

# Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

Parish Council & Village News – August & September 2024

**20 MPH zone in the centre of Chelveston:** Thank you to everyone who responded to the local consultation during July.

At the parish level, over a third of the electorate and households responded, and at the Chelveston only level, just over 40% responded, both with just under 90% supporting the proposal. (For comparison, the Northants Police Fire & Crime Commissioner was elected in May with 39% supporting on 39% turnout).

Some of the objection responses were concerned that Water Lane might be used as a “cut through” to avoid the 20 mph restrictions. The Cllrs agreed that this was a valid concern and wish to work with Northants Highways to make Water Lane a less attractive option. This will be guided by what Highways will permit.

**Allotment shed replacement:** The 12 new sheds have now been installed by local handyman, Alistair Mead. All 16 sheds have now been replaced in the last 18 months by grant funding.

**Star & Garter:** The *Star & Garter* closed on Sun 18<sup>th</sup> August, whilst Charles Wells seeks a new licensee to take over the running of the pub.

<https://www.wellsandco.com/pubs/90/star-garter-chelveston>

**Community Speed Watch:** The CSW equipment will be in the parish from 17<sup>th</sup> August to 14<sup>th</sup> September, helping to deter speeding traffic. If you want to join our CSW team, please contact the Clerk who will put you in touch with Cllr Hill who leads the CSW team.

Once trained, you are covered by Northants Police insurance whilst using the CSW cameras.

**Speed Indicator Device the “SID Solar” project:** The Raunds Road and Water Lane SIDs have just been converted to solar power, and the Caldecott SID is now mains powered (from the lamppost it is mounted on). This should mean the SIDs will be operational more of the time, and not reliant on volunteers having to lift up and swap the heavy battery units every fortnight.

**Items for reuse:** As a result of the above, we now have six Numax Leisure LV22MF 12v 75Ah batteries and three Suaoki ICS4+ 6/12v 4A battery chargers, all purchased in 2011, surplus to requirements. Leisure batteries are not car batteries (despite looking the same), as they provide a lower level of energy over a much longer time. They are used in caravans, narrowboats, motorhomes, etc. We can recycle them, but re-use is even better.

So if you would like one (or more) of these, please contact the Clerk. Any still remaining by 30<sup>th</sup> September will be recycled.

**Chelveston Village Hall:** is independently owned and operated by one of the parish charities, the Educational Foundation of Abigail Bailey and Ann Levett, founded in 1760. In the last newsletter we reported that most of the existing volunteers would be standing down by June 2025 at the latest. Between them, they will have completed over 80 years of service.

A call for new volunteers has been unsuccessful, and there was a real prospect that the venue would need to close. However, it is still a viable operation and is used for over 20 hours per week. The Parish Council has been asked if it would be prepared to step in and run the Village Hall directly on behalf of residents.

The Council met in August and agreed that the Village Hall and paddock are still important village assets which must be maintained. The Council has therefore decided to take on the role of the ‘Sole Trustee’ at the earliest opportunity.

Given the challenges of getting volunteers to manage the day to day operations, a new part-time paid role of Village Hall Manager will be created. To achieve this, the charity will be converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, enabling it to enter into employment contracts.

Work will begin immediately to ensure a smooth handover of responsibilities from the existing volunteers

**Chelveston Village Hall:** The Village Hall will be closed from Weds 21<sup>st</sup> to Sat 31<sup>st</sup> August for planned maintenance work on the ceiling.

**Environment Team:** Strawberry Hill at Knotting Green is an extraordinary place, just a few minutes’ drive from Chelveston and Caldecott. Some 35 years ago, the previous owner decided to let nature take over this 150 hectare (377 acre) site. The land was transformed from poor arable fields to grassland, shrub and young woodland. As the habitat became wilder, the wildlife moved in – nightingales, turtle doves, linnets, harvest mice, badgers and more.

The Wildlife Trust BCN is now raising £1.5 million to secure the future of the site for benefit of wildlife. More information and how to donate here: <https://www.wildlifebcn.org/strawberryhillappeal>

The Environment Team are excited to say we will be visiting the site at the end of August for a guided tour! If you are interested in joining please email us at [ccvillagewildlife@gmail.com](mailto:ccvillagewildlife@gmail.com)

**Next Issue:** The October & November issue of the Newsletter should be delivered in the first week of October, so if you want to publicise a parish event, please let me know before the end of September.

# Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

## Events – August & September 2024

**The Parish Church of St. John the Baptist** (contact Arthur Wright - 624530).

There is a communion service **every Sunday morning at 9 am.**

The Church is now open as usual after the tree surgery on the driveway.

**Ride & Stride for Churches 2024: Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September** with the Church open as usual. Drinks and snacks available. Volunteers to welcome the riders & striders would be welcome. Contact Brenda Eldred - 07816 771702 .

Money raised helps Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust to continue supporting our marvellous churches across the county with essential repairs and improvements. Ride and Stride is an opportunity to raise money not only for the Trust, but for your own church, as they return 50% of the money to the church of your choice.

The Church Teas on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September** will be in aid of the MacMillan Nurses, and our Harvest Praise, Supper and Auction will be on **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September** with the service at **4pm**. Please look out for the notices nearer the time.

Arthur Wright & Andrew Wager, Churchwardens

**MacMillan Cancer Support** - this year we will be holding our fundraising event at St John's Church on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September** from **1 to 4 pm**, entry free. There will be various stalls, bring and buy, raffle etc. £5 for cake and unlimited tea or coffee.

Sharron Smart



**Free Spirits** (contact Kathy Brooks)

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September**, at the Village Hall, **1.45 to 3.45 pm**, when we shall have a Guest Speaker to talk to us about CHICHELE GARDENS, HIGHAM FERRERS.

All welcome. Visitors £3 including refreshments. For further details, please ring Judy on 01933 622106.



**The Events Team programme of activities.**

We hope you've enjoyed watching our amazing athletes over the last couple of weeks at the Olympic Games. All of the medals celebrating Team GB success will be moved to the fence behind the 305<sup>th</sup> BG memorial for a short period, before we start over again for the Paralympics!

Our next event is the **Annual Fun Dog Show** on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September** in the paddock behind the village hall. Gate opens at 12 noon and the first class will be at 12.30. Please see the accompanying flyer for details. You don't need to be a dog owner to come along and enjoy the fun, refreshments and hopefully some sunshine!

We will also be holding another Quiz (with Fish n Chip Supper) on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October** at St John's Church. Please order tickets early as this sells out fast....

Once again if anyone has any ideas for future events or would be interested in supporting or joining the Events Team please contact Carol on 07880 556286.



**The Parish Council** usually meets on the second Monday of the month at **7.30pm**. Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak on any agenda item at the Chair's discretion.

The agenda and meeting papers are posted on the website ([www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk](http://www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk)) and the agenda is on the parish noticeboards at least three clear days before the meetings.

### Parish Council Members & Officers

**Chair: Andrew Seaman**, Rosemoor, Raunds Rd.

**Vice: Jennifer Harwood**, 7 Britten Close.

**Andy Cuthbert**, 38 The Crescent, Chelston Rise.

**Clinton Hill**, resides in the parish.

**Carol Parsons**, 5 Pokas Cottages.

**Martyn Rixson**, Threeways, 2 High Street.

**Peter Smith**, 2 Bidwell Lane, Caldecott

**Clerk: Mark Hunter**, Ashbury, Caldecott (626039).

E-mails to the Council on [clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk)