

FOOTPATHS/OPEN SPACES/CLIMATE CHANGE – CLLR COOPER

Footpaths & Open spaces

Despite HCC providing no funding for footpath clearance this year a visual inspection of all the village footpaths today found that all were passable despite the recent rains and increase in vegetation growth. In some cases there is an errant stinging nettle or bramble intruding onto the trodden path but these can be avoided without difficulty.. If all walkers coming across intruding vegetation could bash it down this would be much appreciated and avoid unnecessary Parish Council expenditure. We are expecting Moor court Farms to cut the field from Church farm cottages to Dean lane in the coming days and eventually given some good weather harvest the arable crops on Stockers Down

The temporary footpath closure of the footpath from Home Lane to Woodman Lane to carry out modifications to Littlemead is now in force and will remain so until the middle of September. As of today it is still passable.

A thank you to Peter Yeates for renewing the steps on the footpath as it joins Dean Lane from Church Farm Cottages

Climate change

No activity to report.

HAM GREEN CONSERVATION GROUP – MALCOLM HEWSON

Sunshine and a lot of rain over the last 2 months has encouraged luxuriant growth at Ham Green.

For various reasons the planned volunteer work sessions have been interrupted and activities reduced over this period. After some additional work in the last 10 days the bridleway and footpath are clear and passable for walkers, cyclists and horses.

The Glade and other grass areas that are very overgrown will be attended to at our next planned work session that we have brought forward a week to 28 July.

At the start of the bridleway almost immediately on the right from the car park there are 3 dead trees, one fairly low covered in ivy, another a little taller and a third tall tree.

There is a danger the tall tree may blow over onto the car park or bridleway. I am checking with Howard Annesley to decide if we can fell the trees or we will need professional help. It will not be a big job. I will report back by 18th.

TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS– CLLR WOOD

Transport

Nothing to report

Highways

Highways continue to be contacted reference potholes as they arise. Residents are reminded to report any new potholes using the HCC website or to contact Sparsholt Chair.

Residents have been notified of the road works to deal with flooding issues in Dean.

Church Farm Lane closure, except to residents during the road completion. The temporary track in the paddock will allow access for Church Farm residents and the work to be safely completed. Hedges on the new road and the state of the paddock will be restored on completion of the works. Residents and Newsletter recipients have been made aware of. Please contact Sparsholt Chair on any concerns. Please be assured that the works comply with the planning permission.

COMMUNICATIONS – CLLR LITTLE

Nothing to report on Communications portfolio.

SHOP – CLLR REID

Nothing significant to report. The new lease (covering 2024-2026) is with the Shop Committee for signing.

MEMORIAL HALL – CLLR HIMBURY

PLAYGROUND – CLLR BROWN

Report from June

Portfolio Reports July 2024

Weekly inspections of the Playground continue to be undertaken, with no significant issues to report
Minor repairs were made to resecure the football goal net and to replace the damaged basketball net
Work to the resident parking scheme of three extended and new laybys in Woodman Close by Rocon Contractors Ltd., with the asphaltting undertaken by Coastal Asphalts, was completed on the 21st May. A number of areas disturbed by the contractor have been re-seeded and people are asked to refrain from stepping in these areas while the grass establishes.
A new tree was planted with a supporting frame by the Council on the Woodman Close green above the football goal.

SECURITY – CLLR WALTHOE

Security Report. We received a couple of local crime reports through the neighbourhood watch scheme. Nothing here that looks immediately relevant for the parish.