



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.

BUCKS BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION RESULTS

Seer Green were runners up in this year's Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition, scoring 94 points out of 100 which is 6 points higher than the year Seer Green last won! The judges comments and scoring details are below:-

Primary village features

1a. The cemetery is well cared for and an attractive peaceful area. The churchyard is well kept, with mown areas and wildlife areas giving an attractive mix. On the day of the visit, admittedly wet and windy – the large poster on the notice board in the churchyard had been dislodged. 10/10

1b. The sports ground is excellent, and it is good to see a defibrillator installed outside the pavilion. 10/10

1c. The children's play area in Green Meadow is well equipped for a range of age groups, with attractive "triangular" seating. 10/10

1d. Green Wood and Long Grove Wood are great assets to the village, even on a wet day we enjoyed our walk into them. 5/5

1e. Jubilee Hall is excellent, appears to be well used, with helpful information displayed outside, and the provision of a defibrillator was noted. The Baptist Church Hall was also clean, tidy and litter free. 10/10

1f. Jubilee Walk is again an attractive area; the judges wonder whether consideration had been given to installing seating in this area, The judges particularly liked the "cherries" on the tree on the corner of Chalfont Road – an amusing and attractive touch. 9/10

Other features:-

2a. The areas around both the Post Office and the row of shops were very clean and tidy although brambles growing through the hedge to the rear of the shops need to be cut back. 5/5

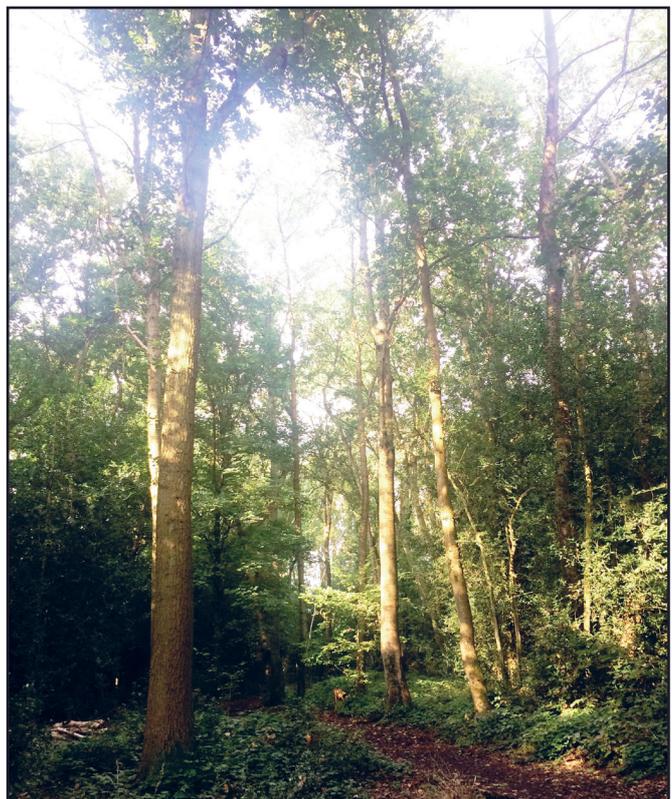
2b. The two pubs were excellent, with tidy, clean areas outside. 5/5

2c. The main criticism is the condition of the bus shelter on Chalfont Road to the north of the village. The roof and the timber frame are in poor condition and the shelter needs sweeping to remove dead leaves, litter and cobwebs. 3/5 *[For information this roof has now been fixed.]*

2d. Notice boards were mainly tidy and up to date. In several locations, notices have been fixed to fences, the judges wondered whether there is a policy against notice boards, but feel that notice boards would give a tidier impression. 4/5

2e. The War Memorial is well kept, with the minor exception that the edges of the grass surround need trimming. 9/10

2f. Overall, there was evidence of a real community pride in the village. The judges commented on how useful it is to display postcodes on the various signs around the village. 14/15



Green Wood "Great asset to the village"

