

Bishop's Itchington
ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING
2021



Welcome to the 2021 annual village meeting. This is a chance to look back on the past year, to celebrate our achievements as a community and discuss any current issues.

**Bishop's Itchington Annual Village Meeting
26 April 2021 at 7.30pm**

AGENDA

1. Welcome from the Chairman – Councillor Adam Dugmore
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the annual village meeting held on 29 April 2019
4. Parish council annual report for the year ended 31 March 2021
5. Parish council financial report for the year ended 31 March 2021
6. Reports from village organisations
7. Reports from county and district councillors
8. Questions and answers session
9. Close of meeting



Minutes of Bishop's Itchington Annual Village Meeting
29 April 2019 at 7.30pm
Bishop's Itchington Memorial Hall

Present

Cllr Dugmore (Chairman of BIPC) Cllr Christian-Carter Cllr M Mann
Cllr Heatley Cllr Kettle

County Cllr Stevens
Alison Biddle (Parish Clerk)
Hugh Tottle (Harbury e-Wheels)
16 Members of the public

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Dugmore who welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

1. Harbury e-Wheels

Hugh Tottle had been invited to give a short presentation on the work of Harbury e-Wheels, a community transport scheme which is supported by the parish council for the benefit of local residents. Mr Tottle provided an interesting overview of the origins of the scheme and its ethos – to provide free green transport for needy people. Since it began in 2015, the scheme has continued to gain popularity and has provided a total of 3,800 hours of free transport with approximately 240 pick-ups in Bishop's Itchington. The scheme runs 2 electric cars, has 12 voluntary drivers and 6 co-ordinators. It serves 44 different localities and provides transport to medical appointments, shopping trips, counselling appointments, the Job Centre, social events and makes regular deliveries to the local food bank. It costs approximately £10k per annum to run the scheme. This is funded by £2,500 from regular donors, £2,500 from fund raising events and £5,000 from other sources such as grants from parish councils. The scheme has charity status which has provided the opportunity of more funding streams.

2. Apologies: Karl Curtis of WWT (Bishop's Hill Nature Reserve)

3. Minutes of the Annual Village Meeting 30 April 2018

It was agreed (proposed Carolyn Went, seconded by Beccy McDaid) to accept the minutes of the annual village meeting held on 30 April 2018 as a true and complete record of that meeting.

4. Bishop's Itchington PC Annual Report Year Ended 31 March 2018

Cllr Dugmore highlighted the WW1 centenary commemoration which was a fantastic village event. It was well supported and very poignant at times. He congratulated and thanked everyone involved. The new traffic calming has been in place for over a year

now. In the main, speeds are reduced, according to the surveys that have been undertaken so things have improved although there are still a few problems. The recent road closures on account of HS2 have been challenging and have caused many people to seek a short cut along Ladbroke Road. People were asked to report any problems of speeding and poor driving to the PC and the police. The pavilion group is making positive progress. The parish council now has an office in the village and is looking forward to seeing more people. Local elections are taking place in a few days' time. Unfortunately, there were not enough candidates for the parish council to hold a contested election. There are 4 vacant seats which will now be filled by co-option. People were asked to get in touch if they were interested. Cllr Dugmore thanked all the retiring councillors and those remaining as well as new councillors. He also thanked all the council's staff and community groups.

A resident asked if the results of the traffic surveys could be shared. This will be made publicly available.

5. Parish Council Financial Report 2017/18

Details of the council's accounts for the last year were included in the printed booklet provided. Cllr Kettle explained how the precept had been raised and that the council prepared a detailed budget every year and accounted for all its expenditure. All the money spent by the parish council is spent within and/or for the benefit of the residents of this parish.

A resident queried why there was more money to carry forward this year than last. This is because the budget is prepared 4 months before the end of the year, so it is not always possible to predict the outcome exactly.

How will the cost of grounds maintenance at the new cement works development be paid for? This development only became part of Bishop's Itchington parish with effect from April this year and the houses are not yet occupied. The cost of maintaining any public open space is not yet known but it may well be maintained by a management company and therefore paid for by the residents of that development.

What will happen to the Sec 106 money for the cement works site? Some of this has been paid to WCC for traffic calming. Some will go to Harbury as per the Sec 106 which was agreed at the time of the outline permission being granted. Bishop's Itchington was supposed to have a new doctors' surgery, but this is subject to the agreement of the CCG who have not yet accepted this proposal in principle.

