

# Parish Council News – September 2017

## **Parish Council Meetings**

The Parish Council's meetings are changing to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, and so the remaining meetings for 2017 will be on Tuesday September 12<sup>th</sup>, October 10<sup>th</sup> and November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Parish Rooms. Please come and join us, with an opportunity to ask questions at the start of the meeting.

## **Future Projects for the Parish Council**

The Parish Council recently took some time out to discuss future projects – lots of ideas were suggested, and we settled on 4 projects to take forward over the next 18 months or so:

- **Community Budget** – the Parish Council will set aside a budget and the community will have the opportunity to decide how it is spent. The plan is that residents and community groups put forward ideas for how the funds should be spent. All bids that are valid and would benefit the community would then go forward to a process where residents can vote for the projects that they support. The funds will be allocated to the project/projects receiving the most support. We will be advertising soon for suggestions for community projects and bids for how this budget can be used, so please do get in touch if you have any ideas.
- **Parish Councillor Surgery** - As of September, the Parish Councillors will be holding a surgery once a month – it will be held on the last Saturday of each month (except August and December) and is planned to take place in the Library between 11am and 1pm. This will be an opportunity for any residents who have any queries or concerns, or would like some advice, to pop in and have an informal chat with a Parish Councillor.
- **Village Cricket Match** - The very early vision for Dickens Heath included cricket matches played on the Village Green. Well, that may not be a possibility now, but the Parish Council would like to see a Village Cricket Match taking place somewhere locally – possibly with a Dickens Heath team taking on a neighbouring Parish team. The potential for such a cricket match will be explored for the summer of 2018.
- **Dickens Heath Walking Club** – A Walking Club for the Dickens Heath area could be set up, with maps of walks in the vicinity. Please let us know if you would be interested in this.

## **Please Clear Up After Your Dog!**

Dog mess is an on-going problem in Dickens Heath, it is unsightly and unpleasant, and can cause health problems to children. Please can we again appeal to all residents to pick up after their dogs. You do not have to use a dog bin to dispose of dog waste – it can be disposed of in any public bin. And of course offenders, if caught, can be fined!

## **Community Litter Picks in Dickens Heath Abandoned Due to Lack of Support**

Councillor Dave Jones has been running monthly litter picks on a Saturday. The first litter pick was fantastically well supported. However, this support very quickly dried up, and the most recent 3 litter picks have only been supported by Parish Councillors. The Parish Council therefore have had no choice but to abandon the initiative, which is a great pity given the enthusiasm of residents on that first occasion.

## **Vacancy for a Parish Councillor**

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council, and we will be advertising soon – so please contact us if you may be interested in joining our dedicated team of Parish Councillors. If you would like to find out a bit more about the role – please contact us on the email address or phone number below.

## **Maureen Holloway**

Chair, Dickens Heath Parish Council.

## **Contact Us:**

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