



# Bishop's Cleeve Parish Council

## Your Village - Your Voice

Parish Update Spring 2017 - Issue 5



### CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

How lovely the Christmas lights looked and together with the entertainment in the Car Park as well as the Community Centre this is proving to be a successful event. Our thanks go to all those who helped to organise the festivities and everyone in the village who came along to give their support.

### Council Tax to stay the same – at least the Parish bit will do so!

The amount the Parish Council will take from each household will not change in the new year, remaining at £76.35 for a band D property with a total precept of £336,750. This freeze follows on from a reduction last year of 10%. The precept is, of course, only a very small part of the total bill.

The Parish Council has taken a look at what might be the effect on future finances if we are capped. Looking at the likely figures for five more years we are confident that we will have enough money to sustain the Council's existing activities and support the continuing growth in the village. We grew by 5% in the last year alone. We have looked at the future programme of improvements to the village's infrastructure and support for youth engagement and will be able to spend more than £750,000 over the next six years on these important elements for the community.

The Council needs to spend £205,595 on running existing facilities and activities (which are offset by an income of £69,000), plus £126,850 on admin, £60,300 on grants and youth support and £143,000 from reserves, mostly on infrastructure. We will take £129,953 out of reserves to balance the budget. Going forward we expect to have around £170,000 in reserves to carry forward and support the future expansion we foresee. In the coming year, we are planning major spends on play areas, refurbishing the Astro surface, rebuilding the War Memorial, erecting welcome signs at entrances to the village and refreshing the Community Centre building, plus the usual need to install new or replacement waste bins and maintain water courses. In addition, we have access to funds from developers to update the Parish Office and add more facilities at the Sportsfield. We are also discussing the specifications for the new community buildings we are getting at Homelands 2 and Cleevelands.

### ST. MICHAEL'S CENTRE

The centre is looking for volunteers to help with the Luncheon Club that meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month. This will involve serving meals, clearing tables etc. for the senior citizens that attend. If you can spare a few hours twice a month please contact Val Perry on 672094. Even if you are only able to assist on one of those days your help would be appreciated.

Official Newsletter of Bishop's Cleeve Parish Council  
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Telephone: 01242 674440. Email: [clerk@bishopsclleevepc.org](mailto:clerk@bishopsclleevepc.org)  
Website: [www.bcpc.btck.co.uk](http://www.bcpc.btck.co.uk)

## FREE TALK ABOUT CLEEVE COMMON

(A special place on our doorstep)

What makes Cleeve Common 'special'? Why does it look the way it does? Who owns it? How is it managed? If you've ever wondered about these and similar questions, come along to a talk by members of Cleeve Common staff, illustrated by lots of wonderful pictures.

**When:** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. Refreshments available from 7.00pm (small charge).

The talk will last about an hour, after which there will be time for questions.

**Where:** Bishop's Cleeve Community Centre, the building by the Library.

You will be able to hear about the landscape and history of Cleeve Common, its flowers and wildlife, how it is managed today, current conservation and education projects, recreational activities – and much more.

**No need to book** – just turn up and enjoy the evening.

Enquiries to: Cleeve Common Board of Conservators. Phone: 07471 687877

Email: info@cleevecommon.org.uk/Web: www.cleevecommon.org.uk

## Cleeve Common Events Diary 2017

Every year Cleeve Common Conservators run a programme of events to help visitors to learn about and enjoy the Common. This year we have been lucky enough to obtain some funding through the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme. This means in 2017 we can run more events for free or at a reduced price. An overview of our 2017 events programme is as follows:

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 12-3pm:** **Good Friday Easter Trail** - drop in to complete the trail and win a prize!

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 7pm:** Talk at **Winchcombe Annual Town Meeting**.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June:** **Magnificent Meadows Open Day** - something for the whole family, guided walks, children's activities and more as we celebrate our wild flower grassland.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June:** **Memorial Walk** - our annual event for family and friends of those remembered on the Memorial Wall.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July:** **Flower Foray** - a wild flower hunt on Cleeve Hill; a five-mile walk over the Common and adjoining Butterfly Reserve.

