## CHIPPENHAM

## Village Newsletter

February/March 2021



# Chippenham Helping Hands

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lockdown



see page 19 for details

## **Parish Council**

**Your Councillors** 

**Fiona Maxwell** (Chair) 49 High Street, 720677

Nick Bennett (Vice Chair) 14 Tharp Way, 07803 975614

Paul Fishpool 6 Manor Farm Barns, 07850 369883

Nick Wright Badlingham Manor, 07831 883881

lan Hawkins Manor Farm, 794171

Suzanne Royston 5 Scotland End, 724037

Margaret Gaylor New Street, 07794 355989

Clerk: Sally Hughes 44b High Street, 720915 chippenhamparishcouncil@hotmail.com



#### **Planning Applications**

Reference: 20/01683/VAR

Location: Old Mill Stud Isleham Road Chippenham Ely Cambridgeshire CB7 5QJProposal: To vary Conditions 1 (Approved drawings) and 11 (Tree Protection Plan) of previously approved 20/00689/VAR for To vary Conditions 1 (Approved drawings), 6 (Foul & Surface Water drainage) & 9 (External Materials) of previously approved 19/01280/FUL for change of use of existing annexe and part of main dwelling to stud office, erection of lobby to stud office and erection of replacement owner's dwelling

Reference: 20/00811/VAR

Location: Land to Rear of 38 High St

Proposal: Removal of trees

Reference: 20/01457/FUM

Location: Land to west of Hadham Industrial Estate, Kennett

Proposal: Erection of bunds for animal welfare

#### **Your Newsletter Team:**

| Fiona Maxwell | .Editor      |
|---------------|--------------|
| Sally Hughes  | .Advertising |

#### We'd like to hear from you!

For events, announcements and advertising e mail fionanewsletter17@gmail.com

#### Please also visit:

www.chippenhamcambs.info www.facebook.com/ChippenhamCambs

New residents - the **Village Welcome Pack**, full of great information about our community, is available on our website under the Local Information tab.

## CHIPPENHAM PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held via videoconferencing on Monday 9th November 2020 7pm

#### **County Council Report**

JS told the meeting that he has written an update report for parish councils and will forward it to the clerk for circulation.

The county council hub is fully operational to support the most vulnerable during this second lock-down. The council is also trying to continue to deliver their other key services such as highways etc. The council has launched and approved their climate change and environment strategy, which contains a focus on solar farms. The key criteria is that the scheme must be a relevant scale and in a suitable location.

#### Sunnica Solar Farm

Cambs County Council has drafted their response to the statutory consultation. This is a joint response from all affected county and district councils. It is a technical response, highlighting significant impacts at county level. JS will share the consultation response with CPC. JS answered the following questions:

Why is no one mentioning the business plan behind this scheme? This is not a material planning consideration

Is the extension to the Burwell power station part of the planning application or is it separate? It is separate and not a material consideration.

Who will be on the planning committee? Current committee members will make up the planning panel who will hear the planning officer's recommendation. District councillors who have declared a position can make a statement to the committee but cannot vote.

What about those panel members who have already stated they support solar? Is this predetermined? Case law establishes what is predetermined and in this case it does not apply.

Planning officer role – how aware is the planning officer of local concerns given that the consultation is with Sunnica, not the council? *The council will issue a consultation themselves.* 

The Planning Officer's report is not determined yet. ECDC has raised significant concerns. The council are not convinced that the scheme meets its policies.

JS – told the meeting he has a predetermined opinion for the scheme and has publically stated that he is against the development.

JS will work with action groups and parish councils to help support their position.

JH and JS met with Sunnica representatives to see the proposed sites in Isleham, between Snailwell and Chippenham, La Hogue and across to Kennett.

NW asked would JS look at an ordinary farming area? JS will check with Planning and if that's okay then hey will attend with the Planning Officer.

#### **Planning**

i. Sunnica Solar Farm

The council discussed their formal response to the statutory consultation. JS has offered to review the document before submission to add in policies that are relevant.

