

Councillor's Chronicles No.1

By the time you read this Jackie Weaver will probably have returned happily to her normal life, not that she seems a woman who can't handle five minutes of fame, being the face of a cake or inspiring a slogan on a T shirt. Well done her - and she lightened another lockdown week. *That* Parish Council meeting has been likened to both a Shakespearean drama and A Game of Thrones. "Please tell me that my role is Cersei, that would be fabulous".



Jackie said on radio that it isn't kind to laugh at another person's meltdown. "I don't want to give the message out, join the parish council for a good bust up, but I can see there is something quite funny about adults losing it". What she does want is to encourage more, younger women (and men) into local politics and "don't get me even started on the wider diversity; that would be a real bonus".

There is an overlooked character here. It's not Aled's iPad or Julie's but 17-year-old Shaan Ali, the A level politics student who recorded the events during his studies. Rewarding for Jackie I should think when he said "I guess I am fascinated by what local authorities do and the role they play up and down the country. You have big councils and county councils, but it's the parish councils who work with communities and it's so fascinating because they argue over the smallest issues." And of course, he found some of the councillors' (in)ability to use zoom "hilarious".

Now I'm not going to compare Fontmell PC with Handforth and I am certainly not going to say being concerned over small issues is unnecessary because small issues can have a large effect on local areas. I am going to say thank you Shaan for being interested in our interest and in what we try to achieve.

On Fontmell PC we don't have idiosyncratic members nor are we bad-tempered, we can zoom without a cat filter and we are a harmonious group not in it for ego boosting or do-gooding but because parishes and their residents need to have a voice. We believe that giving expression to local views is one of the most important contributions we can make to our community and we enjoy doing it - mostly.

Useful Links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xsBBGVi2MCw>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-us-canada-56012319>

<http://www.fontmellmagnapc.co.uk/>