

Warham Parish Council - Clerk's Report – 17 September 2020

One of the many complicated pieces of law relating to Parish Councils is that Agendas should be published three clear days before the meeting. "Clear days" do not include weekends, bank holidays, other special days off, etc. So, I decided early in my Parish Clerking career that I would publish all my agendas a week before – then no argument! However, this can cause problems. For this meeting I had negotiated with the Reading Room, read all the new regulations (social distancing, hold-up masks etc.) checked that participants were happy, when the night before publication Boris decided to bring in the "rule of six". It took a couple of days to establish that Parish Council meetings are not "social gatherings" but work, by which time the deadline for agenda publication would have been passed. Hence one more email meeting. Hopefully, the next one can be face to face, or probably mask to mask.

The rules on the reopening of children's playgrounds are complicated. Regular cleaning, ensuring the children are social distancing etc. make it too difficult for our playground to be reopened as yet. Unless there are any volunteers who want to sit in the playground for a few weeks?

I have spoken to David Fennell of Homes for Wells and he has nothing to report at present. (Covid doesn't just affect taste and smell – it makes wheels run slower). He will however be attending the email "meeting", so can answer any questions that you might have.

KL 9/20