

Cholsey Village Voice September 2018

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

SODC - Pull Your Socks Up!

The Parish Council is becoming increasingly concerned about the amount of poor planning decisions being taken by South Oxfordshire District Council.

Over the past few months we have seen work start on many new houses in the village that are out of scale with their neighbours, on plots that are far too small or that just do not fit in with the street scene.

We are calling on SODC to take a more measured approach to enforcing planning policy and to listen to the Parish Council – in every case we have asked SODC not to grant planning permission, but we are left with these carbuncles that will be there in perpetuity. The Leader of SODC says that there have to be sound planning reasons to turn down applications, we contend that the district council should amend its guidelines to make this possible.

As a parish council we do all we can to protect the village, but we have no actual powers to deal with planning; all we can do is advise. I believe that small decisions should be made at parish level and if Oxfordshire becomes a Unitary Authority (one council for everything) I shall be calling for that to be implemented.

Mark Gray

Chair Cholsey PC.

Good news on the roads

The Parish Council has worked with Linden Homes and the Neighbourhood Plan to deliver a major improvement to one of the worst roads in the village.

As part of their Celsea Place development (to be called Agatha Christie Way) the developer will resurface Celsea Place from Papist Way to the end of the new houses.

The condition of the road has long been an issue for drivers and residents alike, so we are pleased that this will offer a solution – especially as it is at no cost to the public purse.

Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Examiner has now visited the Plan area, read the submitted documents and the representations made to the Plan. The Inspector has concluded that in order to ensure adequate examination of the Plan it is necessary to hold a hearing. That hearing will allow oral representations to be made on the following two matters.

Would the delivery of the Plan's policies boost significantly the supply of housing land in the neighbourhood area?

- To what extent does the Plan assist in delivering strategic housing growth in the Larger Villages in South Oxfordshire?

- How has the Plan decided on the figure of 189 dwellings in the neighbourhood area?

Has the housing site selection process been robust and evidence-based?

- Do the selected housing sites respect the environment of the neighbourhood area?

- Are they viable and deliverable?

- Have all reasonable alternatives been considered?

The hearing will be held Monday 17 September 2018 from 1.30pm until 5pm at The Pavillion.

Members of the public are invited to attend the hearing.

COPA News

COPA—Cholsey Older Persons Activities/Advice/Befriending

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

Cholsey Repair Café

Cholsey's new Repair Café scheme continues to do well and, at our July event, we examined several dozen more assorted items, bringing 89% of them back to usable condition. We hope to do at least as well at our next session at the **Cholsey Pavilion on Saturday 8th September, from 11.00 to 14.00**. This overlaps with Cholsey Community Café, where you can get a lovely cuppa and some cake.

Cholsey and Wallingford Railway

The Cholsey and Wallingford Railway wind the clock back over the weekend of 6th & 7th October with the 1940s weekend, with the home guard taking guard of the station with some with well hidden machine gun and some mortars for defence! What ever you do don't them your name Pike!

Later in the month (27th & 28th October) the Wicked Witch of Wallingford will be giving on hand for some tricks and treats on board our trains.

Santa tickets are now for sale online and already selling fast visit the website: <http://www.cholsey-wallingford-railway.com/santa-tickets>



There can be few experiences as disheartening and utterly deflating as floating back to your car after some marvellously therapeutic shopping trip, laden with parcels and shopping bags, to find a black and yellow parking notification attached to your windscreen, like some enormous striped stinging hornet - and certainly having a stinging effect on your feelings too. It could spoil anyone's day - but don't let it! Don't panic, don't curse and don't waste any time before getting to grips with the problem. The Citizens Advice website has a useful section which you should consult:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/law-and-courts/parking-tickets/>

If you think the ticket was justified (and let's face it, some of them are), one option is to pay

the fine right away, thus getting a substantial discount:

- 50% if you pay a Penalty Charge Notice or Excess Charge Notice within 14 days
- 40-60% if you pay a Parking Charge Notice within 14 days

If you think that you were parked correctly and within the rules, or there were mitigating circumstances, you can try an appeal (but don't pay a ticket issued by a parking company that isn't a member of the Accredited Trade Association - they can't force you to pay or take you to court).

If you appeal, you should explain that you didn't break any rules, and, if possible, send evidence to prove it.

Citizens Advice is frequently consulted about parking tickets. If you get one and aren't sure how to proceed, it's comforting to know that there are sympathetic people you can talk to. For more help, contact Citizens Advice on Adviceline 03 444 111444 or drop in to your nearest Citizens Advice. For locations and opening hours

see www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale

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September's What's On

Saturdays - The Pavilion Community Tea Shop – 10:00 – 12:00pm (not 11th August)

Sat 8th Sep The Church Agatha Christie Day

Mon 10th Sep 10am The Library Creative Club

Mon 10th Sep 7pm The Pavilion Cholsey Fibromyalgia Support Group

Mon 17th Sep 7.30pm The Pavilion Bingo in aid of the Happy Hub

Mon 17th Sep 1.30-5pm The Pavilion Neighbourhood Plan Public Hearing

Tues 18th Sep 12.45 pm The Old School

COPA Monthly Film Club £3 per session (incl. refreshment). No need to book.

Mon 24th Sep 10am The Library Creative Club

Thurs 27th Sep 10am The Library COPA Coffee and Chat Group

Opening Times

Parish Office – Monday to Thursday 10am 12pm
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 01491 652255

