

## **LITTLE KINGSHILL VILLAGE SOCIETY**

### **CHAIR'S REPORT 2016/2017**

I am pleased to report that a number of projects on our wish list came to fruition this year. Thank you to our Parish Councillors, Les Giles and Nick Vigart, for making these happen and for listening to our requests and concerns.

On the common there are new goalposts, partly funded by Hughenden Football Club, a freshly mapped out pitch and new fencing around the children's play area. Little Missenden Parish Council have extensive maintenance works planned for the coming year and the Village Society hope to fund additional play equipment with toddlers in mind.

Over the past few years we have tried to make Meadow Cottages Green a safe place for children to play and so we are disappointed that LMPC have still not applied to Fields in Trust to protect this area.

It was a delight to see the Prince of Wales development finally completed and to meet the new residents. If, at anytime, you have new neighbours please let Roger and I know so that we can introduce ourselves and welcome them to the Village Society.

The War Memorial, has been renovated, thanks to our Parish Council and we, as the Village Society, made a small contribution to the project.

In Celebration of the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday LMPC planted a Norwegian Maple and the LKVS replaced the old bench on the Green at the top of Deep Mill Lane.

Great attempts have now been made in terms of traffic management throughout the village. As 60% of pupils come from outside the village and whilst the dearth of pedestrian walkways means that some of the other 40% of the school population also come by car, there will always be critical moments in terms of density of traffic. However, 20 mile per hour school signs have been erected on the approach to the school; new road markings, not only create safer passing places for vehicles, but also allow residents access to and from their homes: and extended yellow zig-zags and further white markings along the entrance to the Nursery should make it safer for the children going in and out of both schools, and for residents to see as they exit onto Windsor Lane. We were pleased to see the resurfacing of the road at Meadow Cottages and also at Reyners Green. LKPVC plan to increase the number that the Motor Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) will be located in the village. We have requested that these signs also be placed from time to time on Watchet Lane and Heath End Lane, 40mph spots we consider to be dangerous in these residential areas.

For a number of months the village was disrupted as Affinity Water laid new pipes along Windsor Lane. A new pumping station, the size of a House, was proposed and intended to be erected on the grass verge. Thankfully, a good number of residents turned out to the meeting Nick Vigart organized with the Project Team at Affinity and left them in doubt as to their views. The team went back to the drawing board and decided they were able to site the new pumping station within the existing underground structure.

This year we held two very successful social events - the Autumn Quiz and Carols at the Full Moon. Our thanks go to Simon Fraser, our challenging Quizmaster; Bran and Petra at the Full Moon for their hospitality and generosity in providing the Mulled Wine for everyone; and the Band made up of members of the Baptist church and other villagers.

Peter Hubbard ( our Litter Pick Coordinator) and I noted that Residents are very good at patrolling their own patches with regards to litter, the Common is well kept but the area needing attention is Deep Mill Lane. Peter Hubbard suggests that, once the verges have been cut, we could assemble a working party.

Finally, I would like to thank my Committee for their support throughout the year. I am very grateful to Roger, who came on board as our Communications Officer, and I believe that he has done a great job. He can't always guarantee to reunite lost pets with their owners but he does try. Thank you to him and Penny for producing the Village Handbook last year, a very time consuming, but worthwhile job. Thank you to Amanda Smith, our Minutes Secretary, who each month makes sense of our ramblings and discussions. Charlie Symonds has been our new Treasurer and it has been reassuring to have someone so efficient and great to have a young Committee Member. Charlie has been assisted by his father Richard. Martin Hatfield has also been a great asset to the Committee. I think of him as a voice of reason when, and if, passions run high. Martin is always out and about and has a finger on the pulse of the village. Thanks to our other members, Richard Bradstock and Chris Seagrave, who deserves a medal for the sheer number years he has served on this Committee.

Last but not least, thanks to you all for being here and all those who complained about uncut verges, overhanging hedges, pot holes, burst pipes and piles of leaves on the pavements, it did make a difference.