



REPORTS FOR THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL to be held VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM, on MONDAY 12th October 2020

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Mooring fees received from the boat that spent several weeks moored up in Datchet during lockdown (£176)

No income from 24A The Bridge - rent used to offset costs of repairs done by agents.

Increased expenditure on litter collection on the Rec. Now twice a week, extra £200 per month

Spend on painting the Bridge significantly over £3000, based on quotes from only 1 contractor.

Maplink cost £225-software package for village maps

No spend as yet from the COVID fund (£500 allocated to buy computer equipment for the council).

Discussion needed as to what this fund is to be used for, as agreed in July.

No costs for grass cutting on the rec. this month from the interim contractor.

Based on spend to date and potential spend for rest of year current estimate is that total income for the year will be approx. £6000 below budget but that expenditure will be approx. £120,000 below budget.

NB this is my interpretation of what is likely to happen, not an attempt to stop or start any specific expenditure.

Draft timetable for next year's budget is on the attached sheets for discussion and approval.

As at 30th Sept the council had a total of £348,000 in the bank (excluding the money earmarked for the Neighbourhood Planning Group).

PLANNING REPORT

See Planning Addendum Sheet following

GROUNDS REPORT - Cllr Thompson

The Recreation Ground, Greens, and Riverside have been grass cut this week, the new style of cutting has brought forth many favorable comments, and the football people are especially complimentary.

Quotes for :-the Green Lane Ha Ha cut , Hedge by Estate , flail and clean out rec ditch, Re seed Mays Island , rectify drain area in North Green , have been received and will be placed on order .

Quotes are being sought for repair of the new pathway on the recreation ground.

A cherry picker has been arranged to re run the new flag pole Halyard, we are using this opportunity to re gild the finial, date to suit dry weather. New plastic thimbles for the Council flags have been purchased, Dean to fit.

New soil is being laid around the seats on the Cut. One done, similar earth treatment will be laid on the area damaged by British Gas.

The Christmas tree installation method has been finalised.

Vandalism has broken a large branch on the Green Maple on the rec, this will be removed by specialist.

The flower planters around the Library have been vandalised.

A quotation is sought for a tree specialist to remove high level broken large branch in Black Poplar on rec , this happened in recent hurricane force wind.

Cemetery bin collection has been reorganised through Grundon.

A Quotation for tree branch lifting clear of graves is being sought.

PROPERTIES – Cllr Mrs. Davies

Bennett's Managing Agent of 38 Ditton Road have recently reported some of the Windows to be in very bad condition .This building is grade two listed with unusual Arched Shape box sash Windows, set in Stone Mullions .One Window is dangerous.

The majority of the problem windows are on only one side of the building where some brickwork is also showing signs of severe dampness. This leads me to suspect. A guttering leak or Blockage on this side of the building.

I have obtained a quote for the dangerous Window to get some idea of costs as budget comes into this equations. The Windows will either require replacing or restoration, restoration is usually the preferred option on listed buildings and is a separate Skill /trade standing alone. The roof /guttering will need a roofing contractor. Therefore two Quotes will be needed as this cannot be done by a general builder. Obtaining Quotes is now in progress.

There are other Roofs that are also overdue an inspection and consideration to having a roofing firm to inspect first 38 Ditton road, 24 the Green and Montague House Would be my recommendation before doing anything else. 24 the green has a backwards flowing valley ,these are subject to gathering dirt for seeds to germinate in and causing unnecessary blockages and should be checked .

Fortunately the Bridge / 24a The Green when completed with the vestibule and Toilet decoration will come in well under budget. This last job on the schedule is waiting for Council approval. On approval the remaining funds of this budget can be moved under different Headings for the library heating and other considerations. Once the Bridge /24 The Green is complete a full appraisal of properties budget enables a second Schedule to be drawn up with priority actions.

Restoration has been the key word around the bridge and 24a the green, a grade two Listing. Advice was taken from Adam Morton surveyor who advised us well and tuned out to be correct. Adam advised the building has movement held together by two steels installed in 1993 with little foundations The building is delicate and observations of poor standards of past maintenance would undoubtedly uncovering many faults during each phase. A healthy budget was discussed to cover addition Unknown faults that could be encountered one budget for each dwelling.

A schedule of works on the plans of the building were set out as different maintenance repairs starting by removing damaged Plaster only where necessary. Then moving on to the next job carefully doing only what was needed as the building is delicate. As we are not Quantity surveyors with no idea what we might uncover the cost of each phase was the unknown factor. This was the reason no builder /Contractor in 5. Years would touch this building as two previous lead properties would confirm.

