

Charvil Village News

Summer 2017



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Editor's Introduction

I hope you have been enjoying the delights of Summer, perhaps having the opportunity with the better weather to use some of the excellent amenities or walk around the lakes we have on our doorstep in Charvil. Let's hope we have an Indian summer, with extended opportunities to get out and about and enjoy Charvil.

Since the last issue of this magazine, the Charvil Village Fete has taken place, and was a great success at its new home at East Park Farm Pavilion and recreation ground.

Inside this issue we have an update on the various improvement and maintenance activities regarding some of our village amenities such as the EPF football pitches and tennis courts.

As always, this issue includes lots of useful information regarding village events and the activities of many Charvil-based groups, societies and charities.

Please do continue to share your thoughts and highlight your issues and concerns by contacting the CPC team using e-mail or www.charvil.com (which also has news and information about our council, facilities and village life), as well as following us on Facebook and Twitter.

Wishing you a very pleasant (and hopefully warm) end to the Summer and start of Autumn. On behalf of the Parish Council, I hope you enjoy this latest issue of Charvil Village News.

Amanda Burton, Assistant Clerk

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Chairman's Foreword

The last few months have been a busy period for the Parish Council, and I will summarise here what I see as the main activities.

Most importantly, over the past few months we have unfortunately seen three Parish Councillors resign from the Council for a range of reasons. Perhaps most significant was Chris Drew who had completed three years as Chairman plus earlier years as a Councillor; Chris did an excellent job for the Parish and we take this opportunity to thank him for his dedication. Liz Black also did an excellent job in compiling and managing the Parish Council Newsletter which went from strength to strength under her direction. Finally, and by no means least, Lauren McCann (or 'Swampie' as she was affectionately known!) managed the Council's Environmental concerns. Perhaps most notably, Lauren was the driving force behind the Nature Trail.

As a result of the above resignations, the Council has been advertising for interested residents to join (our full compliment is ten residents) and the first of these (Claire Andersen) was co-opted in July. Three other residents have also now expressed interest and hence there will be a presentation to the Council by each of these at the 18th September meeting, where two of these will be co-opted onto the Council. On this subject, we would also welcome any other interested residents to leave their name with the Clerk, such that they can be contacted in the future should any further vacancies arise.

As regards the facilities which the Parish Council manages within the village, most residents will know that the Council took over the management of the East Park Farm sports area last year (from Wokingham Borough Council). We are now gradually getting to grips with all the various improvements which we are intending to make. You may have noticed that the Pavilion building is now significantly better utilised than it had been, with many regular clubs and other users. This is important as the main Hall on Park Lane remains pretty much at capacity. We are also in the process of making various improvements to the Pavilion itself but please bear with us as these various items will take some time (and cash!). Keen eyed residents will also note that we have also improved the security around the pitches in order to minimise the number of vehicles damaging the field. Similarly the tennis courts have recently been cleaned and will also be repainted shortly. It was great also to see that the Village Fete Committee used the Sports Field for its Summer Fete for the first time this year. Personally I thought the Fete went very well at that new venue, with far more space available for all the various activities. Congratulations to the Fete Committee for a job well done.

Moving on to the Hall, regular users will soon notice that we are making improvements to this as well. The disabled access to the hall is now properly lit and the main hall lights are currently being replaced with new eco friendly LEDs (and brighter too).

While we clearly cannot respond to everyone's wishes, the Council is always pleased to receive any new ideas for ways to improve the Hall and its facilities; or indeed any other facilities within the village.

On a final point, we are all aware of the critical need for additional housing within the region. One only needs to look at house prices to understand that position, and the fact that youngsters simply cannot get onto the housing ladder. It is also natural that people in every parish feel that it is other parishes which are more appropriate to accept those additional houses. With this in mind, Charvil Parish Council has been working with other Northern Parishes to press for a rational approach to the overall need, and more importantly, to try to ensure that the necessary additional infrastructure (schools, doctors, etc. etc.) are also included within the eventual plan. Remember, the Parish Council is not the Planning Authority, but we are attempting to influence the overall plan.

With that I take this opportunity to close my first Foreword with a 'thank you' to all the other Councillors in the village for the dedicated work which they undertake, together with the Clerk and Assistant Clerk. Have a great summer.

Jim Gillett, Chair, Charvil Parish Council

Edited Extracts from the Minutes of Parish Council Meetings

Meeting held on 20th March 2017

Amenities Committee - Council considered a request from Reading AFC to play at East Park Farm. After a long discussion, it was agreed to offer them training facilities but explain that the pitches are full size so they may not be appropriate, and that Council were not willing to hand over the management of the pitches. The clerk was also asked to suggest that they would be welcome to use St Patrick's Recreation Ground.

Report from the Borough Councillor - The clerk was asked to find out if the Borough Councillor had managed to get a reply from the Church on the Deed of Gift of the land that Jubilee Hall is built on. *Clerk's note: on hearing that she had not, the clerk contacted them, and was sent a Trust document, stating that the land was gifted to the Parish of St Andrew, Sonning, for the benefit of the Church parish and that if it were to be sold, the proceeds were for ecclesiastical purposes laid out in the PCC (Powers) Measure 1921.*

To note the progress of getting a group of tree wardens for Charvil – Cllr. Hobson sent an e-mail to explain that they had had an interesting meeting with the Veteran Tree Association, and because the association felt their information on Charvil was inaccurate, the new group were going to start surveying the whole village.

