

CHARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Welcome to our quarterly Parish Newsletter which is a bumper edition! There is an online version with clickable links on the Parish Council website <https://chartham-pc.gov.uk>.

The Neighbourhood Plan group has been very busy. Papers developed by the various Working Groups were displayed at the village fete. You have another opportunity to see them at the Parish Assembly on 2nd October. Thanks to all volunteers involved.

We are now seeking Parishioners' views for the hugely important scoping consultation survey which can be found here: www.charthamnp.com. **Please do fill in**

the survey. It is a chance to influence where development happens in the Parish.

News in this edition about new Coffee Mornings, plans for celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and the re-instatement of the area near Deanery Farm Crossing and lots more can be found here.

Finally, congratulations to Anne Pomeroy, the overall winner of our photography competition. Her beautiful image above is amongst the prizewinning images which can be found throughout this Newsletter.

Dr Tim Clark,
Chair, Chartham Parish Council

Chartham Parish Neighbourhood Plan



What is it?

Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided, and make policy to favour the type of new buildings they want to see go ahead. Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to plan for the types of development to meet their community's needs and where the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area.

A neighbourhood plan, once made, sits alongside planning policy created by Canterbury City Council and is used to help determine planning applications.

Progress so far

The Chartham Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared by a group of volunteers and Councillors on behalf of Chartham Parish Council. It has been in development since late 2019 when the Neighbourhood Plan Area was designated by Canterbury City Council.

A Steering Group was established in February 2020 who undertook a period of extensive consultation between September and October 2020. This consultation involved creating a Vision and Objective Survey which engaged the Community to gather thoughts about the Parish, and a Business Survey which gathered thoughts from local businesses. This enabled the Steering Group to develop a vision and 8 key objectives.

From this consultation the Steering Group identified seven key topic areas and seven Working Groups were then created who each explored one topic. Their task was to identify issues that the Parish faces and make recommendation on the best way to address those issues. All seven 'Topic Papers' are now published and available to view online at www.charthamnp.com.

Using the recommendations of these Topic Papers, the Steering Group have met and identified a draft scope for what they believe the Neighbourhood Plan should address. Before further work is done to prepare detailed evidence-based policies, they wanted to ensure that the community agreed with the proposed scope of the Neighbourhood Plan.

This consultation is therefore the 'Scoping Consultation'. It provides an overview of what has been learnt and the proposed scope of our Neighbourhood Plan, asking you for comment and feedback where appropriate

How you can help

Please take part in our consultation survey at www.charthamnp.com and give your views, it helps ensure the plan reflects the communities' views.

The Steering Group are always on the lookout for people to help prepare the Neighbourhood Plan and would be happy to hear from anyone with a stake in our Parish, whether that be because you live, work, or play here. If you would like to get involved in the preparation of our Neighbourhood Plan please get in touch with us at neighbourhoodplan@chartham-pc.gov.uk or 01227 738 110.

CHARTHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Scoping Consultation

Your chance to guide the approach taken in the plan towards new development



A Steering Group is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan on behalf of Chartham Parish Council. Once in use, it will be used to determine planning applications.

Based on work done to date, they have prepared a draft scope of the plan, and they are looking for comments from the community on that scope before writing the plan itself.

Please take part - **the plan will affect you.**

Key Info

The consultation comprises 2 documents:

1. An overview of the proposed scope of the Neighbourhood Plan, together with background information and the questions we would like you to answer.
2. A response form for you to complete.

Both documents can be accessed on the Neighbourhood Plan website

www.charthamnp.com

To save volunteer data entry time, we would prefer you to go to www.charthamnp.com click on the scoping consultation image and complete the online SurveyMonkey response form.

If you prefer to complete it by hand, you can call the number below to obtain a copy or download it from here and print it. Please complete and return by hand or post to The Parish Office, Chartham Village Hall, Station Road, Chartham CT4 7HZ.

The Consultation ends midnight on 10 October 2021
Please make sure your response is submitted before then.



