

December 2020/
January 2021

Teme TRIANGLE

Clifton upon Teme • The Shelsleys • Lower Sapey



Clifton remembers those who fell in battle

In this edition

- ☀ **Clifton Four Acre Field Project**
- ☀ **Shelsley Singer's New Book**
- ☀ **Local Curate's Farewell**
- ☀ **Harpley Eco-Church Project**

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Clifton Primary School children with their Remembrance Day poppy display along with 93-year-old Bert Bradley.

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Front Cover Picture

Socially-distanced Clifton residents remember those who died serving their country at last month's Remembrance Service at St Kenelm's church.

CLIFTON FOUR ACRE FIELD PROJECT GETS GO-AHEAD

Clifton Parish Council formally adopted the Four Acre Field project in November and agreed that the S106 application can now be written by the Project Team, to be signed off by the Parish Council in January and submitted to Malvern Hills District Council for the release of £230,000 of the S106 money held by MHDC so that work can begin next year.

Update:

The overall plan for the Four Acre Field was signed off by the CFAF Project Team in October and delivered to the Parish Council well in advance of their November meeting to have time to consider the plan's recommendations and provide approval for the proposed scheme. The Parish Council approved the scheme and agreed that the S106 Application will be written with the intention of submitting to MHDC early January 2021.

Our District Councillor, Caroline Palethorpe, is fully aware of the plan and has offered to provide guidance and support as the application is progressed. A period of three months is allocated to the MHDC approval process and during that time, the Parish Council and members of the CFAF team will be liaising with the proposed contractors to consider the project management process and timescales required to carry out the work. It is currently thought that the original timetable of work commencing April/May 2021 and completed in readiness for the school summer holidays remains in place.

As part of the overall project, S106 funds from within the CFAF Project will also be used to asphalt the remaining part of the car park which will eventually provide, fully marked, total spaces of up to 30 vehicles including disabled bays.

Needless to say, there are a number of hurdles to go through in the coming months not least of which assessing the possible impact of Covid-19 regulations. The community will be kept fully informed of progress throughout this period via Teme Triangle, Nextdoor.co.uk, the village Facebook site and noticeboard.

The Community and Sensory Garden Project Team also provided the Parish Council with an update as well as confirming that the overall project is now likely to be funded via a mix of S106 and Natural Network

Funds (via Worcestershire Wildlife Trust). The garden team are currently developing a detailed budget which will enable integration with the new field perimeter path to ensure accessibility for all.

Chris Hurley

CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL CO-OPTION

Bruce Gilbert was co-opted as a member of Clifton Parish Council at their meeting in November, following the resignations of Sid Haywood and James Dawson. There is still one vacancy on the Council.

HOPE LANE DEVELOPMENT STARTS

Work has begun on the Hope Lane site in Clifton where planning permission has been granted for 23 houses. The developer, Jeff Guest Ltd, was granted permission to go ahead by Malvern Hills District Council planners on 30 September.

FATHER CHRISTMAS AT MILL FARM RETAIL

This year Father Christmas and his reindeer will be visiting Angel Gardens Country and Garden Centre at Mill Farm Country Retail, Stanford Bridge between 19th and 24th December. Pre booking is essential as tickets will NOT be available on the gate due to COVID restrictions, with a maximum of six people in a group. Each session will be tailored to your specific family. Prices are Children £7.50 Adults £5. Contact Louise Mawditt at louise@angelgardens.co.uk or call 07967 642270 to receive a booking form. We look forward to seeing you there.



Clifton Primary School Woodpeckers class pupils with the five metre skipping rope sent to them by their pen pals at Morning Star School in South Africa where pupils made the skipping rope using 135 bread bags tied and plaited together.

SHELSLEY SINGER PENS ANNIVERSARY CHORAL BOOK

A Shelsley Beauchamp resident and choral singer has written a book charting the impressive, 160-year history of leading County choir, Worcester Festival Choral Society. Michelle Whitefoot, a soprano member of WFCS who also sings in the Three Choirs Festival Chorus, wanted to record the choir's history for posterity and to raise essential funds towards its future concerts; which in normal times are staged at Worcester Cathedral and last year included greats such as Handel's Messiah and Mozart's Requiem.