Advice from JS was to raise as many legitimate questions/concerns at this point as it is incumbent on the applicant to address/mitigate issues where they can. If they cannot, they need to support their position with planning policy.

ii. ECDC Climate change – supplementary planning document

JS – the report will include information on grade 1, 2, and 3 land. Policy will be that any land which falls within these grades could not be used for non-agricultural purposes if other land of a lesser grade is available.

#### **Village Matters**

i. Risk Assessment

Mud on road near Park Farm corner. The clerk has spoken to the farm manager who will put up signs and clean the road.

## CHIPPENHAM PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held via videoconferencing on Monday 14th December 2020 7pm

#### **District Council Report**

JH - no update from district council

**Sunnica** – JH was asked if the ECDC will make a representation on the statutory consultation. JH said ECDC are consultees only. Andrew Phillips is the assigned Planning Officer. As yet, he has not released his report.

The meeting discussed the lack of meaningful interaction at the Sunnica webinars. There isn't the opportunity to ask questions with a right of reply if the first answer isn't adequate. This was acknowledged as unsatisfactory.

#### **County Council Report**

No report

#### **Planning**

i. Sunnica Solar Farm

It was suggested that the key parish councils who are most affected by the Sunnica proposal join forces in order to present a united front. FM will speak to the Chairs of these councils. The council is in favour of contributing to a fund to help fight the Sunnica application. However this contribution would need to be for a specific use and proportionate based on contributions from other councils.

ii West Suffolk Local Plan

No feedback

iii. 20/00811/VAR land rear of 38 High Street

No objections

iv. 20/01457/FUM - erection of bunds, land W of Hadham Ind Estate, Kennett

Heritage site – no objections but the clerk will highlight the comments by Historic England and the Conservation Officer in the council's reply.

#### **Highway Matters**

i. Speed Sign - conversion to solar

The Council agreed to convert the existing speed sign to solar power. This will avoid the issue with having to recharge the batteries. The sign has been shipped to France for adjustment.

The old electric speed sign has gone from outside the village hall. The clerk will ask RR of Highways whether this is in preparation for the new mounting post.





#### CHIPPENHAM PARK

Chippenham Park Gardens will be open to the public everyday from Saturday, 23rd January-Friday, 2nd April 2021 - 10am-4pm. Delicious food and other refreshments are available all day from our tearooms. Please be advised we will be running on a more limited menu than normal and takeaway option only. The opening will see a great display of delicate and naturalised snowdrops and aconites. This is then closely followed by a vast carpet of daffodils and early spring bulbs in March. Admission £5, children free. Villagers on foot are welcome for free - please bring proof of address. Dogs welcome on leads.

We aim to open for all of the above dates whilst closely following government guidelines and adhering to social distancing measures in place. We wish to provide a safe area for our local customers to visit for exercise and recreational needs.



# CHIPPENHAM AND SNAILWELL OIL BUYING

#### Oil order DEADLINE: Midnight, Tuesday, 23rd February 2021

If you would like some oil, please send me your order by card or e-mail by the deadline above. If you are not yet a member, live in either Chippenham or Snailwell, and would like to join please let me have your:

- 1. Name
- 2. Phone number for the oil company to call you for payment
- 3. Address including postcode
- 4. Any special instructions like:
  - a. Aga additive required
  - b. Oil tank through the gate at left of house
- 5. And of course, how many litres you want and whether you want just that quantity, or a fill up if possible. Please remember that the legal minimum per address is 500 litres (trading standards rules)
- 6. It is your responsibility to ensure that you get a response from me. If you do not, then I did NOT receive your order, and it cannot be included in the Co-op order.

Thanks to the 40 people who paid their £5 subs for the period April 2020- March 2021.

If you want some oil in February, please ensure that you have paid your subs before ordering. The next order deadline will be 23rd April 2021.