Carolyn Went, speaking on behalf of the memorial hall committee, made it clear that she was very "sore" that £80k of Sec 106 money was being given to Harbury Village Hall

when the memorial hall was not going to receive anything. Many other people in the community are also annoyed about this.

6. Reports from Village Organisations

Several organisations had submitted written reports which were included in the printed booklet. Verbal reports were received as follows:

Community Centre

It has been an interesting year running various different events at the centre. The café was doing well but the manager has now left so the café is closed again at the moment. They have been looking for a centre manager who could also run the café but are finding it difficult to attract volunteers. New committee members are needed too. BT has installed the Wi-Fi and the PO has started up. Amenities have been refurbished and the disabled access improved. More people are now needed to come through the door. The youth club is running well and has new equipment. Sam Farrall has stood down after many years and the funding for a youth worker has ceased. The club is now run by two parents. The running of the club could be a potential future problem.

Memorial Hall

The hall needs £85k to refurbish it completely. The community centre and the pavilion also need help and therefore all these groups need to work together to involve new people moving into the village. Maybe this can be looked at. The committee wants to apply for charitable status but is having problems with the documentation e.g., who is the land registered to and where are the 1988 AGM minutes? The committee has lost long-standing member Joy Heath who died during this last year and is much missed. The AGM is on 24 June 2019 and the committee would like to see new people come forward, especially people who are new to the village.

FOBIPS

Their aim is to raise money for the school while fostering a strong sense of community. They have invited village groups to attend their summer fun day. There is no charge for community groups. This group also needs more volunteers. There will be a new head teacher at the school next year.

Pavilion

A consultant has been appointed who is now overseeing the grant applications and tendering process. Please would everyone complete the survey which has just been sent out? It's very important that as many people as possible, of all ages, respond.

BIFC

The club has been successful again this year. The Saturday first team has won the premiership title again. They are through to the final of the Banbury Charity Cup and have won the Coronation Cup. The reserve team is in transition, being the only reserve team in their division. The Sunday side has won the Byfield Cup.

BISA

BISA has helped to provide a new badminton court in the memorial hall. They are now looking at providing some adult gym equipment for the playing field.

Mother & Toddlers

Carolyn Went reported that the group had grown and was doing really well. The improvements to the entrance have made things easier for them. The leaders are working really hard but need some help erecting the shed they have bought.

Scene

There have been no changes this year but there are now only 3 people producing the magazine. Delivery to the new development at the cement works will be difficult.

7. Reports from County & District Councillors

WCC

Cllr Stevens had provided a written report which was included in the booklet.

SDC

It has been a good year for the district council.

Warwick University has invested in the former NVRS site at Wellesbourne where they are exploring automotive agriculture. Wellesbourne airfield is to be purchased by SDC to prevent it being developed for 1800 houses. This is not part of the Core Strategy. No more housing is needed in Wellesbourne, but jobs must be protected.

David Wilson Homes are to replace some flats at the cement works development with 5 houses which they think will be more appropriate. The tragedy last summer had heightened concerns about the Blue Pool. It will be fenced but this won't be teenager proof. However, people will be living near the site so this may be a deterrent.

Cllr Kettle has dealt with a number of complaints about Orbit and their failure to carry out emergency repairs promptly along with other more general maintenance issues. Their response has been unacceptable. Orbit had also planned to sell off bungalows in the village. This has now been halted and there is to be a review of their strategy.

Other issues include the on-going debate around the loss of some services at Horton Hospital, and the delivery of rural broadband. Cllr Kettle also continues to push for a minimum of 35% affordable housing on new developments.

8. Question & Answer Session

Q: What is happening about the new doctors' surgery?

A: The CCG has still not agreed to the provision of a new surgery in this village. Nevertheless, the developer is intending to begin work on the foundations of the building imminently in order to preserve the planning permission which would otherwise expire next month.

9. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 9.16pm.

Signed.....Chairman Date.....



Bishop's Itchington Parish Council Chairman's Review of 2019 to 2021

This review for the annual meeting is a bit more challenging than any I've written before. I've not had to try and remember what I was doing two years ago, before!

Whilst I like to avoid cliches, I would never have anticipated the world as we know it today as we closed the last annual parish meeting in April 2019, sitting side by side in the Memorial Hall. None of us in that hall imagined wearing masks everywhere, none of us had heard of 'social distancing' and none of us would have imagined being cut off from some of our family members for a year or more.

When the pandemic hit and lockdown loomed, the village showed its spirit. The ideas of a few residents turned into a leaflet drop that grew into an army of volunteers offering to help those who could not leave their homes, by bringing them supplies, medication, walking their dogs and, best and most valuable of all, being kind.

