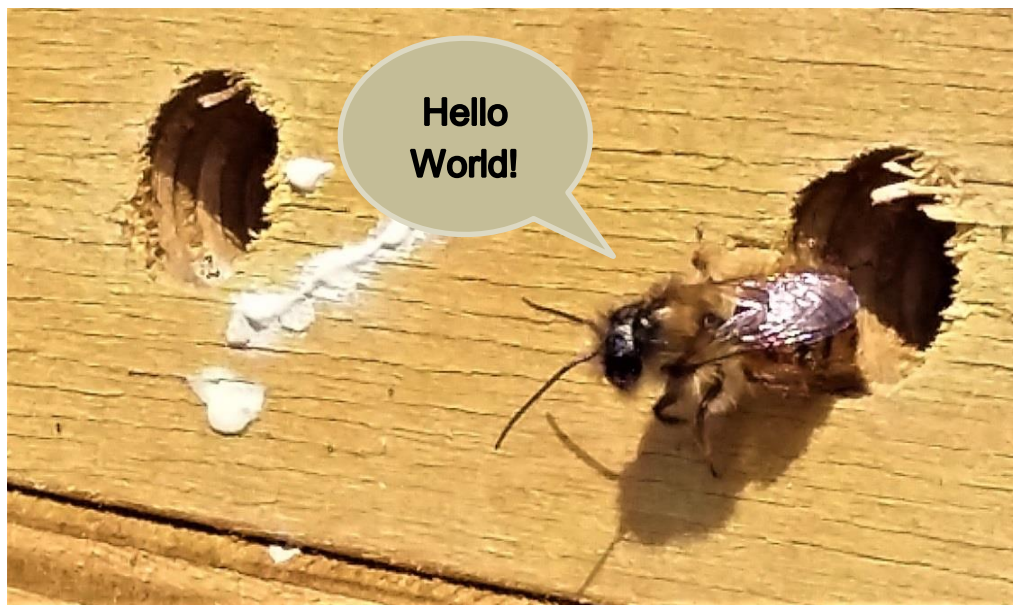




# Charney Chatter

E87 June 2021



The [October 2020 issue of the Chatter](#) introduced some of the smaller Village residents. An update: of the 600 solitary bee cocoons being overwintered in a Charney shed, all have now disgorged their occupants over a period of several weeks. Most sensibly made an early escape before the wet May weather set in.



Other small residents live invisibly beneath our feet and occasionally pop up to check what's going on above ground.

# Wildflowers on the Charney Bridlepath

Captured by one of our talented village photographers. How many can you name?

A



B



C



D



E



F



Answers on the last page



# Resurfacing...



...the  
road



and the bridle path.

**Who expended the most effort?**



The willow  
spiral  
emerging  
on Charney  
Field

# Summary of Charney Bassett Parish Council Annual Meeting

The Parish Council met for its last 'virtual' meeting on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Five residents were also in attendance. Meetings will now revert to the Village Hall following the expiry of the Government's Covid-19 legislation allowing Council's to meet 'virtually'. The next meeting is on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm.

The meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> May was the Council's annual meeting. Matters discussed included:

- Re-opening of a possible lost footpath from Stanford-in-the Vale bridleway to Buckland Road;
- Review of the Community-led Plan;
- Appointments to positions and village groups;
- Resumption of village Speedwatch activities;
- Grass cutting contract;
- Changing the bank account to allow for internet banking;
- End of year accounts and audit;
- Floodlighting at Lyford Business Centre;
- Results of a village survey on attitudes towards helicopter noise;
- Reaction to the granting of a Premises Licence (allowing alcohol sales and playing of amplified music) at Charney Manor;
- Access to Charney Mill.

Agendas and minutes of meetings can be found online at [www.charneybassett.org.uk](http://www.charneybassett.org.uk) including the full draft minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> May meeting.

Trevor Brown (Parish Clerk) can be contacted at [parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk).

