

Chairman's letter 17/11/20

As we come to the end of lockdown 2, hope all are well.

My first job this month is to welcome Laura Craven to the Parish Council. Laura was co-opted onto the Parish Council at our meeting on the 9th November. Laura has lived in the village over 20 years, been involved with the PCC for 15 years and brings much needed experience to the Council.

By the time you read this we will be nearly out of the current phase of lockdown and close to entering whatever the government plans next, just a reminder.

- WSCC Community Hub help line is open 8am-8pm seven days a week on 033 022 27980
- Chichester DC wellbeing 01243 521041
- Chichester District Council website has information of grants and other financial support
- South Downs website has a useful interactive map with details of support groups & suppliers
- Rogate - the Rogate community coming together Facebook page.
- Rake - the Rake help for covid-19 face book page, or the Flying Bull 01730 892285.

We were pleased to hear from WSCC Highways that they have issued the design plan for the Rake community highway scheme out for tender. The plan remains largely unchanged from the feasibility design which was shared at the public exhibition in June and can be viewed on the Parish Council website. The most significant element is the reduction of the speed limit through Rake to 30mph which will be welcomed by all those who live in Rake and importantly, Rake CoE infant school children and their parents.

The Speed Indicator Sign (SID) has been in constant use since we acquired it in October and is now in its 4th location of 8 that we have consent for its use. It is worth pointing out that SID is approved as a temporary sign and cannot remain in the same location for more than 2 weeks at a time. It seems to be having the desired effect of prompting drivers to keep within the speed limit and proving very popular with those live nearby. We shall be deploying the sign in Rogate next in rotation as soon as a new traffic post has been installed.

We received strong support from Trotton to look at the speed indicator devices along the A272 and are in conversation with Trotton Parish Council around sharing the cost of a second SID.

Just a reminder the neighbourhood plan consultation period closes on the 14th December. Please view and comment. The plan can be inspected at www.southdowns.gov.uk/rnnp.

Our plans to refurbish the bench at the Dell and erect a bus shelter near the Flying Bull, Rake for children travelling to Bohunt School have been delayed due to Covid restrictions. Most of the Sussex Volunteers, who kindly carry out this work, travel from Worthing and current restriction will not allow them to travel together.

Don't forget - if you have some spare time we are still looking for new councillors and also volunteers to help with the speed watch project.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!