Unavoidably, the VE day events that so many village organisations had been working towards have had to be postponed. I hope we will be able to look forward to a 75+2 celebration (as restrictions will still be in place for the anniversary this year)

The parish council, once emergency legislation was passed, began to meet again online using Zoom so we could continue to function. We actually found it has some advantages, including massive efficiencies in meeting with professionals that the parish council has engage to help us with our projects.

It's not all been bad. Despite the lockdowns, we have achieved quite a lot. I'll leave the details for the respective working groups to report in detail, but the progress we have seen on the pavilion working group has been fantastic. The NDP has moved forward through several formal consultations stages and work is underway to review and revise the play area.

The parish council has completely revamped its website. It's now much easier to maintain so the information is now more relevant and up to date. It has a 'contact us' page which many residents have already used to good effect. You'll also find links to the Scene magazine there so that it could continue even when the printers were shut. In the midst of all this, we successfully recruited a new clerk, following Alison's decision to reduce her workload. Hopefully some of you have met Karen already. Karen is contactable at the office Monday to Thursday mornings, and we are very pleased to have her on board.

Well done and thank you, everyone, for finding ways to keep things going since we last met in person. Let's look forward to a successful and safe return to more normal times.

Take care,

Adam

Cllr Adam Dugmore

Chairman



Environment & Properties Group

The 'Environment and Properties Working Group' is responsible for much that many of us take for granted in the village: from the cemetery and churchyard to the playing field and children's play area (and many points in between) all fall within this working group's remit.

Cemetery and Churchyard:

Since the last Annual Village Meeting in April 2019, the Cemetery & Churchyard Working Group has undertaken a considerable amount of work as far as the cemetery is concerned. This work has involved the usual running and maintenance issues but has also seen some new developments as well. During the pandemic, there have been two meetings of the Working Group, one in August 2020 held in the Parish Office, with social distancing being maintained at all times, and the other in January 2021 held virtually via Zoom.



On 16 November 2020 work commenced on replacing the existing and somewhat shabby old railings and gate with brand new ones. The feedback from residents to these improvements has been extremely positive. The Working Group is now looking at how the Reflective Area (at the far end of the cemetery) can be improved and used more effectively. The other improvement currently being discussed and explored by the Working Group is the replacement of the Chapel windows.

In terms of maintenance, etc., the following work has been undertaken:

- the fencing to the side of the Spinney has been repaired.
- two additional water butts have been purchased to go either side of the Tool Shed to ensure sufficient water during dry months.
- paving has been laid near the entrance to the cemetery to accommodate the large refuse bin and make it easier for BIFFA operatives to empty.

Thanks must go to Cliff and Steve Young for all the work they do for the cemetery so willingly and free-of-charge. Being able to ask them to undertake so many maintenance-type jobs has made such a difference to keeping on top of a very important facility and area of our village.

Likewise, thanks also need to go to our Cemetery Manager, Val Powell, and the Parish Clerk, Karen Stevens, for responding to problems and queries so quickly and positively.

Cllr Judith Christian-Carter
Chair of the Cemetery & Churchyard Working Group

Planning:

As a statutory consultee for most planning applications made within the parish, the parish council is kept very busy with responding to all manner of applications, ranging from householders' extensions to large developments. Very rarely does a month go by when the parish council is not required to respond to any planning applications.

Where a large and/or complicated planning application has been submitted, the Planning Working Group looks first at the application in order to guide and inform the following discussion at a parish council meeting. Members of this Working Group also engage with developers who wish to undertake pre-application planning discussions with the parish council, although all parish councillors are encouraged to be present at such discussions. The parish council has a written Protocol for such informal discussions to ensure that meetings and subsequent communications are undertaken without prejudice. These meetings are minuted by the parish clerk and the minutes sent to all councillors and developers.



The largest and most complicated planning application in 2020 was the proposed Feldon Vale Solar Farm. The developers met virtually with the members of the Planning Working Group, in addition to some other parish councillors, in mid-2020 for an informal discussion. When the full planning application was submitted to the District Council, the Planning Working Group met again, virtually, to discuss the application ahead of a full parish council meeting. The end result was a 12-page letter sent by the parish clerk to the District Council detailing where the planning application contravened a number of Core Strategy planning policies, and pointing out a number of omissions, misleading statements and a need for more details in the documentation provided. As this planning application has still not been determined (the due date being 1 February 2021), the parish council will continue to be consulted on the proposed development as this year continues.

