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The Parish Council Newsletter

Welcome to the October 2020 edition of the Parish Council Newsletter. This two page version of the Newsletter is available on the Council's website. **Printed copies** will be available from our usual outlets at Forest Pharmacy; Fourways Stores; Budgen and Woodington Feeds. We will be making regular Newsletter updates to be found on our **web site** and our **Facebook** pages – type in **Copythorne Parish Council** on Facebook to get to our pages.

A Message from the Parish Council to All Our Parishioners – COVID-19

THE POTENTIAL FOR THE SECOND WAVE AND NEW CONSTRAINTS!

As with all our previous recent issues, the Parish Council would like to express our sincerest wishes that all of you **stay safe and well** as the country continues to experience the threats posed by the Coronavirus (**COVID-19**). On an almost daily basis, it appears increasingly, that we are heading for a possible major resurgence of the virus in the country. All the more reason, therefore, to maintain care of ourselves and our loved ones, friends and acquaintances. We must all still **continue to be vigilant!** And there are still many in our community who have to stay at home. **Please still keep an eye out for neighbours you know can't get out and may need your help.**

The Parish Hall continues to monitor the advice regarding use (the **Pre School** is fully open)

The Parish Council continues to provide **updates on our website and Facebook pages.**

Unless the guidance changes, the next Parish Council meeting on **13th October** will again be held **virtually via videoconferencing.** If you have an issue you'd like raised under the '**Public Session**' agenda item, please contact the Clerk; details below.

So everyone: Please Continue to Be Careful! - Be Safe! - Be Well!

'Parish Community Forum' and the Start of a Community Development Process for a Parish Design Statement (PDS) - CANCELLATION OF PLANNED MEETING

Parishioners will know from recent editions of the Newsletter that, following the cancellation of the **Annual parish Meeting** earlier this year due to Coronavirus restrictions, we were planning a '**Parish Forum**' meeting for **Tuesday 27th October at 7.30 pm.** at the Parish Hall. At this meeting we were planning to discuss, amongst other things, the launch of the process to create our '**Parish Design Statement**' (PDS).

However, in the light of the most recent restrictions announced by the Government regarding people numbers in single spaces, we have had to **CANCEL the meeting** and we do not know when, if at all, this meeting can go ahead.

However, we are still very concerned that we find a way to launch the **PDS** and establish the **Parish Design Statement Community Task Force (PDSCTF)**, to take it forward.

We believe that this will be an important and exciting development for our community and would really hope that the community can take full ownership of its development. The Parish Council has **created a template on which the PDS can be built** which contains all the basic information, so a good starter has been created for the Task Force to work on.

We described what a PDS is in our last two (**August / September**) **Newsletters**, so please refer to copies on the Parish Council website for more information about possible constitution of the Task Force and what is involved. This will be a **Community Initiative**, not a Parish Council one and any Task Force would be comprised of local people, including Parish Council representation

We'd be really pleased to hear from anyone who'd like to be involved. This is a **call for volunteers** to sit on the community led Task Force.

If you're interested, please contact the Clerk (details below) and leave your contact details. We'd be really pleased to hear from you!

Coronavirus – Further Update on Help from Our Local Community Shops

All our local shops and services continue to operate in much the same way as previously, with **Local Farm Shops**: – **Alford's** open Thursday, Friday and Saturday (02380 812 269 for orders) and **Tatchbury Manor Farm** on Friday and Saturday for order collections (tatchburymanorfarm.co.uk); **Forest Pharmacy** weekdays 8.30 am to 5.30 pm and Saturday 10.00 am to 2.00 pm (023 8081 2734 for pharmaceutical delivery requests) (see also their new website at myforestpharmacy.co.uk); **Budgens** normal 7 days a week opening and **Spar** normal 7 days a week opening. **Fourways Stores and Bartley Post Office** – the shop is open from **6.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.** every day and the post office from **9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.** (02380 813 481 or johanne@fourwaysstores.com for orders / deliveries)

'Flu Jabs – Getting Yours Done!



As well as everything else we are contending with, the Government is very concerned that the normal annual programme for 'flu jabs continues so as not to create a further major health issue. Indeed, more than ever, the NHS is urging that 'flu jabs are widely undertaken.

'Flu Jabs can be obtained through either: local **GP surgeries** or **local pharmacies** including the Forest Pharmacy. All are by appointment. Some GP surgeries are arranging for 'flu jabs to be done in off-site facilities, so check first!

As the Wet Season Approaches

This is a timely reminder that, as the wet season approaches, it's very important to ensure that our **watercourses, culverts and ditches** are unimpeded by undergrowth and other detritus. Many householders in our Parish have **riparian responsibilities** for watercourses on or alongside their properties. As we expect more rain in the winter months, the ability of our watercourses to take the drainage is very important. If you need more information, please go to the Parish Council web site (www.copythorne.org.uk/flooding), which includes a variety of resources including a helpful YouTube video from Hampshire County Council

Non-Native Invasive Plant Species – Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed



A reminder from previous Newsletters – the season for spotting these dangerous invasive species is with us. Please keep an eye out when walking in our Parish – especially near watercourses. Full information on spotting them and also what action to take if you do is to be found on the Parish Council website – www.copythorne.org.uk – using the link on the Home page



Parish Footpaths Information Updated

Every year, Parish Councillors 'walk' all the official **public rights of way (PROW) / footpaths** in the Parish to check on their condition, accessibility and identification. We have a **large number (21) of these PROW / footpaths in Copythorne** and they stay clear and easy to access if we **regularly** use them! They are of varying lengths and type and great for a gentle stroll or a more active walk with your four-legged friend!

The 2020 reports on the footpaths can be found on the **Parish Council web site**.



Finally Well Done to the Parish Pickers!

The Parish Pickers have, on the 27th August, collected their **500th bin bag of rubbish!!** What a fantastic achievement by all the volunteers in the 18 months since they started and their wonderful contribution to our community. **Well done Pickers!!**

Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting: The next 2 Parish Council meeting will take place on **Tuesday 13th October** and **Tuesday 10th November**, and at the time of writing, are both planned to take place via video conferencing. Contact the Clerk for more information on access to the meeting.

The **Clerk to the Council, David Rigby**, can be contacted by post at: **9, The Cleaves, West Totton, Southampton, SO40 8WL** or by telephone: **02381120150** or by email at: parishclerk@copythorne.org.uk website: www.copythorne.org.uk. Details of individual Parish Councillors, and information on District and County Councillors, can also be found on the Parish Council Website and on community notice boards.