

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

Parish Council & Village News – October & November 2020

After a gap of 6 months, we have decided to restart the Parish Newsletter in printed format, as we recognise that not everyone is online (or are only online for the “essentials”).

The last print run was the February – March issue and the world has changed considerably since then. Sadly, a number of villagers have lost friends and relatives to the first wave of Covid-19, and the lockdown restrictions meant that their passing was not marked in the traditional ways we have been used to.

Words like Lockdown, Furlough, and Social Distancing have all entered common parlance, and words like Recession and Unemployment have returned. But not everything has been bad news. In the midst of the struggle the community pulled together to help each other in ways that Horace probably hasn't seen since the end of WW2.

From Adrian's daily broadcasts (nearly 90 of them) to Chris & Elaine's tulips, from shopping trips to virtual church services, from Pete's (Worzel's) tractor to the keyworker scarecrow competition, all these involved the community in a way that most of us haven't experienced before. Governments (and Parish Councils) can organise, but it is the people that are the community.

Winter is coming – and so is the second wave: The Government is keen to avoid a second national lockdown, time will tell how successful they are, but it would be wise to make preparations.

If you regularly have to collect a prescription from a pharmacy, consider changing to a delivery service such as [Echo](#), the free delivery service from Lloyds Chemists, or [Pharmacy2U](#).

Similarly, the supermarkets have all ramped up their home delivery services, with more slots available, including those for priority cases or keyworkers. Better to plan ahead and be signed up in advance, than get caught out by the inevitable rush if a lockdown is announced.

Meetings and Venues – The *Star & Garter* has to close by 10:00pm daily and only table service is permitted.

The Village Hall, in its role as an educational charity, can provide classes in a Covid Secure manner, but cannot be hired for social gatherings.

The Church can hold the regular Sunday communion services, but without singing and there is no shared communion wine.

A maximum of 15 people can attend a wedding in the Church, which includes the happy couple and the witnesses (but not the officiant, who is working).

The Parish Council: The May 2020 elections were cancelled, and two Cllrs – Ray Daniels and James Pentelow – decided to stand down having done 5 years of what was going to be an ordinary 4-year term back in 2015!

Since the Council couldn't hold a bye-election, the Council called for volunteers to be co-opted and three residents stood for the two vacancies, resulting in Neil Chambers (Hillside) and Clinton Hill (Chelston Rise) joining the Council.

The Government passed emergency legislation to allow all Councils (from NCC to the PC) to meet virtually, resulting in all the meetings so far being hosted on the Zoom platform.

Not everything can be done on the internet though, the grass still has to be cut (cue Adrian!) and the Events Team ran their 4th annual fun dog show (socially distanced) in the paddock behind the Village Hall. Next up is the pumpkin carving competition, with both senior and junior classes this year.

Community Speed Watch (CSW): Cllr Clinton Hill is the new local CSW coordinator, but unfortunately Covid meant this has had to stop until the police determine it is safe to resume.

However, concerns of excessive speeding raised by several Parish Councils along the B645 resulted in a combined operation by the safety camera vans and supporting police vehicles, with 40 motoring offences detected on the county's section of the road, including a motorcyclist riding at 101 mph.

HGVs on the Raunds Road: The Council is aware of complaints about HGVs using the Raunds Road which has a 7.5t limit. However, this weight limit does not apply to firms who are licenced to use Pastures Farm as their operating centre. These include –

WILLMOTT TRANSPORT LTD.
PBG TRANSPORT SERVICES.
PETER B GEORGE TRANSPORT SERVICES.
EXTRACTION SERVICES LTD.
BRETT GAVIN LTD.
BOWDEN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES LTD
LEE IVINS & SONS (Raunds Grab Hire).

High Street parking: Rule 243 of the Highway Code states you must not park opposite or within 10m (32ft) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space. The High Street / Water Lane junction is getting worse with several near-misses and an accident in September. If you have off-road parking available, please use it to reduce the problem.

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

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Events – October & November 2020

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

There is a communion service **every Sunday morning at 9.00am**.

The village church has taken its responsibilities re Coronavirus very seriously and we are sorry that it has had to be closed except for the **Sunday 9.00am service** and then **Wednesday afternoon from 12.00 – 4.00pm**, as there has to be a 72 hour closure between opening times to dispel any possibility of a virus remaining. Social distancing inside has been maintained and we are most grateful for the efforts of the parish clergy for an additional online service for those unable to attend physically.

Two of the large chestnut trees in the churchyard have shed large branches following recent high winds. A qualified tree specialist has advised us that they are all now over mature and suggests their height is reduced to prolong their lives, but the chestnut tree overhanging the disabled car parking area, which has already had to have branches removed, be cut down completely to prevent possible future danger to vehicles or people and the PCC will put this work in hand.

We do thank participants on the recent Ride & Stride Saturday on the 12th September for support of the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust. The pandemic has caused great financial hardship to many small churches deprived of collections and social fundraising events and we hope to have raised in excess of £500 from sponsorship that will help this worthwhile charity.

Arthur Wright and Peggy Deards, Churchwardens



Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Women's Institute (contact Kate Hawson – 397819).

The W.I usually meets on the second Wednesday of the month at **7.30pm** in the Village Hall. If the meeting on **Wednesday 14th October** goes ahead it will be the AGM.

Since 1990 the Chelveston cum Caldecott WI have been hosting coffee mornings to raise money for the Macmillan Cancer charity. Since the Pandemic, these have had to be put on hold; however that hasn't stopped our members who have been holding small events in their homes selling cakes, tea and coffee. These have been very well attended and we have raised £1,200 which will go towards the £20m deficit in their income. Thank you to all our members and those that have supported us.



Local police surgeries will be taking place on **Wednesday 7th October** in the parish. They will be using a Police van as the venue, so please pop along and say hello. All conversations will take place outside the van and face masks are to be worn where appropriate.

Caldecott: In the police van parked in middle of the Village from **2.30 – 3.00pm**.

Chelveston: In the lay-by on the Kimbolton Road from **3.10 – 3.40pm**.



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) 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

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