

### **Minster Lovell Parish Council**

Despite the recent wet weather it seems spring is finally in the air, with daffodils bursting into life, trees blossoming and birds all singing in recent weeks. Hopefully we are past the stormy season and can look forward to drier and brighter weather in the months ahead. The flower beds around the war memorial have been well looked after throughout the winter and look good all year round – thanks to Mr. Warner for doing this for the Village.

The Parish Council is thrilled that it's nomination for the High Sheriff's Award 2020 was successful. Mrs Judy Balmer will be collecting her award at a ceremony in central Oxford on 24<sup>th</sup> March. The Council nominated Mrs. Balmer for her dedicated service to many organisations in the Village over many, many years and for the significant positive contribution that she makes to Village Life – well done and thank you from us all!

### **Ripley Avenue**

The laurel bushes in Ripley Avenue have now been trimmed and the overgrown shrubs removed from the mound. Residents have thanked the Council for getting this work done to a high standard. The Clerk will shortly be seeking quotations for the other maintenance work and weed killing throughout the Village. Please contact the Clerk with any maintenance issues that you notice as the weather warms up. The Council intend to repair the goal nets for the summer and keep the play park in good order for children to enjoy.

The Parish Council continue to work with Bovis Homes to organise a footpath through Ripley Avenue to link the new development with existing facilities in the Village. The Council will inform residents when this will be built as timelines are confirmed.

### **Footpaths and Bus Shelters**

The Council has continued to liaise with West Oxfordshire District Council regarding the footpath on School Hill, which will shortly be cleared and cleaned. Following resident requests, the Council have also sought quotations to install a handrail at the end of the stile and a decision will be taken about this at the March Council meeting. Additionally the Council is looking into the possibility of erecting a new dog litter bin in the area outside of the White Hart.

The Council has recently changed contractor for cleaning of the bus shelter windows and these will all now be cleaned on a monthly basis. Thanks to the new proprietors of the White Hart for offering to regularly remove the litter from the bus shelter opposite the pub. The Council is seeking costs for a wall mounted litter bin to try and stop so much litter being dropped in the shelter.

### **Section 106 monies**

The Parish Council is currently liaising with local organisations to investigate the possibility of providing a new or refurbished village hall using part of the Section 106 monies generated by the new housing development in the Village. The Council has also set up a working group to explore the possible extension of the current graveyard at St Kenelm's Church. The Council hopes to finalise plans for spending of the Section 106 monies soon.

### **Audits**

The Parish Council has now received the final report from the External Auditor and the Annual Return has now been published on the Council website. The Council has been working hard over the last few months to improve processes and procedures ahead of the 2019/20 audit and will be selecting a new Internal Auditor at the March Council meeting.

### **Fix My Street**

Oxfordshire County Council have invited local residents to become Super Users for Fix My Street, which will enable them to log local maintenance issues onto the system and send directly to contractors. Training will be provided. Please contact Cllr. Walker at [liam.walker2@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:liam.walker2@oxfordshire.gov.uk) if you are interested in becoming a Super User on behalf of the village.

### **Join the Village Spring Clean**

The Council has organised a spring clean litter pick in the Village on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, from 10.30am-12.30pm. Please meet us at St Kenelm's Hall if you are able to help. Thank you to residents who already undertake litter picks in their local area. Cllr. Walker will be attending and providing equipment for the litter pick.

### **Future meeting dates:**

- 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020, 7.30 pm at St Kenelm's Hall.
- 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020, 7.30 pm at St Kenelm's Hall. This will be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 7.30 pm at St Kenelm's Hall. This will be followed by Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Also a reminder that all Extra Parish Council meetings, which can sometimes be called at short notice, are advertised on our website and agendas will be posted on the Village noticeboards.

Alexandra Molton  
Parish Clerk