

### Annual Parish Meeting

Parish Councils are required to host an Annual Parish Meeting between 1 March and 1 June each year. Last year's Annual Parish Council Meeting was cancelled due to uncertainties surrounding Covid. Due to ongoing uncertainties we have not yet scheduled a date for this year and do not yet know whether it will be via Zoom or at a suitable venue.

Our suggestion is that given the uncertainty we would welcome a written report from our usual contributors and any other clubs, groups or societies. The report would outline difficulties experienced during the pandemic, alternative strategies deployed to engage members, funding issues, diversification of resources etc. We are aware that several groups continued throughout the year but not in the traditional way. We will compile all such reports as part of our story of Covid in Market Bosworth 2020. These reports will be published on the parish council website and will form the basis of discussion at the annual parish meeting if it is held.

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### Contacting the Parish Council

If you have any concerns that need reporting to the Parish Council or require Council help and advice please contact any Councillor directly, or the Clerk, by email: [clerk@marketbosworth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@marketbosworth-pc.gov.uk) or telephone 01455 291867 .

The Clerk works flexible hours, but is usually in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays to take calls and respond to emails. Unfortunately, the office remains closed to the public at present due to covid restrictions.

#### Address:

Parish Council Office  
Parish Hall  
Park Street  
Market Bosworth  
Nuneaton  
Warks  
CV13 0LL



Parish Council meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. Members of the public are able to attend and listen to proceedings.



# Market Bosworth Parish Council

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## Newsletter

Spring 2021

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### Welcome to this Spring Newsletter.

A very big thank you to all.

As residents, businesses, schools, health services or the many other stakeholders, we thank you for your patience and community spirit over what has been a very difficult 12 months. Similarly all the front line workers that have kept us fed, delivered our orders and emptied our bins, educated our children and kept our essential shops open—we really do appreciate and value your part in supporting our community.

We also apologise for not issuing an Autumn newsletter, but with regulations and guidelines changing we spent much of last year running just to catch up.

Covid 19 has and continues to change lives throughout the world. We are very lucky that our community has the space and countryside allowing us to safely participate in many outdoor activities. We remain a magnet for cyclists, ramblers and visitors who add to our numbers whether on the Park or our country lanes. We would encourage all our community to maintain social distancing.

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### Items in this issue include:

- Welcome
- Parish Council and Covid
- Speed Traffic Report
- Bosworth Vision
- The Parish field
- Parish Council Grants
- Census 21
- New councillor viewpoint
- Finances and Precept
- Annual Parish Meeting

## Parish Council—pandemic related activities.

Inevitably, the first Covid impact was the inability for us as a council to meet face to face. Councillors have risen to the challenge of Zoom meetings instead, and we have been fortunate that our Borough Councillor, Maureen Cook, our County Councillor, Ivan Ould, and members of the public have continued to join us at our meetings.

As yet our meetings have not been as lively as those in Handforth Cheshire, so we have not 'trended' on social media. However, there has been a lot of parish council activity and whilst appearing mundane, some has nevertheless generated some comment. Facebook appears to be the place to air opinion, but unfortunately comments in this arena are often based on speculation rather than information.

**Play areas** Although play areas had to be closed at the start of lockdown, under government regulation, we were able to open them up safely relatively quickly. Although some equipment had to be decommissioned to maintain safe distancing, the play areas have been incredibly well used not only in summer but throughout the autumn and winter.

**Public toilets** This was a more complex issue and the closure was not a decision the council undertook lightly. We were not only subject to the Covid 19 guidance but had to meet Health and Safety regulations. Despite attempts for the first few months to address the issues it was the end of summer before we were able to agree a new contract to clean the toilets on the required frequency. Since reopening we have been pleased with positive comments and feedback from the public who value these facilities.

**Cones, cones and more cones.** The appearance of seemingly hundreds of cones was as much a surprise to us as it was to everyone else. We were aware that social distancing measures were to be put in place with Main Street and Market Place to be temporarily made part of the one-way system. The implementation and installation to



## Parish Council Finances and the 2021-22 Precept

In this item we will try to explain the key principles as to how the parish council receives funding, and the basis on which the parish council's element of your council tax is calculated. Funding for parish councils is made up from developer contributions, grants and money raised through the 'precept' (council tax requirement).

Developer contributions: these are known as 'Section 106' contributions. They are ringfenced for specific purposes and cannot be spent on anything else e.g. to maintain a play area or open space incorporated in to the development site. Once the S106 funds are spent the parish council picks up the costs in future years.

