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Churt Parish Council Newsletter April 2021

HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh

I am sure that all will have been saddened by the death of Prince Philip. Flags at St John's Church and the Village Hall flew at half-mast until the period of National mourning ended at 8am on Sunday 18th April. Though all are encouraged to leave messages of condolence via the Royal book at www.royal.uk/condolence we are in addition hoping to compile our own for Churt. Therefore please also send messages of condolence to condolence@churt.org and when complete we shall ask the History Centre at Woking to store Churt's Book of Condolence.

High Speed Fibre Broadband for Churt?

In the March newsletter I highlighted the initiative by a company called Grayshott Gigabit who hope to provide high speed fibre broadband in the area. For Churt to be considered for this project, the company must receive 150 expressions of interest by way of pre-registration. There is absolutely no future obligation and pre-registration can be done very easily by using the following link.

https://www.grayshottgigabit.com/?utm_campaign=4558010e-d711-4510-924e-5cb29cd07809&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail&cid=bdee95f4-c878-4cd3-a72f-20d783a138cb

Churt Environmental Working Group (CHEWG) Report

Churt has joined with other nearby Surrey Parish Councils to establish an environmental collaboration group which will share information/best practice in response to the climate emergency and coordinate approaches with Waverley and Surrey County Council on both climate actions and shared environmental concerns.

The final two walks from Michael Stenning's "10 walks in and around Churt" have been revised and all ten are now available to view or download at <https://www.churtzero.org/walks> . CHEWG has also launched a monthly 'Churt News in Nature' single page publication, available on the news page of www.churtzero.org which features photos and short comments on notable nature events and sightings in and around Churt. Please email nature observations and photos to Councillor Myra Johnson at churtenvironment@gmail.com for inclusion in future editions.

April 22nd is International Earth Day with the theme "Restore the Planet". We invite you all to pledge an action to contribute to the restoration theme as part of Churt's Net Zero initiative. Please see www.churtzero.org/earthday-2021 for details and some ideas and please tell us what your pledged action is so that we can list and map Churt's response to Earth Day 2021.

Rubbish and SCOPE bins at the pavilion – serious problems

We have been alarmed recently at the way the area by the side of the pavilion is being used by some as a rubbish dump. It has been nothing short of fly tipping and we have strong evidence to suggest that some has come from the Beacon Hill and Wishanger areas.

There are three Biffa bins and a SCOPE clothing recycling bin there. The Biffa bins are for the use of pavilion and recreation ground users and the Parish Council, who all pay for the privilege. They are not for households to dump their rubbish. The Parish Council has to pay increasing amounts to have the rubbish removed. In the past few weeks bags of clothing which have become wet and mouldy and household waste have been left on the ground. The clothes have become useless for recycling and the household waste could attract vermin. There was even an old IBM laptop computer and associated electrical items dumped as well as scrap metal items. We have tried to issue polite appeals and have even installed notices and monitoring equipment but this seems to have had little or no effect.

This area is **NOT** a rubbish dump and further dumping of this nature will no longer be tolerated. **IT MUST STOP**. We are seriously considering asking SCOPE to remove their container due to the blatant abuse and defiance of all appeals. This

was one of Churt's first community environmental projects which could be ruined by an inconsiderate few.

Our sincere apologies to all our residents who would never think of such an inconsiderate course of behaviour.

Picnic in the Park - A complete village event

To celebrate the easing of Covid lockdown and, hopefully the end of all restrictions, the village has decided to hold an afternoon event on the recreation ground on Saturday 11th September. All village organisations and societies have been invited to be involved in its organisation and a small committee has been formed, led by Richard Bourne. It is the intention to have a musical afternoon with the professional band who normally play at the village BBQ already booked. It is hoped that there will be a bar and ice cream but bring your own chairs and picnic. The event will be open to all residents of Churt and there will be no charge. It will be an event for all of us to gather and renew old friendships and make new ones. More details will follow in due course and there could even be a couple of extra surprises to come!

Speed Limits - Your chance to contribute

As part of a rural speed limit project, Surrey County Council are seeking the views of Surrey residents on speed and risk on rural roads (single carriageway in a non-built-up area). This is your chance to contribute now using the following link to the survey. <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ZGXNTX/> Please note, however, that this initiative will not consider lowering the speed limit in Churt village. It will focus on single carriageway rural roads in a non-built-up area, for example the A287 from Frensham to Churt where the speed limit is currently 60 and 50mph.

Churt Annual Assembly

We held our annual assembly via Zoom on Wednesday 21st April. All village organisations reported on the past twelve months and it became apparent how the community of Churt had come together and in some ways due to innovative ways of operating had thrived. Churt is alive and well!

David Crossley. Chairman

The next meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Recreation Ground Trust will be the annual meetings and will take place on Weds 5th May 2021 at 7.30pm. These meetings will be conducted by virtual means.