

# CHAVEY DOWN NEWS AND VIEWS

January 2021

Published by The Chavey Down Association

Number 66

[chavedownassoc@yahoo.com](mailto:chavedownassoc@yahoo.com)

## Happy New Year

We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year, despite the Tier 4 restrictions we had in place. Last year has certainly been a challenging one for everyone and it doesn't seem like it is letting up for the time being. Thankfully with the start of the Covid-19 vaccination programme we can see light at the end of the tunnel although the daily numbers of cases remain quite worrying. In particular, it has been concerning to see the increase in cases in the Bracknell Area and specifically the area designated as Chavey Down/North Ascot West area which showed 61 cases, with an 838.0 rate as at 5<sup>th</sup> January and 4 Covid related deaths. Many of you are probably getting weary of the restrictions but to keep our friends, neighbours and loved ones safe, it is important that we continue to abide by the Government's regulations. Keep safe and well everyone!

## Christmas Hampers

We were delighted that just before Christmas we were able to deliver Christmas Hampers to pensioners. It was so lovely to see everyone when we dropped these off, albeit we were hidden behind masks. This year, with all the restrictions in place, we know that the delivery of hampers was particularly well received.

Unfortunately, we are no longer able to continue to do this, since the Chavey Down Bingo Club closed, sadly we no longer receive sufficient income to continue with these.

## Traffic

We have recently had two very serious accidents on Long Hill Road and Priory Road. Two vehicles were involved in a head on collision on Long Hill Road and the other accident was a vehicle that overturned and damaged 5 metal fence panels belonging to Heathfield School. We understand no other vehicle was involved.

During lockdown we are also aware of some drivers using these roads as a "race track". The Chavey Down Association, with the support of residents, recently had North and Church Road speed limits reduced from 30 mph to 20 mph, and previously Long Hill Road from 40 mph to 30 mph. Priory Road is the only road in the village that remains at a 40 mph speed limit and with traffic cutting through the village to avoid the Martin's Heron traffic lights, commuter traffic using Priory Road as a cut through when using the M3, plus parents from Heathfield and LVS Schools, we have all witnessed that speeds regularly hit 50-60 mph.

Some residents of Priory Road have indicated that they too would like to see a reduction in speed limit to 30 mph and have asked the Chavey Down Association for support with this. This is not something we can do alone and this will need the support of Priory Road residents in the form of reporting incidents of speeding to the Association so that we can log this as evidence. We will also need residents to help conduct Speedwatch sessions and this will involve individuals being trained to use the Parish's Speedwatch

cameras. This is something we can organise via the Thames Valley Community Police and Winkfield Parish Council. Getting the speed reduced is not a foregone conclusion and neither is it a quick process. If we can provide sufficient evidence of speeding that we can present to the Borough Council, the next step is their own monitoring using Archer Strips.

If Priory Road residents, and indeed other residents in the village, wish the Chavey Down Association to pursue this, we will need your support. In the first instance we would like to understand if people are supportive of a speed reduction. Secondly, we would need volunteers to undertake Speedwatch sessions. This would obviously not be able to take place until we are safely out of this pandemic. Finally, if you wish to be kept up to date on what is happening, then please join the Chavey Down Association if you are not already members. Membership subscriptions are as below and the membership year runs from May to April.

Senior Citizens	£2 each
Individuals	£3 each
Families	£5 each

In order to simplify payment you can either pay by dropping cash or cheque (in an envelope) to 26 Church Road with your name and address on it, or if you prefer, you can pay by bank transfer and the details are as follows:

Sort Code	51-81-22
Account Number	67317383

For bank transfer, please put your name, house number and road in the reference so we can cross-reference the payment.

## Parking in Long Hill Road

We have been asked by a number of residents to ask you that when you park your cars on Long Hill Road to please be considerate to others. Pedestrians are currently having to walk into a busy road because they cannot use the pavement due to vehicles parking with 4 wheels on the pavement. We must allow people to walk safely but this is even more important whilst we are limited to where we can walk due to lockdown restrictions and more people are using the pavements. Also, please do not park close to the corners of North and Church Road as this results in visual obstructions and there have been several near misses when drivers have been trying to access Long Hill Road or Priory Road from North and Church Roads. We mentioned earlier the very nasty head on collision in Long Hill Road and this could have been even more serious if pedestrians were having to walk in the road.