Regarding any trees under threat on Park Lane, the clerk was asked to contact Wokingham as the Association does not deal with TPOs (Tree Preservation Order). *Clerk's note: On requesting the area's trees to be considered, WBC have asked Council to suggest any extra trees to be considered for protection, but that if they can be felled as part of the planning process, this takes precedence over the order.*

Cllr. Mowlem asked if the water quality of the stream between East Park Farm and the country park could be checked as there have been some reports of effluent and other pollution recently.

Cllr. Gillett reported that the sewer work on Waingels Road would not happen until next year.

Highways – Cllr Mowlem reported on the efforts to get some response on the possibility of getting the Borough to adopt Pipistrelle Way.

To consider whether the Parish Council wants to push for a new Pre-school premises if a suitable partner can be found to run it – While Council feels there should be a pre-school in Charvil, and could contribute funds towards a new building if CIL money is forthcoming with the Park Lane development, there needs to be extensive discussion with the school as to what is needed and where. Cllrs Hobson, Mundy, Mowlem and Bell have been given the remit to consider costs, providers, possible locations etc.

Meeting held on 24th April 2017

Amenities Committee - It was explained that the level of football being played at East Park Farm did not require a "spectator respect barrier" but that it was preferable, and the Amenities Committee have a vision of turning the area into a "Sports Hub". Council was then asked to consider the question of whether there should be a replacement fence round the football pitches This was approved unanimously. On the question of what kind of fence there should be, the Amenities Committee had recommended a single metal rail, but other members of the Council were not so keen on this, and when put to a vote, four were in favour of a wooden fence, two were in favour of a metal fence and there was one abstention. Consequently, the issue has been returned to the Amenities Committee to gather and consider quotes for a wooden fence. There was also a discussion as to why no bollards have been installed next to the tennis courts and the assistant clerk has been asked to obtain quotes for this as a matter of urgency.



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Environment - Council took on board the reason that WBC had sanctioned the use of weedkiller, was that they were getting claims from car drivers when stones inadvertently hit their cars when passing a strimmer, but the feeling was that this was purely a cost cutting measure, made worse by poor application. Council wished to express its dissatisfaction with this policy. Regarding the pollution of the stream and the environment agency's response, the Environment Agency asked Thames Water to investigate as they have an outlet close to the spot where pollution was noticed, but they need to see it happening to be able to trace it to the source. Council would like this to be done, as it is concerned that it is harmful. Council wished to pass on its thanks to Cllr McCann for all her hard work on the environment over the past few years.

Highways – Council considered whether to purchase speed monitoring devices to try to discourage speeding, as well as requesting periodic usage of the monitoring device purchased by the local police. This was approved and Cllr Mowlem would consider what was available. It was noted that the police had run a course to train residents to use hand held devices, but Council was not aware of anyone from Charvil coming forward. Cllr Mowlem also reported back on feedback she had had from a Highways officer regarding the adoption of Pipistrelle Way by the Borough. There are significant impediments due to poor drainage, non-standard streetlights and incursion by residents onto the utility strips. Council awaits a formal response from more senior Highways officers before being completely sure of the outcome.

Meeting held on 22nd May 2017

Highways – Council was in favour of the idea of purchasing its own Speed Indicator Device, and the clerk will get in touch with traffic management to decide where it should go, and what Council needs to do to install one legally. The Borough Councillor suggested that progress on the issue of adoption of Pipistrelle Way had stalled but that Council should write to Ian Haller to see if an exception could be made to WBC policy as it is no fault of the residents that the development does not currently comply. At the Annual Parish Meeting, the feedback from residents regarding the Waingels Road pinch-point was that they would like it to stay.

Meeting held on 19th June 2017

To note the internal auditor's Report – The level of reserves was highlighted once again, and it was felt that with a proper plan for expenditure, earmarking funds for specific projects to happen over the coming three to four years was the way forward. There was a brief discussion about Cllr. Bell's latest efforts to see how feasible the idea of a new pre-school was, and he reported that he is trying to arrange meetings with both Mr. Grey, the Headmaster at Piggott, and with Stuart Milne and Piers Brunning at Wokingham to see what their respective views were. There was a brief discussion about possible funding streams, with the Borough, the school or CIL moneys all being suggested. Both the clerk and assistant clerk were congratulated on the positive feedback on their work from the internal auditor.

Highways The clerk and Cllr Mowlem met with Jason Bale of WBC and agreed a suitable location for the speed indicator device, on lamppost no. 27. Cllr. Mowlem will pass the quotes to the clerk, and the clerk will write to the resident at no. 62 as the device will be outside their house. The original plan was to have a solar panel but the devices use so little power, it is more cost effective to run it off the lamppost power. The clerk wrote to the three new houses on Pipistrelle Way and all support the idea of adoption, as do all the residents of the original homes. The clerk has also written to Ian Haller and will chase him for a response on his return from holiday.



