

Charney Chatter

E86 April 2021



♪ Four swans a-grazing ♪



♪ Jubilee Orchard debris-removing ♪



♪ and hedge-cuuutting ♪



Out with the old and in with the new

Have you spotted that Charney's old 'lamp' post box has been upgraded to a shiny, new version? This style of box was introduced by the Royal Mail in 1896-97. The new box seems to be of much flimsier construction than the old but then that's progress for you ...

Lent display in the church porch



On the Bridlepath, another participant in the [The Great Big Art Exhibition Gallery - Firstsite](#). Open to all ages and abilities.

Charney Field Woodland Project Update

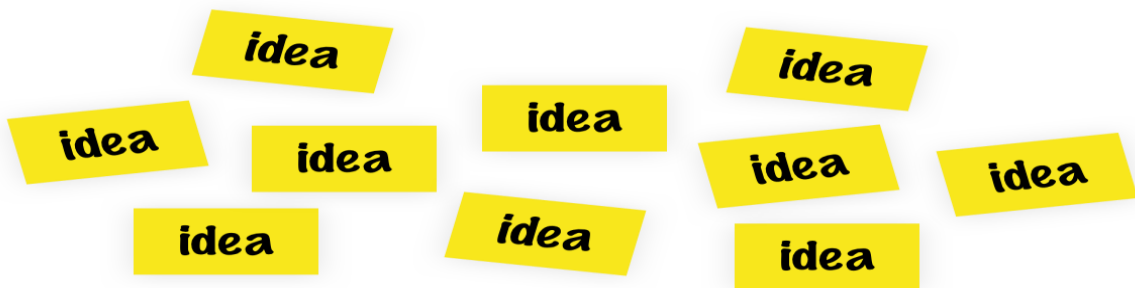
Work is ongoing on spreading chippings along the bridle path; a first layer was laid down in the winter and a second layer is in progress. Shreddings are also being used to mulch the shrubs and specimen trees. Thanks go to a team of volunteers for this work, including CHAFT trustees, Parish Council members and others.

A suggestion was proposed to the Woodland Project Group that chippings might also be spread along the track onto the field from the Buckland Road; this however will not happen as chippings would smother the natural regrowth of grass on the track, and the owner of the track does not wish it to be chipped.

When mulching and spreading of chippings have been completed and bulb flowering has passed, the next step will be to harrow the cleared area to prepare the ground for autumn tree planting. We are grateful for the assistance of Mr Fitzgerald O'Connor for this.

During February, the stands of shrubs, including cornus, prunus and hazel, were pruned and the willow arbour trimmed back and replanted to restore the original shape. Thanks go to Anna Moffatt and Sylvia Gibbons for their hard work on this.

In March, the focus has been on pruning and reshaping the hedges before the nesting season. Again, we are grateful to a team of volunteers, including Peter Busby's labours on the copse hedge. The resulting thorny prunings have been burned. The long slender brushwood from the shrub stands is being retained as we are planning to create some sections of dry hedging as habitat for wildlife, including hedgehogs and insects.



The Charney Woodland Project Group (on behalf of CHAFT) would like to invite input from all villagers as to priorities, and a wish list of elements which are important to you as we move towards the re-planting of the felled area, with the objective of improving our woodland and surrounding area on the Charney fields. Are you interested in encouraging nature and biodiversity, would you like to see trees, shrubs and flowers of particular variety or colour or in general what would make the area a more enjoyable place to be?

All ideas very welcome; please do access the map of the area in question by following this [link](#) and give us your notes, ideas, pictures or diagrams to consider. We welcome input from children and would love to receive your wish list and/or pictures of what is important to you and how you would like the area to look.

Details about the project with links to other sites providing information and ideas can be found on the [Charney website](#).

All returns to Ruth Clements please at Rectory Farm House, Main Street by 1ST May 2021.

Parish Council News

There were 6 members of the public present at the 'Virtual' Parish Council meeting of 10th March.

Matters discussed included:

- application for a Premises Licence at Charney Manor;
- helicopter training manoeuvres (**see article and survey below**);
- intrusive floodlighting at Lyford Business Centre;
- current balance (£7,414.92);
- objection to proposals to regularise unauthorised development at Long Meadow Barn, Denchworth;
- adoption of a spending policy for Community Infrastructure Levy payments;
- horse riding on Charney Field;
- CHAFT's Woodland Project Group;
- possible reinstatement of three lost footpaths;
- work programme for Charney Army.

The next meeting is the AGM and this is being moved forward a week to Wednesday 5th May at 7.30 pm to fit with current Covid-19 Regulations. This will again be a virtual meeting. Subsequent meetings are more likely to revert to the Village Hall. The full minutes of the last meeting can be found at [Agendas, Minutes & Reports - The Village of Charney Bassett](#).

Love 'Em or Hate 'Em?

Most residents will be aware that the Village sits in an area used for helicopter training. In the latter part of the year the frequency of flights seemed to increase, and since Christmas there still seems to have been plenty of activity. Some concerns have been raised with Councillors and the topic aired at the last three Parish Council meetings. We are not the only village affected: we also know of discussions at West Hanney and Stanford-in-the-Vale Parish Councils.

