**Parish Council Report**

**March 2015**

This is the last report from the current Parish Council, since all of the five seats are up for election on Thursday 7th May.  Any resident on the electoral roll is eligible to stand, and the current Council expressed its hope that there would be nominations from new people. It is always good for the democratic process for the Council to be rejuvenated by new blood!   Details on how to be nominated are set out in a separate notice – in this issue (page ?),on the website and on the village noticeboard.

As usual, there will be an Annual Village Meeting at the end **of April (28that 7.30pm in the Birbury ).** This is an opportunity to hear reports from not only the Parish Council but also from the local clubs and other bodies which play such an important part in our village life.  There will also be a chance to put forward your ideas on how the new Parish Council can work to improve the village.

Spring is always a good time to tidy up our surroundings, and we are therefore asking you to consider joining **the Spring Litter Pick** around the village on:

**Saturday 2nd May, meeting outside the Birbury at 10am.**

**Hi Viz jackets and litter pickers will be supplied,**

**and there will be a cup of coffee in the Birbury when you’ve finished.**

Last year we had an excellent turn-out; let’s make it even more this year!

The maintenance of village assets continues to be an on-going challenge, and we have been grateful to the efforts of councillors and others who have provided their time and expertise to help in this.  We are, however, hoping to find some paid help.  If you know of reliable tradespeople (painters, carpenters etc.)  who might be willing to do some of these odd jobs, please contact the clerk or any of the councillors.

This is **my** last report as Chair of the current Council, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my colleagues on the Council for their hard work and support.

**Best wishes**

Diana Turner,

Chair, Birdingbury Parish Council

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7.30pm on**

**Tuesday 21st April 2015 in the Birbury.**

**The Annual Village Meeting will take place at 7.30pm on**

**Tuesday 28th April in the Birbury**

**All are welcome to attend.**

**Parish Council Elections**

**7th May 2015**

**The process starts with the publication of a Notice of Election published by**

**the election authority (Rugby Borough Council) on 16thMarch, when the nomination period begins.**

**Nomination papers will be available in March from the Chair, from the Borough Council or can be printed directly from the RBC website.**

**Completed Nomination Papers must be received by RBC no later than**

**4pm on Thursday 9th April 2015**

**Elections will take place on Thursday 7th May from 7am to 10pm.**

**If there are more vacancies than candidates the Returning Officer**

**will declare them elected at 11am on Election day.**

**If there are more candidates than vacancies, counting will take place -**

**probably on Saturday 9th May.**

**The current Councillors cease to hold office on 11th May, and the new councillors take office on that day.**

**The first meeting of the new Council will take place at**

**7.30pm on Tuesday 19th May.**