

OCOR Update - Cricket Pavilion

Work to refurbish the pavilion is progressing well and it is hoped to be completed by mid May. The interior has been cleared with features retained as far as possible, fire and water damage repaired, new interior partitioning erected and scaffolding going up this week to begin re-roofing works. The exterior is to be repaired and repainted and disabled access improved.

The access track base is in and will be finished with a reinforced grass surface on completion of the works. At the beginning of the project the building was checked for the presence of bats by an ecologist and although none were found a couple of bat boxes have been installed in trees on the riverside. Archaeologists were on site to monitor excavation work and an old coin was unearthed during the excavations.

We are also investigating whether we can get the Smiths clock on the front of the pavilion restored. The surrounding ground will be re-seeded and work is to continue this spring to renovate the cricket square and outfield. Cricket practice nets are also to be installed to complete the sports provision on the site.



Pencil or Post-box?

It looks like the local elections will, after all, be taking place on Thursday May 6th. But when voting in person you'll have to wear a mask and take your own pencil! Alternatively you can get a postal vote.

Everyone who is registered to vote may apply for a postal vote instead of voting in a polling station. You can have a postal vote for a fixed period of time or just for one election. Registering for a postal vote is easy. Go on to the Derby City Council website and download an application to vote by post, or if you prefer request a form by ringing the council on 01332 640000.



<https://tinyurl.com/CGPostVote>

FOOD BANK UPDATE—FOODBANK DONATIONS

Foodbank contributions still required and are being taken weekly to The Hope Centre, Curzon Street. Drop off points for Chester Green donations Alfreton Road Stores (near Coach and Horses), and Chester Green News (corner Mansfield Road and Caesar Street - opposite Chinese takeaway). Box for drop off at Chester Green News is on the stairs behind the door. Thanks for all the much appreciated support with this.



CHESTER GREEN EASTER WINDOW HUNT 🐰🐣🐤

Can't believe it's been a whole year since we last did this ... And what a year it's been!

Whilst we are unable to take part in the usual chocolate egg hunt shenanigans why not pop an egg, bunny or full blown Easter scene in your front window for the kids (and grown ups) to spot and enjoy! Let's see how many we can find 😊



St. Paul's Church

There will be a live Service in church on Easter Sunday (4th April) at 10.00am. **Booking essential!** Please visit the St Paul's Church Facebook page for more details.

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulschestergreen/>

SPRING IS HERE and the daffodils along Mansfield Road are looking a beautiful sea of yellow, the spring flowers and bulbs in the community planter on Marcus Street will soon be fully open and many trees and hedgerows are showing new signs of life!



Talking of planters; we had an excellent response to the appeal for help with the planters on the corner of City Road and a couple of 'green fingered' residents have started to renovate, replenish and maintain these. Thanks to everyone who put their names forward to help, and we'll be putting you all in touch with each other so the upkeep of these will be a little easier and they can continue to be a positive feature of Chester Green again!

Hopefully, many of us will start to feel we can 'come out of hibernation' over the next couple of months following the successful rollout of the vaccination programme. We can look forward to that desperately needed haircut, sitting having drinks and a meal with family and friends, taking up those group hobbies or gym visits again, planning a much needed holiday.....

But most of all, eventually being able to see and HUG our friends and relatives again!



Car Parking in Chester Green - The Council are currently designing a consultation which will enable Chester Green residents to vote on whether we want to retain the three zone parking permit scheme but on a chargeable basis in the future.

Current Scheme - The Chester Green parking permit scheme was introduced in Jan. 2016 following the temporary closure of the two Council's Parks' visitor car parks on City Rd. and Darley Playing Fields due to the flood defence works.

The parking permit scheme has been free of charge to residents, the costs having been funded by OurCityOurRiver up until now.

Current Citywide permit charges to residents are £25 per annum for a single car, £50 per annum for each additional car and 20 pence per daily visitor permit. A separate scale of charges apply to Businesses.

Prior to the two Parks' car parks closing in 2016, large numbers of City centre commuters and shoppers were using the unrestricted and free parking. Over the last year during the pandemic and lockdowns, there have been fewer commuters and shoppers using the two car parks but an increase in park users.

