

Newsletter – December 2022

Grant Applications - If you are a local organisation in need of funding towards a project, you may be eligible for a small grant from the Parish Council. The deadline for applications is 31 January 2023. Grant application form and rules are available from the Parish Centre or from the web site.

We have an amazing group of volunteers who are running a **Warm Room** at Frith Youth Centre every Friday from 12.00 noon to 2.00 p.m. Come and join them for a coffee or tea and a bowl of soup. A big thank you to everyone who is helping to provide this much needed service during these difficult times.

Our mini **Food Bank** is growing by the day thanks to the generosity of our residents and a large donation from Chalford Hill School. If you are feeling the pinch and really don't know how you will be able to afford essentials this week or month, please come into the Parish Centre and help yourself. In addition, we have '**Barry**', our **Freezer of Love**, stocked with nutritious meals made by the Long Table.

In addition (if the above is not enough), Thomas Keble students are working with us again this year to provide small Christmas gifts for those residents who would enjoy a little treat at Christmas.

Trees – safety work will be carried out by our Arboriculturist in Frith Wood in early January. This will entail the removal of dead wood over or close to footpaths, broken hanging branches and the cleaning up of multiple broken limbs and branch stubs damaged during contractor felling. There is an ongoing problem with squirrel damage that leads to the regular dropping of branches. No trees will be felled.

Chalford Band Hut track – we are liaising with the band on improvements to the track leading up to the band hut. It is anticipated that both the band and the Parish Council will provide resources for the improvement. Our congratulations to the band for taking trophies for the highest placed 1st Section Band and 2nd place overall in the recent Southwest Brass Band Association Competition.

A reminder to **dog owners**, please pick up after your pets and deposit dog poo bags in a bin. Thank you.

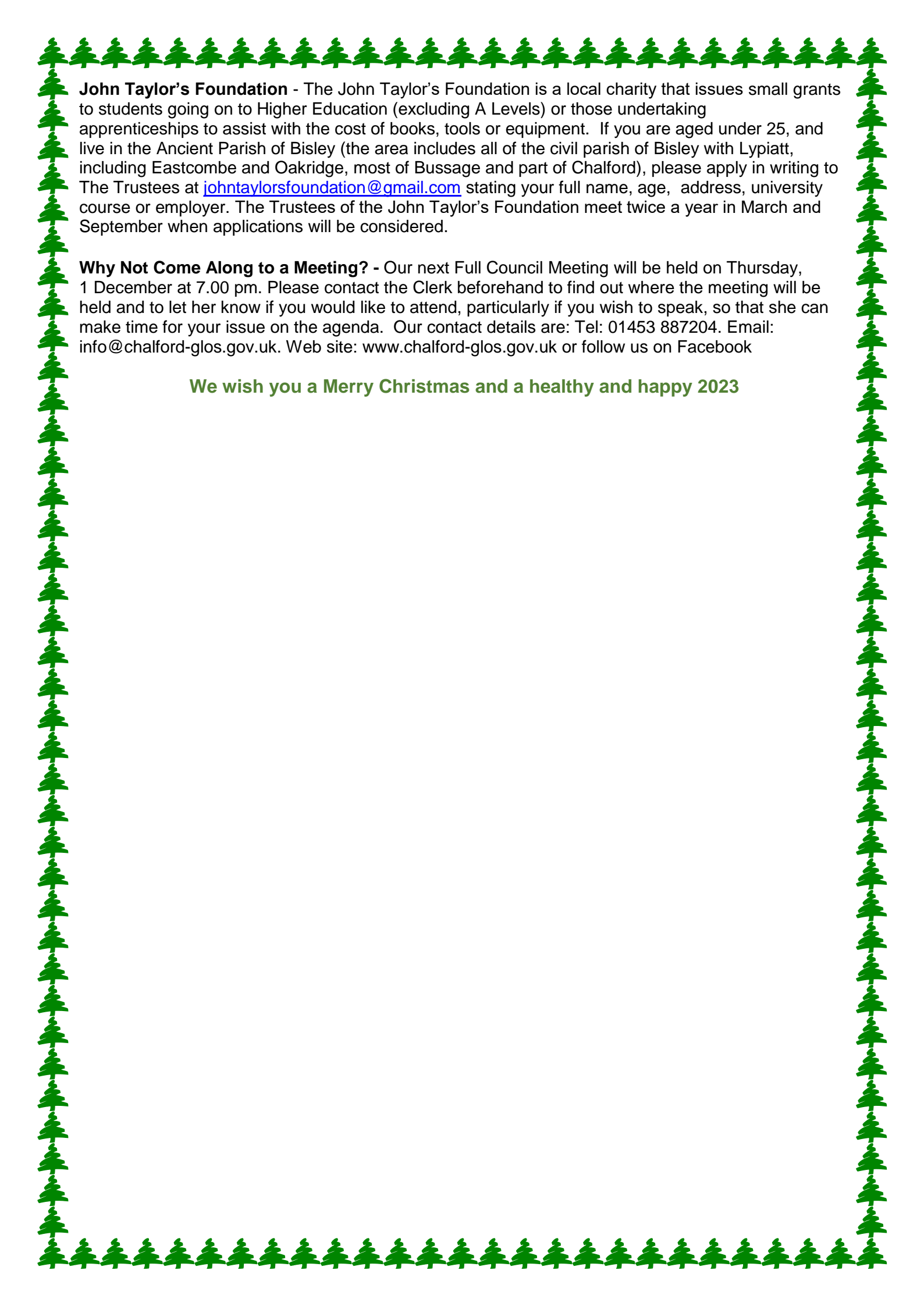
We have given permission for **ChalCAN Biodiversity** to plant three rowan trees and sow wild flower seed on the land at the rear of Tesco loading bay. We look forward to seeing a beautiful display next year.

Footpath Volunteers getting better at walling



Those readers who walk regularly along the path from Coppice Hill into Dimmel's Dale will have seen the work the Footpath Volunteers have been doing since June repairing the church wall. After a couple of false starts (our work fell down - twice!) we've been taken in hand by the Parish's resident dry stone walling expert Janet Gaskell. Janet has both visited the site to inspect our work, and commented on the weekly photographs we send her. As a result we've made sure we've got solid wide foundations, are using big stones at the bottom, are using a line to keep things parallel and straight, are taking care with the latter (making the wall slightly narrower as it

gets higher) and making sure we use through stones from front to back for strength. The latest comment from Janet was 'Excellent', plus some advice on the next steps. We think we're winning. Thanks Janet.



John Taylor's Foundation - The John Taylor's Foundation is a local charity that issues small grants to students going on to Higher Education (excluding A Levels) or those undertaking apprenticeships to assist with the cost of books, tools or equipment. If you are aged under 25, and live in the Ancient Parish of Bisley (the area includes all of the civil parish of Bisley with Lypiatt, including Eastcombe and Oakridge, most of Bussage and part of Chalford), please apply in writing to The Trustees at john Taylorsfoundation@gmail.com stating your full name, age, address, university course or employer. The Trustees of the John Taylor's Foundation meet twice a year in March and September when applications will be considered.

Why Not Come Along to a Meeting? - Our next Full Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, 1 December at 7.00 pm. Please contact the Clerk beforehand to find out where the meeting will be held and to let her know if you would like to attend, particularly if you wish to speak, so that she can make time for your issue on the agenda. Our contact details are: Tel: 01453 887204. Email: info@chalford-glos.gov.uk. Web site: www.chalford-glos.gov.uk or follow us on Facebook

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy 2023