## Charney Manor Premises Licence

The application for a Premises Licence at Charney Manor was approved (with conditions) by the Vale of White Horse Licensing Sub-Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> May. The Parish Council spoke at the meeting in support of the 33 objections that were submitted.

The lead trustee has advised that it is highly unlikely events will be held in the near future and that an Open Day is likely to be arranged later in the summer where the Friends will provide more detail of their plans for the property.

The Clerk is corresponding with District Council officers to clarify the scope of the conditions that have been imposed, particularly those intended to control noise from events. The Vale's reason for approving the Licence is now on the village website at [Premises Application Charney Manor - The Village of Charney Bassett](#). Further updates will be posted there when available.

Trevor Brown (Clerk): 01235 868282

### What's New On The Charney Bassett Website

- [Parish Council draft minutes, May 2021](#)
- [News from your MP – David Johnston](#)



# The Chequers reopens for indoor meals

(subject to Covid restrictions)

Takeaway available Tuesday – Sunday

Closed Mondays all day and Tuesday lunchtime

Opening times:

Tuesday	closed		6 – 9 pm
Wednesday	12 – 2 pm	and	6 – 9 pm
Thursday	12 – 2 pm	and	6 – 9 pm
Friday	12 – 2 pm	and	6 – 9 pm
Saturday	12 – 2 pm	and	6 – 9 pm
Sunday	12 until finish		

Bar open 6 pm until closing

Please phone to book a takeaway meal or a table on 868642



The weather of late may have been strange but how about this from The Reading Standard (Saturday 28th August 1915)?

*A strange phenomenon occurred at Charney on the Berkshire Downs. From the earth rose a vapour-like column which eventually gathered into a cloud and dispersed in a torrent of rain.*

## History Group Website

### What's new since May's Charney Chatter?

- [Friday 03 September 1943 Victory Churn Contest Certificates of Merit for Berkshire Farmers](#), Manor Farm, Mr Akers
- [Charney Youth Hostel?](#) Reading Standard – Friday 09 & 16 April 1948
- [Engagement announced](#) of the Hon. R. G. Whiteley of Charney Manor, 1924
- [Military Medal Award, 1916, Sgt. George F Shorter](#), Green Farm, The Green, Charney Bassett



Our very own Joe Ody supported the local Riding for the Disabled Group close to us just outside Southmoor by buying a ticket for the "Guess the weight of the cake" competition, and he won!

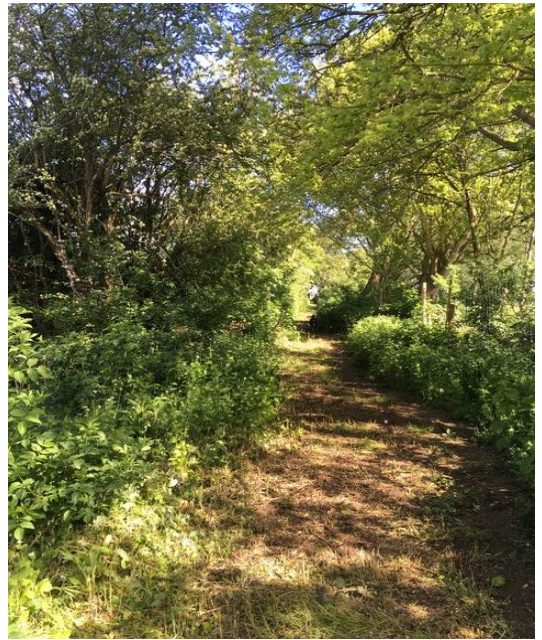
## Charney Ukulele Band

The first booking for the Village Hall under the new Covid regulations was for the recently formed Charney Ukulele Band. Several residents have been learning the fun instrument via Zoom, and this was the first time they've been able to play live, together. As expected, the evening was great fun, and a confidence builder for these new musicians.

# Charney Army

The amphibious division of the Charney Army was deployed on Thursday 13th May, to make The Causeway more walkable. The vegetation was threatening to close off the footpath, and it is now open to all.

