



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.

SPEEDING AND ROAD SAFETY

Seer Green Parish Council requested Bucks County Council to carry out a speed survey during January and February to provide data to inform future discussions on the speeding problem in the village. The measurement point was in Chalfont Road opposite the entrance to The Coppice – around 80 metres from the School entrance.



Over a 2 week period, the results were as follows:

- 60% of traffic was <31 mph
- 90% of traffic was <36 mph

The data however shows that on weekdays, traffic speeds around school arrival and departure times were significantly lower with 96% of speeds less than 36mph.

However, the Parish Council is still concerned that 10% of motorists are still driving at over 36mph and 40% are still driving above the speed limit near the school. This is still not acceptable so please monitor the speed of your car in the village as it is all too easy for you not to realise that you are actually driving in excess of 30mph. Over recent years Police speed checks have concluded that the majority of people speeding actually live in the village.

The Parish Council will continue to consider what further practical steps can be taken and have contacted the Police about speed reinforcement.

In our last magazine edition we informed you that the Parish Council were looking into double yellow lines in the village. So far the formal consultation to residents and businesses in roads directly affected has taken place. The responses have been reviewed and subsequently Transport for Bucks are going forward with the plans for Chalfont Road, Church Road and Hearn's Meadow but have revised the layout of the yellow lines at Howard Road and Howard Crescent. The officer decision report will be available once reviewed by the Director of Transport for Bucks County Council (BCC). Once this decision has been made it will be published on the BCC website and consultees will be notified.

We expect work to commence shortly after this.

COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT

It is that time of year when we all receive our Council Tax Bills. In order to work for the village the Parish Council raises funding through the Precept, i.e. that small part of the Council Tax that goes directly to the Parish Council, which this year is £45,000. Within a small village you may wonder how that money is spent. All our assets must be maintained, repaired, replaced and kept safe for public use, including Green Meadow, Jubilee Walk, Green Wood, the allotments, Recreation Ground, Pavilion, streetlights and cemetery. In recent years Bucks CC have devolved a number of areas to our responsibility, including roadside maintenance, grass cutting in 30mph areas, hedges, rights of way clearance, clearing the edges of pavements, weed killing and the maintenance of street furniture. As you can imagine these additional costs mean that we are facing some significant increases in our costs that have put pressure on our Precept charges. Whilst we try to keep any increase to a minimum the Council Tax contribution to the Parish Council has increased by 2% this year.

Is Seer Green the Best Kept Village?

Only two weeks to go until the judging starts for this year's Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition. There are five categories depending on the size of each village and the Parish Council have entered Seer Green for the DeFraine Cup (for villages with a population size of 1500-3000). Judging takes place between 1st June and 7th July.

Seer Green last won the competition in 2013 and last year we were runners up scoring 94 points out of a possible 100.

The main areas judged are:

- * Cemetery, graveyard
- * Common, green, playing field (Recreation Ground)
- * Children's play area (Green Meadow)
- * Nature conservation areas (Green Wood, Long Grove Wood)
- * Village halls, community centre, church hall
- * General environmental features

Other features that are taken into account are:

The areas around shops and pubs, bus shelters, notice boards, war memorial and overall appearance, lack of litter and evidence of community effort.

The whole village will be judged, not just the specific features listed above; the community will also be assessed as seen by the judges on the inspection day.

Councillor Norbury gives a suggestion of how we can help. "How about every time you go for a walk, no

matter how far, you remember to take a carrier bag with you, as when shopping, and pick up any litter you may find. It is amazing how quickly it fills.

Seer Green Village were runners up in 2016, and I believe that if the residents of Seer Green unite in a 'KEEP SEER GREEN TIDY' campaign we will win the competition."



Community spirit is important, so please keep your front gardens tidy and even the pavements in front of your homes if you can! Seer Green Parish Council have a programme of tasks to ensure the village is looking its best in June for the competition, and if anyone feels they are able to spare some time please contact the Parish Clerk Liz Bates.

Seer Green's Cherry Trees

In the 19th and early 20th century there were vast cherry orchards at the centre of Seer Green, which gave Orchard Road its name, and people came from all over the County to see the glorious blossom. Much of the produce was shipped to Covent Garden by cart, followed later by railway. The fruit was also used by locals to make pies and Seer Green became known as the 'Cherry Pie Village'.