For more info or to get involved visit
www.charthamnp.com
or call our team on 07968 788 083





Chartham Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Next Steps

We've made great progress with our Neighbourhood Plan, and your participation in the Scoping Consultation will be extremely valuable. Here are the next steps for the Neighbourhood Plan:

- ✦ Once the consultation is finished, we will review our evidence base and see if we need any more supporting information.
- ✦ We will write a draft Plan and prepare the accompanying documents.
- ✦ The Plan will be sent out for consultation - you will have a chance to comment on it.
- ✦ The Final Plan will be prepared and submitted.
- ✦ After examination, the Plan will go out for referendum and a decision will be made on the Plan.

Parish Sign

We have some good ideas for the content of a sign and possible locations and hope that we will be able to site a sign in time for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Chartham Village Fete

Well done to the organisers for a lovely afternoon on the Memorial Field. It was so good to see people out and about and we were truly blessed with lovely weather again. It seemed everyone was having a good time and great to raise funds for community groups.

20's Plenty

We've had discussions with Kent Highways and identified potential sites for Traffic Count Surveys, which will assess average speeds on designated stretches of roads to assist in our campaign.

We have agreed to fund the cost of these surveys 50/50 with KCC and once the results have been received, we can enter into more in-depth discussions to reduce speed limits.



*Kevin, Chenice & David
- waiting for the 653!*

Bus Shelter

Chartham has a smart new bus shelter at the station, built and installed by The Fifth Trust's Wood Shack team. The previous shelter had been damaged and was unsafe.

This is the second time their carpenters have come to the rescue – the shelter before was also badly damaged in an incident involving a lorry several years ago!

“We turned to The Fifth Trust again because we were so pleased with their work,” said parish councillor Carol Manning, whose son David is a Fifth Trust student.

Speedwatch

The Chartham Speedwatch Group has been busy 'educating' drivers through the village. It is very clear that the speed of traffic through the village is an area of concern for many and we have been operating from the approved sites around the village.

It is clear that the feedback to speeding vehicles does have some impact on driving behaviour. The group sees between 300-1000 vehicles in a 2 hour session and record speeding behaviour within prescribed limits defined by the police.

It is of concern that up to 26.7% of vehicles were speeding near to the primary school site and this pattern appears all too frequently. Chartham Parish Council has now purchased dedicated equipment for the Chartham group.



We are keen to welcome more volunteers and the commitment can fit into your diaries as we run morning, afternoon and evening sessions both during the week and weekends. We set the times and locations and can be flexible. If interested, please contact Chenice, the Parish Clerk, in the first instance.



Photo: Anne Pomeroy

Network Rail

You may have noticed that BAM Nuttall, the contractors who completed the recent bridge replacement, have reinstated the area adjacent to Deanery Crossing. We now have a wider pathway area, new posts and three replacement trees. The contractors also kindly donated a bench for the area. They were grateful for the support of the local community and impressed by the interest shown which also resulted in some of the entries to our photo competition.

Parish Assembly

This year we will hold the Parish Assembly on Saturday 2nd October from 2-6pm in Chartham Village Hall. Due to the pandemic we weren't able to hold an event last year so this event will be a little different. We invite any local groups to present a brief written and verbal report of activities and plans for their group. We also will share a little about the different things the Parish Council has been doing and has plans to do in the future. The event will also be an opportunity to officially present the winners of the Kent Association of Local Council nominated awards for last year and this year.



Queen's Platinum Jubilee

In 2022, Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on 6th February 1952 when Her Majesty was 25 years old. An extended bank holiday, from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June, will provide an opportunity for people throughout the Parish to come together to celebrate the historic milestone. There are likely to be a number of events in the village.

The United Kingdom's long tradition of celebrating Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations with the lighting of beacons will be continued to mark the Platinum Jubilee and we hope Chartham will be able to join in with our own beacon in the village.