Cllr Judith Christian-Carter
Environment & Properties Working Group

Playground Working Group (PWG):

The playground Working Group was set up in October '20 and comprises four Councillors and three members of the public, its purpose being to oversee the playground equipment and its environs. At the time of creating the PWG, a few pieces of equipment were suffering from wear and tear damage so an initial meeting of the PWG was called to review the current condition of the playground. It was agreed to immediately repair the pieces of equipment where this was cost effective, however, "The Hammock" was beyond repair. The PWG also concluded that "The Tractor" climbing frame was time served and now obsolete, and that the playground is lacking equipment for the older children.



It was also agreed that there should be a planned maintenance programme for the equipment and that a document was to be created to enable this to be managed.

An organisation new to BIPC, Reids Playground Maintenance, were contacted to make the necessary repairs which was effectively performed. Concerning the hammock, the PWG arranged its replacement - after shortlisting two pieces of equipment, a Facebook poll was conducted on the Community FB site giving the village a chance to vote for the final selection. A

good poll turnout resulted the Mini-twist net being selected, this subsequently being ordered and installed in February '21.

Attention is now being focussed on the tractor replacement, and potential replacement items are currently being reviewed.

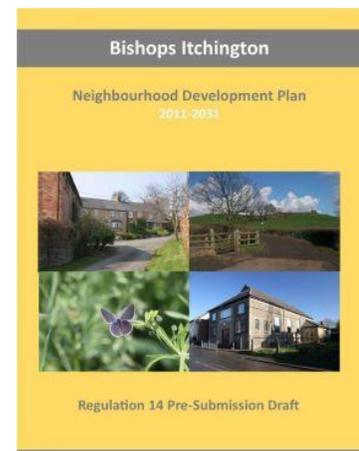
**Cllr Norman Thomas
Playground Working Group**

Bishop's Itchington Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP):

After a considerable period of little activity with the NDP, significant progress has been made over the last year.

In May '20, BIPC appointed Kirkwells, a professional planning agency, to progress the NDP and in June, we applied for, and secured a grant from Groundworks to help with the professional fees. With assistance from Kirkwells, a pre-submission draft of the NDP was completed and submitted to Stratford District Council (SDC) in September for their Health Check. Their review was a little delayed due to Covid but in December, the Plan was passed for the pre-submission review, Regulation 14 stage.

The public pre-submission review was subsequently arranged to run from 1st February to the end of March '21. As part of this process, a public meeting was arranged for members of the public to raise any issues. This meeting was conducted via Zoom on 15th March, however, no members of the public attended. In parallel with the village consultation, local businesses according to a list supplied by SDC also had to be consulted – all of these organisations were contacted by e-mail. Currently, the written responses to the public consultation are being collated and will be reviewed.



The Bishop's Itchington NDP Pre-submission consultation responses is on the agenda for the SDC Cabinet Meeting 12th April.

The parish council is currently applying for a grant to cover the cost of progressing the NDP to adoption.

Cllr Norman Thomas
Bishop's Itchington NDP Working Group

Pavilion Project:

The pavilion project at last is starting to gather some serious momentum, with the continued support of the Parish Council the small steering group has managed to re-apply for planning permission with a design that is far more fit for purpose & community



orientated. Some of the funding needed has already been secured & the PC finance & pavilion steering group are now investigating ways by which other funding streams can be tapped into.

This is the largest project that the community has undertaken for a 100 years & deserves to be community inspired & fit to last for another 100 years.

The architects employed have enhanced the sustainable & renewable energy options to make this building heat energy & water efficient.

This project will bring a total revitalisation to the middle of the village, to an area that is widely used by the community.

Cllr Michael Mann
Pavilion Project Working Group



County Councillor Report:

Report from Cllr Andy Crump – Acting councillor for the Feldon Ward

Following the untimely death of Councillor Robert 'Bob' Stevens last year I agreed to cover the Feldon ward and well as my own ward of Southam Stockton and Napton. It has been an eventful 9 months.

I would like to say how devastated I was by Bob's passing on Friday 31st July 2020, I'd known him for over 40 years (I must have been very young) , first meeting him at Long Itchington Cricket Club.

He was a great friend, mentor and colleague and I will always remember his cheery hello whenever you met him (that was even cheerier in the Blue Lias). Even when he wasn't in the best of health, he would make light of it, usually using some nautical term.

Many have commented that Bob was a true gentleman, I couldn't agree more, who worked tirelessly for his community and Warwickshire, in general. His support for ex-service personnel as well as the British Legion (Galanos House in particular) was legendary. If I didn't know something , I would turn to 'Uncle' Bob, usually at the cost of a pint or two, it would be money well spent.

