**February 2020 Newsletter**

Dear Parishioner

**Parish Precept**

As is the rule, the Parish Council met in January to discuss projects and to set the Budget and Precept for the coming year starting in April 2020. After seven years when small annual reductions were possible, this year there will be a modest increase in the Precept. The increase will amount to just 23 pence per Band D household per annum. Projects planned for coming year include new blinds for the Village Hall, Tree Surgery, Road repairs and other routine but costly items such as Structural Surveys.

**Knight’s Hill Inquiry**

As you are aware, the Inquiry into the proposed development of 600 properties at Knight’s Hill was held on the 14th to 17th January 2020. On reflection, all of those involved consider it to have been a fair hearing. This was due in no small measure to the efficiency, knowledge and fair mindedness of the lady Inspector leading the event. She will now be preparing a report with her recommendations to present to the new Secretary of State in April, who will be announcing the final decision sometime in the autumn. We wait in hope and expectation.

**Green Verges**

You will have noted that South Wootton in Bloom volunteers have been improving the appearance of some of the verges by planting flower beds around the village and there are plans to extend this by planting bulbs and shrub beds. It is disappointing that a number of the green verges have become muddy patches as a result of cars and other vehicles being parked on them. To avoid these eyesores, please can I ask residents not to park in this way so that the grass can re-grow.

**Property names and numbers**

A few years ago we sent out letters to residents in certain areas of the Parish about the importance of displaying Street Numbers. We have been asked by the Borough Council to remind residents that it is a legal requirement to display house numbers, this helps when members of the public are trying to identify particular properties and for the Emergency Services to be able to respond efficiently when called to an incident. Every numbered property in any street or block of flats should be marked with numbers clearly readable facing the road. Mounting may be on gates, gate posts, doors or walls. If you have not at present, got a number displayed at your property, please could you organise this as soon as practicable.

 Your sincerely

David Price

Chairman of the Parish Council

**Parish Councillors**

Mr D Price 675807 Mr H Hofmeister 673120 Mrs M Albinson 670241

Mrs D Gotts 676043 Mr R Williamson 671486 Mr K Reynolds 675548

Mr I Jordan 670228 Mr S Scales 676168 **Borough Councillors**

Mr A Evans 673367 Mr J P Smallwood 675684 Mrs E Nockolds 670264

Mrs T Banks 672303 Mr M Narborough 673660 Mr G Middleton

Mr P Bland 671100 Mr S Wells 675078 **County Councillor** Mr S Eyre 07428890229