

## Parish Council update report: May 2019

The elections in May resulted in only six people on the Parish Council: Lynne Ashcroft, Andrew Bray, Tim Crew, Maggie Johnston, Doug Jones and Karen White. This means that there are three vacancies and we will be seeking volunteers over the following weeks. Might you be interested!?

We have welcomed **our new Parish Clerk**, Petra Norris, and are looking forward to working with her over the months and years ahead. Petra works part-time and can be contacted via [buritonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:buritonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk) or by telephoning 07943 536065.

We also have a **new team of 'Lengthsmen'** who can undertake small jobs for us around the parish. Frank and Bill are being employed by a group of parishes in East Hampshire and will be able to visit our area about four times each year to help keep roads, drains and ditches clear, to clean road signs, strim verges, clear rights of way and other appropriate small jobs. If you are aware of things that might need doing, please contact one of the Councillors or our Clerk so that it can be considered for a future visit by Frank and Bill.

We also extend a very warm welcome to **the new Nursery School**, "Dottie Tots", in the village hall and we hope that it is very successful. Dottie Tots aims to gradually extend its hours and days of operation and we hope that they will be able to work closely with Buriton Primary School for the benefit of children and families in the community. More details are available via the Dottie Tots website ([www.dottietots.co.uk](http://www.dottietots.co.uk)) or via Karen Burrows: 07872 040 614 or [hello@dottietots.co.uk](mailto:hello@dottietots.co.uk)

**Our village hall** continues to be a very popular venue for a wide range of events and activities. We are keen to get as many bookings as possible so that we can keep the costs down for all users – so please tell your family, friends and business contacts and encourage them to use the hall. Information about bookings can be found on the community website ([www.buriton.info](http://www.buriton.info)) or from our Village Hall Manager, Steve Franks on 07878 027845 and [buritonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:buritonvillagehall@gmail.com)

As a follow-up to the community **litter** picking day earlier in the year, Parish Councillors have met with the manager of McDonalds in Petersfield and arranged for the company to do some litter-picking in the parish and to work with Buriton School on an anti-litter campaign. Please help to keep the parish free from litter by taking all litter home or disposing of it in any of the bins provided.

**Dog poo** is again a problem in parts of the parish – and can be dangerous for children. All the litter bins around the village can be used for dog waste as long as it is sealed in a bag. The District Council reminds everyone that it is an offence not clean up after dogs and that Fines and Fixed Penalty Notices can be issued. Please do not leave any dog poo anywhere – and if you have put it into a bag, then please put it into a bin. There is no magic dog-poo fairy to pick up bags left in the countryside!

The Parish Council continues to study all **planning applications** in the parish and to submit comments to the Planning Authority – and we are also continuing to try to get motorised vehicles removed from some of our lovely **Rights of Way**. We are currently considering challenging a recent decision by Hampshire County Council by mounting an Appeal to the Government's Planning Inspectors.