



Churt Parish Council Newsletter September 2020

Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday 16th September Another first.

Churt Parish Council held its virtual council meeting on Wednesday 16th September. All business was appropriately and efficiently dealt with. We achieved yet another first, in that Councillor Katy Law was able to join us live from a Waterloo to Haslemere train!

We shall continue with virtual meetings until further notice, but it is our intention to revert back to physical meetings in the pavilion as soon as government guidance and appropriate safety measures allow.

Churt Community Support Group

Demand has tailed off a lot in recent weeks as lockdown easing has continued. This is good news as it is evident that residents are beginning to revert back to a normal lifestyle.

The Churt Community Support Group, however, is still in existence and evolving. There is now a new number to call which is: **07760 473056** The volunteer group which was set up at the start of the Covid-19 public health emergency remains in place and can help with shopping, prescription collection, friendly phone calls or dog-walking for elderly, vulnerable, quarantining or self-isolating Churt residents when necessary. It does not replace Waverley Social Services or other established village organisations. The phone line is open to take calls Mondays to Fridays only between 10am and 6pm. Please leave a message and a member of our new team of duty officers will get back to you as soon as possible, but always within 24 hours, to discuss your request and how it will be met.

Unfortunately we now have new national Covid-19 restrictions and it is still vitally important that we all take the extra precautions recently introduced in an effort to stall a second wave in its tracks.

Trees on the Recreation Ground and Redhearn Green

All works as stipulated in the recent Arboriculturist's report have now been completed on both the recreation ground and Redhearn Green by 1st Call Trees of Tilford.

Skateboarding at the Recreation Ground

Whilst we totally understand that young people need somewhere to play and the recreation ground is an ideal environment, could I please make a plea of help and assistance from parents? Children have increasingly begun to use the recreation ground car park as an area for skateboarding. Could you please encourage your children to take care and consider other users of the recreation ground and tennis club? In particular, please do not place obstacles on the ground (a paving slab had to be removed recently), please take care of parked cars and please do not disturb other users or residents by playing loud music. I am afraid that we have had complaints, but we are very reluctant to ban skateboarding in the car park. Skateboarding, however, can be dangerous both to the participant and members of the public.

Cedar Tree Trunk

We are delighted that we have been awarded a grant of £400 from our Surrey County Councillor, David Harmer's Members Community Allocation, to help towards the cost of carving a bench out of the cedar tree stump which remains on the recreation ground, following its felling during Storm Ciara. We have secured the services of a very talented local chain saw carver, Rob Beckinsale who will be commencing work soon. He has come up with an inspiring design which I for one cannot wait to see.

Cycling and Pedestrian matters - can anyone help?

Councillor Lisa Martin is looking at ways to encourage people to walk and use their bicycles more. The Department for Transport has made an Emergency Active Travel Fund available to local authorities including Surrey County Council to

provide better infrastructure for those wanting to walk and cycle more often. One idea that is being seriously explored is the feasibility of creating a cycle way from Farnham to Haslemere. It is not actually as far-fetched as it may seem. We are anxious to include any ideas from yourselves as to how a new cycling and walking strategy could be achieved. Anyone wishing to be involved or with ideas are asked to contact Councillor Martin @ lisambmartin@gmail.com or on 01428 715456.

War Memorial and Piers

You may well have seen the post and photographs on the Churt Parish Council Facebook page of the work done on the refurbishment of the war memorial and the plaques at the entrance to the recreation ground and how disappointed we initially were. We have taken this up with the restorers and on 17th September they returned to make good. The problem was that new mortar had been used for repointing and within about 20 minutes it poured with rain causing the mortar to leach into the brickwork. Dawn Barrow and I made contact with the restorers on site where we found that they had already cleaned the column, raked out the mortar and replaced it. The result was looking great and much more like we expected. The contractors stayed overnight to make sure that everything was clean and tidy once the mortar had dried, both at the war memorial and the two piers at the entrance to the Recreation Ground..

David Crossley. Chairman

The next meetings of Churt Parish Council and the Recreation Ground Trust will be held on Wednesday 21st October 2020 at 7.30pm. We expect these meetings to be conducted by virtual means.