

# CHEDZOY NEWS

**SPRING 2020 – LAST (?) ISSUE**



## THE LAST CHEDZOY NEWS ?

*from Don Johnson - Editor*

When Pauline Clapp re-started the Parish magazine around thirty years ago, the world was a different place – certainly in terms of circulating information. There were no great changes - apart from the transitions from using typewriters to photo-copiers and dot matrix printers - during the years when Nichola Coe and then Malcolm Friend took over production. Indeed, when I became editor over ten years ago it was the advent of inkjet and then laser printers that helped to improve the quality and enable colour to be used, but not the basic way of getting the magazine to villagers. It always involved copying or printing around 220 lots of 4, 6 or 8 A4 pages, collating these, and then getting volunteers to deliver them to each house in the village. As a quarterly publication, the four issues each year contain details of past and future events, but these often concern happenings up to three months earlier or in the future, so the term 'news' is sometimes rather inappropriate.

The growth of the Internet has affected *news* circulation a great deal, making information available almost instantly, and there cannot be many households in Chedzoy who do not have Internet connections, possibly on smart 'phones as well as computers, providing access to this *news*. However, the range and scope of Internet information is vast, so to filter it for information about a particular town or village could be a time-consuming task – even if what was of interest *had* already been published. Luckily, the solution to this problem already exists for Chedzoy – in the form of the Facebook *Chedzoy Villagers Group*, which is described as *A group for villagers to ask questions and have discussions about the village*. Obviously there are many villagers who already know this – the group has 374 members at present – and information about goings-on in the village is published there on an almost hourly basis.

I must admit to generally NOT being a fan of Social Media. It can enable the posting of hurtful and inaccurate messages that can do a lot of harm, particularly to youngsters, which can increase depression and loneliness. However, a Facebook Group has Admins and Moderators, who regulate who can join the Group, and monitor the content that is posted there – removing anything that they or users have reported as being objectionable. Once one has joined Facebook, enrolling in the group is easy – generally based on either living in the village or having some local connection. Looking at recent posts on the Chedzoy Villagers Group page, there are items on Village Hall events, potholes in our roads, church services over Christmas, dog mess on pavements, Yoga and Zumba classes, broadband status, as well as the recent earthquake – pretty well everything going on in the village. It does make Chedzoy News look very out-dated and rather irrelevant! In view of this I have decided that this will be the last edition of *Chedzoy News* published by me, as the use of the Villagers Group is much more effective, besides saving four reams of A3 paper a year, as well as the efforts of those who do the deliveries – at some risk to themselves along Chedzoy Lane!

No doubt there may be some who do not have Internet access who will miss having a hard copy delivered to their door, but then again, apparently there are some people who say they just *chuck it in the bin* because they are not interested, so one cannot please everybody. Obviously, if someone wishes to take over producing *Chedzoy News* in its existing form, I would be happy to assist in any way I can with their start up, and the Parish Council does contribute to the running costs. However, for me, it seems that the paper version is now past its sell by date and should be discontinued.

Some of the existing contributors to Chedzoy News already post the same information on the Chedzoy Villagers Group page, but others will have to start doing that instead of sending it to me. It is a fairly simple process, enabling text and pictures to be included very easily. Also, besides its website, Chedzoy Village Hall also has a page on Facebook, Chedzoy Parish Council has a website page devoted to the minutes of its meetings, and on St Mary's church's website details of services can be found, so anything previously published will still be available.

I have enjoyed my years as Editor, although the problems associated with refilling ink-jet cartridges to save money, and the frustrations and waste of paper involved when printers mis-fed or failed to print properly on the other side of already printed pages, did give me headaches on occasions, but I trust that everyone will understand the need to move to a more modern way of keeping Villagers informed.

## What's on at St Mary's Church

### **Mothering Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 9 a.m.**

After the service posies will be distributed amongst the congregation.

### **Palm Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 11:30 a.m.**

During the service the congregation will each be given a palm cross - made from the fronds of a palm leaf – to remember Christ's entry into Jerusalem just a few days before His crucifixion.

### **Good Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April**

**11:30 a.m. Service at Westonzoyland**

followed by Walk of Witness - (bring your own picnic)

### **Arriving at Chedzoy for 2:30 p.m. service**

followed by refreshments.

### **Easter Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 9 a.m.**

A special service

to commemorate the resurrection of our Lord.

Simnel cake will be offered after the service.

## ANDREW RAYMOND DENNING

who passed away on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - aged 55



A service for Andrew was held at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November, conducted by Revd. Kelvin Williams. The following Eulogy was given by Dave Coombes, from Ringwood in Hampshire.

