

Report from the Chair (2019 – 2020)

Firstly I would like to thank everyone in the Parish for their support and response during these uncertain times. Hyde Parish Support Network (incorporating Hyde Church, Hyde Parish Council and Hyde Neighbourhood Watch) has been coordinating the efforts of everyone in the Parish and ensuring that every resident requiring assistance is able to access the appropriate support.

Membership of the Parish Council. Following the elections in 2019 the three vacancies were filled by co-option, bringing the Council membership back to full capacity (7 members). All members serve on the Council on a voluntary basis, attending monthly Parish meetings, undertaking planning visits and representing the Parish at meetings with the National Park Authority and the Consultative Panel (amongst others).

Pride In Your Parish. During 2019 the monthly coffee morning started, supporting improved communication about issues in the Parish and providing a more relaxed atmosphere to chat with the Parish Councillors. These have started off slowly but have proved to be a success and will continue once the restrictions are lifted. Members also reviewed the environmental credentials of the Parish, looked at ways to improve access to recycling facilities and information and asked residents to confirm what they would like to see in the future.

Telecommunication Mast The Council have been monitoring progress with the replacement of the mobile phone mast in the Parish, and raising concerns about the temporary location (specifically the slow progress) with HCC and Waldon Telecom. We are waiting for a planning application for a permanent location for the mast and will keep residents informed of progress, inviting views at the relevant parish meeting.

Community Emergency Plan An updated version of the Parish Community Emergency Plan was submitted to the Resilience Team (HCC) in 2019. Action was instigated using the plan at the start of the current pandemic (March 2020) but it soon became apparent that the volunteers were either key workers or self-isolating so a separate response was actioned to support residents.

Consultations The Members review consultations issued by NFDC, NFNPA and HCC, responding, where appropriate, with a parish view. The Parish website provides links to surveys and consultations undertaken by the Council. This year Parish responses have been made to the 5G consultation and the Electoral Review of NFDC Warding Patterns.

Highways Roads continue to be an important issue for residents and HCC have undertaken a large amount of resurfacing and filling of potholes during 2019/20 – the sheer amount of rainfall over the winter months created a challenge for residents to navigate and for the Highways team to fix. The Council will continue to highlight areas of concern on behalf of residents. We are grateful to the many residents who helped to keep the ditches clear and hedges maintained. Please continue to report problems directly to HCC on www.hants.gov.uk follow link to “report a fault”.

Forest and Commons Thank you to all those who helped with litter and Ragwort clearance – protecting the SSSI (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) that covers most of our Parish is essential. The Council own small tools to assist with litter-picking and weed clearance – if you wish to borrow them please contact the Chair or Clerk. The Parish will continue to work with local landowners and residents to prevent increasing verge damage.

Accounts. A summary of the accounts appears on the reverse of this report.

Chair, Hyde Parish Council

The council’s Annual Parish Meeting, which should be held in May by law, has been postponed until September, details will be in our August newsletter, we will also include information about our Autumn and Winter coffee mornings.

We very much regret that we cannot deliver this newsletter to all residents, but we expect to be delivering the August Letter, and future ones, by hand again and we look forward to seeing and meeting residents out and about and being able to stop to greet and chat.

If you know anyone who does not have access to the internet please let Martine, our clerk, know as we would like to deliver or post a copy of this letter to them.

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