

Little Brickhill Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report- May 2020

Your Parish Council

Graham Bushell - Chair

David Lewis

Tim Wheaton

Martin Goddard

Alan Kemp – Parish Clerk

Like me, I am sure you have been overwhelmed by the camaraderie and good neighbourliness abundant in our village over the last few weeks. We live in unprecedented difficult times and it is so good to see the local support for those unable to get out to go shopping, post letters and walk their dogs. Thank you on behalf of the village to all those who have helped; you are the heroes of the hour! A huge thank you to Alison Packer who has coordinated much of the help for the vulnerable people in our village.

We have been unable to hold Parish Council meetings during the lockdown and probably will be unable to hold further meetings for some time. Your councillors and clerk have stayed alert to any actions that need to be taken in the village, however, if you do need to make us aware of anything, please email the Parish Council at: clerk@little-brickhill.co.uk

The Old Garage development is nearing completion and although it has caused some upheaval, overall I hope you will agree that the properties look pretty good. The developers have confirmed to me that they will make good any damage to the grass verge alongside the playing field.

An application to build 10 properties on the farm land on Woburn Road was refused by Milton Keynes. There is an application to build a single property on land in front of The Clock House; this application is not supported by your Parish Council.

The raising of the verge at the southern end of Watling Street does seem to have deterred the travelling community from setting up camp there as they have not visited us since.

The two Speed Indicator Devices have allowed us to continue to monitor the speed of traffic through the village and we will continue to do so during the lockdown. It is our intention to present the information to the highways authority to ask if a 20 mph limit should be imposed on some roads in the village.

We have had a report from Thames Valley Police regarding the crime figures for our village; upon initial reading, they suggest that we are a crime hotspot in the area but further inspection confirms that almost all the criminal acts take place at the filling station or at McDonalds so we can relax in the knowledge that we are living in a very safe environment.

The precept will continue to increase in accordance with our forecast so as to ensure that we have a sufficient income stream to effectively manage the services that we are being forced to adopt by Milton Keynes. Our financial report is attached.

Your Parish Council was sad to hear of the death of Doreen Adcock; Doreen was a councillor for many years and took great pride in ensuring that our footpaths remained open for villagers to enjoy. Doreen was quite a character and will be sadly missed.

A big thank you to Rebecca Spencer who recently resigned from the council due to other commitments. Rebecca's insight and understanding will be sorely missed by me and my fellow councillors.

Finally, thank you to our Danesborough ward councillors David Hopkins, Victoria Hopkins and Alice Jenkins; they work tirelessly defending our interests and our way of life.

Graham Bushell
Chair – Little Brickhill Parish Council
May 2020