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Planning Matters considered at recent Parish Council Meetings

The Council had no objection to the following applications:

- 170548 Application for prior approval of the erection of a single storey rear extension, which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 8 metres, for which the maximum height would be 3.9m and the height of the eaves would be 2.5m at 11, Park Lane (this notification is for information only)
- 170586 Application to vary condition 2 and remove condition 10 of planning consent F/2014/2072 (proposed erection of detached dwelling with new access, hard and soft landscaping and associated works). Variation of condition 2 to change approved plans to allow re-siting of approved dwelling by 1.5 metres. Removal of condition 10 to remove the requirement to comply with the code for sustainable homes at 111 Old Bath Road
- 171060 Application for the proposed conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation at 18, Pipistrelle Way
- 171058 Application for the proposed erection of a part two storey/part first floor side extension with front dormer window and conversion of loft with rear roof lights to create habitable accommodation at 16 Gingells Farm Road
- 171156 Application for proposed erection of single storey rear and side extensions, conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation and internal alterations at 34 Old Bath Road
- 171231 Application for the proposed first floor side extension over existing games room to form habitable accommodation and alterations to fenestration at 21 Park View Drive South
- 171262 Application for the proposed raising of roof and rear dormer extension with Juliet balcony and roof lights to front elevation to facilitate additional habitable accommodation at 15A Charvil House Road
- 171216 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey side extension following part demolition of existing double garage at 2, Gingells Farm Road
- 171398 Application for a certificate of lawful development for the erection of a single storey rear extension following demolition of conservatory at 10, Simmons Fields
- 171521 Application for the proposed erection of two storey front and side extension, single storey side extension and rear extension and part conversion of existing garage to provide habitable accommodation at 7, Strathmore Drive

Council made comments on the following applications

171283 Application for a certificate of lawful development for the use of land as a caravan site at The Homestead, Park Lane – The clerk was asked to object as follows:

1. *Having studied the Google map images (see attached) of the site over the past few years, the evidence suggests that while there may have been one caravan constantly over the ten year period, there have certainly not been as many as the five that Mr Mann reported on in 2008 and the seven that are present now is a relatively recent development. This would indicate that the use of the area as a caravan site should be limited to the one caravan that has clearly been there for many years.*
2. *After the enforcement letter sent in the summer of 2008, we are reliably informed that at least two, if not three, caravans, were removed from the site, so even if they re-appeared later, they have not been in situ for the required ten year period.*
3. *We remain unconvinced that the letters from past occupiers are completely genuine, and would like more evidence as to their veracity. We would appreciate it if the Borough could check, as best it can, that these letters are reliable evidence.*
4. *If the Borough believes that a certificate of existing lawful development can be awarded, then Council would appreciate that the maximum number of caravans allowed is kept to the minimum possible, and that a condition is imposed that they can only be occupied by employees of the business based on the site.*

171441 Application for the demolition of the existing dwelling and outbuildings on the site and the erection of two semi-detached 4 - bedroom dwellings at the front and two detached 4-bedroom dwellings at the rear with associated uncovered parking, access and landscaping. The clerk was asked to comment as follows:

After hearing the views of all the residents present, the clerk was asked to comment on this application as follows:

At the Planning meeting to discuss this application, 11 neighbouring households attended to express their concerns about this proposed development on the grounds of over-development, loss of amenity and privacy, setting a precedent for further backland development, traffic and noise issues and being out of character with existing dwellings. Charvil Parish Council agree with these concerns but would like to object particularly on the following:

1. **Overdevelopment and out of character.** *Park Lane is a road of mixed housing, but the layout on both sides starts with semi-detached houses in generous plots, and then changes to detached homes, again in generous plots. This application proposes to erect a fresh pair of semi-detached houses, which are considerably bigger than the original semi-detached houses lower down Park Lane, and which, although true to the existing building line, will appear much more cramped to allow for the new driveway to the rear for the proposed detached homes. These two detached homes will again appear cramped compared to the neighbouring properties, with no garage space, and significantly smaller gardens. All the proposed homes would include a fourth bedroom in the roof space, which is again at odds with the neighbouring properties. All this seems contrary to CP1 and CP3 which state that development should enhance the quality of the environment and contribute to the sense of place.*
2. **Backland development.** *While there is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, WBC's policies state that only garden development which enhances the area should be allowed.*

There has been no backland development at all in Park Lane, and not only would it set an unwelcome precedent, but would be contrary to TP06 of the Managing Development Delivery document which states that it would only allow backland development if it were in keeping with the character of the area. Indeed, this development would lead to an unwelcome urbanising effect of one of the oldest roads in the village.

3. **Loss of Amenity and Privacy.** *All the documents currently informing development in the area, namely the Borough Design Guide, the Managing Delivery Documents and the Core Strategy are clear that development in existing settlements should not have a negative effect on the existing properties. Council feel strongly that this development would have a negative effect on the immediate neighbours to the side and to the rear. The property to the left will, instead of garden, have a small roadway close to their boundary, which will inevitably lead to noise pollution. The property to the right will have a new property sited close to the bottom of their garden, which will overlook their amenity space. Most affected, however, will be the residents of Wenlock Edge, whose back gardens and bedroom windows will directly face those of the new properties. It is arguable that the distance from house to house complies with the minimum stated in the Borough Design Guide, but the negative impact on these existing residents is completely unacceptable.*

The following applications were approved by Wokingham Borough Council:

- 170016 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension with 3 roof lights, conversion of existing garage to additional habitable accommodation and erection of in-fill side extension, to include raising of existing flat roof and internal alterations at 22, Chiltern Drive
- 170304 Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension plus side dormer window at 11 Park Lane

- 170358 Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to 11 Strathmore Drive
- 171431 Application for Certificate of Lawful Proposed Use for side and rear dormers at 123 East Park Farm Drive
- 171060 Application for the proposed conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation at 18, Pipistrelle Way

The Following Application was refused by Wokingham Borough Council

- 162238 Application for the proposed erection of a first-floor front extension over existing garage and single storey side/rear extension at 2 Strathmore Drive

The Following Planning Application were Withdrawn

- 170317 Application for the proposed erection of two linked detached bungalows on land to the rear of 70-72 Old Bath Road
- 170078 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear and side extension, erection of single storey to form a new porch and new dormers to the front and rear at 15 Old Bath Road



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New Appeals

163141 Application for the proposed first floor side extension to 12 Quantock Close

161565 Appeal regarding land adjacent to Model Farm Cottages, New Bath Road

Appeals Dismissed

163141 Application for the proposed first floor side extension to 12 Quantock Close

Appeal Allowed

F/2014/2503 Application to erect 25 detached houses with associated roads, garages, parking spaces, Gardens and landscaped areas on land west of Park Lane.

