

Hockley News in Brief September 2020

We know there are lots of you who are keen to get out and meet up again and we would like to ask everyone to continue to be aware of any local restrictions. Recent changes on how and where people can come together have meant that the parish council may be able to start planning for some limited community activities for the Autumn. However, wider limitations on what can be done remain and safety is key to all our planning practices. We also need to balance this with many who remain more cautious or may still be shielding and we should all be mindful of the wishes and requests of other members of our community.



VJ Day 75th Anniversary 15th August: Our plans for VJ Day had to be scaled down but the Parish Council paid tribute with red white and blue planting and our Remembrance Day silhouette. Artwork was also on display outside the Parish Hall; the village was decorated with bunting and flags and the War Memorial in Southend Road was lit up at sunset with candles. Hockley British Legion also observed a 2 minutes silence with prayers outside their memorial read by the Rev Nick Rowan.

Parish Hall: Our County Councillor Carole Weston has nominated the Parish Council for an award under the Essex County Council Locality Fund 2020/21 towards replacing the flooring in the meeting room. The hall will re-open again to the public as soon as Government restrictions allow.

Litter: The Parish Council and community volunteers have been providing additional litter clearance in both the village and our open spaces, not only to rid the countryside of unsightly litter and help the environment but to set an example to others that littering of any kind is both anti-social and disruptive to our wildlife but we still see a huge amount of rubbish left around. Please use the bins provided or take your rubbish home with you and use the recycling facilities whenever you can.



New Defibrillator at Broad Parade: The Parish Council has agreed to install and maintain another defibrillator this time at Broad Parade. Our thanks go to the Stepney and South Essex District Branch of the Oddfellows who are to provide funds for the unit and Esso Chandos Service Station who have given permission for the unit to be located outside their premises.



Essex County Council Libraries update: Essex Libraries would like to thank you for your patience during our phased re-opening. From **1 September** some of the temporary service changes will now revert to normal. Check our [FAQs](#) page for all the latest information and details of services available.