

## PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY 2016



Thanks to all 190+ households who participated in the Parish Council survey last spring. The results were presented to the community at the well-attended Annual Parish Meeting on May 8th. A full discussion of the findings took place.

A copy of the entire Powerpoint presentation is posted on the Gaddesden Society website, on the Parish Council page. Please go to the website at [www.gaddesdensociety.org.uk](http://www.gaddesdensociety.org.uk) to see it. The Parish Council is using the responses to help prioritise its spending choices.

## BROADBAND UPDATE



Broadband is delivered to us through telephone lines carrying data. Traditional copper phone lines carry small amounts of data, and slowly (typically 1-5 mbps). Superfast Broadband carries data much more quickly (20-74 mbps) and in much greater quantities. To achieve "Superfast" transmission, much of the traditional copper data highway is being upgraded to a new fibre-optic highway by BT Openreach.

Our main telephony connection comes into the BT exchange near the village tennis courts. From there cabling goes out to 9 cabinets dotted

around the village, including one in Dagnall. Every house is then connected to the nearest cabinet.

The main connection into the Little Gaddesden Exchange has already been fibre-enabled. From there super-fast fibre connections to two of the nine satellite cabinets (cabinet 2 in Dagnall and cabinet 5 in Hudnall) have already been installed and are up and running well. The links to the remaining seven cabinets are due to be enabled before March 2017. So it looks like Superfast Broadband will be coming to the rest of the village before too long.

Individual links from each house to their nearest cabinet will NOT be upgraded to fibre. BT Openreach will just leave the existing copper "cabinet to house" connection in place. This last copper leg creates "friction" on the data flow into your home so, as a rule of thumb, the further you live from a cabinet the slower your internet will be. In some cases, houses that

## TRAFFIC MONITORING

One of the proposals parishioners voted in favour of in the Parish Survey was for installation of an average speed camera at key entry points to the village. As a precursor to this, discussions are in hand with Hertfordshire County Council to put in place mobile speed monitors at various places in the village to gather traffic data and assess the need for an average speed camera. This would be places such as the Ringshall and Cromer Close ends of the Nettleden road running through the village. The speed indicator device (SID) is mobile and can be moved around once data has been gathered.



are far from their nearest cabinet (eg 1 mile or more) will struggle even after their nearest cabinet has been fibre-enabled. In such cases or where "superfast" services are unlikely to be offered at all, houses might want to think about alternative solutions such as high-speed internet delivered by satellite. This is more expensive but not as expensive as you might imagine. It would probably be best to wait and see how the land lies after your nearest cabinet has been fibre-enabled before making any commitments. Flash! - A Wi-Fi hot spot has been installed in the Sports Club Pavilion improving mobile reception in the area.

# LGN PC Newsletter

From your Parish Councillors

ISSUE 13  
Side 2

LITTLE GADDESSEN PARISH COUNCIL AUGUST 2016

## VILLAGE SIGNS – SELF HELP

Over the year George Godar and parish councillor Jim Townsend have been active in cleaning village signs. Last winter both noted that the traffic and speed limit signs in the village were overgrown by hedging or dirty, or both. Public funding for sign-cleaning is limited. Jim & George embarked on a self-help project for the village to reveal and clean them (including footpaths and the "Gateway to Little Gaddesden" signs).

In addition, they submitted a report to Hertfordshire Highways highlighting those signs that had been damaged or

misplaced or were just missing. Highways has responded constructively and will be replacing the missing/damaged signs in the not too distant future.



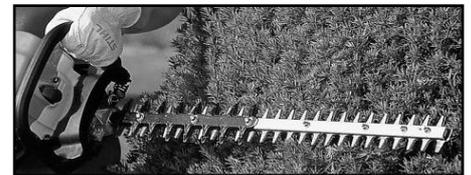
This is an ongoing project but one the Parish Council believe is important as it contributes to the safety of the village and the enforceability of speed limits.

While embarking on project sign clean, George and Jim also took the opportunity to cut back the hedge between Church Road and the Bridgewater Arms which was overflowing the pavement and making pedestrian use difficult.

**Calling Dacorum Borough Council?**  
Dial 01442 228000. Say the name of the person you want, e.g. Housing John Smith and you will automatically be put through!



## LOUISE'S CORNER –



## HEDGES AND PATHWAYS

As we all know, this summer was a wet one early on. With better weather since, plant growth in our gardens has been jungle-like! Some hedges along the Village Green and up Hudnall Lane have had their summer cuts. Thanks to residents for keeping pathways and roadways clear as a result. Can those who haven't got around to the task please keep their hedges cut and tidy ready for Autumn and 'back to school' so key roads and pathways aren't obstructed too much?

Club, Parish Council and other interested parties are under way to cover design, planning and operational arrangements. Brick built, with hard standing, the vision is that by agreement with the Sports Club the equipment may be used by wider social groups. Watch this space for further news.

## VALLEY VIEW PLANNING APPLICATION

**APPROVED**

After a long delay, the Secretary of State has decided that the planning application for 1 additional static caravan and 2 additional touring caravans for 1 romany family with parking for 2 motor vehicles and associated hardstanding for use of the immediate family be approved subject to conditions. The permission granted is for a temporary period of 3 years until new accommodation is available in Central Bedfordshire for travellers.

The Parish Council and RHS will continue to monitor the situation.

## COMMUNITY BARBECUE

A community barbecue is being planned close to the sports pavilion. Discussions between the Sports



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