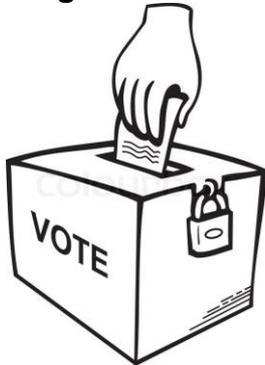


Cholsey Village Voice February 2019

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



In April 2016, a public meeting was held to ask residents if they believed that we should have a Neighbourhood Plan and if any members of the community would be willing to support it. Many pointed out their frustrations within the village, for example: schooling, roads and the number of homes that we had already from the Fair Mile development. The overall feedback from the 150+ attendees was “Yes, having a plan would be a good thing”, and some were willing to volunteer for the task.

Since that meeting we have:

- had over 25 public meetings culminating in more than 20,000 pieces of data
- held a village-wide survey on our needs for today and the future
- had three sustainable environmental and three landscape surveys from independent consultants.

By having a Neighbourhood Plan, the community will benefit with additional 10% to the Community Infrastructure Levy. In monetary terms this means that the community could receive an extra £150,000, just by having a Plan. Some of the key projects you identified are:

- improved accessibility to the Forty
- safer school journeys for both children and parents

After we submitted our final plan, following the last public consultation last Summer, we had the Public Hearing; a huge learning curve for all involved. With the help of Ricardo Rios (Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer from SODC) both Beryl Guvier (our vice-chair) and I we were prepared and ready for everything. We brought every document created that formed the Plan.

All interested developers attended the hearing, along with our Independent Examiner, Andrew Ashcroft, who chaired the meeting.

After the hearing the Neighbourhood Plan committee and other participants were required to submit a number of clarifications. The purpose of this was to enable the examiner to make his final judgement with all the necessary information to hand.

One key part of the Plan was the fact that it was changed after the first public consultation and the Public Hearing enabled us to defend this decision. We live in a sustainable village and the revised plan prevented the development of some 550 homes. This would be of a similar size to the development currently underway on the Wallingford bypass, this would not be acceptable, nor sustainable for our village.

Thankfully, Mr Ashcroft has agreed to support our final Plan, including several of the difficult elements, one of which was the built-up boundary. He approves of the pledges, along with the many areas in which we have engaged with the community, and our prioritised CIL plans. Therefore, he has recommended that we proceed with the next stage which is the Referendum!

The Referendum is expected to take place on 14 March 2019. In the meantime, there will be a number of events during February so that you have the opportunity to see your final Neighbourhood Plan. Please keep an eye out for banners, posters, Facebook posts, plus our website for the dates.

www.cholsey-plan.com

Paul Ramsay

Chair – Neighbourhood Plan

The full report is available on the Neighbourhood Plan Facebook Page.

Cholsey's Tomorrow

We are a group of local residents who are interested in the issues of Climate Change. On Friday March 1st there is an Open meeting at the Day Centre at 7.15 at which Ginnie Herbert will talk: Climate Crisis: What's the Crisis? Everyone is welcome

Ilges Lane Extension

Mark Gray writes:

I am delighted to say that after many years of negotiations with the Countryside department of Oxfordshire County Council the Ilges Lane track that leads to the A329 is to be given a permanent surface.

This will give an all year-round safe route from Fair Mile into the village. The surface will be approximately 1m wide and as such should preclude cars from driving on it.

Dogs in the Park

The Parish Council is close to formally implementing some new rules for people exercising their dogs on Parish Land. This should help with some of the complaints we have received about uncontrolled dogs.

New Mental Health Drop in session

Cholsey Parish Council have a newly appointed Mental Health Support worker who will be running a community support drop-in session every Wednesday 10am-1pm at Cholsey Pavilion.

Each session will consist 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.

Poppy Hunt says 'I feel very privileged to of taken on this role for Cholsey Parish Council, although I am not a trained counsellor, I have taken part in counselling skills courses as well as qualifying as a Mental Health First Aider. I have lived experience of mental health conditions and feel this enables me to be empathic to others who may be finding life hard.

I am available for 1:1 meeting's including support in a Mental health crisis situation as well as the weekly drop-in session. I am able to offer a listening ear in confidence as well as signposting to other agencies that may be able to offer further support.

I very much look forward to working with the residents of Cholsey.'

Poppy Hunt can be contacted on mhsw.cpc@outlook.com or by calling the parish office.

COPA News

COPA—Cholsey Older Persons Activities/Advice/Befriending Enquiries 01491 652100, 07979

188701 (Jennie Kent), COPA 07526 291088

COPA is a community service for older people, their families and carers. We work closely alongside Cholsey's Older Persons Worker Vicky Beardall-Richards (07855606894

or opsw.cpc@outlook.com) 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, Film Club, 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.

February's What's On

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

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

Thurs 7th Feb 11-12.30 Cholsey Day Centre – COPA Brunch Club. Bookings Jennie Kent 652100

Sun 10th Feb 2.30 Cholsey Day Centre – Afternoon Tea

Tues 19th Feb 12.45 Cholsey Day Centre - COPA Film Club 'A Star Is Born' £3 inc tea/cake. No need to book.

Fri 15th Feb 7.30pm Library. Hort Soc AGM

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

Thurs 28th Feb Library 10-12 noon COPA Chat

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.