I spoke to Bob , in hospital, on evening before he died and he had hoped to be out in a few days, after he'd had a MOT, Service and oil change. He was his usually cheery self.

RIP Bob, - a great loss to your family as well as the Long Itchington, Feldon and Southam areas

HS2 – having 2 wards affected by it, has given me double the trouble. In my opinion and others too, it has lost all credibility with its poor workmanship on road repairs, short notice closures, breaking agreements and more recently wanting to extend the A425 road closure by 4, 6 or 11 months or maybe even longer. I and 5 district councillors plus our MP are holding HS2 to account. Certainly, the closure is having a detrimental effect on local roads, either increasing traffic on them damaging those roads or creating speeding traffic

Speeding traffic through nearby Deppers Bridge is still a problem and I had managed to fund speed surveys there, to see the extent of the problem, but the surveys were postponed because of the Covid- hopefully will take place in the next few weeks. I've asked the Police to undertake speed checks whenever they can and also to check weights of using the bridge there. WCC has been liaising with Network Rail on the bridge's condition too.

For those who use the Harbury Lane Crossroads, improvements to it are progressing , I understand these works are anticipated to start in the summer but this remains subject to ongoing work, including ground investigation and final scheme approvals. There is likely to be a cyclepath from the Heathcote to Gaydon too.

Footpaths – there has been a concern too about them been covered in mud from lorries coming from the Bishops Bowl area. WCC has also been ensuring landowners cut their hedges back that overhang paths and roads.

WCC has planted several trees in Bishops and hopes to plant more, although someone has raised concern about 1 location, potentially causing a visibility hazard.

I have also been dealing with flooding issues, with Cllr Kettle, in several areas, including Plough lane

Developers – The Parish, District and County are working to ensure local developers meet S106 obligations and planning conditions

Safer routes to School -The Road Safety Education Team recently launched a brand-new awards scheme being introduced to all primary schools – The SAfER Schools Award (Sustainable Active Focussing on Environment and Road safety)

The SAfER Schools Programme has been developed to promote and support road safety and active travel activities in schools across Warwickshire.

The Safer School Programme aims to:

- Promote safe and active travel to and from school and beyond
- Reduce the number of vehicles idling and parking outside schools
- Use SAfER school activities to link with the curriculum and other programmes already running in school
- Work together with the wider community to make a difference and
- keep children safe

This would benefit Bishops Itchington school and is free too, especially as I've had complaints about speeding traffic in the Ladbroke road.

I wish whoever takes over from me on 7/5/21 the best of luck.

Kind regards

Andy



Reports from Village Organisations

Bishops Itchington Football Club (BIFC):

BIFC has been in existence for nearly 100 years. It currently sports three teams – two play on Saturday in the Banbury District & Lord Jersey League. The other team plays in the Leamington Sunday League.



Obviously, the last 12 months have been very different and challenging. Matches were suspended during the three lockdowns. When this season started it was just for League games, no Cup competitions. We'd only played a handful of games when lockdown struck again. At the end of March restrictions began to be lifted and training and matches could resume. Unfortunately, the Banbury League decided, for various reasons, not to continue with the season. So, the Saturday teams have had to make do with friendlies, but better than nothing! The Leamington Sunday League has continued to finish off the League games. Tom and the boys have picked up where they left off in October by comfortably winning their first two games. They will also represent us in the final of the Byfield and Bethel Charity Cup and we hope they will retain that trophy.

We have managed to keep in touch via technology – What's App and Zoom have come to the rescue. One thing we cannot use technology for is our Presentation Evening, which will be missed for a second season. This evening is usually very enjoyable and recognises individual efforts during the season. It reflects the good social side that the club has. Players and opposition usually come back to the Greaves Club after matches for food and a drink or two! Roll on when this can take place again.

Running a football club is not cheap. We are lucky enough to be sponsored by local businesses – the Greaves Club, MKM Building Supplies and our match balls are sponsored by the Butcher's Arms. This sponsorship provides kits for each team, insurance, first aid and fees. Obviously, this isn't happening at the moment either, but we thank them anyway!

We play down on the Playing Field and use the pavilion facilities. These are courtesy of the Parish Council, to whom we are very grateful. We hope that we can help in the project to build a much-needed new pavilion, for use not only by the Football Club but lots of other sporting and leisure groups. Bring it on!

Bishops Itchington Sports Association (BISA):

The Sports Association has been in existence for about twenty years and tries to identify the need for sports and leisure facilities in the village and raises funds to provide them.

