

## **Parish Council News – October 2020**

### **Parish Council Meetings**

The Parish Council are returning to holding evening meetings, using Zoom, with the intention of returning to meetings in the Library as soon as it is safe to do so. The next meetings will be held on Tuesday October 13<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 7.15pm. The public are very welcome to attend - but please remember that once public participation is over, any input from members of the public is at the discretion of the Chair. Please contact the Clerk for meeting access details.

### **Update on Village Green and Playground**

The Parish Council are delighted to report that the process of procuring a replacement playground is finally underway. Members of the Parish Council have been speaking to representatives of playground companies, and gathering a few views from residents who were in the playground at the time. The next step is to put together some ideas for the replacement equipment and flooring - which will then go to the school so that the children can give their views on the various options. We also plan to set up a Playground Working Party so that we can consult with the wider community and parents, grandparents and carers can have some input – so please keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for updates.

### **Remembrance Sunday 2020**

As of writing, the area has just returned to lockdown and so unfortunately the Parish Council do not envisage being able to hold a full Remembrance Service this year. We do however fully intend to mark the occasion in a simpler way – with respects being paid by observing the silence and laying of wreaths.

### **New Trees for the Village Green**

You may have noticed that 3 trees on the Village Green have died. The Parish Council are working with Solihull MBC to ensure that these are removed and replaced – we hope that this will be taking place in November.

### **Update on the Reopening of Dickens Heath Library**

Solihull Library Service is working on a recovery plan for the re-opening of library sites, ensuring that customers and staff are safe. The latest phase of re-opening saw book browsing and limited PC use being reintroduced at certain libraries including Knowle and Balsall Common from September 14<sup>th</sup>. They are now starting to look at how to provide Covid-secure services from smaller sites such as Dickens Heath, and they are working with the Parish Council on this.

In the meantime, if customers are concerned about accessing a physical library, they can request a home library service offer, and a Click and Collect Service is also available at Shirley Library for anyone who would like to order and collect stock in the coming weeks. You can use the link <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/Resident/Libraries/We-Select-You-Collect>

Or call on 0121 704 8001.

There is also an increasing range of stock available in the digital catalogue which can be viewed on the library website, and stock can be selected using a valid library card.

### **Maureen Holloway**

Chair, Dickens Heath Parish Council.

### **Contact Us:**

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