Please send your orders to: jamesghurst@outlook.com or a card to 47 High Street

#### **CLEANER REQUIRED**

The Parish Council are looking for a cleaner to clean the bus shelter and village pump area Please contact the clerk for more information on 01638 720915 or chippenhamparishcouncil@hotmail.com

#### **WALKERS!**

Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks?

Walking in Cambridgeshire www.walkinginengland.co.uk/cambridge is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print for free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Cambridgeshire (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) — one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris www.walkinginengland.co.uk email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk







#### CHESS project supports households struggling to pay their energy bills

Do you know someone who is struggling to pay their heating bills? Have you checked that your family and friends are managing to stay warm this winter? The newly launched Cambridgeshire Home Energy Support Service (CHESS) is on hand to help residents in East Cambridgeshire with their energy bills.

The global pandemic of Covid-19 has caused an unprecedented time of anxiety, financial instability, and feelings of isolation. Two local charities, PECT and Cambridgeshire ACRE, have teamed up to help improve the health and wellbeing of households who are suffering from, or at risk of, fuel poverty.

Cold, damp housing has serious impacts on our health and wellbeing. It increases the risk of developing respiratory illnesses – such as Covid-19 – plus cases of strokes, heart attacks, pneumonia, and depression. Right now, the health issues linked with fuel poverty are further exacerbated by COVID-19, putting an additional 200,000 households at risk.

Stuart Dawks, Director of Operations at PECT comments: "We feel that the CHESS project will make a real difference to households who have fallen into fuel debt as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We know the next few months are going to be particularly difficult for many people and we want to help as many local residents as we can through this service."

The aim of the project is to help households cut their heating costs by offering free impartial advice on accessing home improvement grants, fuel debt relief, switching energy supplier, signing up to the Priority Services Register and finding solutions to damp and condensation.

Kirsten Bennett Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire ACRE said "As part of this project we hope to recruit local volunteers to be the 'eyes and ears' of the scheme within our communities, helping us to identity people in need of this support and advice. Please consider supporting the CHESS project by volunteering to promote this scheme and refer people to us for the support they may desperately need."

The project is funded through the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme, please visit www.energyredress.org.uk for more details.

If you would like to support the CHESS project, and protect vulnerable households, we are currently recruiting volunteers to help identify households in need. For more information, contact 01353 865048, email enquiries@cambsacre.org.uk or visit www.pect.org.uk/warmhomes

### Christmas Hampers instead of Christmas Lunch



Christmas Lunch at Chippenham Park Tea Rooms is a lovely occasion, always eagerly anticipated by Chippenham seniors' lunch group, especially this year. Alas, along with many traditional festivities, it was not to be - so the organisers, with the help of some generous supporters, came up with an alternative solution - which brought much needed cheer to organisers and recipients alike

ch for the Chippenham Seniors' Lunch Group



Our thanks to the generous sponsors and contributors:

Chippenham Park
Chippenham Parish Council Charitable Trust
Grant Berry Estate Agents
Ian & Yvonne Hawkins, Old Manor Farm Stud
La Hogue Farm Shop
Snailriver Co.
Tesco, Newmarket
Waitrose & Partners, Newmarket

## VILLAGE ACTIVITIES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN

Please note that the regular activities which take place in and around the village have been suspended until the government feels it is safe to reinstate them. Meanwhile, contact the organisers of these activities if you would like information for when the restrictions are lifted.

The Village Hall remains closed until further notice.

Both play areas are now open. Please observe and comply with the safety notices.



- 1 day Emergency First Aid at Work
- 3 day First Aid at Work
- 2 day requalification
- Paediatric First Aid
- Automated External Defibrillator
   & CPR

For all your First Aid and Health and Safety requirements please visit:

www.firstaidtrainingsolutions.co.uk or telephone 01638 720422

#### **Mobile Library**

The Mobile Library calls in the village on the second Wednesday of the month.

Timings:

10.20-10.25 Chippenham Village Hall

10.40-11.00 Roman Way, Snailwell

11.45-12.05 Mildenhall Road, Fordham

Enquiries call: 08450455225



Cambridgeshire Libraries can now accept new referrals to the Revised Library@Home Service. This service is open to Cambridgeshire Residents who fit a set criteria.