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> August & 25<sup>th</sup> August:** **Summer Holiday Family Fun** - adventures on the common for children and accompanying adults too.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September:** **Archaeology Walk** - time travelling on Cleeve Common, discovering the hidden past of Cleeve Common and its surrounds.

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October:** **Friday Family Fun** - with a Halloween theme.

**Late November:** **Winter Walkies** - for dog walkers.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December:** **Cleeve Common Christmas Trail**.

To keep up to date on all things about Cleeve Common find us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram. For full event details see our website: [www.cleevecommon.org.uk](http://www.cleevecommon.org.uk). **Please note that for some events booking is essential and there may be a small charge payable in advance.**

facebook.com/cleevecommon : twitter.com/CleeveCommon : instagram.com/cleeve\_common

*\*Cleeve Common is Gloucestershire's largest common and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It is privately owned land, managed by the Board of Conservators under an 1890 Act of Parliament. The Board is a Registered Charity. (Registered Charity 900131).*

### **SUNRISE AVENUE & MILLHAM ROAD PLAYING FIELDS**

The Council is receiving many complaints about 'dog fouling' in these play areas. These are areas where children play and it is important for health reasons that anyone exercising dogs should clean up after them. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO 'PICK-UP' AFTER YOUR DOG.** There are many responsible dog owners who automatically clear up after their pets but there are always those who do not. **It is an offence to allow your dogs to foul these areas, which could result in legal action and a £1,000 fine.**

**Dog bags can be purchased from the Parish Council - £1 for 50 bags.**

## STREET FAIR

The Street Fair this year will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> June and the theme will be **‘Remembering the Floods of 2007’**. It will be a time to reflect on the floods that devastated the village and how everyone pulled together to help neighbours, especially the elderly.

If you have any pictures/photographs of the village at this time please contact Mr Peter Badham on 01242 676569 or 01242 516779. Email: [PSS.Badham@badhampharmacy.co.uk](mailto:PSS.Badham@badhampharmacy.co.uk). If you would like to help with organising the Street Fair please contact Peter.

## TRANSITION CLEEVE

On Tuesday 25th April, Transition Cleeve are privileged to be able to show "Demain-Tomorrow", a hugely positive, affirming and inspirational film, exploring creative solutions in the fields of food, energy, transport, economics and education. It is currently on release in 29 countries, regularly receiving standing ovations. The film was produced in France but with commentary in English and is being distributed across the UK by the Transition Network. It includes stories from a number of Transition communities here and abroad. The showing is being hosted by Bishop's Cleeve Methodist Church, Bishop's Close, GL52 8NT and will start at 7pm. Entry is free but space is limited so please arrive early. For more information ring 01242 244785 or email [transition.cleeve@googlemail.com](mailto:transition.cleeve@googlemail.com)

## SPORTSFIELD – CHELTENHAM ROAD

The Parish Council's sports pavilion and surrounds (opened in 2005) has experienced an unprecedented spate of vandalism during 2016. The Council has decided to increase the security measures to protect the building by providing greater physical security and has installed security cameras to monitor activities around it. The car park is not a public car park but was provided for sports users wanting to use the facilities. It was clear that there were activities taking place in the car park of which the Council does not approve and it is controlling access by the use of gates. A similar situation exists at the Nortonham allotments. Having no gates on the entrance was attracting people who had no business at our sports facilities and came from further afield. Additional lighting will also shortly be installed to provide a safer and more secure environment for the users of the sports pavilion and car park including the Council's caretakers.

## PLANNING ISSUES

1. As you will already be aware, a planning application for 265 dwellings on Stoke Road adjacent to Grundon's and Cheltenham North Rugby Club has gone to appeal after being rejected by Tewkesbury Borough Council and the Parish Council. This Council has made the decision to appoint a representative to put forward the reasons for our objections. We feel that 'enough is enough' with the large amount of development we have experienced over recent years, and which is still going on, and that we have to make a stand. We will keep you notified when a decision from the appeal is reached.

