Edition 27 Autumn 2017



# 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.

# SEER GREEN RUNNERS UP IN BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Seer Green were again runners up in this year's Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition, scoring 86 points out of 100 (we scored 94 points last year).



The Judges' comments are below:-

"There is evidence of a thriving village with obvious community involvement in many activities as was evident from the very full and tidy noticeboards. The Judges were pleased to see Best Kept Village signs on all the boards. The Holy Trinity churchyard was tidy but with some unkempt areas contrary to the cemetery in School Lane which was excellent and whilst we were there one of the local lady volunteers was tending to several of the graveside flowers. The large blue signs in the churchyard did seem to somewhat dominate the church. The War Memorial was in excellent condition with the stone work having been recently cleaned by again another volunteer.



The areas around the shops and Post Office were tidy and litter free and the flowers at the Three Horseshoes and The Cricketers Public Houses presented a good display. The Jubilee walk was a quiet walk through, though the grass could have done with cutting. The recreation ground was a well maintained and obviously a great facility for the villagers as are the environmental areas of Long Grove Wood and Green Wood.

The allotments were well used and obviously in constant use. The judges were a little disappointed with the condition of the Scout Hut which could do with some painting, a project for the Scouts and Guides no doubt. The Jubilee Hall was being used by a pre-school group and the Judges liked the "Wow" board and particularly the star for Joe. The children's play area in Green Meadow was well maintained and the "rubberised" path a nice facility. The plan provided by the Parish Clerk was very clear and a great help.



Our thanks go to all of the people, groups and organisations who put such a considerable amount of effort into making sure the village looked so neat and tidy.

# **Parish Council Community Award**

For the last six years the Parish Council has presented the Seer Green Community Award to recognise the person judged by the Chairman, currently Mandy Thomas, as having made a significant contribution to the village community.

We are pleased to announce that this year's winner is Chris Rumsey who is Seer Green's Scout Leader. The surprise presentation was made by the Parish Council Vice-Chairman Tim Norton at the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the Beer and Music Festival in the grounds of the Scout Hut.

Chris has made a huge contribution to the youth in Seer Green as described by some of the people who nominated him: - "His contribution to the growth and development of so many of our young teenagers has been amazing. Our son, now 27, gained so many skills during his 5/6 years with him which he carries through to his adult years." "For his unfailing commitment to scouts over many years resulting in huge benefits to young people in Seer Green village." "Quite simply an unsung hero! An amazing scout leader at Seer Green. The 2-year post he took on he has been doing for 15+ years. All his time is voluntary. Everything he does is for the benefit and

enjoyment of the boys and now girls too. He has positively impacted on all those who have had the fortune to have been a scout under his lead." "He has been a scout leader for well over a decade and he has given the children in the village amazing experiences. His dedication deserves to be recognised. He deserves a medal!"

Our thanks and congratulations to Chris.



### **NEW COUNCILLOR – ANDREW WESTLAKE**

We welcome Andrew Westlake as our new Parish Councillor.



"Having relocated to Seer Green almost eight years ago, I am very happy to be living in a vibrant and welcoming community. I am a keen gardener and fully support the events organised by Seer Green Gardeners including the annual shows and Village Supper and also its charitable activities such as Open Gardens. I enjoy walking in the local area and my concern for the environment has led me to take up beekeeping recently both here in the village and at my workplace, The John Lyon School, where I teach Philosophy, Ethics and Religious Studies. Membership of the men's choir, Seer Green Singers, has rekindled my love for choral singing and I am looking forward to our imminent tour of the City of Culture.

It is a great privilege to have the opportunity to work with the dedicated team of parish councillors and to contribute positively to the thriving community of Seer Green."

### **YELLOW LINES**

After a significant number of complaints about parking and speeding through the village the Parish Council sought professional advice from Bucks County Council (BCC) about possible traffic safety improvements. Following recommendations from Transport for Bucks Engineers and a formal consultation with affected villagers, double yellow lines were introduced in June at the junctions in the centre of the village where there was a clear need to prevent obstruction, improve visibility and improve road safety.

The BCC Local Area Forum provided a grant towards the scheme which has been welcomed by many residents. Unfortunately there are still some residual parking issues and the Parish Council have been in touch with NSL which is the company contracted by BCC Transport for Bucks to run the 'Parking Help Line' and enforce parking restrictions across the County. For future reference, if a vehicle is parked on the double yellow lines then BCC recommend that contact is made with NSL, they can be called on 0843 2085544.