The service is for anyone who usually relies heavily on reading books or listening to audiobooks AND who is housebound, shielding or isolating due to age or health conditions under the current COVID-19 Government guidelines. People accepted for this service will be contacted by a member of the Library@Home Team who will arrange a doorstep delivery of specially chosen books/audiobooks. Deliveries will be monthly (by prior arrangement) and previously loaned books/audiobooks will be picked up when new ones are delivered.

To enquire about the Revised Library@Home Service you can contact us:

By email - volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

By phone - 07442 022 926 or 07342 700308

A member of Library@Home team will respond to the referral.

#### **Chippenham Seniors' Lunch Group**

We are all looking forward to a time when we can meet again for our lovely lunches. Who knows when that might be? Meanwhile we are keen to keep in touch with our regulars over the next few months, so will be organising other Covid-safe activities from time to time.

If you are a 'senior' resident of the village and would like to join us (when we are able!), please do get in touch so we can add you to our list. In normal times, we meet monthly either in the Village Hall for a catered meal, or in a variety of local restaurants. Transport is provided if we go out of the village. There is a small charge for lunch, but no fee and no obligation to come to each lunch.

For more information, contact:

Wendy Parsons 721791 Isobel Newport-Mangell 721211 Fiona & Peter Maxwell 720677

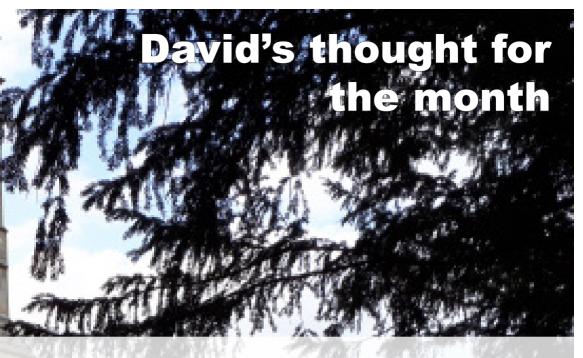


With the announcement of the national lockdown we have made the decision to suspend in-person public worship. We are still allowed to hold funerals in church for up to 30 people though and endeavour to ensure this is done in as safe a way as is possible. At present St Margaret's remains open for private prayer during daylight hours. We ask that visitors use the hand sanitiser provided and wear masks during their visit.

This does not mean that we have stopped worshipping and providing resources for people to worship God. Every Sunday we hold a Zoom service at 11am. The order of service is distributed electronically, or in paper form to those who need it. We are always happy to add people to our mailing list for this service.

We also offer other virtual prayer opportunities: 8.15am Tuesday - Morning Prayer, 7.00pm Wednesday - Compline and an 8.00pm Sunday - Night Prayer.

Everything we do is open to anyone who would like to join us, please contact us for log in details.



You may well have noticed the progress on our extension which will bring much needed toilet and kitchen facilities to our church. The building is now weather-tight and we will be working on the interior in the coming weeks, hopefully completing by the end of March. Once restrictions are lifted it will be good to hold a celebration to thank those who have contributed and the wider community. There is still time to make a donation if you would like to buy a sink/door or other internal fitting.

Keep safe and help others to keep safe too.

To contact a member of the Three Rivers' Clergy team:

Rev'd David Cleugh, Rector: 24 Mildenhall Road, Fordham
01638 723010 davidrcleugh@gmail.com

Rev'd Sue Potts, Associate Priest: The Vicarage, High Street
Chippenham 01638 721662 revd.sue@icloud.com

Rev'd Anna Jones 07751 032166 revdannajones@gmail.com

For more information visit our website:

#### Letter from the Say No to Sunnica Action Group

Firstly, we would like to thank everyone who has written letters, emails, had a board in their garden or has completed the Sunnica consultation questionnaire. Our thanks also to all involved in the Stand Together for Wildlife, Energy and Community webinar, which was so informative and engaged many people. This is still available to watch on YouTube for any of you that missed it (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3OrTLxMEGA).