2. You may already be aware that Persimmon Homes have purchased some land North of Cleevelands. Although the area involved is officially in Gotherington Parish the impact will seriously affect Bishop's Cleeve. Persimmon Homes have undertaken a public consultation but you can rest assured that the Parish Council will be keeping a very close eye on this application. If you wish to express your concerns please contact Persimmon by post to: Bishop's Cleeve Public Consultation, Aspen House, Birmingham Road, Studley, Warwickshire, BS0 7BG or by email: [smidconsultation@persimmonhomes.com](mailto:smidconsultation@persimmonhomes.com).

3. Street Lighting: Since the installation of the new LED lighting the Parish Council has received several concerns from residents about the lack of sufficient lighting in some areas. There are areas where there appear to be 'black spots' which affect the level of lighting on public pavements at night. If you have any concerns, please do let us know.

## PARISH COUNCIL SURGERY

Council surgery is held on the first Friday of each month at the Parish Office between 12.30 and 2.30pm.

Future dates: Friday 7th April; 12th May; 2nd June; 7th July.

**\*Your Village – Your Voice! Let Us Know! Email: [newsletterteam@bishopsclleevepc.org](mailto:newsletterteam@bishopsclleevepc.org)**

## WAR MEMORIAL

The Parish Council has approved the restoration and cleaning of the War Memorial to bring it back to its former glory in advance of the centenary of the end of WW1, which takes place in 2018. Many of the older residents of the village will recall that it was damaged some years ago. Originally it stood where the roundabout is, near the entrance to Tesco's on Church Road, and was moved to its present site because of the damage caused by the increase in traffic. The memorial was commemorated on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 1915.

## BISHOP'S CLEEVE ARMY CADETS

The Army Cadets are now recruiting new members between the ages of 12 and 18 years (male and female). Parade night is held on a Wednesday evening 7.15pm – 9.30pm. If you are interested, please call into the platoon building near the Car Park in Church Road for more information.

## CONTACT THE TEAM

### Cleeve Grange Ward

Cllr Wendy Hopkins (Vice Chair) 697028  
Cllr Valerie Perry 672094  
Cllr James Wyatt 677947

### Cleeve St. Michaels Ward

Cllr Peter Badham 516779  
Cllr Fraser Boyd – via Parish Office  
Cllr David Foulger 679956  
Cllr Olivia Holden – via Parish Office  
Cllr Sylvia Hughes 673788  
Cllr Alan Robinson 674601

### Cleeve West Ward

Cllr Olivia Kent 07725 880977  
Cllr Tony MacKinnon (Chair) 672534  
Cllr Peter Richmond 678271  
Cllr Robert Stayt 677961

**We currently have vacancies on the council.**

To find out how to join us please check our website: [www.bcp.c.btcp.co.uk](http://www.bcp.c.btcp.co.uk) or call into the Parish Office.

## FRISBEE TOURNAMENT

**Where:** THE SPORTSFIELD  
CHELTENHAM ROAD

**When:** 13<sup>TH</sup> & 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY

## CRAFT FAIR

A Craft Fair is being held at the Community Centre near the Library on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month from 10.00am to 2.00pm. For further information please contact Mrs Libby Cleal on: 07776 301767.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: LIBRARY OUR OPENING HOURS HAVE CHANGED!

Our new opening hours are as follows:

	<b>open+</b>	<u>Staffed</u>	<b>open+</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>08:00 - 13:00</b>	<b>13:00 - 17:00</b>	<b>17:30 - 19:00</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>CLOSED</b> Children's Centre	<b>13:00 - 17:00</b>	<b>17:30 - 19:00</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>08:00 - 10:00</b>	<b>10:00 - 17:00</b>	<b>17:30 - 19:00</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>08:00 - 09:00</b>	<b>09:00 - 17:00</b>	<b>17:30 - 19:00</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>08:00 - 09:00</b>	<b>09:00 - 17:00</b>	<b>17:30 - 19:00</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>08:00 - 09:00</b>	<b>09:00 - 15:00</b>	<b>15:30 - 18:00</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>08:00 - 11:00</b>	<b>11:00 - 15:00</b>	<b>15:30 - 18:00</b>

During the times shown in **red**, the library will be open but no staff will be present. To access the library during these times you will need to use our new open+ system, for which you will need to register with a member of staff. Please speak to a member of the library staff if you would like more information about open+.