



# 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 Lamb's Newsagents and on our website.

## SAFER ROUTE TO SCHOOL - GREEN MEADOW PATH

After months of discussion by the Parish Council and a 90% agreement from a survey of school parents, we have decided to construct a path 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. This is supported by the school head and governors, Bucks County Council (BCC) and Bucks "Safer routes to school" as well as most villagers we have spoken to. The path will be constructed with a specialised green rubber surface by a well known company used

nationally for other playparks and paths at golf courses. To finance this project we raised £10K from the BCC Local Area Forum, and a further £3.5K from the Living Streets charity. This has left the Parish Council with only a limited financial input.

Planning permission was not required for the path and we hope it will be installed during the coming spring. We would then of course encourage all those going to school to use this new facility rather than, where practical, driving children to school.

## NEW COUNCILLOR - JANNA HOLDER

In 2004 I first visited Seer Green to lead the Holiday Club at the Baptist Church. Over the next few years I continued to visit the village to work alongside the church and in 2007 I moved from my hometown of Derby to take up the role of Children's and Family Specialist at Seer Green Baptist Church. From May 2015 my role is changing, however it will still be in the village working with children and their families. I am a governor at Seer Green CE School and am part of the Village Voices choir.

I love being part of this community and feel privileged to live and work in Seer Green. It is my pleasure to work with the children and families in this village and through my role on the Parish Council I hope to seek to continue, develop and build on all the things that makes this such a great place to live.



## CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

During February, the village took part in the Chiltern District Council's (CDC) consultation on the Chiltern Local Plan. The Parish Council developed a questionnaire which was delivered to all households in Seer Green – c900. 52 replies were received and the following points made by residents:-

- Most were concerned with the need for affordable housing and houses for families hoping to move up the housing ladder.
- The importance of preserving the green belt around Seer Green.
- Ensure the local infrastructure, e.g, roads, public transport, health facilities are fit for purpose.

The response has been returned to CDC and the Parish Council will keep residents updated as the new plan develops.

### **INCONSIDERATE PARKING**

Concerns have been raised by residents about inconsiderate parking in the centre of the village on Chalfont Road, opposite the bus stop by the Holy Trinity churchyard railings and also on the pavement between Hearn's Meadow and Lamb's Newsagent. The parked cars are blocking the view of oncoming traffic making the area dangerous to navigate. There have been several near accidents so we ask for you to please not park and block the view for oncoming traffic.

## 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.

The award is being run again for 2015 and we are asking for your nominations to be submitted before the closing date of 24th April 2015. The award (gift tokens to the value of £50) will be announced at the May 2015 AGM.

Nominees should be village residents or have strong ties to the Seer Green community; age is no barrier, recipients can be young or old; their contribution might have been towards community spirit or social cohesion in the village, or it might have been to improving or up-keeping the village environment. We would like to hear from you about those unsung heroes whose contribution goes unnoticed as well as those who are known to play a prominent role within our community. Please use the adjacent slip and send your nomination to the Parish Clerk (address overleaf)

or drop it into the Post Office marked for the attention of the Parish Clerk.

**My nomination is for:**

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Why I am nominating him/her (maximum 50 words):

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Name: .....

Address: .....

Telephone No: .....

### HELP CHILTERN RANGERS IN GREEN WOOD

Chiltern Rangers are a not-for-profit social enterprise established in 2013. We work with local communities, organisations and businesses to 'enhance Chiltern's habitats through education, conservation and community engagement'. We undertake activities such as thinning, coppicing, path and glade work. This benefits the habitat as we allow light to the ground which generates the growth of plants. These support invertebrates which in turn feed bats and birds and thus a whole food chain is given a boost.

Thanks to a grant from the BCC Local Area Forum we are coming to Seer Green in Autumn 2015 to work in partnership with the Parish Council to improve Green Wood. Much of our initial work will focus on removing holly and other non-native plants e.g. laurel. We will chip the material and use it to mulch the paths.

We are keen to work with groups of local people so if you are involved in such a group and would like to give a hand, even just for a few hours, please get in touch on 01494 474486, [www.chilternrangers.co.uk](http://www.chilternrangers.co.uk) or email [info@chilternrangers.co.uk](mailto:info@chilternrangers.co.uk).  
Facebook Chiltern Rangers CIC  
Twitter @chilternrangers

### NEW FOR 2015 - GET INVOLVED WITH THE 1ST SEER GREEN BIG LUNCH

Since 2009 communities across the country have taken part in 'The Big Lunch' and in 2015 Seer Green joins in!  
Let's get together in a simple act of  
Community, Friendship and Fun for all ages.

**The 1st  
Seer Green  
big lunch**

**Sunday 7th June  
12 noon til 3pm**

The grounds of Seer Green CE School  
School Lane, Seer Green, HP9 2QJ

**Join us for a village picnic!**  
Bring your own food, drink and picnic blanket  
(some tables and chairs provided - please no dogs)

This event is supported by **SEER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

For more details contact Janna Holder x674140.