I expected some phases to be far more costly than they were for example the bridge management wanted a certain paint internally and provided it bring the cost down. If any phase was over the repair allowance we would have gone to Council in the same way as we intend with the library Heaters.

There has never been any intention to manipulate Council financial regulations. All decisions were based purely on restoration decisions on the hidden past bodge ups sticking to the surveyors advice. Adam has dealt with these situations before in very old buildings with a build-up of unsuitable repairs done over long periods or long term neglect of maintenance. All decisions were based on this advice. Uncovering the underneath has allowed for additions to the 1993 file to inform those who come after us.

I most certainly would not touch this building in any other way, as we have. I would refuse. Slow patient care and restoration is key. Apart from the plastering .this was all general maintenance neglected.

I have stated before this building will need re plumbing in the future. Datchet water was from a borehole containing chalk .in the Late 70,s Thames water replaced this with a high lime content supply the two elements coating the copper pipes can be corrosive over time .

The vestibule decoration was never done after repairs to the building some years ago. A truck leaving the Pub car park hit the building side on .causing a fair amount of damage. The Vestibule should have been re decorated then.

Bennett's do not manage the vestibule just the flat 24a The Green. The Tennant and Bennett's have complained about the condition of the vestibule for some years now. I as the lead properties, I am the complaint handler and have to continue to Appease the complaints that are justified. Why this was not done under the driver insurance I do not know.

The first invoice for the plastering labor also included the cost of replumbing the stopcock.and pipe work around the front corner. As the blown plaster was removed this was spotted and with my immediate approval an emergency plumber was called and the work continued. The plumber also replace the vandalised upper floor waist from the bathroom causing water ingress to the building from outside a major problem and a new problem at the time unscheduled for.

The cost of this went on the plasterers invoice. However not exceeding the discretionary allowance. This detail is not shown on the expenditure sheets. Therefor plastering labour is less than surmised. The breakdown is on the invoice. Attached to the purchase order.

At the budget setting process these works were discussed in the presents of lead Member for Finance and Cllr Thompson and myself. Outside Decoration for wooden Windows, Doors and flaking Masonry should be done as Maintenance every 5 years to protect the fabric of the building. This would come under general maintenance. Allowed under the £3000.00 discretionary maintenance allowance. Internal decoration is the same. Plaster repairs were within this figure to, until it was discovered during decoration the toilet had a structural defect needing correction. 24a The Green (the flat)
The two casement Windows are now in excellent condition and the Tennant's have commented how quiet the room is now. This is a byproduct of the draft proofing.

Cllr Thompson set out the schedule of works on a set of plans of 24/24a showing from the outset how properties would proceed ,this is in the office for examination This clarifies this schedule has been followed for the most part all throughout the refurbished Bridge and the exterior maintenance of the whole building .

On appraisal of the properties budget against quotes will allow us to proceed With 38 Ditton road with a realistic budget for a listed building with funds for scaffolding on the Chapel for the split copping to be replaced.

Funds can also be moved for the library heating. Among roofs to be repaired the Village Hall is leaking after the lasts storms and needs appraisal with the other roofs. The high winds we have all been experiencing of late will gives us roofing problems for sure.

The first invoice this financial year dated 4/4/2020 was for restoration work on the bridge in the last financial year .when the budget was exhausted and the shop front Windows were in a dangerous condition. (Just a footnote to this financial year)

Bennett's have recently done some work in the Bathroom of 24a The Green on properties approval this has been inspected by properties with approval, new flooring, new Bath panels ,resealing of bath and ceiling painting above the shower . The Extractor is also to be replaced.

The Parish Office is now set up with protective screening re Covid 19. The movable screen on wheels is a great success and the brain child of Cllr. Thompson. I thank him again. Katy has been a great support working really hard on all the legal and financial Barriers to cross and I can't thank her enough for her guidance in very odd distancing conditions were wires can become crossed . Thank you Katy and thank you Judith for your patients.

On obtaining quotes ,this is slow now as each contractor coming into a tenanted Building from another area is a risk so all possible precautions must be followed This also adds risk to myself and I do not intend to take unnecessary risk .

HIGHWAYS AND GENERAL PURPOSES

No report received at time of publishing

FLOODING REPORT- Cllr. Thompson.