The 248-page, full colour book, *A Choral Chronicle: The History of Worcester Festival Choral Society*, continues a tradition of local involvement in the 150-strong choir. Former Clifton resident and alto member Mary Parsons wrote an earlier book about WFCS in 1996; and Clifton resident Keith Jaffery, a former Chairman of the Society, is a tenor member.

A Choral Chronicle charts the WFCS story from its Victorian origins through two constitutions, two World Wars, 11 conductors and hundreds of concerts to the present day. As well as musical achievements the book includes new archive research, conductor interviews, member memories and more than 200 eye-catching photos.

“So many people have sung in Worcester Festival Choral Society, or enjoyed its concerts, that its history is of interest to a surprising number of people!” says Michelle. “There have also been many famous-name musical connections. Sir Edward Elgar was closely involved, playing in the WFCS ‘Band’ and leading the Society in premieres of two of his choral works. Sir David Willcocks was the Society’s conductor in the 1950s. Guest conductors have included Sir Adrian Boult, Sir Hubert Parry and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. Sir Stephen Cleobury was a former singing member. The Chorus has sung at the Royal Albert Hall and made numerous recordings.” Several of the Society’s modern conductors also provided an exclusive insight into concert planning and the future of choral music. .

A Choral Chronicle, which is available from Worcester Festival Choral Society from mid-December, costs £25 and 100% of profits go to the charity’s funds. Order from www.wfcs.online/book

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Draft Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of Clifton Parish Council held Thursday 5th November 2020

Present: Councillors J. Bowden (Chairman), A. Henry (Vice-Chairman), R. Henry, C. Haywood, J. Collins and B. Gilbert. Also present: District Councillor C. Palethorpe, M. Alexander (Clerk), J. Johns and C. Hurley and one member of the Public. Apologies: County Councillor K. Pollock.

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Clifton Hill Helpers for their continued support to the community.

Co-option of a Parish Councillor: It was proposed by Cllr Bowden, seconded Cllr M. Henry, that B. Gilbert be co-opted as a Parish Councillor following an application which had been received by the Clerk and circulated prior to the meeting. All agreed. Clerk to arrange the counter-signatory of the Declaration of Office and submission of the Register of Interests as required. Cllr B. Gilbert joined the meeting.

The Minutes of a virtual meeting held 1st October 2020 were agreed as a true record. Proposed Cllr R. Henry, seconded Cllr M. Henry. No matters arising.

District & County Councillor Reports: Reports to be uploaded to the website. District Cllr Palethorpe raised the following matters – Covid-19 District Council update and funding available, Superfast Broadband information, Social Prescribing – Citizens Advice South Worcs, Remembrance Day information, Youth ‘Make your Mark’ consultation via schools from 1st - 30th Nov, Volunteering – Great Neighbourhood Scheme in the Teme Valley area

Financial & Governance Matters: Payments agreed as per the schedule – M. Alexander Clerk salary £469.16 / M. Alexander Clerks expenses £82.35 / M. Alexander signage £19.99/ M. Alexander notice board repairs £35.99 / M. Alexander WaterPlus payment £200.01 / M. Alexander pc security £19.99 / SSE pavilion electricity £81.79 / R. Wilks Lengthsman Sept £115.20 / R. Wilks Lengthsman Oct £158.40 / Glasdon UK Ltd litter bins x3 £635.47 / R. Wilks fencing repairs £100.80 / Teme Triangle funding contribution £500.00. Receipts – Western Power Distribution wayleaves £73.27

Appointment of Planning Lead – it was agreed by all that Cllr B. Gilbert be the Planning Lead with immediate effect. Playing Field Fees 2020 – the PC had received an application from the Bowls Club asking to waive the fees of £350.00 for 2020 due to the lack of play possible, although the bowling green had been maintained by Club members. It was proposed by Cllr Bowden, seconded Cllr Gilbert that fees be waived for 2020. All agreed. Clerk to notify the Club. It was further agreed that the Chairman should contact the Football Club to see whether they also needed assistance.

Parish Matters: Footpaths Notice Board – x3 quotes had been obtained by the Chairman for a new notice board however as the quotes did not match the exact requirements, it was agreed that revised quotes should be sought for consideration – Cllr Bowden to progress this.