I was extremely honoured, if not a little nervous, when Judith asked me to deliver the Eulogy for Andrew here today. I first got to know Andrew, Judith and the family over ten years ago, and have worked with them and their herd of Angus cattle since then. Andrew has always been so much more than a client. He has become a friend, a confidante, and someone I have always thoroughly enjoyed working with. I feel lucky to have crossed paths with him. Indeed everyone here, for different reasons, will be feeling the same. As family, relatives, friends, we have all been blessed by being touched by his personality and spirit.

A number of key folk have contributed brilliantly to today's tribute. Sincere thanks to you all. I will start by reading the words of Andrew's sister Christine, who sets the scene for us about his younger life:

*Andrew was our younger brother. He was born nearly ten years later than myself, and thirteen years later than Pauline. We remember that night very well when we heard him cry, and we were allowed to see him for the first time. It was the 29<sup>th</sup> November 1963. We both looked after him, helping out by taking him for walks around the farm, or pushing him to the village in his black and white pram. He was a very active toddler, very keen to get out on the farm to see what was going on - hence the scar on his top lip from where he slipped trying to escape from the downstairs window!*

*He went to Bawdrip Infants then Chedzoy Junior, progressing to Sydenham School. Finally he went to Brymore School in Cannington, before coming home to work for his Dad on Temple Farm. Together they milked cows, made hay, and supplied apples to Norman Fry, where they would help him make cider - and then of course taste it! When Pauline married Bryan and moved away to Yew Tree Farm, he would often go and stay with them in the summer to help.*

*A memorable trip to the Bath and West Show with his Dad saw Andrew have a tad too much to drink - resulting in him being very much worse for wear during the night. However it was his Dad who got the blame for letting him get in that state in the first place! Andrew was an active member of Bridgwater Young Farmers Club, taking part in every activity going, including appearing on the Carnival float dressed as a rabbit one year - and rumour has it there is pictorial evidence of him dressed as a nun on another!*

John House, long-time partner in crime, and Andrew and Judith's neighbour at Temple Farm, continues the story:  
*Andrew was always the dependable one of Bridgwater YFC - if they needed a volunteer, he was always the first to raise his hand. Whether it was stock-judging, entertainments, skittles or general social events, he was always there. Andrew especially loved the carnival float, and the making of scenery for the entertainments. He would put hours into it. On one occasion, after taking the carnival cart to Glastonbury carnival, Andrew was travelling home with a group of friends when they dropped off for a drink. The driver was keen to head home but Andrew and friends were more interested in trying to jump onto a nearby post box - like you*

*would! Sadly, they were all just a bit too short. This just shows how Andrew was always up for a bit of fun. Even on his Stag 'do' Andrew fell asleep on a garden wall in Bawdrip. All was well that ended well however - he managed to talk his way into a free lift home with the local bobby!*

*On a personal note, I have spent some really good times with Andrew and Judith, whether at YFC, holidays, family gatherings or just popping in for a chat. I know that along with myself and my family we are all better for knowing him.*

I think we all can echo that. The Temple Herd of Aberdeen Angus has become renowned across the UK. A combination of great breeding nous, and hard work at home has resulted in a fantastic herd of animals which have achieved incredible success across the country at local, county, regional and National shows. Andrew has played a huge part in that rise to fame. The phenomenal teamwork between the whole family is a huge credit to them all and an inspiration to all who encounter them. Whilst Judith is perhaps the chief coordinator of the show effort, there were a couple of shows a year that Andrew would tend to consider to be *his*. The recent South West Calf Show in Cornwall was very much a show that Grace and Andrew would do together, so when Grace and Sam took calves to Cornwall just days after the recent tragedy, it was fitting tribute to their Dad that they came back with trophies and Championships galore. You see that - being a show Grace and Andrew used to do together - Grace was determined to do it for her Dad.

Owen Tunney, vet and fellow cattle breeder, tells us about the other show which was Andrew's show - Cheshire:

*Since June 2012, Andrew made the annual pilgrimage to the Royal Cheshire Show for what I am told was his annual leave from duty, and a show he really looked forward to. He would turn up late the night before showing, with a small team of perfectly prepared cattle for showing - as is the norm for the Denning show team - joined on a couple of occasions by one of the girls. But it was Andrew's show really, and to that end, even on the occasion when he didn't have any cattle to bring to the show, he wasn't prepared to miss the jolly. He made the way up himself just to help the other exhibitors out and was very much appreciated. As soon as he arrived, Andrew could be found in the cattle lines in deep conversation with anybody who had time to spare and chat - a reflection of the type of man he was. So easy to get along with.*

