

Newsletter

November 2015



WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY



Chandler's Ford
Parish Council

Dear Residents

I hope all have enjoyed the summer break – and have found the sun somewhere!

The Parish office has been busy over the summer months moving into its new office and welcoming residents to the new facilities now available at the Fryern Pavilion. We are delighted with the facilities and I do hope that you will come and have a look at them and perhaps use them for family parties and get-togethers.

We have also been using our precept monies to refurbish all the children's play areas in the Parish and I hope you and your children and grandchildren will be happy with the results. Over the next 10 years we are planning to replace the older play equipment with newer items so we can continue to provide our children with exciting challenges in the playground.

Please do come to our participatory budget meeting planned for 9th November 7pm at the Dovetail Centre where you will have the opportunity to give your views on how your money should be spent in the Parish.

I look forward to meeting you then and to hearing your views.

With best wishes

Margaret Atkinson

Chairman Chandler's Ford Parish Council

The New Fryern Pavilion Extension

Mid-July saw the handover of the newly extended building and the beginning of a settling-in period for the Parish Council's staff team which has been busy with moving the Parish Office, bringing back a lot of furniture and chairs from storage and opening up for business.

Diane Dawes and Tomor Beqo joined the team over the summer as Admin Assistant and Caretaker respectively.

The extension is light and airy, with underfloor heating and plenty of natural light. The bookings are already covering the basic costs in just 3 short months of being open.



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Participatory Budgeting

The Full Council Meeting of 9 November is at the Dovetail Centre, Winchester Road and an hour of the meeting will be set aside for Public Participation and debate focussed on Participatory Budgeting.

Looking to the future, we would like to ensure that residents' views are taken into account in setting various parts of the budget, such as community investment in supporting groups in the Parish such as funding youth services, elderly support etc. as well as investing in other opportunities. With 18 Parish Councillors from different areas of our community we aim to look at things as broadly as we can, but we might well have missed things – Please come along and share your ideas. If they are of benefit to the wider community let us know. You can help make a difference!

The New Fryern Pavilion Extension (continued)

There is still much detail to complete in terms of curtains, pictures and more furniture, but it is already proving to be popular and by the beginning of January 2016 all day Mondays will be really busy as are Wednesday mornings and evenings.

Officers are getting almost daily enquiries, so if you are looking for a regular venue for a group, you may well need to be quick to get your preferred time and day.

Fridays at the Pavilion have been handed over to the Fryern Community Association which will be liaising with local charitable bodies and other local voluntary groups to give time over to the support and social events for the vulnerable and lonely in our community.

They will also be putting on lots of fun events on Friday evenings.

The Fryern Community Association can be contacted in the following ways: Nick Jolly... jolly2130@hotmail.com; Sharon Jolly...Sharon.fcasocial@outlook.com - or by telephone on: 023 8026 9451.

Weekends are already popular for children's birthday parties with enquiries and some bookings into January and February next year.

Regular activities already booked include: 'Steady Eddies', Aplomb Pilates, Laura Green Yoga, Fitness with Gemma, 'Messy Monsters', Brownies, 'Bilinguasing', 'Fitdankbaby', Children's Dance Class, 'Sustrans' (quarterly bike maintenance classes), Southampton Football League meetings etc... etc...



Tennis Court Refurbishment



The four tennis courts are now nearly completed with the resurfacing which takes place over a 5 - week period from the week of 12 October to 16 November 2015 during which period they have to be closed. The 5 - week closure period is to allow the new porous tarmac surface to properly "cure" before its surface is painted.

The tennis courts will be generally kept secure after the resurfacing thanks to the fitting of a key card controlled access system. This will also prevent dogs being taken in to the enclosures and fouling. From dusk until after dawn they will be kept locked-down to help prevent vandalism. Certain times will continue to have free access to two or more of the courts, especially during half-terms and the summer holidays to encourage a healthy lifestyle in all age groups, but especially our youngsters. The Parish Council took the decision that it had to think ahead to the next scheduled resurfacing which should be in about 15 to 20 years' time.

The best approach, as independently recommended by our Clerk, was to use Key Cards at a modest charge for the card and a modest annual charge. Proximity Key Cards are available to be leased at £10 from the Parish Office (one-off payment unless lost) and there will be a small annual charge of £10 for use of the courts. Both are valid for a whole household to use.

