements to Rushbury Road for some considerable time. We are very thankful to Mrs Joy Kohn and her neighbour Mrs Oxley who have very kindly offered some of their land which borders the road so that the road can be made safer and enabling an area that pedestrians can step onto when needed. I have spoken again to Andrew Keyland Highways Department about a suggestion by Mr Gareth Hotchkiss that some local farmers and contractors could do the necessary work, under supervision, he is looking into it he thinks it may well work. It is hoped these changes will make our Wall under Heywood much safer

It has been, and we believe will remain a difficult time as Shropshire Council struggle with funding and some services we took for granted may disappear in their current form. We will

as a Parish Council do our best to try and get the best possible outcomes to any problems as they arise.

We are pleased that one good thing about the Lockdown is that Highways have been repairing roads and potholes it has been good news for the residents of Lushcott Lane, The lane has been in a state of bad repair for some time, some repairs have been done to make it safer for users and is now listed for major repairs.

I would like to thank our new Clerk Chris Maclean for all his hard work and commitment for the council following the retirement of Mrs Val Sagar who gave us such fantastic service over many years, To your councillors for their work and in particular to the Vice Chairman Colin who makes my work a lot easier, and looked after the Parish Council Website until recently when it became part of the duties of Chris Maclean our Clerk.

I wish you all a safe passage through this awful time.

Regards and best wishes

Mel McFarland

Chairman