

Communications Working Party

Notes from a meeting held on 24 April 2017 with updates in bold dated 03 May 2017

Present: Carol Bilverstone, Pauline McLeod, Helen Nel

Apologies: Bob Child, Freda Fotheringham, Doug McLeod

We talked in some depth about the various communications channels currently in use across the parish and I think we agreed that the combination of “traditional” (noticeboards, two local newspapers and a dedicated parish newsletter) and “modern” (the parish website, facebook pages (parish and parish council) serve very well. There are a core group of people who are very well connected and involved with various clubs and societies but there are many more who are “unconnected” and it is likely that those people are happy with this. We agreed that the combination of traditional and modern communication tools in use do in fact reach every parishioner.

We agreed that the majority of social and general community activities in the parish are finding it difficult to attract new and younger membership and the village hall needs to attract new business. Pauline will publish a notice in the next parish newsletter to the effect that “your parish needs you”.

We agreed to prepare a second “Communications” bid for the parish council to submit to the Ramsey Windfarm Community Benefit Fund to continue with the work we started two years ago. This will include:

- WiFi costs for the village hall. **£28 per month = £672**
- Parish Website. **£98.12 for two years.**
- Connectivity of the projector in the village hall. Carol will contact Geoff Carrington to see if it would be possible to improve connectivity e.g. via wifi rather than cables which unfortunately do not appear to be sustainable in this environment. **The Management Committee has purchased, and Geoff will shortly connect, a Google Chromecast device. This will enable wireless connection to the projector from Laptops and also Tablets and Smartphones via the Village Hall WiFi. The projector will project what appears on the device screen in a process called screen mirroring.**
- Parish Newsletter (colour printing). Pauline will consult with the newsletter committee for a projection of costs for the next two years.
- Moving the “Upwood” sign to incorporate Fairmead. Carol has confirmation that although this is a “highways responsibility” it is not a “statutory requirement” and it would therefore be possible to request funds from the fund to support such an initiative. She is still pursuing CCC with a view to having this (but preferably “Upwood and the Raveleys” or “Welcome to Upwood and the Raveleys” signs at each of the five approaches to the parish (it seems that these may not be as impossible as first suggested) included as part of the Local Highway Initiative

We agreed that this was a good starting point but that we would welcome further input from those who were unable to attend. We will meet again during the summer with a view to finalising the bid in September.

Carol Bilverstone
24.04.17 & 03.05.17