Section 106 Committee update: Report as circulated by C. Hurley. The Clerk had circulated the CFAF project report prior to the meeting together with a

request from C. Hurley that the PC approve the Project Plan as submitted and agree to progress with the S.106 application process via MHDC. C. Hurley also explained management and maintenance plan projected costs and how they had been calculated, including information obtained from R. Wilks re grass cutting. It was noted that the Sensory Garden is a separate project and is designed for low maintenance, and that the grass cutting costs reflect work on the main field and not the garden. MHDC will take approx. three months to process the s.106 application and subject to approval, contractors can start within six weeks of application. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr Gilbert to approve the CFAF Plan and to progress the s.106 application to MHDC. Seconded Cllr Collins. Vote 5:1 – carried. C. Hurley will bring the s.106 application to the next meeting for approval. Clerk & C. Hurley to progress the application with MHDC. Playing Field emergency access/hedge cutting – it was proposed by Cllr Bowden, seconded Cllr M. Henry that the hedge alongside the emergency access to the playing field should be cut back as quoted (R. Wilks £200.00) to enable sufficient width for emergency vehicle access to the field. All agreed. Community Sensory Wildlife Garden – the report from H. Hurley (as circulated) was noted. C. Hurley gave an update based on the report to brief the PC on work undertaken to date.

Section 106 Community Transport Proposal: The survey had received 31 responses which the Clerk will collate and circulate. Cllrs M & R Henry were thanked for distribution of the surveys.

Planning Matters – 20/01450/HP – 26 Saxon Close, Clifton WR6 6DL – erection of rear extension and porch. No objections. 20/01449/HP – Cedar Cottage, Pound Land, Clifton WR6 6DE – Velux loft conversion, installation of new roof windows to roof space. No objections. Hope Lane development – Clerk and DCllr Palethorpe to check current status of application asap.

Highways Matters: Lengthsman requested to cut back the Laurels alongside the walkway at the end of Kenelm Close through to the post box in Manor Rd. Good news that Manor Rd has been resurfaced recently. One VAS monitor has been ‘resurrected’ and is in place in the village. Clerk to check with R. Wilks about another two that may be available as well.

Correspondence: A thank you was received from the School for their use of the Pavilion during school building works recently. It was noted that the Pavilion doors don’t fully seal and this could be improved to avoid winter heat loss.

Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas: Cllr Bowden has been looking into the Neighbourhood Plan with a view to reviewing it in 2021. The PC may need to reconvene the original working group / organise some refresher training in due course. There is a Councillor in Martley PC who may be willing to help, and some newer residents may also wish to be involved.

The Clerk confirmed that Play Areas will remain open during this lock down, but any adult gym equipment must not be used. Permanent social distancing signage will be put up on the playing field shortly.

Next virtual meeting to be held Thursday 3rd December 2020 by Zoom

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LOWER SAPEY NEWS

I have just returned from the Remembrance Service in St Bartholomew's churchyard. It was a short service held by the Methodist Minister, Des. who had bought poppies on long sticks to mark our Covid secure places. It is all so strange, so sad, but the service was very touching, as was the one in Whitehall. I am sure many of us had memories or thoughts of fallen relatives. My great uncle Robert was lost at Gallipoli in 1916, his body never found, but his name is on the memorial there. I don't think our family will ever be visiting the site though.

Now, here we are again, in another lockdown and maybe, just maybe, this one will work? Of course this depends so much on sticking to the rules where we can, unpleasant as this is. I am sure we all hope that by the Spring, things will be much better for us all, especially as hopes for a vaccine have now risen.. Hopefully, our winter will not be dark and bleak and this will help. The lovely Summer already seems very distant.

The colour of the trees is glorious now and that helps raise the spirits. The fieldfares and redwings are gradually returning to deal with a feast of fallen apples. I am still coping with a glut of tomatoes and have taken the advice of the Hereford and Worcester radio garden expert and put all the green ones in a tray with some ripe apples and they are indeed ripening as I think we have enough green tomato chutney now! We are so lucky to live where we do in this wonderful area.

