

Rogate Parish Council

First a small piece of Brexit news. Oh no, not that again I hear you shout. The second speed indicator device we ordered is currently trapped in France awaiting some kind of customs documentation. Sure, this will sort itself out, in the meantime we will carry on with the one device, which is currently working its way round the Parish.

Some definite good news is that the Government imposed lockdown 3 regulation which forced the closure of the Outdoor Gym has been lifted. This is now back open for use.

The pub feasibility study has now been received and the verdict was that with the right business model and support from the village it should be possible for the pub to become a going concern again. This conclusion was reached based on a number of caveats and the right conditions prevailing. Work has now started on the business plan and more detail will be shown later in the magazine. If this project moves to the point where the right plan can be pulled together the next couple of months are going to be busy.

I mentioned in a previous issue that we were looking at reducing the number of Councillors from 13 to 9. We have now heard back from WSCC that the Boundary panel are meeting to discuss our application on the 1st March, so more next month.

For those who have seen the gaping hole in the bridge at Habin - the bridge is a scheduled national monument so highways have to go through a number of hoops before work can start. They have now reached the stage where approval has been given by Historic England and the work is now out to tender. We have suggested that a bollard is placed just before the bridge balustrade to prevent further damage. Not sure we will be listened to, we can but try. When we move out of COVID we will resurrect the proposal to restrict use of heavy vehicles on this narrow stretch of road.

Many of you will have noticed the large concreted works area on North Street, which is currently being used by SSE as the base for the local upgrade of our power supply by routing 4 higher capacity cable lines between Fernhurst and Petersfield. After many months of trying we have now been assured the concrete base will be removed and the soil reinstated once the work is complete.

Steve Williamson has continued to work hard on the Neighbourhood plan and, along with SDNP, has been providing additional information as requested by the inspector. The hope is to have a public event (Covid restrictions permitting) and referendum in May along with the local elections. Updated information is available on our website www.rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk

As a final point the 2021 census is heading our way open the 21st March. Much more on this from the Government and West Sussex Council over the coming month.

Max Harwood, Chairman
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