



## Charlbury Town Council News

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### **New Councillor in town**

We welcome Jack Wells to the Council this month. As a young person living in Charlbury he is keen to work with other young people to ensure the town has something for everyone. We all look forward to working with him

### **Parking**

A major piece of work undertaken by the Town Council over the last few months has been on the increasing problem of parking in Charlbury. We have worked closely with Oxfordshire County Council to draw up a draft resident's parking scheme. This is currently out for consultation with a closing date for submissions of 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Whether you love or hate the idea please submit your views here: [https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/charlbury\\_parking2024](https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/charlbury_parking2024)

We want to hear from as many residents as possible so we have a truly representative view.

Further work on parking has consisted of a survey of how Spendlove car park is used as well as talking to businesses about where their staff and customers park. NEWS FLASH (which surprised us all) -there was no evidence of people parking at the Spendlove car park to go to the station! We did find, however, that people drove very short distances to go to the Co-op.



**CHARLBURY  
COMMUNITY  
WORKS!**

Charlbury Community Works! is another new initiative from the Town Council. We are encouraging residents to get involved in their area of town, with clearing leaves and snow, sprinkling salt, clearing soil and weeds and cutting back their own hedges where they are overhanging paths or pavements. Town Councillors with support from residents have made a start along The Slade and we would love for you to work with your neighbours to give a bit of TLC to the area outside your house. We would like to invite you to send in photos if you get out and do a session with your neighbours – to celebrate this community spirit and care of your area. It would be amazing if you could, thank you!

Councillors are also holding leaf clearing sessions on Saturday mornings where they identify a specific area of Charlbury each time. Please keep an eye out for the sessions on [charlbury.info](http://charlbury.info) and social media as we would welcome your help.



*Leaf clearing on Dyers Hill*

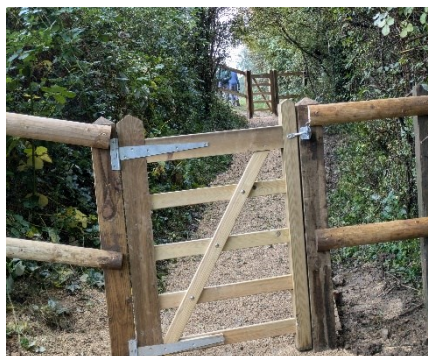
## Walkers are Welcome

Thanks to matched funding from Cotswold National Landscape, we are reinvigorating our Walkers are Welcome initiative.

If you have been down to Wigwell Nature Reserve recently you will have seen the much-improved surface to the path, installed by the Cotswold Wardens. We are also about to print a new Walkers are Welcome map to be displayed outside the Co-op and on the noticeboard at the station (thanks to our resident map expert Richard Fairhurst). Revised Walkers are Welcome leaflets and more copies of the updated Town Trail will follow shortly. And finally, you may have seen the interpretation boards that have been installed at Mill Field and Centenary Wood. Hopefully they won't be bare for much longer but will have lots of interesting information and pictures on -the result of the hard work of Christine Elliott and Frances Mortimer.



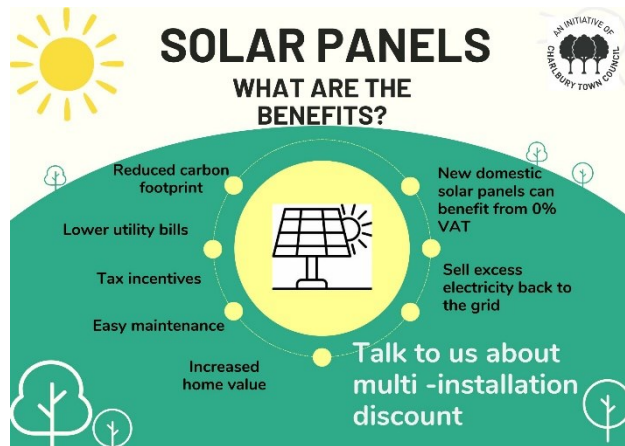
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## Solar Panels

The Town Council's Buildings Team is facilitating a project for residents to explore the benefits of installing solar panels on their properties and also investigating if multi-installation discount can be obtained. We have received six enquiries so far and are awaiting comparative prices from potential installers for five properties. **Please note, the Town Council is not funding or managing this project but just acting as an intermediary.**

If you are interested in having solar panels installed, please contact [arthur.sinclair@charlbury-tc.gov.uk](mailto:arthur.sinclair@charlbury-tc.gov.uk). He can give you more information on how to go about this.



