



Bricklehampton • Elmley Castle  
Kersoe • Netherton

# UPDATE & NEWS

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Issue 1 July / August 2019

# SAFER TOGETHER

Join us on **Saturday 27th July** 10am - 2pm  
Bricklehampton, Elmley Castle & Netherton Community Hall

## SmartWater

Talk on SmartWater between  
10.30-11am

**FREE SmartWater kit security  
marking worth £25**



## Neighbourhood Watch

Sign up for the local scheme

## Police - We Don't Buy Crime

Meet your local officers



## Fire Service

Come and see the fire engine!

## Ambulance Service

Meet first responders & see the  
ambulance

Defibrillator and resuscitation  
demonstrations from 11am

## Age UK

Find out how to get grants and  
assistance to improve security



We look forward to seeing you  
at 10am on Saturday 27th July



# Welcome

**Welcome to the first edition of our Parish Council Update & News with information and updates on activities in Bricklehampton, Elmley Castle, Kersoe and Netherton.**

Every household received a copy of the 'Better Village Group' manifesto during the election. We have already started work to deliver on promises made.

In addition to those promises we want to fundamentally change the way your Parish Council operates, by involving more residents and better reflecting the wishes of the wider community as a whole.

These are the main changes:

## 1. Working Groups

Parish Council working groups are open to residents who are not councillors. This helps the Parish Council to be more effective. It also provides opportunities for those with particular enthusiasms, or relevant specialist knowledge, to get involved and to help their neighbours.

## 2. Community Consultations

We all live here, so we should all have a say on the big decisions that affect our community. Email is quickest but not essential. Please see page 18 for more on this subject and have your say!

## 3. Regular Open Communication

The Parish "Update & News" will be published bi-monthly to keep everyone informed of the activities of the Parish Council and the Working Groups. Six working groups have already been formed to focus on the issues we think are important to all of us:

- Village Appearance & Maintenance
- Crime Prevention & Road Safety
- Planning & Development
- Community Groups
- Village Events
- Grants & Fund Raising

It is good to see that we already have fourteen residents involved in these working groups in addition to eleven Parish Councillors.

Finally, please also note that, for the first time ever, residents are welcome not only to attend Parish Council meetings, but also to raise relevant questions at any time, throughout.

*The parish council is committed to fulfilling expectations raised.*

**Vote for the Better Village Group**  
in the Parish Council Elections May 2nd

**2nd May**

**With your support we will...**

- 1 Organise & help promote more village events
- 2 Take firm action on planning to put the community first
- 3 Protect & support village facilities
- 4 Improve community security & road safety
- 5 Enhance the appearance of the villages

**Don't forget to vote! 2nd May**

# Village Appearance & Maintenance

**We are rightly proud of the beautiful countryside that our villages nestle in and recognise the importance of the appearance of our villages.**

This is not only for our community's benefit. Our villages are quintessentially English and some of the most attractive in the country. As such, they attract visitors from far and wide, to the benefit of local businesses.

Works completed by volunteers since the start of May include the weeding and tidying of the children's playground plus repairs to the gate and see-saw. The Lengthsman also cleared weeds from the stream in Main

Street and near the Playing Field. It is planned that this will take place again in the autumn with the kind help of neighbours including Will Easton.

All parish noticeboards have been opened and, in some cases, new locks fitted. Old notices have been updated or removed. Thanks to Nick Hopkins for his expertise in helping us to "pick the locks".

*All parish noticeboards have been checked for usability and condition.*





◀ *View from Netherton. A new AONB sign will probably be located in Netherton Lane.*



Our request for a Cotswold AONB sign has been accepted and it will probably be located in Netherton Lane. Thanks to Jayne Grace for leading the effort with The Cotswold Conservation Board who have added us to the waiting list.

Experience in other villages has shown that defining the village entrances with more than just a name sign helps drivers and visitors to realise that they are entering a residential area. They therefore take more care. It also helps to define our parish boundaries. We are therefore planning to install static 'village gates' at the side of each main road where our villages start.

Most villages select standard white gates. We believe it would be preferable to choose a different design but all gates must comply with road safety requirements. We have been

given several options by Worcestershire Highways team and would like your help in choosing one. Please see the survey on page 19 to see the options and how you can vote for your preference.

