

Chairpersons report

Welcome everyone, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Thank you for coming tonight and welcome to the Village Hall after so long away.

The last year has certainly been unprecedented and in that time the Parish Council has continued to meet via Zoom. As a council we continue to consult, discuss, review and decide on issues affecting the Parishes of Ringsfield and Weston.

The continuing issues that the PC are addressing are:

Road traffic particularly speeding has remained a concern through all roads in the Parishes even through lockdown. We have seen an increase in traffic using Cromwell Road, School Road, Church Road and Kings Lane as short-cuts for traffic exiting and entering the Southern relief road with speed being a major concern. The PC have been petitioning Suffolk Highways and our local MP with the help of our District Councillor. This is all still ongoing and the aim is to achieve a suitable and reasonable use of our roads. A Community Speed watch group is being set up to help monitor and educate drivers passing through our Village at speed.

Planning -The Government's plan to build a whole raft of new houses in the East of England has impinged on Ringsfield with land to the North of School Road and in Weston with the edge of the Larkfield development. Both these sites appear in the locality plan and currently the PC, local residents and adjacent landowner are trying to affect the development on School Road for various reasons.

Covid – It has been reassuring to see how everyone has supported each other either by getting supplies or just being around for a natter. The PC sent around a flyer with contact numbers and on several occasions, we were able to assist with various errands. In the main, people helped their neighbours, good to see. As we start along the road to 'normality', what ever that is now, we thank all those who have helped whether NHS, supermarket workers, farmers, delivery drivers and all and kept us going. We also remember those who have been lost during this time and extend our condolences to family and friends.

I would like to thank the Councillors who have embraced new technology and enabled the PC to continue to meet.

I would finally like to thank Jean, our clerk who has kept the PC running virtually and has lead us through a successful financial audit.