**Parish Council News – June 2019**

**Parish Council Meetings**

The Parish Council’s next meetings will be held on Tuesday June 11th and then Tuesday July 9th 2019, starting at 7.15pm, in our new venue of Dickens Heath Library 1st floor. Please come and join us, with an opportunity to ask questions at the start of the meeting.

**New Parish Council as of May 2019**

A new Parish Council started its 4 year term as of May 2019. There were insufficient candidates for an election, and 6 of the previous Councillors are continuing as members of the Parish Council. We welcome Mike Small who joins us as a new Councillor – Mike has lived in Dickens Heath for many years and has taken an active interest in the community. We would also like to thank retiring Parish Councillor Dave Jones for his invaluable input over the past few years.

**Community Chest Fund**

This community initiative is in its second year, and this year was oversubscribed with 7 grant applications. The Parish Council decided to share the fund amongst all the applicants, and was pleased to be able to support Dickens Heath School PTFA, Scanlon School of Irish Dancing, Dickens Heath Scouts, Ordinary Magic, Dickens Heath Food & Craft Market, Dickens Heath Allotments and JAMS Publishing.

**JAMS Publishing Writing Competition**

JAMS is a Dickens Heath based group of individual published authors, copywriters and proofreaders, whose aim is to support other aspiring writers. They are running a writing competition which includes sections for adults, children aged 7 – 11, and children aged 12 – 17, with prizes for each section. JAMS will be promoting the competitions at a stall at Festival on the Green, or you can visit their website **jamspublishing.com** for further information.

**Festival on the Green 2019**

The Festival on the Green committee have plans well in hand for this year’s event – which is on Saturday June 15th, between 1 and 5pm.

**Dickens Heath in Bloom**

The Parish Council have entered Dickens Heath once again into Heart of England in Bloom. We will soon be planting up the planters with bedding plants and have again ordered the lamp post hanging baskets. We are delighted that Dickens Heath School and Dickens Heath Allotments will also be involved this year. Two new planters will soon be delivered to the school, to be sited just inside the school gates, and once planted up – the school children will be maintaining and watering them. Dickens Heath Allotments will be planting up the area around the Welcome to Dickens Heath gates by Miller and Carter. The Parish Council are also making plans to extend In Bloom down towards the new developments. We are seeking permission for lamp post hanging baskets – but that will depend on who owns them. If we can’t make that happen for this summer, then we will arrange for some planting up along the verges in that location. If anyone can help with watering of the planters or verges, if you live nearby – we would be very grateful, particularly if we have a hot spell of weather.

**In Bloom Garden Competition**

We will also be running our ‘Best Front Garden’ Competition once again – last year there were some spectacular entries. We offer prizes for the top 3 places, and try to include them on the In Bloom judging route – so please let us know if you wish to enter your garden.

**Dickens Heath Football Club**

And finally – well done to Dickens Heath Football Club on reaching the cup final. They may not have won the cup this year, but have done the village proud!

**Maureen Holloway**

Chair, Dickens Heath Parish Council.

**Contact Us:**

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