

Mrs Maybury's Report March 2022

District Wide interest:

BDC is having a Peer Review which is when a group of officers and members from other areas audits the processes, concerns, and strategic items of the district. This will take place next week and the results will appear later in the year.

I am sure you have all received your revised council tax invoice and will note the increases. It may not be apparent to all, but legitimate reductions can be applied for including, single person household, confirmed mental health status and homes built or altered for disabled use for a named resident residing in the property. Details are available from the website. I also highlight the minor homes adaptation grants which may make life better for someone struggling to stay in their own homes. Again, details can be found from the BDC website.

Jubilee celebrations are being confirmed with many parishes and towns now advertising their events. Please email me if you would like me to help celebrate with you. I also readvertise my competition for the Jubilee which all parishes within my Ward have had details of. The weather is improving day by day and I therefore encourage all to be outside looking for areas to enhance to mark HM The Queen's platinum jubilee and the chance to win a trophy and prize from my competition.

None of us I am sure will not be aghast at the plight of Ukraine. I applaud all who have donated or helped in the humanitarian effort.

Around the Ward:

Many congratulations to Little Waldingfield who now have their Neighbourhood Plan in place. A huge effort by the village over the last four years has seen their plan finally agreed and approved by BDC. Well done to all.

Great Waldingfield now have a full complement of councillors. Congratulations to those who have joined the parish council.

I have been delighted to donate to worthy causes within the Ward from my locality budget. The beneficiaries this year are:

Great Waldingfield – **Branchlines** for hand tools and a first aid kit to continue their work with the community woodland and ponds.

Great Waldingfield – **Lady Belles** for help with the cost of their meeting place. Lady Belles are a group of older, vulnerable residents who meet to socialise; usually single they join together to support each other. And they can be great company!

Lavenham – The parish council received money for plaques for their jubilee trees at Spring Street.

Little Waldingfield – The parish council received money for a new chat bench at Croft Lea. Installed at the entrance to the homes of older resident it allows a comfortable outside space to talk and chat and support one another as well as a resting space for walkers and cyclists.

Jubilee Tree Planting:

I was delighted to help plant the jubilee tree at Great Waldingfield community woodland alongside the Rector, Rev Faith Marsden.

Finally:

Litter picking weather is upon us and apart from my regular litter picking in my home village, I am happy to join in your parish annual litter picks – just ask me!

And Finally;

A friend of mine now lives abroad and writes a monthly column for enjoyment and information. I am struck by how he always ends his musings; be kind to one another, it takes little effort. I leave that with you.

Cllr Margaret Maybury

10th March 2022