

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

Parish Council & Village News – December 2017 & January 2018

Parish Appraisal: Along with this newsletter, each household in the parish should have received a questionnaire and envelope to return it in.

Since 1995, every 7 years or so, the Parish Council sends out a questionnaire to every household in the parish. These questionnaires provide you, the residents, with an opportunity to influence how the Council spends its funds providing services for you.

The last appraisal was conducted in 2010 (with a 62% response), just before Chelston Rise was re-populated, so we are expecting the demographics to alter due to the younger families.

The anonymised results will be presented at the Annual Parish Assembly in April 2018. The more responses, the better the evidence, so we really would encourage you to complete and return the survey – don't leave it to the Christmas holidays!

PS. You can drop it off at any addresses on the envelope, you don't have to use the nearest one.

The Community Events committee, led by Cllr Liz Kelly, ran a murder-mystery evening on Saturday 14th October at the Village Hall. The event was successful and you can see some images of the event at <http://www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk/murder-mystery-2017.html>

The Wind Farm Trust provided a grant to the Council to cover the purchase of the tablecloths, which can be used at future events.

Extra grass cut: The Council agreed to an extra cut in November this year, as the warmer weather after the October cut meant it was still growing! This was the last cut by the CGM Group, as from 2018 the Council has appointed a new contractor.

Farm barn dangers: There are a number of farm barns in the parish, some of which contain straw and hay bales. A farmer has reported that one of his barns appears to be the new "adventure play area" for children, probably younger ones as he found soft drinks cans rather than alcohol cans, but old enough to make rope ladders out of the bale strings, and to push some kit around to help climb up.

His concern is that the large bales weigh 0.5 tonnes and if one falls on a child it wouldn't be a good outcome. If they strike a match then obviously the danger is the whole lot going up (two hay barns in Chelveston were destroyed in 1998 when some boys played with matches in the middle of the stack).

So, if you are a parent with young children, hopefully you can assist by spreading the word that playing amongst the bales is a bad idea.

Cllr Glenn Harwood MBE: By now you will be aware of the sad news of the sudden death of Glenn in mid-November. He had served on the Parish Council from May 2007 until May 2017, when he stood down upon his election to NCC. Glenn was also an ENC Councillor since May 2007 and had been the Deputy Leader for the last 5 years.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Glenn will be at St Mary's Higham Ferrers on Tuesday 12th December @ 14:00, with refreshments in the Bede House afterwards.

The Educational Foundation of Abigail Bailey and Ann Levett: Regular users of the Village Hall have been consulted on whether the installation of an audio system would be of benefit. This would allow the use of microphones for presenters, the playing of music during classes, the output of sound from the projector, and for the use of an induction loop for hearing aids.

All of the regular users have been enthusiastic and several have made suggestions as to what is needed. The system would be in regular use for over 100 hours a month during term time, as well as for ad hoc functions and meetings. Once the Trustees have finalised the specification, they will be seeking funding for the system, with a view to installing it in time for the Annual Parish Assembly in April 2018.

Grass cutting and Grounds maintenance: At the November meeting, the Council considered bids for the grass cutting and awarded the contract to Creatifica Associates Ltd, probably better known to most villagers as Adrian Dale. The Council selected the winning bid on the basis of both cost and an improved service over the other bidders.

Separately, a new contract was awarded to Creatifica Associates Ltd for grounds maintenance services. This is a new venture for the Council, having previously paid the (last) grass cutter for siding out works and other contractors for ad-hoc tasks. The idea of the new contract is to provide an on-call service for such tasks as they arise during the year, rather than having to go through a bidding process for every small task. The Council will monitor the contract during the year and make a decision whether to continue it at the end of the year.

Both contracts will be run from 1st January 2018.

Next Issue: The February and March issue of the Newsletter should be delivered in the first week of February, so if you want to publicise a parish event, please let me know before the end of January.

The Councillors and Clerk would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Events – December 2017 & January 2018

The Chelveston Parish Church of St. John the Baptist (contact Arthur Wright - 624530).

There is a communion service **every Sunday morning at 9.00am**.
You are most welcome to stay afterwards for coffee, tea and biscuits at the Servery.

Services in church over the Christmas period will be:-

Sunday 10th December **9am** Mass

2.30pm Carol Service for the Village with the Salvation Army Band and also the Chelveston Chorus - always a happy start to Christmas.

Sunday 17th December **9am** Mass

3pm Family Crib Service for youngsters - all ages welcome - do come and join us with refreshments after.

Sunday 24th December **9am** Christmas Eve Mass

Monday 25th December **9am** Christmas Day Mass

In January we have our usual Sunday service at **9am**. On Tuesday 16th January lunch with soup and a roll or cake will be available from **12 - 2.30pm** - everyone welcome.

The *Knit and Natter Group* will continue on Tuesday 23rd January **1 - 3pm**.

Arthur Wright & Richard Kirk, Churchwardens.



Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Women's Institute (contact Raine Earnshaw – 625739).

The W.I usually meets on the second Wednesday of the month at **7.30pm** in Chelveston Village Hall. **Visitors are always welcome** to the meetings @ £4.00 per head suggested donation including refreshments.

Weds 13th Dec - *Social evening with members bringing refreshments*

Weds 10th Jan – *Conducting business in Japan*, by **Richard Webb**.



Free Spirits Ladies Group (contact Mandy - 625144).

Usually meets on the third Monday of the month from **2.00 – 4.00pm** in the Chelveston Village Hall. A variety of subjects to include crafts, flower arranging, talks etc. Visitors are welcome @ £2.50 per head inc. tea & biscuits.

Mon 18th Dec - *Christmas Craft Workshop* with **Sharron Smart**.

Mon 15th Jan - *Wonderful Wellingborough Women* with **Jane Webb**.



Chelveston Chorus (contact Joe Carpenter janjoe68@googlemail.com).

Everyone is invited to come to sing with the encouragement of **Natasha Thompson**.

Fortnightly on Thursdays at **7.30 – 9.00pm** in the Village Hall. Sessions are £3.50.



If you have a smart phone / tablet, you can scan the QR code to go to the village hall web site.

The hall is available for hire by groups for meetings or private functions. Wi-Fi enabled.

For further information contact Chelveston.village.hall@gmail.com.



The Parish Council usually meets on the second Monday of the month at **7.30pm** in the Chelveston Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak on any agenda item at the Chair's discretion.

Members of the public may also inspect Council papers by prior arrangement with the Clerk. The agenda is posted on the website (www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk) and on the parish noticeboards at least 3 clear days before the meetings.

Parish Council Members & Officers

Chair: Ray Daniells, *Fieldview*, Raunds Rd.
Vice: Liz Kelly, 8 Duchy Close.
Jennifer Harwood, 7 Britten Close.
Patricia Mommersteeg, *Church House*, Caldecott.

James Pentelow, 22 Duchy Close.
Andrew Seaman, *Rosemoor*, Raunds Rd.
Melvyn Wooding, *Melrose Cottage*, Caldecott.
Clerk: Mark Hunter *Ashbury*, Caldecott (626039).

E-mails to the Council on clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk