

LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL

Two new Councillors, Mel Coates-Jones and John Scott, attended the newly elected Council at the meeting of the 14th May. Nic Cooper was elected as Chair and Peter Irvine as Vice Chair. Three former Councillors continue to give considerable support to the Council. ie Keith Ferguson with planning; Rod Barrett with speed watch; and Clare Hodgson with various grant applications. An action plan was agreed to fill the remaining vacancy on the Council by advertising.

A community project is being organised to re-turf the football pitch at Wickhay Green. Unfortunately the zip wire did not pass inspection and is out of use until a new seat has been installed. There has been a spate of vandalism which is proving very expensive as a Village Memorial Hall window has had to be replaced and the noticeboard near Runsell Lane repaired for the second time! Users of hall furniture will be asked not to stack the chairs higher than five.

A member of the public complained that the recent road works at the junction of Riffhams Chase and The Ridge has left dips in the road which fill with water and he wanted the road surface raised again. Currently the flood water is damaging the surrounding vegetation.

It was reported that the huge Maldon development plan has been totally rejected by the Inspector. However, there is still concern that the amount of traffic on the village roads is increasing. The cost of movable speed indicator signage will now be re-investigated. Three house development plans were discussed. Whilst there was no objection to any of them, the Council will raise concerns that one development had already started! There was also concern that a planned building conversion would not meet building regulations.

There has been good progress in the Hall roof project and in the creation of two Blue Badge parking spaces at the Memorial Hall. Additionally Essex Highways Panel should be able to approve the proposed flood warnings for Paper Mill Lock and Hammonds Road at their next meeting. Sadly the drainage pipe and gully clearance in Church Road has not yet been done so there is still running water. *Details of items in this independent report can be obtained from the Council. GH.*