

Gretton Village

NEWSLETTER

June 2024



We've Done It!

The new equipment in the Playing Field has been installed and is already being well used. The Village Association would like to recognize the main funders Enover Community Trust and also the Gretton Parish Council who supported the project.



The Play Equipment will be formally “opened” by the Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire at 2.00pm on Saturday 13th July. The opening will mark the start of the **Gretton Summer Fete** which will have a wide range of stalls, activities (including meet the Alpacas), live music and refreshments.

Please come along to show your appreciation for the Play Equipment and support our new Village Fete.

If you can help in any way or have a gazebo we could borrow please contact Mark Oliver. Additionally, if you have any excess books for the book stall, plants for the plant stall or bric-a-brac please let Mark know.

The Village Survey results are in.

A big thank you to all those that completed the Village Survey that was distributed in May. We received responses from 81 households with a near even split between those who submitted the hardcopy form and those who did so online.

A brief summary of the results is provided on **Page 6**, along with details of how to access all of the data online.



Gretton Primary School



Gretton
Tower Trust



Walk for the Park 2.0



On Saturday 8th June nearly 50 walkers took part in Walk for the Park 2.0. Three people completed the 30 mile Extreme Route, 7 adults and six children completed the 10 mile Serious Route and thirty four enjoyed the 2 mile Family Walk.

The day concluded with a bouncy castle and refreshments in the Hall.

A massive well done and thank you to all who took part, supported and/or donated to the event which raised around £2000 for the improvements to the Playing Field.



Parish Council Matters

Gretton Parish Council held two meetings in May. Our regular Parish Council meeting; these are held every 2-months in the Village Hall (all welcome), the minutes of which are now on the website. We also held the less formal, Annual Parish Meeting. This is intended to be an open meeting, although strangely regulations insist that it is held after 7:00pm. Sadly, attendance was limited, so we decided to run a repeat meeting, at a more convenient time to encourage participation. We ran this meeting in the Village Hall at the end of the Gretton Hub on Sunday 9th June. Thanks to Gretton Hub, and for all those who joined in, including Tewkesbury Cllr - Gemma Madle and Glos Cllr - David Gray, for some good ideas and interesting debate. Not surprisingly, as can be seen from the survey, one big topic was traffic and parking. Notes from this meeting, and the more formal reports from the earlier Annual Parish Meeting are also on the website.

What's in a name?

Tewkesbury Borough Council have announced that they are currently exploring a new name for the council. This follows feedback from community groups, businesses and parishes that 'Tewkesbury Borough' is not considered sufficiently representative of the entire borough - it tends to be more associated with 'Tewkesbury Town'. Covering 160 square miles and including other large areas such as Brockworth, Bishop's Cleeve, Winchcombe and Churchdown - and many more..

One name under consideration is **North Gloucestershire Borough Council**. No final decision has yet been taken and a consultation period runs until June 28th. If you're interested have a look at the Tewkesbury Borough Council website. Regardless of what you think about the name change, it's a good website with lots of information, including - How to report an issue, bin collections, planning information, highways links and so on., bin collections, planning information, highways links and so on. www.tewkesbury.gov.uk

Traffic & Parking

Traffic and Parking were both hot topics in the Village Survey. The Parish Council is assessing the responses and will consider plans for potential improvements. In the meantime we draw your attention to the following:

Parking : Parking is an issue and can be very irritating where driveways or junctions are blocked or vision obscured. Residents and visitors are urged to be courteous and park sensibly and when gatherings are being held please remind your guests to respect your neighbours.

Speeding: The Village has a Speedwatch camera. The Speedwatch team work in conjunction with the Police and the data shows that when the team are regularly visible speed of traffic does come down. We need more volunteers to enable the team to get out more often so please let Mark Oliver know if you have any spare time to support this proven deterrent.

Reporting Common Issues

At the recent Parish Meeting we discussed the importance of reporting common issues. Both the Police and Gloucestershire Country Council rely heavily on data and if issues are not reported it means that they can't develop a view of developing problems. Their websites are very useful.

Obviously emergencies should always be reported through 999 and non-emergencies through 101 or via the Constabulary website (gloucestershire.police.uk).

However there are dedicated reporting mechanisms for Fraud, Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Civil Disputes, Crime, Domestic Abuse, Missing People, Noise Complaints, Road Traffic Incident, Highways issues and Vehicle related issues (obstructions and hazards). A document titled COUNCILLOR ADVOCACY SCHEME - Tewkesbury Scheme Manual has been added to the GPC website and contains all the reporting links.



Cotswold Voluntary Wardens



Many of you will have noticed a couple of new stiles in the Village. These have been installed to replace older stiles or to address problems with gates being left open enabling sheep to escape.