The EA have issued new modelled LIDAR maps for Datchet, these are in essence accurate and have allowed the Datchet surveyed and recorded 2014 flooding envelope to be superimposed upon them thereby providing a clear indication where ground water rise is expected as a flooding risk prediction envelope.

The EA have been requested to provide further River Thames levels and flow data with regard to the reduced RTS scheme being related to channels 2&3. In accordance with their statement that there will be some protective benefit provided by channels 2&3. This statement needs to be technically confirmed against the 2014 event data.

A meeting between Cllrs Cannon, Thompson, and Loveridge, took place to assess the way that the Borough, EA, and DPC could take forward local flood defense and alleviation measures in the event that RTS Channel 1 is not on the near future horizon.

A disappointing note was that the Borough has lost all of the proposals and presentations that we have made regarding these protections, this will entail some work and time to retrieve and represent copies of this data from our Parish files.

May I thank Ewan for stepping in at the previous meeting and providing a full report in my absence. The primary intention must now concentrate on Flooding protection for Datchet with the united support of all DPC and Borough Cllrs.

ADDENDUM to OCTOBER 2020 FLOODING REPORT.

During weekend 4th -5th October the South East of England was subject to extensive rainfall where the area around Datchet experienced about 100mm of rainfall over three days. The result of this was excessive amounts of standing water around the central greens and minor flooding /overtopping in Penn Road, The recreation ground ditch at Horton Road end and at the Junction of Eton Road and Slough Road.

The greens areas flooding is due to the road gullies pipework to the Barrel Arch storm water drainage system being blocked. A CCTV survey of the Barrel Arch has been completed by the Borough and we await the considerations and report from their structural engineer as to the way of rectification of this vital part of Datchet Infrastructure.

The overtopping experienced of the rec ditch intersection in Penn Road house garden alongside of the ditch was caused by high water level within the Datchet Common Brook feeding other areas water outside of Datchet into Datchet at the DCB/Rec Ditch intersection chamber which has no backflow protection for Datchet, This protection I have been seeking since 2011. And has caused much damage to our community down through the years with no responsible action to resolve the problem by the relevant parties, other than a combined Survey by the Borough, Thames Water, and DPC. The result was agreement that backflow prevention was required and agreed but the Borough and Thames Water stated that they did not have the funds to carry out the necessary works, and have left Datchet to flood as seen in 2014 and again now.

Currently the reason for this event is that the Datchet Common Brook is so blocked by weed growth it prevents the water from flowing freely to the Thames and so causing a Dam effect, also to add to this the excessive weed growth has caused bed rise and together both issues have caused excessive water height within the DCB which has discharged into Datchet through the recreation ground ditch.

This issue was recorded to the Borough continuously since 2011 for action by the EA and Thames Water, the DCB is designated Main River and has an EA responsibility, However Thames Water have a riparian responsibility as the DCB runs within their land.

At a recent meeting with Cllr Cannon it was noted that the Borough would support the proposal to provide backflow location at this interception chamber. We await information on when this will be

achieved. This rainstorm before the winter flooding season could be climate change. We are unprotected.

Additional to the above there was pluvial flooding at the Eton Road, Slough Road junction, this was a flood situation in 2014, the reason being that the ditch was flooded along-side of Slough Road is that people throw rubbish into the ditch which gets washed into the pipe leading to the barrel arch, this being part of the Barrel Arch System. Again, this problem has been noted to the Borough on previous occasions down the years. Question; - has this ditch and pipe been part of the Borough survey. Following flooding in 2014 it was suggested that the pipe end be fitted with a trash screen to maintain the pipe being clear of detritus and free flow into the Barrel Arch to soak away into the recreation ground. The local road gullies are full of detritus and require cleaning out as there are large areas of standing water in the road meeting with overtopped ditch water.

With reference to the flow of water into the rec ditch this resulted in filling the ditch at Horton Road end to the extent that the water level overtopped to a considerable area onto the rec. This is a further example of why we require control of the Rec ditch junction at Penn Road.

This weather has been a brief event but it has demonstrated climate change and shown that Datchet does not have the defences that it should have in place and that lack of watercourse maintenance is putting housing in Ditton Road at increased risk of flooding as clearly demonstrated.

Many times our proposals have been placed before the Borough with no action, mainly due to issues will be covered by the RTS, this is no longer the case and therefore we must implement our previous proposals.

