Dear Residents

Members of the Parish Council have installed a Defibrillator at the Duver Public Toilets, as part of the National Restart A Heart campaign, recognising the need to provide this much needed resource for the benefit of residents and visitors to the village – the investment has been supported by local businesses including Baywatch Cafe and Old Mill Caravan Park.

Training is also being arranged for the Spring, involving local volunteers, and additional training will be provided for students at the local school, as part of a wider public engagement initiative being undertaken by the Parish Council.

The Parish are also working on Remembrance Day projects with the local school, involving the historical association, and the Remembrance Day service planned for Sunday 10th November 2019 at the Parish Church, will involve representatives from the School, as well as the wider community: and will develop into a commemoration to mark the Centenary of the Parish’s War Memorial in 2020.

Following meetings with the Local Authority, and other stakeholders, the Parish are working on proposals to improve and alleviate the ongoing surface water issue on the pavement by the Bus Shelter in Station Road – although the Parish are not responsible for the area, there is a need to work on viable solutions and have identified funding to contribute to a solution.

Work continues on the repair and maintenance of all of the benches in the Village, in partnership with Community Payback, and appreciate all of the positive comments from residents who have welcomed the work and how this has added to the appearance of the Village – helping secure a South East England in Bloom Silver Gilt Award for the appearance of the Parish.

Discussions are also in hand for repair of the greens, recognising the need to protect the area for the benefit of current and future residents, and also help ensure these amenities are available for community usage.

This includes the Annual Carnival, and residents are encouraged to contact the Carnival Association if they would like to be involved in the organisation of the 2020 Carnival – volunteers are welcome and details are available through the Parish Council, as well as through the associations facebook page.

The Parish is continuing to champion the concerns raised by residents regarding plans for increased housing in the East of the Wight, including St Helens, and the implications this has for local residents, and is making representations to the local planning authority reflecting these views, and would encourage residents to also forward their comments.

Public notices are also in situ advertising a vacancy on the Parish Council, and residents are encourage to contact the Parish Clerk or IW Council Returning Officer for more details – the Parish has reduced the number of meetings held in the year, with special meetings organised for matters of major importance, and recognise the role is voluntary, working to reduce workloads at a time when the Parish is increasingly responsible for Public Services.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 9th December 2019, when members will discuss the future maintenance of Duver Toilets, improvements to the pavement on Station Road adjacent to the Green/Bus Shelter, and initiatives for 2020.

St Helens Parish Council would like to thank residents for their support and comments over recent months, and hope they have a safe and warm winter.

Best regards, St Helens Parish Council