

# Cheveley Parish Council Newsletter

December 2018

## **Welcome**

Welcome to the last newsletter of the year. Thank you to all who have come to meetings and got involved with the Parish Council. We welcome residents to all meetings and value your thoughts and views on the Parish Council's future plans.

With best wishes  
Cllr Claire Elbrow, Chair

## **Parish Precept**

It was agreed by the majority of Councillors at the November Council meeting that the precept (the tax levied on parish residents) for 2019/2020 should remain at the same level as the last few years, which is £80,000. We still retain a good level of reserves with the majority being identified for projects, such as the pavilion refurbishment. We have an underspend of around 15k in this year's budget and Councillors have agreed that this money should be allocated to projects. The pavilion project, the Neighbourhood Plan and professional planning advice are our three largest and most expensive projects. Residents

are welcome to view the Council budget at the Annual Parish Meeting, or by contacting our Clerk, Marilyn, and the monthly spend is noted on each set of minutes.

## **The Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillors Day and Hadlow have agreed to lead a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. It will focus purely on planning issues in both Wards, with the area set by the Parish Boundaries. Our aim is to complete it by the end of 2019.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a way of helping local communities to influence the planning of the area in which they live and work. It is also the only legal document currently to hold any weight with the planning department of the Local Planning Authority, ECDC.

Our reasoning is that we, along with every other village, are getting inundated with planning applications. This is due in

## **The Pavilion Project**

### **& Neighbourhood Plan**

#### **Consultations**

The pavilion project continues to roll onwards. It is taking time as it is a large and expensive project which we are keen to get right!

A fact sheet is attached to this Newsletter which gives you the draft ideas we have for the layout and facilities of a refurbished and extended pavilion. The Neighbourhood Plan consultation will be held at the same time.

We are very keen to hear your views on these projects. Please join us at:

**The Pavilion** on Saturday 19 Jan, 10am-12pm or Sunday 3 Feb, 1-3pm

**Or at**

**Newmarket URC Tennis Club** on Saturday 26 January - 2.00-4.00pm or Thursday 7 Feb - 6.00-8.00pm

Further dates will be released as they are confirmed.

part, to the fact that the draft of the ECDC Local Plan which covers the whole of East Cambridgeshire, has not yet been approved. The draft, which includes the development statements, policy and area for Cheveley, has been delayed and recently it was announced that modifications were needed. This delay has effectively left an opportunity for developers to put forward potential developments.

The Community Plan identified a need for smaller stock and affordable housing – not just more housing, and we are adamant we should stick to our strategy which was developed based on the results of the Community Plan.

Planning is a tricky business and as none of the Councillors are experts, it was agreed at a recent EOM that the £15k underspend should be allocated to retaining professional advice for the development of the Neighbourhood Plan and to advise us on the larger and more complex planning applications. This is a budgetary figure only and we hope the full amount is not needed, but residents have asked that we do our best to protect the parish from unsuitable developments where possible.

The consultation dates for the first stage of the

Neighbourhood Plan will coincide with the Pavilion refurbishment consultation. Please do come and have your say! For further details, or if you would like to be involved, please contact Marilyn – [clerk@cheveley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@cheveley-pc.gov.uk) or Cllr Day – [aday@cheveley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:aday@cheveley-pc.gov.uk).

### **Speed Watch**

A number of Speedwatch checks were run by the South Ward Speedwatch team recently. Adhering to the guidelines, speeding vehicles were recorded at 15 vehicles out of 126 on 4th Oct, and 16 vehicles out of 82 on 21st Oct. Both checks were carried out on Cheveley High Street.

### **Traffic Calming Measures**

North Ward Councillors are keen to take forward several traffic calming measures/speed restrictions on Ashley Road and Duchess Drive. At present, we are negotiating with CCC to bring forward a sensible solution to the issues, so the project will continue into the New Year. We continue to investigate the possibility of MVAS signs for both wards and the removal of the permanent signs.

### **The BIG Parish Clean Up**

Held for the first time this Autumn, 27 residents of all ages joined forces around the Parish to litter pick. About 29 bags of litter were collected with the messiest areas being the recreation ground, around

the school and on the main Newmarket/Ashley Road.

### **Swing in the Recreation Ground**

It was very apparent from the comments on Facebook that some residents were not happy that the unauthorized rope swing placed in the Recreation Ground was taken down. Unfortunately, our insurance company stated that any makeshift installations invalidate our insurance policy. We have now conducted a tree survey and several trees have been identified as suitable sites for a swing and it will be replaced as soon as contractors and weather allow.

### **The Recreation Ground Wall**

The repointing and repairing of the wall are continuing projects. This is purely because any repairs to the wall require a specialist contractor and liaison with Conservation specialists which is time consuming. The hole in the wall and the re-pointing will be done as soon as these jobs get to the top of the contractors list and as the weather permits.

### **Bus Passes for youngsters**

Councillors agreed to continue the scheme trialed in the summer. Youngsters from 11 – 18 years are eligible for free bus passes. They can be collected from Cllrs Sue Willows in North Ward and Claire Elbrow in South Ward.