I hope some of you have visited St Bartholomew's churchyard recently as it has been a picture, with the colour of the trees, the tidy grass (thanks to Colin) and the new bird boxes, which Howard has kindly put up. These include sparrow, blue tit and owl boxes and were provided free by Severn Waste. We hope they will prove popular with the birds in the spring. As we have to enter the Church by the rear door now, Steve has kindly put up smart new railings to make it super safe on the steps. Plans for the repair of the Church ceiling are well in hand and we hope the work will start in the New Year. All we need is the money, but Candy is working hard on this! Sadly, churches are closed until further notice except for private worship, but we are hoping to arrange a rota of people to be there on a Sunday morning between 10.30 and 11am for people who would like to come.

Because of the uncertainty, we are unable to list service dates and times, but David will be putting an article in *Temer Triangle* to explain his plans. We are hoping for a service in the chancel on December 13th at 10.30am for a limited number, but please let Candy know if you would like to attend (01886 853248). On December 20th, there will hopefully be a joint carol service with combined recorded choirs. This sounds a challenge! There are no details of January services as yet.

I am sure you know that Becky Elliott leaves us at the end of November and is moving to North Malvern. We shall miss you very much, Becky and your family, but I am sure our paths will cross many times in the future. Good luck to you all.

Many of you have heard that Jen. is quite ill at the moment and is starting chemotherapy soon. Jen knows that she has the love and prayers of us all for a good recovery. It's not been a happy year for many in the area and I hope that it will be a happier, healthier year for all of us in 2021 Take care and stay well. A very happy Christmas and good new year to everyone

Notices

For details of Church services, please see David's article. The mobile library should be calling on December 18th and January 15th - if all goes well.

We would like to say through the *Temer Triangle* what a nice service it was for Remembrance Sunday at St Bartholomew's Church, even though it was shorter than usual. The Churchyard looked nice with the poppies on canes to keep us distanced at two metres apart, also to say thank you to person that made them and allowing us to bring one home to put in our own gardens. Do hope the Minister will come back again as he spoke so well and held your attention, in this odd world at the moment.

Terry and Hazel Jones.

ST KENELM'S CHURCH MESSAGE

This is a short 'catch-up' from St Kenelm's. We are hoping that we will be able to hold some Christmas Services, they will be a little different.

Our first Service on December 6th will be an Advent Morning Prayer, during which we will say farewell to Rev. Becky Elliott and her family. They have been with WWRT for three years and they have worked hard in our parishes, we will miss them all. Becky will be taking up her new post in Malvern at the start of the New Year, so not too far away, and everyone at St Kenelm's and, I am sure, in our village wishes her and her family, God Bless for the future.

The Carol Service will be held outside in the churchyard, but carols outside are great! Unfortunately, we will not be able to have our traditional decorated trees, but we are going to fill the church with evergreens and lights. Please, come along and enjoy the 'view'. We will have Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve and our traditional Christmas Half Hour Service on Christmas Morning.

After the year we have all been through, all of us at St Kenelm's thank you for supporting us and we hope we have truly been a support to all of you, remember St Kenelm's is your church. Wishing you all a happy, safe and peaceful Christmas. God Bless from all at St Kenelm's. xx

Barbara and Alana

ECO CHURCH AT ST BARTHOLOME'S, HARPLEY

Bird nesting boxes have been generously donated to us by Severn Waste Services who are very helpful to the local communities around their waste areas. This has been arranged by Rev. Jen Denniston for all churches in WWRT (Worcester West Rural Team) wanting to improve wildlife facilities.

Members of our churchyard team had great fun unpacking them. Obviously they couldn't wait until Christmas Day! Parishioners used a triple extension ladder mounted them in suitable locations around the churchyard. This rather large nesting box will hopefully attract an owl family.



The grounds maintenance team have done much clearing around the churchyard and sorted the compost area removing non-degradable items such as plastic pots and especially floral foam (Oasis). The green waste heap and log piles are now providing homes for a varied selection of wildlife. There isn't the space to keep all the cleared scrub and branches so rather than transport the residue elsewhere we decided on a bonfire. The bonfire was newly built on the day; anything older could have wildlife under it. We can't manage "carbon negative" but at least it was "carbon neutral".

We have been leading the way when it comes to eradicating the use of floral foam and encouraging other churches to develop good churchyard practice. Hopefully floral foam will eventually become a thing of the past. Until that time, we have prepared a place where people can deposit used floral foam. From there we can arrange for its correct disposal and ensure that it doesn't go onto the churchyard green waste heap.