CHILTERN & SOUTH BUCKS LOCAL PLAN (2014-2036) – UPDATE

The Spring 2016 Parish Council Newsletter (available via the Parish Council website) gave a detailed brief on the New Joint Local Plan currently in development by Chiltern District and South Bucks Councils. Since then, Chiltern and South Bucks Councils have been preparing for the next public consultation stage - Preferred Options. This will be limited to development options in the Green Belt that the two Councils consider should be taken forward in the Local Plan in order to help meet development needs. Consultation responses will help inform decisions on a draft Local Plan (expected for consultation in March/April 2017). It is anticipated that the Preferred Options public consultation will be for six weeks from 31st October until 5pm on 12th December 2016.

So what does this mean for Seer Green? The details for the Preferred Options Consultation will be determined by the Councils joint Cabinets on 12th October 2016 (a Joint Committee meeting) and will be briefed to Parish Councils ahead of

the consultation start date so until then, we will not know to what extent we are likely to be affected. Once we know, the Parish Council will decide what form of Public Consultation for the village will be most effective.

The Chiltern & South Bucks Councils will be holding a series of public exhibitions throughout the first few weeks of the consultation period – the nearest are:-

Thursday 3rd November - Deanway United Church, Chalfont St Giles - 6.00pm to 9.00pm

Saturday 12th November - Beaconsfield Town Hall - 9.00am to 12.00pm

Saturday 19th November - Chalfont St Peter Parish Council Offices (Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter, Gerrards Cross SL9 9QX) - 2.00pm to 5.00pm

We encourage you to visit one of these exhibitions and to watch out for news on the consultation.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Sadly the Parish Council and local residents have experienced a difficult summer at the Recreation Ground and Green Meadow with a series of anti social behaviour incidents. In the last week the sheds at the Recreation Ground have been broken into and glass bottles smashed (for the second time in two weeks) in the Youth Shelter in

Green Meadow. Several of the youths spoken to by the Police are from the village but some are from neighbouring areas. Trouble often starts with cars arriving at the Recreation Ground at 11pm and the disturbance can continue to 2am. Please be vigilant and report any incidents to the Police on their 101 number. Thank you

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL COMMUNITY AWARD 2016

For the last five 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.

Nominated by six residents, this year's winner is Philip Newton who has been described as 'charming', 'helpful', 'a community minded person' and 'a thoroughly good egg'. From the warm and generous compliments recorded on the nomination forms, Philip has certainly made an impact on the village. Under his Chairmanship the Gardening Society has blossomed with the first Seer Green Open Gardens two years ago raising £2,500 for charity, followed up by a repeat last year enabling a donation of £1,000 to be made towards the new Scout Hut. However it appears that it is not just Philip's personal contributions that have been recognised but the fact that he has actively encouraged others to join in.

The qualities that make him so deserving of this award are neatly summed up by one of the nominators as 'his sense of community and willingness to get involved and put the work in encapsulates what is good about village life'. Our warmest congratulations to Philip.



Chairman, Mandy Thomas and Philip Newton

NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS

Councillor Anne Norbury

'Why did I become a volunteer Parish councillor?' Having moved to Seer Green 33 years ago - which was meant to be temporary! This is indeed a very good question as I really have no idea except for the fact that I read there was a vacancy for a councillor in the Parish Council Newsletter - I spoke to the Parish Clerk and she suggested attending some meetings first. These I found informative, and was duly elected on 4th May. It has so far been extremely interesting and an eye opener as to just how much the Parish Council are responsible for and all it does for the good of the village.

I feel very privileged to be part of a team who are not only hardworking but enthusiastic- whilst dealing with everyday problems to ensure Seer Green village is environmentally friendly and safe for all concerned in the community.



Councillor Anne Norbury

So if you see me around picking up litter, dog-poo, and general tidying up please do stop to say 'hello.' Thank you.

Councillor Liz Hungin

With just four years' residence in Seer Green, my family and I are very much the newcomers. However, having made the move from Central London to the village, we could not be happier with our choice. We have been warmly welcomed by everyone we've met and feel completely at home. Our sons play cricket for the village when at home and we've made many friends.



