

ANNUAL REPORT

April 2023



TRAFFIC SPEED



There is a continued concern about the speed of vehicles through the village.

In view of this the Council has been investigating the purchase of a SPEED INDICATOR SIGN (SID) that indicates vehicles' actual speed. Owing to the high price of the unit it was decided to delay purchase and accrue funds over the next couple of years. West Sussex Highways Department has agreed to improve the 30mph signage through the village.

In the meantime it was decided to re-form the SPEEDWATCH TEAM and we are awaiting further briefing from the Police. More volunteers are wanted. Please contact dsimlach@aol.com



PLAYGROUND FACELIFT

This year the equipment and safety matting will be jet washed and the climbing frame and swing supports are being re-painted.

Currently a fencing contractor is carrying out an overview of the perimeter as the woodwork has been in place over 20 years.

In the past year we purchased a new picnic table and seats made of a material that does not require maintenance.

PROPOSED CYCLE/PEDESTRIAN WAY

The Parish Council has made an application for funding to improve the footpath/cycleway from The South Downs Way at Manor Farm and dropping into Cocking by the war memorial. More news later as applications must be in by the end of March 2023.

VILLAGE CLEAN UP

Many thanks to those who turned out last year to carry out a spring clean around the village. From the number of sacks filled it would appear to have been a great success.

This year arrangements are in hand for clearing the footpath which runs alongside the A286 from The Croft bus shelter up to the Heyshott turning. Look out for posters advising the date.



WORKS AROUND THE VILLAGE

- A notice board is planned for The Croft green and should be in place just after Easter.
- The Bus Shelter by the garage has a new side window installed after the original was damaged.
- One of the benches on the village green has had new slats installed and the second bench should be repaired shortly.
- The broken bench along Crypt Lane, overlooking the stream, is shortly being replaced through the generosity of the Sculpture Studio.

Parish Clerk: Greg Burt T: 07739 506 275 or Email: parishclerk@cocking.org



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GREENING COCKING CAMPAIGN

Thanks to Terena Plowright who introduced us to the benefits of Green initiatives and all houses in the village were circulated with information leaflets regarding things they can do to both save money and improve the environment.

Residents were asked to display a copy of the leaflet in their window to indicate they were adopting



some of the advice. The results of the initiatives showed that together we saved around 62 tonnes of CO₂ and approximately £31,000 pa could be saved if we continued with the initiatives. (See attached picture)

Greening Cocking has also offered to follow up the West Sussex County Council Pollinator Highways Scheme and make a proposal to the Parish Council on ways that Cocking could benefit.

FIRST AID TRAINING

The Parish Council organised and paid for 10 people to attend a first aid training course in the Village Hall. From reports of those attending it was very beneficial.

We would like to remind residents that the defibrillator is located in the carpark to the south side of the Blue Bell and thank Wayne Renney for checking it every week.

LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

District and Parish Council Elections take place on **4th May 2023**. Remember you will need photo ID to vote. If anyone is interested in becoming a parish councillor please talk to one of your councillors or contact the Parish Clerk.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council meets in the Village Hall on the first Monday of every month except August. If a bank holiday falls on the first Monday the meeting reverts to the next Monday.

COUNCILLORS

Frances Russell	<i>Chair</i>
David Imlach	<i>Vice Chair</i>
Greg Burt	<i>Parish Clerk</i>
Andrew Cornwell	
Jean Jackson	
Richard Marks	
Jane Elliott-Renney	
David Summerfield	

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