

Campton & Chicksands

Parish Council Newsletter

July 2020



*Welcome to the Campton & Chicksands Newsletter
published by the Parish Council*

www.camptonandchicksands-pc.gov.uk

*If you have any news or views you wish to share
please contact the Editor, Angela Baker
details at the end of this newsletter*



The role of Editor requires setting aside approximately 5-6 hours of time each month. Articles generally come from a few regular contributors, plus advertisements for charity and social events throughout the year. The job involves collecting articles and adverts together for that month and arranging them to form an A5 booklet of two double sided A4 sheets. This is then forwarded by email for printing (400 copies) and then returned to the Editor for stapling, these are then collated into bundles and dropped off to the volunteer distributors in Campton, Shefford and Chicksands. At present the newsletter is produced using a Microsoft Word format, although any word processing or publishing tool could be used to produce the same result. It is necessary to know how to edit the design and layout of a document, insert pictures and most importantly be able to make things fit into a limited space!! The finished newsletter is also converted into a pdf file and forwarded to the Parish Council for uploading onto their website.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN TAKING ON THIS ROLE
FROM SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR,
PLEASE CONTACT:- TAMMY MEDLEY - CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL**

'TRUGS & TROWELS' Gardening Club

"A human being is part of a whole, called by us the 'Universe,' a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings, as something separated from the rest—a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circles of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty." — Albert Einstein



Once it is deemed safe to do so, details of forthcoming meetings will be published. Until then, make the most of your garden this summer, whether you are growing vegetables or flowers, weeding or pruning, or just relaxing with a cup of tea or glass of wine - Enjoy!!

For more information, please contact... *Maryika* 01462 851729

Campton Village Hall

***WE ARE CLOSELY MONITORING THE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND ACRE,
BUT THE VILLAGE HALL REMAINS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.***

***NO ADMITTANCE IS ALLOWED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT FROM THE VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE. WE WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED AS AND WHEN THE SITUATION CHANGES.***

Over the past couple of months redecoration and maintenance works have been carried out at the hall, these are now almost completed;
although there are always jobs to be done!

Time is now needed to assess what measures need to be put in place to enable us to open the doors again to the public in the coming weeks ahead. As you can imagine, there is a lot of information to work through and work to be done to get the hall ready for business again.

We are always looking for extra volunteers to join the committee, so if you would like to get involved in helping to run the Village Hall for your local community, then please contact the Management Committee to find out more; any additional help would be very much welcomed and appreciated.

**For more information regarding the Hall please call 07950 458940
or email: camptonvh@outlook.com**

100 Club Draw Update

Monthly prize draws have continued to take place (under safety guidelines) throughout this subscription year, with the winning numbers still being published within this newsletter. Since monetary prizes are issued as cheque payments, we do appreciate that at the moment it is not always easy for people to pay these into their bank accounts. Therefore, if anyone needs to have a cheque reissued due to it becoming out of date, then please contact the Village Hall Management Committee and we will be happy to reissue your cheque on receipt of the original one.

The new subscription year is due to begin again in September, however at the current time it is deemed unadvisable for committee members to call door to door collecting subscriptions, therefore regrettably the Management Committee have decided to postpone the 100 Club until further notice, possibly January 2021.

"THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OVER THE PAST YEAR AND WE HOPE TO WELCOME YOU BACK SOON "

CAMPTON VILLAGE HALL



JUNE WINNERS: 1st (£35) No. 112 C. Strong

2nd (£20) No. 71 S. Hayhurst

3rd (£15) No. 4 P. Busby

News from the Tower

At the moment there are major concerns relating to the public health crisis and coronavirus in particular. Therefore, there will be no ringing at Campton for Sunday morning services or on Tuesday nights until further notice.

*If you fancy trying an activity that involves both physical activity and mental stimulation for all ages, call me (John Loveless 07803 206161) to find out more. Ringing is a very sociable hobby and Campton is **THE** place to learn to ring in this area.*

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council

The Parish Council held their most recent meeting via Zoom on 3rd June 2020. Once again use of this online platform was successful. Ward Councillor Tony Brown also attended and was able to provide additional updates from Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC). Whilst much of CBC's focus is on supporting local communities and business through the coronavirus pandemic, normal activities continue.

