



# SEER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

[www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://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 the post box on Chalfont Rd, and on our website.

## HOW WE SPEND YOUR MONEY

Seer Green Parish Council plays a vital role in making our village such a pleasant and safe place to live. Parish Councillors are all volunteers and, as such, are unpaid. Part of our role is deciding how to spend the money allocated out of the council tax we all pay, an annual sum known as “the precept”.

This year we have applied for a 3% increase increasing our precept from £49,140 to £50,614 (approximately £55.00 per household per year, or just under £5 a month). We use this to manage and maintain Green Meadow Playground, Green Wood, the Recreation Ground, Sports Pavilion, the Cemetery, the Allotments and Jubilee Walk.

One of our biggest expenses is managing our trees and woodland areas. We pay for a professional arboricultural inspection to ensure that any important safety work is carried out. We spend over a quarter of our budget on maintaining, replacing, and supplying electricity for 68 streetlights around the village.

Some responsibilities, which were previously those of the County Council, have also been devolved to us, including mowing village verges and cutting back foliage from 4,000 metres of footpaths around the village.

The Parish Council as sole trustee also looks after Jubilee Hall which is widely used by local community groups and is available to hire. Please visit [www.sjubileehall.org.uk](http://www.sjubileehall.org.uk) for more information.

As our precept funds are limited, we also apply for grants and additional funds for special projects. We have recently received funding for wildflowers and new benches at the Recreation Ground from the Bucks Council Community Board and Jordans Environment Trust.



## SEER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Seer Green Parish Council meet on the first TUESDAY of each month at 7.30pm.:

1<sup>st</sup> March

5<sup>th</sup> April

3<sup>rd</sup> May

7<sup>th</sup> June

5<sup>th</sup> July

Meetings take place at Seer Green Baptist Church, HP9 2XG. Members of the public are welcome to come and raise any relevant issues at the monthly Parish Council meeting. All are welcome to stay and observe the meeting but may only speak during the 15-minute open session at the beginning.

## UPDATE ON FLOODING

### Update on flooding and drainage

Recent drainage works by Bucks Council on School Lane and Chalfont Road is continuing to work well and are being monitored by the Buckinghamshire Council Capital Drains Team to ensure that this continues to be the case. The recently dug ditch and new bore hole on Chalfont Road has taken a great deal of water from the drains and the road has not flooded since this work has been completed.

Orders have been raised for Bayne Hill and the junction of Longbottom Lane with Potkiln Lane to have the drainage cleared but unfortunately no dates are yet available for this work.

The Newbarn Lane corner continues to be slow to drain and will need a new borehole at some point. Part of the issue at this point is caused by water flowing from Rawlings Lane. The gullies on the top bend on Rawlings Lane still need to be cleared which will help to stop the build-up of water on the sharp bend.

## NEW GOAL ON THE RECREATION GROUND

Seer Green United suggested that the village youth would benefit from having their own goal to use as they had been seen using the cricket net which was being damaged. Both Seer Green United and the adult Seer Green Football Team donated £150 each towards this project and the Parish Council contributed the difference. The new goal has now been installed near the outdoor gym on the Recreation Ground and is available for anyone to use.



Unfortunately, the main goals at the far side of the recreation ground were recently vandalised on two separate occasions so now will be removed between matches. The new goal will be monitored by CCTV.

## WILDFLOWERS

Thanks to funding from the Community Board and the great work of the Seer Green Gardeners, together with other volunteers from the village community, the wildflower beds flourished in 2021. The two new beds on Bayne Hill and Chalfont Road have been widely admired, together with the more established one on Bottom Lane. All three served as a colourful and vibrant welcome to the village from whichever direction it was approached.

We hope that in 2022 we will enjoy some beautiful wildflower areas in the village once more.



## CLIMATE CHANGE

The Parish Council is in the process of identifying suitable locations within Seer Green to plant native hedging and specimen trees as part of the Big Climate Fightback and the Queen's Green Canopy initiatives. We would encourage our residents to visit The Woodland Trust's website and see whether you can add to our efforts by planting a native tree or hedge in your garden. [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities).

We will update you in the next newsletter on our progress.

## PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY AWARD

Every year, with the exception of last year when awards were made to multiple nominees as Seer Green Heroes, the Parish Council ask for residents to nominate a person to receive the Chairman's Community Award. This person is someone who, through their service and commitment has made a real contribution to our community.