Like other churches in the WWRT we embrace the common rural nature to encourage the biodiversity all around us. We at St Bartholomew's welcome visitors who would like to start the process of gaining Eco Church Status.

Entrance to the church is only allowed via the rear vestry door where new handrails have been installed. This entrance will continue to be used until repairs to the ceiling have been completed.

The chancel will be open for private prayer every Sunday from 3.00pm with said evensong at 3.30pm. Perfect for a pre-tea walk around our churchyard and some quiet time in our church to celebrate our place in this beautiful but troubled world.

Candy Connolly

Church Matters

by Rev Canon David Sherwin



Finding life and Christmas preparations a little uncertain at the moment? It might not surprise you to realise that the first Christmas happened during uncertain times too. The Roman Empire dominated the world and for many nations at the time life was difficult. The people 2000 years ago needed hope and so do we. So it was that a young couple would be given the promise of a child, a child of hope, not just to their own nation of Israel, but to every nation then and for all time. The child would be born in and through extraordinary circumstances and he would be extraordinary for he would be called Jesus, who we are told would 'save people from their sins' and called Emmanuel, God with us. Reminding them God had not forgotten his people or his creation and was about to intervene.

This Christmas we may wonder who will be with us? Will our family and friends be able to join us for the festivities or will we be alone? From the promises of the Christmas story we are given the assurance through Jesus, Emmanuel, that whatever we face or whatever happens God is with us. Gods plan would be worked out, not perhaps the way some would expect or like it to happen but God's promises would be fulfilled in the Birth of Christ.

If we were planning for God to come to earth to visit his creation, we would probably expect a fanfare with multitudes of angels and everyone would be made aware of what was happening. Well there were fanfares of angels, but only to a few heard it (the shepherds), and there were signs it would happen and for those who searched they found (the wise men).

We may not be getting the usual Christmas this year but one thing is for sure, the message is still the same, 'Peace on Earth Goodwill to all' Emmanuel, God with us, is with us, in Jesus, who it is that can save us. And I am sure you will agree there is much to be saved from, now and always. As we celebrate the birth of the Christ child may we know the truth of Christ with us, whatever we face.

God bless you all and may the peace and love of the Christ child be you this Christmas now and always.

FAREWELL FROM THE CURATE

How time flies! It doesn't seem like any time since I was coming to the end of my time at Vicar School and preparing to move to Clifton upon Teme for the start of my curacy with Rev Canon David Sherwin and the West Worcester Rural Team. Now, three and a half years later, we are planning to move again, as I go on to be the vicar of Holy Trinity Church in North Malvern and St James' Church in West Malvern.



I couldn't have had a better curacy experience than the one I have had here. As a family, we have been made so welcome. It has been a delight to get to know and work with the different churches. I have been given a wealth of opportunities to help me develop my ministry skills and have got to know and become friends with some wonderful people along the way.

I've enjoyed everything from formal services to Messy Church and Youth Group, from Steeple to Steeple bike rides and to dressing up as a 'Pink Lady' from the film Greece when we raised money for Christian Aid.

I could never have imagined how different the final few months of my curacy would be. This year really has brought some new challenges for us all. For me, I've had to learn lots of new technology skills from hosting Zoom meetings to making and posting videos on YouTube. It's sad that we have not been able to meet up in person as often as we used to, that a lot of our services had to be cancelled and that we have to stand far apart, with our masks on but the churches continue to be here for you.

So as we prepare to say our farewells, it is with a grateful heart for all we have been blessed with here and it is with sadness because there is so much we have come to love that we will miss. It is so disappointing that we won't be able to see many of you to say goodbye due to the current restrictions.

We aren't moving too far away. I shall continue to pray for you as I look across from the Malvern Hills and of course we'll stay in touch and be back to visit.

Rev Becky Elliott

All Saints PCC and the Churches Together Group in the Teme Valley would like to wish Rev Becky Elliott a warm bon-voyage as she leaves Clifton to become a Vicar in Malvern, we shall miss her energy, technology, encouragement and support. Our loss is Malvern's gain.

We have all become used to having our Curate Becky and her family around these last three and a half years. Their ministry among us has been gratefully received. However as she has now completed her training she is now moving on to pastures new as you will see from her article. We would like to thank her for all she and her family have given to us and wish her God's Blessing and love to you all from us all.

