

The Tower

Churchill Parish Council newsletter

Issue 35
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Planning updates around the parish

The Parish Council voted on Monday 8 June to not accept or proceed with the **proposal for field 2 of the allotments** that would have allowed access to the field at the rear for development. The details of the answer to question one of the questionnaire regarding this are now available in the draft minutes on the parish website.

Bristol University's Pudding Pie Lane outline planning application – we have received notification that it is now publically available. It is for the erection of 141 residential units and one community building including highways improvements on Stock Lane and associated works, with access for approval, appearance, landscaping, scale and layout all reserved for subsequent approval.

The application and all accompanying reports are available to view on North Somerset Council's website under 15/P/1414/O where you may submit comments or write to the address in bold below. The Parish Council will be holding a meeting on 10 August at which the application will be discussed and recommendations voted on.

The decision and comments will then be submitted to the Planning Officer.

Says Lane Planning Application

A flyer has been posted by the Parish Council to every house in the Parish to let them know that the planning application 15/P/1313/O for up to 43 dwellings on land off Says Lane and the A38 is out for public consultation. Comments may be submitted on North Somerset Councils website (www.n-somerset.gov.uk) or in writing to **Development and Environment, North Somerset Council, Post Point 15, Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ**. The Parish Council will have already met and have reached a decision on their recommendation for this application before this newsletter has been circulated.

There are emerging proposals for another site on Pudding Pie Lane for 35 dwellings but there are no details available at the time of going to print, other than it is on the site of the former Stock Nurseries.

Information for dog owners

As a dog owner you are probably aware of the danger caused to humans from contaminated dog faeces and pick-up behind your animal, disposing of the faeces responsibly. You may not be aware of a similar danger caused to cattle, sheep and other livestock from the disease 'neospora' which can cause animals to abort their young. The disease is spread by the faeces of infected dogs contaminating grazing pasture.

Most local landowners are very tolerant of persons exercising their dogs on farmland but please do so responsibly. As well as keeping dogs under close control around livestock, please ensure you lift and remove dog's faeces from all pastureland, even if not currently being grazed.

Dog Fouling is also covered by the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 which places a legal duty on persons to clean up every time their dog messes in a public place, including footpaths and land to which the public have access. Penalties of up to £1000 can be imposed of those failing to comply with the legislation.

Please enjoy the Countryside responsibly, thank you.
Adrian Woolcott, Rights of Way Access Officer

Traffic surveys



The Parish Council has recently paid for detailed traffic surveys to be carried out on Stock Lane, Says Lane and Pudding Pie Lane. This work was undertaken by North Somerset Council and gives a detailed breakdown of the numbers, speed and time of day vehicles are travelling along those roads in both directions over the period of a normal seven day week.

A meeting with Highway Officers to discuss the data is arranged with a view to finding out if it provides the evidence that would allow speed reduction measures to be progressed at those locations.

Down at the allotments

As many of you know, recently our allotments were under threat from developers wanting the Parish Council to allow access to the land at the rear of the site. Further to the overwhelming NO vote from the community and the Parish Council's decision to reject the proposal, life on the allotments can return to normal!

It's now three years since the allotment site was officially opened and during that time lots of hard work has taken place, clearing away a mountain of stones and of course the dreaded weeds that seem to come up overnight. However this year the hard work seems to have paid off, as on many plots this seasons crops / seeds have almost all been planted, the plots seems to have turned from brown bare earth to lush green shoots, fruits trees & bushes are bursting with flowers and the first crops of strawberries are being harvested. Broad beans, peas, runner beans, potatoes plus many varieties of other vegetables are all growing well in the recent good weather we have had.

This year we have started to build a community area, with a shed and patio area which once complete will allow us to hold barbecues and social gatherings so allotment holders can come together, relax with a drink or two and swap gardening tips.

We are hoping that with the Village Show on the 12 September this year, allotment holders as well as local villagers will be growing prize winning vegetables in the hope of getting a Best in Show. There will be lots of categories again this year plus the Village Market will be held on the same day and in the evening the Village Fund will be hosting the Harvest Home event.

The 12th of September is going to be a fun filled family packed day not to be missed, so please make a note of the date in your diary. A 'Village Show Booklet' will be out soon giving you more details of the event.

If you would like to join in the fun on the allotments we still have a few plots left, for more details please email the Parish Clerk clerk@churchillpc.org.uk



Neighbourhood Development Plan

Churchill Parish Council, with help from the local community, are beginning to prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan. This will help to shape the parish in forthcoming years and will be used to help make decisions on planning applications within the parish.

A formal part of the process is to give local residents, businesses and others with an interest in the plan, the chance to have a say in the area which is to be covered by the plan (known as the neighbourhood area). The Parish Council have had to make an application to North Somerset Council in order to create the neighbourhood area.