Please also the attached River Thames Scheme and land drainage infrastructure report by Cllr. Larcombe

EVENTS REPORT

See attached sheet

WORKING GROUP REPORTS

See attached sheets

Report by Planning Lead Datchet Parish Council

Wc: 12th October 2020

We have used the Application sheet supplied to all of us by the Clerk and we have added a link to each application where you can access all the documents in relation to that individual application. This link will direct into a folder where you will see 2 folders as follows:

1. Full list of documents from the RBWM planning application site for your attention and review.
2. Research folder which has all the investigation documents like “Google street view” “Google satellite imaging” and any pictures that will help you see the applicants or Parish council’s investigation material used to support its comments to the Borough Planning officers. Additionally there will be a word document that is the Lead members comments to be relayed to the Borough officers on behalf of the residents and Councilors if approved by members.

Below on the original list I have added a new entry line called “Recommendation” which is the suggested decision to the council which we will present to the Borough Officer, but the detail is in the word document in each folder within the links as stated in point 2 above.

Obviously if any member of the Council has any input it would be helpful to receive this in the future before we present to the full Council, to avoid debate or delay in responding to the deadline dates. It is important that members do not leave any comments to the last minute or the meeting, where possible.

DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING ADDENDUM

Applications to be considered at the meeting on MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2020

NEW APPLICATIONS – FOR CONSIDERATION

Ward: Datchet Horton And Wraysbury
Parish: Datchet Parish
Appn. Date: 14 September 2020 **Appn No.:** 20/02304
Type: Full
Proposal: Erection of fence wall to front (Retrospective)
Location: **18 Linchfield Road Datchet Slough SL3 9LZ**
Applicant: Mr Pathmanathan Pathmakaran **c/o Agent:** Mrs Ramela Mathysoothanan MKM Design & Construction Ltd. 104 Bridgewater Road Ruislip HA4 6LW

Recommendation: No objection but notes as listed on Parish Council concerns attached in research document:
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/fsdv726ywbvveej/DATCHET%20PARISH%20COUNCIL%20-%202020%3A02304%20-%2018%20Linchfield%20Road%20Datchet.docx?dl=0>

Links:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3c2if1zmglyrfl/AAD0Pg1RuFYkGg7QH0TqA3rYa?dl=0>

Ward: Datchet Horton And Wraysbury
Parish: Datchet Parish
Appn. Date: 9 September 2020 **Appn No.:** 20/001790
Type: Full
Proposal: Use of the land as a Gypsy and Traveller site consisting of 7no. residential pitches, 3no. semi-detached amenity buildings, 1no. single amenity building, 1no. wardens block and play area.
Location: **Land At Datchet Common Horton Road Datchet Slough**
Applicant: Messers Loveridge and Giles **c/o Agent:** Dr Angus Murdoch Murdoch Planning Ltd
P.O. Box 71 Ilminster Somerset TA19 0WF
Recommendation: No Objection – see notes attached here:
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/px9uigj9ks2tk41/DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL - 20%3A01790 Land at Datchet Common and Mill Place.docx?dl=0>
Links: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/13w8p8cnfublxxk/AABR-ohHVYERfquZpfVFUkCIa?dl=0>

Datchet Parish Council- Draft proposed Budget Timetable
Financial year 21/22

Cllr's Peter Hough / Tim O'Flynn October 2020

Background

The council is obligated to propose a precept to RBWM on or before 19th January 2021.

Last year there was insufficient time to fully debate all issues in time.

This year meeting to discuss proposals and sign off is more difficult due to the pandemic.

The time table below proposes dates and attendees for zoom meetings to enable a constructive discussion and sign off.

Please review so the a constructive discussion and sign off can occur at the October Council meeting

November 9th

November council Meeting. General discussion about budget principles all councillors and clerk.

November 16th -28th

Budget group meetings, 1 or 2 meetings subject to level of discussion.

Properties. Clerk, Lead and Deputy Properties and Finance, Chair

Grounds Clerk, Lead and Deputies Grounds and Finance, Chair

Finance /Admin. Clerk, Lead and Deputy Finance, Chair

December 14th

Presentation of first draft to Council for comment.

December 16th -20th

Review meetings of budget groups if required

January week 1

Budget meeting Clerk, Chair, Lead and deputy Lead Finance

Determine proposal for final budget and precept.

January 11th

Present final budget and precept proposal to council for sign off

DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS WORKING GROUP REPORT-4
12 October 2020

Firstly...