David Sherwin, her training incumbent.

REVERSE ADVENT BOXES

During Advent, many homes have an Advent Calendar, each day a window is opened and reveals a treat inside. Again, this year we are asking you to do something different....

The Churches Together in the Teme Valley and the PCC are asking everyone to engage in their Reverse Advent Event (Advent begins 29th November 2020).

Take a cardboard box, wrap it in pretty paper, or let the children decorate it. Each day of Advent place an item of non-perishable food (tins of tomatoes, mixed veg, salmon, tuna etc., packets of rice, pasta, soups, sauces etc.) or a treat into the box.

Because of the restrictions of COVID, we are unable to offer the same systems for dropping off the boxes or the offer of refreshments in the church, so when your box is complete please contact:

[Des & Beryl Robson on 01886 812535 email beryl.blackburn@yahoo.com](mailto:beryl.blackburn@yahoo.com)

Or they can be dropped off at Shelsley Village Hall when it is open.

The boxes will be taken to the Worcester Food Bank for distribution to families in need. This will be a lovely start for 2021 for families in Worcester who are struggling to feed their families.

Beryl Robson

During Advent, there will be a mini Nativity tableau outside the church at All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp, telling the Christmas Story, hopefully adding to the interest as people take their country walks.

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The WWRT 2020 Advent Reflections

Monday evenings 7th, 14th 21st December on Zoom at 8.00 pm

Wednesday evenings 2nd, 9th, 11, 23rd December on Zoom at 7.30 pm

If restrictions allow in Clifton Church: Thursdays, 3rd, 10th, 17th, and Tuesday 2nd at 11.00am

Contact anne.wwrteam@gmail.com if you wish to join us – let us know to which session you would like to be sent the Zoom invite.

Introduction

During the four weeks of Advent we will, together, explore the challenges and changes to everyday life we have experienced this year, and look towards the new year with hope in Jesus.

Each of the four sessions take the context and characters from the Christmas story and invite us to make connections with life during the pandemic. We can reflect on our feelings and response to what's happened and come alongside the people in the Christmas story with fresh insight and understanding. 'Now' and 'then' each scene contains a passage from Luke's or Matthew's account of the Christmas story. The connection between 'now' and 'then' is brought to life through a monologue where a voice talks about an aspect of life in the pandemic, and then switches to a voice from a character in the Christmas story. Questions, prayer, and a song to listen will offer different ways into conversation and reflection.

Over the four weeks you are invited to build a nativity scene, in your home whether you are attending through Zoom or socially distanced in person (lockdown permitting), with traditional nativity set figures and symbols representing aspects of life today. This is an optional extra and not part of the actual course.

The four scenes are:

Week 1 Rules and regulations Our response to directives from central authorities alongside life under Roman rule; Nativity: stable and/or empty crib and animals. Mask and pen

Week 2 Unsung heroes The contribution of key workers and the shepherds' key role in telling the Good News; Nativity: the shepherds and angels. Made or drawn rainbow

Week 3 Travelling light Migrants' search for a safe home and the magi's journey to an unknown destination; Nativity: The Wise Men. A glass of water

Week 4 At a distance Family life in lockdown and the Holy Family's isolation at the time of their son's birth; Nativity: Mary and Joseph (and the baby Jesus, unless your tradition is to keep him hidden until Christmas morning). A candle and a family photograph, to add to the nativity scene.

If you don't have a nativity set, there are many templates on the internet with figures to cut out. Do a search on 'nativity set templates' and view it through the Images option.

LETTER TO LOCAL FARMERS

As the well-known Harvest Hymn says: "Come ye thankful people, come, raise the song of Harvest home, all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin." But as we all know, farming doesn't finish at the end of harvesting. There are animals still to be fed and looked after, dairy cows to be milked, machinery to be repaired and maintained, fencing jobs to be carried out, fields and crops to be prepared for planting for next year's harvesting, the list is endless.

Whilst most of the country have been on lockdown due to COVID-19, you and your farm workers have carried on regardless of this unprecedented situation we find ourselves in. As a District Council we are thankful and extremely grateful for your incredible and vital work in helping to providing food to feed our nation particularly during these challenging times with the triple challenges of unpredictable weather, changes in agricultural policy and particularly having to cope with COVID 19.

