

LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL

At the Council meeting on 14th July there was grave concern that five vehicles including a school minibus were stuck at Paper Mill Lock in the recent extensive flooding and that the Highways Department have still not installed appropriate depth markers or instigated the procedure for official closure of that road when flooded. It was noted that these are all in place for the Hammonds Road/road to Boreham river/canal crossing.

There continues to be concern that Trifarm, based in the parish of Boreham, has been granted permission to hold major cycling events affecting Little Baddow lanes even though the British Cycling Association has done a risk assessment and said these are not safe for such activities. The Police, who are the only people to whom application needs to be made by the organisers, will be informed of this national association risk assessment decision.. Also Trifarm will be asked to give our Council information on event dates and their risk assessments a month in advance.

The new base for the playground roundabout has arrived and will be erected soon. Taps and sinks have been sorted in the Pavilion and a new kitchen door installed at the Village Memorial Hall just in time to withstand the recent heavy rain. The kitchen steps will now be repaired in the very near future. It will be made clear to all who book the hall that they may not take away any furniture during their hire time for use elsewhere. The necessary repairs to cracks in the hall ceiling were agreed and also to pay for proper scaffolding for this work.

There were four development applications but only objection to one. However City Planners will be asked in another to investigate a neighbour's strong objections to a proposed window.

When the integral wall of the War Memorial was removed it was discovered that the four oak posts merely rested on the concrete and two were rotten at the bottom! Additionally the roof is inadequately supported! Therefore the whole structure is now dangerous. It was agreed to pay for scaffolding, a specialist structural engineer and also to establish a contingency fund. Meanwhile a special ceremony and service are being organised for Friday 11th November at 4.30pm to mark the updating of the War Memorial Archway. The comprehensive list of names being inscribed on the new stones to be set in place will be read on this important local occasion.

Details of items in this independent report can be obtained from the Council. GH