

Cholsey Village Voice March 2019

The monthly newsletter from the Parish Council. Available free in most shops and pubs, The Pavilion foyer, the library and The Great Hall. CVV can also be read on the Parish Council website in the News and Events section. If you have any short, topical articles that we could publish, please forward them to clerk.cpc@outlook.com

Neighbourhood Plan



Please don't forget to vote on March 14th in the Neighbourhood Plan referendum. Information is available in the Pavilion and members of the NP team will be available on Saturday mornings at the Community Tea Shop leading up to the referendum. Mark Gray Chair of the Parish Council said 'I think this is about local democracy and giving people the opportunity to have some control about the future of our village'.

Happy Hub News

With the return of Cholsey United – currently Brightwell and Crowmarsh - we are now unable to use the changing rooms at The Pavilion in the long term.

We have agreed to hand the rooms back to the Pavilion Trust for use as changing rooms in September 2020.

The District Council have told us they will support The Happy Hub to build an extension to the existing Pavilion and the Parish Council will use some of our reserves to cover the full cost. We are discussing the extension with an

architect and will soon be in a position to show the plans publicly.

The Happy Hub has been a tremendous success for the village and we now have up to two hundred visitors a week attending our various sessions.

Japanese Knot Weed at Fair Mile

Whilst Fair Mile was being developed into housing the developer came across an area of Japanese Knotweed, a notifiable invasive species. As a result the area had to be quarantined for an extended period – possibly as much as thirty years. Linden Homes have paid a company to deal with this plant via regular inspections and control methods.

We have just heard from the control company who say it is no longer spreading and the methodology would suggest that it will now start to die back.

Developments in the Park

We have had a full tree survey carried out and some works done. You will probably have noticed the crown reduction and bracing of the horse chestnuts adjacent to Marymead. Due to fungal growth there will need to be further cutting back in the near future to ensure the health of our tree stock.

Our grass cutter has commenced his regime for this year. We are very pleased with this contractor who started with us last year and the tremendous improvement in the quality of the grass in the park.

We are also dealing with a patch of stagshorn sumac which could potentially become invasive.

Wednesday Drop in Session

Our new Mental Health drop-in session is going from strength to strength. The service has been used by a number of local people and is well supported by volunteers and a paid member of staff.

Each session consists of an initial meet and greet over a tea or coffee, followed by a planned activity then preparing and eating lunch together at a cost of £4 per session to cover the cost of lunch.

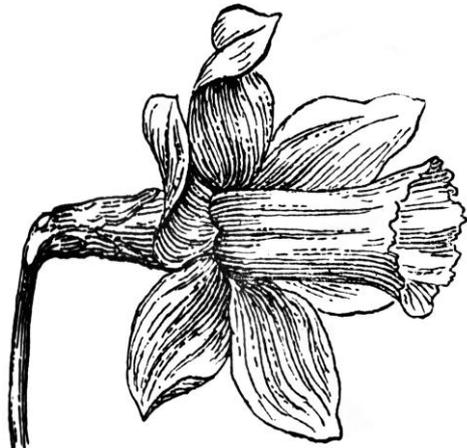
The drop-in will offer a confidential, safe space for adults with mental health conditions and/or learning difficulties as well as links to other support available.

The sessions run from 10am to 1pm every week in the Pavilion.

Cholsey Repair Cafe

The next Cholsey Repair Cafe will be held at The Pavilion in Station Road, Cholsey, on Saturday 16th March. Volunteer fixers will try to help you repair your broken domestic items in return for a voluntary donation towards operating costs. A sharpening service is also expected to be available. Doors open at 11.00 but early arrivals can enjoy tea, coffee and cake at the Cholsey Community Cafe next door, which opens at 10.00. The Repair Cafe closes at 1.45 pm.

Hort Soc News



The HortSoc Store will now be opening every Saturday morning 10am til noon on Station Road allotments for the 2019 season.

COPA News

Enquiries 01491 652100, 07979 188701 (Jennie Kent), COPA direct line 07526 291088
Vicky Beardall-Richards, tel. 07855606894 or email opsw.cpc@outlook.com
COPA is a community service for older people, their families and carers. We work closely alongside Cholsey's Older Persons Worker Vicky (see above) in providing an opportunity to access a range of useful information and support services, as well as regular social activities, and a team of volunteer befrienders to support those who are lonely, and would benefit from a "listening ear". Your community can help! Our activities include a monthly Brunch Club (sorry no meeting in March), Film Club, Lunch Group and Chat Group (cancer/bereavement/memory café) (see diary dates). We also organise occasional trips out, and we support activities at the Day Centre. Look out for COPA's monthly newsletter.

Community Youth Service Support

Youth Provision across Oxfordshire was given a £1 million boost at the County Council budget-setting meeting on 12th February. Young people and their families in Oxfordshire will now benefit

from improved community-run youth services. Youth groups will be invited to bid in to a £1m fund over two years, with encouragement to find match-funding from their local communities.

Mark Gray Cholsey County Councillor said 'I am delighted to have come up with this idea and will chair the cross party group that comes up with the criteria for how this money will be spent. I am already in discussion with Cholsey Youth Club about a potential bid for some of this fund.'

March What's Ons

Saturdays - The Pavilion Community Tea Shop – 10:00 – 12:00pm

Fri 1st 7.15 The Day Centre Climate Change Crisis – What Crisis?

Thursdays 12 – 12.45pm The Pavilion 'Time to Breathe' Gentle Exercise, Mindfulness and Meditation.

Wed 6th 7.30pm The Pavilion Parish Council Meeting

Sun 10th 2.30 Cholsey Day Centre – Afternoon Tea

Thurs 14th 7am – 10pm the Pavilion. Neighbourhood Plan referendum.

Tues 19th 12.45 Cholsey Day Centre - COPA Film Club £3 inc tea/cake. No need to book.

Weds 20th 7.30pm Parish Council Planning Meeting

Fri 15th 7.30pm Library. Hort Soc AGM

Tues 26th Feb Red Lion COPA Lunch Group. Bookings via Jennie Kent 652100

Thurs 28th Library 10-12 noon COPA Chat

Fri 29th 7.30pm Library HortSoc Illustrated talk by Steve Head "The Natural History of Madeira and the Canaries". No need to book.

Sat 30th 6.30pm The Pavilion Family Race Night

Opening Times

Parish Office – Wednesday 10am-12pm, at other times call us for appointment. Phone 652255

Library Monday to Friday 2- 4.30pm, Friday 6 – 7.30pm and Saturday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Day Centre Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am – 4pm. Phone 652970

Happy Hub Mon – Wed and Fri 9.15-11.30am, Thurs 9.45-11.15 at the Great Hall, Sat 10-11.30am. Activities and fun for under 5s.

Baby Groups Wed 12.30-2.20pm at the Happy Hub and Fri 1-2.30pm at The Great Hall.