

As I write this column it is a beautiful day with the sun shining and not too cold yet. I have just returned from the Open Day at the Colne Valley Visitors Centre where a fabulous carving is displayed at the entrance to the walks. The beginning of the walk has been 'set upon by some volunteers' and what a fabulous job they have made of it. It looked so much wider and clearer that you felt almost drawn to walk along it. Sadly, I had no more time to spare then but felt I must remember what a beautiful place it is and how lucky we are that it is on our doorstep.

HS2 should finally be receiving Royal Assent this month, which means we should be able to apply for our money to do further work on the A412 pathway from Denham Station towards the A40. Once we have debated the scoping report received from the engineers, we will have to make a decision on what type and height of lighting we install.

Some good news is that HOAC's (Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre) latest plans to move to Denham have been approved albeit with quite a number of conditions attached. I wonder if they will now be changing their name to DOAC !!! It will certainly be a fabulous facility on our doorstep and much easier to access for those without transport.

As always there has been plenty to keep your parish councillors busy and we are pressing ahead with our 'Befriending' Good Neighbour Scheme. A committee of 3 volunteers has been appointed to start proceedings. They will be kept very busy as a Constitution needs to be agreed, a bank account opened, DBS checks to be arranged for all volunteers and a mobile phone purchased. After that all we need are more volunteers!!! Have you any time to spare? Please be that person who cares and get in touch with us.

There is a Health and Wellbeing Fair currently being organised for the 24 February, so it will be all over by the time you read this article but we would be very interested on your views of how it went so please drop us a line if you can. We are hoping another one will be run in March so keep your eyes open so that you don't miss the posters telling you about it. These events are free of charge so just turn up on the day.

**Save the Date 21 May 2017.** For all you keen walkers out there this is a date for your diary. It is the Annual 'Beating the Bounds'. Please join us in this Parish Council tradition of organising an annual walk along part of the Parish Boundary. It normally takes place on Rogation Sunday (exactly five weeks after Easter Sunday) and is usually in May. In 2017 it will be held on 21 May and we will walk Route 4 - Slade Oak Lane, Shire Lane (west), Juniper Wood, with refreshments available when we stop.

Marilyn Heath.  
Chairman, Denham Parish Council

Our grateful thanks to 'In and Around Denham' for providing this platform for us.