

ES&BG

Ecchinswell, Sydmonton & Bishops Green Parish Council

Welcome to this, my first contribution to the Parish Magazine. As I have already been asked to write a piece in September I only hope this initial effort lives up to expectations!

The monthly Parish Council meeting took place on the 14th May 2014 at the Ecchinswell Village Hall where we welcomed a number of public participants and also two new councillors.

There is so much going on in the Parish it is difficult to decide what to include and what to save for another day. For this issue however I think we should firstly congratulate all of the organisers and participants in the May Fair on Sunday 4th May. It was a very entertaining and well attended event with the added interest of a number of 'Beasties' and 'Monsters' guarding the approaches to the village, and ensuring that the nominated charities – Air Ambulance and St Michaels Hospice benefited accordingly. Finally, whoever organised the weather deserves special thanks and should be given the job next year!

The condition of the roads continues to be an emotive issue, with potholes the number one enemy. We work closely with Hampshire County Council to ensure that they and their contractors respond promptly and efficiently, but would remind you that the Council are obliged to investigate claims for any damage caused to your vehicle and we therefore encourage you to use this process by initially logging on to www3.hants.gov.uk/roadproblems, and follow the links.

Staying on the subject of traffic and roads we are in constant communication with the Highways Agency and the Police to see how we can resolve the ongoing problem of cars and vans speeding through our village. Our objective in all this is to come up with a plan which works for the whole village, and is endorsed by the majority of residents. Be patient and watch this space and rest assured the PC is doing everything it can.

You will have seen on the notice boards in the Parish that this year we have an uncontested election on May 22nd. We would like to thank the four outgoing councillors, Malcolm Jones, Margaret Curtis, Ian Cameron and Alan Meredith, for their hard work and commitment. Their input has been invaluable. Malcolm and Ian have given around 50 years between them and both Margaret and Malcolm still continue to give their time and good works to the community.

There are still two vacancies on the council and if anyone feels they have a little time and lots of enthusiasm to contribute to the cause please contact clerk@ecchinswell-pc.gov.uk.

P.S. A gentle reminder to all aspiring chefs. As the summer seems to have arrived gentlemen, please remember that thieves also like barbecues, (generally other peoples), so keep yours secure when not in use.

Dates for your diaries

Wednesday 4th June at 7.00pm - The Annual General Meeting, held at Ecchinswell Village Hall. Our next Council meeting will be held after the AGM at 7.30pm

Wednesday 9th July at 7.30pm - The Annual Parish Assembly held at Ecchinswell Village Hall.

Michael Sparrow – Parish Councillor