Dear Residents.

It feels almost impossible to remember life before lockdown and Covid 19.

I have over the last few months been almost exclusively dealing with all things virus related.  This has meant the setting up, and running of Village Virus Volunteers.   VVV is delivering over 100 prescriptions a week to our elderly and vulnerable residents. We have set up a buddy system so that residents have were possible, a dedicated helper on hand, two volunteers are doing daily runs to both Coxheath and Loose Pharmacies, ensuring residents are getting their medication exceptionally quickly! We are organising helpers to shop for residents and also to check in on those who are self-isolating whose families are far away. This has only been made possible by the help and support of some truly kind and generous people, who have just been simply Marvellous. This support group works because of the fantastic community spirit and people being willing to either step up and help,  or notify us of people who need help. I have put out a support leaflet for anyone who needs help and advice on a range of issues. Please contact me if you’d like a copy,  or alternatively,  it is now on the PC website.

Regular MBC activity is starting to return and I am now attending virtual planning meetings, it’s not the same and I dislike the fact residents can’t watch it live but that’s how we have to work for now.

We are still pressing forward with the local plan review of which the deadline is getting tight. This is a contentious and difficult task but rest assured I’ll be fighting for what I think is best for my ward first and foremost, any thoughts and input very much welcome.

Linton Cross Roads I thought had ground to a halt but I’ve been led to believe there has been a small flurry of activity again. I will update in due course.

Finally the ground work for the new surgery is beginning, I know not everyone was happy with the surgery’s location but I am certain once it is up and running it will be a fantastic addition to our ward and will be the envy of many.

Slightly wider afield I am working on adjusting the provision of a park/play area in St Lawrence close on Heath road.  I am assisting residents to adjust the planning to something more suited to their needs.

Most recently it has been brought to my attention that bus services to Staplehurst have been severely affected due to the Virus and I believe this is causing problems for some residents who are returning to work after furlough. If you are one of them please get in touch.

Finally keep safe keep well and please don’t lose the amazing community spirit that has come to the surface in these sad and challenging times.

Cllr Lottie Parfitt-Reid