The response from our community has been amazing, and it is good that so many more people are now aware of the potential issues around the Sunnica proposal. We now await the submission to the Planning Inspectorate - possibly Q2 (Apr-Jun), which will be accompanied by numerous weighty documents in which Sunnica should show how they have taken into account the issues raised by both statutory consultees and the general public.

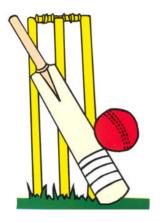
Once the plan goes before the Planning Inspector the public has 28 days to register as an Interested Party in order to present their views directly to the Planning Inspectorate. Please be ready to respond to this deadline as it may happen before the next issue of the Chippenham News is available. Anyone affected in any way by the proposal can register as an Interested Party. There is a useful short video on the Planning Inspectorate website about how to register https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/participating-in-the-process/). Once registered, you will be kept up-to-date about the application and have the opportunity to attend site meetings or the open floor hearing (but you are not required to speak). There is also a useful advice sheet about being an Interested Party on the following webpage: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8-2v3.pdf.

As the pandemic continues it is difficult to know how we will be able to participate fully in these next stages when we may not have the opportunity to meet – we are aware that not everyone is on social media and is therefore excluded from seeing much of the information.

The Say No to Sunnica Community Group will work to ensure everyone is kept informed with as much detail as possible.

Thank you again for your support.

Other local info on www.saynotosunnica.com website and Sunnica Community Action Group Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/groups/2414705938573106
If you know others, not able to access online information, please share this information if you can.



## CHIPPENHAM CRICKET CLUB

Sunday morning club net sessions have regrettably been postponed due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic. Fingers crossed these sessions will be resumed as soon as regulations allow. Details will be forwarded to members as soon as we are able to resume sessions. If you would like to get involved playing cricket or have family members who would like to get involved please contact Darren on 07881818047.

The club website has had a makeover to bring it up to date and ensure that it has all the information needed for existing and new members of the club. You can view it at the following link:

https://www.chippenhamcricket.club

There are a few social activities that are planned over the next few months and include the following:

26th February – Quiz (via Zoom)
21st March – Player Registration Day
27th March – Cricket Force Day
12th April – Monday evening training sessions start, with Junior training followed by Senior training.

Anyone interested in taking part in any of these activities should contact Alan Wright, Darren Hughes or their Team Captains for further information in the first instance.

# Chippenham Village Hall 100 Club Join Today!

Prizes are drawn monthly, when three winners are chosen at random from all the participating numbers. First prize is £40, second prize £20 and third prize £10, and there are two bonus prizes of £60 each drawn three times a year. The cost of membership is £24 a year and all profits help maintain the village hall. We have spare numbers!

#### Contact Chris Mason on 01638 720427

| Winners for October |     | Bonus Winners  |     |
|---------------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| Maribel Doyle       | £40 | Lucinda Wright | £60 |
| Margaret Mason      | £20 | Dennis Price   | £60 |
| George Dumphreys    | £10 |                |     |



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#### Chippenham Helping Hands are still here!

A reminder, for those already aware, or those new to the village, of the many volunteers who are always happy to help out, or offer support- typically for errands or help with tasks made more difficult, or impossible, by the constraints of shielding, or other restrictions in these challenging times.

Help is just a call away – over 20 people are ready to lend a hand (and new volunteers are always welcome!).

It might be a pint of milk, a weekly shop, a prescription to pick up, a parcel to collect or to post – or a spot of help in the garden...\*



**©** 07585 963756

messages will be responded to promptly

\* All help undertaken will follow current Covid safety measures

## **Bin Collection Days in Chippenham** February & March 2021





# GRANT BERRY

#### INDEPENDENT ESTATE AGENTS

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## Thinking of Selling?

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# SOLD

280200 tberry.co.uk

The Government's announcement to remove stamp duty on properties up to £500k, is a massive incentive for buyers and the housing market





