**ICKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**MEETINGS in December**

Monday 14 – Planning Committee, in The Court Hall, Winchelsea.

**MEETINGS in January**

Monday 13th Planning Committee followed by Full Council in The Winchelsea Beach Community Hall.

Monday 27th Planning Committee followed by Open Spaces Committee in The Court Hall, Winchelsea.

**Cllr Smedley** will be holding his surgery for Winchelsea residents on the Wednesday of the week before the full Council meetings in the New Inn, 6 -8 p.m. on 4th November.

**Council Meeting –**

**Traffic Calming**

A proposal had been put forward by the Open Spaces Committee for a traffic calming scheme in Winchelsea to try to solve the problem of Winchelsea being used as a “rat run” for the A259, which has been a problem for many years

Although some concern had been expressed over the design costs of the scheme (£36k) the recent consultation exercise showed a strong majority of respondents in favour of the scheme.

Concerns have been expressed by some about the design costs including the cost to local rate payers but with the cost spread over 25 years at 2.9% interest rate on a Public Works Loan Board loan the cost to the local rate payer adds just £170 per month to the Council's budget and a few pennies to the Council Tax bill, whilst the long term benefits for Winchelsea residents far outweigh the cost (similar to the capital outlays on Icklesham Playground and Icklesham Memorial Hall as well as the long term running costs of the Rye Harbour Car Park and Toilets in recent years). Once we have the design there will be a further public consultation as we shall then have to consider how to fund implementing the agreed design, assuming that it is agreed to proceed further.

Some comment was received that the money would be better spent on the speeding problems seen on the A259, but with the A259 controlled by the Highways Agency, we have to approach this in a different way as we have far less options as a Parish Council. We are currently investigating hiring or buying SIDS (Speed Indicator Devices – they tell you your speed with a happy or sad face depending on whether you are within the speed limit or not) as recent test in London show these to be one of the most effective traffic calming measures, do not need Planning or Highways authority approval and part of their effectiveness is that they are mobile and can be moved to different roads in the Parish month by month so vehicle drivers do not become used to them.

Council is also considering a Parish-wide Speedwatch operation. This would enable Speedwatch to operate at approved sites in each Ward. It would be part of an initiative to introduce more speed checks across the rural areas of Sussex.

**PCSOs**

We have been advised that Icklesham Parish will once again have its own Police Community Support Officer and we look forward to working closely with whoever is appointed. If you have any particular issues that you would like to be brought before our new PCSO please advise your local Councillors or Parish Clerk.

**2020-2021 Budget**

The Parish Council will be meeting in December to consider next year's budget. If you have anything that you would like the Parish Council to consider including in their budget please contact one of your local Councillors.

**Environmental Policy**

The Council is currently considering adopting an environmental policy to ensure we minimise our effect on the environment and global warming. If you have any suggestions for this policy please contact one of your local Councillors. In the meantime a provisional policy has been adopted.

**Winchelsea Beach matters**.

**Proposed Bus Shelter.**  The Council is currently investigating whether there are savings to be made by employing our own consultant engineer to design and supervise the works to the highway that appear to be necessary.

**Sewerage Issues**

The Parish Council is looking to organize a further public meeting at Winchelsea Beach to keep the pressure on to Southern Water to resolve the issues.

Your Councillors are here to represent you and welcome your views on any matter. Please do talk to them or send your reviews/requests to the Parish Clerk at [ickleshampc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ickleshampc@hotmail.co.uk) or write to **PO Box 395, HASTINGS. TN34 9JU**

Peter Turner