

REPORT FROM ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

ES&BG parish council met on Wednesday 12th April at Bishops Green Village Hall. All councillors were present including those from the borough and county.

The report from the Council included a reminder that on 23rd April there will be a test for the National Alert System which is transferred to any up-to-date mobile phones. So, if your phone suddenly emits some strange noises on that day, you will know what it is from and that it is a government test.

Basingstoke and Deane have extended their Cost of Living crisis funding and are providing a further £1million for families most affected by the cost of living crisis. It is suggested that those who might be eligible for extra funds keep an eye on the Basingstoke and Deane website to check whether they are eligible and how to apply. The criteria for eligibility will change this time; full information will be posted on our website when we have the details.

On more local matters, a reminder that our Neighbourhood plan has passed examination and is going for referendum organised by Basingstoke and Deane on 4th May. Please go to the BDBC website for full information on the plan at <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/ESBGNP>.

Our new Speed Indicator Device (SID) is due to arrive on 16th April. It will begin its working life at Malthouse Farm and then be moved by kind volunteers to allocated spaces throughout the parish. Let us hope it will have the desired effect on the continued menace of dangerous, speeding drivers!

There has been a complaint that the allotments are again being used as a walk-through by a few persons able to get over the gate. This is unsettling for those who come to their allotments for a bit of peace - as well as hard work, so please desist. It isn't a public footpath and should not be used as a cut through. On a related point there are still a couple of allotments vacant. Please contact the clerk if you are interested in renting one.

Basingstoke and Deane Community Officers, the police, local housing associations and the Parish Council continue to work hard with regard to the anti-social behaviour that persists in Bishops Green. There are numerous programmes in place to try to alleviate this problem.

Finally, the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday, 10th May at 7pm in Ecchinswell Village Hall. This will be followed by the Annual Assembly at 7.30pm. As well as the annual PC reports there will be talks by Greenham Trust and our local BDBC Community Officer followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome. We also still have a vacancy on the parish council and if anyone is interested it would be a good moment to see the work we do. **Please do come along on 10th May at Ecchinswell Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

Cllr Caroline Parkes