

ST MARTHA PARISH COUNCIL

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As we approach the end of the year it's interesting to both look back at 2019 and look forward to 2020. One of the issues we felt important to look at in 2019 was traffic speeds through the village as there have been a number of incidents that have occurred in the village which have been particularly concerning especially since the resurfacing works which were sorely needed..

We have been looking at the installation of a permanent Vehicle Activated Speed Sign and have recently benefitted of a temporary VAS sign which is enabling us to physically see the effectiveness of such signs before committing to the expenditure of a permanent sign... to date the results have been mixed and we will continue to look at the results before making any commitments but we hope that local residents have noticed the sign and are more conscious of what speed they travel at particularly when passing the schools.

In 2019 we have also been instrumental in the regeneration of The Gunpowder Mills Group who have previously carried out great work in promoting the interests and awareness of The Gunpowder Works which are one of the most important sites and assets we have in the parish.

The new group is called The Friends Of the Gunpowder Works and have already been involved in assisting Guildford Borough Council with the clearance of Himalayan Balsam from the site and the Heritage Open Day which attracted both local residents and not so local visitors to the site to learn more information about the history of the site and also enjoy a BBQ run by Chilworth2Gether (Many thanks!!)

In the coming year we hope to expand the activities of the group with more activity days, continued promotion of the historical importance of the site and a greater focus on the nature and wildlife the site offers and benefits from. 2020 also marks the 100th anniversary of the closure of the Gunpower Mills and to commemorate this significant anniversary we will be looking to hold an event to mark the occasion in addition to further activity days throughout the year. A number of ideas for events have been forwarded but we would welcome suggestions from local residents so if you have any ideas please don't be shy in forwarding your suggestions.

As always, to make sure these activities and events are successful we rely on volunteers to lend a hand so if you are able to help out, even if it is only for a few hours or a day in the year or if you would like to be added to the mailing list so we can keep you advised of activities please feel free to email me. brown.g@stmarthaparishcouncil.co.uk

Councillors:

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Next Parish Council Meeting: Thursday 16th January 2020 in Chilworth Infant School

