



## Christmas to January

Not the festive season we had necessarily planned or hoped for but Charney still managed to get in the mood with:

- a wonderful display of Christmas lights throughout December, including the tree on the Green, kindly donated by the Chequers;
- the 12 days of Christmas;



- an [online advent calendar](#) with daily contributions from Villagers;
- festive fundraising at Gunton Barn grotto of handcrafted items, thanks to the creative talents of Julie Ingram Johnson. £604 was raised to be split between St.Peter's Church and Acorns Children's Hospice Trust;
- a generous collection of goodies for the Christmas Appeal 2020 – thank you. The Benefice supported the King's Centre, Oxford who provided over 650 Christmas meals and goody bags to those in need, including refugee families, the elderly, those in food poverty and people on their own;



- singing in the rain on the 23<sup>rd</sup> – thank you to the carol singers and Silver Band player who worked their way around the Village in the pouring rain and raised £180 for Emmaus Oxford;
- bells on Christmas Eve, minus St Peter's due to a sleepy bell ringer (too much egg nog perhaps?);
- a socially distanced Christmas Day service in the beautifully decorated church.





And then it was lockdown again from 6<sup>th</sup> January. However, undeterred the Charney Ukulele Symphony Orchestra began to practice via Zoom. Well actually they learned their first four chords but with more to follow you can look forward to an amazing musical spectacle in the months and years to come – brace yourselves.



**Then the snow came....**





**But despair not - spring is  
round the corner!**





## Parish Council Update

The Parish Council meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 got off to a slow start due to connection problems on Skype. Full marks to the one resident in attendance for braving the initial turmoil. As a result of the late start one item had to be deferred to the next meeting (road safety funding) but those that were discussed included:

- Disappointing response from MoD on disturbance caused by helicopter training flights;
- Planned meeting with new trustees of Charney Manor;
- Impact of security lighting at Lyford Industrial Estate;
- Approved budget for 2021-22 with no increase of precept;
- Commencement of staged grant payments to CHAFT for recent tree felling on Charney Field;
- No objection to new agricultural worker's dwelling at Poplars Farm (Denchworth Road);
- Enforcement update on unauthorised development at Long Meadow Barn (Denchworth);
- Draft MoU with CHAFT to address arrangements for Hall and Charney Field;
- Donations to local charities;
- Private Members debate in House of Commons on A420 safety (full wording here <https://www.parallelparliament.co.uk/debate/commons/2020-11-10/debates/591551A1-7566-4674-951C-9511CF869E1A/SafetyAndLitteringA34AndA420>)

Full minutes of the Parish Council meeting can be found at [January-2021.pdf \(charneybassett.org.uk\)](#)

## From the Village Records

History repeats itself

*10 years ago: - The Clerk reported on a visit he made to RAF Benson with Ed Vaizey MP to learn of their training activities with respect to low flying over the village. The visit was made in response to a small number of complaints from villagers about low flying. The station commander was at pains to explain the steps they take to minimise the impact on the habitations over which they fly but the primary aim of training is to provide aircrew with the experience needed to protect them when flying over enemy territory, where they need to keep at or below 100 feet to avoid rocket propelled grenades (RPGs).*

More recently: - [PC minutes, November 2020](#)

*Concern was raised at the number of helicopter training manoeuvres over recent weeks.*

And here's one in December undertaking chimney pot inspections over Charney (no zoom lens required).



## Charney History Group

**What's new since 2020 December's Charney Chatter?**

- [Inland Revenue Finance Maps 1912](#)
- [Roman Coin \(Elagabalus\) and Roman Dividers](#)
- [Mr. Reginald Lester Pay – Death of a hero](#) (towards the bottom of the page)
- [Resistivity Surveys of Manor Farm Field and Grounds of Charney Manor](#)
- [Pandemic](#)

# Charney Hall & Field Trust

## The Woodland Project

The felling of the aspens is now complete and CHAFT is grateful to the Parish Council for releasing the first staged payment of their grant towards the cost of this part of the project.

Stump grinding has also been completed. The remaining stumps on the ditch bank which have not been ground out (on specialist advice) will be managed as part of a replanting and maintenance plan.

Advice was received that the chippings should not be spread across the cleared woodland area as this would stifle regrowth of the existing grass and plants. Volunteers have completed a first spread along the bridle pathway and willow arbour. When it is socially appropriate to reconvene, a second layer will be spread. A buyer has been found for any surplus chippings.

The felled timber stored on Buckland Road has been removed. Thanks go to the Cox family for their help and it is understood the agreed fee has been donated to charity.

