

Chedworth Parish Council

Finding the right balance between tidiness and wildlife

The Parish Council is constantly trying to juggle the wishes of those villagers who want neat and tidy verges with those who see verges as vital refuges for plants and wildlife.

The current regime carried out by the county council, which involves an early trim when all the cuttings are just left to rot where they fall, encourages whiteweed and nettles which choke out all other plants.

In order to encourage a wide range of plants it is necessary to cut the full width of the verge later in the season once the flowers have seeded and then collecting all the cuttings.

The parish council is therefore going out to contractors to get quotes to find out how much it would cost to manage the verges for wildlife.

Even if we do take on the management of the verges it will not happen until next year and the visibility splays will still be cut to ensure road safety.

If you would like to learn more about managing the verges in a different way you should check out the information on the Plantlife website

http://www.plantlife.org.uk/application/files/4614/8232/2916/Road_verge_guide_17_6.pdf

We would also like to encourage more interesting plants and flowers to grow on the triangle at the top of Tuns Hill and are investigating the best way to encourage this. In the meantime we are continuing to keep it cut having received many positive comments since putting a programme of management in place.

Be a responsible dog owner and PICK IT UP!

We continue to receive complaints about the amount of dog mess on the village playing field and would ask dog owners to always pick up after their pets.

It seems extraordinary that there are people in the village who think it's OK to allow their dog to foul on an area where children regularly play, given that it can cause serious illness including blindness, especially in children, and is extremely unpleasant for everyone.

The parish council has put up new signs to remind dog owners that they need to clean up after their dogs, and dog owners who do not pick up in any public places could face a £75 fixed penalty notice or a fine of up to £1,000 if taken to court.

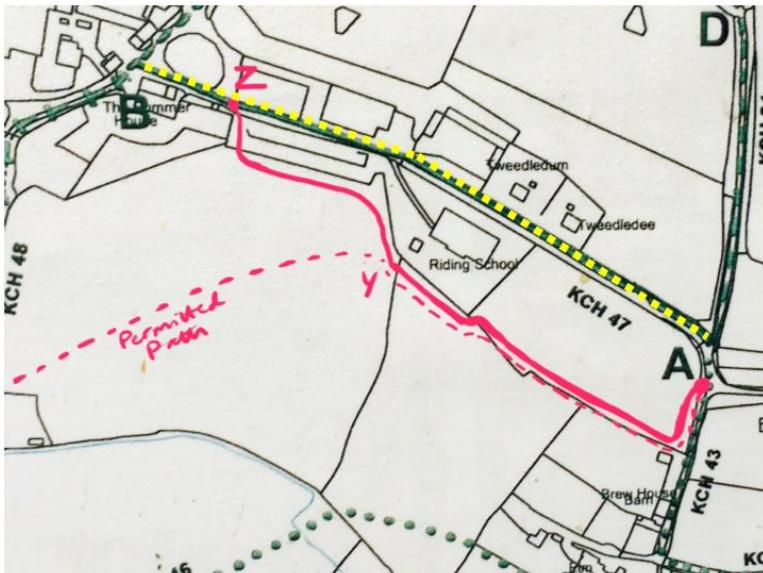
If you see someone not cleaning up after their dog you can report it to Cotswold District Council who will follow up your complaint and prosecute offenders. They need the time, date and place it happened and the name and address of the person with the dog.

Proposal to divert footpath put to council

The owners of Chedworth House (built on the site of Tweedledum and Tweedledee) have asked the council to support a proposal to move the footpath (KCH47 shown in yellow) which runs along their drive and through their garden.

The path was temporarily closed while the house was built but the parish council opposed a request to support the diversion becoming the permanent route. That path dropped down into the valley before climbing back up Green Lane (marked as Permitted path on map). The route now being proposed (the solid red line) skirts around the garden of Chedworth House and rejoins the original path by The Summer House (point Z on the map).

The council will be considering the proposal at our meeting in June and would welcome any comments.



First Aid Courses prove popular

The Parish Council is organising a third First Aid Course with Cotswold First Aid.

The course will take place at the village hall on July 18th and 25th and if you are interested in taking part please contact me at

Ros.jess1@btinternet.com.

The council is subsidising the cost of the courses and asking anyone who is able to make a contribution towards the £20 per person cost.

Ros Jess

To contact the council, email the clerk, Elizabeth Broad (clerk@chedworthpc.org.uk), or call her on 720313. You can also contact any of the councillors direct.