



IBSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 3

Feb 2020

CHAIRMANS GREETINGS

Hello,

With 2020 underway, Christmas seems a distant memory. I'm a little behind but may I take this opportunity to thank all of the staff, contractors and volunteers who contributed in whatever way to our parish during 2019.

At our December council meeting, we set our budget for April 2020– March 2021 - A breakdown can be found on the finance page. Having looked at our costs for this current financial year, and feel that we can manage without increasing our budget. This doesn't mean that we will stop providing any of our current services, nor does it mean that we will not progress any projects that we have identified to undertake, or any opportunities that come along. We will continue to source grants and are looking to create community groups and working parties to assist us further. We understand the current financial situation is affecting everyone and we will continue to work together for the good of our community.

Yours Stuart (Chairman 2019-2020)

2020 Meeting Dates

Wednesday 5th February 2020

Wednesday 11th March 2020 (Date change)

Wednesday 1st April 2020

Wednesday 6th May 2020

Wednesday 3rd June 2020

Wednesday 1st July 2020

Wednesday 5th August 2020

Wednesday 2nd September 2020

Wednesday 7th October 2020

Wednesday 4th November 2020

Wednesday 2nd December 2020

Time : 7.00pm

Ibstock Scout Hut, Melbourne Road, Ibstock

Everyone welcome, come along and join us.

Cemetery Chapel

The refurbishment of the chapel in Pretoria Road cemetery is almost complete. We apologise for the inconvenience whilst the works have taken place, however we know you will be as pleased as us to have the new toilets opened and the chapel safe and in use after being closed for so long.

Monthly meeting agendas and meeting minutes can be found on our website.

www.ibstockparishcouncil.org.uk

Please contact :

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CONGRATULATIONS..

To our Parish Clerk, who has successfully passed her CILCA (Certificate in Local Council Administration) Qualification. Thank you for the endless hours and the hard work. You certainly deserve it.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

One of the projects that is under consideration by the Parish Council is to complete a Neighbourhood plan. Ellistown Parish council and Ashby Town Council have completed their plans and it has been accepted to sit alongside the NWLDC local plan. Hugglescote and Donnington le Heath parish council are currently writing their plan and will be taking it to referendum shortly. We encourage you to have a look at these Neighbourhood Plans on their councils websites to get an idea what an Ibstock Neighbourhood Plan could do for the parish.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

It is a document that helps a local community influence the planning of the area in which they live and work. Whilst a Neighbourhood plan cannot be used to stop all future development in Ibstock, it would ensure that any development is sympathetic to the surrounding area and meets the needs of the community. The plan could include

- The development of housing, including affordable housing (affordable housing is housing that is not normally for sale on the open market), and bringing vacant or derelict housing back into use.
- Provision for businesses to set up or expand their premises.
- Transport and access (including issues around roads, cycling, walking and access for disabled people).
- The development of schools, places of worship, health facilities, leisure and entertainment facilities, community and youth centres and village halls.
- The restriction of certain types of development and change of use, for example to avoid too much of one type of use.
- The design of buildings.
- Protection and creation of open space, nature reserves, allotments, sports pitches, play areas, parks and gardens, and the planting of trees.
- Protection of important buildings and historic assets such as archaeological remains.
- Promotion of renewable energy projects, such as solar energy and wind turbines.

It is not a quick process. The general opinion is it will take around 18 months to complete from start to finish. However the results would make a huge difference to the community, and could help to protect some of the open spaces from development.

Who can be involved?

This project would only work with involvement from the community. The council would look to set up working parties of interested people to pull together the different areas of the Plan. We would employ a Neighbourhood Plan consultant to work with these user groups and see us through the process.

We will update our webpage with further information, but if it something that you feel you would like to be involved in, please drop the clerk an email and register your interest.

It is important that members of the parish are involved, The parish council cannot undertake this alone. We need interested residents to join us to progress the plan.

COUNCIL BUDGET 2020-2021

Below is our agreed budget for the year 1st April 2020—31 March 2021. We submit our request to North West Leicestershire District Council for consideration. When agreed they add our request to the requests from Leicestershire County Council, Police, Fire And Ambulance and the District Council. Once combined they will be divided up between the number of properties and collected via Council tax. We are paid our portion in April and Sept. Each newsletter we will provide an update of our expenditure to date against our budget.

	Budget 2020/2021
OFFICE	
Audit / Solicitor Fees	3500
Clerks Salary	17800
Sec 106	5500
stationery and Adverts	1000
Subscriptions	1000
Insurance	4200
	<hr/>
	33000
	<hr/>
GROUNDS COSTS	
Park Keepers and Staff Salary	20000
Water Rates, rent etc + office rates, repairs	42500
Open space Maint	58000
Litter Bins Emptying	
General repairs and Equipment	100
Play Area Inspections	
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OTHER	
Councillor Allowances	7000
Grants	200
Wreath - remembrance	100
lbstock in Bloom	
Xmas Event	
competition prizes	
Contribution to funding for Projects	37950
	<hr/>
	45250
	<hr/>
PRECEPT REQUEST	198850

MULTI USE GAMES AREA

The artificial football pitch at the rear of the Miners Welfare site is available to hire at a cost of £10 per hour. Floodlighting available. Regular bookings or one offs available. Please contact the clerk for availability and a booking form.

REMINDER.....

This article was in the last edition of our newsletter.

During the months of September to March our contractors will be undertaking works to trees and hedges. Due to the DEFRA guidelines, we are unable to do works during the April to August months as it may disturb nesting birds and carries a hefty fine.

The Contractors will only carry out works on the trees and hedges that are under parish council ownership. Our contractors will do surveys and works commence to remove damage or diseased limbs, to encourage healthy growth, or for safety reasons (ie height or width clearance). We are unable to cut down trees just because of lack of light, or for personal requests. If branches are overhanging your property, you are legally entitled to cut them off yourself. Our contractors cannot enter your property boundary to do so.



We are very disappointed to have to report that despite this reminder and English Law, some residents have still decided to take it upon themselves to cut down and permanently damage parish council trees that are on areas adjacent to their property. This is both criminal damage and trespass. Some trees within the parish are protected by 'Tree Preservation orders' if **ANY** works are carried out on a protected tree without permission, it will result in a huge fine to the council, which will be passed on to the person who has incurred it! Only branches that are overhanging your property can be cut back from within your

boundary. The Council will take legal action against residents who undertake works to the trees on parish council owned land.



SPEED WATCH

Traffic speed is still a big concern of many parishioners. The Parish Council have tried on many occasions to have a pedestrian crossing located on Leicester Road and Ravenstone Road, but until there is a fatality, they do not consider the roads dangerous! The police carry out speed checks when they can but their time is very limited, and their resources stretched across many parishes. When the Parish Council raise concerns about speed and increasing volumes of traffic, we have no documented evidence to support us. We have therefore been advised to undertake the Speedwatch Campaign.

Volunteers form a group, and undertake a simple one hour training session. They are loaned the equipment for a two week period. They will choose areas of concern and record the speeds of traffic in that area. This information collated and then passed to the police. The Police contact speeding offenders offering them advice.

The completed document can then be used by the Parish Council to highlight areas of particular concern for the Police/County Highways to carry out further interventions. If you can spare an hour or two for two weeks a year, we would encourage you to get in touch, The more volunteers the better our village coverage and the rota hours to be covered can be shared out fairly.