Grants: Like other organisations, the parish council can apply for grants where it is eligible to do so. These have been useful for projects such as improving paths at the cemetery, carrying out improvements to the Memorial Garden and funding our Neighbourhood Plan. Grant monies can only be spent on the project for which they were obtained.

The precept: Each year the parish council sets a budget. This is based on the total projected expenditure (including out of reserves) less projected income, (including cemetery and car park revenue, and transferring monies from reserves). The difference between the expenditure and income is the precept. The amount of precept required is submitted to the Borough Council which calculates what each household must contribute to reach that precept. The calculation is based on the 'council tax base' which can vary year on year depending on many factors such as number of empty premises, or eligibilities for discounts. The precept requested for 2021-22 is the same as for 2020-21 but householders will see an increase of 0.5% for the parish council's element of their council tax from April 2021. Money raised from the precept should be spent as allocated in the budget. However, unspent and available amounts may be moved to other budget headings or to an earmarked reserve as appropriate (virement).

Examples of ringfenced reserves currently held by the parish council are S106 money for maintenance of the play areas, and grant awards for ongoing work for the Neighbourhood Plan. Examples of earmarked reserves include money set aside through the precept for future large projects such as upgrading the public toilets, maintaining the Market Place, developing the cemetery and even emergency election costs.

## New Councillor viewpoint - Frank Kay



I moved with my wife Lindsay to Market Bosworth in 2016 to be nearer to our two daughters and their families who live in the town. We are also now closer to our son and his family who live in Lincolnshire.

I have always tried to be involved in the communities where I have lived and was a member of the PTAs at both the primary and high schools attended by our children whilst we

lived in Cheshire, and I served a term as PTA chair at the high school.

Before joining the Parish Council I was an active member of the Neighbourhood Forum (now called the Bosworth Vision Planning Group), helping to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan remains robust. I will be helping the group develop future plans which will define how the community wants the town to develop up to 2036. I maintain the Bosworth Vision website, which is in the process of a major restructuring to make it easier to use and this site will play a key role in keeping people informed and enabling them to get involved in the development of the new plan.

Lindsay and I are actively involved with our grandchildren and I am very aware of what both young and old expect from their local council. I have no political affiliation and was pleased to be co-opted onto the Parish Council when a vacancy arose last year. I am keen to play my part to help ensure that Market Bosworth continues to be a vibrant place in which to do business, live and visit.

Since joining the Parish Council I have continued to take a keen interest in planning matters, I am a member of the Town Centre redevelopment group and the group investigating the provision of electric vehicle charging points in the town.

My main concerns, like many of my neighbours, relate to local planning, parking, road safety, and the maintenance of recreational areas and footpaths. The planning process is incredibly complex and is about to undergo a fundamental upheaval so it will be extremely important that the Parish Council keeps a close eye on developments and I am pleased to be able to play my part in this.

I can be contacted at [f.kay@marketbosworth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:f.kay@marketbosworth-pc.gov.uk)



achieve the proposed outcome left a lot to be desired. Following our complaints, cones were supposedly to be replaced by barriers and the plethora of incorrect road signs removed and replaced with relevant signage. Regrettably again the desired outcome was not implemented by the responsible parties, so we ended up with barriers

and even more cones and motorway sized roadworks signs that blocked the pavements. Car parking on the road outside the shops ended up being blocked off and those of us with some hair began to tear it out. In the end Councillors themselves spent many hours rearranging and removing excess garbage and rearranging to provide a reasonably working system, which provided a number of carparking spaces, loading bays and safe socially distanced pedestrian access and queuing space outside the Co-op.

For a few weeks all worked well, and we received many positive comments saying how well the one way system worked and how much safer pedestrians felt when crossing the roads.

The last week in October brought a minor storm and we found barriers and cones strewn across the roads. Despite all our attempts to salvage them and request the agency who had installed them to provide sensible heavyweight barriers and cones, they were removed. Fortunately so was the nonsensical sign that appeared one day inviting pedestrians to socially distance by using the road.



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**Liaison** Thank you to our clerk, Cathy who diligently kept us informed with the almost daily but often conflicting guidance sent with good intent from many different official organisations. We also had to collaborate with other councils on a regular basis to obtain the correct social distancing signage, banners and notices we were required to place around the town and in key areas such as the play areas.

## Parish Council activities as usual

Whilst much time was given to finding solutions to the opening of the toilets and cone concerns, other functions very much continued where possible. Contractors were sought and agreed for new paths in the cemetery, repairs were made to the setts in the Market Place, and next phase plans for the Memorial Garden Project have been progressed.