So, it is with grateful thanks for all her hard work with the Scouts over many years, that I would like to congratulate Rachel Gibson who is this year's winner. Sadly, I was unable to present the award in person and instead the presentation was made by my fellow Councillors Davison-Oakley and Holder (pictured below).

One of the comments received on a nomination form for Rachel regarding her work with the Scouts was "Rachel is always positive, helpful and cheerful and is absolutely brilliant with the kids." I have never had the opportunity to meet Rachel, so I made further enquiries and all the responses received back were in the same vein; "a person committed to supporting others with an extremely positive and cheery disposition."

I understand that as well as this, Rachel has also contributed to the Community with time spent as a school governor, as an active member of Holy Trinity and through her floristry skills in support of SG Gardeners events. She is also an ambassador for the charity Cure Parkinson's and has taken part in numerous events and challenges which have raised significant funds for the charity.

## NEW COUNCILLOR – TONY BREWIS

Born in Kent I moved, as a very young lad, to the county of Essex until I joined the Royal Air Force in 1964. I lived in Beaconsfield for 28 years and have been a resident of Seer Green since 2014.



I retired in 2017 after running my own consultancy for 20 years. After leaving the Royal Air Force I began my second career in IT in 1973. Since retiring I have taken on the role of Company Secretary as a Director of the Manor Farm (Seer Green) Management Company.

My interests include golf and outdoor activities such as walking/exploring. Living in Seer Green has enabled me to discover many of the varied and interesting footpaths to be found around our village.

My wife and I really enjoy living in Seer Green village and I have joined the Parish Council to try and be useful in ensuring that our village remains a warming place to live and visit. I hope that becoming a councillor will help me to achieve these aims.

## COVID-19 SUPPORT

If you, or someone you know, needs practical help or support please contact your Street Coordinator, the Parish Clerk (details overleaf) or Janna Holder (07764490960).

# OUR LIVING VILLAGE PROJECT

The *Our Living Village* project was launched by the Seer Green & Jordans Society nearly three years ago, in partnership with the Chiltern Society, to capture the in-depth history of our two communities and make this available to everyone online in a pictorial and interactive format.

Despite the regular efforts of the coronavirus pandemic to disrupt our progress, I'm delighted to announce that we're now the final stages of going live with the *Our Living Village* website.

Please do log in, have a look, and give us your feedback at: [www.ourlivingvillage.org](http://www.ourlivingvillage.org)

Amongst the things that you'll find here are a fantastic set of dynamic historical maps of Seer Green and Jordans expertly assembled by Nigel Rothwell; an extensive history of religion in our two communities compiled by David Horncastle and Geoffrey Brand; a presentation of the extensive information collected for the Jordans Centenary celebrations produced by Chris Jenkins; a pictorial history of the historic buildings in Jordans written by Nigel Morgan; and a history of the wonderful pubs in our two villages produced by Alan Kell.

There's still plenty to do, and over the coming months we'll be developing and uploading several more historical themes under the leadership of the Seer Green & Jordans Society.

Many thanks to all of you who've provided such great support to this important community project - we look forward to your continuing involvement to capture and share even more fascinating information about our two historic and vibrant communities.

Alan Kell, Project Manager, Our Living Village [alan.kell@igsystems.co.uk](mailto:alan.kell@igsystems.co.uk)

## VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE



After watching the switch on of our new electric lights on our village Christmas tree live streamed in 2020, due to the lockdown, it was great that hundreds were able to gather to see them switched on this year. We saw the addition of a new star on the top of the tree and the lights shone bright throughout the festive season.

A Post Office continues to be available in Seer Green Baptist Church each Tuesday morning, from 10am to 1pm. Each Thursday, from 10am to 1pm Jordans Village Store hosts it. A wide range of the normal Post Office services are available.



## WHO TO CALL?

The Parish Council is often approached by residents when issues and problems arise in and around the village. Generally, we are either able to deal with these directly, if the issue is under our control, or to help get matters sorted out by liaising with the appropriate local authority or utility, when we have no powers to deal with the issue ourselves. However, it can be helpful if residents themselves report particular problems directly to the responsible agency as it can save time.

Report potholes/flooding/trees on the highway to Bucks County Council Transport Department on [www.fixmystreet.buckcc.gov.uk](http://www.fixmystreet.buckcc.gov.uk). Waste, litter, road sweeping, fly-tipping and clearance of paths (e.g. path to Seer Green Station) should be reported to <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/bin-collection-recycling-and-waste/>. Village Street lights can be reported to the Parish Clerk, details below.

## SEER GREEN PARISH CLERK

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