

Loxley Parish Council – 2020 in focus



2020 has been a busy year for the Parish Council. Just in case you had been wondering here is a quick snapshot of our work this year – its been a busy one !

Supporting the community

In March the pandemic struck. While it has not been possible to meet for much of the year Councillors and residents have been active in providing support with the formation of the ‘Loxley Angels’ - information signposting, collecting shopping and distributing medicines. Council meetings have also resumed, albeit on a virtual basis via zoom.

The park ...

The new benches for the park arrived in January – hurrah! And were to be briefly stored prior to being installed in the park – however coronavirus then struck. However, we are now pleased to report that the benches are in situ and hopefully you have had an opportunity to try them out. Two new saplings – oak and walnut - have also been planted.

...and play area where we have put together a group of villagers willing to help maintain the park longer term as well addressing more immediate priorities, namely:

- *taking down the old* unfortunately the old multi-play finally bit the dust and had to be removed after many years of useful service.
- *... refurbishing what remains...* with the help of villagers, a volunteer group spent the summer chatting, drinking coffee, eating cake – oh and they also found time to repaint park equipment and the fence, replace the basketball net, put down new rubber crumb surface below the swings, cut the hedge, repair the wooden climbing frame and fund raise to pay for it (Car boot - £635 and Treasure Hunt - £235).
- *...and buying new equipment.* In timely fashion, Council coffers have been swelled by CILS money providing some compensation for the disruption caused by new development. This will go toward purchasing replacement play equipment which if not in place, will be ordered this year. Further remedial repairs will also be made in November to the fence around the play area, including provision of a new entrance gate.

Traffic calming measures

With our traffic calming budget we have ordered a new bus shelter which will be in a safer - and certainly a much drier – location for Loxley’s bus users. You may also have noticed the new planters at village entrances which will be a visual reminder to slow down – if only to look at the flowers.

Planning and the Neighbourhood Development Plan

Finally after several years in the making, Loxley had its very own referendum on the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Organised by Warwickshire County Council with voting on 27th February 2020, the Council has been actively involved in finalising the plan, approving sites and encouraging parishioners to vote, with 86.4% voting in favour of adopting the Plan. And of course, we continue to respond to planning queries and applications. We have also made submissions at Planning Committee twice this year in support of resident planning applications and remain on hand to discuss and offer advice where requested.