Although the courts on the Playing Field (originally built by BISA) are now the responsibility of the Parish Council, BISA still run the day-to-day management of the courts, which are free for all villagers unless anyone or a group wishes to block book the courts or use the floodlights. This means that we can concentrate on helping to set up other sports and leisure facilities in the village.

In the past we have raised funds to set up short mat bowls, which has been very successful and is entirely self-sufficient. Another group we were able to help set up was badminton and this group has gone from strength to strength with beginners, improvers and more accomplished players enjoying sessions on Wednesday evenings in the Memorial Hall. We replaced the tape lines for painted ones, marking out the court, and allowing us to slightly increase the size of the court so that we could possibly play in a League or host matches against other clubs.

Obviously, at the moment and for the last 12 months, most of BISA's activities have been curtailed by the Coronavirus. Outdoor groups like 5 a side footie, tennis, walking netball and ladies' tennis/football have recently been able to start up again. We hope that before long the bowls and badminton can do the same.

A project for the future to think about – outdoor gym equipment and/or a trim trail to be put in place on the Playing Field. A more immediate project with which we are involved is helping the Pavilion group with raising funds to make the dream of a new pavilion into a reality.



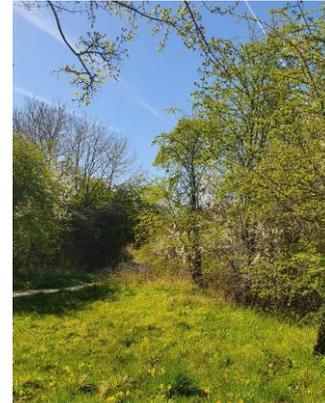
Friends of the Yellow Land & BING:

This group meets up every other Sunday morning for a couple of hours to manage two natural areas in the village – the Yellow Land and the mini orchard in the corner of the Playing Field.

The Yellow Land is situated a short way down Works Lane and leads on to the old cement works spoil heaps. It was given to the village in the 1990s and was the subject of a joint project involving the Parish Council and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. It is an area of limestone

grassland and wildflowers, which supports a colony of small blue butterflies – a rarity in Warwickshire.

The group works to maintain the area and prevent too much scrub regeneration, which would block out the sunlight required to allow the flowers and grasses to grow, supporting the butterflies and lots of other insects and bugs. There is a surfaced, circular path for people to walk round and enjoy the area. Several family events and guided walks are usually organised during the year. However, obviously these have been missing over the last 12 months. Hopefully, if all goes well these can take place again later this year – look for posters and information on the Facebook Community page and in the school newsletter.



Several years ago, the group were given permission from the Parish Council to clear an untidy and unused corner of the Playing Field to turn into a small community orchard area. Nothing of great interest was found as the area was cleared and a small number of apples, pear and cherry trees were planted. In the last few years these have blossomed and borne fruit, which is available for people to pick and try when ripe.

Our sessions have been a bit intermittent over the last 12 months but have recently started up again. This small, friendly group meets every other Sunday morning at 10.30am and finishes around 12.30pm. Tools and refreshments are supplied. Interested? Contact Pam on 613300 for more information or to find out where the next meeting will be.

Bishops Itchington Pavilion Project:

If you have visited the Playing Field, you will see why we need a new pavilion. If you have ever seen inside the existing building, you will realise how desperately we need a new pavilion!

This project has been spluttering along for several years now but recent events mean that significant progress has been made. The pavilion group have been working with the Parish Council and a planning application has been submitted for a new



pavilion, which would include changing facilities and showers for a variety of sports, together with a social area, which could be used for small group activities, like birthday parties and yoga.

A huge leap forward was made when the Parish Council appointed Andrew Maliphant to oversee the fundraising and tendering process. This work is quite specialist and Andrew has plenty of experience in this field. A fundraiser has also been appointed to apply to various organisations offering funding for this type of project. Another step in the right direction was the setting up of a crowdfunding site. This enables anyone in the village or from elsewhere to donate money towards the project. This fund is growing steadily.

A large proportion of the total money needed will come from some of the new developments that are happening around the village.

Many funding bodies require proof of the necessity for new facilities, so the pavilion group organised a survey, both paper and online, so that **everyone** could have their say about what is needed. The existing pavilion has been there for fifty years! We hope this new one will last as long, so we need to get it right. We want the new pavilion to provide for as many different sports and leisure activities as possible.

BISHOPS ITCHINGTON WI:



It's been an interesting year to say the least! We were able to hold a few committee meetings outside until lockdown and the weather drove us inside, where we had to resort to Zooming.

