



As I write this it's 25 degrees, clear blue skies and a truly beautiful day. I'm sure that most of us hope it stays that way for a while, and I say that as an allotment holder! But - there's always a 'but' - there may be some amongst us, elderly or disabled neighbours perhaps, who may be struggling with the heat. If you know someone who may be, even if you don't know them well, please try to contact them each day just to make sure they're OK and to see if they need anything. And, if you're one of those struggling, please remember that you can call the Angels on **01263 363456** and we'll be there for you.

As I begin my fifth year of leading the Parish Council, I'm struck by the fact that I find it to be just as much a privilege now as I did five years ago. There's something very special about being part of a wonderful team of volunteers that give up their free time to try to make things better for everyone that shares our parish, and I'll do my level best over the next 12 months to do just that.

Talking of which, as I promised to do at the Annual Parish Meeting in May, I have arranged a parish-wide Public Meeting to discuss the possible design changes to the junction where The Street and Hall Lane meet the Knapton Road, to try and make it safer for pedestrians and road users alike. It's going to take place in the **Village Hall** on **11<sup>th</sup> July** starting at **6:30pm**, so if you have a point of view you'd like to share or would like to be part of the discussion put it in your calendar.

Steve White, Senior Engineer for County Highways, has agreed to come along and share his thoughts on how the traffic speeding issues can be dealt with effectively and to hear our thoughts and ideas. Obviously, Steve won't be able to make any decisions or commitments at the meeting since all considerations will have to be approved by the tech design guys at Highways, but he'll make a note of any views or suggestions made at the meeting and take them back to the designers at Highways so that they can put together a re-modelling design based on them, which they in turn will forward to us for our approval.

I'm expecting to see everyone that was at the APM there, and it would be great to see anyone else who lives close to the junction, or is in some way affected by it, there as well.

I intend to launch the new Parish Plan initiative in the Autumn, to be headed up by Cllr John Lawton. It's long overdue and plays a part in shaping our parish for many years to come. I hope everyone gets behind it because that way it will truly reflect the views of all our residents. I'll make more details available as to how we're going to approach it closer to the time.

We've already had one big bash this year in honour of our new King but we still have a few to go, including the **Picnic in the Garden** (a big thank you to Steve and Carol) and our Fête Committee's evergreen **Village Fête**, both of which just better and better every year, so I hope to see everyone there soaking up our wonderful village atmosphere.

Every year brings new challenges for us all, and the Parish Council is no different. We currently have three seats vacant on the council, one due to retirement and two due to councillors choosing not to remain on it. If you feel that you'd like to have more of a say about what happens in our parish, please consider joining us and getting involved. As always, you can find out more on the Parish Council page on our website, including a list of reasons not to join.... [https://knaptonvillage.org/parish\\_council/why-be-a-parish-councillor](https://knaptonvillage.org/parish_council/why-be-a-parish-councillor)

As I'm sure Dee has mentioned, she is trying to retire after 12 years of unswerving service to both the parish council and the village, so I would also welcome any interest from anyone who'd like to consider that role. Full training will be given together with a commensurate salary.

The benches that we have planned for several locations are still work in progress and we are still trying to decide what the best course of action is for a new bus stop(s) for our schoolchildren and our elderly residents, so please keep an eye out in the next month or two for news on those.

I believe that we all have good reason to look forward to this year and I look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings or one of the parish events.

Stay safe and have a great day

*Peter*