

Magazine Article for November 2018

The Parish Council meeting took place at the Ecchinswell Village Hall on the 10th October. There were no members of the public present.

Our County Councillor, Derek Mellor, reported that although the cost of providing adult social care is 1.3 million pounds a day HCC are keeping within budget and in the main keeping the elderly in their own homes for as long as possible. He also had positive news regarding education. Hampshire schools have come out on average four per cent above the national average in the recent SATS tests. Road maintenance is still well on schedule with one million square metres of potholes successfully repaired. As you may have noticed the Ecchinswell to Bishops Green road is marked up ready for attention.

Parishes along the route of the A339 are expressing concern regarding increased pressure on this road once the new housing developments in Basingstoke, Newbury and Thatcham are completed. A working party has been formed to provide improved access from the feeder roads between Basingstoke and Newbury. The Manydown project in Basingstoke will not be completed until 2021 so this is a long term project. We will provide updates on the progress that is being made

We have a vacancy on the Parish Council at this time. If anyone is interested in joining a great team please contact our clerk on clerk@ecchinswell-PC.gov.uk. Likewise there are still several allotment plots available. If anyone would like to find out more please contact the above e-mail address.

We are awaiting further information from HARA following the survey that was undertaken. We hope to be able to provide an update in the near future.

I am sure most of you have noticed that the soldier silhouettes are now displayed at the War Memorial in readiness for the Remembrance Day Service. This will take place on the Sunday 11th November at 9.00 am at St Lawrence's Church in Ecchinswell. Local resident Ron Woodroof has kindly donated two sacks of daffodils to plant around the Memorial. This has been done and let's hope that we can all enjoy a wonderful display in the spring.

The unsightly telephone box has now been removed from opposite the school and following a generous donation from the May Fayre Committee the project will commence to begin landscaping the area. This will include shrubs, plants and a bench for people to enjoy what we hope will be a lovely garden.

By the time this report reaches you all the annual pond clearance will have taken place. Many thanks to all who have helped make the day a success. Particularly the Basingstoke Volunteer Group without whose help the work could not be undertaken.

Our meeting will be on the 14th November. All members of the public are very welcome to attend.

Cllr Jackie Bayliss