

ECCHINSWELL. SYDMONTON & BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

On behalf of all at the Parish Council, we wish you a happy and healthy new year. We still have a couple of allotments available and it's the perfect time of year to prepare the ground for the growing season.

It was lovely to meet a couple of the Ecchinswell primary school board of governors who came to represent the school. They hope to get involvement from the parish council and larger community for their ongoing library project and other potential ventures in the pipeline. They have various ideas of projects including a new set of tablets and fence repairs. Check out their library project on the good exchange website at the link below, where you can donate. All donations are match funded. The school are also having a gardening day in the spring which you are welcome to attend.

<https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/19619/ecchinswell-and-sydmonton-ce-primary/bringing-literacy-to-life---a-new-library-project>

Fortunately, our borough councillor John Izett was at our meeting and was able to point them in the direction of community grants and the Governors were keen to continue their discussions with Cllr Izett.

Looking at our village roads and the continued blight of speeding, we are pleased to report the speed indicator device (SID) has been purchased and we are just waiting for an estimated time of arrival for delivery. As we have two poles already in place that can be used immediately, we should have this up and running in the not too distant future. Hampshire County Council will be installing three more poles in the next few months which means we can move our SID to alternate positions every so often to keep drivers on their toes. We are hoping that the SID will help the majority of drivers be more aware of their speed and help improve things within the parish.

We are hoping Hampshire County Council will also be improving signage at both ends of the village so long vehicles can better understand that they cannot drive through and destroy our bridge. This was fixed on 7th November and within 2 days was damaged again! Thankfully a kind resident has done as much as they can to fix the bridge again, but it needs to be done properly and made safe again. The signage is long overdue and really needs to be in place as soon as possible.

In other news West Berkshire is in the consultation phase of their local plan update and Burghclere is in the final consultation phase of their neighbourhood plan. Our own neighbourhood plan is now under examination. We very much hope that it will be ready for voting on in the spring.

A save the date for your diary - the annual pond clearance potential date is Sunday 15th October! A long way off but we always get lots of volunteers and their help is very much needed and greatly appreciated.

Please like or follow our Facebook page and website for the latest news and events as they happen.

Cllr Rachael Coward