

## JUNE NEWSLETTER

As we write this piece, we hear that the message has changed to 'stay alert'. We are now able to take unlimited amounts of outdoor exercise, sit in the sun in our playing fields and even play sports but only with members of our own household. This gives us a little more freedom to enjoy our lovely surroundings but please 'stay alert' and remember that social distancing rules must still be obeyed.

Again, we must praise all the volunteers who are carrying out shopping and collecting prescriptions for the housebound, not to mention the dog walking and other small requirements. You have made such a difference to a resident's isolation. We are so proud of everyone.

**Dog fouling and litter** – there has been a marked increase with both of these issues. Now that we are to be given more freedom to enjoy our lovely parish, please be considerate and bag and dispose of your pet's fouling and take your litter home or put it in the nearest bin. Again, readers may not be the perpetrators so if you witness anyone abusing this request, please pass the information on to our SDC Dog Warden at [Josie.Oak@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:Josie.Oak@stroud.gov.uk), 01453 754478. The maximum fine can be £1000 for those not picking up after their dogs.

**France Lynch Pleasure Ground play equipment** – we are hoping the new play equipment can be installed in the pleasure ground in June. Eibe, the contractors, has advised they are putting together an installation plan so we are keeping our fingers crossed this will be the case and that by then the ban on the use of play equipment will have been lifted so our new equipment can be enjoyed.

**Annual Parish Meeting** – at this time of year we would normally be giving details of the meeting but unfortunately there will be no meeting this year. Our climate change group, ChalCAN, was going to give a presentation and grants were due to be awarded. Grants have now been made but not in person this year. If you would like more information as to what our climate change group is doing, let us know and we will pass on your request to the group. A full list of grant recipients can be found on our web site or can be requested from the Parish Centre.

**Accounts** – due to the 'lockdown' all parish and town councils have been given an extension to the deadline for finalisation of the 2019/20 accounts. The new deadline for submission is end of November with public consultation commencing before the first working day of September. At that stage accounts will be published on the web site or can be obtained from the Parish Centre.

**Allotments** – whether it is the lovely weather or the fact that more people are at home currently or perhaps both, but all three of our sites are now fully tenanted. We have some eager people on the waiting lists for plots. It is noted that there are some plots that have not yet been cultivated. If you have a plot and are unable to work it, please get in touch to keep us informed as to your current situation. It has been agreed to install 2 further water troughs at the Middle Hill site due to the increase in tenants.

### **Footpaths: We haven't quite stopped ...**

Whilst practical work may have halted as a result of lockdown, we're still thinking and planning for when restrictions are loosened and it's safe to work again. As well as finishing jobs that were interrupted by covid-19, such as the canal towpath by The Roundhouse, where we've four 1-tonne bags of stone waiting to be laid, we've a list of new jobs to work on.

One particular new initiative is adding the management of ivy on dry stone walls to the tasks Volunteers undertake - uncontrolled ivy growth can wreak havoc with these walls, characteristic as they are of the Chalford area. After training, the intention is for Volunteers to work on ivy on Parish Council walls, which will then act as examples of what can be done.

Finally, a gentle reminder to householders and landowners that they are responsible for keeping hedges beside footpaths under control so that the path is not obstructed.

**Council Meetings** – although we are not physically holding meetings, councillors are still communicating and making decisions on issues as a group. If you have any concerns, please email us and let us know and we will consider them and agree the way forward.

And finally, we want all our parishioners to get through this difficult period in our lives unscathed so please keep safe and heed government advice. Take care all.

Our contact details are: Tel: 01453 887204. Email: [info@chalford-glos.gov.uk](mailto:info@chalford-glos.gov.uk). Web site: [www.chalford-glos.gov.uk](http://www.chalford-glos.gov.uk) or follow us on Facebook