Future Changes in Chester Green - Looking ahead, planning permission has been granted to build offices on the former Tomlinson's City Rd. site with capacity for 260 workers but only 42 parking spaces.

In addition, the Council are hoping to build in excess of 60 homes on the former Aida Bliss City Rd. site. There would be a maximum of one parking space per household in line with Council policy.

If these schemes go ahead, there are likely to be hundreds of additional car users looking for free parking in the locality.

Unless restrictions are introduced on the two Council Parks' car parks it is highly likely that the 200 or so unrestricted parking spaces will be filled by commuters, workers and new residents.

This would cause significant increases in air pollution, traffic (and congestion, particularly at the City Rd./Mansfield Rd. junction which is the only vehicular exit from the 'Old Chester Rd./City Rd. triangle' of Chester Green). It could also prevent and discourage visitors from using the local Parks and Community Centre facilities.

Proposal - To address these issues, the LCRA is suggesting a proposal that the Council include the two Parks' car parks in the Chester Green Parking Permit scheme and that a 4 hour time restriction, on **weekdays** (i.e. Mon-Fri during the period 8.00am to 6.00pm) is enforced on the two car parks by Council parking wardens.

This would deter commuters from all day parking during the week, whilst allowing genuine Parks visitors time to park and use the local facilities.

For this proposal to be effective in reducing adverse impacts on residents parking availability, air quality and traffic congestion, residents would need to vote to retain the Chester Green Parking Permit scheme.

Indeed if residents were to vote against retaining the permit scheme, large numbers of commuters, shoppers, new workers and new residents will be able to park in the 'un-permitted' streets of Chester Green where there is very little 'off street' residential parking.

It needs to be borne in mind that if a majority of residents in one of the three zones were to vote against retention of the permit scheme, that zone could be liable to suffer significant volumes of visitor parking

It is unlikely that if this proposal were to be implemented, it would happen before the forthcoming resident vote on permit scheme retention, as it may require funding from section 106 funding from new development e.g. Prime's planned Office development on City Rd.

Your Views - We would like to hear your views on the reasons you agree or disagree with this proposal, and the reasons you agree or disagree with the retention of a chargeable permit parking scheme.

To let us know your views you can contact us via our website www.littlechester.org.uk or by post to 102 Chester Green Rd or 49 Marcus St. or email: andrewmeehan75@gmail.com

CHESTER GREEN CYCLE RIDE! 11.00 on SATURDAY 22nd MAY



Join us on a family friendly cycle ride to gently ease us out of lockdown and celebrate the arrival of May. We will meet on the corner of City Road/Chester Green Road and leisurely cycle the 5 miles to Elvaston Castle. After a rest and refreshments we will cycle back to Chester Green for some more refreshments and recreation. It would be great if you have some streamers or bunting on your bikes or May themed clothes – please use your imagination!

It's all on cycle paths and there will be help and support for any cycling emergencies. We will observe any Covid restrictions or requirements.

For more information – and ideas! - please contact Adrian 07757 923873 or Cassie 07956 836333

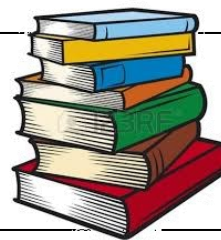
Know any would be young anglers?

Our local fishing club, The Earl of Harrington's AC, are very active. They are working with the Environment Agency to try and protect our at-risk native crayfish population, organise regular litter picks, every year plant scores of insect friendly aquatic plants, put up nest boxes, and recently they have persuaded the Environment Agency to have our local section of The Derwent stocked with indigenous fish species that were on the decline.

But they do go fishing as well! If you know of anyone 6 to 16 who wants to have a go at fishing, a beginners' event is being held on the morning of Saturday June 26th at nearby Woodrow's Pond, which is just off Haslam's Lane, Darley. There is no cost with all tackle, bait and the one-to-one tuition being provided free. To register message The Earl of Harrington's AC through their Facebook page and provide the name and date of birth of the participant and provide an email address.



<https://www.facebook.com/EofHAC/>



CHESTER GREEN BOOK EXCHANGE

The book exchange will be running in Marcus Street once a month. The 1st Saturday of each month from 10-12pm, so 3rd April and 1st May will be the next two.

If you have any questions, contact Mel, phone number; 07847 900 586.

Ward Councillors

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