

## LOPPINGTON PARISH COUNCIL – Annual Report April 2019 – March 2020

### **1. Financial**

The Council received a satisfactory Auditors report for the financial year 2018/2019. The results of the audit can be viewed online. Documents for 2019/20 will be posted on the noticeboards and website and available to view once the audit has been completed.

### **2. Highways**

Our parish plan identified speeding as an issue particularly in Burlton. Shropshire Council has provisionally agreed the locations of the new solar panel speed signs for Burlton and Loppington (appendix A). The Chairman of the Parish Council is currently negotiating with Morelock signs for installation of the same.

### **3. Planning**

The Parish Council responded to 14 applications during 2019 and held one extra ordinary meeting in March.

### **4. Parish Plan**

Rural Community Council for Shropshire, a charity which supports local groups and organisations attended the Parish Council meeting in November. RCC gave a presentation explaining the community engagement process and what can be offered by the organization to support parish councils with particular reference to the parish plan procedure. Support with the initial process, such as advice with structure and recruitment of a steering group and structuring of questionnaires are free of charge as the charity is funded by DEFRA grants. Design of questions, freepost, online survey forms and analysis is charged for.

### **5. SPEN**

A major issue in the parish is the construction of the Scottish Power lines. The Planning Inspectorate completed their examination on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and issued recommendations to the Secretary of State on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019. The Secretary of State has three months in which to issue a decision (by 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020).

Documents can be viewed on the planning portal

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/west-midlands/reinforcement-to-north-shropshire-electricity-distribution-network/>

the link is on the news page of LPC website.

## **6. Parish Amenities**

The Parish Council submitted a condition survey report to War Memorial Trust with a view to repairing the base of the memorial. The Trust has responded suggesting commissioning a suitably experienced stone mason to assess the memorial and determine what repairs they would recommend.

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. Work is continuing on the Tan Pit area.

The Council continues to contribute towards the upkeep of St. Michael's Churchyard and support for AED volunteers.

## **7. Community Benefit Fund**

The Parish Council received one application from Wem Tennis Club in 2019 for financial assistance. There is one application scheduled for the March LPC meeting from Loppington Village Hall Committee.

## **8. Public Relations**

The Council continues to support the Village News and holds public participation sessions during its Parish Council meetings.

## **9. 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, Shawbury Helicopter Noise Liaison Group and others as necessary. The Parish Council thanks Shropshire Councillor Brian Williams for his continued help and support as our elected representative on Shropshire Council.

## **10. 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.

LPC

March 2020

Appendix A

