

SHOTTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL – CHAIRMANS REPORT 2021/2022

Hopefully we are now over the worst of the Pandemic and can meet normally once again.

Like other Parish Councils we implemented a plan to ensure that the members of the Village had help if needed, this was very successful and covered areas such as Shopping, Prescription Collection and Lifts for those in need. Thanks to Lesley Roberts and Pat Southgate for their work in setting this up. We were also very fortunate that relatives of elderly residents rallied round to help.

Parish Council meetings for most of the Pandemic were held remotely by Zoom, fortunately we did get back to Meetings in the Trust Hall eventually. Our thanks to the WI for the continued use of the Hall.

The Parish Council operates on an average Precept of around £4500 per year. One of the major areas of expenditure is the Play Area. This provides facilities for Children in the Village and the many summer visitors to Shottisham Caravan Site. On average we spend around 50% of our precept on maintaining the play area, we have also spent money on replacement fencing (Circa £4000) and a new “Toddlers” Tractor unit. Thanks to Pat and Katie Emmerson We are in the process of raising money to provide a new piece of play equipment for older children but this may take some time as often matched funds are required which we need also to raise. I would like to thank Pat Southgate for taking responsibility for arranging regular inspections of the play equipment and maintenance of the existing equipment, she is ably assisted by Philip Bouscarle , Peter Widdup and David Wass in repairing equipment, saving the council considerable money.

The other major area of concern in the village is the roads and resultant traffic problems. There have been speeding problems in the Village and on Ford Hill, Peter Widdup continues to charge and move our mobile SIDD signs and last year arranged a new position near Pat Bendon’s at the Hollesley exit to the Village. These do make some difference but we have asked that the police site a Camera with Automatic Number Plate Recognition near the newest site and at Ford Hill. This was quite successful in Sutton monitoring some 1500 vehicle movements of which more than half were measured in excess of 35 mph. Later this year Andrew Reid our Suffolk County Councillor has agreed to a traffic survey on Ford Hill with a view to implementing further traffic calming measures.

Last but not least the Parish Council could not do it’s job without the help and guidance of our Parish Clerk, Lesley Roberts, who diligently keeps the Councillors compliant with ever changing rules, looks after our finances and all related Parish Council documentation.

We hold our Parish Council meetings every other month and we welcome members of the village so we are kept apprised of their needs, Pat also updates the PC website and ensure PC minutes are posted in the village,

Thankyou, Ray Kay, Chairman.