# **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

#### **Remembrance Day Service**

The Churches of Seer Green organise the Remembrance Day Service annually. This year it will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November. It will commence at Jubilee Hall at 10am following which all attending will process quietly to the War Memorial where an act of remembrance and two minutes silence will occur at 11am. As in previous years the Council have obtained a road closure order so all roads around the Memorial will be closed from approximately 10.30 – 11.30am. School Lane will be closed from the Parish Church Hall to just beyond the entrance road to the Jubilee Hall, and access from Stable Lane to School Lane will also be closed. The alternative route to Longbottom Lane is via Bottom Lane. Thank you for your co-operation.

#### SEER GREEN JOIN IN WITH



Since 2009 communities across the country have taken part in 'The Big Lunch' and for the second time, in June 2017, Seer Green joined in! Over 100 people brought their picnic and enjoyed this simple act of Community, Friendship and Fun.

Thanks to everyone who came.

Date for the Big Lunch Next Year

Sunday 3rd June 2018



# **Around the Parish**

#### **Recycling Centre Removal**

The District Council's Joint Waste Team has undertaken a review of all local recycling centres across the Chiltern district. They informed the Parish Council that they were under contractual obligation to consider reducing the number of facilities in existence. As a wide range of materials is now collected at the kerbside the dependency on these facilities has diminished considerably. The Recycling Centre in Seer Green has also been unfortunately misused with a significant amount of fly tipping left in and around the bins. It was therefore agreed that the Recycling Centre would be removed, which took place on 13<sup>th</sup> September. The extra space now allows for more car parking for activities at the Recreation Ground.

#### **Village Policing**

Many residents will be familiar will PC Gavin McVeigh who for many years has been our local Police Officer. Sadly for us he had been relocated to Chesham and so is no longer our local police officer. If you need to contact the Police please use the 101 number, or in an emergency call 999. You can also contact our local policing team by email at chalfontsnhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

#### **CCTV**

CCTV has now been installed at the recreation ground / pavilion, part grant funded from the Bucks County Council Local Area Forum and part funded by the Parish Council. We hope this will help to deter antisocial behaviour and trespassing. PCSO Oliver Hughes is assisting the Parish Council in actively pursuing those involved.

#### **Dog Fouling**

The topic of dog fouling is still an issue that causes much annoyance and there are still many people who are not clearing up after their dog, especially at the recreation ground and in Green Wood. There are bins provided for dog poo bags at both sites and should the bins be full you are allowed to use the normal litter bins around the village so there is no excuse for finding dog poo bags along the footpaths in the village.

#### **Defibrillators**

We have two defibrilltors in the village, one at the Pavilion, next to the Rec and one at the Jubilee Hall.



#### The Post Office

From 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 the Post Office in Seer Green will be closed. The village are incredibly grateful to Steve and Sandie for all their hard work and service to the community over many years.



On Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Oct at 2pm there will be an opportunity to thank Steve and Sandie and to celebrate all they have done for the community, hosted at Holy Trinity Church.

All are welcome. If you would like to come please let Steve and Sandie know.

The provision of a Post Office in the local community is important and Post Office Limited are seeking other possibilities to enable services to continue in Seer Green. If anyone is interested in more details about the vacancy in Seer Green please contact the Post Office 0845 601 6260.

#### **Green Meadow Youth Shelter**

Unfortunately the Youth Shelter in Green Meadow continues to attract disturbing anti-social behaviour, littering, and recently graffiti. Sadly over the summer items related to drug-taking have been found inside and there has been some fire damage to the seating. The police have been informed and nearby residents have been made aware. If you witness anything please report it to the police on 101 or if an emergency call 999. The Parish Council will be removing the shelter.

#### Who to call?

Report Potholes/flooding to Bucks CC Transport Department at www.buckscc.gov.uk/online or call 0845 230 2882

Waste, litter, road sweeping, fly-tipping and clearance of paths (e.g. path to Seer Green Station) should be reported to wasteteam@chiltern.gov.uk or call 01494 586550.

Report dog fouling to Environmental Health on 01494 732058.

#### **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