

# Chiseldon Parish Council

## Christmas Newsletter 2022



### Message from the Chair...

The Parish Council remains an important part of life in Chiseldon and the surrounding area. Our work continues to maintain and improve local services, whether that be general maintenance around the Parish, the provision of planters in the area or services such as the recreation ground and hall to the west of the village of Chiseldon. Where possible, we try to resolve issues that local residents raise by working with the public, other authorities such as Swindon Borough Council or the police, to make the villages of Chiseldon, Badbury, Hodson, Draycot Foliat and Ridgeway



View pleasant and inclusive places to live. We're currently working on several projects to try to alleviate parking issues and to replace our ageing and dilapidated recreation hall, all on a relatively small budget. As a council, we're always looking for feedback on how we're doing, so if you have any areas of concern please contact our clerk at [clerk@chiseldon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chiseldon-pc.gov.uk) On behalf of all of the councillors and staff at Chiseldon Parish Council, have a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. **Cllr Matt Harris.**

**Save the date! Saturday 29th April 2023, to celebrate the Kings Coronation. More details to follow.**

**Rec Hall Improvement.** Our long-term project to create a new Recreation Hall on the Recreation Field and create a better outside space for sports and leisure is making slow but steady progress. The current hall is well beyond its useful life expectancy, so the Parish Council recognised the need to improve the facilities. Draft 2 of stage 1 of the plans is to be approved shortly and we will then be submitting pre-planning forms to Swindon Borough Council. Our Recreation Ground Improvement Committee head this project. Agendas and minutes are found on our website.

Visit [www.chiseldon-pc.gov.uk/committees/recreation-ground-improvement/](http://www.chiseldon-pc.gov.uk/committees/recreation-ground-improvement/) and the public are encouraged to attend our meetings to find out more.

### Public Campaign for traffic lights on New Road/A346 Junction.

Update from Cllr Lawrence Elliott (Chiseldon and Lawn Ward) at the November Full Council meeting. There was a meeting with head of Strategic Transport John Harris at Swindon Borough Council (SBC) where the A346/New Road issue was raised. There is a need to look at a holistic solution for the whole journey through Chiseldon to Wroughton. The route is still the diversion route from National Highways for when the M4 is closed. SBC are talking to National Highways about a solution. They may change this diversion route to go from Wroughton to Swindon and then down past the hospital. This work would take 12 months to make sure stakeholders were satisfied with the changes. The A346/New Road issue will be part of this solution.

**Castlevue Road Play Area.** We have recently secured a long-term lease from Swindon Borough Council for the green area by the play park. This has enabled us to begin adding some new play equipment outside the fenced play area. The EGPA committee will be investigating options for MUGA goals and are considering this area for them to be sited.

**Skate Park Plans.** We've obtained a couple of different skate park quotes and are planning to work with a grants company to try and maximise what we can have. The EGPA committee are considering the green area by the play park on Castlevue Road for the skate park to be sited, however we want to know what residents think about this location, particularly those who live in that area. We'll be doing an online survey (a link will be shared on our website, on our weekly e-newsletter and on Facebook) so you can have your say. Paper surveys will be distributed to the houses around the site.

**Solar lamppost lighting on Strouds Hill carpark.** The planning committee have agreed to buy 2 solar lights and we are waiting for approval from Swindon Borough Council for the exact location of the lights prior to purchase and installation.

**Extension of washpool site lease.** Our current lease expires in 6 years (2028). The Council have approved an extension and we're talking to Burderop Estate to try and arrange it.

**Neighbourhood Plan.** A meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 6th December. The main agenda item was to review the 1st draft of the Plan and identify anything we wanted to change, or we felt was missing. In the last month we have completed a "Housing Needs Assessment", had a meeting with AECOM who will be producing the Design Codes document (standards for new builds in the village) and have started the process to pay for a study of the ecology in the parish, which can be added to the plan. All meeting information can be found on our website.

