

## Copythorne Parish Council – Meeting July 14<sup>th</sup> 2020

### Item 17 - Chairman's Statement – July 2020 Meeting

1. **Remote Working:** We continue to operate within a virtual environment. We are keeping all our arrangements under review, including the status of meetings of Advisory Committees. Recent research undertaken by the Clerk indicates that Advisory Committees are most likely subject to the same requirements for access as full Parish Council meetings. To that end, the original proposal to make extended use of virtual meetings may be subject to change. The Clerk will advise further on this as he establishes how we should operate them in the future.
  
2. **Annual Parish Award:** The Award ceremony was undertaken at the Parish Hall on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July attended on behalf of the Parish Council by Cllrs. Lucas, Herra, Wiggins, Goodwin and Chillcott and photographs were circulated afterwards by Cllr. Herra for circulation. Barbara was accompanied by her husband and a small group of additional attendees gathered at a distance. While unusual, this was a very pleasant event and again, our congratulations go to Barbara on her much deserved award!
  
3. **Benches:** The bench at the top of New Inn Road has been removed ready for the installation of the new memorial bench. However, 2 issues have arisen:
  - a) The concrete plinth will, we believe, have to be enlarged slightly to accommodate the legs and fixings of the new bench, and
  - b) The old bench metal legs originally intended for restoration and relocation at the White Hart bench site were found, on inspection after removal, to be rotted irreparably underneath.

The Lengthsman will be undertaking installation of the new bench shortly, including adaptations (cost is not being borne by the Council). We are investigating, at the time of writing, the cost (hopefully within the budget already allocated) of acquiring / having made 2 new metal bench legs to replace them – further information will reported verbally at the meeting, if we have it.

Cllr. Simon Lucas

July 6<sup>th</sup> 2020