FULL DETAILS OF ALL APPLICATIONS REFERRED TO ABOVE CAN BE FOUND ON: www.wokingham.gov.uk



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Meetings of Charvil Parish Council 2017	
4 September 2017	Amenities Committee Meeting
18 September 2017	Full Council Meeting
2 October 2017	Amenities Committee Meeting
16 October 2017	Full Council Meeting
6 November 2017	Amenities Committee Meeting
20 November 2017	Full Council Meeting
4 December 2017	Amenities Committee Meeting
18 December 2017	Full Council Meeting
MEETINGS COMMENCE <u>AT 8 pm</u> and are held in <u>THE VILLAGE</u> <u>HALL, PARK LANE.</u> RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS	

Charvil Parish Councillors		
Jim Gillett	Chairman of Council	969 7156
John Davies	Amenities Committee Chairman	934 5258
Claire Andersen		07500 931091
Jackie Jeffery	Planning	969 0834
Paul Mundy	Amenities Vice Chairman	934 4253
James Bell	Finance	934 5221
John Hobson	Staffing Committee	934 4913
Fiona Mowlem	Highways	07957 867636
Parish Council Officers		
Miranda Parker	Parish Clerk	901 7719
Amanda Burton	Assistant Parish Clerk and Newsletter Editor	07850 234363



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Borough Councillor's Report

Dear Resident

What a year in the political arena, so many changes that have happened.

We near the end of Summer and hopefully (by the time of printing) we won't have suffered any disruption within Charvil.

Milestone Avenue and the Willow Trees:

I received complaints about the chopping down of the Willow Trees at the bottom of Milestone Avenue/Thames Drive. These trees and the land belong to Reading Uni and they grow and cut the trees for cricket bats. They were within their rights to do this, which actually should have happened two years ago. The land will hopefully be replanted with new saplings and the land along the river and road plus river side will have various material put in place to protect the edge of Thames Drive and the river verges.

Old Bath Road Speeding:

The Parish Council will be purchasing a sign that will show if speeding is taking place, this is a Parish Council initiative and is supported by WBC. I am sorry to say it is not enforceable but hopefully will slow things down a bit. A point has been approved for placing this up.

Hicks Development:

The plans are to be submitted to the Council over the next few weeks, with development starting in the New Year of 2018. There will be a site manager based there from January 2018.

General Development:

We are under great pressure to establish areas of development within the WBC. I would like to know your comments about infrastructure, needs, etc.

Fly Tipping:

This has most definitely increased within the area. If you see fly tipping, please can you let me know as soon as possible. If you see fly tipping being undertaken, please take a photo and send to me where WBC will deal with. Your details will never be recorded.

Dog Fouling:

If you see a business or individual not clearing up, please take a photo and send on to me and WBC will deal with the matter to the best of our ability.

Foster Caring:

WBC have a shortfall of Foster Carers. If you would be interested in fostering please contact WBC or give me a call and I can direct you to the right people to talk to.

I can be contacted on emma.hobbs@wokingham.gov.uk or 07788 403841

Emma Hobbs, Borough Councillor

Wokingham Borough Council's Countryside Service

We seem to have suffered an awful lot recently on the Country Park and Charvil Meadows with antisocial behaviour - several gates have been vandalised, at least 5 padlocks cut off and cattle released into the housing estate by the meadows as well as graffiti, motor bikes and drug taking around the site!

Anyone who sees this sort of behaviour, please contact the police directly.

Simon Bartlam, Countryside Officer Operations

Twyford Neighbourhood Policing Team Update

"Purse Dipping"

We have seen a couple of incidents recently where people have had their purses or wallets removed from pockets or bags whilst shopping. We encourage people to avoid putting valuables in back pockets, insecure pockets and, if placed in a bag, ensure the bag is securely closed. Above all, be mindful of who is around you.

Holiday time

With the arrival of summer and the school holidays all but upon us, we would like to take the opportunity to ask that your youngsters be reminded about their safety and behaviour. Recent holidays have seen some unpleasant behaviour from a few youths, particularly around King George Fields, Loddon Hall and most recently Whistley Mill Bridge.

We appreciate that during the holidays, and especially when the weather is good, youngsters do want to be out enjoying themselves and we encourage them to do so. However we'd be grateful if they can be respectful and polite with other members of the public, considerate of other people's property, and above all stay safe when doing so.

Bicycles; Thefts from Motor Vehicles; and Land Rover Series and Defender

Following on from PC Simon Botham's update in May, whilst the Thefts from Motor Vehicles and Land Rover/Defender Series have become less common, they are still ongoing and we would like to remind people to ensure that bikes are as secure as possible ("gold" approved locks and remove lights, GPS and other attachments); ensure valuables are out of site, windows are closed and physically check that doors have locked when leaving your vehicle.

