

## **LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL**

The meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> June was attended by Essex County Councillor John Spence and also Chelmsford City Councillor Richard Ambor. John offered support with the problem of speeding in the village, whilst noting that the Police have started taking enforcement action this week and that the Council's is investigating grants for erecting speed signs at approx. £ 3,500 each. He was particularly concerned that the Highways Department had still not responded to an email of 7<sup>th</sup> February! His efforts to ensure action with Church Road's flooding have been successful. However there are now deep gullies at the edges of the road on the double bend near the river. He warned of a spate of garden thefts in the proximity of our village.

He told the Council that the Highways Dept was still going ahead soon with the plans to alter the junction of Little Baddow Road and A414! It was noted that Danbury Parish Council have a different point of view to our Council on the plans. John received a very clear presentation of the problems likely to arise due to the elimination of the mini roundabouts and erection of traffic lights at peak times and about the lack of any consultation! Council agreed to make urgent efforts to get necessary data concerning the probability of certain roads becoming rat runs as drivers try to avoid a possible 12-15 minute delay. It was noted that No Waiting signs by the bank etc were already ignored. Once John realised the significant issues involved for our village, he promised urgent, extensive support in ensuring full investigation of the plans.

Council agreed a staggered gateway for the Sports Ground so that young children could not run easily into Parsonage Lane. It also agreed the plan for two blue badge parking spaces at the Memorial Hall and for improvement of the hazardous Hall kitchen entrance. The urgent plans for improving the Hall roof are well advanced and work will probably now start in the early Autumn, with efforts to minimize inconvenience to users. A loan will be needed but it is hoped that a successful grant will reduce this to manageable levels. There will be a tighter distribution of Hall keys than at present. Council agreed a comprehensive Action Plan for the year ahead. *Details of items in this independent report can be obtained from the Council. GH.*