

These reports are now written in turn by members of the Council and this is my first effort as a new Councillor. Maximum concentration was therefore required and hopefully this brief synopsis is an accurate summary of what was discussed.

Three councillors were absent and three members of the public were in attendance. Most of the meeting was routine administration but the following items might be of interest to Parishioners:-

Enquiries have been made about having our red telephone box listed to prevent it being replaced by one of the much less attractive modern versions but this is sadly not possible.

The heavy rains in July caused flooding in several places in the village where the soakaways were overwhelmed. These have been reported to the Highways Dept for the necessary remedial action.

Concerns were expressed regarding the Government White Paper proposing the relaxing of the Planning Laws particularly in relation to major developments. Council is to write to our MP.

The hedge on the corner of Main Road and Shelleys Lane is now severely overgrown and impeding the footway. Representations have been made to the owner, via the agent, who is trying to sell the field in an attempt to get the hedge cut back. So far this has been without success but the owner has agreed to carry out this work. Council will keep a watchful eye on the situation.

Someone has dumped a small amount of asbestos in Randles Lane. This has still to be removed by SDC despite reminders. The Clerk will continue to press for its removal.

There was discussion about the obligations of anyone hiring the Recreation Ground regarding the clearance of the site of all rubbish. It is to be made clear in all future lettings the exact terms on which the field is let particularly the clearance of all litter.

The Council was asked for permission by a local branch of Cancer Research to hold a second hand book sale on the Pound at the same time as the next plant sale is held. This was granted.

A request was made by Councillor Martin who publishes the KPC news letter for articles for inclusion in his next edition. It is vital that this excellent News sheet be kept going so please contribute. These need not be confined to councillors and parishioners are also urged to contribute.

Councillor Malzer read out the usual depressing list of crimes reported over the last month – nine in all. Cars in the road outside Knockholt Station have

yet again been vandalised. This area not in our Parish but as the station bears our name it is of concern to us.

The new Speed Watch monitor has now been received and those intrepid volunteers who are going to man it have are? being instructed on how to use it.

There was much discussion about a request from Knockholt Village Tree Society Trust for a dog litter bin to be erected by the entrance to Vavasseurs Wood. I am afraid your scribe's attention wandered at this stage but I think the recommendation was that in the first instance a polite notice be erected (as has been successfully done on the North Downs Way) asking dog owners to remove any dog excrement.

The next meeting will be held on 3rd September at 7.45pm in the Village Centre. All parishioners will be most welcome.

Tim Broadhurst