West Itchenor Parish Council
Clerks Report – 12 March 2018

Broadband at Itchenor Memorial Hall

A request has been received from Itchenor Memorial Hall for assistance with the cost of supplying broadband to the village hall. The monthly phone line and broadband cost will be approx. £24 a month. The standard connection charge is £25 and the necessary tree work to enable the telephone line to be connected is likely to be about £200.

The connection charge and tree work costs will be in this financial year and the monthly payments will start in March. Total cost for the financial year ended 31 March 2018 is estimated at £249.00.

Velo South

CDC has issued an email about a brand new cycling event that will be coming to the district on 23 September of this year. Velo South will welcome 15,000 cyclists to the Chichester and Horsham districts, covering a distance of 100 miles. Setting off from Goodwood Motor Circuit, cyclists will head out on a picturesque route through West Sussex, showcasing the beauty of local villages and countryside. The event promises to be one of the UK's biggest cycling events and is an excellent opportunity to promote our area to visitors, encourage cycling and embrace a new and exciting event. In addition, an email from a resident in Compton has been sent to the organisers, supporting organisations and Parish Councils spelling out the difficulties the event may cause and the lack of any consultation regarding the road closures. This email has been forwarded to Councillors.

External Auditor

Under powers set out in Regulation 3 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Ltd (SAAA) was appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government as "a person specified to appoint local auditors" and as the Sector Led Body (SLB) for smaller authorities. Smaller authorities are those whose gross annual income or expenditure is less than £6.5 million.
Under the Regulations, SAAA is responsible for appointing external auditors to all applicable opted-in smaller authorities, for setting the terms of appointment for limited assurance reviews and for managing the contracts with the appointed audit firms. The new External Auditors for the next 5 years will be Moore Stephens (LLP).