*Anyone who has shared a mug of coffee, a cider - or if you were lucky enough - a glass of the homemade rhubarb vodka, will confirm he was a really genuine down to earth hardworking guy. With Andrew, conversation could revolve around anything from hog roasts to politics, but would always come around to an update on his family. Andrew's sense of pride and joy in his family and their achievements was clear to all. Be it Samuel, Jess, Megan, his grandchildren, or the latest award Grace had won, he was always happy to chat about it all. Andrew always left the show as he had arrived at it, in good spirits and with a smile on his face. He has become one of the locals and his presence will be greatly missed by those who have been lucky enough to make his acquaintance at Tabley Showground.*

And so to those who will miss him most - his close family. Jess tells me that Jess, Sam and Meg all remember the days when their Dad used to let them sneak into the parlour to watch him milk the cows, or let them dip a cup into the bulk tank and drink some of the lovely creamy milk after milking. He would always have the radio on in the parlour and in the tractor. One of Jess' earliest memories was singing along to the *Katrina and the Waves* hit *Walking on Sunshine* whilst sitting next to him turning hay. Childhood is made of memories like that, eh?

In September, three-year-old Granddaughter Olivia stayed at Temple Farm, and still talks about picking blackberries with Granddad. Doubtless most of them were eaten way before they ever made it back to the kitchen. What *did* get home would have been made into his favourite - an apple and blackberry crumble, with lashings of cream. Baby Arya - his youngest granddaughter - and Olivia, will certainly miss their special cuddles.

To conclude, I would like to read you a few words beautifully put together by Judith. I will read them exactly as she wrote them, as I want to keep their true spirit. They are touching, they are powerful, and they are very real. They embody Andrew as the family man we all knew and loved:

*Andrew and I first met at the YFC Rally at Kingston St Mary in 1985. I guess you could say it was attraction at first sight! I was 16 at the time - just about to turn 17 - and was a member of Wells and Glastonbury Young Farmers. Andrew was with the Bridgwater Club. We quickly became a couple, getting engaged on the 20<sup>th</sup> December following my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, then married the following September 1988. Fourteen months later - in November 1989 - Jess was born, followed three years apart by first Sam, then Meg. Then we had the latecomer, young Grace.*

*Andrew was truly my other half. He was always the other half of everything, and the lynchpin of everything we did. He was truly the person who made things tick and the one who made everything possible. He was a proud, proud Dad of all of his children, and a very proud Granddad of Olivia and Arya. It breaks my heart to hear Olivia ask where Granddad is, and then to hear her say how much she misses him. We all love and miss him so much.*

*To have him stolen from us is unbearable. There are two daughters he will never have the chance to walk down the aisle, and of course the grandchildren who will miss out on cuddles with Granddad. There is also a farm that misses its tick, a house that's missing its master, and me a wife and best friend with no one to talk to - no one to tell what's happened during the day, no one to report the latest Championship - or otherwise - to. We are truly heartbroken. We all love and miss you.*

So whilst we are all gathered today having come to know Andrew in different ways and from different spheres, we undoubtedly have a very common aim in paying tribute to a wonderful, modest, generous man - one that we all feel incredible lucky to have met, and cheated to have had taken away so soon.

### **JEAN MARY GALE**

*who passed away on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 - aged 85*



A service for Jean was held at St Mary's Church on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, conducted by Revd. Preb Trish Ollive.

Jean was born at Williton in 1934 and was the first child of Ivy Pollard. Throughout her life she stayed in Somerset but at many locations. She spent several happy years with her aunts in Brean and Berrow. She

worked in Woolworths - as many did at that time. She and her friend - who was named Jean also - used to go out, and the two Jeans would be found sneakily giggling with sailors.

Jean was married on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1955, on her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, to Graham Crane, who unfortunately suddenly died in 1970 whilst on holiday in Weymouth. She and Graham had three children Angie, David and Wendy and Jean then had to look after and provide for them on her own.

Jean met Brian in 1974, through her son David and his allergy to school, and that forged the link between Brian and Jean. Jean's first impression of Brian was that he was a dirty, scruffy man -

this was because their first meeting was as he slid out from under a car that he was fixing on the drive in Chedzoy. The story goes that Brian delivered a sack of potatoes to Jean a short while after, and the romance blossomed from there. They married in 1975, here in Chedzoy Church.

In 1977 Jean had a great surprise - literally! Brian had taken her to the Old Vicarage for a meal and she didn't feel too well. Brian joked that she must be pregnant - a visit to the Doctor confirmed this and only a couple of months later Andy was born. Brian remembers it well, as he had to go to the Doctor as he was suffering sympathy pains. However, despite the pain he would not have been without his precious son, and Andy has been his rock in the last few weeks - in his words he would have *crashed without him*.

