

Hermitage Parish Council Update

- You will appreciate that with the latest government announcement delaying the lifting of all restrictions relating to Covid, that the council has still not been able to meet face to face. And as the powers to meet virtually were removed from early May, email and small group meetings is having to suffice to continue business as usual as much as possible. Should you need to get in touch with HPC for any reason please email the parish clerk.
- Hermitage's Co-op store, as it's labelled above the door, is now well and truly open. Not surprisingly, the council has received complaints about the volume of bright light emitted late into the evening. A report was sent to WBC as the planning authority and the result to date is that the floodlights will be switched off until the matter is resolved.
- The council is delighted to learn that the primary school is to install a new, eco-friendly air source heat pump and has applied for planning permission to build a housing unit. It will replace the current 25year old, gas-fired, iron boiler.
- It was reported in last month's issue of Pathfinder, just how lucky we are to have two defibrillators. Well one was put to good use recently. This meant that the pads inside were used and needed replacing with new ones. As it was over the bank holiday weekend procurement of new pads had to wait a day or two but everything is back up and running now and a spare set is in hand should a similar emergency arise. Don't forget, the first thing to do is ring 999 first. You will be told where the nearest defibrillator is and the code to open it, as well as get an ambulance speeding its way to you.
- The meadows on the wildlife site at Furze Hill are looking beautiful and well worth a walk around, especially in the early evening when the sweet rocket should be smelling at its best. Similarly, the banks of the recreation ground are looking spectacular and the council has asked the contractor to not mow this area just yet. However, some of the fencing around the recreation ground has been cut through by vandals, probably because they don't go there to admire the wild flowers!
- If you are interested in the ongoing development in Hermitage, please read the item from the Neighbourhood Development Plan team. The work may not continue unless more serious volunteers come forward.
- The council is now making plans (and keeping fingers crossed) to hold real, face to face meetings from July. These will be in the Adelaide room at the rear of the church as in pre Covid days. How these meetings will be managed in the first instance will be agreed beforehand.
- On this basis, the next meeting of the parish council is on Thursday July 22nd following lifting of Covid rules and then Thursday August 20th. All meetings begin at 7.30pm and from then on will be held on the third Thursday of the month as usual, except for December. Agendas, minutes and information about the council are posted on notice boards throughout the village and www.hermitage.org.uk. Members of the public are welcome at meetings but it would be appreciated if you could let the clerk know 24 hours before.
- Hermitage Parish Council can be contacted through the clerk, Nicky Pierce by emailing hermitagepc@outlook.com.