CBC has now formally launched the next stage of its "Schools for the Future" consultation to make changes to local authority schools, in our case schools in the Shefford / Stotfold cluster. This major consultation initially ran during the winter of 2019/20 and outcomes were reported this spring. Local academies and the Bedfordshire Schools Trust (BEST), the local multi academy trust, are working with CBC regarding this important consultation.

The governing body of Campton Lower School opted earlier in the year to apply to join BEST and become an academy and this application process is underway with the Dept. for Education. Therefore, CBC and BEST continue to consult about the future of Campton Lower School. The recently published statutory consultation document highlights the proposed relocation of Campton Lower School in 2023 to the existing entry level school in Shefford, which will become a primary school for children up to year 6. A new school to be built in Hitchin Road will provide places for primary school pupils living the other side of Shefford.

The other local change is the proposed merger of Samuel Whitbread and Robert Bloomfield Academies to form a new secondary school for years 7-13. It is too early to say at which site this secondary school might be located, but the aim of BEST is to be able to offer a place to all of the children who would currently be offered a place at Robert Bloomfield at the merged secondary school campus. So, for children from Campton and Chicksands years 7-13 schooling will be provided at the merged secondary school. If you would like to comment on this statutory consultation you can do so via the CBC website.

<https://www.schoolsforthefuture.co.uk/plans/shefford-stotfold/decision-making>

This stage of the consultation closes at 5pm on 30th June. The statutory consultation is not open to responses concerning academies, which are outside of the control of the council, but these can be submitted to the

academies concerned. CBC will consider the feedback received to this consultation and make a final decision on the plans. This is likely to be later in summer of 2020.

Please be aware that roadworks are scheduled for Campton Road from 26th June till 30th June, access to the cemetery by vehicle will therefore be limited. The Joint Burial Board will avoid these dates for any funeral arrangements.

CBC have had no further communication from CALA Homes regarding the proposed Greenway housing site and no planning application has been submitted (at the time of the meeting). The Parish Council were contacted by the developer's agent after the May Parish Council Meeting. The Parish Council requested provision of paper copies of the questionnaire to ensure residents who do not have internet access could still have their say.

The CBC Local Plan is still moving forward. CBC provided further information to the Plan Inspectors in mid-May and the next public consultation is expected in September. January 2021 remains the expected completion date.

You will note reading this Newsletter that our long-standing editor, Angela, is standing down after the joint August / September publication. We have been advertising for a new editor for some time and if you are interested in taking on or sharing this important voluntary role, please do contact me. Details of what the role entails are outlined within this edition. Currently the future of our Parish Newsletter looks uncertain.

Once again if any of you are reading this online version of the Newsletter and are aware of a resident, who would normally read the Newsletter but does not have internet access, then please contact me either by email or telephone and I will happily post a copy out to them. The Parish Council are keen to resume delivery of paper copies of the Newsletter in the near future.

Take care and keep safe.

The next meeting via Zoom is to be held at 7pm on 1st July 2020, the agenda will be posted on the website and noticeboards three days in advance. Any resident wishing to join the meeting will need to email me and I will issue a passcode on the day of the meeting enabling them to gain access.

Clerk to the Parish Council - ***Tammy Medley***

Email: tammy.medley@btinternet.com

Tel: 01908 505558 / 07955 521174

Campton & Chicksands Neighbourhood Plan Report

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group resumed regular meetings using an online platform at the end of May. At the meeting we reviewed the impact of the Coronavirus Act 2020 and the continuing, but easing, lockdown on progression of the Plan. Also discussed was the CALA Homes community consultation proposal leaflet delivered to Campton homes in mid-April. Recently the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) have clarified some of their early advice to Local Government regarding referendums, decision making, consultations and examinations during the pandemic. This updated advice may, at some future stage, provide a way forward with public consultations, albeit with stringent measures taken to ensure a safe as well as fair process. However, the NP Steering Group continue to be guided by Central Bedfordshire Council regarding the Neighbourhood Planning process at this difficult time; at this stage progression of the Plan unfortunately currently remains on hold. Any changes to this situation will be posted on the Parish Council website.

