

# The Tower

Churchill Parish Council newsletter

Issue 41  
Summer  
2017



## Flower tubs

Many residents have commented about the lovely displays this year in the flower tubs which are situated in various locations throughout the Parish. The beautiful displays are due to the hard work and commitment of Councillor Sue List assisted by Michele, our village orderly.

The flowers are provided under a financial agreement with North Somerset Council and do not cost the Parish Council anything to obtain. They are then collected (by several car trips!) and all the tubs planted out and maintained by Sue and Michele.

Some residents have kindly volunteered to keep an eye on any tubs near their homes by removing dead flowers, weeding, and watering when required. If any other residents feel they could assist in this way, please do contact us as your help would be much appreciated by everyone who enjoys them.

## Village Show

**Saturday 9 September 2017**

**Doors open 2.30pm**

Churchill Memorial Hall,  
Ladymead Lane, Langford

- Local produce
- Flowers
- Crafts
- Prizes



Tea, coffee, soft drinks and  
home-made cakes

Fun for all the family

20p entry (under 16s free)



[www.churchillpc.org.uk](http://www.churchillpc.org.uk)

# Parish Councillor vacancies - your help needed



Churchill Parish Council has thirteen councillors and there are currently two vacancies.

## How do I qualify?

- You must be 18 years of age and over
- have either resided within, own land, or have worked as your main job in the parish for the last 12 months.

## What does the council do?

Since the introduction of the Localism Act 2011 and the continued budget restraints on North Somerset Council, more and more functions and assets are being managed or operated by the Parish Council. These include:

- The Community Club
- The Pavilion
- Recreation/sports fields
- Play area and Skatepark area
- The Clock Tower and enclosure
- Church Lane Burial Ground

- Allotment site - Pudding Pie Lane
- Comment as a statutory consultee on all Planning Applications in the parish
- Submit (often lengthy) responses to numerous consultations
- Responsibility for receiving and spending (within strict guidelines) the financial precept from every household within the parish
- Provision of dog waste bins
- Some bus shelters
- Some road signs
- Providing Grants to local organisations

## How much am I paid?

Nothing. All parish councillors are volunteers and give their time free of charge.

## How much time does it take?

As in any voluntary organisation different people have varying amounts of time available to assist and they bring different skills and experience to the role. The full council meets monthly on the second Monday of each month, and every councillor is expected to join at least one committee (which meet three or four times every year).

There is plenty of scope to give additional time over and above those meetings by assisting with various projects or activities that are ongoing.

## How do I become a Parish Councillor?

Contact the Chair of the Council (Councillor Jackie Bush), any other councillor or the Clerk (contact details on the back page of this newsletter).

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# Down on the allotments

Allotment Holders have once again been working hard to tame their plots from weeds by using weed suppressant material to cover their plots and growing through small holes cuts into the material to grow their crops – less time spent weeding – great news!

Making raised beds from recycled wood also seems very popular this season. These new innovative ways seem to be very popular as allotment holders pass their new ideas on to others.

Lots of growers have been taking advantage of polytunnels (being approved by the committee). With the help of these tunnels, allotment holders are expanding what

can be grown adding tomatoes, cucumbers, chillies, peppers and salad items. There are even a few allotment holders growing melons and figs!

We are looking forward to the allotment holders having some good produce on display at the Village Show, held on Saturday 9 September.

On the social side of things, the allotments held their first barbecue of the season on Monday 1 May. For this inaugural barbecue we invited Jackie Bush, Chair of the Parish Council, to formally open the community area and the flower garden around it, which was built in memory of a very Special lady, Mrs Heather Hodges. This was made even more special when Heather's husband, children and grandchildren joined the event and saw the garden.



Although the weather decided to throw all it had at us on the day, allotment holders are a hardy bunch and laughed in the face of the passing thunderstorm and the black sky emptying its clouds of contents...plus a little hail thrown in for good measure! They took temporary cover in the marquee and their sun parasols, and carried on eating, drinking and chatting until the sun came out again.

I think a good time was had by all and I know new friendships were made amongst like-minded people and we are looking forward to another community barbecue this summer.

**Councillor Sue List**



## Churchill Parish Council meetings 2017

All meetings held at the Community Club, Ladymead Lane

### September

**Tuesday 5** (7pm) Planning and Development Com

**Monday 11** (7.30pm) Full Council

**Monday 25** (7.30pm) Open Spaces and Allotments Com

### October

**Monday 9** (7.30pm) Full Council

**Monday 16** (7.30pm) Leisure Com

### November

**Monday 13** (7.30pm) Full Council

**Monday 27** (7.30pm) Finance Com

### December

**Monday 11** (7.30pm) Full Council

## Planning and development

Residents will be aware that there are many aspects of planning and development within the parish that signal major changes for the potential future population numbers.

A quick summary:

- **pudding Pie Lane(1):** Crest Nicholson – you may well have noticed the flags now visible in the field at the lower end near Stock Lane – Crest Nicholson (CN) have now purchased this site which has outline consent for 141 houses. CN have briefed that Parish Council on their intention to now submit their detailed ('reserved matters') application to North Somerset planners, and wish to commence the building process in early 2018. Members of the Parish Council along with several residents are expressing concerns about the plans, particularly arrangements for drainage / flooding prevention.

- **pudding Pie Lane (2) and Says Lane:** whilst outline consent was granted on these sites last year, the Parish Council have not been made aware of acquisition of the sites by developers at the time of writing.
- **A38 / Bath Road area:** a recent application for outline consent for up to 41 houses has not been supported by the Parish Council. A lengthy submission has been sent by the council to the planning officers detailing many areas of concern. We await further news as this application at the time of writing.

## Neighbourhood Plan

There are various views and indications about the impact and weight given to a parish having a Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council does not have the resources to take the lead in the formulation and submission of such a plan, but would support in principle any project group constituted to formulate one. Members within the Churchill and Langford Residents Action Group (CALRAG) are asking for any residents who feel they could assist to make contact with CALRAG via their website.

## Your councillors

**Mrs Jackie Bush (Chair)**  
01934 853 215  
langford.madhouse@gmail.com

**Mr Bill Carruthers**  
01934 853 066  
carr0208@gmail.com

**Mr Dev Clutterbuck**  
01934 852 219  
devereux.clutterbuck@yahoo.com

**Mr Graham Fortune**  
01934 852 825  
geffortune2014@gmail.com

**Mr Simon Glanfield**  
07957 174 058  
smg4299@hotmail.co.uk

**Mr Simon Hegarty**  
01934 852 678  
simon.hegarty@btconnect.com

**Mr Brenden Hill (Vice Chair)**  
01934 853 553  
brenden.c.hill@btopenworld.com

**Mr James Hoddell**  
01934 853 572  
jameshoddell@gmail.com

**Mrs Sue List**  
01934 853 568  
sue.list@interserveps.com

**Mr Alan Lovell**  
01934 852 249  
lovellalan57@gmail.com

**Mrs Trudy Silvertown**  
01934 852 240  
trudysilvertown@hotmail.com

**Mrs Elizabeth Wells**  
(District Councillor)  
01934 852 227

## Other contacts

**Clerk of the Council:**  
**Martin Dolton**  
07399 523 961  
clerk@churchillpc.org.uk

**Parish Orderly: Michele Miles**  
07799 642 676

**Tree Wardens:**  
**Kate Johns** 07753 809 482  
**Ben Vosper** 01934 852 679

**Police: Non emergency** 101  
Police: Emergency 999

**War Memorial Hall booking**  
**Mimi Simpson** 01934 853 282  
inspector2006@hotmail.co.uk

