Churt Parish Council Newsletter - October 2019

Councillor Susan Ryland

Councillor Susan Ryland has unfortunately resigned from Churt Parish Council due to personal and professional reasons. Susan was a great asset to us and since she joined became the Council lead on environmental matters. She has got us off the starting line on many environmental issues and started us thinking of what we, as a Parish Council, and you as residents can do to protect our environment. We are very grateful for Susan's contribution and wish her well for the future.

Churt Pavilion Roof

Since the last newsletter and the news that Churt Parish Council was planning to apply for a loan from the Public Works Loan Board, I am delighted that donations of £1,500.00 have been made towards the replacement of the faulty tiles. They consist of £1000.00 from a local charity which wishes to remain anonymous and £500.00 from the Churt Fete Committee. We are very grateful for these contributions and would welcome any others! In the meantime we shall continue with the loan application. A consultation process is currently underway and will conclude at 11.59pm on Sunday 27^{th} October 2019. Details are also included on the village website at www.churt.org and any comments should be directed to churt_pc@btinternet.com or via the contact option on the website. I can assure you that we have explored all options and this is the most cost effective solution at present.

Five Year Parish Plan - Your chance to input

Your Parish Council is in effect a small business. All successful businesses have a medium to long term plan. We have decided that we should develop a five year plan which should focus on such things as:

Leisure, highways and transport, the young and elderly, crime and the police, housing and planning and the environment.

There may well be many other issues that you feel should be included and we would be very pleased to hear from residents of any other matters you feel should be included in the plan. Any ideas or comments should be sent to churt_pc@btinternet.com or via the village website www.churt.org

Emergency Planning - Grant from SSEN

We are thrilled to have received a grant from Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks of £1206.00 for the purchase of a mobile generator and ancillary equipment (emergency lighting, walkie talkie radios and other essential emergency centre equipment) for use in the case of a major emergency in the village. The pavilion would become the emergency control centre and once the equipment has been fully tested and initialised will make the centre self-sufficient in terms of power. We are

extremely grateful to SSEN for both this grant and the support they have shown the Parish over the past few years. The Parish Council is looking at ways in which this equipment can be effectively used rather than just standing idle waiting for a potential emergency situation. We must, however, ensure that it is readily available for use in fast time situations.

SSEN Priority Services Register

If you have not already done so, please can I urge all those eligible people to join the Priority Services Register? This gives those people registered a priority service from SSEN in the event of a power cut. Please see further information on the SSEN website via the following link:

https://www.ssen.co.uk/PriorityServices/

It is quick and easy to sign up either via the website or on the telephone.

War Memorial Grants

Sometime ago the Parish Council applied to the War Memorials Trust for grants to clean and refurbish both the main memorial on Redhearn Green and the two stone memorial piers on either side of the entrance to the recreation ground. We recently heard that we have been successful on both counts and have received 50% grants of £500 and £710 respectively to clean and refurbish the lettering and pointing as necessary to both memorials. Needless to say we are thrilled and wheels are in motion to get the work done. It is a complicated process and I am afraid that the work will not be done in time for this year's armistice service.

War Memorial Florals

My thanks once again to CHAPS who have recently renewed the floral displays at the base of the memorial. There has been a huge improvement since CHAPS took over the floral maintenance and I am sure you will all join me in thanking them. Thank you again, CHAPS.

Scope Clothing Recycling Bin

Scope is the disability equality charity. A clothing recycling bin has recently been delivered to the pavilion on the recreation ground. We encourage all to recycle their unwanted clothing via this container and to support this worthy charity. We are assured that it will be regularly emptied. This must be a far better option than sending unwanted clothing to landfill, so let us make full use of this facility

David Crossley. Chairman

The next meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Recreation Ground Trust will take place on Weds 20^{th} November 2019 in the pavilion at 7.30pm