The area that has been put forward is the whole of Churchill Parish. Details of the application, including a map to show the area covered by the plan can be seen on parish notice boards, as well as on the North Somerset Council website www.n-somerset.gov.uk

Any comments must be received no later than Monday 3 August either:

- online at www.consult-ldf.n-somerset.gov.uk
- emailed to planning.policy@n-somerset.gov.uk
- or in writing to **Planning Policy, Development and Environment, North Somerset Council, Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ**

If you have any questions about, or would like to get involved in the preparation of the plan, call the parish clerk on **01934 824 801** or email clerk@churchillpc.org.uk or email **Alan Lovell** aghlovell1@btinternet.com

For any questions about this consultation please call Celia Dring at North Somerset Council on **01934 426 224** or email planning.policy@n-somerset.gov.uk

Sky lantern risk

There is a campaign to discourage members of the public from using Chinese style sky lanterns in our area.

We share the view of the Chief Fire Officers Association which does not support the use of sky lanterns due to the risks they pose. The floating lanterns contain a naked flame which represents a significant fire risk to life and property when they come down to earth.

In 2013 CCTV footage proved a sky lantern to be the cause of a fire at a recycling plant in the West Midlands. More than 200 firefighters and 39 fire engines were deployed over several days to tackle the fire involving plastics and paper.

In addition to the fire risk, lanterns are also a cause of concern to farmers who have previously called for them to be banned following cases of livestock being injured or killed from eating the metal parts accidentally chopped into animal feed during harvest, or getting caught in wire frames that have landed in fields. Lanterns have also been mistaken for distress flares at sea, placing a demand on the resources of HM Coastguard.

The Parish Council wish to raise awareness of the danger of the lanterns and would prohibit the use of sky lanterns at any of their sites or green spaces.

Neighbourhood Watch

There are now 12 co-ordinators for Neighbourhood Watch covering over 250 households in the villages of Churchill and Langford. Every quarter of the year the co-ordinators meet in order to discuss how well the scheme is operating and how we can encourage more people to join in order to make our villages more community minded and a safer place to live. These meetings are usually attended by a member of the local police team, whose input and advice is invaluable to the running of the scheme.

Co-ordinators also attend meetings with Sue Mountstevens, the Police and Crime Commissioner and with senior members of the North Somerset police team. Communication is vital to Neighbour Watch's success, especially as police numbers are being reduced. The Avon and Somerset police budget is being cut by nearly £50m over the next five years, which means that the public will need to play an increasing role in assisting crime detection by the police. If you encounter any crime no matter how small, report it, as it may be part of a larger pattern.

Becoming a member of Neighbourhood Watch means that you will receive information on local crime, latest scams, security, identity theft, personal safety and much more. If you are on email your local coordinator will keep you informed by this means, if not, a printed version will be supplied.

Getting involved

You can either join as a co-ordinator or as a member of one of the existing schemes.

Contact Terry Wilson on **01934 853 347** or Lindsey Stone, The Watch Scheme Administrator for Avon and Somerset Police on **01278 644 799**.

New Play Equipment



The Parish Council have installed a new basket swing in the play area. It was specially chosen because it is suitable for disabled children but can also be used by able bodied children. It is hoped it will be enjoyed by families with disabled children who had not been able to enjoy the play area previously.

Harvest Home returns

12 September 2015

After the success of last year's Harvest Home event, we have been asked to do it all again this year! Please put the date into your diaries now.

The evening will begin with supper in the marquee on Churchill Rec Ground, followed by some great local live entertainment. Hopefully you will all be going to (if not entering!) the Village Show in the afternoon, so why not make a whole day of celebrating our wonderful village community?

Churchill Village Show



Saturday 12 September 2015
War Memorial Hall
Ladymead Lane

Doors open to the public at 2.30pm

Prizes and trophies for classes including:

vegetables
fruit
homecraft
floral art
cut flowers

plus
free entry classes for children

Raffle
Tea and homemade cakes

Fun for all the family!

Schedule and entry form available after the 14 July from: Churchill Post Office, Wrington Vale Surgery, Primary school, Pre-school and local churches

Also available to download on the homepage of the Parish Council website
www.churchillpc.org.uk

Tickets are on sale now from Churchill Post Office, and we are anticipating a high demand, so early purchase is recommended. Sadly we had to disappoint some latecomers last year.

Tickets £15 adults and £7.50 for primary school age children.

More details will appear on bright yellow posters around the village, the Signpost magazine and the Parish Council website. We look forward to seeing you there.

Churchill and Langford Village Fund Committee

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Other contacts

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Tree Wardens:
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Police: Emergency 999

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