

## LOPPINGTON PARISH COUNCIL – Annual Report April 2017 – March 2018

Fairly quiet year for the Parish Council.

### **1. Elections**

Elections took place on 4th May and LPC are fortunate that it returned 6 of its councillors and co-opted Rob Stokes and one new councillor Simon Parker to fill the final vacancy bringing the parish council to full complement

### **2. Financial**

The Council received a satisfactory Auditors report for the financial year 2016/2017. The results of the audit can be viewed online. Documents for 2017/18 will be posted on the noticeboards and website and available to view once the audit has been completed.

### **3. Highways**

Shropshire Council carried out carriageway resurfacing on the last summer. There are issues with the speed limits around Burlton which will be the subject of future agenda items for the Parish Council.

### **4. Planning**

Shropshire Council is obliged to consult the Parish Council regarding planning applications in Loppington. The Parish Council responded to 9 applications during 2017. The consultation of Shropshire Council partial review of local plan closed in December 2017, so the review is continuing & we await the outcome of that although this is unlikely to affect Loppington as open countryside to the degree that it will affect the hubs and clusters.

### **5. Community Infrastructure Levy**

The Parish Council received £1,111.00 from the neighbourhood fund during the last financial year 2014/15 £1,000.00 of which went towards supporting the Village Hall there has been no new development which might have raised any neighbourhood funding in Loppington.

### **6. SPEN**

Major issue in the parish is the construction of the Scottish Power lines. SPEN has chosen the northern route based on initial consultations as being the least intrusive to the majority of residents. LPC has not currently taken a formal view with regard to a preferred route as there were objections to both the north and south route. Between November 2017 and February 2018 SPEN carried out the statutory consultation stage prior to submission to the Secretary of State for permission & we await the responses to the formal consultation.

## **7. Youth Provision in Shropshire**

Shropshire Council recently consulted on funding for youth provision which would have affected Loppington had funding been withdrawn. We understand that Loppington Youth Club has benefitted in the past to the tune of £500 p.a. for the last 3 years. The report to the Cabinet on 28<sup>th</sup> February allocated funding to the local LJC committee maintaining the status quo.

## **8. Parish Amenities**

The Council wishes to express its appreciation and thanks all those volunteers and organisations who have helped maintain Council property including the War Memorial, Pump, Tan Pit, Burlton Bus Shelter and Notice boards, and kept public areas clean and tidy by repainting, planting, grass cutting, weeding and general maintenance.

The Council continues to contribute towards the upkeep of St. Michael's Churchyard and support AED volunteers. Work to the Tan Pit continues albeit slowly!

## **9. Public Relations**

The Council continues to publish council matters and issues in the Village News and holds public participation sessions during its Parish Council meetings. The Clerk continues to add to the website. Agendas and Minutes can be viewed online.

## **10. Meetings and Consultations**

Members of the Parish Council have continued to represent the Parish on Shropshire Association of Local Councils and Shropshire Area Committee of the Association. Members represent the Parish on Shropshire Council Wem and Shawbury Local Area Committee. The Parish Council thanks Shropshire Councillor Brian Williams for his continued help and support as our elected representative on Shropshire Council.

## **11. Crime and Safety**

The Council thanks David Edge who has continued the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for the Parish. Reported crime in the area is low. Crime map and reported crime can be viewed on the West Mercia police website.

L.J. McCormack

March 2018