



www.churt.org

churt_pc@btinternet.com

Tel: 07766 190201 or 01428 714375

Churt Parish Council Newsletter January 2022

Chairman David Crossley

It was with the deepest regret that the Parish Council announced the death of its chairman, David Crossley, on 6 December 2021 after a short illness. David became a Parish Councillor in 2016 and was elected Chairman in 2017, whereupon he led the Council with immense knowledge, understanding, sympathy, innovation and great patience. The cedar bench on the Recreation Ground will be inlaid with a brass plaque to his memory and he will be granted a posthumous Freedom of the Parish.

Our Woodland at Pond Lane

As part of the Frensham Enclosure Act of 1855, Churt received two areas awarded for exercise and recreation - Redhearn Green and an area beside Frensham Great Pond which became known as the Old Cricket Ground. In 1921 Churt acquired the present recreation ground as a memorial to the fallen of the First World War and cricket transferred to this location, more central to the village. The Minute Books of the Parish Council and of the recreation ground show continual clearing of the Pond Recreation area which fast became overgrown. This area was extended in 1956 when Lady Lennard of Woodcote presented to the Council, land adjoining the Pond Recreation Ground in order to preserve this beauty spot.

In August 2021, Churt Parish Council invited Surrey Wildlife Trust to survey the site and to make management recommendations which would preserve it as a quiet woodland recreational area but which would enhance its biodiversity and

wildlife habitat value. The current woodland site is some 12 acres around grid reference SU84618 39725 and there is one public right of way (public footpath 30a) through the site which runs from the north-west down to the south east. We encourage all residents of the village to visit and enjoy the woodland.

Local Walking and Cycling Routes

We have been invited by Waverley Borough Council to provide input to their Local Walking and Cycling Implementation Plan (LCWIP). LCWIPs are intended to identify cycling and walking improvements required at the local level and form a vital part of the Government's strategy to increase the number of trips made on foot or by cycle. This week I met with the new Sustainable Travel Officer at Waverley who is keen to understand what improvements we would wish to see to walking and cycling routes within the village and to key local destinations. If you have any suggestions for improvements you would like to see, please let me know via the parish email address.

Farnborough Airport

Some residents may have noticed a significant increase in noise recently from private jets flying into Farnborough Airport. Churt is one of the areas affected by the introduction of controlled airspace with designated flightpaths for Farnborough Airport now overflying Churt. We are concerned that the scope of the Post Implementation Review (PIR) to be conducted from February 2022 by the Civil Aviation Authority on the Airspace Change Plan will not be broad enough and may not take into account the issues which we are experiencing in Churt. We have written to our local MPs asking for their support to ensure that the PIR is transparent, fair, inclusive of all geographic areas and people affected by the change.

Village Cheer

The Churt Village Cheer was held on Saturday 11th December in the village hall, where we welcomed over 60 people for some Christmas refreshments. It was a great opportunity to welcome some new residents to the village. I'd like to extend my thanks to Councillors Eunice Burch and Roger Rowe for their extensive work behind the scenes to make the event such a success.

Lisa Martin, Acting Chair

The next meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Recreation Ground Trust will take place in the pavilion on Weds 23rd February 2022 at 7.30pm. Anyone is welcome to attend.