Land Rovers are more of a challenge to secure, but we would reiterate Simon's advice from last month:

- Fit a tracking device
- Fit a mechanical immobiliser such as a steering or pedal lock
- Fit an alarm
- Thieves will target component parts so consider marking them using a forensic marking solution or system
- Keep the vehicle in a lockable garage/building or park in well-lit areas, which are overlooked
- Have the vehicle identification number etched on windows
- Consider fitting a hidden battery isolation or a fuel cut-off switch
- Take photographs of unusual features, modifications, damage or repairs which could aid identification if stolen
- Ensure any valuables are removed from the vehicle

What the neighbourhood team have been doing

The arrival of summer heralds a busy time for the Twyford Neighbourhood Team. Henley Regatta, Henley Festival, Marvellous Festival, Rewind Festival, to name but a few...

Henley Regatta is a significant policing operation and we are pleased to report that it has again been a highly successful one. It represents a great opportunity for the local team and officers from further afield and other specialisms to engage with the community and we thank you for embracing our presence. The Roads Policing Motorcyclists certainly enjoyed showing off their steeds by Henley Bridge!

When you do see us at any of these events, or just out and about, please do come over and say hello!

Personnel Changes

Sadly, we have been compelled to say cheerio to our Neighbourhood Supervisor, PC Simon Botham, who has been promoted to Sergeant and taken up a posting in Oxford. He will be sorely missed.

PC Jon Hare is the Neighbourhood Supervisor for Woodley and will also take on Simon's responsibilities for Twyford.

We are looking forward to welcoming a new neighbourhood officer to Twyford and will update you further on this later in the summer.

Contact us



To contact the neighbourhood team, please call us on the non-emergency number 101 or email Twyfordnhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to report crimes or for any urgent matters. In an emergency, please call 999.

If you have information about crime or anti-social behaviour in your area but you do not want to speak to the police, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Twyford Police Station is open Wednesday 2pm - 6pm and Saturday 9am-1pm and is manned by volunteers. They are there to answer any queries and pass messages to the rest of the team.

To view information on your neighbourhood team you can visit the force website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. You can follow us on twitter via @TVP_Wokingham

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'Victims First' launches to support victims of crime

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Thames Valley, Anthony Stansfeld, has today launched his 'Victims First' brand and website.

Victims First is the new overarching title for the PCCs work in providing support, increasing accessibility and improving services for victims of crime across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire.

The first initiative under 'Victims First' is a new online resource which has advice on what to do and how to get help if you've been a victim of crime, including information on what you should expect from the police and other criminal justice agencies if you report the crime.

The focal point of the website is a directory which allows victims to find relevant support to help them cope and recover from the impact of the crime. Members of the public will be able to use the website to refer themselves directly to the PCCs own support services, using the online form, or find information and contact details for other organisations. This support is available regardless of whether or not the victim has reported the crime to the police.

The website has information and advice to help people to recognise hidden crimes such as modern slavery, domestic abuse, including coercive control, and hate crime. Victims First also provides a third party reporting mechanism for hate crime so that those who don't want to report directly to the police can either complete a reporting form on the website or call 0300 1234 148.

The PCC has undertaken extensive work to improve support for victims of crime, including commissioning new services for young victims, victims of sexual violence, a victim-led restorative justice service and a local support service to assist other victims.

Victims First encompasses all of this work and will expand over the coming year, with the PCC reviewing his services to ensure that victims continue to have appropriate support in place, are able to easily access it and that agencies, including the police, are victim-focussed.

Anthony Stansfeld, Police and Crime Commissioner said: "I recently launched my new Police and Crime Plan which reaffirmed my commitment to making sure that victims have access to the support they need to cope and recover from the impact of crime. The launch of Victims First and the website is a key milestone in my work in this area and will allow victims to easily find information and support in one place.

"I believe it will be a valuable resource not just for victims but also for people and organisations that come into contact with victims of crime who can now use the website to find and refer people to an appropriate service.

"Victims First will continue to develop over the next year with plans to create a single referral doorway, a specialist counselling service and community signposting points with the aim of simplifying access and improving support for victims."

Editors Notes

The website is www.victims-first.org.uk

The Police and Crime Commissioner will be available for interview. If you would like to arrange an interview please email opcc.comms@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or call 01865 541950



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LOCAL CHARITABLE TRUST BRINGS 'RELIEF FROM NEED'

The old adage says that Charity begins at home..... and indeed it does, so, if you are in need of some help, there is somewhere locally you can turn to.

The Woodley Sandford & Charvil Charitable Trust helps local residents of Woodley, Sandford and Charvil and adjacent parishes by making small grants as 'relief in need'.

Evelyn Fidler, Secretary says: "We are able to consider requests for a variety of needs including: beds, cookers, washing machines, fridges, clothing, carpets, microwaves and the like. Additionally, we can assist with the acquisition of disabled equipment, further education courses, books and breaks for respite care and even school uniform."

Requests for assistance must be made in writing to the address below. Details to be given must include: name, address, contact numbers, monthly or annual income, monthly or annual expenditure, including all benefits and savings. All information supplied will, of course be confidential and only made available to the Trustees.

In addition to Woodley, Charvil and Sandford, requests will be considered from residents of Early, Winnersh, Hurst, Twyford, Wargrave and Sonning. Unfortunately, the trust cannot help people with Reading or Wokingham post codes.

For further information or to make a request for assistance, please write to:

Evelyn Fidler
Chestnut House, 4 Tiverton Close, Woodley, Reading, RG5 3BE



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1st Charvil Scouts – In your community

Since our last update, we took on the fun challenge of running a bouncy castle, slide and Nerf Gun stall at the Charvil Fete – this was a great fundraising exercise and thank you to everyone who came to see us on the day! Watch this space for more activities over the next few months. We also held our AGM and re-elected all of our committee members for another year, so we can continue to thrive and grow as a group, providing so many great opportunities for children in the Charvil area.