During the last year we said goodbye to Susan Ward who had served many years on the parish council particularly representing Cedar Drive residents. Frank Kay submitted an expression of interest in the casual vacancy that arose after Susan left and he was co-opted. Frank has thrown himself into the work of the council with enthusiasm. See his profile elsewhere in the newsletter.

We also gave our thoughts to the passing of Dick Symonds, who retired from the council in 2019 after 40 years of service. Scores of people lined the streets as Dick's cortege made its way through the village.

The Market Place Redevelopment Plan work scheduled to be completed by Leicestershire Highways was halted but our Developing Communities Fund grant for the project has been carried forward for a further year.

The Rural Housing Needs survey was carried out at the end of last year and we await the results from the survey.

The parish council has also updated many policies during the course of the year, undertaken its statutory functions and financial activities, tendered for and agreed new contracts for its open spaces, cemetery, play areas, Parish Field and Memorial Gardens maintenance contracts.

The council agreed to award grants to Bosworth in Bloom, Market Bosworth Scouts and the Bosworth Festival based on their satisfactory applications. The council also agreed to make a donation to the Royal British Legion as usual.

One area of activity that seems as though it increased during the pandemic is the number of planning applications we have had to comment on. There were also two planning appeal outcomes which acknowledged the importance of our Neighbourhood Plan policies in determining the outcome.

## Parish Council Grant Awards for 2021-22

Each year Market Bosworth Parish Council offers grants to worthy local community groups and organisations. Grants awarded for 2020-21 were agreed as follows:

Bosworth in Bloom £3,000;

Market Bosworth Festival £500;

Market Bosworth Scouts £1500

MBRBL £50.



Details of how to apply can be found on the Parish Council website [www.marketbosworth-pc.gov.uk](http://www.marketbosworth-pc.gov.uk) **The closing date for applications for the next round of grant funding is the 1st November 2021, with payments made in April 2022**

census  
2021

Be a part of  
Census 2021

Census day is 21 March 2021.

By taking part and encouraging others to do the same, you'll help make sure your community gets the services it needs.

## Moving the census online

Census 2021 will be the first digital census. It's easy to do and can be done on any device. You'll get an access code from the Office for National Statistics. Simply go online and enter the code into their secure website to get started. They will be in contact nearer the time to let you know what you need to do.



## The Parish Field



Parish Councillors are regularly asked 'Why can't the Parish Field be turned into a car park to help relieve the parking problems in Market Bosworth?'

The answer to this question is 'It is a Field in Trust'. Fields in Trust is a charity incorporated by Royal Charter in 1925.

In 2012 the ambition of the

Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge was to safeguard 2012 outdoor spaces as a permanent community legacy from the Olympics and the Diamond Jubilee.

Market Bosworth Parish Council applied to have this status conferred on the Parish Field to protect it for future generations as a space for outdoor, play or recreation.

The history of the Parish Field is that in May 1934 William Trivett of the Red Lion Hotel in Market Bosworth bought the land, which is numbered 420 on the Ordnance Survey Map of Market Bosworth, for £90. This is the piece of land which is made up of the Memorial Garden and the Parish Field.

He died in May 1942 and in March 1946 his widow sold this parcel of land to the Council for £150. Local people fundraised for the purchase of the land but not enough money was collected for the proposals to equip a recreation park.

The field is used regularly by families or groups of youngsters to play football and other games or just to congregate. Over the years the Parish Church, Scout and Guide groups, the Bosworth Festival and the Bosworth Society have used the space for a variety of activities for free.

Some income has been derived from wedding receptions for local residents and from medieval fairs.

There is no electricity or water supply available on the site. The cost of amenities has been looked in to by the parish council but was found to be too expensive.

The Parish Council believes it remains a safe outside space for all the residents to enjoy as was envisaged all those years ago.

## Speed Traffic Report.



It is just 12 months since the Parish Council first placed the Speed Indicator Device to monitor traffic passing through The Park. Just to give an indication of the findings we took a snapshot of the data for the following periods.

13<sup>th</sup> Feb to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

During this period it was found that a total of 48,064 vehicles passed through The Park, an average of 2,422 per day. Of these between 17-20% were found to be over the speed limit, *the fastest recorded vehicle was travelling at 70MPH On 27<sup>th</sup> Feb at 20:45.*

This of course is excessive considering it is a 40MPH speed limit!

Generally speaking though the large majority of speeding drivers are travelling at an average of 41.2 MPH.

The average speed of those conforming to the speed limit was found to be 35.2 MPH.

13<sup>th</sup> June to 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020.

