

The Parish council is very pleased to welcome Caroline Parkes from Bishops Green as the newest member of our team. She was co-opted onto the council at October's meeting and we are looking forward to working with her. There is only one vacancy left, so if you feel called to represent your community, do please come along to our next meeting to find out more, or contact any of the councillors to chat.

Our County Councillor Derek Mellor was also present and is now aware of HGVs getting to Featherbed Lane before realising that the roads are unsuitable, and they will have significant problems should they continue to go this way. He is looking into getting 'Unsuitable for HGV' signage at the A339 roundabout before the HGVs come through Bishops Green. Many thanks to the residents that highlighted this issue. The PCSOs have been more visible lately and anti-social behaviour issues are down locally.

As a Parish we have joined the charity, Campaign to Protect Rural England. Do look at their website to find out more or to join as an individual.

To commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Greenham Trust is arranging for trees to be planted. We have applied for five trees to plant in our Parish. On a similar theme don't forget we have allotments available at the moment. It's a rewarding way to grow your own pesticide free fruit and veg, get exercise, and help the environment.

The News From The Villages magazine distributor for our parish is retiring, so the call is out for a new volunteer or group of volunteers to do this. The task takes around 3 hours a month. Bishops Green Village Hall is also looking for trustees. There are so many opportunities to get involved with your community right now, so I do encourage you to take the plunge and see how you can make a difference.

News from the speeding working party is that the line marking team have put in place 'SLOW' markings where we asked but unfortunately the 'dragon's teeth' we requested were not able to be painted as the road was too narrow, however we have requested another 'SLOW' marking instead. The Speed Indicator Device is still something we are hoping to organise in the coming months.

A group from the PC and Neighbourhood Planning team met with a representative of BDBC to discuss the borough's Local Plan update. BDBC are proposing an allocation of 15 new homes for our parish over their next plan period and they intend to provide our two main villages (Bishops Green and Ecchinswell) with Settlement Boundary Plans. The PC and Neighbourhood Planning Team will work with BDBC on the details of this.

A friendly reminder to our parishioners to please check your boundaries for overhanging vegetation.

Lastly there is an Act of Remembrance on Sunday 14th November at 9.15am at the war memorial in Ecchinswell attended by the Royal British Legion, followed by a service in the church. We do hope to see many of you there.

Our next parish council meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday November 10th at Bishops Green Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Cllr Rachael Coward