

Parish Council News – November 2017

Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council's meetings are now on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, and so the remaining meeting for 2017 will be on Tuesday November 14th at 7pm in the Parish Rooms. The first meeting of 2018 will be on January 9th. Please come and join us, with an opportunity to ask questions at the start of the meeting.

Remembrance Sunday Service on November 12th 2017 at 10.50am

The Parish Council, St Patrick's Church and Dickens Heath Church will once again be holding a short Remembrance Sunday Service – with residents invited to gather at 10.50am. The service will be held outside the library in the village centre, the Dickens Heath Scouts troop will be in attendance, and we are hoping that the service will once again be enhanced by The Last Post played from the library bell tower.

The roads in the immediate vicinity of the library and the village centre will be closed for the duration of the service. If you are in Dickens Heath on that day, then please do join us for the service.

Memorial Delayed

Councillor Alan Scholes has worked tirelessly to deal with all the paperwork required to get the memorial installed, and plans were in place for the memorial to be installed during October, and therefore for it to be a focal point for the Remembrance Service. Unfortunately, when the local supplier was loading the stone to be delivered to Dickens Heath, the stone slipped, cracked and broke into several pieces. It cannot be repaired, and so the hunt is now on for a replacement stone, but of course it is very disappointing that it will not be in place in time for the 2017 Service this month.

Improvements to the Village

- Two of the islands have been resurfaced after many complaints over the years to Solihull MBC from the Parish Council.
- The island at Waterside is looking really good – the Parish Council would like to thank Solihull MBC for cleaning the pavement around the island, and would like to thank Elegant Homes for donating the flower boxes that now decorate the island. Several of the Parish Councillors have been involved with fitting the flower boxes and planting them up with winter bedding plants. I hope you agree that this is a great improvement.
- The Parish Council are concerned about the pavements around the other islands, as they are once again very slippery after it has rained. The Parish Council will be meeting with Solihull MBC officers to discuss a maintenance programme to ensure that these pavements are regularly cleansed.
- All of the planters around the village have been spruced up with a fresh coat of paint.
- A petition has been presented to SMBC asking for the provision of a pavement out to Dickens Heath Sports Club.
- And finally, the Parish Council would like to thank a local land owner for assisting us in getting overgrown hedges cut back in Tythe Barn Lane, and also for obtaining reassurance from Old Yardleians that they will not host the Moduska festival again due to the antisocial level of noise which impacted on residents.

Dangerous Parking alongside the Village Green

The Parish Council has received numerous complaints about the parking on the bus route alongside the Village Green, as it is so difficult for drivers to see round the corner. We have asked both the Police and Solihull MBC to assess whether there should be additional double yellow lines. However, according to their records, there have been no reported accidents at this location, and the Police and SMBC both agree that the parked cars slow the traffic down. So Highways have confirmed that there are no plans for additional double yellow lines along this stretch of road.

Parish Councillor Surgery

Please don't forget the new Parish Councillor Surgery that is being held in the library – the next one is being held on Saturday October 28th 2017 between 11am and 1pm. If you would like any advice or information, a couple of the Parish Councillors will be available for an informal chat.

Maureen Holloway

Chair, Dickens Heath Parish Council.

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