**JULY 2023**

**National clerks and Proper officers’ week**

July 10th to 14th is National Clerks and Proper Officer week.

This is a chance to celebrate and raise the profile of the role of the Proper Officer. Also, to recognise the work they do for their communities.

Many people think they are there to take minutes at meetings and do a few clerical tasks The reality is far from that. They are an important, professional part of the Parish Council team, essential in enabling and enacting the Parish Council’s work and allowing innovation with in the community.

Your Parish Council Proper Officer:

* Juggles a range of skills from finance and accounting, staff management and HR, to understanding and interpreting ever changing legislation.
* Adheres to a professional code of ethics that stresses integrity, impartiality, confidentiality and commitment to the public interest.
* Continuously updates their knowledge and skills through professional development programs, training and qualifications.
* Helps to run community events including jubilee celebrations, remembrance commemorations, Parish Council village hall events.
* Is good in a crisis and was central to coordinating local efforts during the pandemic.
* Coordinates with local volunteers to improve the local environment.
* Prepares for, and ensures the proper running of Parish Council meetings and implements their resolutions.
* And much, much more.

So please remember that the Proper Officer works hard, often in the background, for the benefit of the village.

**War Memorial Steering Group**

This new memorial will have the names of all from the locality who gave their lives during the wars and will be a worthy memorial to them.

The War Memorial Steering Group has now got all the permissions necessary and the stonemasons have sourced suitable blocks of stone. However, due to unforeseen delays to this project including the pandemic, the cost has risen. The group have already raised a magnificent £12,000 towards it from local and national donors but another £5,500 is now needed for the project to be completed.

The War Memorial Steering Group is now asking for local people to raise some of this. A small donation made by many will go a long way towards the total. There will be a donation box for the memorial at DISH in the village Hall on Mondays or you can contact Pauline Collins, Proper Officer if you wish to donate

Thank you

Issy Horsley - Chair of Fairlight Parish Council Email: [cllrihorsley.fairlightpc@gmail.com](mailto:cllrihorsley.fairlightpc@gmail.com)