You have not locked down your farms, you have carried on regardless of this unprecedented situation, for this we thank you...

*Cllr Barbara Jones-Williams
Rural Champion for Malvern Hills District Council*

CLIFTON SCOUTS BEAVER LEADER WANTED

Our lovely Beaver leader Abi is leaving us in the new year to focus on her university studies. This will leave the Beaver group with no permanent leader and at risk of closing. We have nearly 20 young people in the group, which feeds up into our Cub and Scout sections, and we really do not want to lose the group. It is possible to share the role if we have sufficient volunteer numbers, so if you would like to be involved but are concerned about the commitment please contact us to discuss how you can help in a way that works for you. Please get in touch at exec@cliftonontemescouts.org for further details.

Helen Wain



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Covid restrictions and the Church

As I write this article we are still in the middle of a second lockdown which hopefully will be over by 2nd December. However, being realistic it is unlikely life will be anywhere near 'normal' as we move through December. This uncertainty has meant that planning services for Christmas has been difficult.

Rules concerning how we can use our church buildings and how worship is conducted I am sure will still apply beyond December. These restrictions affect how many we are allowed to sit whilst complying with distancing restrictions change, whilst soloists and choirs can sing it is still a question whether a congregation will be allowed to sing.

Whilst you will see that limited services are being offered through December at some of our church buildings we are also hoping to respond to any positive changes to the guidelines given to churches which might enable Carols Crib and Christingle services to happen. We will hopefully be able to inform you of any extra services we can hold if such allowance is made.

Rev. Canon David Sherwin

Contact Details

Revd Canon David Sherwin (Team Rector) Tel: 01886 888664 Email: davidwin56@aol.com

Revd Anne Potter (Team Vicar and Rural Dean) Tel: 01886 832355 Email: revannepotter@gmail.com

Revd Jen Denniston (Curate) Tel: 01886 853280 Email: jendenniston@gmail.com

Churchwardens Clifton: Barbara Seeley 01886 812763 and Alana Cooper 01886 812520

Churchwarden Lower Sapey: Candy Connolly 01886 853248

Churchwarden The Shelsleys: Jane Froggatt 01886 812215

Parish Email: lizedwards69@aol.com Website: www.achurchnearyou.com

PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY FOR SHELSELY BEAUCHAMP

A vacancy has arisen to represent the parish of Shelsley Beauchamp. The Parish Council hopes to co-opt a new member at the meeting on November 10th 2020.

The Shelsleys Parish Council meets six times a year to discuss & decide local issues. Applicants do not necessarily have to live within the parish but must be within three miles of the parish boundary. The Clerk can give more details on eligibility.

If you are interested and would like more information or an application form please contact Jan Speyer 01886 812 444, email shelsleyspc@gmail.com.

Local Church Services for December 2020 - January 2021

6th December

10.30am **Clifton** advent service\Becky's leaving service

There will also be a streamed service from Martley at 4.00pm for those wishing to join in online

13th December

10.30am **Shelsley Beauchamp:** Advent Holy Communion

20th December

YouTube lessons and carols available to all.

3.00pm **Shelsley Beauchamp:** Carols (venue to be arranged)

3.00pm **Clifton:** Carols and lessons in the churchyard with the choir.

24th December

6.30pm **Harpley** Christmas Service

11.30pm **Clifton:** Holy Communion

25th December

10.00am **Clifton:** Christmas half hour

10.00am **Shelsley Beauchamp:** Christmas half hour

27th December NO SERVICES

January 2021

3rd January 10.30am Holy Communion, **Shelsley Beauchamp**

10th January 10.30am Holy Communion, **Clifton**

(4.00pm Rev Becky's Licensing at Holy Trinity Malvern)

24th January 10.30am **Harpley**, Circle Service

31st January 6.30pm Candlemas Evensong, **Clifton**

All services and events subject to government guidelines at the time.



Donations for Christmas

The foodbank box is in the church porch of St Kenelm's in Clifton and donations of Christmas goodies can be left there for collection. All will be gratefully received. God bless from all at St Kenelm's.

