Dear Residents

We hope 2020 has started well, and the Parish Council are supporting an IW Council led project to alleviate the ongoing surface water problems of Station Road, in and around the Bus Stop/layby, and hope that the work being planned will help address the problem.

The Parish have met with officers of the Council, and continue to highlight the issues caused by surface water on the pavement and the Road, and the planned work is part of an ongoing effort to protect the Greens, as well as ensure safe pavements for residents.

Members recognise the historic causes of the problem, and, if the project does not fully solve the issues, discussions will continue.

The Parish Council have secured further funding to help support the Duver Toilet Project, and discussions are continuing regarding further improvements in 2020: the Parish have greatly appreciated the partnership work with Baywatch and Old Mill Caravan Park, and thank Paul and Rory for their continued support.

Our Local School are promoting 2020 vision: St Helens Community Art Project, with a Facebook Page in 2020 and artwork to be submitted by February 14th – leaflets will be distributed across the village in the coming weeks.

The Parish Council has further vacancy and a co-option process will be initiated early in 2020, and residents welcome to get in touch with the Parish Council.

Members have also started drafting comments regarding the increased number of houses planned for the Village and neighbouring Parishes, and are very aware of the situation regarding Guildford Road, and are working with residents to highlight the implications of future plans – the impact on local infra-structure and amenities is recognised, but the Parish Council will continue to work with local IW Councillors to ensure local voices are heard.

Work has been completed on the chained fence and posts near the Village Map, and the gravel path has been relayed thanks to our partnership with Community Payback – the partnership has ensured Parish Benches have been renovated and the Public Real enhances within the limited resources of the Parish.

Discussions are planned with the local Church to help support their on-going problem with vehicular damage to their roadside listed wall – the regular damage by road vehicles has considerable cost implications, as well as creating serious safety issues.

Work is continuing with the Heritage Trail, and planning for the 75th Anniversary of VE and VJ days – involving the school, historical association and other groups.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is at 7pm on Monday 10th February 2020, and may we take the opportunity to thank residents for all of their comments during 2019, and wish them well for 2020 (please keep in touch by email or popping along to meetings).

Best regards, St Helens Parish Council