



SEER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk

Our Newsletter is delivered twice a year to all Seer Green households. We also regularly post information on our Notice Board opposite Lamb's Newsagents and on our website.

TRAFFIC CALMING AND ROAD SAFETY

In 2011 the Parish Council conducted a survey distributed to all residents to ask their opinion of Seer Green as a place to live. Ninety per cent of those who took part voiced serious concerns about inconsiderate parking and excessive vehicle speeds through the village. In response, a number of measures were introduced to try to resolve these issues. Unfortunately, to this day, despite the installation of Vehicle Activated Signs and three newly created footpaths to help children get to school safely away from the main road, the issues of speeding and parking remain the focus of major dissatisfaction to residents, evidenced by the fact they are regularly raised at Parish Council Meetings by members of the public, at meetings attended by parents and staff at the school and in individual letters addressed to the Parish Council.

Towards the end of 2014 a letter was sent to County Councillor, Tim Butcher, requesting his help to try to resolve or certainly improve the current situation and his response has been supportive. The Parish Council has now submitted a request for Local Priorities Funding to Bucks County Council, which forms the basis of the 'Seer Green Traffic Calming and Road Safety Project' for the following three schemes.

- Double yellow lines starting just past the Jolly Cricketers Pub on Chalfont Road and ending near the bus stop outside the Old Baptist Chapel. Rationale; to stop parking on the

bend which causes an extremely dangerous situation by forcing vehicles passing those parked onto the wrong side of the road into the path of oncoming traffic on a blind bend.

- The installation of 'build outs' (pinch points) at either end of the village, i.e., School Lane and Chalfont Road respectively. Rationale; to slow traffic down on the straight, residential sections when entering the village to the legal 30mph limit.
- The painting of 'formalised' zig zags with a Traffic Regulation Order to stop parking on School Lane on the side opposite to the school starting just after Seer Mead and ending just after the school entrance. Rationale; to stop double parking which obstructs the passage of large vehicles such as the bus, fire engine, etc. The double parking also represents a safety issue with children crossing the road between these parked vehicles with passing motorists having to look both sides at once whilst concentrating on negotiating the narrowed road.

A decision will not be reached until December 2015 which is why we are carrying out a survey whether residents feel speeding and inappropriate parking are issues that need to be addressed as a matter of urgency so that we can forward the results to BCC to add weight to our demands. In the meantime, SLOW signs will be repainted on the road surface to remind motorists to SLOW DOWN!



AS A RESIDENT HAVE YOUR SAY; Do you feel that speeding on the main road through the village and parking on the blind bend just after The Jolly Cricketers Pub present a danger and that measures should be put in place to try to resolve these problems?

Yes

No

House No./Name:..... Postcode:.....

Signed:.....

Please return the slip to Lamb's newsagent or post to the Parish Clerk, Seer Green Parish Council whose address appears on the back page of this newsletter. Alternatively, the survey can be completed online at our website www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk. Further copies of the slip are available at the newsagent or from the Clerk if required by multi-resident households. Slips to be returned by Friday 27th November 2015 when voting closes.

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL COMMUNITY AWARD 2015

For the last four years the Parish Council has presented a small award to recognise the person, judged by the Chairman, as having made a significant contribution to the village community. Several very worthy nominations were received this year, and after much consideration the Chairman decided that the award should go to **Jane Smith** in recognition of her work to bring the community together through singing.

Jane was nominated by Seer Green resident Clare Newton who wrote "*Jane, supported by her husband, David, is a powerhouse of enthusiasm and energy for music in the village and wider community. Over the years, she has set up two village choirs (totalling 100 people); inspired school children; and more recently founded the Beaconsfield Festival of Choirs. She is committed to encouraging singing for everyone.*"

Jane was presented with the award at a joint choir rehearsal of Village Voices and Seer Green Singers.



Jane and last year's Chairman, Dennis Scourfield

GREEN MEADOW PATH



The new path has now been installed across Green Meadow from the Stable Lane corner to the gate that leads down to the school in order to provide a safer route to school and to relieve some of the congestion on the pavement. We were grateful to receive significant funding from the Local Area Forum and the Living Streets charity for this project. The Parish Council has been delighted by the positive response to the path and has received a significant number of messages of appreciation from parents, grandparents and the school.

NEW CHAIRMAN - MANDY THOMAS

In May I was elected Chairman of Seer Green Parish Council; a pretty formidable challenge to step into the shoes of the previous Chairman, Cllr Dennis Scourfield whose drive and commitment in the role secured many improvements and facilities for the village during his tenure of 4 years. However, I am extremely lucky to be supported by our Clerk, Liz Bates who works tirelessly to ensure everything runs smoothly, Cllr Scourfield now Treasurer and the wealth of knowledge and experience possessed by other longstanding Councillors.

During Cllr Scourfield's time as Chairman, he was actively involved in numerous projects including; ownership of the Jubilee Hall passing from Bucks. County Council to the Parish Council, the footpath across Green Meadow and the erection of a War Memorial and improvements to the Cemetery entrance to mention but a few.

Whilst continuing to support further improvements to facilities and services in our community, I am actively involved in working to secure grant funding for play equipment suitable for children aged 7+ not catered for currently.