In celebration of this historical association, six new 'Prunus Sargentii' cherry trees have been planted at various sites in the village; a copse of three at the Chalfont Road entrance to the village, one at the Bayne Hill entrance, one on the corner of Hearne's Meadow and one in Green Meadow, with a further tree to be planted at the Bottom Lane entrance, subject to approval by National Grid whose gas supply occupies this verge.

We hope you will enjoy our new additions.

FAREWELL TO COUNCILLOR SCOURFIELD

At the end of March we said goodbye to Councillor Dennis Scourfield as he stepped down from the Parish Council. During his 18 years' service on the Parish Council he has fulfilled the role of Treasurer for 16 years and Chairman twice, as well as chairing the Jubilee Hall Committee. He has been actively involved in numerous projects, and was instrumental in organising the erection of a War Memorial in the village. We are grateful for all his time and effort devoted to this village and wish him well in all he does in the future.

NEW COUNCILLOR – JOHN FORSAITH

We welcome back to the Parish Council John Forsaith, who writes;

“We moved to Seer Green in 1997. During my career I worked in the Printing Industry and then as an HR and EHS Consultant, retiring in 2008. I joined the Parish Council in 2000 and resigned in 2016 to work on a special personal project. I was re-elected in April 2017. Currently I am Vice Chair of Governors at Seer Green Church of England School and chair the Estates and Personnel Committees. Two of our grandchildren attended the school. Away from the village I am Commodore, this year, of The Windsor Yacht Club. Interests in addition to our boat are family research, model making, reading and our eight grandchildren!”



PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL COMMUNITY AWARD 2017

For the last six 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 2017 and we are asking for your nominations to be submitted before the closing date of Friday 30th June 2017. The award (gift tokens to the value of £50) will be announced at the July 2017 Parish Council meeting.

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 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:

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

Name:

Address:

Telephone No:

Around the Parish

Seer Green Cricket Team

It is with much sadness that the village cricket team is no longer playing at the recreation ground as they have moved to Coleshill. The team will continue as Jordans Taverners Cricket Club and the Jolly Cricketers will still be their pub, so they will still be the local cricket team.

Green Meadow Youth Shelter

Unfortunately the Youth Shelter has been attracting continued disturbing anti-social behaviour and littering. The Parish Council are looking into options of removing the shelter, with the possibility of it being used elsewhere in the village. If you have any comments on this please contact the Clerk (details below).

Antisocial Behaviour

There continues to be some antisocial activities taking place in the village. If you witness anything please report it to the police on 101 or if an emergency call 999.

We have received some grant funding for CCTV at the recreation ground, which we will match fund, to try and help tackle this problem.

Telephone Boxes

British Telecom are removing any unused telephone boxes in the region which includes the two telephone boxes in Seer Green, neither of which has been used in the last 12 months.

Dog Fouling

Once again we return to the issue that causes Seer Green residents a lot of upset and annoyance. We know that most owners are responsible people and clear up after their dogs, however there are a small number of people who don't. If you have a dog please be responsible and clean up after your pet, disposing of bags in the bins provided, not throwing them into hedgerows or hanging them on trees!

Green Meadow.

As the summer approaches it is great to see so many children enjoying the facilities in Green Meadow. For the safety of all our children please can you remember to close the gates after you, both at the top and bottom access to Green Meadow?

Longbottom Lane Road Surface

We continue to put pressure on Transport for Bucks to deal with the potholes and road failure.

National Grid ZL Overhead Line Refurbishment

National Grid plan to undertake essential maintenance work on the overhead electricity line and pylons running through Seer Green between July and October 2017. The works will not affect local electricity supplies however there may be some closure of the footpaths that run underneath. For further information contact 0330 0130 818.

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. If a number of residents report the same issue, then that can help prioritise any work required.

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.

SEER GREEN PARISH CLERK

Liz Bates Tel 01494 874233
Garston, Back Lane,
Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks, HP8 4PB
Email: clerk@seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk
Or visit the website at:-
www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk

All the family are invited to join in
as we get together in a simple act of
Community, Friendship and Fun!

Seer Green

big lunch

Sunday 4th 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 bbqs)

This event is supported by

SEER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



In the event of bad weather this event will not take place.