Visit [www.chiseldon-pc.gov.uk/microsites/neighbourhood-plan](http://www.chiseldon-pc.gov.uk/microsites/neighbourhood-plan)

**Youth Provision.** The council are in the early stages of investigating a provision for a youth service within the parish. We are exploring a number of avenues at the moment but as you can imagine, with the welfare and protection of children being involved, it could be a lengthy process. A Facebook poll a while back indicated a number of willing volunteers to help, as well as some people who would consider applying for a youth worker role.

We have created an online survey <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CNKNX28> to gather as much information as possible for what local residents would like to see this provision look like. Please do complete it to help us form our decision. The EGPA committee are heading up this project.

**Queen's Jubilee Tree Planting.** Our thanks to those who joined for our tree planting tour in honour of the Queen's Jubilee on Saturday 19th November. The new trees are located at

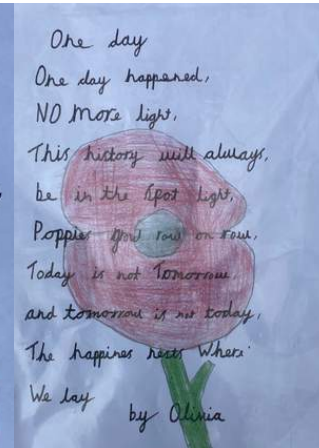
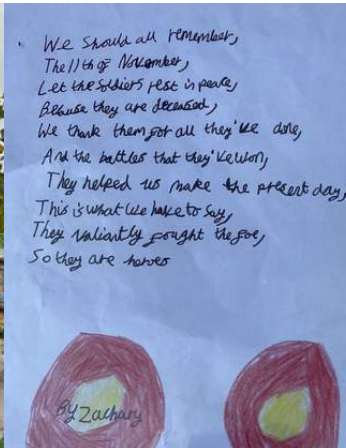
- Butts Road Cemetery, by the Chiseldon Local History Group
- Butts Road Church carpark, by the Womens Insititute
- New Road opposite the War Memorial, by the Gardening Club
- The Washpool, by the Washpool Area Restoration Project Group
- The Recreation Ground, by Chiseldon Parish Council.

**Christmas Trees.** The Parish Council have teamed up with the Gardening Club to plant 8 smaller trees this year, instead of putting up a cut tree that would be removed after Christmas. Our hope is not only will this be better for the environment, as the trees grow they will give us a lovely display, with less cost involved in future years. Our thanks to the Gardening Club for jointly funding this project with us, as part of their Jubilee tree planting initiative.





**Remembrance Day.** It was wonderful to see so many as we joined together to remember armed forces members who died in the line of duty.



## HELP SPREAD SOME CHISELDON CHRISTMAS CHEER!

As the cost of living rises across the board, some households may find Christmas 2022 to be a challenging time. Would you like to help us spread some festive cheer through Chiseldon's very own 'Secret Santa'? Chiseldon Guides, assisted by community volunteers, are organising some special treats for people in need. The Guides are putting together reverse advent calendars (festive boxes filled with 24 non-perishable food items) for delivery just before Christmas. If you'd like to join in then we'd love to have more boxes for Santa to share out. You can either donate a full box of 24 items or just a few non-perishable treats. We would also love to pop in some smaller luxury items - such as chocolates, small toiletries and stocking fillers. Anything that you can offer will be gratefully received. You can drop off your donations at the Parish Office (in the Butts Road cemetery) on Tuesday 20th December between 8:30am and 10:30am, or 6:00pm to 7:30pm. If you can't make either of those drop-offs then we may be able to collect donations from you at an earlier date. Ideally, we'd love to help as many local households as possible, so if you know of a household in need, then please feel free to nominate them by emailing [chiseldonguides@outlook.com](mailto:chiseldonguides@outlook.com) with a few details about who lives in each home (e.g. young family, older individual etc). You can also nominate your own household using the same email address. Please be reassured that all nominations will be received in confidence.



**Notice of casual vacancy.** Public notice is hereby given that a casual vacancy has occurred in the office of Councillor for the Parish Council following the resignation of Councillors Sanjay Dogra and Raj Patel on 10th November 2022. In accordance with Section 89(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, where the vacancy occurs within six months before the day on which the councillor whose office is vacant would regularly have retired, an election shall not be held under Section 89(1) of the above Act, and the vacancy will be filled at the next ordinary elections of councillors on 4th May 2023. The Council may choose to fill the vacancy for the period until that election. 11th November 2022.

