

Westbourne Parish Council Newsletter

| Autumn 2020



Westbourne
Parish Council

www.westbourne-pc.gov.uk

Westbourne Help: Supporting residents during coronavirus

The Parish Council has taken on Westbourne Help to offer local support to residents in need. If you do not have access to family, friends or neighbours, a volunteer may be able to help with a friendly phone call or chat on the doorstep, help with arranging food deliveries or getting 'top-up' shops from local stores, and give other neighbourly means of support.

We are also looking for volunteers to help us deliver Westbourne Help to those in need.

Please get in touch if you would like help, or if you are able to volunteer, by calling 07960 405499 or emailing westbournehelp@westbourne-pc.gov.uk

If you are in urgent need of help or support, contact West Sussex County Council's Community Hub on 033 022 27980 or go to www.westsussex.gov.uk.

The County Council is supporting the most vulnerable in West Sussex and is offering support to those who are clinically extremely vulnerable.

For medical emergencies, contact 999, 111 or your GP.

Information about local services and national guidance is available at www.westbourne-pc.gov.uk



Petition to reduce speed limit at Monk's Hill

Please sign a petition to request that West Sussex County Council reduces the speed limit outside the recreation ground at Monk's Hill in Westbourne.

Cllr Nigel Ricketts, Vice-Chair of the Parish Council, said: "Vehicles driving past the car park, recreation ground and - above all - the children's playground at Monk's Hill, are permitted to travel at speeds of up to 60mph. This is an accident waiting to happen.

"For many years we have asked the County Council to move the 30mph speed zone approximately three hundred yards to the north but to no avail. We need to show community support for this much needed change to protect everyone who enjoys using the recreation ground, as well as nearby residents. Please get involved and sign the petition to show your support."



The petition is available to sign at
www.westbourne-pc.gov.uk

Or sign by scanning the QR code.



We must
keep on protecting
each other.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE



Speeding on Emsworth Common Road in Aldsworth

Residents have reported to the Parish Council that many people drive in excess of the 40mph speed limit through Aldsworth on Emsworth Common Road, which presents a great danger to those who live there.

Cllr David Mack said: "Over the last 18 months, we have been campaigning to West Sussex County Council and Sussex Police to make the road safer by introducing traffic calming measures similar to Funtington and East Ashling. A petition was presented to the County Council, signed by every resident in Aldsworth, to ask for reduction in the speed limit, however, we have been informed that the road does not meet the criteria for a 30mph zone.

"We plan to install our speed indicator devices in Aldsworth, to remind passing drivers of their speed and also record the speed of vehicles which is helpful evidence to show the scale of the issue. We are now waiting for the posts for the devices to be installed by the County Council.

"We have asked Sussex Police if our Community Speedwatch Group could record the speed of passing vehicles which has proved to be effective in other parts of Westbourne. However, the road was seen to be unsafe for our volunteers due to the lack of pavements.

"The Parish Council is here to represent the local community and we will continue to work closely with the County Council and the police to make road conditions safer for our residents."

Please follow guidance issued at the playgrounds for the safe use of equipment during coronavirus.



Funding for more facilities at Monk's Hill, Westbourne

Westbourne Parish Council has received funding from Chichester District Council for new facilities at the recreation ground on Monk's Hill, Westbourne.

Cllr Ann Pearcey, said: "A new bench will be placed in the children's play area, and a new bench and picnic table will be located in the recreation ground. An interpretation board will inform residents about the history of the park, provide information about wildlife and plants, and detail nearby sites of interest.

"We have also received funding for new decorative trees which will be planted on the wide verges of

Homefield Road, Churcher Road and Edgell Road in Westbourne. Working in partnership with the County Council, the 17 trees will be planted over the winter and will boost the environment by providing a habitat for birds and other wildlife, as well as enhancing the visual appeal of the area for the benefit of local residents.

"Please get in touch if you are able to support with watering the trees to help them become established."



Adopt a village gateway

Village gateways were installed several years ago at the entrances to Westbourne to draw drivers' attention to the fact that they were entering a residential area and to observe the speed limit.

Cllr Roy Briscoe, said: *"Over the years, the gateways have become a little grubby and could most definitely do with a bit of TLC. We are most grateful to Richard and Julia Munday for taking responsibility for the gateway adjacent to where they live. "If you live near a village gateway and are prepared, every now and*

again, to go out with a sponge and hot soapy water and give it a scrub, could you please let us know? It will certainly make our village look smarter and – who knows – it may even slow down a few more vehicles.

"We plan to install gateways in Aldsworth and Woodmancote, and whilst we should be able to pay for the materials, we are looking for people with the necessary skills to construct them. Again, please contact the Parish Clerk if you can help out."

Welcome to our newest Parish Councillor



We would like to welcome Kate McNicol, a retired GP and resident of Westbourne for many years, who was co-opted to the Parish Council in October.

One vacancy on the Parish Council is available. If you would like to make a positive change to the Parish and help support a wide range of local community projects, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Cemetery Extension

Westbourne Cemetery on Cemetery Lane is owned jointly by Westbourne and Southbourne Parish Councils. A project is underway to develop the land bought some years ago to allow for future burials and cremation interments.

Cllr Mike Magill, said: *"We are fortunate to have an area into which we can expand the cemetery and, following on from a comprehensive tendering process, a contractor was appointed to undertake the work. In addition to preparation of the land, a tree-planting scheme is soon to be adopted, and it is hoped the work will be completed before the end of the year."*



Friends of the Ems

The newly formed group was established following concerns from riparian owners in the Parish that the River Ems had become more of a water feature than a river.

Cllr Lade Barker, said: "We were shocked in September when the

river ran dry due to a failure of Portsmouth Water to augment it when levels were low.

"The river used to be a sizable water course with five water mills, four watercress beds and three water meadows. We will be campaigning for a reduction in water extraction in the coming years to protect the important natural environment and wildlife of Westbourne."

Beautiful plants in The Square



The Parish Council would like to thank Lynda Mortimer and Elisabeth Blower for looking after the troughs in The Square and filling them with beautiful plants all year round.

Notice of conclusion of audit

Moore, the Parish Council's external auditor, has concluded the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2019-20, stating it is "in accordance with the proper practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern

that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met."

The AGAR and the Council's policies and financial accounts are published at www.westbourne-pc.gov.uk

Community Chest

A grant of £100 was awarded to resident Glynis Lockley who delivered afternoon tea to elderly residents in Westbourne on Remembrance Sunday. Please contact us if your community group or organisation would like to apply for funding towards a local project or event.

VE Day 75 bench

Earlier in the year, a bench was commissioned to commemorate VE Day 75 with funding from Chichester District Council. The final location for the bench is still being considered but it is hoped that it will be near the centre of the village for all to enjoy.

Churchyard Wall

The flint wall in Church Road has become unstable and we are working with the Parochial Church Council to make it structurally safe as soon as possible.

Westbourne Community Trust AGM

The WCT will be holding its first Annual General Meeting on Thursday 3 December at 7pm on Zoom. For more information and joining instructions, go to westbournecommunitytrust.org

Contact the Parish Council

Email: clerk@westbourne-pc.gov.uk Call: 07775 654483

Write to: Westbourne Parish Council, PO Box 143,
Emsworth, PO10 9DX

Go to: www.westbourne-pc.gov.uk