



Chair's Monthly Newsletter – October 2022

The pond restoration is almost complete and we have received some very favourable feedback from residents and visitors alike. We have also nominated the pond as a 'Local Green Space' as part of the South Downs National Park's 'Call for Sites' in 2022, special to the community through historical significance and recreational value.

April 2022



September 2022



Martin from the Sports Association has kindly installed the new commemorative seat and some further improvements to the path have been made this month. We continue to work on the possibility of a new pond island and how it will be funded and will provide regular updates as we progress this.



The South Downs National Park Funding Scheme received some 400 applications totalling £50m for a share in the £1.9m available, so, perhaps unsurprisingly, the Parish Council's bid to refurbish the playground was not successful. We have also now established that without housing development in the parish there is no realistic possibility of being prioritised for support in the future so the quest is on for other opportunities. Sarah has now identified that Arun District Council recently helped another parish within the South Downs National Park through its Capital Play Parks' scheme. So, alongside an application to the National Lottery, we have approached Arun District Council as well. Although there are no guarantees, the Council Leader is taking forward the possibility of a contribution, alongside which Andrew Griffith our MP continues to support our efforts - watch this space!

We started to discuss the budget setting process for 2023/2024 at our October meeting so that we can then let the District Council know the parish precept requirements by December, possibly sooner. We have a small electorate funding a significant number of services so as in previous years we will continue to explore grant funding opportunities to supplement parish resources.

As in previous months, I would like to highlight the four vacancies on the Parish Council which can currently be filled by a process known as co-option ahead of the parish council elections that will take place in May 2023. Please do speak therefore to me or Sarah if you would like to know more about the role of Councillor or just come along to one of our meetings, you will be very welcome.

Jan Rees, Chair, on behalf of Slindon Parish Council