During this period, which of course was during the Coronavirus lockdown, it was found that far fewer vehicles passed through The Park, a total of 37,221.

A daily average of 1,772. Of these between 13 -17% were speeding. *Yet again the fastest vehicle was found to be doing 70MPH on 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 5:35 am.*

The average speeder was doing 40.4 MPH.

In general though the average speed is 34.8 MPH.

13<sup>th</sup> Nov to 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2020.

Having the country now moved into another lockdown we noted a change in vehicle numbers yet again, this time 41,652 vehicles were counted, *the fastest recorded again found to be doing 70 MPH on 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec at 6:10 am.*

A daily average of 1,983 vehicles with an average speed of 34.6 MPH, the speeding average was between 14-17% with an average speed of 40.6 MPH.

In general, analysis of the figures shows that the purchase of the Speed Indicator Device has been worthwhile as the majority of traffic is adhering to the speed limit.

## The Parish Council and Bosworth Vision background.

Those of you who have lived in or been associated with Market Bosworth since 2012 will be aware of magnificent efforts of this community to be one of the first in the country to support the development of a Neighbourhood Plan. As 'pathfinders' for Neighbourhood Planning we had to pick our way through a new and hitherto untested government scheme and a legal framework that tested even the professional planners.

Through a series of open public meetings, the proposed scheme was outlined and enough of you as residents offered your support to form a working group of the parish council. Colloquially it became known as the Neighbourhood Forum.

Following two years of extensive consultations with you as residents, businesses, and other stakeholders we were able to define the vision, aims and objectives to shape Market Bosworth going forward over the next 10 years or so. Whilst most of the plan was devoted to planning and developments you also focussed on the rural character, the countryside, sport and leisure and heritage as being key attributes within our parish. We have used this context and the policies in the Plan to great effect since the Plan passed referendum in 2015.

The Neighbourhood Forum group continued to meet regularly and work with the parish council

producing other supporting materials such as the Station Field Design Brief, The Tree and Hedgerow survey, vetting planning applications and responding accordingly and evaluating and monitoring the Plan and its fitness for purpose. The parish council as the 'qualifying body' were able to produce a development plan based on the actions identified in the Plan setting out short, medium, and long-term objectives to meet these aspirations.

### The Parish Council and Bosworth Vision where we are now.

Although the plan remains in date, new planning regulations were introduced in 2019, a government White Paper identifying new priorities was introduced in 2020, and Hinckley and Bosworth will soon be consulting on their new Local Plan. Also, we are subject to interest from some big national developers who see Market Bosworth as an immensely desirable location. People want to move to Market Bosworth for the very reasons you identified in the Plan. Developers do not care if they destroy the very things you value; the open countryside, the heritage, the facilities and are not concerned about whether there is adequate infrastructure, whether our



## Market Bosworth Parish Council Bosworth Vision Planning Group

*(A Working Group of the Parish Council)*



schools can accommodate more pupils, if our health provision can expand to meet demand. Houses sell very well, and developers cannot or do not want to see beyond the £ signs. Developers Gladmans submitted plans for development on Shenton Lane. We sent you all postcards outlining the issues and over 580 of you sent in responses objecting to the proposal. It was refused planning permission but no doubt they will appeal. At the end of last year Richborough Homes submitted an application to develop the land in front of the golf course. This was the site clearly refused by residents at consultation. Due to lack of time for us to send out information about this development far fewer objections were received. The outcome of this proposal has yet to be decided. It is never too late to object especially if you feel you were not adequately made aware of the proposal by the Borough Council. The details can be found by using the reference 20/01021/OUT in

the 'simple search' on the Hinckley and Bosworth website Planning page.

Over the last few months, we have had a Housing Needs Assessment carried out by AECOM, a nationally recognised planning consultancy and we have had our current Plan

fully screened. These documents have been submitted to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council so they can 'update' our Plan and ensure it carries maximum weight in planning decisions for the next two years.

### The Parish Council and Bosworth Vision moving forward.

We have also begun work on a new website as the existing one has become somewhat dated. This is work in progress but will be launched shortly on the same URL [www.bosworthvision.org.uk](http://www.bosworthvision.org.uk)

The Neighbourhood Forum working group is now known as the Bosworth Vision Planning Group and already has several new members. We welcome many more as we start the task of a full review of our Neighbourhood Plan and ensure we update the Plan to reflect your current aims, objectives and aspirations for the next generation. It is important we capture the aspirations of all age groups in our town as we need to ensure we address the needs for future generations.

If you are willing to work with us on this next phase, please contact the parish council [clerk@marketbosworth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@marketbosworth-pc.gov.uk)