We want to make the appearance of our parish a priority and are always looking for volunteers to help our working group across Bricklehampton, Elmley Castle, Kersoe and Netherton. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact our Parish Clerk. We also have some ambitious plans to further improve village entrances and amenity areas.

*Working Group Lead – Cllr Jerry Strong (jerry.strong@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)*

◀ *Minor improvements have been made to the playground, with more planned.*

# Crime Prevention

## Free SmartWater packs (worth £25) to help guard against rural crime available now.

We have a recently formed a Neighbourhood Watch Team and, although not a Parish Council initiative, the council are working closely to help promote its ideals throughout the community. We are also supporting their exciting plans to launch a Community Watch project to help protect us all against crime.

One proven crime prevention measure that has been around for some years is SmartWater property marking. In areas where this has been embraced by the community, burglary has fallen by 70%. Each registered household is given a pack with

which to mark valuables and vulnerable items. These packs cost up to £25 each but we have secured funding to make them free to all households in Bricklehampton, Elmley Castle, Kersoe and Netherton.

Residents will be able to sign up for the scheme and collect their free SmartWater packs at a number of launch events in the village during July and August. The first will be at the Village Hall on Saturday 27th July from 10am - 2pm.

It takes seconds to apply a small amount of SmartWater to your valuables and your kit contains enough to do 50 or more items.

Assisting us will be people from the police 'We Don't Buy Crime' team, SmartWater, Neighbourhood Watch and anyone else who is willing to help us! Home visits will be available for those not able to attend the collection points to ensure every household is able to benefit. Funding for this project is dependent upon community wide registration – let's make it happen.

For help in applying SmartWater, or to have a free pack delivered if you cannot attend on 27th July, please email [adrian.parker@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:adrian.parker@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)



**Don't forget to collect your free SmartWater from the Village Hall from 10am on 27th July**

◀ *In areas where SmartWater has been embraced by the community, burglary has fallen by as much as 70%. Each registered parish household is now eligible for a free pack which normally sells for £25.*

# Road Safety

**We are committed to improving the safety of our roads by reducing speeding, improving signage and keeping on top of pot-holes and road repairs**



*You can install the “Fill That Hole” app on your phone and report potholes with just a few clicks. The more we report them, the better response we will get.  
Working Group Lead – Cllr  
Adrian Parker (adrian.parker@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)*

We all want safer roads in our villages, for ourselves, and especially for our children. Speeding traffic is high on the list of issues for many residents. We are currently investigating a number of speeding deterrents, including activated speed signs, but there is no recent data on which to base decisions. The first stage is to monitor speeds in some of the most affected stretches of roads and we are awaiting dates from Highways.

There is also an ongoing campaign to reduce speeds from Bess Cap to the Bricklehampton turn, led by local resident Andy Robinson. We are supporting him by continuing to lobby for reduced speed limits on this stretch of road and the more of us who can push for changes the better. You can

make your feelings known by contacting our Worcestershire County Council representative Adrian Hardman (Aihardman@worcestershire.gov.uk).

We have also noticed that a number of local road signs are deteriorating or are covered by vegetation. We have highlighted these and the condition of our roads to Highways for repair.

We are making a concerted effort to identify and report pot-holes and damaged sections of road to the Highways department.

You can also report highways problems that you see quickly and easily on the Worcestershire Hub at [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report\\_it](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it).

*All deteriorating (and misspelled!) road signs have been photographed and reported to Wychavon for repair.*



# Planning & Development

## Many villagers have expressed concerns about local planning issues.

Whilst we believe that our parish could potentially accommodate more residential development, we believe that the community as a whole should have a much greater influence over size, appearance and siting of any new housing.

To give us more influence we have started to work on a Neighbourhood Plan, which, if adopted by Wychavon District Council, will become part of the statutory development plan. The Neighbourhood Plan is about the use and development of the land in the parish and will contain a vision, aims, planning policies and proposals.

Bredon was the first village in Wychavon to have its neighbourhood plan adopted, in June of this year. Harvington and Pebworth are likely to have theirs approved in July. In order to develop the plan, there will be a great deal of community consultation. The final plan has to be approved by a community referendum, so it is important that as many people as possible are involved and consulted from the start.

