

Bunny Parish Council Chairman Report 2022-2023

Bunny Parish Council has experienced some major changes this year with the retirement of our long term clerk of 30 year Mr Mike Elliot and also Jayne who was his secretary for 16 years. It was the responsibility of the Parish Council to recruit a suitable replacement to ensure the smooth running of our council and we welcome Mrs Linda Price who joined as clerk.

With some recovery from the Covid19 pandemic the bookings for the village hall have been slow to pick up however people are now starting to feel more comfortable to socialise again. In February 2022 Russia invaded Ukraine and this effected people's emotions and to show solidarity the community favoured the Ukraine flag to be flown in the Parish.

Furthermore, on 8th September 2022 saw the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, a very sad day for the nation. Operation London Bridge was implemented up and down the country and within a month into her new clerkship Mrs Price managed to co-ordinate with myself and members from the community to ensure smooth running of procedures and protocol's given by the palace. A "Book of Condolence" was placed by Bunny's St Mary's Church entrance for the community to sign and Mr Pete Pearson did the honours of bringing the Union jack flag to half-mast and then to full mast for the proclamation of accession of the King Charles III during, and half-mast again for the mourning period.

We also announce our sad loss of our Parish Council member Cllr Dick Wilson who was an active member in our community, passionate about neighbourhood watch and road safety and community cohesion. We will greatly miss his presence and in his honour a minutes silence has taken place during the February Parish Council meeting.

The Parish Council would like to say thank you to Cllr John Alldred for his service as he resigned from his post after 16 years as a Parish Council member. His gentleness, kindness and his wisely advice will be greatly missed by our members. Thank you to Mr Chris Rogers for his time devoted to the Council work and especially work in energy solutions for the village which he will continue. We would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to our Borough Council Cllr Reg Adair for his long service, he will continue as our County Councillor.

A further thank you to our Parish Council members Cllr David Beckford (vice Chair), Cllr John Alldred, Cllr Steve Stubs, Cllr Maria Webb and Cllr Kevin Cannon. I appreciate your dedication, support, your knowledge and advice. I have enjoyed working with you all and look forward to our new challenges and projects we will work on together in the future.

A special thank you goes to our new Clerk Linda Price who had a challenging new start, she maintained her enthusiasm throughout and has been a tremendous asset to our Parish Council with her continued help and advice we are able to apply changes which will benefit our village in many ways. Thank you again for all your hard work, you have made a difference.

Great news for this coming year, we have two members from the public who would like to join our team which will still leave two space available on the council.

A surprise event took place in Bunny during March, a Kit-Kat 10ft Chocolate rabbit appeared on the Village Green on 25th of March causing quite some excitement with tickle-tease drone footage of Bunny Hall showing giant rabbit feet in their grounds prior to the event as well as some radio

broadcasts. Kit-Kat brought over 700 mini-chocolate bunnies for all our community members to enjoy and have donated a very large chocolate basket for us to sample. Bunny is now a little more famous and no doubt the envy of our neighbouring villages. Kit-Kat has also donated £1,000 to the PC as well as £400 for the project "Bench with a view". Thank you to Kit-Kat for this exciting event and their generosity.

We would like to thank our voluntary members of our community,

- Bunny Improvement Group (BIG) – Many projects in our community including; decorating of wooden bunnies on special occasions, maintenance of planters, and many other projects with special thanks for the installation of the Queen's Bench.
- Church warden and team, Penny Wakefield, Mrs Paul and Steve Stubs, flowers by Mrs Brown and Mrs Galega.
- Team Bunny Bulletin, Mr Paul, Mrs Paul and Mrs Chris Brown.
- History society and Lunch Bunch, Mrs Eastgate and team.
- Flowers for the village by Olenka.
- Team Church Coffee, cakes by Mrs Chris Kirr.
- Flag master Mr Pete Pearson.
- Bunny Social, Mrs Julie Rutter and her team.
- Mr Norbury our Bunny flood, water and drainage expert.
- Mr John Berridge and team for Environmental, sustainability and energy solution for Bunny Village.
- Kevin Cannon and family for Bunny Facebook page.
- WI by Bradmore and Bunny ladies.
- Neighbourhood watch and Speed watch team.
- Footpath warden Pete Pearson.

With your hard work and dedication to improve our lives further in our community we are very grateful for all your time that you donate to us, a heartfelt thanks to you all.

Village hall update, the war in Ukraine caused a price hike in petrol, gas and electricity and also contributed to the cost of living crisis in England and this further impacted hire of the village hall although bookings through the week are a little slow we have had an increase in bookings at the weekend for parties. We have had a small set back with the burst water pipe in the roof space in December but are hoping with more lagging and insulation this will not happen again. Furthermore, Bunny Primary School also suffered a burst water pipe in their classroom and now Hawthorn class have moved into our village hall since April, a month earlier than expected as the school is going to undergo an installation of an air-source heat pump in the next six months. We welcome Bunny Primary School and it is so nice to see the village hall used as a classroom for the first time since 1960's when it used to be the village primary school.

We had our first open public meeting with Johnsons Aggregates in March with good attendance from the community. We will maintain communication with Johnsons and more meetings will be arranged in the future.

Projects for 2023-2024 (To be discussed at our Parish Council meeting in May)

- Kings Coronation Celebration, picnic and a party taking place 7th May.
- Kit-Kat "Bench with a view".
- Improvement for the village hall; floor, doors, cooker, etc.
- Further communication with Johnsons Aggregates.
- Financial improvement in the village.
- Improvement of the Bunny Webpage www.bunny.org
- Bunny flood and drainage.
- Energy solutions for the village.
- Continue to work in partnership with Bunny and Bradmore Charities.

Some further good news, Mrs Janet Eastgate has been invited to the Royal Garden Party after nomination by her friends from our community to recognise all the hard work she has done for the village over the years. We have many more hard working community members in our village so watch the space with further nominations.

Finally, our Village Kings Coronation event which took place on the 7th May was a successful event with many villagers and children attending the event and we have some fantastic photo's marking this occasion.

Thank you,

Izumi Featherstone,

Chairman of Bunny Parish Council