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Churt Parish Council Newsletter July/August 2021

Graffiti and Fly Tipping

I am going to start this month's newsletter with two negative items and then move on to more positive and pleasant matters. The first relates to graffiti. Last week two extensive portions of the road surface of Hale House Lane had apparently politically motivated graffiti painted in large white letters. Surrey County Council was contacted and removed the graffiti at expense to the tax payer. This was a potential criminal act and the offender, if identified, could face prosecution for damage to the road surface.

Fly tipping unfortunately continues. Recently a large industrial-sized garden parasol was dumped on the cycle racks on the recreation ground behind the village hall. Our contractor has dismantled and disposed of it and we await his bill. Again this is unnecessary use of tax payers' money.

Pedestrian Crossing

After extensive lobbying from Churt Parish Council, we are delighted that the road surface and anti-skid surface on the approach to the pedestrian crossing on the A287 by the shops has now been repaired and totally renewed by Surrey County Council.

New Benches

You may recall that there used to be a large curved bench on Redhearn Green which became so dilapidated that it had to be removed. There is also another bench adjacent to the playground on the recreation ground which was previously dedicated and named as the "Queen Elizabeth" bench, which due to its poor state must be removed. I am delighted that we have been awarded a grant from Surrey County Councillor David Harmer's Member's Allocation Fund for half the cost of replacing both benches. Both will be ordered soon and the one on Redhearn Green will be named the "Prince Philip" bench and the other will be rededicated as the "Queen Elizabeth" bench. Once again thank you to Councillor Harmer.

RoSPA Inspection of the Playground

The annual inspection of the children's playground was recently carried out by RoSPA, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. A few minor issues were identified, all of which have already been rectified. My thanks to the team of councillors who carry out weekly inspections to ensure that the playground is always fit for purpose and safe.

Proposed Village Litter Pick

With the easing of Covid restrictions and in the hope that the pandemic is still under control, we propose holding our next village litter pick on **Sunday 10th October**. Further details will follow, but please put the date in your diaries.

Picnic in the Park and CHAPS autumn show

Everything is in place for our proposed village celebration on the Recreation Ground on **Saturday 11th September**. A small band will be there and our very own Debbie Lawson will also be contributing her musical talents during the afternoon. Music commences at 2.30pm. The Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, Michael More-Molyneux will be attending and has agreed to present Freedom of the Parish certificates to two very worthy recipients, Councillor John Petty and prominent Churt resident, Mrs Olivia Cotton. CHAPS will also be holding their autumn show in the village hall and it is intended that both events will run in tandem. I and the organisers very much look forward to seeing and welcoming you all. Huge thanks to Richard Bourne and his team of very efficient organisers.

Holiday Time

I guess that many of you will be taking a well-deserved holiday this year either as a staycation or abroad. We too will be taking a break, though Council business will still continue throughout the holiday period. There will be no Parish Council meeting in August and our next meeting will be on Wednesday 15th September. All the councillors and our clerk wish you a very happy summer and we look forward to seeing you on Saturday 11th September on the recreation ground.

David Crossley. Chairman

The next meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Recreation Ground Trust will take place in the pavilion on Weds 15th September 2021 at 7.30pm