The Parish Council are looking for people representing all

aspects of the community to step forward and get involved. The development plan stages leading to formal adoption are:

**Stage 1** is all about designating the area, creating a neighbourhood forum and building evidence.

**Stage 2** covers the drafting of the plan and pre-submission consultation and finally,

**Stage 3** is the submission of the plan and local referendum. It is anticipated that the whole process will take between two and three years to complete.

If you are interested in getting involved in the neighbourhood plan, please contact the Parish Clerk.

**Working Group Lead – Cllr Chris Ballard** ([chris.ballard@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:chris.ballard@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk))



# Community Groups

**We believe that an important role of the Parish Council is supporting our community groups.**

We believe that, regardless of individual interests and beliefs, certain community groups are central to the nature of the parish as a whole. As such, we think it important that the Parish Council should offer support to those groups and help them to flourish, to the benefit of all.

These groups include the school, the cricket club, the village hall, the Scouts, our village churches and the Queen Elizabeth Inn.

If you would like to be involved in the liaison and communication between groups, or would like to further the interests of your particular group, please let us know. We are keen to work with everyone.

**Working Group Lead – Cllr Dave Thompson** ([david.thompson@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:david.thompson@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk))





# Parish Council Events

**As well as the events organised by local community groups, we are planning several additional events designed to involve and support the whole community.**

The events we have planned are designed to include all residents and attract visitors from wider afield. Bringing more visitors to our village brings more revenue into our community for funding local projects and helps local businesses such as the Queen Elizabeth Inn to survive.

The first event in the calendar is a family Halloween event on Saturday, 26th October, from 4pm until 7pm. It will feature pumpkin carving and Halloween fancy dress competitions for the children along with stalls, rides and games. Hot food will be available and the Cricket Club have generously offered to open their bar for liquid refreshments. The children's activities will finish with a spectacular firework display at 7pm.



The festivities will continue from 7pm until late with a Halloween themed disco and cocktail night at the Queen Elizabeth.

Funds raised will be shared amongst the community groups in the village: Church, School, Scouts, Village Hall, Cricket Club and maintenance of the Queens.

**If you would like to help you can either:**

1. Make a contribution at [crowdfunder.co.uk/childrens-halloween-night-firework-display](https://crowdfunder.co.uk/childrens-halloween-night-firework-display)
2. Sell some raffle tickets to friends, family and work colleagues. We have some amazing prizes to give away

and you can get books of tickets by emailing **Clerk@ElmleyCastleParishCouncil.gov.uk** or directly from the Clerk, Lorna Hendey, Grove Farm, Elmley Castle (Opposite the Village Hall)

We are also in the early stages of planning an Open Gardens & Village Market weekend event for next Summer to celebrate the granting of the market charter to Elmley Castle in 1254 by King Henry III.

*Working Group Lead – Cllr Jane Martin (jane.martin@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)*

# Funding for Parish Projects

**There are many grants available these days for local and community projects. These can supplement the Parish Council Precept and enable us all to do so much more to benefit the community.**

However, securing these funds is often a minefield of red tape and jumping through hoops. We've therefore set up a working group to identify what is available to us and complete the applications to secure these extra funds.

The working group is here to help all community groups in the villages that need to raise funds. There are some grants that only Parish Councils can apply for, such as Wychavon's Community Legacy Grant Scheme, but we are also happy to help locate grants and apply for them directly on behalf of other groups.

We will also be raising funds for community projects through events and crowd funding. We will be measuring our success and the cumulative total of fund raising will be shown in each edition of the Parish Update & News. We will also show clearly where the money has been spent.

