

## WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 30 MARCH 2022

OFF ROAD BIKERS - There was an initiative implemented by our Neighbourhood Police between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of this month, to employ a drone in the Elnup Wood/John Pit area, to locate off road bikers but, unfortunately, they were not able to detect or stop bikes. There has been a rumour circulated on Facebook that the damage to the bridge in Elnup Wood was caused by off road bikers but there is no evidence at all that it is the case.

GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN - THE BIG BAG CHALLENGE - In pleasant sunshine, a select team of volunteers spent several hours litter-picking in hot-spots in Shevington village. I would like to give my huge appreciation to those involved, especially Elaine, Sheila and Izzy who give support regularly. There was a particular issue on the Vicarage Lane Playing fields where a group of teenage boys had gathered the previous evening and their discarded rubbish was strewn over the area behind the allotments. Volunteers of the teams that play there had also helped to tidy up the area.

ROAD SAFETY OUTSIDE ST BERNADETTE'S - Mrs Crowder, the headteacher, asked for my help and support after a child was hurt in a road accident outside the school last week. As Councillors, we were instrumental in the installation of the crossing on Old Lane and in the reinstatement of the Crossing Patrol Officer. However, I did suggest before the Lockdown last year that a Safer Streets initiative, might be adopted: anyone living within this zone (walking bubble) will be expected to walk or cycle to school. Anyone driving from outside the area will be expected to park in a safe place outside of the bubble and walk the last five minutes. This will help to reduce congestion around school and make the zone a safer and healthier place. This is now being considered.

**MILES LANE EXTRA CARE FACILITY** - work has been underway completing all the required surveys to progress the design of the scheme. The acoustic surveys, a tree survey, ecological surveys and an air quality assessment, as well as a number of utility services surveys, have been completed. A number of these are particularly relevant to this scheme due to the proximity to the motorway in order to ascertain any required mitigation measures to ensure residents' enjoyment of the new properties.

There has been extensive liaison with the planning department regarding the design, including with the heritage and urban design officers. It is now hopeful that there will soon be a design which is broadly acceptable to planning, which will be shared with ourselves and the community.

There is to be a community consultation during May and, having spoken to the library, it is likely that their meeting room will be booked for a drop-in event around the 9<sup>th</sup> May. At this event people will be able to view the proposed plans, speak to all those involved in its development and eventual running of the extra care scheme once it is completed.

There has also been progress in terms of the specification of the building. It looks increasingly likely it will accommodate 28 units, the majority of which will be one-bedroom apartments (which is our most in demand property type) with several two bedroom apartments and a number of apartments specifically adapted for wheelchair users. Solar panels and a ground source heat pump will reduce energy bills.

It is intended to provide a new access road into the scheme which serves both the development and the GP and clinic next door. Liaison is underway with the highways department regarding the road and associated drainage, with the intention to get this road adopted. TFGM have agreed that the bus stop on the front of the site can be

## Appendix A

relocated 15m down Miles Lane as this currently sits where the new road would enter the site.

Following the public consultation in May, they will look to submit a planning application for the scheme and also make a bid to Homes England for grant monies to support the scheme. The procurement of a contractor will be undertaken during summer, with a proposed start on site at the end of 2022. These dates are subject to some change but it is hoped that the work with the planners has reached a point where the scheme, following community consultation, can soon progress to a planning application in the near future.