

Cholsey Village Voice January 2020

The monthly newsletter from the Parish Council. Available free in most shops and pubs, The Pavilion foyer, and the library. 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

Why No Doctor?

I have been asked by a number of people recently why Cholsey has no doctor as they were led to believe that we were to have one. The Parish Council has tried a number of times over the years to get a doctor for the village – in 2012 we even built a surgery as part of the new Pavilion, but Oxfordshire NHS said no. More recently, as part of the Neighbourhood Plan, we tried again and were firmly rebuffed by the Clinical Commissioning Group after a number of meetings. The CCG are committed to enlarging the Wallingford Medical Practice as our area grows. Our stated aim is to bring a doctor to the village, ideally working with the Wallingford practice, but we can only do this if the CCG play ball.

Mark Gray,
Chair Cholsey PC

Parish Council Budget

Due to the expansion of the services we provide the Parish Council has agreed to raise our portion of the Council Tax by 5%, which equates to around 40p a month for the average Band D household.

The main reason for this rise is our work with elderly and disadvantaged people. In recent months we have seen a tremendous growth in the work we are being called on to undertake with elderly people especially.

The Parish Council has also seen a need to respond to the Climate Emergency, to that end we have appointed our Environment Coordinator who has recently started work. This post is part funded by Oxfordshire County Council.

Other key budget costs include the need to pay the staff a 1.5% cost of living rise, the cost of

maintaining the Recreation Field, The Forty, the playground at Cholsey Meadows and the whole burial ground.

Cholsey Car Scheme

The Cholsey Car Scheme is a volunteer led group which takes people, mostly elderly and disabled, to appointments and activities that they would find difficult to access on their own.

The scheme is always looking for volunteer drivers who could do one or two local runs a month. A mileage rate is payable and the scheme covers any insurance costs that you may encounter.

If you would like to help, please contact the organiser, Moira Randall, on 01491 652439.

Village Environmental Survey

Hello, my name is Vicky and as of October 2019, I am the Environmental Coordinator for Cholsey. My aim is to work with the community to reduce the impact we have on the environment, thus making Cholsey more environmentally friendly. What, how and when depends on the people of the village and what they feel is important. The earth is warming as a result of human activity, and this will have enormous consequences for humans and wildlife. Whether it be the loss of species or an increase in the number of floods, there is little doubt we are having a negative effect on the planet we inhabit. However, there is hope; it is not all doom and gloom - if we make changes now, we can slow down the process of global warming and mitigate its effects. Both Oxfordshire County Council and the Parish Council have declared a climate emergency and are beginning to act. Cholsey already has many initiatives running and has a remarkable community which many other villages admire. It would be wonderful if we could be at the forefront of positive environmental change, and be the village that others look to for inspiration and ideas. By thinking globally and acting locally we can make a difference, building on what we already are doing. And by giving as many residents as possible a voice on how we implement this change, we can benefit individuals, the village and the environment. My first job as Environmental Coordinator is to talk with the community, which includes you, the clubs, businesses and organisations within the village. I would love to hear what you are already doing, what environmental issues you feel are important, and how you would like Cholsey to reduce its environmental footprint.

I have created a number of options for you to express what you feel is important and what you think is most vital for the community to take on. Please follow the link below to the short online questionnaire. There is also a paper version which can be found in the Pavilion or on request.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Q6VYQMQ>

Write any worries, thoughts or ideas on the board located in the foyer of the Pavilion or Great Hall in the Fairmile.

Come and see me at the Pavilion on the morning of Saturday 18th January 2020, or look out for me at the Fairmile soon.

Or email or phone me to arrange a meeting
07855606894

ec.cpc@outlook.com

General Election Result

The results for the Wantage Constituency were as follows.

Richard Benwell - Liberal Democrats 21,432

Mark Gray – Independent 1,475

David Johnston – Conservative 34,085

Jonny Roberts – Labour 10,181

The turnout was 73.9%, 0.2 % lower than in 2017. Polling Stations reported long queues throughout the day.

The Liberal Democrats increased their vote by 17.4%, the Labour and Conservative votes dropped by 11.7% and 3.4% respectively.

Cholsey repair Cafe

The next Cholsey Repair Café will take place at the Cholsey Pavilion on Saturday 18th January 2020, opening from 11 a.m. to 1.45 p.m.

Talented volunteer fixers will try to help mend your household items, clothing, tools, toys and much more. There is even PAT testing, a sharpening service and an ultrasonic cleaner for small items. <http://www.cholseyrepaircafe.com/>

COPA–Cholsey Older Persons Activities/Advice/ Befriending Service

Enquiries 01491 652100, 07979 188701 (Jennie Kent), COPA direct line 07526

291088. copacholsey@gmail.com

COPA is a community service for older people, their families and carers, working closely alongside Cholsey's Older Person's Worker Vicky Beardall-Richards. We organise regular social activities and are pleased to announce we now have Susie Pocock working with us to help and expand our events programme. We have a team of volunteer befrienders to support those who are lonely, and would benefit from a "listening ear". Your community can help! Join us at our

Monthly Brunch Club, Film Club and Lunch Clubs--see our Newsletter (available at the Pavilion, Rowlands and Day Centre).

NEW...STARTING FEBRUARY 13TH. COPA/CHOLSEY MUSIC & MEMORIES

Second Thursday of each month, 10.30 til noon. Free. Come along to sing for fun and make music!

Old School/Day Centre, Church Road. Local transport can be arranged via Jennie Kent 07979 188701

Concerts@Cholsey

On Saturday 1st February 2020,

Concerts@Cholsey presents the new line-up of folk band Crows. The doors of the Cholsey Pavilion open at 7.00 pm for 7.45 start and there will be a real-ale bar and support act. For advance tickets at £10, email

concerts@cholsey.com or phone 652295 or 651350: unsold tickets at the door priced £12.

January's What's Ons

Saturdays - The Pavilion Community Tea Shop – 10:00 – 12:00pm (**Closed August 10th and 24th**)

Wednesdays 10am – 1pm – The Pavilion Community Support Drop-In for adults with mental health conditions, includes lunch, activities and space to talk. Costs £4

Sun 12th 2.30-4.20 Day Centre Sunday afternoon Tea

Weds 15th 7.30pm The Library Parish Council

Tues 21st 12.45 Day Centre COPA Film Club £3.50 including tea/cake and film. No need to book

Fri 31st 7.30pm The Pavilion Cholsey Challenge Quiz. Teams of 6. Costs £7.50 inc supper. Bookings 202245

Opening Times/ contacts

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

Library Monday to Friday 2- 4.30pm, Friday 6 – 8pm and Saturday 9.30am – 12.30pm

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

St Mary's Church office 651812

Rowlands Pharmacy 652392

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

Baby Group Friday 11 to 1pm at the Happy Hub.