

# **Bunbury Parish Council**

## **Newsletter - August 2023**

This is the first of a newsletter that we plan to produce each quarter. Each newsletter will cover highlights from the most recent Council meetings.

### **Allotments**

We are considering the provision of allotments, following a request from several residents. Feasibility and management issues have been discussed and the land owned by the Council at Tweddle Close has been identified as the most obvious site. Issues of clearing of the site, costs, access, parking, and consultation with local residents have been considered and a Working Group established to conduct a feasibility study and report back to the Council.

We are keen to have representation from interested residents so please contact the Clerk if you would be willing to serve.  
<bunburyclerk@aol.com>

### **Trees**

A tree management sub-group has been set up to check the condition of Trees protected by Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and to consider additional TPOs. A report on the findings will return to a future Council meeting.

### **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group**

The work of the group (made up of Councillors and residents) on modifying the existing Neighbourhood Plan (2016) has paused while the results of consultations are reviewed and updates on the implications of the 'First Homes' initiative are awaited from Cheshire East Council (CEC) and the Government (see the notes on the Parkside application under Planning Applications).

### **Planning Applications**

The planning application on Parkside was first considered back in December of last year. CEC repeatedly postponed its consideration of the application which had provoked many concerns and objections from residents. We made written representations to CEC, Edward Timpson MP, and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing

and Communities. The Planning Committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June was well attended by residents, and our CEC Ward Councillor (Becky Posnett), our Vice-Chair (Andrew Thomson) and resident, Isabel Noonan, each spoke to oppose the application which, to applause from the public gallery, was rejected.

### **Ongoing Developments**

There have been parking issues associated with the building of houses at the side of the medical centre, including parking in front of the notice boards. Cones and tape have been put up to stop parking on the verges, and, at our request, the PCSO has spoken to the site manager. The opening up of the site should improve the situation.

We have also raised concerns about damage being done to the green space adjacent to the Belfry development in Upper Bunbury (see picture, below). This is a village amenity and



must be protected. CEC, who own the land, have been requested to raise these issues with the developer and seek better ways to protect this area and, where necessary, make good the damage.

The work on the Foxdale development on Vicarage Lane has also raised concerns in that permission to remove protected trees was given without consulting the Council and a new access off Vicarage Lane was made without planning

permission. We have asked CEC's Planning Department to follow the standard practice and consult properly.

### **Traffic Management**

Arising from the current revisions to the Neighbourhood Plan, we are looking at ways in which 'Parish Council Action 1' might seek to reduce the impact of rising traffic volume and improve safety around the village. Work will commence in September with an open meeting.

### **WhatsApp Group**

The WhatsApp group for factual village information has been running for a few months and will now be a permanent feature of Council communications. You can receive information about forthcoming events, road-works, meetings, council decisions and much more by signing up to the group via the link, below, or you can get an existing member to send a link to you (<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KxC11nIJHREKfZeEZNy7v>)

### **Defibrillator Provision and Maintenance**

We have been active in assessing the current provision of Defibrillators within the village. There are currently three fully functioning, registered defibrillators within the village and a fourth is under consideration. This life-saving equipment is costly to maintain but a worthwhile

investment for residents. Regular checks are carried out on the equipment and we have discussed issues of access, to ensure that they are prominently located around the village.

Several open training sessions have been run and more will be run in the autumn. Familiarity with the equipment is helpful but anyone can use the defibrillators in an emergency, as the machines themselves speak instructions.

### **Play Area Safety**

The play area is very popular with Bunbury residents and visitors alike. This is another expensive area to maintain and we have routine inspections for safety carried out by RoSPA. The most recent report identified several areas of maintenance and repair but no matters of high risk. Work is ongoing to engage the services of a registered contractor to undertake this work and for future maintenance.

### **Hedges: a polite reminder**

Can we encourage residents with hedges alongside footpaths to ensure they do not restrict passage. At some points, disabled users of wheelchairs, electric or hand-powered, buggies/pushchairs, and pedestrians squeezed between the road and the hedge can find their way blocked or difficult. Your help would be much appreciated. Hedges should be cut back to your property boundary.

**Protecting footpaths**



**Organising The Big Tea Party following the Coronation**



**Bunbury Parish Council Gallery:**

Here are some further examples of what we have been doing around Bunbury in the last few months.

**Supporting Village Day**



**Planting a tree For the The Queen's Green Canopy**