Brian and Jean's married life was a happy one, with all of the usual ups and downs. They loved caravan holidays in Devon, and Brian has fond memories of the journeys when Jean would ask if they were going the right way, which would put doubt in his mind - meaning an extra couple of laps of the roundabout, with the caravan leaning heavily to one side, 'till he made sure. On arrival things would be scattered everywhere in the caravan, but before this was sorted out a cup of tea would be first!

Jean liked playing cards with her aunties in Berrow, and did this every Monday night without fail. These evenings were full of laughter, freshly baked cakes by Freda, and on occasion, turn out to be a very *colourful* evening . . . . Jean was a keen skittles and dart player, and played at many of the local pubs around the town.

Jean's final job before she retired was at Chatham house, working as the kitchen hand until she took on the role of cook. She loved her job, and would often talk about her time working there. In later years, Jean joined the Magnolia Club at the Victoria Centre - she enjoyed all the activities there and made new friends. She loved shopping - especially for handbags - and has an extensive collection! She loved coffee with the girls, and days out with the family - especially the 2p slot machines.

After her dementia became more embedded, probably as a result of the TIAs and a fall which broke her hip two years ago, life became more difficult, and she moved into Sydenham House. The girls and the rest of the family would always be there for their Mum, and supported the excellent care from Sydenham House. Andy and Brian did all they could to make her life easier and fun. Andy, Wendy and Angie would take her out, and Brian would spend important but sometimes anxious time with her.