If only the sun had been shining like this on the 13<sup>th</sup>.



## Can you spare a little time to support your local community?

[The Village Hall](#) is a wonderful facility for all to use, providing a community space for events, classes and private functions. In the last year, understandably, the Hall has seen little activity but from mid-May it has re-opened.

Without your support both financially (helping with fund raising) and practically (cleaning, DIY and involvement in the running), it would not be possible to offer this facility to the Village.

At present the Hall is in need of a couple more people to help on the cleaning rota. Would you be able to spare less than an hour a week during the months of August or September to help with cleaning? A super electric steam floor mop is provided and all other cleaning materials. All assistance is greatly appreciated. Please call Lynn Brookes - 868471 - for more details or to offer your services.

## Plant Stall

The plant stall is now open for business, despite a late start due to inclement weather.

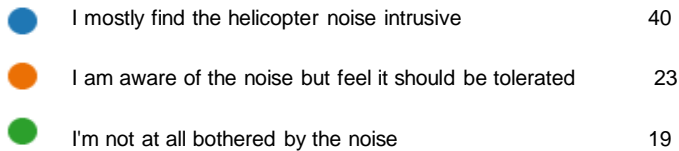
Donations of surplus plants greatly appreciated (don't forget to label your pots). Or why not fill some gaps in your garden with what's on offer on the stall.

Happy gardening!



# Helicopter Survey Results

The Parish Council is looking in more detail at the survey results, and this was discussed at the last meeting. It should be noted that 82 people contributed (less than half the village population), with 69 providing additional comment. The graphics below help to illustrate respondent's feelings about helicopter activity over the village.



## General attitude

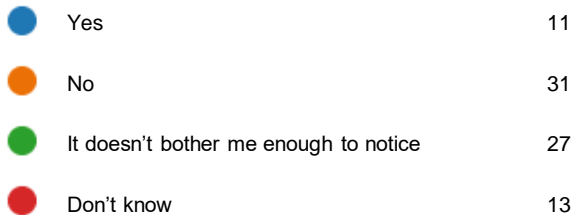
It was noted that respondents are split almost half and half: intrusive vs. tolerant/not bothered.

■ Disagree ■ Agree ■ Neutral



## Frequency of activity

Most respondents think the level of activity at night is unacceptable (51.2%), whilst a higher proportion feel that activity levels during the day and early evening is acceptable (54.9%).



## Decrease in activity since the New Year

This question was asked this way to try and determine whether people felt helicopter noise was more/less noticeable or the same over time. At the time of the survey, the New Year wasn't that far back to recall.

## The additional comment section (provided added context).

The most frequent remark reflected a high level of acceptance of the need to have trained personnel. Another regular response was a support for the armed services, with some pointing out that Charney Bassett is within their training area. However, at the top of the list for those responders who found the noise troublesome, were concerns that the training was too low/close and too often. There were also a number of responses that training sessions during unsocial hours disturbed sleep.

With such a split of opinion it is felt this is not something that can be raised with the MP, but Cllr. Mary Castle is formulating an action plan for further discussion. This may involve further correspondence with MoD and liaison with neighbouring villages.



## Changes To Front Counter Provision In Thames Valley

We will soon be changing some of the ways in which you can access our front counter services across Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire.

Thames Valley Police is adapting to the different ways people now wish to make contact with us to ensure we continue to meet the changing needs of the diverse communities we serve.

These changes do not affect police officer numbers or the number of operational police bases so you will not experience any difference in the ongoing commitment we have to visible policing in our Thames Valley communities.

There will continue to be good geographic coverage of front counters across the Thames Valley if you need to access one. However, some will be closing.

These changes, which were subject to a public consultation, will be implemented from 30 August 2021.

Further details are available on our [information page](#).

There are a number of really convenient alternative ways to contact Thames Valley Police.

More and more, people contact us online and by phone. You can also access a number of our core services on our website. This includes reporting non-emergency crimes or incidents, anti-social behaviour, applying for firearms licensing, telling us about something of concern or updating us on a crime report, among many other functions.

