

Clerk's report to Full Council 18th November 2021

Car parking charge increases - I have made representations to both WBC Chief Exec and Leader in this respect as the Town Council was not consulted before the changes were implemented. It would appear that the Portfolio holder misunderstood how the consultation was to be handled. We have been assured that this will not happen again.

Christmas Carol Service – this is looking like it could be a great evening. There will be late night shopping and I have secured free parking in the town car parks from 3pm. We have street entertainers, mulled wine and mince pies, and the town band and a local choir to lead the singing. Please put Thursday 16th December in your diaries.

Town team. The inaugural Town Team meeting was held on Wednesday 10th November with representatives from most of the large organisations in the Town, including Beacon Hill Focus Group. It was a really useful information sharing exercise and will hopefully lead to some collaboration between the groups on different projects. It was agreed that the meetings will be held quarterly.

Children's play area, Border Road. After councillors reported that this area is in dire need of attention, Martin has taken photos and sent them to WBC asking that remedial work be done. I have had confirmation that it has been put onto their list of works and that they are hopeful of delivering a new scheme after April 2022.

Allotment invoicing for the next year starts today, we have had a number of allotment sites handed back to us and are in the process of making offers to new allotment holders.

Lion Green orchard – quotes have been sought and this project will hopefully be completed before the end of the financial year.

New signage for the freehold areas we took on from WBC last year has been ordered and starting to be installed.

S.106 money for Lion Green playground. Pippa has been notified that there is £26k available for new equipment at Lion Green – she will be adding this to the next Amenities agenda but do let her know if you have any ideas.

Remembrance Sunday – a reminder that the church service in the town centre starts at 10am with the procession to the High St war memorial leaving St Barts Church at 10.30.

Hardship fund - we have now wound down our hardship fund as we have not had any requests for a couple of months. The balance of £700 has been paid to Haslemere Food Bank.

Surrey Hills AONB boundary review – we will be contacted as consultees some time in December so once we have the information on what it required from us Council can consider a working party and terms of reference in January Council meeting.

Table tennis tables Lion Green – we are aware that the tables have been vandalised and need to be repaired. This is best done in the Spring so Martin has diarised remedial work for April.

Bike racks in High St car park – I am informed that these will be installed some time around Christmas.

Dates for the diary:

- Christmas carols, 16th December

Please let me know if you are able to help with volunteering at the Christmas Carols.