

Mayor's "report" April 2022

- March 24th
 - o **Fletton Field** Association meeting with **Cllr Smithers, Cllr Harrison and Rob Bridges** (unfortunately unwell) from NNC – felt very positive.
 - o TPP meeting – to run through various questions from **TPP** about the **Transport Study**. All on target for preliminary report for April 28th with data gathering units out already.
- March 26th – **Oundle Town Football Club** – parking “opening” – see grant report in “documents pack” – my first and only ribbon! Great to pass our thanks on to the team at OTFC for all the good they are doing our community. Feedback on future strategies and synergies with festival/long term/event parking, OS pitch use. Mention of concerns about construction traffic to St Christopher’s Road site, and drainage as housing grows, as main outflow appears semi blocked, and may explain recent flooding events inc sewage. I asked them for photos we could show to Anglia Water when we meet them as per March’s Full Council decision.



- March 28th – meeting with Clerk and Carol Beesley, Practice manager **Lakeside** about comms. Postponed by Lakeside, and now likely to be postponed again through building works and staff changes.

- March 29th – helped sort out enforced **staff illness** – thanks to all who stepped up to go above and beyond or work when ill – reinforces importance of office to some residents, and value of shifting what we do to Office 365 and the digital telephony system to allow flexible working. Can we do ENBs remotely?

- March 30th – opened **PWS careers fair** – really impressive event with wide range of employers, trainers etc – their press release = “Be true to yourselves.” That was the advice from Cllr Ian Clark, Mayor of Oundle, at a recent careers fair for students of Prince William School. More than twenty five exhibitors spent the day talking to students about the industry they work in, the pathways they had taken and opportunities available to the future workforce. From STEM based exhibitors through to those representing the arts, and household name companies along with colleges and universities, students were compelled to consider their next steps. The event was designed to inspire and enthuse with varied sectors participating and companies keen to challenge stereotypes within the workplace. TutsUK and BCA also spoke to students about encouraging and embracing women into predominantly male dominated industries, whilst The Tile Portfolio encouraged entrepreneurs to be realistic but pursue plans to be successful business owners. Meanwhile Cllr Clark, who opened the event, gave a moving and poignant speech about his own and his children’s experience of moving on from secondary education and offered some sound advice to students about the choices they faced, taking time to focus on working out what they want to achieve in life and being flexible in an ever-changing employment landscape. Mark Cooper, Careers Lead at Prince William School said: “This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to have conversations with organisations, not only about the industry they work in and the job they do, but about the skills required to flourish and succeed in the workplace today. We thank everyone for giving up their time to support our students and look forward to continuing to develop our Careers Education Programme and prepare our students for life after Prince William School.” If you are a business or individual interested in being involved in the Careers Programme at Prince William School, please contact Mark.Cooper@pws.emat.uk”

- April 2nd – presented Oundle Town Council prizes for Junior Speech & Drama at **Oundle Music and Drama Festival** – to Elizabeth, Harrison, Anmol and Owen - and went to a series of the concerts – really impressive. Thanks to all especially Gwen Radcliffe who is clearly the beating heart of the whole operation, and to her vast team.

- April 6th – Social Media course via NCALC – see Comms report below.

- April 9th – great news reported of a displaying/drumming Snipe over **Snipe Meadow**. The Snipe flies high over the Meadow, then suddenly dips down, the noise is made by its fanned out tail feathers.

- April 12th – **apologies** for Finance meeting – leading DofE Gold practice exped.

- April 15th – complaint raised by resident of **glyphosate** being used on paths around town – raised with EO and Sarah Barnwell to see who the contractor is and if we can avoid glyphosate in future.