More of our older Beavers have now moved into our Cubs section and been invested, which has made way for some new children on the waiting list to move into Beavers. Our Cubs have taken part in some great activities, including swimming, building rockets, archery and going on a fantastic weekend camp with the Twyford Scouts, at Windsor Great Park. Our Beavers are thriving under new Leadership and have taken part in a fire engine visit and a night camp (indoors!) with the Sonning Beavers! Both groups continue to work towards a number of skills and badges. We are planning to open a Scouts section next year – so with Leaders moving around we will be looking for volunteers from the local community to run our sections. If you feel you may have the skills and enthusiasm that we need to run activities with children and young people, then please do get in touch.

Local children can go on our Beavers waiting list from their 5th birthday and Cubs from their 7th birthday. If you are interested in getting your child on the list and/or in offering help in the future, please contact us via charvilscout@gmail.com. We rely on adult volunteers to be involved, in order that we continue to offer varied educational and fun activities for all of our children.

Lucy White

Charvil Village Society

At the recent AGM, the Village Society reported on a successful year with well attended events, strong finances, the introduction into the programme of a summer walk and a surprise visit at the Senior Citizens Tea Party, by the Prime Minister.

The committee would welcome innovative ideas for events, so please let us know if you have some thoughts. Over the coming year we've planned for 3 of the ever-popular quizzes, two walks – Boxing Day and Summer – and the Senior Citizens Tea Party. Other thoughts we're had include a skittles night, race night, brewery tour, theatre trip, film evening and barn dance. A few of these have been tried in the past with varying success, so we'd welcome comments on the type of event that would get your support.

Dates for the coming year include:

Friday September 29, 2017: Village Quiz at 7:45 pm



Details and bookings through Mark A'Bear - Tel: 9343918

Bring your own drinks and nibbles,

£7.00 per person

Early booking essential

The two additional quizzes are provisionally booked for:

Saturday 25 November

Saturday 20 January

Tuesday December 26, 2017: Boxing Day Walk @ 10:00



Walk leaves and returns to the Village Hall, Park Lane.

No booking needed and **no charge** for this event; everyone welcome (including dogs). Refreshments on return to Village Hall (Mulled wine, mince pies and nibbles)

Details of the Village Society and events can be found at:

<http://www.charvil.com/clubs-and-societies/charvil-village-society/>

We would like to increase our mailing list so that we can publicise events well in advance. The number of emails are kept to a minimum, so please sign-up to receive event information from the village society, by sending me an email at: markabe@btconnect.com

Mark A'Bear, Charvil Village Society

Caterpillar Club

Caterpillar Club playgroup returns on Wednesday September 13th. It's a friendly and fun playgroup for 0-5 year olds, located in Charvil Village Hall on Wednesday mornings between 9:45am and 11:30am (term time only).

Adult and childrens' refreshments are served during the session, so come along for a coffee and a chat while your little ones play. There's also singing and a weekly craft!

Your first visit is free and there's no need to book. After the first visit it's just £2 per child and £1 per additional child.

Please contact us at: CaterpillarClubCharvil@yahoo.com or call Alison on 07876 336716. You can also find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CharvilCaterpillarClub>

Alison Payne

Windsor Higashi Karate Club

The last Friday in July saw the start of a new Karate class in Charvil. Windsor Higashi Karate Club has been established since 1992 and has been running classes in Windsor. Charvil resident and club instructor Garry Matthews has now opened a new class on Friday evenings at Charvil Pavilion.

Karate teaches self-defence, fitness, flexibility, self-confidence and self-discipline. It's a great way to meet people and make new friends. Although Karate makes its first appearance as an Olympic sport at the 2020 Summer Olympics, it is an activity that anybody can try. Classes are tailored for all ages, fitness levels and ability.

A number of local children attended the first class, and it was enjoyed by all. Early indications are that the class will be popular with the local community. The class is available to both adults and children, and provides a great opportunity for families to participate together.



The club is run as a not-for-profit organisation with the aim of keeping costs as low as possible in order to make karate accessible to all. The first lesson is free. Classes are suitable from age 5 to adult. For more information on times and costs, please visit the club's website www.windsorhigashikarate.club

Garry Matthews, Club Instructor

Charvil Short Mat Bowls

After a summer break, we start our winter session on Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday evenings on 5th and 6th September. We meet at Charvil Village Hall in Park Lane and are looking for new members. Beginners are welcome and bowling woods are provided.

If interested telephone Bernard on 01189 345605 or Shirley on 01189 340589.

Reading & District Cigarette Card & Postcard Club

The Club are delighted with their Spring move from the Jubilee Hall on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month to Charvil Village Hall, along with their normal monthly second Thursday evening meetings.

We have had a wide variety of evenings, ranging from interesting talks by guest and club speakers, to the ever popular quarterly auction nights when we received some items from the general public which we were delighted to auction on their behalf.

However, the highlight has to be the club's Annual Fair which was held at Rivermead Leisure Centre, Reading, on July 2nd, when 700 people came from many parts of the UK including visitors from Europe and the USA. Our Fair is the largest one of its kind held in the UK and is a credit to all the Club members who take part. (the photo on the right is of the Club President and his wife, Ken and Margaret Hussey at the Fair.) Ken presented prizes to the winners of the three classes in the Display Board Competition, who were:



- Postcards: Roy Sheppard, "The Spirit of Great Britain, 1939 - 45".
- Cigarette Cards / Trade cards, Coral Print, "Singer Sewing Machine Company".
- Mixed Class, Coral Print, "Female Aviators".

