



# Mickleham Parish Council

## January 2023 Report

The Parish Council met on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January and Councillors were joined for the first part of the meeting by Nicola Hawley, Operations Manager and Alison Vernon, Director of Admissions and Marketing from Box Hill School. They brought councillors up to date with the school's progress and the good news that the number of pupils, both boarding and day was holding up well. However, in common with many organisations they are struggling to recruit some domestic staff. Slowly, meetings and other activities are returning to normal after a long period of virtual activities. It is hoped that activities such as school plays and Art Exhibitions will resume in the summer term. This will provide opportunities for members of the community to visit the school. There was renewed debate about traffic issues at the end of the school day, but it was agreed that the double yellow lines in the section of the Old London Road from the A24 to Dell Close had helped to ease the congestion, as had the continuing use of Box Hill staff to monitor the traffic on site at this time of day.

Other issues discussed later in the meeting included confirmation of the agreed budgets and Precept for 2023-2024, which show a very modest increase; also progress in the renovation of the Mickleham Village signs on the A24, one of which will soon be completed. The Local Plan, which has been the subject of endless consultations, has now been put on hold by MVDC and concern and disappointment were expressed. A letter is to be sent to this effect, as this action means that no affordable housing projects can be considered in communities such as Mickleham. Plans for the forthcoming local elections were outlined by our Clerk, Feena Graham. Elections are due to be held on Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, there was a discussion, prompted by a request from St Michael's Church Standing Committee for Parish Council support for an event to celebrate the King's Coronation on the weekend of 6/7 May. The proposal was to have a special Civic Service at St Michael's Church on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am and a special Coronation Tea at Mickleham Village Hall at 3.00pm that afternoon for residents of Mickleham and Westhumble. Councillors expressed their full support for these plans which will be progressed in the coming weeks. Meanwhile do please put this event in your diaries TODAY.

Coronation Celebration:

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. 10.00am - Civic Service.

3.00pm - Celebration Tea, Village Hall.