Planning Issues

There was a lot of interest in the pre-application meeting regarding the proposal to build 'affordable housing' on the field at the top of Shalmsford Street. The architect indicated that they felt they would be in a position to submit a planning application 'possibly by the end of August'. The Parish Council will not be in a position to comment on the plans until they are submitted. Our experience is that there are often changes made from what is originally suggested.

What is clear is that there are areas that can be commented on which are called 'material considerations' and these are the main criteria that the Canterbury City Council will judge any application. The Parish Council will be interested in hearing the views from Parishioners when we have all had the chance to see the application details and will probably call a meeting to allow public participation.

Car Charging Points

Two electric car charging points have been installed in Chartham Village Hall car park following positive feedback from the community. They were funded by Kent County Council to provide more EV charge points across the county as part of their plan for our country to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050.



Christmas Tree

We are currently exploring two possible locations and hope to be able to have a tree for the village this year. We also hope to be able to invite parishioners to gather near the tree to sing carols.



Photo by Ella Scarr, Age 17

Photo Competition

Well done to the winner and runners up for this first competition! Our grateful thanks to Stuart from Inochi Photos for judging the entries and giving expert feedback.

You can see details of the finalists and his comments on the Parish Council website <https://chartham-pc.gov.uk/chartham-parish-council-photo-competition-results/>

Why don't you keep snapping? We intend to run another competition next year to capture more images of the village in the different seasons, so please keep your camera at the ready. Stuart is available to run photo workshops if anyone is interested. Stuart's Facebook page is www.facebook.com/inochipictures



Chris Smith: Above - River Stour. Below - St Mary's Church



Amelia Clark - Bird Box



Village Halls

It is good to see that the Chartham and Chartham Hatch halls are now open for hiring again. Chenice, our Parish Clerk is back in the Parish Office. Sadly we have had a lot of incidents of what appears to be wilful vandalism in the Memorial Field Toilets. The cost of damage, replacing equipment and cleaning come from Parish rates and we ask everyone to be vigilant around the area and report to the police any suspicious behaviour.

Defibrillators are now fitted to the Sports Pavilion at St Augustine's, at the Chartham and Chartham Hatch Village Halls. We hope to site one in Shalmsford Street enabling the community to be close to this potentially lifesaving device. Chartham Primary School are fundraising for one too. Defibrillators are very easy to use. You don't need training to use one as these devices are fully automatic and will talk you through how to use the device in an emergency. You can see the St John's Ambulance instructions on how to use a defibrillator here: <https://www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/first-aid-advice/how-to/how-to-use-a-defibrillator/>



Coffee Morning

Chartham Village Hall is hosting a community coffee morning fortnightly on a Thursday from 9th September from 10 to 12.00. Come and join us for a friendly chat over a tea or coffee, slice of cake and some music – everyone is welcome! This is an informal event designed to bring the local community together, but if anybody requires assistance or advice about personal matters they wish to discuss privately, our organisers are on hand to listen and will do their utmost to help.

Subscribe to Updates

Live locally? Want to know what's going on? Subscribe to the Chartham Parish Council update service. It's FREE! Just send your email to the link on the Parish Council website <https://chartham-pc.gov.uk> and you will get automatic email updates on parish issues AND an electronic version of the newsletter.

Contact Chartham Parish Council

If you have any enquiries or concerns about our villages or countryside, please contact our **Parish Clerk**, Chenice Howard-Sparkes, through one of the following methods:

Office Number: 01227 738110

Mobile: 07483 906001

Email: charthamparishcouncil@gmail.com

Postal address: The Clerk, The Parish Office, Chartham Village Hall, Station Road, Chartham CT4 7HZ.

Chartham PC website:
<https://chartham-pc.gov.uk>

Canterbury City Chartham Ward Councillors contact details are:

robert.thomas@councillor.canterbury.gov.uk

matthew.jones-roberts@councillor.canterbury.gov.uk

Red Phone Box Library

We are pleased how the library continues to be used so well and the various competitions and events to encourage children and adults to get reading. This is such a great way to recycle!

Alan in the 'Shop on the Green' is kindly storing excess stock so please try not to overload the space too much.