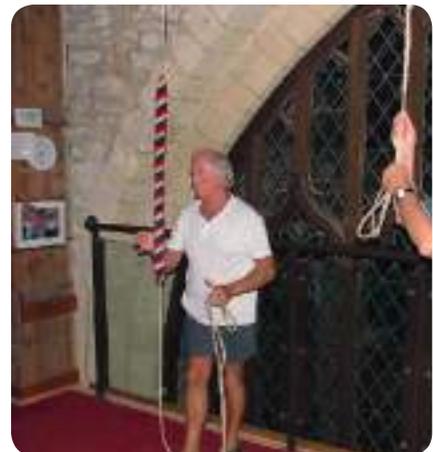
We have been successful in securing grant funding to cover a significant proportion of the

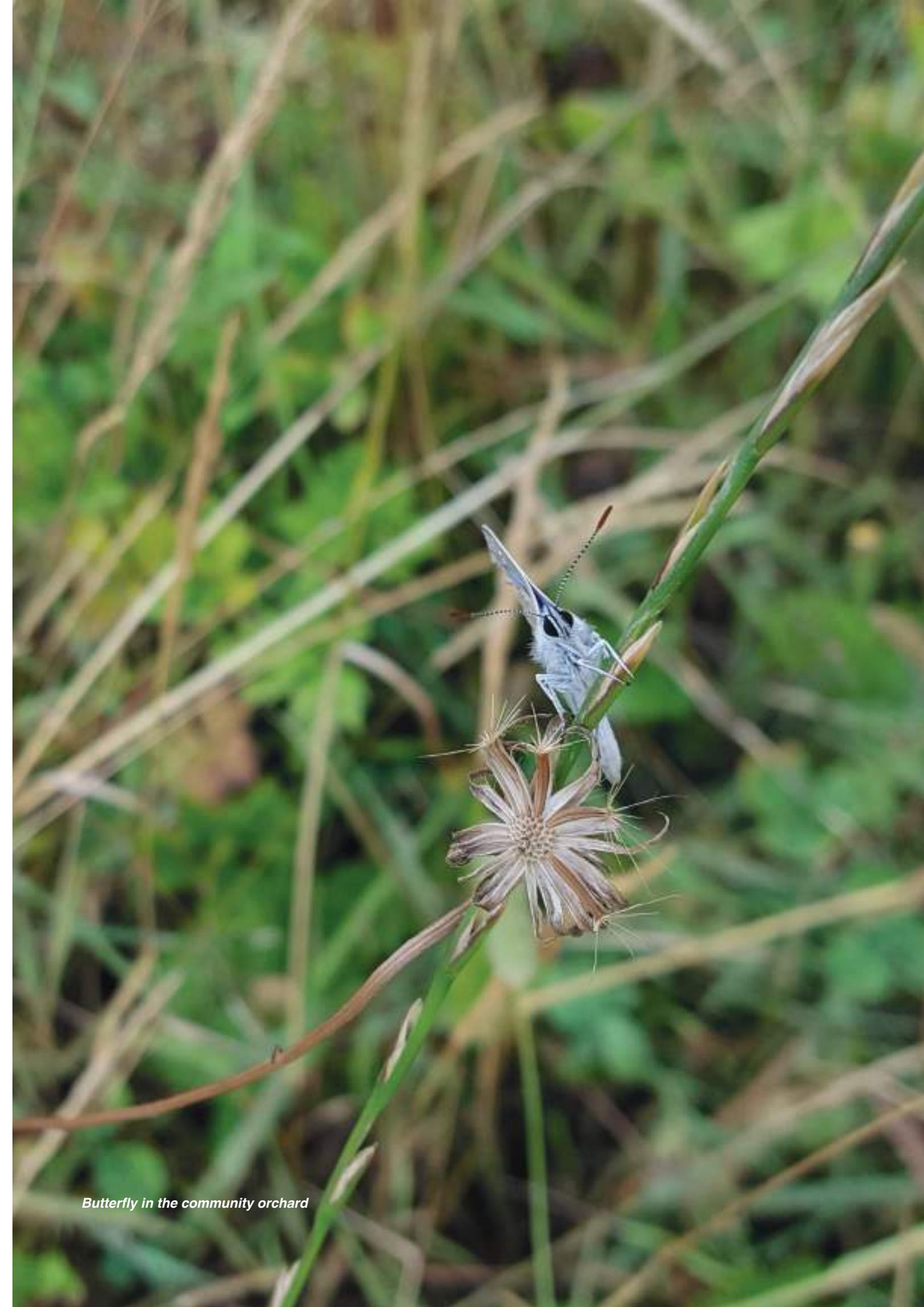
costs for the SmartWater Crime Prevention Project. £600 from our County Councillor, £1,115 from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office and we have an outstanding application for £380 from the Roof Top Community Fund.

