

Charlton Kings Parish Council Newsletter

March 2022

Newsletter No. 31

Parish Council Newsletters

Newsletters are posted on Noticeboards within the Parish and made available on the Parish Council Website. If you would be interested in receiving the Parish Council Newsletter by email, please contact the Community Development Officer: community@charltonkingsparishcouncil.gov.uk

E-newsletter Trial



From March 2022, Charlton Kings Parish Council will be trialing a new e-newsletter format and running it in parallel with our existing newsletter for several months.

We will be looking for feedback and if you would like to subscribe and be one of our early testers please scan the QR code.

Committee Meetings

Meetings listed are correct at the time of printing but may be subject to change.

Please check on the website for any updates or confirm by contacting the Community Development Officer.

Planning Committee Meeting:	<i>Stanton Hall, Church Piece</i>	<i>Mon, 07 Mar 2022 19:00</i>
Community Assets Committee Meeting:	<i>Stanton Hall, Church Piece</i>	<i>Thur, 10 Mar 2022 19:00</i>
Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting:	<i>Conference Room, Church Piece</i>	<i>Mon, 14 Mar 2022 14:00</i>
Planning Committee Meeting	<i>Stanton Hall, Church Piece</i>	<i>Mon, 21 Mar 2022 19:00</i>
Full Council Meeting:	<i>Stanton Hall, Church Piece</i>	<i>Mon, 28 Mar 2022 19:00</i>

Additional dates for your diary

- **The Digibus comes to Charlton Kings** - Thursday 10th March and Friday 11th March, 10.00am—3.00pm on Church Piece. To book your place call 07878 250 111.
- **Digital Skills Course by Adult Education Gloucestershire** - Monday 14th March (weekly for 4 weeks), 10.00am—12.00pm, Conference Room, 26 Church Street, Church Piece, Charlton Kings, GL53 8AR. Fully booked—please contact the Administrative Officer to go on the waiting list.
- **CK Futures Talk with Karen Watson** - Wednesday 30th March, 7.00 - 8.30pm, Stanton Hall, 26 Church Piece, Church Street, Charlton Kings, GL53 8AR. Tickets are free and will be on Eventbrite in the next week or you can email ckfutures@charltonkingsparishcouncil.gov.uk
- **Sustainable Living Workshop (Transport)** - Wednesday 6th April, 7.00 - 9.00pm, FRONT Community Hub, 197 London Road, Charlton Kings, GL52 6HU. Tickets are free, please book via Eventbrite on <https://bit.ly/3qN5RMD> or email ckfutures@charltonkingsparishcouncil.gov.uk

Budget and Precept for 2022-23

For the third year, councillors met together away from the usual round of meetings, to decide what we wanted to achieve as a Council, and what our priorities should be in a new 4-year term after elections on 5th May.

Our costed programme to deliver these priorities is not immune to the rising cost of living as a result of the pandemic and global price increases. Unlike County and District/Borough Councils, we have received no emergency pandemic support funding from government to make up lost revenues from hiring the Stanton Suite. We are nevertheless acutely aware that this will again be a financially challenging year for many residents, and that we must have good reasons to ask for any additional funds from the 1.5 % of your Council Tax bill we receive. Last year, the national average Precept was £71.86 and for Gloucestershire's 264 Parish Councils, £46.43. In 2022/23, Charlton Kings Parish Council will be asking Band D households to pay £35.40. With the Precept being a 'progressive' tax, households in lower bands will pay less, while some are exempt. In order to continue to deliver services and restrict the increase, we will be taking money from our reserves.

A full programme with detailed budgets, is on our website under our Finance page.

Our Precept income will be £177,000, with a further £20,000 from reserves. We will regain some hiring income and our allotments now pay for themselves. Additionally, we will continue to seek external grants to support some important projects and in 2022/23 we will be in year two of the major National Grid funding programme for biodiversity and landscape enhancement works on our Commons.

The Parish Council works hard to develop strong and trusting partnerships with individuals, the voluntary sector, and statutory organisations. Our CK Futures project offers help and advice to people who want to make their own contributions to combatting Climate Change, and CK Health Connect will focus on loneliness and digital exclusion of older residents, as well as supporting our young people.

On the following page you can read more about the LCAS Gold Award recently awarded to the Parish Council. In NALC's words, this award demonstrates that we are "at the forefront of best practice by achieving an excellent standard in community governance, community leadership and performance management."

A40 Survey—Are you in favour of a permanent 40 mph speed restriction from Charlton Kings Hotel to Dowdeswell reservoir?



