

## **Chiddingly Parish Council**

**Parish Council Elections May 2019:** In less than six months the Parish Council is up for re-election. Some members of the current council are standing down and some will be standing again. We will need some new people to put themselves forward. If more than nine people come forward for the nine seats on the council there will be a contested election and you will have a say in who represents your interests.

The image of a Parish Councillor is of a retired person with time to spare. Many of the current council fit that profile. Have you ever considered how valuable the experience of serving on a Parish Council could be to you if you are just setting out on your career, or, what a plus point it will be on your CV? By being a Parish Councillor, you will gain experience of working as part of a team, working with other organisations large and small, and handling a modest budget. And all for the commitment of a few hours a month. Feel free to talk to any member of the current council or come along to our meetings held at 7:30pm in the Village Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month and see what we do.

Chiddingly Parish Council is the branch of Local Government most local to you. Above us lie Wealden District Council, East Sussex County Council and the National Government. I see it as an important part of our job as Parish Councillors to represent the interests of the community upwards to District and County level, and to interpret and report locally the actions of those councils.

**Budget:** Every year, around this time of year, we set our budget for the forthcoming financial year and set the amount of money we want to take from you in the form of Council Tax. This called our "Precept". The money is collected on our behalf by Wealden District Council and passed on to us in two payments during the course of the next financial year. Unlike District and County Councils, Parish Councils may increase their precept as much as they like without being subject to a 2% cap. If you would like to know what we are proposing to do with your money then come along to our meetings on the third Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall at 7:30pm

**Email Lists** thank you for your response last month to my appeal for you to register for the various email lists run by the Parish Council. Numbers are creeping up but the lists still reach only a small proportion of the community. Just email me [mike.goss@chiddingly.gov.uk](mailto:mike.goss@chiddingly.gov.uk) and I will add you to whichever of the mailing lists you ask me to.

If you want to know what social events are planned for the village you need to be on the Village Events list.

If you want to know the details of our meetings you need to be on Parish Notice Board List.

There is a Neighbourhood Watch List for emails relating to Neighbourhood Watch.

If you want receive council notices from us, Wealden District and East Sussex County Council you need to be on the Parish List.

Mike Goss, Chairman, 01825 872016, [chairman@chiddingly.gov.uk](mailto:chairman@chiddingly.gov.uk)

And should you want to email the whole council you can use [council@chiddingly.gov.uk](mailto:council@chiddingly.gov.uk)

Claudine Feltham, Clerk to the Parish Council, 01435 810439, [clerk@chiddingly.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chiddingly.gov.uk)

**Talk To Us:** If you have any questions or comments please ask any councillor or the clerk. You will find a councillor in the village shop on the third Saturday of the month 10-11am, or at the Saturday Morning Market in the Village Hall on the first Saturday of the month 10-12noon . You may also find a councillor or three on most Friday evenings in the Six Bells around 7pm.