



Fen Ditton

Parish Council Newsletter



March 2020

www.fenditton-pc.org.uk

Parish Council

In normal times the Council meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Church Street. Members of the public are welcome at the meetings.

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a councillor and would like to find out what might be involved, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Vince Farrar (Chairman)

Crime and welfare
Highways and transport
Website

Charles Jones (Vice Chairman)

Finance
Strategic planning
Closed churchyard

Emily Bush

Social media

Serga Collett

Crime and welfare

Eva Dangerfield

George Devine

Highways and transport

Mark Easterfield

Cemetery
Marshalls Committee
Lead planning

Laurice Suess

Newsletter and website

All parish councillors are members of the Planning Committee, and the Parish Council is Sole Trustee of the Fen Ditton Recreation Ground Trust (charity no. 288528)

Parish Clerk

Sarah Smart

Tel: 01223 862687
clerk@fenditton-pc.org.uk

Tree Warden

Jennie Conroy

District Councillors

Graham Cone (Con)
Claire Daunton (Lib Dem)
John Williams (Lib Dem)

County Councillor

Anna Bradnam (Lib Dem)

Member of Parliament

Lucy Frazer (Con)

From the Chairman

With the current need for social distancing due to coronavirus, the Parish Council's usual monthly meetings and the Annual Parish Meeting are in doubt at the moment. We will give updates on the website as soon as we have more information.

Sadly, there have been media reports of 'help with shopping' and other virus-related scams in some places. If you need help, do make sure it's from the local team of volunteers (see below) who are following strict safeguarding and hygiene procedures to keep everyone as safe as possible. The response from local residents wanting to help those who have to self-isolate has been amazing: the community spirit has been one positive outcome from all this.

There is still a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are over 18 and interested in local matters, please consider it, even if you think you are 'too young'; it can boost confidence and make a very positive impression on your CV. Do contact us to find out more.

Community Outreach Fen Ditton

Over the past week a growing team of volunteers has been bringing together a support group to help the village through the coronavirus threat. We now have a team covering most, if not all, of the village and we are here to help you if you need us. Everyone will have different levels of need: I do appreciate that some of you are already supporting family and neighbours, and others of you will have family who, at this point, are giving you any care that is required.

We have no wish to interfere with that, but ...

We are here if that support structure breaks down.

With such uncertainty about how this virus will develop and affect each of us, we are here simply to be a safety net. So, please do not hesitate to get in touch on **07900 325336** if you feel there is something we can do. Of course, you too could volunteer: we have various jobs that need covering – delivering of regular updates, being available on the phone if someone just needs a chat, or helping collect shopping or medication for some of our residents.

That's it for now. Look out for our updates and, most importantly, stay safe, and together we will get through this.

George Devine, Lead Coordinator, COFD
george.devine@fenditton-pc.org.uk

We have followed hygiene guidelines in circulating this newsletter but please **wash your hands thoroughly for 20 seconds** after handling it.

www.fenditton-pc.org.uk

Please visit our website for news of the Community Outreach scheme and for links to advice on dealing with the coronavirus outbreak from official sources and to local support groups on social media. We will do our best to keep these up to date.

Useful Contacts

POLICE

Emergency 999
Non-emergency 101
www.cambs.police.uk

E-cops

Local crime info email list
www.ecops.org.uk

Cambs Crimestoppers

Freephone 0800 555 111

NHS

Emergency 999
Non life-threatening 111

COVID-19 SUPPORT

www.nhs.uk
Only call 111 if you cannot get help online
Community Outreach
Fen Ditton 07900 325336
facebook.com/
Fen Ditton Friends
facebook.com/AbbeyPeople

GAS

Emergency 0800 111 999

ELECTRICITY

Emergency 0800 3163 105

WATER AND SEWERS

Burst main 0800 316 7676
Sewerage 03457 145 145

HIGHWAYS FAULTS

Potholes, traffic lights etc.
0345 045 5212

Street lighting

0800 7838 247

TRANSPORT

Concessionary bus passes
0345 045 1367

Traveline

Public transport information
www.traveline.info

Cambridge Park & Rides

0345 045 5213

Marleigh Development

Hill Resident Liaison Team
residents@hill.co.uk
Freephone 0800 032 6760

South Cambs District Council

03450 450 500
Mon–Fri 8am–5.30pm
www.scambs.gov.uk

Cambs County Council

0345 045 5200
Mon–Fri 8am–6pm
Sat 9am–1pm
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Village Groups

Mostly in abeyance at the moment but hopefully to be up and running again soon.