Wishing everyone well... The NP Steering Group

Wanderbus Update

Our bus **service is suspended at present** and we cannot see how we can resume services before the end of August, while abiding by the government guidelines. However, when we do start again, we will be offering a new service to Campton – W12b every Tuesday to Hitchin, coming through Campton at 09.19 and leaving Hitchin at 12.10.



Shefford based with routes serving Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes



CABIN FEVER?

IN NEED OF A NEW PROJECT?

“We need your help please”

Campton Churchyard is being overrun by ivy, brambles, and other invasive weeds.

If you are able to help tidy the churchyard, we would number each area that needs work; each of these areas would be allocated specifically, enabling social distancing to be maintained and ensuring no cross contamination via contact points.

Areas will also be allocated on the size of project; some projects would just take an hour, others much longer; for example myself and my daughter have been working on the variegated holly tree that is being strangled by brambles - it is a big and slow project. We go and work on the tree for an hour, as and when we can fit it in.

The idea would be that once you have been allocated a project, you would come at your own convenience, also bringing your own gardening tools.

The projects would range from removing ivy from a gravestone through to removal of low branches off trees.

If you can help please contact me, stating what size of project you would be able to undertake.

“Thank you very much”

Maggie Marsh, on behalf of All Saints
07989 082743

marsh.mam@googlemail.com



Are You a Legion Beneficiary?

Who is a Potential RBL Beneficiary?

- Any member of HM Armed Forces (Regular & Reserve) serving or retired;
- Their partners;
- Their children of tender years;
- A Carer of any Veteran; upon whom that Veteran relies upon to retain quality of life.

Do you have problems with?

- Mobility, Home adaptations, handyman tasks in the home, Debt, utility bills, Wellbeing, loneliness or isolation.
- Or another problem that impacts upon your personal welfare?

If you believe you could be a potential beneficiary of the Legion call us and find out! We help lots of people every day.

How does a Veteran and family access
Royal British Legion Welfare help?

Telephone: 0808 802 8080



COVID-19
Coronavirus



email
alerts

Central
Bedfordshire

Helping our residents to socially distance safely

Help keep our pathways clear

You can help by:

- removing bins from outside your property as soon as possible after they have been emptied
- cutting back any bushes or hedges on your property growing over public pathways
- parking your vehicle considerately

**Please check for any active birds' nests
before undertaking any bush or hedge trimming.**

You can help keep pathways clear by:

- Removing bins as soon as they've been emptied
- Cutting back overgrown bushes or hedges
- Parking your vehicle considerately



Just take it one day
at a time. If you can
get through today,
you can get through
tomorrow. Then
repeat, until we're
out the other side.

CAMPTON & CHICKSANDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT HELPLINE

It has been heartening to see the numerous offers for help from neighbour to neighbour as we continue through this period of uncertainty and restrictions to daily life, but inevitably there will be those who find themselves isolated despite local networks. For this reason a group of parishioners, based largely on the recently dormant Good Neighbour Group, have volunteered to form a support backstop.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to them for this public-spirited action.

SHOULD YOU BECOME ISOLATED AND NEED HELP OVER THE COMING MONTHS AND DO NOT HAVE THE SUPPORT OF SOMEONE YOU KNOW, PLEASE PHONE EITHER: -



07488 543946 OR 07782 809633

Your need will be passed to the group, which will work out the best way of helping you. You should never hand over money, credit or debit cards or bank details. We should be extra vigilant at this time of those who wish to take advantage of the vulnerable, and if you suspect someone is trying to do so you should immediately phone the police.

The Parish Council

*Items for the next Newsletter must be submitted
to the Editor, Angela Baker no later than 15th July 2020*

Email: angjbaker@outlook.com

Tel: 01462 851733