Sadly she has passed away, but is now at peace, without pain or fear. Probably waiting for the January sales in heaven's handbag shop, and raising a glass of whisky or Baileys for the love she received in her life!

~~~~~

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

*Extracts from meeting - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November*

#### **Discussion on agenda:**

The chairman raised the issue of the agenda for this meeting and noted that the item regarding a planning application on land in Manor Road to the rear of Quantock View, was to be discussed at a special meeting to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm in the village hall. The chairman apologised to those attending that night's meeting in the expectation of discussing this application, explaining that this action was necessary to ensure members of the parish were given sufficient notice. Those who were unable to attend would be able to provide a written statement if so desired.

#### **Matters arising from previous meeting's minutes**

- **Parish Council Notice Board.** The clerk reported the new notice board, for the exclusive use of the parish council, has been erected

on the other side of the bus shelter from the existing notice board. John Paige has yet to request payment, though it is thought to be in the region of £207.

- **Public Footpaths throughout the Parish.** The clerk advised the meeting that he had spoken to SALC (Somerset Association of Local Councils), who advise the problem of addressing breaches of footpath regulations is best served by preserving goodwill with the landowners/occupiers, rather than instigating legal steps. We are facing several footpath issues:-
  - **Open Spaces Society.** The parish council has joined this organisation.
  - **Bridleway (BW 8/10), from Slape Cross to the (former) Halfway Inn.** Works associated with the power line has seen more heavy machinery using this drove than usual. The drove was deeply rutted in places by farm traffic. Some of these ruts have been levelled-off by the action of tracks and wheels of the vehicles used, and the largest ruts have been filled (presumably by the contractors) with hardcore and scalplings. When inspected at the end of October, the drove was very muddy due to the amount of rain, making it difficult to judge its true condition. The PPLO suggests that the condition of the right of way be closely monitored, and that the owner or contractor be contacted should the surface need further attention.
  - **Footpath (BW 3/4) to the M5 overbridge.** After a report of obstruction to this right of way at the base of the steps on the east side, the PPLO inspected the footpath on the 20<sup>th</sup> October. There was no obstruction apparent at that time. There were signs of vegetation having been cleared recently at the approach to the bridge. This right of way has been forced to the edge of the field on two sides by a fence, so needs to be cleared regularly. It should be noted that this path is in the Bridgwater Without parish, and not Chedzoy, although the sleeper bridge over the ditch at its eastern end where it meets Park Wall Drove, is.
  - **Moor Drove bridleway gates.** The clerk has received a reply from George Montague, SCC footpath officer for the Sedgemoor area, to his enquiry about the dilapidated state of the three gates, which are causing issues to horse riders in particular. George advises that the gates are the responsibility of the landowners/occupiers, but saying that, SCC are able to improve access where possible. He asks if someone could survey the bridleway and confirm the number of gates - maybe providing photos of them to show the extent of the damage. He also asks if farm vehicular traffic passes along the bridleway. There are three gates and farm vehicular access is needed. Our footpath officer is kindly arranging necessary photos to show the extent of the damage to the metal gates and wooden posts. The clerk will reply to George and enquire what he can suggest about SCC assistance and/or alternative sources of funding.
  - **Northfield footpath BW 8/2.** A parishioner who regularly walks this footpath is in the process of communication with the landowning company's directors regarding the poor state of the footpath, including the path traversing the field and the one leading to Bawdip, which has been ploughed right up to the hedge line. Any progress to be reported at future meetings.
- **SRA (Somerset Rivers Authority) Community Engagement Team visit.** Dawn James and Emma Giffard have agreed to come and speak at the meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> February, on ways of working together to reduce the impact of future flood events.
- **Web site information.** The clerk has updated relevant web site information.

#### Planning

One new application received.

- **Application reference 18/19/00006/EC.**  
**Applicant: Mr Chandler.**  
**Location:** On land to the rear of Quantock View, Higher Road  
**Proposal:** Erection of 3 dwellings and 1 flat, formation of a new vehicular access, associated parking and garden.  
The application will be discussed at a special planning meeting.

#### Correspondence

- **Surface drainage problems in Chedzoy Lane.** An email was read out from SCC highways advising that they had cleared a number of blocked gullies and associated drains, but they had found some of the ditches which received the surface water, are in need of cleansing. The outfall ditch at Slape Cross is of particular concern and importance, as it should receive the surface water from both east and west. Laurence Hackling of SCC highways is requesting the parish council brings this matter to the attention of the relevant landowners/occupiers, who have a riparian responsibility to clear out the ditches and pipes on their land. Alternatively Laurence will make contact with them so long as we provide him with their details. The clerk has liaised with the clerk of Bridgwater Without parish council as some of the problems lie in that parish.