Assistance has also been given to the Bell Ringers who are looking to raise the final £37,000 needed to complete the project to restore the Church Bells.

The working group has three parish residents with experience in raising grant funding: Steve Allen, Wendy McVicar and Sarah Bent. If you have any experience in raising grant funding and would like to help the community then please get in touch.

**Working Group Lead – Cllr James Hickman** ([james.hickman@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:james.hickman@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk))





*Butterfly in the community orchard*

# What's on

Please send any events or news you would like publicised in the next edition to [news@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:news@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## Elmley Castle Cricket Club

We are delighted to report that the 2019 season is going well so far for our village cricket teams. Both the 1st XI and 2nd XI were leading their respective Cotswold Hill Leagues as at 22nd June. If you would like to support the teams do come down to the Playing Field and watch the matches. Here are the fixtures for July and August as at the time of print (all matches are due to start at 1.30pm):

### Saturday, July 6th

1st XI v Rowington CC (Away);  
2nd XI v Astwood Bank CC (Home)

### Saturday, July 13th

1st XI v Leamington CC (Home);  
2nd XI v Alvechurch & Hopwood CC (Away)

### Saturday, July 20th

1st XI v Warwick CC Staff (Away);  
2nd XI v Bretforton CC (Home)

### Saturday, July 27th

1st XI v FISSC (Home);  
2nd XI - No Match

### Saturday, August 3rd

1st XI v Winchcombe CC (Home);  
2nd XI v The Lenches CC (Away)

### Saturday, August 10th

1st XI v Ashton under Hill (Away);  
2nd XI v Southam CC (Home)

### Saturday, August 17th

1st XI v Norton Lindsey & Wolverton CC (Home);  
2nd XI v Lapworth CC (Away)

### Saturday, August 24th

1st XI v Leek & Wootton CC (Away);  
2nd XI v Earlswood 5th XI CC (Home)

### Saturday, August 31st (last scheduled match)

1st XI v Tanworth & Camp Hill CC (Home);  
2nd XI v Kenilworth Wardens CC (Away)

## Elmley Castle C of E First School

As we all know, 2019 is the 150th anniversary of the school on the current site and there have already been some great events to celebrate the milestone. It is important to recognise the significant achievement of providing 150 years of education and all those who have been involved. We look forward to many more successful years for Elmley Castle Church of England First School.

Oak Apple Day this year was a very special one, with many former pupils joining in the event. There was also the Victorian Funfair as part of the annual School Fete. Then last month the 'Big Bash' took



◀ Elmley Castle cricket pavilion

place on the Playing Field, blessed by a fabulous evening and wonderful setting. It was great to see so many people there, many staff, ex-pupils, parents and local residents, one person even making the trip from Australia! Thank you to all those who have organised and contributed to the various special school events this summer.

The school Summer term finishes this year on Friday, 19th July and the Autumn term starts again on Wednesday, 4th September.

### The Queen Elizabeth Inn

Our pub is a key community run asset for our villages. It has won numerous awards over the last 12 months, is steeped in history and is a thriving, busy place to enjoy some wonderful food and drink. It hosts a number of regular events each month including a popular pub quiz on the first Tuesday. Every Tuesday is steak night, with a great offer on a number of items from the grill. On Wednesdays the pub also becomes Elmley's pie, fish and chip shop, eat-in or takeaway. Finally, look out for the feature nights, usually on the final Thursday of each month when diners are transported to a far flung place in the World by a creative regional menu.

The pub continues to search for a new Head Chef. This is a great opportunity for someone to become actively involved in developing the food offering, with the aim of winning food awards. It is a live-in position with the potential for the right



person to grow into an overall pub management role. If you know of anyone that might be interested, please let the pub know.

The new summer menus are now available. At lunch there are a range of salad options and the dinner menu includes a number of seasonal dishes such as Whole Dressed Crab, Summer Vegetable Bolognese, Shrimp Alfredo Linguine and Jerk Chicken. Visit the pub website at [www.elmleycastle.com](http://www.elmleycastle.com) to see the menus in full.

