

## **HEDGE END, WEST END AND BOTLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REVIEW 2017/18**

**This is my second and final year as the Chair of the Hedge End, West End and Botley Local Area Committee commonly known as HEWEB.**

**It has been another busy year and the following are just a few highlights:-**

### **BOTLEY**

In Botley, the development of Boorley Park has dominated our activities this year with the building of 120 dwellings to-date and work is due to start on the community centre and pavilion.

We have worked successfully in partnership with the Parish Council and the formation of the Boorley Green Working Group has been especially productive. Consultation with the local allotment association has been beneficial and their advice will be incorporated within the design of the allotments at Boorley Park.

The appointment of Jacquie Rolls as the Community Development Worker for Boorley Park has also been significant. Jacquie has met with many of the new residents and representatives from the key local groups and organisations. Her remit is not only to develop this new community but also to integrate it within the remainder of Botley.

Moving over the road to Boorley Gardens, this was a site that HEWEB refused planning permission for but this was over ruled at appeal. Similar to Boorley Park, we are now working in partnership with the Parish Council to ensure that the maximum benefit for the community is achieved.

Both sites will have a primary school and it is proposed that the Woodhouse Lane site in Hedge End has a secondary school to be managed by the Wildern Multi Academy Trust.

The Committee gave its full support to the Botley Bypass when the application was submitted. £10 million pounds has already been secured towards this project as a result of a joint bid between the Borough Council and County Council. This is going to be a significant piece of infrastructure for Botley and one which should take the pressure off the village centre.

I would also like to highlight another partnership success namely, Friday Night Football for youngsters with an average of 70 attending per session. The Parish Council provides the facilities free of charge and HEWEB has provided funding of £2,000 annually. This is the most popular Friday Night Football scheme in the Borough.

### **HEDGE END**

We have supported Hedge End Youth and Community Association (HEYCA), firstly with funding for a condition survey of the building and subsequent £50,000 for renovation and refurbishment working with HETC.

Also we have service level agreements in place with TADIC now the Young People's Wellbeing Service and Wildern School supporting their Community Management Committee with advice and contribution to strategy. Funding for the pool roof and spectator seating project was announced at the March Committee.

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We have undertaken feasibility studies in Ratcliffe Road and Waterbeech Drive to determine whether additional parking can be supplied.

### **WEST END**

We have funded projects at Hilldene Community Centre, the Youthouse and St. James' Church.

In addition, public toilets have been installed near to the Parish Council and a play area in Mill Gardens is nearly complete.

The largest project in West End has been at Itchen Valley Country Park and this has involved the redevelopment of the catering provision; a new indoor interactive play area and new outdoor play trail. The Country Park has undergone extensive tree work in partnership with the Forestry Commission and the Little Owls Kindergarten and Forest School have been outsourced to Youth Options.

A feasibility study for part of the Midlands Estate was also funded by HEWEB and further funding has been approved to create more car parking spaces.

Currently 2 public art schemes for the old Moorgreen Hospital site and the approaches to West End are underway and it is hoped that these can be delivered later this year.

We also have a skate park for Hatch Farm in the pipeline with consultation due to start after May.

### **The HEWEB Youth Partnership**

I would like to thank the Committee and Suzanne Watson who has now completed her 2 year stint as Chair. PC Jason Steel has now been elected as the new Chair.

The partnership is a strong group and has worked on the theme of empowering young women this year. The new theme is anti - social behaviour and the Partnership will be discussing how to allocate resources more effectively.

The involvement of young people in the allocation of the HEWEB youth grants is to be commended and Donna Love, the HEWEB Youth Leader manages this process. Her role is jointly funded by the Town Council and HEWEB.

### **Across HEWEB**

- We have spent over £10,000 on litter bins; installed 9 flower towers – 3 in each shopping centre; installed over 30 speed limit reminders; agreed 10 traffic regulation orders (mainly double yellow lines) and 2 traffic studies.
- We will again be supporting the Borough Council's Parksport scheme for 8 -16 year olds over the Summer holidays.
- We have allocated £4,000 for the HEWEB Youth grants and also look forward to receiving grant applications from community groups as we place great importance on the role of these groups within the community who are often reliant upon a small bank of volunteers.

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### **Conclusion**

We will continue to improve the local area in partnership with key organisations such as the parish and town councils in addition to the youth partnership and voluntary groups.

We look forward to receiving local people's views and we welcome participation at the local area committee meetings

Councillor Daniel Clarke  
Chair of HEWEB LAC