Chinook (twin-rotors) training flights emanate from RAF Benson, but we also fall into training zones as far away as Odiham and Salisbury. The MoD tells us that helicopters should generally fly no lower than 100 feet, but there are also regulations that say that flights should not cause 'unnecessary annoyance'. We have asked how this can be measured but have been given no answer.

Our District Councillor has suggested we raise any concerns with our local MP, but before thinking about this **we need to get a reasonable idea of how people feel** and have therefore created a short survey to gauge this. If you take part, you may wish to consider:

Are helicopters an 'unnecessary annoyance' to you? Do you feel disturbed whenever you see/hear one, or maybe it's just the Chinooks? Is it the timing of certain flights?

Of course, you may feel it is something to be put up with or that it is tolerable.

Or maybe you absolutely don't mind them at all and find them fascinating.

These are but a few examples. There may be something else that you feel is important to consider.

In order to help give us a general idea, please click on this [link](#) to take part in the poll. It should only take you a minute or two. Please use the space at the end of the survey to raise specific points, whether positive or negative, as this information can help us decide what, if anything, to do.



*******BREAKING NEWS*******

CHARNEY MANOR PREMISES LICENCE

There are now [full details on the website](#) about Charney Manor's Premises Licence Application.

For those with concerns about the application there are details about how to object/make a representation, together with a table of the submissions (names removed) that have already been made by Charney residents and a record of the meeting of residents held on Wednesday 24th March.

Charney Hall & Field Trust Management Committee

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday 14th April
2021 at 6.30pm**

Agenda will be posted on website by 10th April. For an invitation to the meeting or to ask a question please contact

charneychaft@gmail.com

Charney Bassett and Lyford Education Trust (CLET)

CLET supports a range of educational projects and activities, with grants awarded to individuals under the age of 25 and to community groups in the villages of Charney Bassett and Lyford.

Online applications are welcomed at any time and forms can be found on the

[Charney Bassett village website](#), or contact the Clerk, Ruth Clements for further details at cletclerk@gmail.com.

Applications will be considered by the Trustees who meet in January, May and September.

Charney Army

The 2021 objectives for the Charney Army were agreed at the recent Parish Council meeting. Many of the tasks involve supporting the Woodland Renovation Group. The Army will be back in action as soon as Government rules allow and participants feel able to contribute. Anyone wanting to do some individual litter picking should contact Peter Busby

charneyarmy@gmail.com
for access to equipment.

History Group

What's new since March's Charney Chatter?

- [Maps: 1574, 1605, 1720](#)
- [Rivers Map, including the River Ock, illustrating Drayton's verses](#)
- [Philip 1 Roman Coin](#)
- [Charney Feast 1995 Badge](#)
- Additional information on [WWII Evacuees](#)
- [School Mistresses additions](#)

Just a reminder that the Salvation Army clothing bank in the Chequers car park is still up and running. Please only deposit good quality clothing and accessories, shoes and trainers which are bagged up.

The items you throw away not only go to a good cause but also raise funds for Charney's Parish Council to help support the Village.



Charney 100 Club Draw

The results of the March draw are:

£25 No 17 Jackie Jezzard

£10 No 23 John Daglish

If you have not already done so please remember to pay your subs for 2021, which are now due.

You can set up a standing order (let the 100 Club know please); pay by bank transfer to CHAFT, sort code 40-45-36, A/C no 51127659, Ref 100 CLUB __ (your lowest number); or put the correct money in an envelope with your name and numbers and phone Sally on 868334 to arrange a socially distanced collection.

The 100 Club raises funds for CHAFT to support development of the Village Hall. Draws are made monthly with a 1st prize of £25 and 2nd of £10. First prize in the summer draw is £50 and in the Christmas draw £100.

If you want any more numbers or are new to Charney and would like a number please contact Sally by phone or at charney100club@gmail.com. The price per ticket/number is £12 per year.

Neighbourhood Policing

Village representatives from Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor, Stanford in the Vale, The Hanney's and surrounding villages will be having a virtual Zoom meeting with the recently appointed Sgt. Justin Lelliott from the Wantage and Faringdon Neighbourhood Policing Team on the 15th April.

If any villager wants me to raise a local issue relating to community safety please let me know davidsibbert@btinternet.com.

Finally, signs of life and something for the diary

Kingston Bagpuize & Southmoor Bowls Club will be celebrating the relaxation of Covid rules by holding two Open Days on 22nd and 23rd May, 11 am to 3 pm, at their all-weather green, Oxford Road, Kingston Bagpuize.

Full details in next month's Chatter.



What's New On The Charney Bassett Website

- [Parish Council draft minutes, March 2021](#)
- [News from your MP – David Johnston](#)
- [Charney Manor Licence Application](#)
- [Woodland Project A-Z](#)
- [Manor Licence Application Resources page](#)

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 20th April

Entries to: 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 by the 20th of each month in WORD format. You can unsubscribe by e-mailing echatter@btopenworld.com. Residents without e-mail facilities can ask for a hard copy to be delivered.

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