## Council and Parish Wards review and impact

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England consultation reviewing Council Wards has now been completed and their recommendations published. Their proposal is to create a new Ward called Winkfield and Warfield East (which includes Chavey Down) and their recommendation for the number

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of Councillors to cover this area is 3 (previously 4). With regard to Parish Wards, we are now allocated 1 Parish Councillor instead of 2 for our Ward. This restructure of Council wards will have significant impact on the Winkfield Neighbourhood Development Plan which was put on hold by Bracknell Forest Council in the lead up to the election and then further delayed due to the fact that we cannot hold public consultations during the Covid lockdowns. This will also impact the already adopted Warfield Neighbourhood Development Plan. We await further information on this.



## Planning

**19/00847/OUT – Palm Hills, London Road** - Outline application for demolition of existing Palm Hills complex and redevelopment of site to provide 81 dwellings (15no. one bedroom, 8no. two bedroom, 49no. three bedroom and 9no. four bedroom) with associated car parking, landscaping and amended access onto London Road. **Refused, however notice has been given that the applicant (Michael Shanley Homes) is lodging an appeal against this decision.**

**20/00862/FUL – Orchard House, Priory Road** - Erection of 7 no. 2 bedroom apartments (was originally 6) following demolition of existing dwelling with associated parking, landscaping and entrance gates. Pending consideration.

**20/00504/LB and 20/00503/FUL - Ascot Priory, Priory Road** - Application for Listed Building Consent for partial demolition of existing buildings, alterations and extensions in association with the extension of St David's Nursing Home and St Christopher's Care Home and the conversion of the South Wing and undercroft to provide 10 no. apartments; and Alterations and extensions to St David's Nursing Home following demolition of non-original

buildings. Extension to St Christopher's Care Home. Conversion of the South Wing and undercroft to provide 10 no. apartments. Associated works including car parking and landscaping. Pending consideration.

**20/00965/FUL – 38 Church Road, SL5 8RR** - Erection of 2 storey side and rear extension, single storey porch and rear extension following demolition of existing single storey extension and alterations to fenestration. Pending consideration.

**20/00887/FUL - Land At Pine Acres Birch Lane Ascot SL5 8RF** - Erection of three detached houses following demolition of existing house and removal of caravan. Pending consideration.

**20/00881/FUL - Land Adj Pine Acres Birch Lane Ascot SL5 8RF** - Erection of 4-bedroom detached house with integral garage. Pending consideration.

**20/00848/FUL - Land Adj To Merrymeade Birch Lane Ascot SL5 8RF** - Erection of two storey 4 bedroom dwelling-house with detached garage and associated access and landscaping. Pending consideration.

## AGM

The Chavey Down Association AGM is likely to be postponed again this year as some form of Covid restriction will no doubt remain in place until everyone has been able to have a vaccination. Unfortunately, this means we are now into a second year where members have been unable to formally elect a committee. Last year the committee agreed to remain in their posts to ensure that we were able to still operate as an Association. Due to continued restrictions, the committee have agreed to do the same again. However, we could alternatively offer holding a condensed version of the AGM via Zoom. Our only concern is that a lot of our regular attendees at the AGM are unlikely to have this facility and this approach could then be seen as undemocratic. If anyone feels strongly about having a condensed AGM to elect a committee, please do email us.

We were fortunate to co-opt Nia Kmiot onto the committee in December, following Eileen Biggane stepping down from this role after several years in office. We thank Eileen for her support during this time. If anyone is interested in joining us, we still have spaces on the committee and welcome your involvement and support. If interested, please email using the address above.

## Tributes

We would like to pay tribute to David Whiting of Chavey Down Road who sadly passed away in September, our Vicar at St Martin's Church, Huw Mordecai, and to Myrtle Rowland of Church Road who passed away in December. We send our condolences to the families. All will be sadly missed in Chavey Down.