Our main concern was that we would not be able to hold our monthly meetings, so we decided to produce a monthly newsletter in which we included poems written by our members, information from our Federation, local news, and a quiz. The majority of our members have access to email but for those who didn't, we printed and delivered it by hand.

At Christmas, we decided to spend some of our funds on a goody bag of treats for all our members. These were delivered by the committee, so we were able to wish every member a Merry Christmas. We also had a Zoom Christmas party where a short, scripted pantomime – Aladdin, was performed by some the “BIWI Thesps”! Since then, we have held monthly coffee mornings on Zoom and have started up our monthly evening meetings,- again on Zoom.

For our first meeting in March, Jan Heritage our President demonstrated how to make flowers out of recycled materials like plastic bottles, yoghurt pots and foil containers. Members were encouraged to make flowers of their own at home, which were displayed in their front gardens over the Easter period to brighten up the village. We have been very pleased that 44 of our members have renewed their

membership for this year and we thank them for their support because without them, there would not be a WI .

Looking forward, we plan to continue with monthly Zoom meetings and some outdoor get-togethers until restrictions are lifted and we can meet in the indoors again.

Jane Thomas.
BIWI Secretary

Bishops Itchington Memorial Hall:

2020 was a very different year for the country and for our village with many activities curtailed for the best part of a full calendar year. The Hall has been closed, in line with the Government Covid -19 restrictions, since March 2020.

We have, however, still got something to contribute to the Annual Village Meeting: we have a BIG BIRTHDAY on the horizon, and we are very close to having the funds available for getting the Hall rewired, for replacing the heating and for sprucing it up. As many people will be aware the Hall was dedicated in August 1921 as a Memorial to those from this village who died in the Great War. It is a place in the village that provides the community with a safe and modern venue to meet.

In April 2021, we find ourselves emerging slowly from a period of restriction unprecedented in peace time. It is, once more, a time when people need to come together again after a period of great uncertainty, isolation and loss.

It would be tremendous if the Hall could be updated again in time to provide a fitting place for us all to join in celebrating the 100 years since it was given to our village.

We will need your help though, if we are to host an appropriate event to celebrate the hundred years of being the largest meeting place, in the heart of the village and giving everyone the opportunity to take part. (This is dependent, of course, on the current restrictions continuing to be eased in line with the COVID-19 Roadmap).

Slowly we are starting to open for business. We understand that some of our longstanding Hall user groups may wish to delay resuming their activities and some may not return at all, but we must look to a brighter future and support those groups who do return whilst also supporting any new ventures which present themselves.



Friends of Bishops Itchington Primary School (FoBIPS):



Our usual fundraising efforts were hampered by COVID this year but nonetheless the FoBIPS team have continued to bring suitable and COVID compliant events to the village over the last 12 months.

As ever we are supported significantly by a large number of village or local businesses through sponsorship of our events with our recent Easter Hunt bringing us over £1,000 in sponsorship alone! We would like to recognise and thank all those who have supported us for their generosity and continued support for the school. Due to our income generation exceeding £5,000 we had to become a registered charity which was a significant highlight for the team.

We've been spending some of our funds too, trophies for the end of term to recognise performance and achievement in each class, monster phonics books to support reading, playground and toilet enhancements and inclusive seating for the library.

Going forward we remain hopeful that our annual Christmas Fayre will run but this will depend on government restrictions in place when we commence our planning for the event in September. We are also looking to spend a significant amount of funds on improving the playground equipment for all the children to enjoy at breaktimes and lunch times as now more than ever we all see the importance of being physically active.

B I Community Centre:

The last 2 years have seen quite a change for the centre. The chair and treasurer (Simon and Michelle) stepped down from the committee and 4 new members joined with Orlaith stepping up as chair, Pete as Secretary and Colin joining as Treasurer, with Amanda, Sandra and Julie joining the committee.

En Trust charity have taken over the café, running it twice a week, the same days as the Post Office. Although the centre sees little to no revenue from the café and Post Office, they are a great addition for the community and the Post Office offered essential services to the village almost all the way through the lockdowns.

The centre was booked every day during the week with regular hires and general bookings are also good. Youth Club reached a registration of 60 children and is proving very popular, adding a significant percentage to the centre's income. This is expected to continue to be the case when we are able to re-open.

Since lockdown, some planned maintenance and budgeted additions were made. The ceiling was replaced, and the



walls were repaired and decorated. There is a new sound system which covers the café, the hall and can service outside. This also includes a mobile microphone. A large whiteboard has been put up along with two smart TVs – one for viewing and one for computer games. There are also two new sofa/chair sets for each area.

