

# IBSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## VILLAGE NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2020

Ibstone Parish Council held an Ordinary Meeting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Ibstone School. The following items include some discussed at that meeting.

### **Traffic matters**

This is a regular topic which covers speeding vehicles and pedestrian safety in particular. One issue that often arises when specific issues are discussed with the police, BCC Highways and WDC is that there is no record of any fatality on our village roads. This is of course something to be celebrated, but it means that the authorities are not so obliged to take action as they would be if death had occurred. We therefore sometimes face an uphill task in having our representations taken seriously enough.

We are aware that near misses and accidents without fatalities do occur all too regularly, but at present we have no record of them. We would therefore like to start a log of such incidents and **invite you to report anything relevant** – with photos if possible - to [clerk@ibstone.org](mailto:clerk@ibstone.org) or to any Councillor. If you have any record of historic incidents this will also help build the picture. We hope that in doing this we will be able to argue our points with greater force in the future and continue to keep our roads as safe as possible for all users.

### **Village Precept**

The village precept for 2020/1 had to be set at this meeting. It funds the operation of the Parish Council, and has been held unchanged at £7,000 for the last four years. It was discussed at length as we have become concerned over the last year at the need to have an adequate reserve fund to cover unexpected items. Examples include additional election costs if places on the PC are contested, or the cost of professional advice if required in planning and other situations where Councillors are not qualified to comment. It was therefore decided to raise the precept for 2020/1 to £9,250, bearing in mind the possibility that future increases could be capped by central government.

### **Parish Council Elections**

There will be an election for the entire Parish Council to be held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020. More information will be circulated nearer the time, but if you are interested in contributing to the running of the village by joining the Council, our clerk Deirdre Hansen [clerk@ibstone.org](mailto:clerk@ibstone.org) or any current Councillors would be pleased to explain what is involved and to answer any queries.

### **Free Recyclable Food Caddy Bags**

We have been given a box of bags sized for use in the WDC food waste caddies. They will shortly be placed in the phone box at the junction of Ibstone Road and Grays Lane and are for your use, free of charge. Please help yourself!

### **Next Meeting**

The next Ordinary Meeting will take place at 7.30 pm at Ibstone School on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020**. Please contact our Clerk or any Councillor (details on [www.ibstone.org](http://www.ibstone.org)) if you wish to raise any matter in the interim.