

The latest meeting of the Ecchinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green Parish Council took place on Wednesday 11th October at the Ecchinswell Village Hall.

Borough Councillor, John Izett, reported that a sample survey to gauge opinion on fortnightly refuse collections had been undertaken. It had been thought that this may have been an area where savings could have been made. However, there was a definite lack of support for the idea and he confirmed that in view of this there would be no change to the existing weekly arrangement.

County Councillor, Derek Mellor, reported that from next spring our area should benefit from a new machine called a Jetpatcher which will greatly improve the existing method of repairing potholes. This has already been tested successfully in Oxfordshire with better quality repairs which are proving to be much more durable. Unfortunately, the appearance of potholes remains an ongoing problem but the Council have worked hard to devise a more efficient system of logging information received by the public. Derek advised that it is important that complaints are entered online on the Highways Department website where a tracking number will be generated. Once created this will follow the repair through to conclusion and gives an individual record of each repair undertaken.

Litter is an ongoing problem in the Parish and the Borough Council will be issuing three more bins to try to help the situation. Their location has not yet been decided. BT has agreed to remove the two telephone kiosks located in Ecchinswell and Bishops Green. Neither is in use and both have become unsightly. The date for their removal has yet to be confirmed.

Finally, the annual pond clearance took place on Sunday 8th October. There was a good response with over twenty volunteers taking part. This enabled a good section of weed to be cleared improving the habitat for wildlife as well as enhancing a beautiful area of our community. As you can see from the photo below it was an enjoyable exercise and we are hoping for even more support next year. It really was a great way to catch up with friends and neighbours as well as enjoying a barbeque in the sunshine.



The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for 8th November at the Ecchinswell Village Hall and as always members of the public are very welcome.

Councillor Jackie Bayliss