For your interest, NALC has an excellent summary of all things environmental which is a useful first reference for Climate Change issues which can be addressed by parish councils. It is well laid out, easy to follow, with good information and links. www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/climate-change

EA Group Community letter update

A second EA Group letter was distributed to around 40 local clubs, groups, societies, schools and businesses sharing useful environmental information and sources for community group projects.

You may be aware that group member, Wild About Datchet, is organising a Community Litter Pick on Sunday 25 October. The EA Group has been able to support this initiative by relaying details to other members. We also received a reply from Swan Radio announcing that they would be promoting this event. This is the type of mutual support we are hoping to stimulate between community groups.

To raise awareness further, we would like to promote the EA group to a wider audience through Datchet Eye and social media. We would like the council's support to pursue this in the near future. Should any councillors disagree, please let us know your thoughts at Monday's council meeting.

Current Project Status

1) Trees

It was agreed at our last council meeting to proceed with the first stages of this project. Please see the [attached project plan document](#) which displays potential tree positions as well as information for next stages of the project. As per the NALC link above, it is recommended that parish councils sign up for the Tree Charter (free of charge). If the council has no objection, we intend to do this.

2) Bicycle Parking & Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points

It was intended to organise village walks to discuss the potential locations of trees, bicycle parking racks and EV charge points. However, as there is much to consider on each of these elements, it was decided to focus on trees with the first walk and re-schedule separate walks for bicycle parking and EV points.

3) No-Idling Signage at the Level Crossings

Please see the attached project plan for proposed no-idling signage. If councillors have any comments on these proposals, please let us know. See also Agenda item 16.3 Motions Received.

4) 20 mph village speed limit

At last month's DPC meeting, Cllr Larcombe raised the importance of this issue. It will be addressed under Agenda item 16.1 Motions Received. The EA Group looks forward to discussions on this subject and working with and Cllr Larcombe and Highways & General on this important issue.

5) Village Hall building complex – sustainable energy supply - update

Roof dimension drawings are nearing completion. We intend to send these, with photographs, to request estimates for installation of solar panels and battery storage. We are also calculating power usage to assess our requirements. We will keep you updated with progress.

Finally...

Your feedback is welcome. Additional help with expertise, information, suggestions or hands-on assistance would also be greatly appreciated.

Cllr Allen Corcoran, Cllr Peter Hough & Cllr Ian Bacon

River Thames Scheme and flood alleviation

9 October 2020: (This is an update on previous report dated 31 August 2020)

A brief report to Datchet, Horton and Wraysbury Parish Councils.

RTS: My last report revealed that Partnership funding negotiations had apparently failed and that the River Thames Scheme would be progressed without Channel One i.e. the Datchet, Horton and Wraysbury channel. Alternative flood protection arrangements would be considered.

Freedom of Information Request - A Freedom of Information Request on RTS Channel 1 (ref Number 75272) has been submitted to RBWM asking for the decision making detail and copies of many documents including Officers' reports. The full text can be found here:

<https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/council-and-democracy/strategies-and-policies/freedom-information/information-requests/75272-er-river-thames-scheme-channel-1>

E-petition - Wraysbury Parish Council has agreed and submitted an e-petition to RBWM asking that the Borough honour its commitment to the RTS. Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury and Old Windsor are identified in the supporting information. The petition will need 1,500 signatures in order to be debated at a full Council Meeting. The petition is awaiting acceptance and publication.

Request for information from Environment Agency. I have requested copies of all Agendas and Minutes of the Partnership funding meetings since 2015.

Sub-standard water level sensing system. The EA has denied that the newly installed water level sensing system is sub-standard.

Request for information from RBWM. I have requested information on the current whereabouts of the previously agreed significant RTS funding monies and also the RBWM estimated borrowing forecast from March 2021 (currently shown as £230m) to 2026.

Maintenance of the local land drainage infrastructure. Over the past year I have repeatedly walked the local drainage channels and witnessed significant deterioration of the system. I have listed below most of the local channels. The channels are designated either Main River (MR - and the responsibility of the EA) or Ordinary Watercourse (OW - and the responsibility of the Lead Local Flood Authority - LLFA). In our case the LLFA is the RBWM with both permissive and enforcement powers but I will say more about that later. There are three important and easily identifiable characteristics of these channels i.e. the flow/discharge capacity (Cap), the 'usual' water level and the water quality.

RBWM as the Lead Local Flood Authority.

