

## **Chiddingly Parish Council**

**Road Closure:** Gun Hill will be subject to road closures for the first two weeks of February while the road is resurfaced. We welcome this long-overdue attention to the roads of this parish, but are at a loss to explain the decision making process that selects this particular stretch of road and ignores other parts of the same road, and other roads that are in far worse condition. We will continue to meet with representatives of East Sussex Highways, and take them on guided tours of the parish at regular intervals.

In the meantime please use the East Sussex Highways web site to report problems with the roads. Not only pot holes, but crumbling edges, degraded surfaces and blocked drains. Not only do repeated reports help concentrate the minds of the Highways Department, but if a problem is reported, and not fixed in a timely manner then ESCC will pay compensation for damage caused to vehicles, but only if the problem has been reported.

**Openness:** As part of its commitment to openness and transparency the Parish Council has approved new policies on the publication of parish council papers prior to meetings, and on the recording of council meetings by members of the council. These policies are available on the Parish Council web site. Documents published by the Parish Council prior to meetings will appear on the Parish Council web site on the Meetings Page where you will also find Agendas and Minutes.

**Glebe Field:** Subject to a few details to be approved by our solicitor the council approved the new lease for the Glebe Field to allow the establishment of a Community Orchard on the site surrounding the Millennium Sculpture Garden. Please look out for announcements from the Millennium Garden Trustees for further details. We expect there to be some planting in February/March this year followed by some more next Winter/Spring of 2018/2019

**Parish Emergency Plan:** The current draft of the Parish Emergency Plan will be appearing on the council website in the next few weeks. Keep any eye out for further announcements from me. Your comments will be welcome.

**Superfast (or Fibre) Broadband:** I hear that fibre broadband is now available to subscribers in Whitesmith. If you live in the Whitesmith area just contact your Internet Service Provider and ask them about the services they can offer. Despite what some BT Openreach engineers have been telling people fibre broadband is available from suppliers other than BT Broadband.

I know there are still some areas of the Parish not covered by fibre. In order to try to gain a picture of what the situation is now like I ask that if you cannot get fibre broadband or if you know of anyone who can't get it could you please let me know ([chairman@chiddingly.gov.uk](mailto:chairman@chiddingly.gov.uk)). If you let me have the telephone number and the post code where fibre broadband is not available then the Parish Council can take it up with East Sussex Broadband.

Mike Goss, Chairman, 01825 872016, [chairman@chiddingly.gov.uk](mailto:chairman@chiddingly.gov.uk)

And should you want to email the whole council you can use [council@chiddingly.gov.uk](mailto:council@chiddingly.gov.uk)

Claudine Feltham, Clerk to the Parish Council, 01435 810439, [clerk@chiddingly.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chiddingly.gov.uk)

**Talk To Us:** If you have any questions or comments please ask any councillor or the clerk. You will find a councillor in the village shop on the third Saturday of the month 10-11am, or at the Saturday Morning Market in the Village Hall on the first Saturday of the month 10-12noon . You may also find a councillor or three on most Friday evenings in the Six Bells around 7pm.