



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 the Old Post Office and on our website.

A NOTE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

As the village dresses in spring flowers and the sun streams in, it is difficult to remember the dark, damp days pre-Christmas. However, on one particularly dark and damp evening, it was my pleasure and honour to present Andy Lapham with the annual Community Award for his outstanding contribution to village life. We are now launching our Community Award for 2025. Please see inside for further details.

One of the projects that the Parish Council are working on is enhancing our facilities. We are grateful to all those who completed our survey in the autumn, further details on the results and next steps can be found overleaf.

This year the Parish Council is entering Seer Green for the DeFraine Cup in the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village competition– which we won some years ago. Judging will take place between 1st June and 14th July, which gives us time to make sure Seer Green is looking its best for the occasion.

We are continuing to hold our monthly Parish Council surgery and welcome any residents to come and meet us for a chat in this informal setting. Please see the back page for details and dates.

Liz Hungin, Chairman

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Seer Green has once again entered the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition for the first time since 2017.

Marking is based on the provision, maintenance, and overall appearance of:

1. Cemetery, graveyard (separate or attached to a place of worship).
2. Green, playing field, children's play area, outdoor recreation facilities, designated nature conservation area.
3. Floral Displays (hanging baskets, tubs, planters, flower beds etc.).
4. Community facilities (Village Hall, Community Centre, Church Hall).
5. General environmental features (hedges, verges, ditches, etc.).
6. Shops and pubs
7. Bus stops, bus shelters, public seating, dog bins, notice boards, information signs.
8. War memorial.
9. Evidence of community engagement (e.g. website, newsletter, magazine, posters and general community involvement in the Competition)

Please keep your front gardens tidy and even the pavements in front of your homes if you can.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our litter pickers who are regularly out keeping the village clean, some are doing it as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award. We appreciate the difference that you all make to our community.



VILLAGE FACILITIES SURVEY 2024

A big thank you to all the respondents to this survey, which was carried out in September/October last year. Your views are really important in helping the Parish Council shape the priorities for some of the key assets in the village, specifically Green Meadow and the Recreation Ground.

Whilst there were no great surprises and no overwhelming majority views for specific actions that emerged from the survey, there were some key themes. Although additional benches and picnic tables at the Recreation Ground received numerous mentions, the principal concern appears to be the provision of facilities and equipment for older children at both the Recreation Ground and Green Meadow.

YOUTH INPUT NEEDED! To further define that requirement, the Parish Council want to understand the views of young people in the village (aged 7-17). If you have a young person in that age group, we would be grateful if you would ask them to take the online survey by scanning the QR code or using the URL <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/JRB8K4/>. However, be aware that those attending Seer Green Church of England School will take the survey at school.



The survey results for biodiversity and specifically wildflowers were a little confusing and require further research, whilst general suggestions for enhancements related principally to matters outside the control of the Parish Council, such as traffic management, potholes and pavements. The Parish Council and especially the Parish Clerk, Liz Bates, spend considerable time and effort lobbying and chasing on your behalf on these matters and will continue to do so.



You can find the detailed results of the Facilities survey by following the links under the News section of the Parish Council website.



PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY AWARD 2024 WINNER

Every year the Parish Council ask for residents to nominate a person to receive the Parish Council Community Award. This person is someone who, through their service and commitment, has made a real contribution to our community.

We received several well deserving nominations which made the decision very difficult. It is with grateful thanks for all his hard work over many years, that we congratulate Andrew Lapham on receiving the award this year.



Andy received several nominations, many of which remarking that “although he has not had any children in the scouts for a very long time, he has continued selflessly to help them and promote their cause for many years.” Alongside his role within scouting Andy has also played a key role in the fundraising for the new scout hut and in the now annual Beer Fest.

Councillor Hungin presented the award to him surrounded by cheering Scouts and leaders, affirming the huge respect and appreciation many have for him. A very deserving recipient and Seer Green is the richer for his work in our community.

PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY AWARD 2025 NOMINATIONS

For the last eleven years the Parish Council has presented a small award to recognise the person judged as having made a significant contribution to the village community.

This year we are looking to make one award and are asking for your nominations.

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 improving or upkeeping 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.

We are asking for your nominations to be submitted before the closing date of 30th June.

The award (gift tokens to the value of £50) will be announced at the July Parish Council Meeting.

Please send your nomination by post, or email to the Parish Clerk, with the following information:

My nomination is for:

Why I am nominating them:

Please include your name, address and contact details (phone / email).

HIGHWAYS ISSUES

There are several highways issues which continue to be a concern to residents.

Speeding

Speeding in the village has been a concern and the Parish Council has installed a new Mobile Speed Indicating Device (MSID) on School Lane. This installation of this new device, which shows your speed in green if under the limit and red if over the limit, has seen a measurable reduction in speeding in this area. Vehicle speed data from the previous sign and the new sign has been collected and analysed and the percentage of vehicles speeding has reduced from over 30% to under 25%. Whilst this might seem to be a small reduction, considering there are approximately 50,000 vehicles per month passing the sign, it represents thousands more cars per year now driving at or below the speed limit. The data also shows the fastest speeds recorded and unfortunately one driver decided that it was ok to drive along School Lane at over 65 mph at 9:44 in the morning!

The old MVAS sign has been redeployed onto Longbottom Lane where it continues to help drivers be aware of their speed in that 40mph zone.

Inconsiderate parking.

Whilst the new yellow lines have made a big difference to dangerous parking in the village, especially on the Chalfont Road bend, issues remain, particularly around the school at drop off and collection times. It is sad that some people still believe that parking illegally doesn't apply to them. Police enforcement of these lines has been carried out and will continue to ensure that our children can arrive at and leave school safely.

Please remember that the way we use the roads in our village both when driving and when parked impacts our neighbours. Please drive and park responsibly and with consideration for others.

Potholes

This is probably the number one issue and repair of these is the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council. Please remember to report potholes via Fix My Street.

COMMUNITY BOARD GRANT SUCCESS

Each year we have a professional inspection carried out on the equipment at Green Meadow and the Recreation Ground. Highlighted on the report was an increasing need to replace the surfacing under the roundabout, birds nest swings and junior swings in Green Meadow. Ensuring our play areas are safe is important but safety surfacing comes at a high price, in the region of £12 000 for these four areas. We are delighted to have been awarded a grant from our local Community Board of nearly £7500 towards this project, for which we are very grateful.

The Parish Council will fund the additional cost to enable the work to take place, hopefully before the summer holidays.



Community Board
Denham, Gerrards Cross
and The Chalfonts

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Following the recent elections our Parish Council was not contested; therefore, your Parish Council Councillors are all elected and continue as Liz Hungin (Chairman), Nick Baddeley (Vice Chairman), David Tryon (Treasurer), Art Anderson, Tony Brewis, Janna Holder, Carole Hughes, Jerry Maddox and Hilary O'Flanagan.

Our County Councillors for Chalfont St Giles, Little Chalfont, Seer Green, Jordans, Coleshill and Chenies are Carl Jackson, Simon Rouse and Martin Tett.



80th ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

On 8th May, at 6.30pm, Holy Trinity's church bell rang out 80 times across the village. At 7pm Cllr Holder, Cllr O'Flanagan and Sean O'Flanagan led a short act of commemoration at the war memorial, where many gathered in remembrance and celebration of peace, courage and sacrifice. Cllr Hungin laid a floral tribute on behalf of the village, and a candle was lit as a symbol of hope and reflecting our desire for peace in our world.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS AND SURGERY

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

3rd June 1st July 2nd September 7th October 4th November 2nd December

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.

The Parish Council surgery takes place on the second Tuesday of the month from 10.30-11.30am in the lounge at Seer Green Baptist Church

10th June 8th July 9th September 14th October 11th November 9th December

Check out our improved website
www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk

SEER GREEN PARISH CLERK - Liz Bates

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