

CLERK'S REPORT ON PARISH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES SEPTEMBER 2008

THE POST OFFICE

By the time you read this, the Post Office will have decided whether to return facilities to the village or not. I was very encouraged by the comments from Postwatch though. They said:

"Postwatch opposes the closure of the Bengoe, Hertford Heath and Ware Road, Hertford branches because of concerns about current waiting times at the Fore Street Hertford CFPO and concerns therefore about the capacity of the Hertford branch to cope with the migration of business from Bengoe, Ware Road and Hertford Heath closures.

Postwatch is also concerned that the permanent closure of Hertford Heath, which has been temporarily closed for some time, goes against assurances given to local residents by Post Office Ltd about either re-opening the branch or seeking to introduce a replacement outreach service."

Postwatch is meeting with Post Office Ltd to discuss their concerns and receive an update on issues submitted by customers during the public consultation period so fingers crossed. I understood Laura Tarling to say at the public meeting that if she and Postwatch could not agree, the matter would be forwarded up for decision.

I still have received nothing I requested under the Freedom of Information Act, the deadline being today as I write this.

PCSO KAREN BROAD

Karen is leaving us! We will miss her a great deal. She has established a rapport with the teenagers and has played an active part in the Village Fetes, entries to the Village of the Year competitions as well as helping the School and the Cubs with safety talks to the children. I understand from Karen that Neil Major is coming back as our PCSO. She will be a hard act to follow but we wish him well.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

The fence has been damaged again. If you know anything, please contact PC Neal Dyton. The Council cannot simply go on spending money repairing it. It would be good if the culprits could be caught and made to pay.

DOG FOULING

Allowing your dog to foul the footways and open spaces without picking it up can lead to you being fined. It seems that the Church railings are a favourite place for such messes. Please would those who are leaving it think of others and clear up after their dogs.

BONFIRE NIGHT

Don't forget – this is on Saturday 1st November. If you want to help, please let me know. The prize for the balloon that travelled the farthest went to Trevor Goodingham. His balloon was found on the beach at Bexhill-on-Sea.

TWO REMINDERS

Firstly that the Petanque Terrain is free for anyone to use – just bring your own boules.

Secondly that the parking of cars on the Playing Field is only allowed when the Senior Team is playing. This concession was to allow them to proceed to the Premier Division and cars can only park 30 minutes before the game and cannot leave until 15 minutes after it finishes. This is to ensure the safety of others on the Playing Field. If you know anyone who comes for Reserves and Junior games, could you remind them not to park on the Field but to use the carpark in Woodland Road.

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR POEMS

Here is the poem by Imogen Welch:

WHY I LOVE MY VILLAGE

*Why I so do love my village,
Hertford Heath is the name and is the best.
Yellow spring flowers sprout up in the summer.*

It's a mysterious heath land.

*Luscious grass grows everywhere,
Over the hills and under the bushes we go.
Very pretty village green that I love to play on,
Everyone meets here to go and play.*

*My, my, may we come again.
Yes you can come here for a day and play.*

*Very green grass to play on.
I love my village.
Lots of friendly people all around us.
Lots of trees to climb everywhere.
A great place to be,
Greatest greetings to you all.
Everyone can't wait to see you.*

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday 6th October in the Mission Room starting at 7.30pm. Members of the public are always welcome at Parish Council meetings.

Carolyn Morgan
Clerk to the Council

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