

Newsletter November 2023

Two New Councillors! We are delighted to welcome Peter Funnell from Bussage Ward and Chris Gardiner from Hill Ward. Both have lived locally for a very long time and were co-opted onto the Parish Council at the Full Council meeting held on 5 October. Peter has worked in the vehicle tyre and repair industry since leaving school. He is passionate about the environment and is eager to assist the Council with the maintenance of land. Chris lives at Middle Hill Farm and is Managing Director of Gardiners Construction, a family business. He has lots of experience in community activities and groups and is keen to continue this with Parish Council.

Play Rangers – We are pleased to say that Play Rangers will be back for the October Half Term Holiday with a spooky theme on Thursday 2nd November from 10am until 4pm at The Old Common, Bussage. There will be a variety of activities and it's free! Under 7's are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent or carer. It's a great way to end the half term so come along and give the children a treat. It also gives parents and carers a chance to catch up with one another!

Friday Lunch Club - This initiative was launched a year ago and is going from strength to strength. Many residents attend regularly and enjoy a very sociable free lunch of homemade soup with a roll, cheese & biscuits, cake and tea or coffee! We have a fantastic group of volunteers but it has become so popular we need more volunteers! If you can help, please get in touch. Do join us at the Frith Youth Centre every Friday 12 – 2pm.

Chalfest - Community tickets for 2024 are now available through ticket fairy.

Food Table – Thank you to residents who have contributed to our 'mini food bank' which is just inside the foyer at The Parish Centre. We would also like to thank Tesco Express for donating to us, and finally a huge thank you to Chalford Hill School for kindly donating their Harvest Festival collection to us. All donations really do make a difference and those that need to use the table are very grateful. Our Chair, Cllr Trinder attended the harvest assembly to express our thanks and to explain how valuable the food bank has become. It really is heart-warming to see the community working together.

Remembrance Day - Councillor Samaroo will be laying a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council on Sunday 12th November at Christchurch.

Frith Wood Update - We are still waiting for planning permission to have work done on the trees to make them safe due to squirrel damage. You are welcome to use the paths in the wood but do so at your own risk. In windy or other severe weather conditions you are advised not to enter the wood or use the path by the side of the wood.

Openreach – We are relieved to report that Openreach have now completed the reinstallation of the cables since their theft in August. The Parish Centre along with residents now have use of a landline again. Openreach have assured us that additional security measures have been put in place to ensure this doesn't happen again.

Footpath Volunteers

Why yellow?



You won't be able to tell in black and white, but the barriers at this corner of Bussage playing field were green when the photo was taken. By the time you read this - depending on the weather - your Footpath Volunteers hope to have painted the metal barriers on France Lynch and Bussage playing fields yellow. Why yellow? The answer is simple. Yellow is the recommended colour for visually impaired people to see at a distance. It's part of a long-term project to improve both the accessibility and safety of the playing field entrances – we've widened the gaps in the walls

to make them easier for mobility scooters and wheelchairs to use, improved muddy surfaces,

and - like here - made barriers safer (the Volunteers are standing behind a vertical bar barrier they installed as a replacement for a hoop barrier that young children could run under).

A419 resurfacing – Just a reminder that for the most up to date information regarding the road works please visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/resurfacing.

October has been a mixed bag of heavy rain, thunderstorms, sunshine and fog so Autumn really is upon us now. Don't forget that the clocks go back on 29th October.

Our contact details are Chalford Parish Centre, 50 Gerald's Way, Chalford, Stroud, G16 8FJ. (01453) 887204 info@chalford-glos.gov.uk Please contact us if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.