

## **Ecchinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green – Parish News**

At this month's Parish Council Meeting, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, we were joined by a few parishioners and Tom Thacker, County Councillor.

Whilst not responsible for the land at Digweeds, the Parish Council continues to work with the Parochial Church Council and neighbouring landowners to arrange for a tree surgeon to remove the four trees that have fallen in the area, as well as those that have potential safety implications. We have made a grant contribution to the PCC to assist in expediting this work.

We have received a number of letters recently related to vehicles speeding in our Parish. The Parish Council always raises these concerns with the Highways Agency and Police. We have requested that the Police re-visit our area with their speed cameras so please be aware. We all recognise that there is a problem, however there is something that we can ALL do...which is to observe and respect the speed limits.

Please would you ask your friends and family in the villages to remember these observations and guidelines:

- The risk of death is approximately four times higher when a pedestrian is hit at 40mph than at 30mph
- Fatal accidents are four times as likely on rural "A" roads as urban "A" roads
- The speed limit is a limit not a target
- In some road conditions, including fog and rain and traffic flow, even driving at the speed limit could be too fast.

Finally, good news. Tom Thacker, our Hampshire County Councillor has been working tirelessly on our behalf for us to be able to utilise the Newtown Road Recycling Centre just across the county "border" in Berkshire. The result is that Hampshire residents living close to the West Berkshire border and more than 10 miles away from a Hampshire household waste recycling centre (HWRC) will receive a permit to allow them to use West Berkshire Council's HWRC at Newtown Road. This will apply to all of our Parishioners and is, as I am you sure you will agree, an excellent outcome. Permits are being sent out from 20<sup>th</sup> December, so you may have already received your permit by the time you read this! Many thanks again to Tom Thacker for his action and support.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year and, if you have something to raise with us, I hope you might join us at our January meeting in Ecchinswell Village Hall on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan at 7.30pm.

Cllr Samantha Keyse