



## Chairman's Monthly Newsletter

As we go to print, we now know that the end of lockdown has been postponed until the 19th of July which in turn means that our next meeting scheduled for the 21st of June will also be delayed. The option to meet remotely has unfortunately been removed and, with measures such as masks a real barrier to effective communication, it is likely that we will meet outside, probably on the Recreation Ground and under the cover of a gazebo or something similar. Meeting in this way will also mean that as many people who wish to attend can do so. The date is set to be Monday 5th of July, by which time we will hopefully have received a decision on Operation Watershed and also be able to approve the new licence with the Sports Association.

Operation Watershed, the subject of so much recent discussion, is now moving into its final stages as the Parish Council submits its applications to West Sussex County Council. The funding we hope to be awarded will benefit the parish through management of longer term flooding issues on the Church Hill bend and enhance the biodiversity of the pond through long overdue work including its de-silting. The first application details the Council's original scheme which requires the removal of the willow on the roadside and the second, provided by a resident, allows the tree to remain in place.

The loss of any tree is always sad, but it is worth reflecting that the Council's original scheme has the potential to open up the pond, restoring the vista to a bygone era with the wonderful view of the willow on the other side. Ultimately, the decision will be that of West Sussex County Council, but either way a successful application has the potential to reduce the financial burden that would undoubtedly fall to Slindon's taxpayers in future years.



Post card circa 1900 showing The Grange, The Rectory, the pump stand at the Slindon Pond and various local inhabitants and or visitors placed to give the picture some character. This card was used in 1905.



The most distressing of incidents during June's Euro 2020 event has served as a timely reminder of the importance of CPR and Public Access Defibrillators, of which Slindon is fortunate enough to have two through the generosity of the British Heart Foundation. As we went into lockdown in March 2020 the Parish Council had received a very generous and welcome offer from the Worthing and District Responders to run training events free of charge, which then had to be put on hold. However, once lockdown has been lifted we plan to organise these sessions for the community, which will run locally even possibly outside if necessary! It is worth noting that a defibrillator will guide you quickly and simply through every important step of the rescue process once the electrodes are placed on the patient and will not apply a shock unless one is required. We understand that Christian Eriksen continues to make a good recovery and we wish him well.

The local elections in May saw Trevor Bence elected as the West Sussex County Councillor for Fontwell division and 'Talk with Us' sessions will provide an opportunity to meet 'virtually' with details being circulated via Slindon Life and on the Parish Council website. Trevor is looking forward to joining the next Parish Council meeting.

*Jan Rees,*

Chairman