



Churt Parish Council Newsletter October 2020

Bob Cordell

Bob Cordell has decided to stand down as a Councillor and his resignation has been received with regret. During the past five years, Bob has shown a passion for trees, footpaths, bridleways and the environment in general. He was also instrumental in sourcing new Christmas lights for the village centre and ensuring installation for each festive season. We thank Bob very much for these and his other contributions during his time as a Churt Parish Councillor.

New Councillor

At our meeting on Wednesday 21st October we appointed Sally Shorthose to fill the vacancy. Sally has lived in Churt for 7 years having had connections to the area for some 30 years. She brings with her a wealth of experience and we welcome her on board. We had two outstanding applications and I am delighted that the other applicant, Leslie Sharpe has agreed to join our Environment Working Group.

Churt Heritage Bench

I am sure that you all will be aware of our wonderful new bench on the recreation ground. It was carved out of part of the trunk of a large cedar tree which came down during Storm Ciara in February 2020. We were indeed fortunate to find a very talented chain saw wood carver, Rob Beckinsale who created this great heritage bench. You may have seen Dawn Barrow and myself on BBC South Today who featured the story of this wonderful creation on their programme. Our thanks to Rob and also to our Surrey County Councillor David Harmer who provided half of the funding from his Member's Community Allocation.

Churt Community Support Group

Demand had and still has tailed off a lot in recent weeks as lockdown easing continued. We are now back in very uncertain times but the group is primed and ready to leap back into action if and when required. It is evident that residents were beginning to revert back to a normal lifestyle and let us try and continue to do so.

The Churt Community Support Group, however, is still in existence and evolving. If you need assistance the number to call 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 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.

It is still, of course, vitally important that we all take necessary precautions and any further precautions implemented in the future.

Cycling and Pedestrian matters – can anyone help?

Councillor Lisa Martin is still looking at ways to encourage people to walk and use their bicycles more and still needs your help. As stated in last month's newsletter, 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. Councillor Martin is 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.

Jumps Road Parking

There is a Surrey County Council proposal for double yellow lines to be painted on one side of Jumps Road in an effort to combat the sometimes awful parking situations for the Sculpture Park, Flashes and Bel and the Dragon. This has now reached the consultation stage and all are free to submit comments the deadline for which is 30th October 2020. The link to the website is as follows where all the relevant information can be found:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/parking/local-news-and-updates/waverley/waverley-parking-review-2020>

Remembrance Sunday – 13th November 2020

This year due to Covid it will not be possible to hold a formal event at the War Memorial and there will be no Church led prayers. Wreaths and crosses, however, can still be laid at the memorial, but in an informal fashion. To that end we would ask each village organisation to attend the memorial either singly or in small groups taking full account of Covid regulations, the law and the Rule of Six, where you could have a short period of reflection and a short prayer if you wish.

Village Cheer

I am afraid that due to the Covid restrictions, it will not be possible to hold our annual Village Cheer pre- Christmas event to welcome newcomers to the village, this year. Another casualty I am afraid. Roll on next year!

David Crossley. Chairman

The next meetings of Churt Parish Council and the Recreation Ground Trust will be held on Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 7.30pm. We expect these meetings to be conducted by virtual means.