A web based booking system will also be made available at no extra cost to tennis players, who will need to register.

This will potentially allow us to track use and see if floodlighting is viable for evening tennis and also determine whether there is adequate use across the parish to justify further expenditure on future improvements. The Key Cards are available from the Parish Office at Fryern Pavilion and valid for a full year.

Bulb Planting

It would be lovely to have a greater display of spring flowers in the parish and the Parish Council would welcome ideas on where to plant bulbs and volunteers to help plant them. A budget has been set aside of up to £500 this year. The more volunteers we have, the more bulbs we can plant!



Speedwatch Volunteers

Many thanks must go to our Community Speedwatch volunteers who give up their free time to help make the Parish's roads safer and slower with a couple of sessions a week. If there are others who would like to get involved please contact the Parish Office.

Sponsoring Benches in the Parish's Open Spaces

Do you have a local business and want to sponsor a bench in our open spaces?

Would you like to put a memorial bench in your favourite park?

There is a call for more benches in our play areas and recreation grounds. The benches need to be robust and metal. Those in the Jubilee Garden at the Fryern Recreation Ground are perfect and currently cost about £450 each with the ground fixing posts. If you buy the bench, we'll pay for it to be put in!

Please contact the Parish Office for details, locations are available at the Parish Council's discretion.

The Parish-Wide Play Area Refurbishment

The whole Parish Council decided that the safety of children using the parish's play areas was of paramount importance. The Council also understands that to replace all the play equipment would cost in excess of £500,000 which is just not achievable in a single year. It is likely to be a 10+ year project.

Therefore the decision was taken to refurbish the play areas concentrating on the safety surfacing, replacing the Ridge Rider with the "Nexus Core", repainting equipment and remarking areas. The total cost is around £75,000. Public money well spent on children's safety in play. Vita Play of Winchester were appointed and set about the job with great vigour, care and pride in their work with all the areas finished before the half-term break.

Mead Road Play Area after refurbishment:

Mead Road has been transformed, Hilingbury Recreation Ground play area is almost unrecognisable from what it was – indeed all the play areas are revitalised with vibrant colours making them more attractive to play in.



But most importantly, in terms of safety surfacing specifications, they are all compliant with up-to-date regulations. This refurbishment therefore gives the Parish Council the time to be able to properly undertake a project to replace old and out-dated play equipment with robust, new and exciting challenges in play.

Hilingbury Play Area as the refurbishment gets underway:

However, care must be taken to ensure that whenever a piece of equipment is to be replaced that the replacement is for the same target age group. For instance the Ridge Rider was for 7+ and so is the Nexus Core.



Hopefully, 2016 should bring with it about 2-3 more new pieces of equipment to replace worn out items.

Hilingbury Play Area over halfway through refurbishment:



The finished Play Area Nexus core Fryern:



Chandler's Ford Parish Councillors 2015/2016

Chairman

ATKINSON, Margaret (Hiltingbury East) 023 8026 8510

Vice-Chairman

DUGUID, James (Hiltingbury West) 023 8026 1628

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AUBRY, Jacqui 023 8036 1836

BULL, Colin 023 8026 6100

LESLIE, Kim 07979 558762

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Chandler's Ford West

BROADHURST, Alan 023 8025 3648

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COX, Jacqueline 023 8026 8069

JOLLY, Nick 023 8026 9451

SIMMONDS, Zandra 023 8026 6875

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BOYES, David 023 8025 5467

GRAJEWSKI, Judith 023 8026 3179

HUGHES, Michael 023 8090 7497

Velmore

BICKNELL, Paul 07999 739882

LUFFMAN, Peter 023 8061 8437

The Parish Office is open for enquiries from Monday through Friday 9.15 a.m. to 3.00p.m. to take your enquiries in person, by phone or by email. It is also open Saturdays from 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

Telephone: 023 8026 6612

Email:
clerk@chandlersford-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Officers:

Parish Clerk: Duncan Murray

Assistant Clerk: Sukey Spurlock

Contracts Officer: Phil Eades

Admin Assistant: Diane Dawes

Caretaker: Tomor Beqo



Chandler's Ford
Parish Council

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