As an example the Feathers Lane total channel blockage on the Wraysbury Drain has been in place for over 18 months. The channel is filled with rubble to ground level and fenced over. I have highlighted the problem repeatedly but the blockage remains in place. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 identifies RBWM as a Risk Management Authority and also the designated lead local flood authority (LLFA).

As an LLFA RBWM has powers under the Land Drainage Act 1991 to regulate ordinary watercourses to maintain a proper flow by:

- Issuing consents for altering, removing or replacing certain structures or features on ordinary watercourses; and
- Enforcing obligations to maintain flow in a watercourse and repair watercourses, bridges and other structures in a watercourse.

There are quarterly 'Flood Liaison Group' (identified as an 'Outside body') meetings that consider current flood issues but I cannot see how this group either reports to or is accountable to the Council. I raised a formal complaint about lack of maintenance in June 2020. Receipt was acknowledged on 8/10/2020.

In my opinion RBWM as LLFA has failed to ensure that ordinary watercourses are maintained in a condition fit for purpose. The subject is now on the plan next year for the RBWM Oversight and Scrutiny Committee when I will query compliance with the FRMS.

Further to significant monies wasted on unproductive watercourse maintenance and also the unbelievable and shocking CIPFA Report – in my opinion the RBWM is not only suffering from ‘organisation loss of memory’ but also failing to effectively utilise local knowledge.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO SEE THE DEPLORABLE STATE OF THE LOCAL LAND DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE - ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS ASK!

The current state of the local watercourses are recorded in the chart below.
The **X**'s indicate that prompt action is required.

Condition of local land drainage infrastructure in D, H and W Ward.

Name	Des	Cap	Level	Qual	Issues
Thames/backwaters	MR				
Jubilee River	MR		X		Remote sensing
Myrke	MR	X	X	X	Pollution/sensing
Barrel Arch	OW				Inspected recently
Common Brook	MR	X			
Milldridge Drain	OW	X			
Horton Drain	OW	X		X	Pollution/screens
Coppermill Road	OW	X			
Wraysbury Drain	OW	X	X	X	Pollution/screen/culvert
Church Meadows	OW	X	X		
Colne Brook	MR	X			
County Ditch	MR	X			

DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL
EVENTS REPORT - 4
12 October 2020

Covid-19 virus interruption: 23 March 2020 - ongoing

As stated in previous reports, due to the Coronavirus situation and limits on social gatherings, many events have been cancelled for the foreseeable future. We will, however, continue to explore ideas that may assist local clubs, groups, societies and business when timing is suitable.

DATCHET POST OFFICE – update

The Outreach Post Office successfully began operating on Tuesday 29 September. It is sited in the WI Hall and runs from 8.30am to 12.30pm every Tuesday. It is expected to continue through the Christmas period and into next year. There were 20 customers who used the service on the first week, and 12 on the second. Once the word passes through the village, we hope to see these numbers rise further.

To assist the WI Hall to cover their overhead costs and keep this valuable Post Office service for the community, a request was made to the Council to look at ways to support the funding of this arrangement. To do this, evidence is required to demonstrate a need for the service in the community. To help gather this information, an online survey has been created with a link posted on Datchet Eye (Facebook) on Sunday 4 October. By 8 October there were already 80 respondents with positive views. The survey will continue to the end of the month. Additionally a paper version will be available for distribution in the village. I will forward all resulting information to Katy as evidence for the auditor.

With all actions and information in place, I feel confident the Parish Council will look favourably on funding this necessary village service. This item is on the Agenda for Monday, 12 October, point 12.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Sunday 8 November

Low-key plans for Remembrance Sunday are being formulated between the Church and British Legion, and I await instruction for the finalised plans. Unfortunately, that means I am unable to report before the event as our next council meeting will be 9 November. I will however, finalise a risk assessment with Cllr Clemens (for insurance and Covid-19 responsibilities) once details are received. I have requested from RBWM the loan of 10-15 large lamp-post poppies.

ELLIS JOURNEY 2021 – 125th+1 Anniversary celebrations

Sunday 4 July 2021

Following my last report expressing the need to start planning for the Ellis Journey, I have emailed RBWM with a request to discuss our proposals. Although these documents (see attachment) were prepared at the beginning of the year, the event outline will be much as described with additional Covid-19 social distancing and sanitising measures in place, as required. Inevitably, the event may again be cancelled but, if it is to go ahead, plans and preparations must begin now.

If any councillors have any comments about proceeding with this plan and the proposed road closure, please can you make your thoughts known by October 9th DPC meeting.

Cllr Allen Corcoran