- **Parish information held at SDC.** Claire Faun, Corporate Relations Manager at SDC, had requested certain up to date parish information – the clerk to provide this.
- **For information only – New charity fund for communities.** Financial experts, Old Mill, have launched a new charity in a new strategic partnership with Somerset Community Foundation (SCF), with a fund to support local charities across Somerset, Wiltshire and Devon. This charity will focus on three areas:-
  - Building brighter futures,
  - Reducing rural loneliness and
  - Strengthening communities.For more information go to: [www.somersetcf.org.uk](http://www.somersetcf.org.uk) or phone 01749 344949.
- **For information only – Council tax scam by text.** SCC warns of a company which is texting people saying a council tax refund is pending and going on to obtain bank details. Members of the public are advised to delete the text.

#### Finance

Details of various cheques issued were given.

Parish Council balances were as follows:

|                                     |            |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Current Account                     | £5,450.02  |
| Deposit Account                     | £2.48      |
| Cambridge BS Council Easy Access ac | £12,341.19 |

The clerk reminded the councillors that we are committed to paying £1,000 towards the VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations 2020, new notice board cost of £207, as well as that night's cheques, with just over four months of this financial year to go.

#### Any Other Business

- **Heritage Plaques.** The clerk reported that there had been a misunderstanding about this, in that the agreement of both householders concerned has not yet been obtained. The clerk will write to the parties setting out the proposed action.
- **Defibrillator volunteer.** Rodney Young reported that a parishioner who is trained in the use of the equipment has volunteered to assist in its use. This was appreciated but it was pointed out that the defibrillator gives full instructions to whoever is using it.
- **Item for next meeting – Trees for Somerset – Trees for your parish.** An event to promote tree planting is to be held at West Monkton village hall on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January, from 10 am to 3:30 pm. The parish council supports this initiative, which not only encourages community engagement and promotes wellbeing, but also helps to control flooding and counter CO<sup>2</sup> emissions, safeguarding the future of our landscape and helping to address climate change.

#### Planning meeting – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November

**Reference:** 18/19/00006/EC.

**Type:** Full Planning Permission.

**Applicant:** Mr Chandler.

**Location:** On land to the rear of Quantock View, Higher Rd,

**Proposal:** Erection of 3 dwellings and 1 flat, formation of new vehicular access, associated parking and garden.

Cllr Marion Dethier took the chair and opened the meeting to public discussion at 7:30 pm, and invited contributions.

The problem of increased on-street parking was discussed. Even with an allocated parking space for each of the starter homes it was felt this would be an inevitable issue which is very relevant to the high volume of large farm vehicles passing the proposed site. The narrowness of Manor

Road outside was brought up and the applicant said it would be somewhat wider following the completion.

The subject of the Manor Road junction with Higher Road came up, and it was felt that the zero visibility for vehicles emerging made this junction very hazardous, although there is the alternative at Manor Drive with Higher Road. One or two thought the proposal represented over development. The applicant said the total build area was less than with previous proposals. The homes are as close as possible to the road, thereby minimising the privacy issue with immediate neighbours.

It was agreed that there is a desperate need for more affordable homes in the village and the applicant indicated his hope that these would be marketed substantially below 200 K. The added strain on village infrastructure, especially the water pressure issue was discussed, although Wessex Water are trying to improve matters. It was generally accepted that the re-classification of the parish from *unsustainable* to *tier 4 settlement* status would inevitably lead to more development.

Marion (chair) ensured everyone who wished to speak had done so, then she closed the meeting to the public at 8:05 pm, and the councillors continued the discussion. Rodney Young said that there appeared to be no valid grounds for opposing the plan, and the only issue seems to be that of on-street parking, which really is a separate and existing issue. Brian Gale said there was certainly a need for starter homes in the village. A vote was called and the result was as follows:- In favour 6, against 0.

The clerk drafted a suitable text to submit to Sedgemoor planners including the misgivings about access and parking issues: *The parish council of Chedzoy supports this application. There is broad support for the application on the basis that the provision of starter homes, at the proposed levels, would be beneficial to the community. The alternative to housing might well be a return to commercial use which is far less favourable for the village. The existing site is an eyesore. Loss of privacy of neighbouring properties has been kept to a minimum.*