## CHERRY TREE FOR JULIE



Following the sad loss of Seer Green resident Julie Quinnell to breast cancer in September 2014, Julie's family have planted a cherry tree in her memory. The tree is situated in Green Meadow, a special place for Julie, where she spent many happy hours watching her children play in the park whilst talking and laughing with her friends in the village. As requested by her children Hannah and Samuel, the tree will blossom in large double pink flowers in Spring time. Whilst the family continue to deal with the magnitude of their loss, Julie's husband Tony expressed huge thanks for all of the support, love and friendship they continue to receive from their "extended family", the village.

## JUBILEE HALL UPDATE

The original village hall located on Chalfont Road was burnt down in 1970 and the Jubilee Hall was built later in the 1970s. It was funded by the proceeds of the insurance claim with significant additional donations from the Diocese of Oxford, Bucks County Council (BCC) and the Department of Education. The freehold was owned by BCC but a 999 year lease was granted to a newly formed charity from June 1977 at a nominal rent of £1 per annum. Local villagers became the trustees of the charity and a management committee was formed to run the hall. A further agreement was established between BCC and the charity concerning the shared use of the hall, and to this day the school has reserved daytime hours for its own use. A nursery (now preschool) was also established in the hall from 2002 and exists to this day. At other times (evenings and weekends) the hall was to be used for the benefit of villagers.

The village trustees resigned in 2009, and no replacements could be found. The Parish Council therefore felt obliged to take over the running of the hall since it might otherwise have solely reverted to the school, and hence the villagers would be deprived of its use. The council is now therefore the sole trustee of the charity and has appointed its own management committee to run the hall both for the benefit of the school and the village. The hall is subject to a permanent agenda item at the council meetings and the committee meets three times a year. The school and preschool pay the charity rent for their use of the hall, and villagers and others may hire it for social or sporting purposes,

details of which are shown on its website [www.sgjubileehall.org.uk](http://www.sgjubileehall.org.uk).

Since taking over the running of the hall in 2010, the hall has made a modest surplus most years, and this, together with BCC support and a back dated VAT refund received in 2014 (as a result of being run by the Parish Council), has allowed considerable improvements to be made. New toilets have been installed, roof repairs undertaken, internal decor and lighting improved, new fire doors installed, and we are considering the replacement of an old heating system.

In recent months, BCC has agreed to sell the freehold to the Parish Council at a nominal figure and lawyers are currently working on this contract.

The hall is therefore in good shape at present and any person or organisation wishing to hire its facilities should consult the website or the booking secretary on 01494 857760.



## AROUND THE PARISH...

### RESURFACING OF STATION FOOTPATH

Following a recent grant application the Parish Council has been awarded funding, through the Local Area Forum, to resurface footpath 1A from Seer Green station. The resurfacing of a 1.2m-wide, 55m length at the top of the footpath from the station car park will make this footpath safer, following concerns raised by residents who regularly commute and have said that it is difficult to navigate, especially at night. According to Transport for Buckinghamshire, the project will cost in the region of £11,000 and will be completed between April 2015 and March 2016.

### LONG GROVE WOOD

Long Grove Wood is owned and managed by Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT). They visited the wood last month and were shocked by the amount of garden rubbish that has been dumped in the wood since they last visited it. Dumping garden waste in any area, including hedgerows and woodlands, is classed as fly-tipping and is illegal. In some cases it will cause a lot of damage to the environment. It provides an ideal breeding ground for vermin and pests, it can crush delicate wild flowers and may introduce garden plants and weeds that may affect the natural ecology. Even the most innocent dumping of a few grass clippings encourages others to do the same which can result in household refuse also being dumped. Further action will be taken by BBOWT. If you notice any flytipping please contact the Parish Clerk - details below.

### DEFIBRILLATOR

Seer Green CE School and the Jubilee Hall committee have agreed to purchase a defibrillator which will be available for public use in the event of an emergency. It will be located 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 the opening code for the box will be provided.

### WAPSEYS WOOD LANDFILL - APOLOGY

Veolia have written that during the last month they have installed 19 new wells which are now connected to the gas extraction network and which have been dealing with a large percentage of the gas produced. However, they are aware that a small area of the active landfill cell has recently been producing odours. Their Area Landfill Manager, John Barnes, would like to apologise for any inconvenience that this may

have caused. They will continue daily site monitoring and gas balancing. They are also in discussion with the Environment Agency on a design solution, which should enable them to prevent odours emanating from this area and to process all of the gas produced. We will update you as works proceed and when they provide us with a completion date.

### SEER GREEN GARDENERS

A carpet of snowdrops has been planted around the War Memorial and a colourful planter has been installed on the white gate on Chalfont Road, thanks to the hard work of Seer Green Gardeners. They have more projects planned to brighten up the village over the coming year. For details see [www.seergreengardeners.org.uk](http://www.seergreengardeners.org.uk).



### BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Once again Seer Green has been entered into the Bucks Best Kept Village competition and the village will be judged in June, so please help to keep the village tidy.

### WHO TO CONTACT

Potholes, footpath defects and flooding should be reported to Bucks County Council Transport department online at <http://www.buckscouncil.gov.uk/> online or call 0845 230 2882. Streetlight issues should be reported to the Parish Clerk - see details below.

### SEER GREEN PARISH CLERK

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

email: [clerk@seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk)

or visit the website at:-

[www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk)