

## Herongate and Ingrave Parish Council

### CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Delighted though we all are that Covid19 decreases, our attention instead turns to the Russia Ukraine war. We know that we have local residents who originated from Ukraine and Russia; our thoughts are with them and their families.

During the last year we have welcomed new councillors, Gemma Davey and Pat Stoneham. They each have an area of responsibility, and are available to fully engage with the residents.

Unfortunately we also had some resignations David Watts, David Hills and Steve Waite. We thank them for their contributions and participation on the Council.

**I Thank** Councillors Piggott, Davey, Pearson, Baldock, Stoneham and Flood for their involvement in Council matters, for covering their area of responsibility and assisting residents with issues as they arose.

I give a special **Thank You** to Stephanie Robinson, who, as Responsible Financial Officer, has ably managed the Council's finances and as our Parish Clerk, guided the Council on legal matters.

#### **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

The Parish Council have supported by making donations to the Essex Air Ambulance, SNAP, the Daily Bread Pop-Up Cafe and Saint Francis Hospice in Havering - Atte - Bower.

In addition a further donation was made to the Disasters Emergency Committee Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

#### **NEW BOROUGH & WARD COUNCILLOR**

We welcome Sheila Murphy as our new Borough and Ward Councillor. We look forward to working with her in the forthcoming year.

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

The use of Facebook has proven to be a useful tool in communicating information to its users. I would like to thank non-councillor and resident Neil McGuinness, supported by Stephanie Robinson the Parish Clerk for their time in managing this site.

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Special thanks goes to the two volunteers – Keith Bradfield and Helen Kingsford - who put H&I PC newsletter together, and all those who assist in its delivery.

#### **CHRISTMAS TREE & CAROL SINGING**

Again Calcott Farm allowed us to select a tree for our annual celebration of Christmas. Many residents turned out for the lighting-up event and enjoyed the sing-along carols, wine and mince pies. Unfortunately, it was the last time that Rev. David Bagwell and his wife Anne were able to attend this festive event as he has now retired from his post. We thank him and his wife for their contribution over the years

#### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

What a wonderful turnout we had for this event. 47 children with their supporting families on a 3K walk through the village. Well done to Cllr's Davey and Piggott for organising this event.

## **PROJECTS**

The Parish Council have now completed the project of replacing the posts around the cricket green and we had planted spring bulbs which we hope you enjoyed during the Spring period.

Six 'Tommies' were installed around the villages. Silhouettes of soldiers with heads bowed in remembrance, in sombre stance.

Planning a Beacon lighting up for Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee.

Planning a Jubilee picnic.

## **GENERAL MAINTENANCE**

The Parish Council have continued to maintain Peartrees Pond and grass verges at Button Common. Our contractor for the pond has now retired and we are looking for any person who can assist with the control of floating pennywort (invasive weed) problem.

## **JUBILEE CELEBRATION**

After all the lock downs in the past 2 years it was now time to bring the Community together.

Two events are now happening to achieve this: the Beacon lighting-up on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and the Picnic on 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Whilst tickets are now sold out for the Picnic event we invite you all to attend to Beacon light-up which is free. From 6-10pm, on the Cricket Green.

## **PLANNING**

We are aware of the forthcoming Local Development Plan. Although there are currently no plans for housing to be built within either village, the impact on infrastructure – schooling, doctors, traffic etc. – will undoubtedly have a big impact.

We will continue to liaise with Brentwood Borough Council and update residents in a timely manner.

Thanks goes to Essex County Councillor Louise McKinlay who has always offered advice and assistance when dealing with County issues.

The Parish Council will keep close ties with Essex Police, about criminal activities, as well as Brentwood Borough Council for local issues and Essex County Council for Highways.

The Parish Council will endeavour to continue to work in the interest of all the residents.

**Alan Kingsford**

**Chairman and Cllr**

**Herongate & Ingrave Parish Council**

**May 2022**