The Club's Annual Summer outing takes place this year on Saturday, August 19th with a boat trip from Boulton's Lock to Windsor, with a stay of 3 hours before making the return trip.

Details about the Club, the quarterly auctions, and the hobbies can be found on our website, www.readingpostcards.com or telephone 0118 - 9695155.

Roy Sheppard



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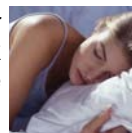
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Visit: www.the-pet-people.co.uk

Physiocare Matters... A Pain in the Neck!

By Elizabeth Jones MCSP HCPC MMACP clinical lead physiotherapist at Physiocare

As with so many things, when it comes to a pain in the neck an ounce of prevention may be a worth a pound of cure! Most of us are troubled by neck pain at some stage in our lives and it's true that some causes of neck pain such as age related wear and tear may not be entirely under our control. Research tells us that not just sleeping position but also sleep itself can play a role in neck pain. One possible explanation is that sleep disturbances can disrupt the muscle relaxation and healing processes that normally occur during sleep. In addition, it is well known that pain can cause insomnia, so contributing to a vicious cycle of pain and sleep problems contributing to pain.

Patients who suffer from neck pain often report that their symptoms are worse in the morning yet few of us ever think about the state of our pillow, or whether using the wrong one could prevent us from experiencing a peaceful night's sleep. In actual fact buying the correct support for our body and then positioning it correctly is one of the most important parts of sleeping success. We give a lot of thought to how we sit and stand during the day but little thought to how we lie down at night.



Two sleeping positions are easiest on the neck, on your side and on your back. Sleeping on your tummy is tough on your spine, as your back is arched and your neck turned to one side. Preferred sleeping positions are often set in early life and can be difficult to change. Most of us move in our sleep so may not wake up in the position we went to sleep in but if you are a tummy sleeper it may be worth trying to go to sleep on your side or back.

Most adults will find sleeping without any pillows at all, very uncomfortable and will require at least one pillow to ensure adequate support of the neck. That said you should avoid using too many or too stiff a pillow as this will keep the neck excessively flexed overnight. This places an undue strain on the soft tissue and can result in morning pain and stiffness. Try using feather or down pillows, as they will conform to the shape of your neck. Tying a band around its middle to make a butterfly shaped pillow will provide further support. However, down and feather pillows can collapse with time so will need to be replaced every year or so. Cervical Pillows or sometimes called orthopaedic pillows have a distinctive shape. There is a higher area where the neck is supported, then the pillow dips where the head is supported. The pillow may be made of memory foam. These pillows suit some people whereas others can find them too hard. An alternative might be to buy a traditional shaped pillow but made with memory foam, which may offer extra support without feeling too hard.



Research has also shown that the strength of your neck muscles plays an important part in the prevention of neck pain. The regular practice of a few simple exercises albeit appropriate ones, using hand weights or resistance bands to strengthen neck and shoulder muscles have been shown to not only maintain neck health but also reverses symptoms such as pain and stiffness. We must look after our necks giving them a little more exercise during the day and then a good nights rest!

Would you like to advertise here?

The Charvil Village News is delivered to all houses in the village.

Prices start from just £22.

3 editions per year are produced and there is a discount to put your ad in all 3 editions.

Contact: bookings@charvil.com



Twyford Library

Knit and Natter - Drop in for knitting and a chat.

Third Tuesday in each month 2pm to 3pm

Reminiscence Club - Discuss memories of days gone by.

First Tuesday in each month 10.30am to 12noon

Twyford Author Book Group

First Monday in each month 2.30pm to 3.30pm

Twyford Tuesday Reading Group

Second Tuesday in each month 2.30pm to 3.30pm



Storytime - For children aged 7 years old and under.
Free, just drop in!

Tuesday September 19, October 17, November 21,
December 19 4pm to 4.30pm

Jewel Tones

The girls' choir have a busy and exciting year ahead! At their rehearsals on Sunday evenings at Charvil Village Hall, the 35 members will be working on lots of lovely new songs including 'Pure imagination', 'Singin' in the rain', 'You've got a friend', 'If I have my ticket' and 'Humpty Dumpty'!

The first performance of the term will be at Maidenhead Music Festival in October followed by two concerts in November. On Saturday, 4th November the choir will be joined by the Seagrave Singers from Kettering and the Abbey Junior School Chamber Choir for a concert at St Mary's Church, Twyford at 7pm. On Sunday, 19th November Jewel Tones are sharing a concert with the Reading A440 Choir and Holme Grange School Choir at Holme Grange School at 5pm. We end the term with carol singing and a Christmas meal!

Suzanne Newman, Musical Director (0118 9340589)
suzanneynewman@btinternet.com

Charvil

Singing for the Brain



Our Singing for the Brain sessions take place at:

Charvil Village Hall
Park Lane
Charvil
RG10 9TR

Please join us from 10.30 - 12.00 on the following dates:

7th, 14th, 21st, 28th September
5th, 12th, October
2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th November
7th, 14th December

Please note there are no sessions on 19th or 26th October.

There is a suggested contribution of £ 1.50 per person for this service.

If you have any questions please get in touch

T: 0771 3390 714

E: geraldine.durrant@alzheimers.org.uk



Alzheimer's Society operates in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
Registered charity number 295645.