Ancient Shepherds

Book Club

Tel: Carol 292809

Badminton Group

Tel: Ian 292240

Bellringers

fendittonbells@gmail.com

Cricket Club

Tel: Adam 07708 261555
Juniors Tel: 07792 129077

Gardening Club

Tel: Pamela 292493

FD Baby & Toddler Group

10–11.30am Thursdays
(term-time only)
toddlers@fenditton.org

Friends of Ditton Meadows

friendsofdittonmeadows.org.uk

Keep Fit (50+)

Tel: Wendy 293205

Morris Dancing

coton.morris@gmx.com

Parish Church (St Mary's)

Priest Tel: Alun 295927
Choir Tel: Mike 294317

Recreation Ground

fdrgt@fenditton-pc.org.uk

Scottish Dancing

Tel: Pamela 292493

Sunday Club

10–11.30am, first Sunday of every month except August
fdsundayclub@gmail.com

Village Hall

For current regular activities please see the noticeboard outside the Hall
fd.hall@outlook.com

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This is not a council meeting but an open public meeting for the whole parish, taking place between now and 1st June. Councillors and representatives of other organisations present reports and take questions. Recent APMs have been held in the Village Hall on Church Street but different arrangements seem inevitable this year. As soon as these are determined, we will post details on the noticeboards and website.

WASTE COLLECTIONS

To allow collection crews to concentrate on emptying blue and black bins during the coming weeks and help to cover any future staff sickness or self isolation, the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service has suspended green-bin collections between now and 4th May. Residents are asked to consider postponing any gardening and, as always, to waste as little food as possible. For this period only, the advice is to put any food waste in the black bins.

If your household is displaying symptoms of coronavirus, you should **double-bag any personal waste** (used tissues, disposable cleaning cloths/wipes etc.) and **keep it separate for 72 hours** in a suitable secure place on your property before placing it in the black bin with the rest of your waste. Other household rubbish and recycling should be treated as normal. It is thought the virus will not be viable after 72 hours outside the body and that this approach will help keep the bin collection crews as safe as possible.

CAM metro consultation

A public consultation on proposals for the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro (CAM), including potential route alignments for its city tunnel section and location for its city centre station, is open until **3rd April**.

There are links to the consultation leaflet and feedback form on our website, or you can send feedback online at www.cam.consultationonline.co.uk



Helplines

www.helplines.org

Age UK Cambridgeshire

0300 666 9860

Benefits fraud hotline

Freephone 0800 854 4400

Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)

01480 396698

Care Network Cambridgeshire

01954 211919

Child abuse – NSPCC

Freephone 0808 800 5000

ChildLine

Freephone 0800 1111

Citizens Advice

0344 848 7979

Civil Legal Advice

0345 345 4345

Consumer Advice

03454 04 05 06

Cruse Bereavement Care

01223 633536

Disability – PIP benefit

0800 121 4433

Domestic Violence

Freephone 0808 2000 247

LitterAction

www.litteraction.org.uk

Marshall's Noise Helpline

01223 373950

Missing People

Freephone 116 000

National Debtline

Freephone 0808 808 4000

RSPCA Cruelty & Advice

0300 1234 999

Samaritans

Freephone 116 123

Victim Support

Freephone 0808 168 9111

SPEEDING VEHICLES

The Parish Council is aware of people's concern over vehicles speeding within Fen Ditton and is currently waiting for news on its application to have a speeding sensor that could be moved around the village. This would alert drivers to their speeds and have the benefit of providing real data on speeds at different places and times. We have been told that the best results are obtained when these sensors are backed up by a Speedwatch scheme, with groups of trained volunteers logging speeds and recording registration numbers. If you are interested in forming a Speedwatch group within Fen Ditton, please email the Parish Clerk.

Sorry if this seems petty just now but ...

... please don't forget the little things we can all do that will help to keep Fen Ditton pleasant for everyone:

- **Pick up after your dog** and use the special bins provided.
- **Please do not drive or park on the grass verges** – it is a Conservation Policy of the village to protect and preserve them.
- Last but not least, if you have been forced to use alternatives to loo paper such as wetwipes, tissues or kitchen paper, **please do not flush them down the toilet** – as well as potentially blocking your own drain, they could easily wreak havoc with the village's sometimes temperamental sewerage system.