#### **Extracts from meeting – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

##### **Matters arising from previous meeting's minutes**

- **Surface water drainage problems in Chedzoy Lane.** The Clerk reported that he had felt it preferable to visit the landowners in question, bearing in mind the recent events. He visited both Temple Farm and Manor Farm, Bradney, and spoke to Judith Denning's daughter-in-law and Mrs Ashford, leaving them each a copy of the relevant maps supplied by SCC highways. He felt he had been well received and he has updated Lawrence Hackling about these visits, and advising the other locations which are situated in Bridgwater Without parish. The matter is now between SCC and the relevant landowners. No further action.
- **Moor Drove bridleway gates.** The Clerk has emailed the requested details of damage to the three gates, and supplied photos - together with details about farm vehicles using the bridleway - to George Montague, SCC footpath officer covering Sedgemoor. The Clerk will update the council when he has further information.
- **Trees for Somerset – Trees for your parish.** The Clerk appealed for volunteers to attend the tree planting conference being held at West Monkton village hall on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from 10:00 to 3:30 pm. Marion Dethier kindly agreed to go and report back to the parish council.
- **Litter Pick 2020.** It was decided to hold the Spring litter pick on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March. The Clerk will request the necessary equipment from SDC Clean Surroundings, with community awareness being raised through these minutes.

##### **Somerset County Council report**

Cllr. David Hall reported as follows:

- **Election.** With the recent general election resulting in a majority government, David Hall is waiting to see if any changes will result at SCC. He anticipated that progress in several matters is now more likely.
- **Drainage.** He has recently been advised that the general Sedgemoor drainage situation is better than for a number of years, this despite the recent heavy rainfall.
- **Improving lives grant.** Grant aid amounting to £359 is being remitted to the parish council bank account, and it is likely that this will be put towards improving audio visual equipment for the village

hall. This has been discussed with the chairman of the village hall committee. Simon Howes will liaise with the chairman of the village hall committee to ensure that this meets their expectations and needs.

- **Squibbers' Way.** This new link road, running from just off junction 24 to the back end of Parret Way in the Colley Lane industrial area, has just been opened and it should significantly ease traffic congestion along Taunton Road and Broadway.

##### **Correspondence**

- **Temporary road closure – Front Street.** SCC have advised that Front Street will be closed from 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020, by an order prohibiting all traffic, for a period expected to last five days, to enable Wessex Water to carry out improvement works.
- **Dates for SDC Climate Emergency drop-ins.** Public drop-in events are to be held in each of Somerset's district council areas in January and February and they are being run by the Somerset Climate Action Network. The event in Sedgemoor will be held in the Sedgemoor Room, Bridgwater House, King Square Bridgwater TA7 3AR on 8<sup>th</sup> February. It is open to residents, businesses, groups and anyone with an interest. For more information go to: Sedgemoor District Council: [pressoffice@sedgemoor.gov.uk](mailto:pressoffice@sedgemoor.gov.uk) 01278 435320.

##### **Finance**

Parish Council balances – allowing for all payments due - were as follows:

|                                     |            |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Current Account                     | £4,636.53  |
| Deposit Account                     | £2.48      |
| Cambridge BS Council Easy Access ac | £12,341.19 |

- **Precept Setting 2020/2021** This had to be agreed as SDC needed to know the requirement by mid-January 2020 and the next parish council meeting was not until February. The Clerk distributed the usual Actual/Estimate of expenditure for 2019/2020, together with a forecast for 2020/2021, and a full discussion took place. The Chairman said he thought it more appropriate for the budget to be considered earlier in the year to enable full consideration and planning for the year ahead - a view that was strongly supported. John Paige kindly offered to set up a planning template to enable improved expenditure forecasting in future years. Agreed that John Paige would present a draft planning framework to be reviewed by the parish council at the March meeting. Taking into account the previously approved commitment to give £1,000 towards the VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in 2020, the council accepted the Clerk's recommendation to apply for a precept of £8,500 for the year 2020/2021 - just £1,000 more than that levied for the last two years. This was proposed by Simon Howes and seconded by Marion Dethier.
- A request for grant aid received from Mendip Community Transport was noted but not approved.

##### **Any Other Business**

- **Heritage Plaques.** The Clerk read out a reply from one of the affected residents declining the offer to erect the *Milk churn* plaque. The Clerk will confirm the position with the other householders concerning the other plaque, and, if appropriate, would introduce John Paige to them with a view to erecting it in a convenient location.

