

TEWIN PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

May 2021

It has been a difficult year for everybody. The Parish Council had to cancel some meetings, but its work has carried on.

It has been two years since our last report. Last year it was not considered safe for the normal distribution network to operate.

In June 2019, the Upper Green Playground was extended and resurfaced to accommodate extra equipment donated by the Friends of Tewin. The playground has always been very popular but has been of even greater benefit during the restrictions of the last year. We have kept it open as much as possible, and relied on resident's common sense in observing social distancing etc.

Every year, the Parish Council does a risk assessment around the village to pick up on potential problems and other work that needs doing. Every few years, we also have a professional inspection of all the trees that we are responsible for, and have any necessary remedial work done. There is also a professional inspection of the playground each year to ensure that it remains safe.

Tewin Village Stores finally managed to buy the freehold of their premises, and the Parish Council was able to donate £20,000 towards this project.

Following vandalism, the Parish Council improved the phone box by replacing all the old window panels. We are grateful to the landlord of the Rose & Crown, who recently arranged to have the phone box repainted.

The illuminated Christmas Tree on Lower Green is a popular feature each year. Last Christmas we had a new tree donated by Friends of Tewin. When we can get Affinity Water to remember what they have already agreed to, then we will have a water connection on the green to water the tree automatically. In the meantime we are grateful to the local resident who kept the old tree going for as long as possible and has been watering the new tree during this year's early dry spell.

After a public consultation, we decided not to go ahead with a suggestion for a footpath along the Hertford Road verge, but we still support efforts by the DriveSafe Team to have a 20mph zone in the Lower Green area. In the meantime, the DriveSafe Team were successful in getting a second speed device installed on School Lane, and the Parish Council paid for Highways to install better signage either side of the Churchfield Road bridge. We have also accepted a quote to have the footpaths on Lower Green resurfaced.

Following the sad news of the death of the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, the Lower Green flag was flown at half mast, and a message of condolence submitted to the Royal Family website.

As Chairman, I wish to thank the other members of the Parish Council, our two District Councillors, and our County Councillor for their help and support; and our clerk for getting everything implemented, and keeping the finances in order.

The Parish Council thanks everybody who has helped the Parish through the virus emergency whether by individual action, or part of an organised group; or as a business or employee.

Special thanks for the efforts of the Village Shop. We all look forward to better times ahead.

The Parish Precept for 2021-22 is £31,500.

All Parish Councillors are unpaid volunteers and all Council business is decided by a majority vote.

Parish Council documentation is on the Tewin Village website.