

## Clerk's Report – October 2024

- **ANPR** Camera in situ in Holbrook, Chelmondiston and Stutton 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October
- **Attended virtual Scribe Conference:** a number of topics were covered including Biodiversity Net Gain, the Procurement Act 2023, Audit, Budgeting, Time Management, etc. There was also a presentation by Jackie Weaver, who became famous/infamous during COVID
- The fence and gate around the children's playground has suffered further damage. The Chairman has temporarily rectified it, but it needs further attention.
- A further notification has been received that the defibrillator may have been deployed which necessitated a site check – all appears to be in order and the ambulance service have been informed that it is ready for use
- We have received notification that no election has been requested and we can therefore go ahead with co-opting another councillor. At the moment we only have 8 councillors out of a possible 11. Cllr Pittman is also going to be away for a short period of time, which means that it might be quite tight to achieve a quorum. Our quorum for a legal meeting is 4. Councillors are urged to think of possible new councillors to recruit.
- The grit bins are being re-filled over the next couple of weeks.
- I have forwarded some information about potholes both from Highways and from CC Simon Harley. I believe there is a survey to fill in following the work.
- Annual leave: I have struggled to fit in any annual leave over the past few years and am intending to take off 10 days from 23<sup>rd</sup> October and a few days off over Christmas. I will be accessing emails during these periods. I will try and fit in the remaining days between New Year and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.
- E.ON Next: following a series of emails and very confusing billing information, I received the following answer from E.ON: *"our balance is £76.24 and this includes the £9.66. The £9.66 charges for the up to date invoice for usage between 16/09 to 01/10. So we will be taking 2 payments £66.58 on 24/10 and £9.66 on 25/10 which makes up the £76.24. The bills are correct as we have actual reads previously there was a period we weren't billing for the night usage and you were only getting bills for day usage that's why your bills were low but we corrected this and billed for night usage on 09/10 invoice"*. I am still in the process of querying this. As it was, I had to chase up an invoice as the online account said we didn't owe anything and no invoice was received for September.
- As clerk to Freston PC, I have joined NALC's micro council group, which is targeted at Councils with a precept of less than £10,000. Their current campaign is to try and get the speed limit reduced for rural roads in villages. I will keep HPC informed of any developments.