

## **Bench Working Party Report**

**Benches – You may have seen the new benches on the south side of the Church. These have been sponsored by parishioners. Very heavy duty, virtually maintenance free. A further two benches of the same specification have been requested, one by someone who wishes it to be placed in the area outside the Corner Stores. Sanjay is happy with this. The other is requested by a widow of a person who liked to watch the cricket matches being played. I have spoken to Simon Thompson (who is chair of the cricket club) and he is very keen on this. I presume we need approval of the KPC for this one. I am aware that Jon Marsh and I have an action to produce a plan for placing new benches in the parish, not yet completed, but one of the obvious areas to place benches is on the outfield of the cricket pitch, so I presume and hope that the KPC will approve that placing as long as Simon agrees with it. Any objections?**

### **Parish Council**

40 tons of road scrapings were delivered to the Parkfield Rec car park (20 tons ordered but delivered to the wrong corner of the car park, so another 20 tons were delivered free of charge). These road scrapings have been used to fill holes in the approach road, to change the profile of the base of the car park to reduce flooding, and some laid at muddy areas at kissing gates. All by hand and shovel! About 10 tons still left to use for other projects.

We cleared the footpath of leaves and mud from behind the High St – Claggy Road to Park Lane – using the KPC motorized brush. Next we intend to fill the muddier bits with road scrapings, as above.

We helped school children plant seven crab apple trees at the south boundary of Parkfield Rec.

At Parkfield Rec car park we started to remove the post and rails that were blown over by the recent gales, but the post embedded in the ground needed mechanical equipment or more skill or more muscle. Since done by contractor. At the west end of the High Street, we lifted up the Xmas lights hoping they will stay there till next year. We disposed of the old artificial grass from the Rec steps.

### **Memorial Hall**

We cleared the car park of mess and leaves, and did a number of maintenance jobs – cleared blocked sinks, put toilet roll holder back on wall, made door stops work, etc..

We helped run the new Coffee and Bowls morning held on Tuesday mornings.

### **School**

We erected a new shed in the grounds of the school and made a flower planter to place in front of one of the sheds.

## **Dacre Rooms**

We cleared away our stores of bricks and timber from the back wall to allow the OECOS building work to continue. We also ran one of the Friday coffee mornings and gave the profit to the Ukrainian appeal

## **Church and Churchyard**

We continued to try and clear the drains around the outside walls of the church. Now intend to do a bit of digging (actually Ben Cole's digger) with the vicar's permission, to see if we can locate an underground blockage. We cleared away the residue from the very large cedar branch that fell during the gale.

We fitted brass plaque to one of the new benches outside the south wall.

We raised more grave surrounds and glued together some broken ones.

## **Community**

With the vicar we have started a new venture – "acts of kindness". This is to do BWP like jobs for residents of Kimpton. (We normally only do "community" jobs). The idea is, initially, to do 70 acts of kindness to mark Jubilee Year, maybe we will extend it after that. The project is a sort of joint enterprise between the church NOISE project and us. Obviously it is an experiment and we will see how it goes. The main problem will be to differentiate between people who can clearly do the job themselves or pay someone to do it and those who genuinely need help. (Eg old, or infirm, or short of money). That responsibility is left to the vicar.

At Ayot Greek Revival Church we replaced one of the choir stall rests and gave it three coats of stain, we replaced a grill that vented an old coal hole.

At Peters Green we replaced a metal footpath sign that had broken

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