We also have a projector which needs to be put up. Future plans are to replace the back door, the windows in the hall and to clean and paint the exterior walls.

All of the improvements have been made primarily to service existing groups but also to increase the 'bookability' for future and additional groups.

This has all been managed internally with no requirement for external funding – save a 50% grant for plumbing repairs in early 2020.

The centre is well placed to contribute to the community in several different ways as we emerge from lockdown.

The Scouts now meet at the centre on a Thursday, we have plans to run community activities during the Summer holidays and we are hosting performances of Petticoat Council at the end of June.

We are stable financially and look forward to further contributing to village life in the future.



Record of Councillors' Attendance 2019/20

There was a total of 11 parish council meetings during the council year May 2019 to April 2020. These included 10 scheduled meetings of which 9 were ordinary meetings, and 1 was the annual meeting of the parish council. There was 1 extraordinary meeting.

Councillor	Number of Scheduled Meetings Attended	Number of Extraordinary Meetings Attended	Total Number of Meetings Attended	Overall Percentage Attended
Cllr Adam Dugmore Chairman	10/10	1/1	11/11	100%
Cllr Judith Christian-Carter Vice-Chairman	10/10	1/1	11/11	100%
Cllr Chris Kettle	10/10	1/1	11/11	100%
Cllr Michael Mann	8/10	0/1	8/11	73%
Cllr Steve Tressler	10/10	1/1	11/11	100%
Cllr Bev Mann (resigned September 2019)	2/5		2/5	40%
Cllr Sharon Bougoussa (from June 2019)	8/8	0/1	8/9	89%
Cllr Norman Thomas (from June 2019)	7/8	1/1	8/9	89%
Cllr Dawn Mann (from July 2019)	5/7	0/1	5/8	63%

Record of Councillors' Attendance 2020/21

There was a total of 14 parish council meetings during the council year May 2020 to April 2021. These included 9 ordinary meetings and 5 extraordinary meetings. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the annual meeting was not held and due to the death of His Royal Highness, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, the April 2021 meeting was cancelled.

Councillor	Number of Scheduled Meetings Attended	Number of Extraordinary Meetings Attended	Total Number of Meetings Attended	Overall Percentage Attended
Cllr Adam Dugmore Chairman	9/9	5/5	14/14	100%
Cllr Judith Christian-Carter Vice-Chairman	9/9	5/5	14/14	100%
Cllr Sharon Bougoussa	7/9	5/5	12/14	86%
Cllr John Gates	9/9	5/5	14/14	100%
Cllr Chris Kettle	8/9	5/5	13/14	100%
Cllr Dawn Mann	9/9	5/5	14/14	100%
Cllr Michael Mann	9/9	3/5	12/14	86%
Cllr Norman Thomas	9/9	4/5	13/14	93%
Cllr Steve Tressler	9/9	4/5	13/14	93%



11,063.21	Net movement in year					6,664.44
-						-
132,273.26	Current Account c/f					138,937.70
	Pavilion Fund c/f					
179,273.26	Net funds c/f	-	-	-	-	185,937.70

Financial report for Year Ended 31 March 2021 (subject to Audit)

BISHOPS ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL						
Financial Report						
For the Year ended 31 March 2021						
Receipts & Payments Account						
Year Ended						Year Ended
31st March 2020						31st March 2021
£'s						£'s
	RECEIPTS					
86,000.00	Precept					89,000.00
460.00	Council Tax Support Grant					-
-	Grants - General					9,100.00
3,215.00	Burial Ground Fees					4,195.00
1,302.93	Sec 136 reimbursements					1,347.61
503.28	Misc					95.78
542.03	Interest on Investments					347.84
417.10	Pavilion/Playing Field					267.57
7,910.46	VAT Refund					2,874.86
-	Pavilion Fund Contributions					-
-						-

at 31st March 2020						at 31st March 2021	
£'s						£'s	
47,000.00	National Income Bond b/f					47,000.00	
-	Transfer to NS Income Bonds					-	
47,000.00	National Income Bond c/f					47,000.00	
132,273.26	Current Account b/f					138,937.70	
100,375.56	Receipts					107,228.66	
(93,711.12)	Expenditure					(138,390.03)	
6,664.44	Net movement in year					(31,161.34)	
-						-	
138,937.70	Current Account c/f					107,776.33	
	Pavilion Fund c/f						
185,937.70	Net funds c/f	-	-	-	-	185,390.03	