One fan of the current weather is the vegetation and many of our paths are becoming overgrown. The Wardens are a Voluntary Team and work hard to keep our rights of way open but the Winchcombe Work Party consists of around 10 people and covers 14 Parishes and so the workload is heavy for the team.

The Gretton Parish Warden is Mark Oliver so please get in touch if you have any issues with our Rights of Way.

Greening

The daffodils planted last autumn looked good this spring and were well received. We are planning on planting more this autumn, and if you have specific requests as to where you would like some planted please let Dick Green know and he'll organise it.

Thanks to Chris, Jane and Joy for their work on keeping the War Memorial looking splendid, and to Kevin Davis for all his work on keeping the grass tidy on the green and throughout the village.

The Royal Oak



Since our update in the previous newsletter the weather has turned a corner which has allowed us to push on with the project. So what has progressed since our last update?

- The Children's Play Area is now complete. This has been a massive hit. We will do our utmost to ensure that this area is kept clean and safe to ensure the children can have a fun and safe environment to enjoy.
- Estate railings are complete. The old post and rail fencing has been replaced with estate fencing around the paddock and along the beer garden. New pedestrian gate and maintenance gate added.
- The Lower terrace is complete. Some great stonework and paving done by Nick Barron and his colleague Will. This has given the pub a new terrace area - a great spot to enjoy a drink or meal in the sun whilst taking in the views.
- The Outdoor servery is complete. Thank to Nigel Gilks the outdoor servery has been renovated after some much needed TLC - with new roof and hatches - Ready and raring to go to open up for larger events and summer trading.
- Conservatory Wooden Facade is now complete. The outside of the conservatory is much improved after some much needed care - including replacement of wood and a coat of paint. Well done to Phil Ellison for this.
- The Huts: These have now been installed and will be opening to the public soon. Thank you once again to Tom Clarke and his team members Tom and Paul for making this happen.
- Car Park: Clearing of old fencing will allow greater number of car park spaces to reduce congestion.

The home straight...

- Upper Patio/Terrace: Work on the upper terrace and old patio has been very visible and caused the diversion of customers through the front of the pub. Nick, Will and Dan Sanger are working hard to get this wall up as fast as they can whilst not compromising on quality. The new new paving and walling matches the lower terrace and will be a great place to sit and enjoy a drink or dine. It will also provide a safer surface for Matthew and his team to serve and operate. It will also have improved access for buggies, wheel chairs and those that require assistance.



- Tennis Court & Pickleball Court: Due to the wet weather it has been very hard to progress with this project, although we expect work to begin again Thursday 13th June to hopefully have the court resurfaced by the end of the month. Once ready we will make an announcement on Instagram/socials. It would be great to get a pickleball introduction day organised - if anyone interested in helping, please get in touch!

Thank you for all your patience throughout this work. I really do hope you, your friends and families are seeing that we are putting the local community at the center of this project to make sure we all have a pub that we all are proud to call our local.

Mark Giblin.

Gretton Village Association News

Plans for Playing Field & Village Hall

With the completion of the Play Area the Village Association are now focused on the following projects to continue to improve the facilities at the Hall and Playing Field:



- Benches: We offered residents the opportunity to support a memorial bench in the Playing Field. The first two of these will be established in the coming weeks.
- Perimeter Path: Improving year round access to the Playing field was a theme in the recent Village Survey and will be our next improvement project. Together with the Walk for the Park money we are now actively seeking funding support to make this a reality
- Parking and Activity Space: Parking is an issue in the Village. Schemes to redesign the existing area at the back of the Hall are being finalized to create a few more spaces and open up a bigger activity space for events
- Solar Panels: Work is underway to evaluate and fund solar panels for the Hall.

In other GVA news..

While we have been particularly busy with the new Play Equipment, Walk for the Park 2.0 and planning for the Fete, residents are reminded of other available facilities and activities supported by the GVA:

The Village Hall hosts a range of regular day and evening classes. The current schedule is as follows, and ideas raised in the recent Village Survey for additional classes are being considered.

Monday:	Pilates at 6.30am
Tuesday:	Tai Chi at 1.00pm and Yoga at 6.30pm
Wednesday:	Pilates at 8.30am and Dance at 4.00pm
Thursday:	Yoga at 9.30am and Table Tennis in afternoon
Friday:	Table Tennis
Saturday:	Dance at 9.15am

The Gretton Hub continues to prove extremely popular. The table tennis, book swap have been well received and we are looking for ideas as to how the Hub can be further improved. Further 2024 dates for the Hub are 14 July, 8 Sept, 13 Oct, 10 Nov and 8 Dec.