**Build Out removal on New Road.** Swindon Borough Council have advised they will add this item to their 2023/24 works to consider. We will keep pushing for it to be removed.

**Help if you're struggling with living costs.** Visit the Swindon Borough Council website 'Help if you're struggling with living costs' for 19 practical actions that could help you or someone you know. Get in touch with Citizens Advice Swindon on 08082 787 813 (10am-4pm Monday-Friday) or go along to one of their drop-in sessions. Warm & Safe Wiltshire offer free energy advice for families facing difficulty with energy bills, and also assist with any energy or heating issues with free home visits.



## Local clubs/groups and contact details:

**Scouts and Guides.** Our thriving local scouts and guides groups warmly welcomes new members. For children between the ages of 6-18 years, the clubs provide a great opportunity to have fun and make new friends. For Beavers/Cubs/Scouts contact: **Chris Rawlings on: (01793) 740047** or for Rainbows/Brownies/Guides email: [wroughtonchiseldondc@wncounty.org.uk](mailto:wroughtonchiseldondc@wncounty.org.uk)

**Chiseldon Tennis Club.** New members are welcome to come along and try the club out on Wednesday from 6:30 and Saturdays from 10.30am. For more info or to book, please call **Julie on 07753 199950** or visit our website: [www.chiseldontennisclub.co.uk](http://www.chiseldontennisclub.co.uk)

**Chiseldon Football Club.** CFC currently runs teams at multiple age groups. They play and train at Chiseldon Recreation Ground, Norris Close, Chiseldon, SN4 0LP. For more info about training times or joining up visit [www.chiseldonfc.co.uk](http://www.chiseldonfc.co.uk) or you can message them on their Facebook page.

**Breathe Nature Forest School.** Enables children to develop through exploring nature and the local land. For more info visit their Facebook page or email: [mark.spreckley@gmail.com](mailto:mark.spreckley@gmail.com)

**Wroughton and Chiseldon Netball Club** welcome players of all abilities from age 11 upwards. We are a friendly club, training is at Ridgeway Leisure Centre on Wednesday evenings from 7-8pm. Please check out our Facebook page or WhatsApp 07841 343502 for more information.

**Chiseldon Local History Group.** Come to one of our meetings in the Church Hall at 7.30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except August and December). For more information about membership visit our website [www.chiseldonlhg.org.uk](http://www.chiseldonlhg.org.uk) or contact us at [info@chiseldonlhg.org.uk](mailto:info@chiseldonlhg.org.uk) or ring **01793 740784**

**Chiseldon Neighbourhood Watch.** Are you interested in making our Chiseldon community a safe place for all to live? If so, why not join our local Chiseldon NHW Scheme? The scheme extends to Hodson, Badbury and Draycot Foliat and has close links with Chiseldon Parish Council as well as our Neighbourhood Police Team. For more information contact: Paul Sunners, Chiseldon NHW Co-ordinator by email: [paul.sunners@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.sunners@btinternet.com)

**Washpool Area Restoration Project (WARP).** Come for a walk and discover our lovely washpool in Chiseldon, with access and parking at Strouds Hill. New volunteers are always warmly welcomed to help us maintain the site. We also have 'Friends of Washpool', for anyone who wants to support without volunteering, annual subscriptions are available. Funds generated by Friends of Washpool pay for small projects such as plants, seeds and items for the sheep. For more info email: [contactwashpool@gmail.com](mailto:contactwashpool@gmail.com)

**The Chiseldon Gardening & Countryside Club.** New members welcome. For more information contact **Tony Henderson (Chair) on 01672 841444** or **Richard Matthews (Secretary) on 01793 740022**. You don't have to be a gardening expert to belong as most of our members just enjoy their gardens and see the evening as a social event, as well as learning more about gardening and the countryside; and sharing ideas and information. Our aim is to have topics and slants that are not covered on television, in magazines, or on the internet. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm.