

# Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

## Parish Council & Village News – December 2020 & January 2021

By the time you read this newsletter “Lockdown 2” will have completed and the country will have returned to Tiers. For all Northants (and Beds) parishes, this will be Tier 2 (HIGH) until the tiers are reviewed again nationally on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

The government is offering a 5 day Christmas, when from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> December, the Covid rules are changed. Each household can form a 'Christmas bubble' with up to two other households. However, once you've decided which two households you want to spend time with you can't change them. Your bubble remains the same throughout this period. For example, you can't spend Christmas Day with two households and then Boxing Day with two different households.

Lastly, if you have Covid symptoms then the rules don't change – you should still get tested and self-isolate. You shouldn't be part of a 'Christmas bubble' if you have symptoms!

**Christmas bin collection – one day early:** The waste and recycling bins will be collected one day earlier on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec. The following week's recycling will be on the normal Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> Dec.

**Chelveston Energy Innovation Park to go ahead:** The ENC Planning Committee voted 7-4 in favour, and of our two ENC Ward Cllrs, Cllr Harriet Pentland was found to be conflicted out and so could not vote, whilst Cllr Peter Tomas voted against the plans.

Whilst time will tell how actually innovative the site's tenants are, the application process has required CRE to undertake a greater number of planning obligations than originally proposed. One of these includes funding any traffic mitigation measures required by the Local Highways Authority (currently NCC, but NNC from 1<sup>st</sup> April 21). The Parish Council are keen that these measures include a speed limit past Chelston Rise, and 7.5t weight limit on the Caldecott Road between the junction to the CRE Park and the junction with Higham Road.

**Vistry Group developer led consultation on a possible development off the Chelveston Road, Raunds:** This is a pre-application consultation by the developer, and it allows them to understand the issues and impacts that any new development might have. For the Parish Council, a decision on whether to object or not will only be taken once a formal application has been submitted, but as part of the consultation the Council has highlighted concerns about the impact of additional traffic traveling south on the B663 through Chelveston.

**Parking on Pavements:** The Council has received a number of complaints about vehicles parking on the footways, thus forcing pedestrians to walk on the carriageway. If you have space on your driveway, please park on it if possible.

**Allotments:** One plot has become vacant, and whilst there are people from outside the parish on the waiting list, the Council gives priority to parishioners. So, if you have been getting into gardening due to working from home or furlough and are thinking of taking up an allotment, please contact the Clerk (details over) – first come, first served!

**Events Team:** Lockdown and the subsequent return to tiers has meant the Team couldn't hold a quiz night, so instead please see the flyer that came with this newsletter on a Christmas wreath competition.

**Banking:** After nearly 126 years, the Council has moved away from paper cheques! Due to problems both in getting them signed and suppliers cashing them during the Covid restrictions, the Council started paying for goods and services electronically. However, to protect the public funds, the transactions still require three approvers, as they did with cheque signatories.

**Precept 2021-22:** The Precept is the local taxation the Parish Council levies on you, the parishioners, and is collected through the Council Tax. For this year it is £11,000 and this is divided by 212 properties, making £51.88 per year (Band D).

Actually, there are nearer 240 properties in the parish, the difference being the allowance made for households that pay a reduced amount (e.g. Single Person Discount, empty, etc). The Council will know the new number (called the Council Tax Base or CTB) in early January, and set the budget and Precept Demand at the January Council meeting

**Elections:** The next ordinary elections will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. The Electoral Commission has tasked Returning Officers and Electoral Managers to plan to hold the elections in the event of Covid-19 social distancing being required.

In this parish, the electorate will be voting for candidates for the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner, the North Northants Unitary Council and the Parish Council. See the flyer that came with this newsletter to learn what Parish Councillors do. Could you be one of our new Councillors?

Some parishes have been known to deliberately avoid holding an election to spare the costs. In this parish we are very keen on the electorate having an opportunity to exercise their democratic right to vote, so we set aside part of the costs each year to reduce the impact in an election year.

**Next Issue:** The February & 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.

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## Events – December 2020 & January 2021

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

### Christmas at St. John's Church

This year has been very different but we will still celebrate Christmas one way or another! We are looking forward to our usual **9am Sunday Service** resuming once we are out of lockdown. Keep an eye on the noticeboard, St John's Facebook page and our website for details.

In the meantime, our **Online Service** continues which you can access on the website; [www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk](http://www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk). The church is open daily for private prayer and for space and time for quiet and reflection. Please wear a mask and use the hand sanitiser as you enter and place the appropriate coloured card on your seat when you leave to signify someone has sat there for those who may visit after you.

### 'Follow the Star' - Advent windows

During Advent in early December help our community get ready for Christmas by decorating your window with stars, angels or a nativity theme and place the 'Follow the Star' star there to show you are taking part. See how many stars you and your family can find in the streets near you! A template for the stars is on the website and available from Brenda Eldred or Rev Michelle.

### DIY Christingle 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December

Collect your DIY Christingle bag from the church on 12<sup>th</sup> December between 10-12 containing all you need to make your Christingle at home, then join us on the 13<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm for either an Outdoor or Zoom Service so we can celebrate Christingle together. Details will be on the noticeboard and social media.

### Nativity trail 24<sup>th</sup> December – 'Follow the Star'

Follow the Star Trail numbered 1-24 throughout the village - see where they lead and what you might find at the end of the journey! Pick your time between 1-4pm, come in costumes, and see the story of Christmas unfold! Be our real live Nativity 2020!

### Christmas Day

9am special service of Holy Communion to celebrate Christmas Day. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, only 30 people can attend at St Johns, so advance booking is required. Please contact Brenda Eldred (details below).

For any further information about any of the above, check out our website [www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk](http://www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk) or contact Brenda on 07816 771702, [brenda@eldred.co.uk](mailto:brenda@eldred.co.uk), or Rev Michelle on 07961 003352, [michelleacd@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:michelleacd@hotmail.co.uk)



**The Census (2021):** Advance notice that the decennial national census will take place on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021, and for the first time ever, it will mainly be digital, though paper copies will still be available for those who cannot access online services.

The census has been running since 1801 and the records are made public after a 100 years, a goldmine for historians and genealogists. But more importantly, the anonymised data is used to help central and local government use their resources effectively for things like housing, education, health and transport over the next decade.



**The Parish Council** usually meets on the second Monday of the month at **7.30pm**. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the Council is holding its meetings virtually on Zoom. The meeting codes can be found on the published agendas. Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak on any agenda item at the Chair's discretion.

The agenda and meeting papers are posted on the website ([www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk](http://www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk)) and the agenda is on the parish noticeboards at least 3 clear days before the meetings.

### Parish Council Members & Officers

**Chair: Andrew Seaman**, Rosemoor, Raunds Rd.  
**Vice: Jennifer Harwood**, 7 Britten Close.  
**Neil Chambers**, 6 Hillside.  
**Clinton Hill**, 52 The Crescent, Chelston Rise.

**Mandy Hill**, 15 Water Lane.  
**Patricia Mommersteeg**, Church House, Caldecott.  
**Carol Parsons**, 5 Pokas Cottages.  
**Clerk: Mark Hunter Ashbury**, Caldecott (626039).

E-mails to the Council on [clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk)

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