## News from the Land and Nature Group (LNG)

### Meadow on the Mill Field

The Mill Field Meadow restoration project continues. It has just been cut (mid-October) and the next stage is sowing more yellow rattle seed to suppress the growth of grasses to enable wildflowers to be sown and flourish (thus improving biodiversity). Thanks to Sustainable Charlbury for their funding of this project.



*Volunteers in action on the Mill Field*

### Nature recovery

The Nature Recovery Framework (for Charlbury, Fawler and Finstock) is still out for consultation. The framework, a one-page summary of it and a questionnaire can be found here: <https://charlbury-tc.gov.uk/land-and-nature-team/>

This draft nature recovery plan is about creating a framework for addressing the biodiversity crisis in a systematic way in this locality. We would love to hear your views on this so please follow the link and complete the 5- minute questionnaire.

### Charlbury's Year of Nature Recovery Launch Party Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2-5pm in Charlbury Memorial Hall

2025 is Charlbury's **Year of Nature Recovery!** The LNG (and Town Council) is launching this with an afternoon tea party on 11 January in the Memorial Hall, to which organisations and groups of all types in the three parishes are invited – many of these are already doing interesting and inspiring things for nature. The event will be an uplifting and positive opportunity to come together to plan

and facilitate activities that will take place through the year to not only restore nature but also build even stronger links across our amazing community. For more information see the article on page x.

## Speeds

Following the success of second Speed Indicator Device (SID), purchased last year and the support of our Community Speedwatch team in moving it around town, the Town Council has agreed to buy a third SID. This will display (and record) vehicle speeds on roads -you may have seen the data published on [charlbury.info](http://charlbury.info) and [charlbury-tc.gov.uk](http://charlbury-tc.gov.uk). There are increasing calls from residents to have the SID placed on their roads because it does make a difference to speeds and thus to pedestrian safety.



## Honoured Citizen Awards 2025

We invite you to nominate a star in the community for an Honoured Citizen Award. Is there someone who has gone above and beyond for many years and you think they should be recognised for their invaluable contribution to Charlbury? The nomination must be backed by a seconder and you can submit your application here: <https://charlbury-tc.gov.uk/honoured-citizen-award-scheme/> or ask Lisa for a hard copy form. Closing date for nominations is 31<sup>st</sup> March and the awards will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

## Permissive paths

Permissive paths through Nine Acres Recreation Ground and from the Cemetery extension to the bottom of Pound Hill (part of one of the Gateway Walk routes) will be closed all day on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025 in accordance with recommended practice to ensure that the accesses retain their permissive status. Similar closures of permissive paths through Wigwell will occur on the same day by order of the Wychwood Forest Trust. Residents with gates opening onto Oxpens Allotments, Nine Acres Recreation Ground and Wigwell are also reminded that these do not constitute a Right of Way. The permissive path between Hundley Way and Banbury Hill Farm (and the Old Shed) will also be closed on Wednesday 8th January 2025.

## Charlbury Christmas market

Don't miss the special Christmas market from 9.30am until 12 midday on 21st December in the Memorial Hall. Buy your last-minute Christmas gifts and some indulgent food to save your cooking for the big day





The last regular Saturday Market, the local food market held outside Charlbury Community Centre, was held on 19th October and will return again when the weather gets warmer next spring. Keep an eye on: <https://charlbury-tc.gov.uk/charlbury-market/>. Thanks to all the amazing volunteers that have helped out all season. You may have seen that the delicious bakery stall, selling Missing Bean produce, was staffed by local people and all profits are going to local good causes.



And finally.....



**We want you to talk to us and we would love to let you know what we are doing . This is how you can do it:**

- Monthly Councillor surgeries
- Weekly Town Clerk presence at the Community Centre
- Social media #charlburytowncouncil
- Public time at Council meetings
- Annual Parish Meeting
- Annual Town Survey
- Charlbury alert system (sign up to receive emails via the Town Council website)

Details for all of these can be found at [charlbury-tc.gov.uk](https://charlbury-tc.gov.uk), on social media or by phoning the town clerk (phone number at the top of this article)

Lisa Wilkinson  
Town Clerk