

Newsletter – July 2022 TH

If you haven't heard already, be warned that **Toadsmoor Road** is to be closed from 25 July to 2 September, yes almost 6 weeks! The closure is for an upgrade of the traffic lights. Whilst we appreciate that this work has been scheduled during the school holidays, we are only too aware of the disruption that this will cause. We are therefore communicating with Highways to try and decrease the time or at least get some kind of traffic management to provide a one way system.

Jubilee celebrations – what a weekend! So many parties. It was great to see so many people coming together to celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the throne. The Parish Council held a tea party on the Wednesday preceding the bank holiday and so many people came to enjoy some home made cakes and a cup of tea/coffee. Thank you to all who made cakes and to the ladies who helped on the day.

Annual Parish Meeting – over 30 people attended our meeting in May to hear what the Parish Council has been up to over the year. Those receiving a grant award provided the meeting with details of their organisation. Cotswold Canals Trust gave an interesting update on the canal restoration.

Grass cutting – at this time of year, we receive many complaints about overgrown paths. We will get around to cutting all but please bear with us; we have one Groundsman who is assisted during the season for two days a week and they can only do so much in a day. Thank you.

Accounts 2021-22 – the public inspection of our accounts runs from 30 June to 10 August 2022. If you would like a copy of our accounts, please call at the Parish Centre.

Allotments – would you like to grow your own fruit and vegetables? Now is a good time to register your interest as the waiting lists are the shortest they have been for some years. Interested? Then contact Kate and find out more.

Food – 'Barry', our Freezer of Love, is replenished every month with nutritious meals made by the Long Table so come along and try some. Monetary donations are gratefully received for the meals but don't worry if you aren't able, the food is available to all. In addition, residents have generously donated dry food and we now have a large stock of tins and packets.

Chalfest – at last, after 2 years, we are finally going to be able to let our hair down and dance the night away. Friday night, 22 July is exclusively for Chalford residents and features a variety of groups. On Saturday you can enjoy every aspect of a festival, including a fantastic range of food, lots of entertainment for children, local organisations, bars and of course the essential music acts.

Public Rights of Way – What can I do? - The law on Public Rights of Way (PRoW) is complex, but there are some basic ideas which are relevant to the paths in our Parish. Walkers can: pass and repass along a PRoW; stop for a short break to rest, eat or enjoy the view; and take photographs. Straying from a PRoW is trespassing, and cyclists or horse riders are trespassing if they use a PRoW without permission. Landowners must keep PRoW clear of obstructions such as locked gates and broken stiles; remake a PRoW after ploughing; and provide and maintain structures for access, such as gates or stiles (voluntary groups are often willing to help with this). It's worth pointing out that overgrown brambles and branches are not normally treated as an obstruction, but as a maintenance issue – so if you think there's a problem see if your Parish Footpath Volunteers can help. Finally, if you want to know more about the law and PRoW, the Ramblers website is a great place to start.

Parish Councillor vacancies – are you interested in local issues and looking for a new challenge? Could you provide a voice for residents? If you are passionate about this area and want to make a difference then come and join us. Want to know more? Then contact the Parish Centre.

Why Not Come Along to a Meeting? - Our next Full Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, 7 July 2022 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