

## **Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council**

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

**29<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

### **Chairman's Report**

#### **Introduction & Welcome**

The Council would like to welcome once more all residents to the Annual Parish Meeting of the Village Council and hope that you will find the evening informative and helpful. It is two years since the last APM and we must welcome our new Councillors during that time, Andy Roberts, Piers Millet and Martin Macklin.

Vanessa Oliveri, the previous Clerk, resigned in March 2021 and we are actively advertising for a suitable replacement.

We have been holding our Parish Council and Committee meetings via Zoom since May 2020 which has been a challenge but we have been able to continue to conduct normal business.

The year 2020 has been a challenge in itself because of COVID for everyone and our sympathies go to the families amongst our residents who have been most affected by this disease. We are extremely proud of the Bourton Street Volunteers, following an original idea from Donna Holland at the Croft. Cllr Lynda Hicks and Cllr Amanda Davis lead the initiative, recruiting over 140 volunteers to assist the most vulnerable, elderly and those shielding with shopping, signposting them for any assistance and sometimes just lending a listening ear and being there.

The Parish Council, Paul Hodgkinson Gloucestershire County Councillor Nick Maunder and Richard Keeling, Cotswold District Councillors held weekly, then fortnightly meetings to discuss the COVID situation locally and offering whatever help and support we all could.

We are extremely grateful to our County and District Councillors for the initiatives they have introduced to try and ease the impact the visitors had on our village last year, dealing with litter, car parking, illegally parked vehicles and requesting owners of the temporary car parks to put in temporary toilets.

As most of you know the business of Council is delegated to various committees, who consider different issues each month and then bring reports and recommendations to the monthly Council meetings for discussion and approval. Each of the Chairpersons will give a brief report shortly.

- Planning & George Moore Community Centre, (Bryan Sumner)
- Village Environment Committee (Len Wilkins)

- Highways Committee (Nigel Randall)
- Youth (Lynda Hicks), Wellbeing (Bill Wragg & Amanda Davies)
- Finance & General Purpose (Bob Hadley)

We will hear from the Chairs in a moment but first I would like to again express my sincere thanks to the Councillors for all they have done during the year in supporting me.

Finally I would like to thank the team who run the Community Centre. Jo who among other things is responsible for the lettings and the day to day operations, as well as recently covering for the Clerk, Chris Cooper our Finance Officer and Ernie Webb our caretaker.

In these uncertain times thanks once again for attending and stay safe and well.

I will take any questions later.

**Bob Hadley 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021**