The Queens is already a focus for a number of village community activities, but it has the potential to be so much more. Ideas for other events include a Bridge Club, Book Clubs, a History Society, a Sewing or Embroidery Club, Flower Arranging, a Classic Car Club etc.

As a community run pub, The Queens is always looking for more volunteers to support activities and more investors to help investments in new

### ▲ Queen Elizabeth Pub

developments. If you would like to help and get involved, please contact Neil Lavender-Jones at the pub.

### The Bricklehampton, Elmley Castle & Netherton Community Hall

Our parish hall is a wonderful resource for all our residents and for those in the surrounding area. There are many regular events that take place there including keep fit classes, yoga, cubs/beavers and scouts. The Elmley Village Hall Market takes place on the 2nd Thursday of each month, 9.30 to 11.30am with many local stallholders. Coffee, tea and tray bakes available. Contact Sara Speed (710776) for details.

The hall can also be hired for private functions and events. For more information see our website ([elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk/village-hall-hiring-fees](http://elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk/village-hall-hiring-fees)) or contact the Booking Secretary Jeanette Smith on 710511.

### St Mary's Church, Elmley Castle

The Link Fundraising coffee morning will take place on Saturday, 20th July at 10am at the Elmley Rectory, 22 Parkwood. All welcome.

### St Michael's Church, Bricklehampton

The Bricklehampton Hall and Village Fete takes place on Saturday, 3rd August, 2 to 4pm with some of the funds raised going towards the church.

### The Bricklehampton Wayside Stall

Saturday, 24th August, 10am to 2pm. Proceeds for church funds.

### Parish Council Meetings

The next Parish Council meeting is on Thursday, 5th September at 7pm. Meetings take place on the first Thursday of every month except August and December. All meetings take place in the Village Hall and everyone is welcome to attend. There is an open forum at the start of each meeting for members of the public to raise any issues or concerns. Why not come along and hear what we are doing to improve life in our villages.

### Market Gardening Memories

(A notice from the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service). Saturday, 10th August, 11am to 2pm Pershore Town Hall. The two year Market Gardening Heritage project is working to

### Bricklehampton Church ▼



preserve, share and celebrate the way of life that shaped the Vale's landscape and history throughout much of the 19th and 20th centuries. Call into our Pershore drop-in event to find out more, or bring along photos

and memories to share. We're keen to hear from the whole community, you don't need to have been a grower yourself.

# Defibrillators

**One of the excellent initiatives implemented by the previous Parish Council was the siting of Defibrillators in our villages.**

The Parishes currently have two defibrillators, one placed in the phone booth on Main Street in Elmley Castle and the other in Bricklehampton, past the Church close to the village notice board. They are portable units and easily accessible.

It is important that you familiarise yourself with these locations as they could easily save someone's life.

So, what is a defibrillator and when/how is it used? They are used when someone is having a cardiac arrest. If a Defibrillator is used within 3 – 5 minutes of a cardiac arrest survival rates jump from 6% to 74%!

You can confuse a cardiac arrest with a heart attack. A heart attack is when the supply of blood to a part of the heart stops, causing a part of the heart muscle to die. A cardiac arrest is when the heart, as a result of an electrical failure, stops beating completely. A defibrillator is specifically for a cardiac arrest. These are the circumstances you may have seen on hospital TV dramas when the doctors call for the 'crash trolley'!

Defibrillators allow users to provide high-energy, powerful

electric shocks to the heart through pads which are placed on the chest near the heart. It's the shock itself that's called "defibrillation".

Training for both CPR and defibrillator use is available within the villages periodically so look out for when these are publicised. However, you do not need to be trained to use a defibrillator as the unit talks you through what to do at each stage. Typically, you will have also dialled 999 and they will keep you on the line giving guidance as well as directing you to the nearest unit.

Defibrillators are used in conjunction with CPR. Once the pads are placed on the exposed chest the unit will decide if defibrillation is required, so you cannot make a mistake. There is some concern expressed about the legal aspect of being sued. We cannot find an example where in practice anyone has been prosecuted for trying to bring someone back to life. Technically in these situations the patient has stopped breathing, so how can you make it worse?

