

# **Chappel Parish Council. 12th October 2020**

## **Ward Cllr's Report**

### **1. General**

With Covid infection rising in Essex, by the time this meeting takes place, the government may have announced further restrictions and these may relate to local areas rather than nationally. It will be important when the announcement comes the new rules are clear to avoid further confusion in people's minds as to what they can and cannot do. Infections in Colchester are still low compared with west Essex, but this could so easily change. It is good that people in Chappel and Wakes Colne are distancing and using masks when attending Chris's shop.

The Borough's Full Council meets virtually on 21st October when Cllr Nick Cope who will have completed 18 months as Mayor, hands over to Cllr Robert Davidson, who will be Mayor until May 2022. The election of the new Deputy Mayor also takes place. At this meeting there will be important debates on the Planning White Paper and Council's financial position.

The new Environment and Sustainability Panel, successor to the Task & Finish Group advising Council on implementing the Climate Emergency Declaration, met virtually in September. Its remit is to push forward this agenda and to monitor progress. The Leader of the Council, Cllr Mark Cory was elected Chairman with myself as Deputy Chairman. With the appointment of a dedicated officer and continuing work with the Carbon Trust, I am pleased to say progress is being made in reducing our carbon footprint. One action to note is the move to replace the use of Glyphosphate on Council land together with allowing many grassed areas in the Borough to remain unmanaged to encourage biodiversity. I will up-date you in future reports.

### **2. Planning**

Agenda item 20/147 6); this was not determined, I understand the application was withdrawn by the applicant. The land is incorporated in the holding known as Meadow Green Farm, now run as an equestrian unit.

There are new traveller occupants at Orchard Place. Pitches were sold and mobile homes were moved off with new ones arriving over several days in September. A contractor cut back trees and hedges in Vernons Road with no consultation with land owners. However, there does seem to be a reduction of litter being left by car drivers in Vernons Road since their arrival! I suspect one or two persons were regular culprits.

If any one has questions on these items or any other Council matter, please raise them at the appropriate time when I attend your virtual meeting on Monday.

**Peter Chillingworth**

**10 October 2020**