

# DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 29th APRIL 2021 REPORT TO ALL REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE PARISH.

- [1] SUBJECT PROPERTIES.
  - [2] REPORT PREPARED BY CLL M DAVIES
  - [3] TO UPDATE PROGRESS ON REPAIRS
  - [4] TO UPDATE ON DIFFICULTIES DUE TO THE PANDEMIC
  - [5] LIBRARY CONSULTATION
  - [6] YOUTH CLUB CLOSURE
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### (3) Village Hall.

The Boilers Have received a full service and annual check.  
Leaking pipe work has been fixed, however the Pressure still need attention from time to time. Will ask the engineers to look again for further leaks.  
The Bridge still needs kitchen decorated .although the building is now in a Good state of repair generally now.  
Extensive efforts during the summer 2020 enabled a water tight building to be achieved.  
Parish Office has suitable screening for staff protection from public and Members spreading COVID 19 and other unwanted Viruses.  
Two Quotes for the Library Roof are in and a further 2 have been requested. These Quotes entail a secondary scaffold contractor to Quote for a complete Costing and take some time to complete.

### (4) Much-of the works carried out in 2020-2021 required a risk assessment document before work could commence.

This has added to the paperwork.  
All contractors /Trades men have been very cooperative with the adherence to Some of these regulation. My thanks have been given to them all.

This Coming year is still uncertain as to how much COVID 19 will affect our schedule  
The Cemetery Lodge Windows came to a halt as the occupants both elderly understandable were reluctant to have Contractors in with the risks attached.  
I am now waiting to start the listed buildings procedure that is a legal requirement.  
The first steps are photos from inside and out needing internal access.  
The Library Heating is working very well now as all repairs are complete.

Cllr Thompson acting Deputy has been very Supportive during these difficult times.  
A Thank you to deputy properties Cllr I Thompson.

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### [5] LIBRARY CONSULTATION

AS A PARISH COUNCL OUR FIRST DUTY IS TO PROVIDE SERVICES USING THE PRECEPT INCOME FROM THE TAXPAYER.

The Library in Datchet is under Closure threat due to financial short falls of The Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead Library Services.

Datchet Library building is a very expensive building to run for the Royal Borough  
Therefore the only way to retain this service is to make the building cost as little as possible to  
The Royal Borough.

The Borough has a legal responsibility to provide a library service of some sort and  
Are willing to pay for some cost such as staff and stock.

I believe The DPC has the income from the Taxpayer to support this buildings costs  
We are being given the chance to take control of our own destiny with this service  
It's in our hands to budget accordingly to provide the important services using  
The tax payers funding

We are here to provide Services to the tax payer that are needed, not frivolous exercises.  
The Parish Council can certainly manage to provide the Library Building Free if that's what  
it takes to retain this service.

Devolved Power to control our destiny is done by good budgeting and keeping the precept  
inflation Proof.

Datchet Parish is not without resources in other areas of income along with the precept.  
I am sure in time the DPC can obtain other sources of revenue to help support this  
Building alongside the Library Service.

We are not a business looking for profit we are a Council providing services for the Taxpayer  
who provide the income to buy these services.

This is the purpose of a Parish Council (not profit seeking or entertainment projects)

The DPC is in a financial position to act with its income a step closer to devolution of the  
power coming down to local level.

Councillor Rayner has already indicated the precept is the Way forward in this particular  
Parish, starting with the Library.

I agree with this Philosophy.

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#### [6] YOUTH CLUB CLOSURE

How sad again to move backwards with this service from the Royal Borough it's always easy  
to aim cuts at the young who rarely complain.

The parish council are in a good position as the owners of this building with no loss of  
income incurred.

This was rental free to the youth service at the Royal Borough.

There has been interest in this building for some time for a different usage.

This usage is still working with our youth in the main, working for a healthy life style.

Again The Parish Council can have more control of what's on offer in Datchet.  
For young and old.

Reliance on the Royal Borough has proven unreliable yet again.

What others see as a loss, I see as an opportunity to take control back.

And give to the Community in a more in house controlled environment.

The RBWM cannot be relied upon to keep services going they have certainly proven that.

Therefore the Parish Council should take the control using whatever means are at our disposal

Sincerely Mrs M Davies