In summary then, what should you do if sudden cardiac arrest happens?

## **First: Call 999**

The emergency services should be immediately alerted to the problem.

## **Second: Start CPR**

The emergency services will be on their way and you should be starting CPR, but now's the time for someone to look for a nearby defibrillator.

*If you want to know more, sign up for one of the training courses and/or go to the website [www.resus.org.uk](http://www.resus.org.uk).*

## **The Elmley Castle defibrillator ▼**



SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER

# Fun Family Party

4PM - LATE

Kids' Funfair Rides & Games  
Pumpkin Carving Competition  
Face Painting  
Halloween Fancy Dress Prizes  
Hog Roast & Barbecue  
Bar, Prosecco Tent & Mulled Wine  
Firework Display at 7pm  
Halloween Cocktails & Disco Until Late

**ELMLEY CASTLE PLAYING FIELD**



## Community Consultations

**We plan to ask village residents, to be involved in more of the big decisions that affect the community**

We will do this through Community Consultation Surveys. The easiest and quickest way to have your say is by email. We will send short online surveys to everyone in the village whose email address we have. If you want to be included and haven't received an email by the 15th July then just send your email address to **IWantASay@**

**elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk** and we will add you to the list. Of course, you can also opt-out of receiving the surveys at any time.

For those who don't have email there will be voting forms in each edition of this publication, so you will still be able to have your say.

*Please cut and return the following voting form(s) to: Lorna Hendey Grove Farm, Main Street, Elmley Castle (opposite Village Hall).*

# Community consultations: voting form

## New Homes Bonus Project

We have built up £12,992 of New Homes Bonus over the last three years, but in order to access these funds we need to have a suitable project approved by Wychavon.

We have two ideas that we think meet the criteria for the grants, but would also welcome any different ideas you may have. Wychavon have informed us that because of the size of our allocation they are looking for a single project that will use most of the funds, rather than a collection of small initiatives.

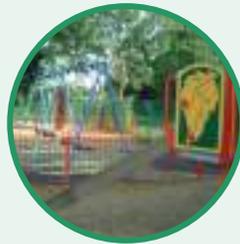
Here are the choices:



Please tick

### Option 1: A Village Marquee

To help community groups stage events and raise funds. Marquee hire is very expensive and if the village had its own then more events could take place and more money raised for local community groups.



Please tick

### Option 2: Playground Development

Replacing the bark in the children's playground with the wet-pour safety surface currently under the swings and add additional ride(s).



Please tick

### Option 3: Your idea

Give us your own idea in the space provided.

## Wychavon Legacy Grant: tennis court & games area?

We can apply for up to £100,000 for capital projects that leave a lasting legacy to the community. Expressions of interest for 2019 need to be submitted before the end of August, so we don't have a lot of time.

Most projects that receive funding are related to the construction or extension of village buildings. One potential option for us is to build a community tennis court and multi games area at the top of the playing field (the opposite end to the Cricket Pavilion).

Please let us know:

- Yes, I think a community tennis court and multi games area is a great idea
- No, I don't like the idea of a community tennis court and multi games area



## Static 'village gates'

The first of these surveys is to help us to select a design for the static 'village gates' that will help to define our villages and encourage safer driving.

Here are the choices:



Please tick

### Option 1: Three bar (dark wood effect)



Please tick

### Option 2: Three bar (white)



Please tick

### Option 3: Four bar (light wood effect)

Name:

Address:

Email:

Please cut and return to: Lorna Hendey Grove Farm, Main Street, Elmley Castle (opposite Village Hall) by 7th August 2019.

# Get involved

**We would really like more people to be involved in our working groups.**

Full community involvement is key to our philosophy. If there is one of these groups that appeals to you and your particular interests and skills please contact the Parish Clerk and register.

## **Contact Details**

Update & News is published by the Bricklehampton, Elmley Castle, Kersee and Netherpton Parish Council. For more information or to contact us see: [www.elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Lorna Hendey** (Temporary Clerk)  
01386 710575  
[clerk@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@elmleycastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)