Further information about when and how to make a report to police is available on [our website](#).

Our non-emergency number is 101. In an emergency always dial 999.

### **Message Sent By**

Hannah Jones (Police, Communications Officer, Thames Valley)



This summer will establish the direction of Oxfordshire for the next generation.

The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 will define the development strategy for the county for the next three decades, including both the quality and quantity of housing and the broad locations for growth.

CPRE Oxfordshire has prepared an Oxfordshire Plan 2050 briefing, to help you engage and get involved in planning the future of Oxfordshire. Download a copy from the website here:

<https://tinyurl.com/sm5dw2dk>.



**Vale of White Horse** is launching a new lottery on 17<sup>th</sup> June – The Vale of White Horse Community Lottery – proceeds of which will be spent on local causes. Please click [here](#) for further information.

See the [May 2021 newsletter](#) for important information on, for example:

- making dog theft a specific criminal offence
- reporting fraudsters
- keeping your home safe in partnership with LockLatch



It's quickest to report fraud to Action Fraud online using the [online reporting tool](#), but you can also report by phone on 0300 123 2040 Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm.



### Chance to win a Micro Scooter

The Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire District Councils have launched a competition for primary school children to design a superhero to tackle air pollution. The 1<sup>st</sup> prize is a micro scooter (one per district). Closing date 5<sup>th</sup> June. Please click the [link](#) for details of how to enter.

### Financial support available for residents in need

The last year has been tough for many residents across Oxfordshire due to the pandemic. Households have been hit financially by redundancies and furlough and have found themselves with a day to day struggle to afford basics

Throughout the year South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils have been providing supporting via government funding to those who have been hit the hardest, and this support is still available.

If any resident is struggling financially the councils are urging them to get in touch, and to do so before they reach crisis point. The Community Hub team are working alongside Citizens Advice and Vale Community Impact to offer help in the form of advice, supermarket and fuel vouchers or through the direct payment of energy or water bills.

The support is there for all households: residents needing help do not have to be in receipt of any government benefits and can be given financial support through this funding more than once.

If anyone does need help, they can call Vale of White Horse Community Hub on 01235 422600 or email [communityconnectors@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:communityconnectors@southandvale.gov.uk)

They can also contact

Citizens Advice – 0808 278 7907 (South Oxfordshire and the Vale)

Vale Community Impact – 01235 765348 (Vale residents only)

The deadline for accessing financial support from the Covid Support Grant is Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> June. Find out more about the support available on the website at [whitehosedc.gov.uk/covid19](http://whitehosedc.gov.uk/covid19).

## Charney 100 Club Draw

### The results of the May draw are:

£25 No 72 Brian and Christine Collins

£10 No 128 Derek Partridge

Kindly drawn by Philip Greenacre

If you want any more numbers or are new to Charney and would like a number please contact

Sally and Evelyn at [charney100club@gmail.com](mailto:charney100club@gmail.com).

## Answers

- |                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| A Forget me not              | B Nettle  |
| C Dandelion                  | D Cowslip |
| E Jack by the hedge          |           |
| F Cuckoo flower/ladies smock |           |

## Charney Mill

The Parish Clerk is undertaking a review of keyholders for the Mill.

It would help enormously if current keyholders could get in touch so a definitive list can be compiled.

If you do need regular access and don't have a key please also get in touch.

Email: [parishclerk@charneybassett.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@charneybassett.co.uk)

## Charney Hall & Field Trust Management Committee

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on

Wednesday 7th July 2021 at 7.00pm  
(venue subject to any Covid-19 restrictions applicable at the time)

## At long last Date for the Diary returns



## Village Fete

Saturday,  
4th September  
on the Green

### CHAFT

Wednesday, 23rd June, 6.30 pm  
Virtual meeting of Management Committee

### PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday, 14th July, 7.30 pm  
Village Hall

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

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.

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