Councillor Liz Hungin

I hope that by helping in a small way to contribute to the smooth running of village life, I will be able to give back to Seer Green a small measure of the contentment that Seer Green gives us.

TRAFFIC CALMING

The last few years have seen a dramatic increase in the number of complaints Seer Green Parish Council receive regarding parking and speeding in the village. With regard to the former, two locations are consistently cited where inappropriate parking is considered to present a dangerous threat to both road users and pedestrians. These are the blind bend on Chalfont Road just after The Cricketers Public House and the junction of Chalfont Road and Howard Road, where parking during working hours often obstructs the junction mouth and impairs visibility for traffic turning off the main road.

In an attempt to address some of these issues, Seer Green Parish Council (SGPC) applied to the Local Area Forum (LAF) for funding and at their meeting in February a grant of £6,341 was awarded to Seer Green towards the cost of a feasibility study and implementation of remedial measures in the form of double yellow lines. The aim of this being to stop inappropriate parking at the locations mentioned above.

After a meeting between two Transport for Bucks Engineers and three Parish Councillors, the two locations were confirmed and the go ahead to proceed to formal consultation was given on the basis that there is a clear need in both cases to prevent obstruction, improve visibility and improve road safety by reducing the probability of a road traffic incident.

The next step will be to issue the formal consultation to residents and businesses in roads directly affected. The date for this is yet to be agreed and is subject to approval by SGPC to the draft consultation.



AROUND THE PARISH...

REINSTATEMENT OF ROADS

We have recently had issues with the reinstatement of roads and footpaths by utility companies following work carried out. We are therefore asking residents if they could please take photos and make a note of the utility company doing the work outside their property so that if this fails say within 6 months then they/we can contact Transport for Buckinghamshire, copying in our County Councillor so that they can pursue the company to either rectify any failings or pay for the work to be completed to a satisfactory standard. Complaints must be reported within 2 years of reinstatement being carried out. Thank you.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The Parish Council assists the Churches of Seer Green to organise this service annually. This year it will be held on Sunday 13th November. It will commence at the 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 all roads around the Memorial will be closed from approximately 10.30 am to 11.30am. School Lane will be closed from the Parish Church hall to just beyond the entrance road to Jubilee Hall, and access from Stable Lane to School Lane will also be closed. The alternative route to Longbottom Lane is via Bottom Lane. We hope that as many villagers as possible will attend this important remembrance service.

NEW GOALS FOR RECREATION GROUND

The Parish Council and the Seer Green football teams have funded new football goals at the Recreation Ground for the main pitch. Apart from the improved safety, the teams have, so far, been hitting the target and scoring more goals than previous seasons. ***Come and support your village teams.***

LOCAL LAD MAKES GOOD IN GREEN MEADOW



Whilst the Parish Council are still committed to trying to raise funding towards play equipment for children aged 7+, it was decided that some of our existing pieces would benefit from a makeover. Accordingly a local firm of decorators was contacted and one of their employees, local lad Michael Byard whose family have lived in the village for generations, was allotted the task of repainting the climbing frame, seesaw and parts of the slide. Whilst the climbing frame was not there in his youth, he had clear memories of playing on the then new replacement slide in the mid '80's.

The Parish Council also provided funding to replace the old and worn safety surfacing with rubber mulch to match that under some of the lately purchased new equipment. We hope you all agree that a 'lick of paint' and the eye catching new surfacing has turned the rather tired looking climbing frame into an exciting new adventure for future generations of children!



SEER GREEN PARISH CLERK

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

www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk

**Seer Green
Christmas Lights
Switch on
& Advent Calendar Launch**

Food & Drink
Festive Stalls
Carol Singing
with Village Voices & GC Singers

**Thursday 1st December
Outside the shops, Orchard Road
6~8pm, Lights on 6.15pm**

This is a community event, supported by Seer Green Parish Council, Unaffiliated Organisations, local Pubs, Shops, Businesses, School and Churches.
This year all proceeds to the Seer Green Venture-Hall Refurbishment Fund