

Clerk's Report – November 2023

- The Remembrance Service at the Recreation Ground went extremely well and was very well attended. The new poppy nets were resplendent, and the new 'Women in War' RBL silhouette statue was introduced, with the Vicar giving a background on the ATS, on their 85th anniversary year. 'Gloria', as she has become known, will be put up on the end wall of the Museum alongside the original silhouette.
- We are working on a plan for works required at the Clock Tower. The building is in quite good shape, especially inside, but there are areas where essential work has been identified. A building survey will need to be carried out to check for any structural or other work required. CPC will then be applying for a grant to fund the works, which will hopefully include improving safety and access to the building.
- The Parish Van has unfortunately failed its MOT and is currently awaiting diagnostics to find out what work is needed. This means it will be off the road for at least two weeks, which will hamper our operations to some degree, but our Works Operatives have been ingenious with finding ways around the problems in the meantime.
- Christmas lights, tree and Market event: A lot of work has been going on to ensure that the Christmas lights along and around Stoneham Street are in place, along with the Christmas tree for this year's festivities. The tree is being donated to Coggeshall again this year by Poplar Nurseries, and David Watson Transport Ltd are again donating their time and vehicle to picking up and delivering the tree to its spot on Market Hill. The Parish Council are hugely grateful to both companies for their voluntary support and assistance to make Coggeshall look festive over the season. Volunteers from the Coggeshall Christmas group have also been working very hard to source sponsorship and market stalls for the event, and this year's Santa's Grotto is being hosted at Maria's, and again, CPC is hugely indebted and grateful to all involved.
- Plans for the first phase of the refurbishment of the Fabian's Play Area are almost in place, with a lot of work being undertaken by the Recreation Sub-Committee to pull all of the details together to enable a contract to be placed.

Philippa Potter
Clerk