Ravenshead Parish Council

Planting in the precinct and in barrels around the village

Parish Councillors were busy in the precinct this week planting the barrels with Autumn/Winter plants. We are very fortunate that in addition to these and the planters at the Leisure Centre, we have so many volunteers who look after other barrels, including those on Longdale Lane, the junction with Longdale and Chapel Lane, Mavis Avenue junction and Sheepwalk Lane junction. Not forgetting the old telephone box outside of the Post Office.

Armistice Day

Do join us at the Armistice Day Service, to be held outside the Village Hall on **Wednesday 11th November**, starting at 10.55 am. The short service, led by Revd. Richard Kirby and the Royal British Legion, will focus on the 11 young men from the former hamlets, which now make up the current village of Ravenshead, who lost their lives in the two World Wars. Musical entertainment will be provided, as usual, by children from our two primary schools, inside the Village Hall after the event. Teas and coffees will also be provided, for a donation to the poppy fund.

This year, the event is again being supported by Lagan Homes, the developer of the site on Longdale Lane where street names are being used, that recognise the fallen from this village.

Do look out for the knitted and crotched poppies coming down from the flag pole. A big thank you goes to the U3a knitting group for all their hard work in supplying the poppies.

As is now a tradition, 220 lamp post poppies have been again installed around the village by six Parish Councillors. Thank you to them for recently washing, drying, threading the cable ties, installing and eventually taking them down.

Haddon Road Play Park

We were delighted to reopen the newly refurbished play park recently. A big thank you goes to my fellow Parish Councillors and Parish Clerks for securing the funding, at no cost to ratepayers. See photos from the opening event, elsewhere in the newsletter. Our attention now turns to securing funding for replacing some of the older equipment at the Abbey Gates park.

Christmas Lights switch on – Saturday 28th November

As advertised elsewhere in the newsletter, the Parish Council, will once again be organising the annual Christmas Lights switch on, supported by the Village Hall Management Committee, the Scouts, the WI and the Rotary Club. The evening will begin at 4.30pm with the children's lantern parade (please provide your own lanterns with battery lights), leaving from the Sherwood Ranger PH and following Santa on his sleigh along Church Drive, ready for the lights to be switched on at 5.00pm. The event will follow the normal pattern with the

opportunity to visit Santa in his grotto, a disco and a grand raffle with some fantastic prizes kindly donated by local businesses. The bar will be open, along with the sale of teas, coffees, hot chocolate and mulled wine inside the hall. Hot food will be available outside. There will be the opportunity to sing carols and Dan and Peter Johnson from Johno Promotions, will be playing music and setting up their snow machine again. Children from the AJ School of Dance will be performing, after the lights have been switched on.

Please, if possible, bring **cash to purchase** raffle tickets and mulled wine. We look forward to seeing you there.

Parking issues.

Residents have once again contacted the Parish Council about blocked footpaths due to inconsiderate parking. Please do check if you place wheels on the pavement, that there is room for a mobility scooter or a child's buggy to get past. Kighill Lane has in particular been highlighted as a problem pavement.

Football Pitches

Both Ravenshead football clubs are fully aware that that the Parish Council has changed the contactor who is responsible for seeding and fertilising the football pitches. I just wanted parents of young footballers to be aware too. Traditionally, reseeding has taken place at the end of each season. However, due to an exceptionally hot summer, advice has been taken, and the decision made, to re seed in September. Double the amount of seed compared to previous years, was sown by the new contractor and it was drilled into the ground in two different directions. That seed has now started to germinate, we are pleased to see this after very little doing so in the last few years. Pitches will not be perfect this season, but we are expecting that after re seeding again next September, a noticeable change will be seen.

If you look at the pitches now, you can see the lines of grass coming through from where it was drilled in. The extra fertiliser recently applied will also help to thicken the existing grass.

Martin Smith

Chairman, Ravenshead Parish Council