We are asking local residents to take a few minutes to complete a short survey regarding a proposal for a **permanent 40 mph speed restriction from Charlton Kings Hotel to Dowdeswell reservoir.**

We are keen to represent the views of the local community and the results of this survey will feed into further talks with Gloucestershire Highways and our County and Borough Councillors.

As of the beginning of March we have 266 responses to the online survey and several paper copies handed in to the parish council office. We would really appreciate support from the community in ensuring that as many people as possible complete the survey. You can scan the QR code or go to the link via the A40 Survey page on our website.

LCAS Quality Gold Award for Charlton Kings Parish Council



We are proud to announce that Charlton Kings Parish Council has recently received the Quality Gold Award as part of the national Local Council Award Scheme. There are approximately 9,000 Town and Parish Councils in England and, as of October 2021, only 53 had achieved the Quality Gold Award.

Councillor Rob Williams, Chair of Charlton Kings Parish Council says: "This achievement follows from the vision of our former Chair, the late Cllr Mike Palmer who, four years ago, led our Council on its improvement journey. In that time, 30 councillors have, unrewarded, contributed their knowledge, skills, and dedication to improving

people's lives in our wonderful parish. Our thanks are due to them and to our amazing staff, without whose commitment good ideas cannot take root and flourish. We are proud to have achieved this award, but it has been the challenging journey towards it that has mattered and, from May, our next body of elected councillors will continue to serve our community in the best way they can."

Charlton Kings Parish Council intends to build on the work that it has already done in order to achieve the Quality Gold Award by continuing to develop a number of innovative projects to benefit the local community. These include CK Futures, the Parish Council's response to the climate emergency, CK Health Connect, which focuses on the health and well-being of residents and a wide range of community events including Summer, Autumn and Christmas Fayres.

The Quality Gold Award is the final achievement in a three-tier Award Scheme. It is independently assessed by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), based on a range of evidence-based criteria. Receipt of the Award demonstrates that a Council is at the forefront of best practice and achieves excellence in governance, community leadership, and council development. This Award recognises the dedication and commitment of our councillors, the Parish Council's small team of staff, our many volunteers, and all our partners in the local community.

CK Health Connect Update - Book your free internet session on the DigiBus!

REMINDER – Don't forget to book your FREE internet session on the DigiBus, which will be in Church Piece, Charlton Kings on Thursday 10th & Friday 11th March, from 10am – 3pm each day. The DigiBus is an accessible converted double-decker bus packed with digital technology for you to explore, but you can also bring along your own smart phone or tablet.

The sessions will be personal to you – you can be helped to connect to the internet or set up an email address. You might want to access the things that interest you online or shown how to use your GP's online booking system? Maybe you would like to connect with family and friends on video, manage your finances online, or simply organise a food shop delivery?

Bookings & more details -: Drop-in sessions with a tutor are available throughout the day, but appointments can also be booked in advance by calling Taff Wiltshire on 07878 250 111 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

CK Futures Talk on Cheltenham's Climate Emergency Plan



We were delighted to be joined by Borough Councillor Max Wilkinson as he introduced Cheltenham's Climate Emergency Plan. You can download the Emergency Plan here: <https://bit.ly/3BZz5vJ>

Max gave us a brief overview of the plan and there was then a Q&A session which gave the attendees a great opportunity to dig into some of the finer detail of the plan.

The video of the session will be available to view on our You Tube page and can be accessed here: <https://www.charltonkingsparishcouncil.gov.uk/recordings.html>

Platinum Jubilee - The Queen's Green Canopy in Charlton Kings



The Queen's Green Canopy is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee."

The Parish was gifted two oak trees by the Honourable Company of Gloucestershire which were planted on Newcourt Green on the Cirencester Road on Friday 25th February.

We were delighted to be joined by students from Holy Apostles Primary School and Charlton Kings Junior Schools as well as MP Alex Chalk, Chair of the Parish Council and Parish Councillor Duncan Munro who was representing the Honourable Company of Gloucestershire.

After the planting ceremony Councillor Rob William accompanied the two Charlton Kings Junior School students on a tree walk using our Newcourt Green Tree Walk Leaflet. He was very impressed with their knowledge and questions!

Your Councillors:

Cllr Rob Williams (Chair), Cllr Paul Cockwill, Cllr Raj Gandhi, Cllr Ian Gosling, Cllr Russell Grimshaw, Cllr Penny Hall, Cllr Alan Hawkins, Cllr Clive Hodges, Cllr Ned Holt, Cllr Janet Honeywill, Cllr Lynda Johnson, Cllr Duncan Munro, Cllr Pat Palmer, Cllr Felicity Parnham, Cllr Rob Reid and Cllr Ros Smith

Contact details: Charlton Kings Parish Office, 26 Church Street, Church Piece, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 8AR

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