The Main Hall and Meeting Room are available for hire and are popular for children's parties, family celebrations, clubs and meetings. Residents benefit from preferential hire rates. The projector and public address system are also proving popular with local businesses who lack suitable meeting space so please contact Kathy at gvabookings@gmail.com to discuss your needs.

GVA Continued

We are very pleased to see the return of Bishops Cleeve Players on Friday 27th September who will be performing **Whose Crime Is It Anyway?** We expect this to sell out quickly so please get your tickets as soon as the adverts go up.

Apple Rock 2024 will be held on Saturday 5th October and once again the village Scarecrow display will be held so please start planning your display.

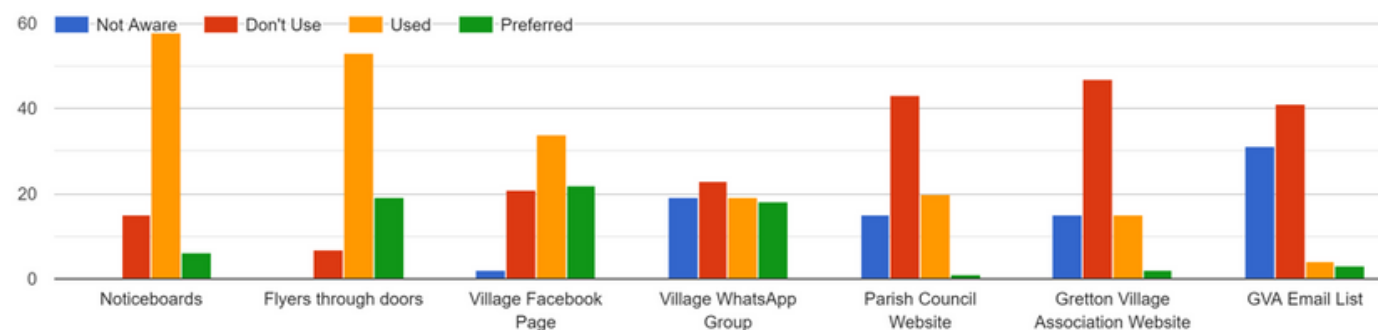
Gretton Village Survey

The village survey helps the Parish Council identify key issues for residents and your responses help guide us on issues such as those related to planning and highway. We are very grateful to all who participated, with particular thanks for the detailed comments many of you provided on a range of issues.

As a Council we will now spend some time analysing the results in detail, but here are a few initial observations on a couple areas addressed in the questionnaire.

Communications – The responses show that traditional forms of communication (the Village Noticeboards and flyers in mailboxes) are still very widely used, but digital has become more popular with Facebook and WhatsApp becoming a preferred source of information for a growing portion of the community. This despite a considerable number of people being unaware of them.

While we have attempted to increase and improve communications over the last 12 months, the charts below show that we need to ensure we do a better job of raising awareness of these new channels of information.

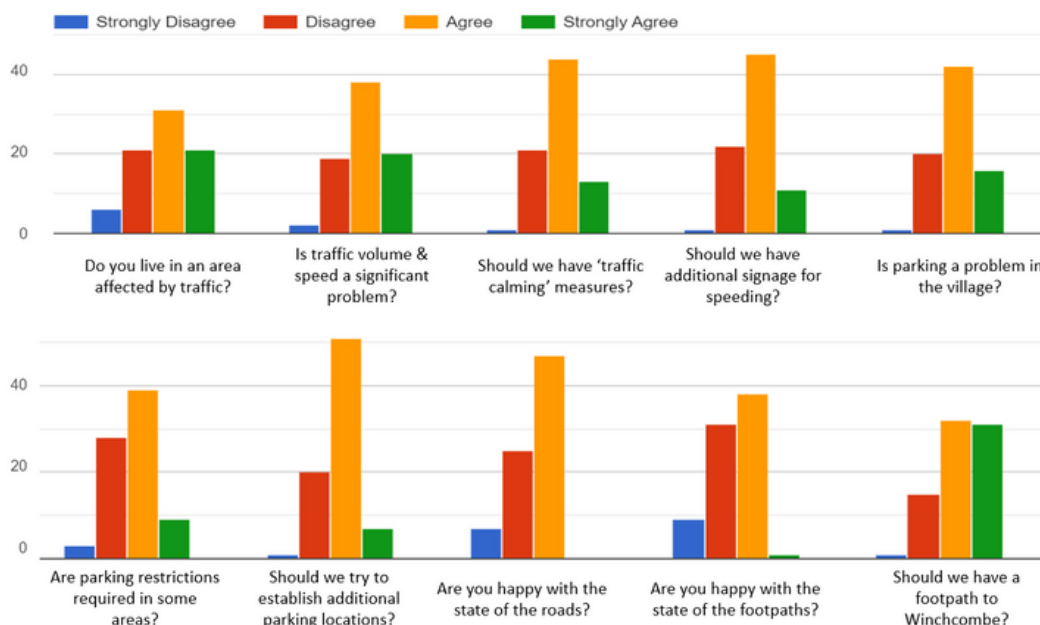


Survey Results on Communications

As this is the Newsletter it would be remiss of me not to also note that it received a largely positive response - over 83% responded that they read it and thought it was good. There were also some really good ideas to improve it that we will look to implement in coming editions.