Draft Minutes of a virtual meeting of the Shelsleys Parish Council held on November 10th 2020

Present: Dr Laura Taylor, Mr David Styles, Mrs Karen Metcalfe Mrs Val Jones and Mrs Louise Hutton. In Attendance: District Councillor Mrs Caroline Palethorpe, County Councillor Dr Ken Pollock, Mr Simon Durling (MAC) 1 member of the public and the Clerk. Apologies: Mr David Bates, Mr J Stinton, (accepted). There were No Declarations of Interest:

Minutes: The minutes of September 15th 2020 were agreed as a true record.

Public Question Time: There was a long discussion on the lack of progress for the three projects within the parish which are trying to get properties connected to Superfast Broadband. One project (Project 2) has been told that self-dig is not an option for connection and the price quoted by Openreach is £69,000. No explanation of the cost has been given. The other two projects are still awaiting the results of an Openreach survey which will be sent to Rob Stepniewski at WCC whose job is to help Parish Councils especially with finding funding. County Councillor Pollock sympathised with the lack of progress and requested details be sent to him in order that he may facilitate. It was agreed that the three projects should liaise with one another and contact details will be shared.

Election of Vice Chairman: Mrs Karen Metcalfe. Shelsley Beauchamp **Vacancy:** This will be re-advertised. County Councillor and District Councillor's reports are available on the website details below. CC Pollock reported that Hannah Davies, Highways Liaison Officer was contacting all clerks personally to highlight any highway problems.

Correspondence: Defibrillator details from Peter Richards. The clerk to seek more information. Letter of thanks from Teme Triangle for the donation. SWDP updates. MHDC Covid-19 newsletters. SWDP Traveller Sites letter circulated, none identified in this parish. Police & Crime Commissioner Survey (completed by the clerk and returned by email). Social Prescribing details to be circulated.

Planning: There were no outstanding planning applications. The Planning Appeal at The Leys 20/00547/HP, it is understood that the planning decision will be made by the Planning Inspectorate and not MHDC. Budget: The Budget figures were accepted as an aid to determining the precept. . The reserves are high, there was a short discussion on the possibility of helping local groups who have been adversely affected by Covid-19

Finance: The following payments were agreed. Clerk's salary and expenses for Q2 £595.83 Information Commissioner £40.00

Progress Reports: Broadband: The clerk had little to report. WCC is still awaiting a report from Openreach. Other matters referring to broadband see Public Question Time above.

Councillors' Reports and items for future agenda. Various bodies were suggested as recipients of financial help from the Parish Council. The clerk will make enquiries the outcome of which will be discussed in January.

Future Meeting Dates: January 12th 2021; March 16th 2021; May 11th 2021; July 13th 2021; September 14th 2021; November 9th 2021.

To view the minutes and agenda online go to the WCC website. and look at The Shelsleys.
<http://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish/> Jan Speyer Clerk 01886 812444

**There is still a vacancy for a councillor to represent Shelsley
Beauchamp. Please contact the clerk 01886 812444**

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR AT PITLANDS



Apple Tree Kitchen and Pitlands Farm Holidays re-open following 'lockdown' on Wednesday, 2nd December. On sale will be fresh cut Christmas trees, potted Christmas trees, Christmas decorations & gifts. Christmas hampers will also be available to order. They will also be offering a winter menu of food and drinks with some very special Christmas additions.

Following the success of pizza takeaways during lockdown they will continue to offer this on Fridays throughout December (excluding Christmas and New Year's Day!). They are hoping to continue with this in January subject to demand

Supper club - held once a month, a three-course set menu, booking essential.

A new telephone number for the Apple Tree Kitchen is 01886 812431

Our winter opening hours/event dates are:

December:

2nd-6th	9:30-4.30pm
4th	5-9pm Pizza Night
11th	5-9pm Pizza Night
12th	Supper Club
10th-13th	9:30-4.30pm
17th-20th	9:30-4.30pm
18th	5-9pm Pizza Night
21st-23rd	10am-4pm
24th	10am-2pm
25th-27th	Closed
28th-30th	10am-4pm
31st	10am-4pm

January

New Years Day	10am-4pm
2nd-13th	Closed
14th-17th	9:30-4.30pm
16th	Supper Club
21st-24th	9:30-4.30pm
28th-31st	9:30-4.30pm



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