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The Parish Council Newsletter

Welcome to the November 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.

An Update Message from the Parish Council to All Our Parishioners – COVID-19 THE POTENTIAL FOR THE SECOND WAVE AND NEW CONSTRAINTS!

In keeping with 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**). The most recent allocation of '**Tiers**' to define what specific circumstances apply in every area and region, places our Parish community, as a part of Hampshire, in **Tier 1 – Medium** (at the time of writing). This means that the '**Rule of Six**' applies and specific arrangements apply to business, leisure venues and other specific activities, with schools operating as currently; we can go shopping and presently, no more specific rules apply.

However, even in Tier 1 please remain vigilant and don't forget to **keep an eye out for neighbours** who may be more vulnerable or in need of help!

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

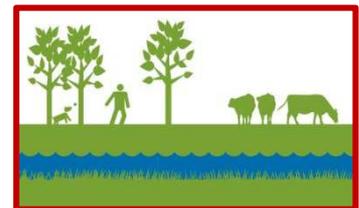
The next Parish Council meeting on **10th November** will again be held **virtually via videoconferencing**. If you have an issue you'd like raised under the '**Public Session**' agenda item, please contact the Clerk; details below.

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

Riparian Responsibilities – Property Ditches and Culverts – Developments

In last month's newsletter, we talked about the need for householders (and other land owners as well) to ensure that any **ditches, culverts or watercourses** alongside their property/land are clear and free flowing. This is called a **Riparian Responsibility**.

In many cases ditches have over the years been filled in and replaced by drains or culverts and so some home owners may not even be aware that they have a **legal responsibility** to maintain something until their property, or a neighbouring property, suffers surface water flooding.



The **Parish Council's Flooding Advisory Committee** (chaired by Cllr. Graham Chillcott), has, over the last few months, been working with representatives of the **Hampshire County Council Flood & Water Management Team** to understand better how the Parish Council; County Council; other relevant bodies; and local residents can work together to resolve localised issues.

This joint work builds on the **Parish Flood Plan** that has been produced and distributed to around 300 houses in the Parish. A copy of the Parish Flood Plan is also on our website: <https://www.copythorne.org.uk/flooding/> or available as an hard copy from the Parish Clerk.

In recent weeks members of the Flooding Advisory Committee have **visited locations in the Parish** that have been affected by degrees of flooding after period of heavy rain and have already raised a number of issues that HCC are now dealing with.

The next step is a **programme of education** to develop understanding about Riparian Responsibilities.

continued overleaf

Riparian Responsibilities – Property Ditches and Culverts (cont.)

This will involve HCC (as the Lead Authority for such matters) sending **letters to occupiers of houses considered to be most at risk** of having blocked culverts and water courses, to remind them of what needs to be done and point them in the direction of support and guidance material.

We are aware that many local residents do know what they need to do. Their neighbours, the Parish Council and HCC are grateful to these residents for undertaking the required work every year. We hope to build on that knowledge and work to encourage others to do the same.

Together we can work to mitigate the issues.

Coronavirus – Continuing Our 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).

A big thank you to all our local shops for all your continuing efforts on our behalf!!

Who Took The Benches and Village Sign!???

Many of you may have noticed that the **old Bartley village sign** has disappeared! **Don't worry!** It is quite safe. We have removed it for a much needed renovation – it was in quite poor condition. They're being cleaned and straightened out (it's actually two signs, back to back!) and then given a completely new paint finish. Once they have been completed at the village sign beauty parlour, they will be re-installed in the old position!



In addition, we are about to start work on two more of our **Parish benches** – the one outside **Forest Foot and Health in Cadnam** and the other at the **Pollards Moor / Romsey Road crossroads**. Sometime around the end of the first week of November / start of the second week, the benches will be removed and work started to clean them up fit new slats and re-oil. We'll do all we can to get them back in place as soon as possible!

Community Speed Watch (CSW) – Brief Update

After a break of operations due to the Lockdown, our dedicated team of volunteers on the **Copythorne CSW Team** are back in action around the Parish, helping to keep our community safe. On 17th August, the team went out on their first survey since Lock-Down. They conducted 4 surveys in August and another 8 in September. In August, they monitored **1493 vehicles** and **178 will have received a Police letter about driving over the speed limit**. In September, they monitored **2365 vehicles, with 311 letters sent to speeding motorists**. Also, in September, **13 drivers** were driving in excess of **50 mph in the 30 mph zones** – they will all have personal contact from the Police.



If you can spare a minimum of 1½ hours a month and would like to join the small, friendly CSW Team, pass your details to the Parish Clerk and you will be contacted by the CSW Coordinator.

Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting: The next 2 Parish Council meeting will take place on **Tuesday 10th November** and **Tuesday 8th December**, 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.