

## **CHISELDON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT**

Points of interest and extracts from the meeting held in  
July 2015

[www.chiseldonparishcouncil.com](http://www.chiseldonparishcouncil.com)

e: [clerk@chiseldonparishcouncil.com](mailto:clerk@chiseldonparishcouncil.com) t: 01793 740744

This is my first article for The Ridgeway Bell, having taken over as Clerk on 1 July. I'd like to begin by thanking my predecessor, Dave Thomas, for his years of service to our community. I hope I can live up to his fine example. Having moved to Chiseldon at the beginning of 2013, my husband and I already feel very much at home in this beautiful Parish and I look forward to supporting our Councillors as they work to ensure that this remains a wonderful place for us all to live. Contact details remain unchanged but the Parish Office in The Old Chapel will now be open between 9.30am and 1pm every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

### **Police report**

PC Draper attended the July meeting of the Full Council and reported crime figures for June that were a little higher than anticipated but still relatively low. They included four non-dwelling burglaries (outbuildings and one house undergoing renovation), twelve thefts (eight of which related to Chiseldon Garage) and three cases of criminal damage (two of which related to the Recreation Ground). There were also a couple of incidents relating to vehicles - one set of number-plates was stolen, one vehicle was broken into and a cycle and a van were taken and subsequently recovered at a nearby location. PC Draper also noted a slight increase in incidents of anti-social behaviour, typical for this time of year. The police are aware of the trend and will be pro-active in tackling it wherever evidence exists.

PC Draper emphasized the need for residents to secure all outbuildings and motor vehicles, ensuring that keys are stored safely and out of sight. Also, if residents spot anything suspicious they should report it using the 101 number. He concluded by reporting one recent conviction in the local area (for burglary) that has resulted in a prison sentence.

### **Highways**

Final plans for the New Road build-out are awaited and will be subject to a later review. Further information on the nature of this review will appear in a future edition of The Ridgeway Bell. Plans are also awaited for the Hodson Road junction into Hodson village.

Yellow lines have been requested around the corner at Castle View Road and The Crescent, along with bollards along the Green. With regard to the yellow lines at either end of Turnball we are waiting for the expiry of a statutory public response period and should know the result very soon.

### **Village Appearance**

Most of the verges within the Parish have now been cut back, albeit to a varying standard. The verge along Hodson Road, from Home Close to the Washpool, will be the subject of a site visit, as will over-hanging tree branches in Saxon Mill. Various footpaths around the village have also been cut back, including the entrances to the Washpool. Many thanks are due to nearby residents who assisted with parts of this work, which remains the subject of ongoing review in partnership with our Borough Councillors.

Several homes have kindly cut back hedgerows and bushes that were impacting upon roads and pavements but there are a number of properties where this work is still required. We would be extremely grateful if residents could ensure that public spaces are kept free from obstruction so that pedestrians, in particular, can move freely and safely around the villages.

### **Notes for Dog Owners**

The Parish Council's website has recently been updated and two maps have been added, showing the location of the 15 bins that we provide for the disposal of dog waste. Please make use of these bins when out walking your dogs and don't leave waste behind, or deposit it in the general refuse bins. We are a dog-friendly community but we do need to ensure that our streets remain safe and clean.

Also, if you are a dog owner in the vicinity of the Butts Road cemetery can you please check your garden fencing as there have been a number of reports of a dog roaming free around the graveyard. On one occasion this resulted in damage to a floral tribute, which was very distressing for the family concerned.

### **Other Matters**

Chiseldon's Roll of Honour has now been moved from The Old Chapel to Holy Cross Church, an appropriate location for such a memorial and one that is more accessible for people wishing to pay their respects.

Landscaping work around the new tennis courts has almost been completed but the Parish Council is aware of the need to fully clear this site. The Chair of the Recreation Committee is working with the Tennis Club and the original contractor to ensure that this work is completed as soon as possible.

The new bus timetables continue to bed-in but we will only keep these valuable services if they are well used. Please see Councillor Hill's update elsewhere in this issue.

There is still one vacancy for a new Parish Councillor (see the advert elsewhere in this issue) and we would also welcome more volunteers to help with the development of a new Parish Plan.

### **Next Meetings**

The monthly Borough Councillors' surgery will take place on Saturday 1 August between 11.30am and 12.30pm in the Old Chapel, Butts Road. This is an opportunity for residents to discuss any concerns with both Parish and Borough Councillors so do come along and say hello.

The next Full Council meeting will be on Monday 10 August, starting at 7.30pm in the Recreation Hall. Residents are welcome to attend and there is a public recess at the start of proceedings, after which residents can choose to leave.