From the Vicar of Charvil and Sonning

We look forward to welcoming the Toogood family to the parish in September as the Revd. Kate takes up her part time role as Associate Vicar, working also as Associate Chaplain and as a teacher at the Reading Blue Coat School. They will live in our church house in Park View Drive South and I am sure that they will quickly settle into their new community. Kate will assist the parish Ministry Team for two days per week with pastoral work and some other projects and with Sunday duties, along with taking some Saturday weddings.

The parish's commitment to youth work is undiminished and we are looking to recruit a youth worker in the coming months. A new parish youth club will be central to this work, as will serving in local schools. I have greatly enjoyed my weekly visits to Charvil Piggott CofE School, in addition to my work in Sonning CofE school and at the Blue Coat School, and it has been really good to get to know many of the children there and this work will continue. I particularly enjoy teaching the children new songs as I accompany them on the new piano we gifted to the school. Our Licenced Lay Minister and Charvil resident, Bob Peters, has also been a much appreciated presence in these schools.

Finally, I am very happy to report that the parish Junior Choir goes from strength to strength and our highly experienced Director of Music, Chris Goodwin, is really bringing out the very best in the young people who sing with us. There are some spaces available in this choir and so if any young people are interested, please get in contact with me and I will pass this on to Chris. My own two daughters have a pretty low boredom threshold, inherited from me, and they both love being part of it! They are also learning a lot about music which has been really beneficial for their wider development. We'd love to hear from you. (office@sonningparish.org.uk- 0118 9693298)

Revd. Jamie Taylor

Loddon Valley Ramblers

COME WALK and TALK WITH US – new members always welcome. Our members are from Reading Wokingham, Woodley, Crowthorne Arborfield

We have guided walks every Thursday morning 4 – 6 miles. Most Tuesdays and Sundays a long walk 10 – 14 miles and also short walks on Sunday mornings 4 – 6 miles.

Social activities:

- * Spring and Autumn walking weekends
- * Coach walks to more distant destinations
- * Occasional week long trips abroad
- * Summer evening rambles + pub meal
- * Quiz evening
- * Summer BBQ
- * Mincepie walk at Christmas

Loddon Valley Ramblers' Walks

For more walks, including some longer ones, visit **Loddon Valley Ramblers** Website: www.lvra.org.uk New members always welcome

Wednesday 6th September An EVENING WALK at 18:00, 3 mile stroll around Whiteknights; see how good you are at identifying trees. Discover 25 types of trees. Followed by an evening meal at the Queen's Head. **Start:** [SU728719](#) Sports CP Shinfield Road Entrance, Reading University. Use 1st or 2nd CP on left (free after 5.00pm) RG6 6UA. Leader **Christine H, 07775 860169.**

Thursday 14th September A WOODLAND WALK 10:30 am, 6 miles to Medmenham Ferry via Hill Fort and return via Danesfield. **Start:** [SU823861](#) Careful edge-of-wood parking around triangle between Hollowhill and Pullingshill Woods SL7 2DS (approx). Leader **Dougal M, 0118 924 1979 or 07719 450283.**

Thursday 12th October THE CHILTERN 10:30, 6 mile trail from Hambleden and Medmenham thro' farmland, woods then across Thames' meadows. **Start:** [SU785865](#) Free CP behind Stag & Huntsman, Hambleden RG9 6RP. Leader **Jo F, 07979 595043 or 0118 934 4704.**

Sunday 22nd October AN AUTUMN STROLL 10:00 am 7 miles:from Henley thro' Gillsmithers Wood then over Drawback Hill. **Start:** [SU772817](#) Free car park at Mill Lane near Marsh Lock, Henley. Post code: RG9 4HB. Leader **David T, 07899 938397 or 0118 977 4184.**

Thursday 2nd November HISTORIC READING THREE RIVERS WALK. 10:30am 4 miles beginning with Holy Brook, Kennet Wharfs, Abbey, Prison, Blakes Lock, Brunel's Horseshoe Bridge, The Thames, Lock & Weir, Nature Reserve, the latest Thames crossing & Forbury Gardens. **Start:** [SU717735](#) Amphitheatre BEHIND Reading Library RG1 3BQ. Leader **Sally B, 01344 774468.**

Thursday 16th November TWO PARKS WALK 10:30am 7 miles thro' Caversham Park & Crowsley Park via Binfield Heath. **Start:** [SU725767](#) Caversham Park Recreation Ground RG4 6AA. Leader **Alan B, 0118 961 6595 or 07815 744756 (on day of walk only).**

Sunday 3rd December AN ENERGETIC WALK 10:00am 5½ miles from Whitchurch Hill and Boze Down – through Chiltern farmland. **Start:** [SU634765](#) CP in centre of Pangbourne by the village hall (free on Sundays at time of printing) RG8 7AW. Leader **Mary W, 07833 582902 or 0118 977 0746.**

Sunday 17th December MINCE PIES & MULLED WINE 10:30am 5 miles along Foudry Brook into Silchester Amphitheatre. **Start:** [SU655646](#) Village CP opposite Horse & Groom pub, The Street, Mortimer RG7 3RD. Leader **Graham S, 0118 977 6586 or 07966 002016.**

Charvil Community Tennis Club

Why not join us in 2012?

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beginning
17th sep.
ending
17th dec.

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mini-orange
adults

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weekly Children's Tennis

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5-8 **9, 10, 11** **+Adults**

Lessons are split into the age groups.



Please contact for further information:

www.charvilcommunitytennis.org.uk

Email: membership@charvilcommunitytennis.org.uk

Phone: 07447 934700 (Carl - Chairman)





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