

## **Parish Council Report**

### **Who wants to look at rubbish bins??**

There have been a number of complaints about refuse and food bins that are left around the village on non-collection days. They are very unsightly and could be unhygienic. The worst areas are in Brook Street. Nobody wants to look at rubbish – their own or other people's! It is an offence to leave refuse bins on the highway except when a collection is imminent and BDC will prosecute offenders. All properties which have pedestrian access to the rear should be able to put out the bins/bags for collection. It can be done, in Bridge Street, for example, where many properties open directly on to the pavement, people use the rear access to put out their bins and rubbish weekly – there are never any bins on display in that area. Regarding bins left within the curtilage of properties, but visible from the street, please consider how they look to passers by and visitors to the village. Let's clean up our act – preferably before the judging of the best-kept village competition – perhaps we shouldn't even bother to enter this year!

### **War Memorial Green**

In contrast to the previous item it's good that some people really do care how our village looks. Thanks to Mick Gell for all his work on refurbishing the Memorial Green and garden. With the help of Sue Gell and Sharon Kennedy he has planted 48 David Austin 'Trumpeter' floribunda red roses. We look forward to a brilliant display in the summer.

### **Planning applications**

Shepherds Cottage: to replace timber corner post: there were no objections provided the Historic Building Officer gives approval.

The Vine public house: proposed conversion of existing barns into holiday accommodation: although the Parish Council is supportive of the application to preserve these listed barns and wishes to encourage a developing business there is concern at the inclusion of metal framed windows and doors; there are also concerns that sight lines exiting the car park are restricted, car users already park outside unnecessarily and users of the barns would displace existing parking.

Little Lodge Farm: change of use for existing building: the possible increase in traffic movement is a concern as the class of change applied for is broad and could involve a variety of activities.

There were no objections to the following applications for tree work:

Hillside Cottage: cut down eucalyptus and cut back yew.

Place Farm: fruit tree management

Westfield House: management of apple, walnut and cypress trees

### **Date of next meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm in the Town Hall Committee Room. The Public Forum is held from 8-8.15pm.

The Annual Parish Assembly will be on Friday April 29th in the Town Hall.

Janet Dyson, Chair