Also, having lived in Seer Green for 28 years and witnessed the increasing volume of traffic using the main road through the village, I am keen to try to get measures implemented to reduce speeding and inappropriate parking as outlined in the article on the front page.

In conclusion I feel very privileged to live in such a pleasant place where both my sons were born and grew up, and any suggestions from its residents as to how to both maintain and improve the village and its facilities will always be welcomed.

THANK YOU PERKIN ELMER



Before

Earlier this year, once again, the Facilities Manager at Perkin Elmer contacted the Parish Council about their company's Corporate Social Responsibility programme. Perkin Elmer prides itself on its social responsibility and each year each staff member undertakes a day's giving



where practicable, giving up one day of work to support the local community with their free labour. This has seen employees working for the National Trust clearing footpaths/streams or painting fences, rooms for schools, etc.

For two days this year, Perkin Elmer employees have helped to clear a large section of undergrowth at the Recreation Ground near the football pitch to provide more space for walkers to pass the football pitch when matches are being played. It has also made it easier for the sports teams to retrieve lost balls. The reclaimed area now provides a view of the



Perkin Elmer Staff

majestic trees that have been obscured for so long. Further work will be done to remove the tree stumps. Our thanks go to all of the staff who worked so hard.



After the clearance work

SEER GREEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

A Neighbourhood Plan is a way of helping local communities to influence the planning of the area in which they live and work. It can be used to develop a shared vision for the village, to seek views from villagers on those things they would like to preserve/influence, for example protecting green spaces, the appearance of the village, the appearance of buildings and on future development. The Parish Council Working Party have now contacted more than 30 organisations and institutions in the village with basic information about the Neighbourhood Plan proposal. We have also made a formal application to the Chiltern District Council (CDC) for an "Application for Designation of a Neighbourhood Area". This application seeks to define the geographical area to be included in the Plan. CDC has been consulting on the designation with all interested parties and

members of the public and a copy of the application and map is included on the Parish Council website.

We continue to gather information about the village as a prelude to writing a description for inclusion in the Plan document. Thought is being given to holding a village meeting at which a number of speakers would provide an overview of the Neighbourhood Plan process and answer questions. The process follows a number of stages - identifying the issues, developing a vision and objectives, generating options, drafting the Plan, consultation and submission, an independent examination and a referendum and adoption. We then hope to form a Neighbourhood Planning Group of 8 to ten villagers to take the project forward. If you wish to be involved please contact the Parish Clerk.

AROUND THE PARISH...

SEER GREEN JOIN IN WITH THE BIG LUNCH

Since 2009 communities across the country have taken part in 'The Big Lunch' and in 2015 Seer Green joined in! Over 200 people brought their picnic on a gloriously sunny day and enjoyed this simple act of Community, Friendship and Fun. Thanks to everyone who came.

**Date for The Big Lunch Next Year
Sunday 5th June 2016**



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Seer Green unfortunately did not win this year but received 75 points out of a possible 100. These are the judges' comments for Seer Green:- *"Seer Green has a beautifully and intelligently maintained churchyard, with patches of large daisies between closely mown areas. There is a well-tended and litter-free Recreation Ground. The pavilion was in use as a Montessori school when we visited – a good example of multiple use. Green Wood and Long Grove Wood are great assets to the village. We had a very pleasant walk through both. All meeting halls appeared in good condition with little or no litter. The notice boards reflected community activity. Areas around the shop and two pubs were tidy and litter free, with both pubs having a welcoming appearance. Good overall appearance, with evidence that residents like their village and take pride in it. The grassy areas in Farmers Way were particularly well managed."*

DEFIBRILLATOR

A new defibrillator has been placed for public access in a secured box on the front wall of Jubilee Hall. The unit is easy to use and is designed for safe use by a non-medical person. On ringing for an ambulance, if a defibrillator is deemed necessary, the opening code for the box will be provided.



SEER GREEN & JORDANS WI

Seer Green and Jordans Women's Institute celebrated their 90th Anniversary this year with a wonderful display of over 200 hand crocheted cherries which were displayed on the cherry tree outside the Parish Church Hall. The cherries gave a very effective display and all the children were fascinated by the fruit that grew overnight! The scouts then took them to Switzerland for their jamboree, where they helped to illustrate the story of the cherry pie village of Seer Green. The WI hosted afternoon tea in the Parish Church Hall and combined with the Flower Guild to create a flower festival in the church with displays depicting notable events from their 90 years. This was all held over the first weekend in June and was enjoyed by all who attended.



JUBILEE HALL

The Freehold for Jubilee Hall has now been sold to the Village Hall Charity (of which the Parish Council is sole Trustee) for the sum of £1.00. The Parish Council is continuing the improvements to the Hall and has installed new fire doors and a new boiler, both of which will keep the hall warmer this winter. For bookings see the website www.sgjubileehall.org.uk or contact the booking secretary on 01494 857760.

WHO TO CONTACT

Report potholes/flooding to Bucks County Council Transport department at <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/online> or call 0845 230 2882. Waste, litter or fly-tipping should be reported to WasteTeam@chiltern.gov.uk or call 01494 586550.

SEER GREEN PARISH CLERK

Liz Bates Tel 01494 874233
Gerston, Back Lane,
Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks, HP8 4PB

email: clerk@seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk
or visit the website at:-
www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk