

CHALVINGTON WITH RIPE PARISH

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 9TH MAY 2022

Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council:

Chairman's Report 2021-2022

Covid 19 Covid continues to affect the way we operate. Zoom and Teams remain the way most business with Wealden Council and other official bodies is conducted. Most staff are not back in their offices yet. Although infection continues, regrettably CRPC has no power to reinstate Zoom meetings.

Planning This has been a major concern for CRPC over the last year. Cllr Dunbar Dempsey will report on objections by many parish councils to over development in the area. She will also give an update on solar farm applications.

Speeding Cllr White organised a Community Speedwatch initiative and a number of parishioners were trained in the use of a used speed gun donated by the police. Our new speed gun has just been delivered. We are particularly concerned about traffic speeding by the village hall at the times when nursery school children are taken to school and when they are collected. This issue has been discussed with the Principal Kate Fleming. CRPC is also aware of damage to verges planted with grass and flowers at approaches to the village. This has been discussed at a Zoom meeting with Highways.

A27 and Dual Carriageway– Cllr Ruddock West leads on this issue and keeps a close eye on proposed improvements to the A27, and the frequently raised issue of a proposed new dual carriageway from Lewes to Polegate.

Ripe Nursery School flourishes and has gained praise from OFSTED. It is a great pleasure to see children playing outdoors with teachers and assistants. Inside the hall, councillors enjoy the colourful and creative work produced by the children, on the Mondays we are there for meetings.

Village Hall Committee Our thanks to the Village Hall committee for their work in organising events post Covid.

Litter Watch Team Our thanks to all those under the leadership of Professor Hill who do the clearing up. New legislation allowing domestic building waste to be taken to refuse collection centres without charge could help stop fly tipping.

Lunch Club Thanks to Gill Ross and her team who organise lunches at the Yew Tree. The marquee there helps them to socially distance when necessary.

Footpaths Thanks to our footpath officer who reports any problems with obstructions to paths, poorly maintained stiles etc. You can contact him or the Clerk via the web site if you have anything to report.

CIL – a set of wooden bicycle posts has been installed. It is hoped that after the island improvements are completed, with a bench provided for all visitors, cyclists will respect this new infrastructure and not obstruct the new sitting area with bicycles.

Deanland Cllr Dashfield has kindly been in touch with the The Deanland Bowls Club and the Petanque group. Residents from Ripe and Chalvington who would like to use their facilities should contact Mrs Joe Parsons, Captain of the Bowls Club on 01825 873660. Coaching sessions are available. For use of the Petanque pitches please contact Mr Bruce Peapell on 01825 872262. Note: FLAT SHOES must be worn.

Thanks to County Councillor Nick Bennett and District Councillor David Watts for their help and support during the year.

Thanks to Parish Councillors for their hard work throughout the year and to our excellent Clerk Paul Richards for ensuring we follow due process and the Code of Conduct for councillors.