CHAFT has set up a small project team charged with bringing forward and implementing proposals for the development and maintenance of the woodland area to satisfy the replanting requirements of the Felling Licence and secure the long term future of the area as a woodland. Terms of reference for the team have been agreed. The team will comprise Lucy Gildersleeves (lead trustee) Neil Dobson, Stephanie Wright and Ruth Clements with Anna Moffatt providing expert advice. Links with the Parish Council will be maintained.

The felling contractor will be providing native tree species and whips with a view to planting starting in autumn 2021.

A priority for the project team will be to seek the wider views of the local community on the redevelopment of the woodland and in its ongoing future.

## Children's Play Area

The play park will remain open during the current lockdown provided users stick to the rules! Please comply with the displayed notices.

An independent safety inspection of the play park equipment has been booked for February.



## Charney Army Update

The Charney Army are still on furlough, and will stay that way until restrictions are a bit more relaxed. If there is anything that you think that the Army should be dealing with when they return to full active duty, please email [charneyarmy@gmail.com](mailto:charneyarmy@gmail.com).



# OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## TRAFFIC REGULATION NOTICE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 14(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, that the Oxfordshire County Council

**TEMPORARILY PROHIBITS THE USE OF AND WAITING ON THE HIGHWAY  
BY ALL MOTOR VEHICLES**

**LOCATION:** Charney Bassett, 47 Main Street

**REASON:** Carriageway patching works

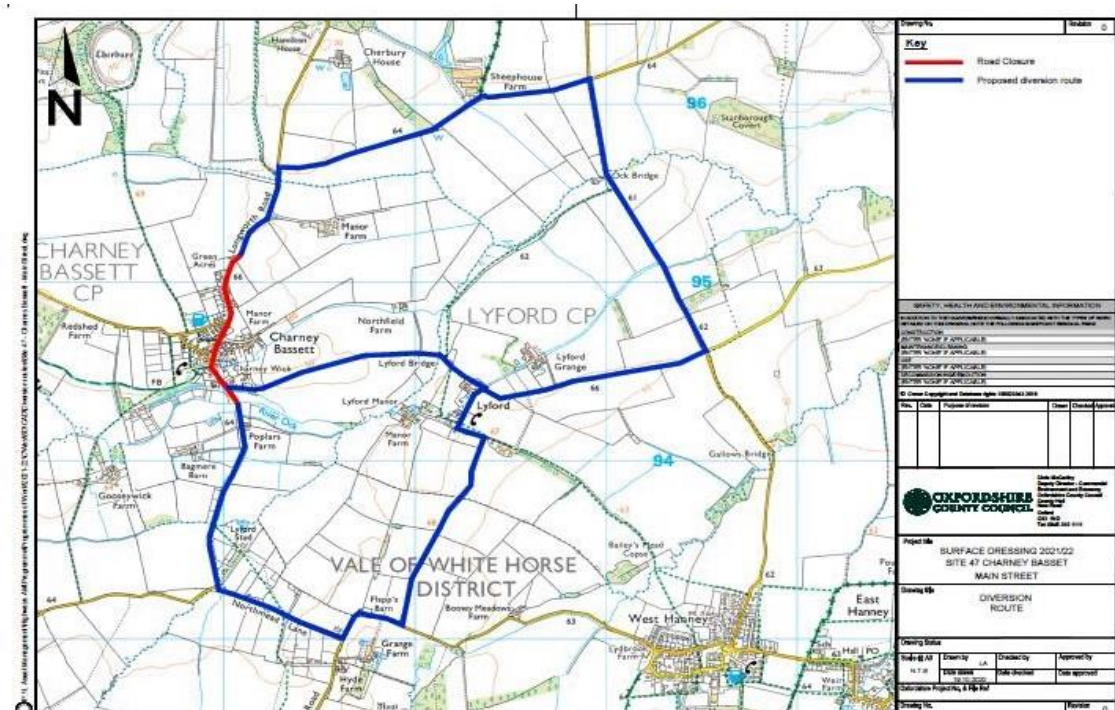
**DURATION:** Starting on 25 February 2021  
The anticipated completion date is 26 February 2021  
(day closure and each day from 07:30hrs to 16:30hrs)

(Traffic Regulation Notices cover a maximum of 5 consecutive days)

**ACCESS:** Limited access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for frontages within the closed section of road, subject to the progress of the works

The "No Waiting" restriction means that wherever there are in place yellow "No Waiting" cones, you will not be able to park vehicles on the highway.

**SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE ROUTE:** The alternative routes for traffic are via a combination of Longworth Road – Unnamed Road towards Fyfield Wick – Unnamed Road towards West Hanney – Unnamed Road towards Lyford – Unnamed Road towards Denchworth – Hyde Road – Northmead Lane – Land Brook and vice-versa. See map.



## **FREE Online Course**

# Bringing your Community Together

**Develop your skills in order to work with others in making a lasting difference in your community**

*A course to inspire and help you strengthen neighbourliness, social action, and build a stronger community.*

- ☐ Strengthen communication skills
- ☐ Develop active listening skills and tools for creating listening communities
- ☐ Consider who may face barriers to community involvement and ways to overcome these
- ☐ Share experiences and problem-solving together in an atmosphere of trust
- ☐ Learn mentoring skills and how to challenge discrimination and resolve conflicts

An opportunity to gain skills and tools to apply in your local community and in the workplace.

## INTERESTED?

The online sessions will be delivered via Zoom

**PART ONE: Thursday 25 February to 25 March 2021**

**Either at (a) 12:00pm to 13:30pm or (b) 6:00pm to 7:30pm**

**PART TWO: Thursday 22 April to 20 May 2021**

**Either at (a) 12:00pm to 13:30pm or (b) 6:00pm to 7:30pm**

**To reserve a place please contact either:**

Rachel Woods, Community Connector, Community First Oxfordshire

Email: [rachel.woods@communityfirstoxon.org](mailto:rachel.woods@communityfirstoxon.org)

or Sue Funge, Curriculum Manager, Oxfordshire Adult Learning

Email: [sue.funge@abingdon-witney.ac.uk](mailto:sue.funge@abingdon-witney.ac.uk)

**‘Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much’ (Helen Keller)**



## Charney 100 Club Draw

### The results of the December draw are:

£100 No 7 Tim Hewes

£50 No 103 Nerys Border

Kindly drawn by Kathryn at Gunton Barn.

### And the January results are:

£25 No 50 Paul Whiteside

£10 No 110 Marianne Kelleher

If anyone would like a number or extra numbers please contact:

Charney 100 club organisers, Sally or Evelyn at [charney100club@gmail.com](mailto:charney100club@gmail.com)

We love our dogs but not the owners who leave their mess behind. It has been noticed that bags (lots of them, and burgundy ones in particular) are being left on the Charney field. Please do bag up after your furry friend but then either use the three bins provided in the Village or take it home. In case you're unsure, the three bins can be found next to the bus shelter on Main Street, on Buckland Road by the footpath entrance to Cherbury Camp and on the corner of Buckland and Longworth Road. Thank you.



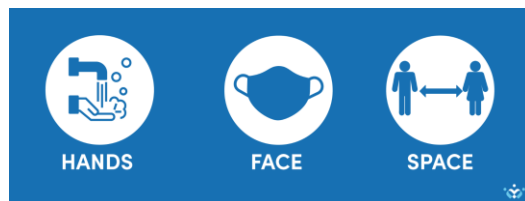
## Covid

For full information on current Covid restrictions go to:

[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)

**Remember** if you need assistance during lockdown there is still a group of volunteers in the Village able to provide help. If you are unable to collect your prescription, need a hand with shopping etc. then do please contact Mary Castle (868371, [marycastle476@gmail.com](mailto:marycastle476@gmail.com)) who will organize some help.

Beware of Vaccine Scams - see detailed fraud alert [VWHDC Newsletter](#)



## Last minute celebration card needed?

And don't want to use the car?

Something a little different. Unique and bespoke.

Delivered to your door!

Contact: Kay 868599



Thanks from Pete Hawkins to the Charney theatre group for their kind Christmas gift in recognition of his work on the concrete bench plinths. Pete looks forward to installing the benches in the New Year.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:** 20<sup>th</sup> February

Entries to: [chatterinbox@btopenworld.com](mailto:chatterinbox@btopenworld.com)

Charney Chatter e-news is published monthly on behalf of the Parish Council and co-edited by Steph Wright 867418 and Amanda Graham 868974 in liaison with the editors of the village websites, John Wright and Ian Graham. Occasional news updates may be sent to subscribers at the discretion of the editors. Contributions should be e-mailed to [chatterinbox@btopenworld.com](mailto:chatterinbox@btopenworld.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month in WORD format. You can unsubscribe by e-mailing [echatter@btopenworld.com](mailto:echatter@btopenworld.com). Residents without e-mail facilities can ask for a hard copy to be delivered.

[The Parish Council's policy on privacy and data protection](#)