Unsurprising **Parking and Traffic** were highlighted as a problem area, and again the open comments section provided useful insight. For example, parking close to the junctions of Working Lane, Gopshill and Duglynch Lane as they meet the main road received multiple mentions as did parking on pavements being a particular concern rather than parking in general.

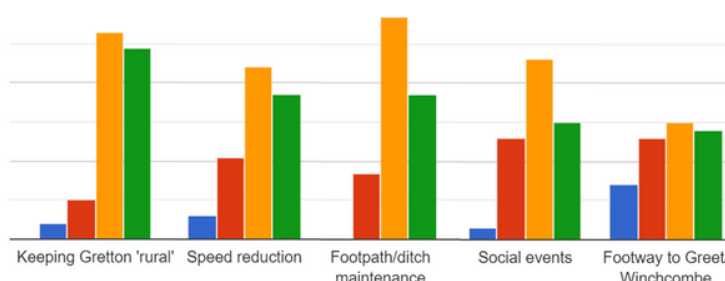
A majority of people believe that the volume and speed of traffic in the village is a problem, with an obvious bias in those households on or closer to the main road. Equally while there is seemingly a majority opinion for some traffic calming measures the comments indicate that there are specific measures such as a lower (20 mph) speed limit, road markings or speed bumps that would likely be more divisive issues. Any changes that might be considered would clearly need more detailed consultation.



Survey Results on Traffic, Parking & Transport

Speed reduction also ranks high in the responses to **Prioritising what the Council does**. The categories that were ranked Top 5 most consistently were those in the charts to the right.

We also invite you to take a look at the response data, including the detailed comments received, by accessing the information on the Parish Council website. Note, that the demographic household data has been removed to ensure anonymity of responses. The link along with a QR code is as follows:



To view all Survey Results follow the QR code or follow the links from the Gretton Parish Council website



Contacts & Communications

Parish Council

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Richard Green
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Mark Oliver - Vice Chair
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David Butcher
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Councillor Vacancy A reminder that the Council still has a vacancy. Please contact any of the existing Council team if you are interested in joining

Gretton Primary School

Gretton Primary School has been busy over the last few weeks with athletics tournaments, bell boating practice, bikeability and lots of other exciting events. We have also enjoyed using the forest school site as the weather improves.

Our sports day is scheduled for the afternoon of July 3rd at the playing field and we have a performance at the Village Hall in the evening of 11th July. Apologies in advance if there are any parking incidents, we will remind our parents to be respectful. At the start of the summer holiday we will be doing some painting, maintenance and outside tidying, I will circulate the date but we would very much appreciate any support to help with the project.

Thank you for your continued support.

Adam Sallis and the Gretton team.

Contacts & Communications

Additional Council

Gretton Village Association:

Mark Oliver, Chairman, 07801716148 markp.oliver@btinternet.com

Kathy Tweedie, Bookings, 07968 711590 gvabookings@gmail.com

Cotswold Wardens

Mark Oliver, Chairman, 07801716148 markp.oliver@btinternet.com

Gretton Primary School

Adam Sallis, Headteacher, head@gretton.gloucs.sch.uk

Church

Revd Captain David Penny CA, Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Winchcombe with Gretton, Sudeley Manor and Stanley Pontlarge

revdpenny@winchcombeparish.org.uk

Village News is currently available through the following channels:

The Village Noticeboards

Village Facebook Page: Gretton Village Notices

Village WhatsApp Group Gretton Help Force

Gretton Parish Council Website: www.grettonpc.weebly.com

Gretton Village Association: www.sites.google.com/site/grettonvillagehall/home



GVA Distribution List
sign-up QR code

Dates for your diary

July 2024

Saturday 13th, 2pm

Sunday 14th, 10:00am - 12:30pm

Play Area Grand Opening & Village Fete (See below)

Gretton Hub, Village Hall

September 2024

Sunday 8th, 10:00am - 12:30pm

Saturday 21st

Friday 27th

Sunday 29th

Gretton Hub, Village Hall

Village Scarecrows

Bishop Cleeve Players, Village Hall

Harvest Festival