~~~~~

#### **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

*from Avril Johnson*

My thanks to everyone who supported us at the fair. The footfall was lighter than previous years, but there was a lot going on that weekend – notably the Glastonbury Frost Fair. However, despite the other attractions we still managed to raise £625 for St Mary's church, so thank you very much, everyone, especially the sterling workers in the kitchen!

~~~~~

## Who's Who - Village Contacts

### ST MARY'S CHURCH

|                     |                                                                                      |                           | PostCode  | Tel:    | e-mail  |                           |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------------------------|
| <b>Web Site</b>     | - <a href="http://www.achurchnearyou.com/chedzoy">www.achurchnearyou.com/chedzoy</a> |                           |           |         |         |                           |
| <b>Rector</b>       | Revd Chris Keys                                                                      | The Vicarage, Church Lane | W'zoyland | TA7 0EP | 691 098 | chris.keys@me.com         |
| <b>Churchw'den</b>  | Malcolm Friend                                                                       | Westland House, Front St. | Chedzoy   | TA7 8RE | 428 641 | chedzoyppc@btinternet.com |
| <b>CW/Secretary</b> | Linda Friend                                                                         | Westland House, Front St. | Chedzoy   | TA7 8RE | 428 641 | chedzoyppc@btinternet.com |
| <b>Treasurer</b>    | Carole Edmunds                                                                       | The Gables, Front St.     | Chedzoy   | TA7 8RB | 445 933 | gables@edmundd.plus.com   |

### PARISH COUNCIL

|                     |                                                                                        |                        | PostCode | Tel:    | e-mail  |                                       |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|---------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Web Site</b>     | - <a href="http://www.chedzoyparishcouncil.gov.uk">www.chedzoyparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> |                        |          |         |         |                                       |
| <b>Chair</b>        | Simon Howes                                                                            | Crown House, Ward Lane | Chedzoy  | TA7 8RL | 420 952 | simonjhowes@hotmail.com               |
| <b>Parish Clerk</b> | Chris Fry                                                                              | 101 Bradney Lane       | Bawdrip  | TA7 8PQ | 423 134 | clerk2010@ChedzoyParishCouncil.gov.uk |

### VILLAGE HALL

|                   |                                                                                  |                               | PostCode | Tel:    | e-mail  |                           |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|---------------------------|
| <b>Web Site</b>   | - <a href="http://www.chedzoyvillagehall.co.uk">www.chedzoyvillagehall.co.uk</a> |                               |          |         |         |                           |
| <b>Chair</b>      | Martin Chandler                                                                  | The Old School, Front St.     | Chedzoy  | TA7 8RE | 445 534 | candcdec@btinternet.com   |
| <b>Vice Chair</b> | Steve Maxwell                                                                    | Cadbury House, Front St.      | Chedzoy  | TA7 8RE | 423 988 | maxwell283@btinternet.com |
| <b>Secretary</b>  | Amanda Triggol                                                                   | Cedar Lodge, Front St.        | Chedzoy  | TA7 8RF | 427 406 | mandy5712@btinternet.com  |
| <b>Treasurer</b>  | Carole Edmunds                                                                   | The Gables, Front St.         | Chedzoy  | TA7 8RB | 445 933 | gables@edmundd.plus.com   |
| <b>Bookings</b>   | Rodney Young                                                                     | Pear tree House 42 Higher Rd. | Chedzoy  | TA7 8QU | 450 731 | rodney1953young@gmail.com |

### PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

|              |             |                              | PostCode | Tel:    | e-mail |                                |
|--------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------|---------|--------|--------------------------------|
|              |             |                              |          | 07870   |        |                                |
| <b>Chair</b> | Kerry Evert | Wednesday Cottage Higher Rd. | Chedzoy  | TA7 8QT | 518475 | chedzoy.playingfield@gmail.com |

### CHEDZOY PRE-SCHOOL

|                 |                                                                                |  | PostCode | Tel:          | e-mail                       |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------|---------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Web Site</b> | - <a href="http://www.chedzoypreschool.org.uk">www.chedzoypreschool.org.uk</a> |  |          |               |                              |
|                 |                                                                                |  |          | 07989 034 180 | info@chedzoypreschool.org.uk |

### KINGSMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

|                      |                                                                                                 |                 | PostCode | Tel:    | e-mail                      |                            |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Web Site</b>      | - <a href="http://www.kingsmoorprimaryschool.co.uk">http://www.kingsmoorprimaryschool.co.uk</a> |                 |          |         |                             |                            |
| <b>School Office</b> |                                                                                                 |                 |          | 683 371 | sch210@educ.somerset.gov.uk |                            |
| <b>Parent Gov'r.</b> | Geoff Sluman                                                                                    | 1 Frys Cottages | Chedzoy  | TA7 8QX | 424 821                     | geoff.sluman@royalmail.com |

### POLICE

**(Rural Safer Stronger Neighbourhood Police team - Kings Isle and East Poldens Web Site - [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk) )**

| Beat                                                                                                                                                                       | Manager | Jim Murray | 07889 657 775 | 864@avonandsomerset.police.uk |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                            | PCSO    | Kim Wrixon | 07889 658 309 |                               |
| <b>101 Non-Emergency Number</b> - or <b>999</b> for emergencies <a href="http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk">www.avonandsomerset.police.uk</a> Twitter - @ASP Bridgwater |         |            |               |                               |

### CHEDZOY NEWS

**Editor** Don Johnson Finches, 16 Manor Road Chedzoy TA7 8QZ 455 611 don@donjohnson24.co.uk

#### Delivered by:

Maureen Weeks, Alex Grimstead, Sally Howes, Rodney Young, Valerie Fry, Amanda Triggol, Malcolm Friend & Lesley Harnes

## Bus No 19 Timetable

Bridgwater - Chedzoy - Moorlinch - Ashcott - Street  
**Monday to Friday ( except Public Holidays. )**

For further bus service info' contact Hatch Green Coaches directly on 01823 480 338  
 Or got to website: [www.hatchgreencoaches.co.uk/](http://www.hatchgreencoaches.co.uk/)



| Column Keys                 |
|-----------------------------|
| College Days                |
| Non Bridgwater College Days |

| Location                | Time    | Location                | Time     | Location              | Time    |
|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------|----------|-----------------------|---------|
| Bridgwater Bus Stn      | -- 9:05 | Street Crispin Hall     | -- 10:00 | Bridgwater Bus Stn    | -- 9:55 |
| Bridgwater Sainsburys   | -- 9:07 | Walton Church           | -- 10:06 | Bridgwater Sainsburys | -- 9:48 |
| Bridgwater College      | -- --   | Ashcott Ridgeway        | -- 10:12 | Bridgwater College    | -- --   |
| Slope Cross             | -- 9:14 | Pedwell                 | 8:02     | Bridgwater Sainsburys | 8:37    |
| Chedzoy Cross           | -- 9:16 | Greinton Phone Box      | 8:04     | Bridgwater Bus Stn    | 8:41    |
| Stawell Church          | -- 9:22 | Moorlinch Ring of Bells | 8:07     |                       |         |
| Sutton Mallet           | -- 9:27 | Sutton Mallet           | 8:13     |                       |         |
| Moorlinch Ring of Bells | -- 9:33 | Stawell Church          | 8:19     |                       |         |
| Greinton Phone Box      | -- 9:36 | Chedzoy Cross           | 8:25     |                       |         |
| Pedwell                 | -- 9:38 | Slope Cross             | 8:27     |                       |         |
| Ashcott Ridgeway        | -- 9:43 | Bridgwater College      | -- --    |                       |         |
| Walton Church           | -- 9:48 | Bridgwater Sainsburys   | 8:37     |                       |         |
| Street Crispin Hall     | -- 9:55 | Bridgwater Bus Stn      | 8:41     |                       |         |

Timetable Updated 29-02-2016