



Message from the Chair, Paul Kembery

'Spring is a good time to make plans and projects in life. We are looking to improve and enhance our community in 2022 and beyond and I hope you are able to look positively to the future as well'

FLYING THE FLAGS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

The flag poles on the green in Winterbourne were first erected by Norman Wedlake for Cannon Bayley to celebrate St Michaels churches octocentenary.

After a vacant lull, the flags were passed to Gordon Blight. They were in such a state he bought a new pair of St George flags and, with the help of Bob Drew and a ladder, flew those. At that time the poles were just set in the ground, with no hoisting gear, tied to the top with wire. Bob would anchor the ladder with Gordon up the pole! Flying flags then became a matter of course.

Gordon and Bob have been putting up flags ever since, for nearly 22 years! There has always been a good reaction from everyone, which is always pleasing. Gordon Blight said "Thanks to the many people who have helped, if only by shaking hands. It's been fun" The Parish Council would like to thank Gordon for all his help over these many years.



2022/2023 PARISH PRECEPT

At the February Parish Council Meeting Councillors agreed there would be no increase in the 2022/23 Winterbourne Parish Council Precept element of our Council Tax. Councillors work hard to carefully manage how the precept is spent whilst continuing to support investment in the Greenfield Centre; facilities at the Winterbourne Rec; the maintenance and upkeep of Whiteshill and Frenchay Commons; the Winterbourne Duckpond; Jubilee Allotments; our excellent Nature Reserves and to provide grant support to local organisations.



Picture (left to right) Cllr Brian Serjent & Cllr Richard Climmer representing the Parish Council and Liz Perrins & John Turner representing the WDVC

'CHATTY BENCHES' ARRIVE IN THE PARISH

Thanks go to Winterbourne Parish Council and Winterbourne Down Village Carnival for the first 'Chatty Benches' in South Gloucestershire.

It's safe to say the past couple of years have impacted everyone's mental health in different ways. The committee at the WDVC recognised this and wanted to do something to help.

Many of us heard touching stories of our community supporting each other during the pandemic, those small acts of kindness, simply chatting to the that lonely person sat on the bench overlooking the River Frome. So, inspired by a similar scheme in Cornwall, there came the idea of the Chatty Bench.

Chatty Bench plaques have now been installed on benches located in Winterbourne Down, The Dingle, the duck pond and soon on Hambrook Common. Scanning the QR code will take you to the Carnival webpage dedicated to improving mental health. It contains useful links and contact numbers to support organisations and NHS resources to help identify and manage the different issues related to mental health.

WDVC continue to support the charity Mind this year along with BRACE, The Trussell Trust and SSAFA. With your generosity at events across the May Day weekend they hope to make an even bigger donation than previous years have allowed.



PARISH COUNCILLORS 'DIG IN'

In Frenchay we have been extremely lucky to have a new state of the art play area by Frenchay Museum, which has been funded and built by Redrow Homes as part of their S106 obligations.

Unfortunately, vandals destroyed several young trees last summer with a machete, a mindless act of vandalism. One tree was a memorial to a child who died at the old Frenchay Hospital.

Parish Councillors Adrian Collins and Hugh Whatley were able to mobilise the resources of Frenchay Residents Association to fund and source a replacement memorial tree, with the assistance of SGC environmental tree expert Neil Gazzard.



Adrian, Hugh and members of the FRA team planted a new tree on the 5th January, the new flowering cherry tree will be cherished and looked after by them as guardians in the future.



MAKING ROADS IN WHITESHILL SAFER

Having recently supported and overseen the promised speed limit reduction to 30 mph on the section of the B4058 (Bristol Road) from Whiteshill to the bottom of Winterbourne Hill, Councillors welcome the linked parking restriction scheme to address safety issues around Hambrook Primary School.

An area-wide waiting restriction review was carried out for the Moored Road, Worrells Lane and Pye Corner area. Following discussions with local councillors, SGC highways officers have designed and consulted on a scheme to improve safety, access and visibility for ALL road users. The proposed scheme will introduce double yellow lines to improve access and visibility where concerns have been raised and to convert the existing advisory white keep clear lines to double yellow lines.

Further concerns about traffic speeds on Worrells Lane have been referred to SGC Officers for investigation, Councillors continue to raise issues, as they arise across the Parish.

GREEN COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

One of the charities that Winterbourne Parish Council has given grants to is Green Community Travel (previously Yate, Sodbury and District Community Transport).



They are a charitable nonprofit organisation that provides safe, affordable and accessible travel for individuals and groups who are unable to use public transport and would otherwise have no other way of getting around.

Green Community Travel would not be possible without the volunteers who drive or accompany passengers on their buses, deal with telephone calls and paperwork in the office and help with fundraising. If you have a few hours to spare each week, why not join them in making a real difference to people's lives?

To travel independently with GCT, you must first complete and return a registration form. For more information: admin@greencommunitytravel.co.uk or call 01454 228706

ACCESSING OUR DEFIBRILLATORS

Winterbourne Parish Council provide four defibrillators within the parish. These are located at The Greenfield Centre (Winterbourne), Flaxpits Toilets (Winterbourne), Cross Hands Pub (Winterbourne Down), The White Lion (Frenchay).

To access a defibrillator you must call 999, the operator will then provide the combination to unlock the unit.



ELM PARK LITTER PICK

Last December, the Parish Council were approached by Sarah Lugg, Deputy Head of Elm Park Primary School. Sarah was looking to organise a community environmental project for the KS2 children, their topic was 'How can we look after our world for future generations'. It was agreed the children would take part in a 'litter pick' at The Recreation Ground and park next to The Greenfield Centre, Winterbourne. The children brought back many filled bags of rubbish and items to be recycled.

