

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

Parish Council & Village News – December 2011 & January 2012

“In this world nothing is certain but death and taxes” – so wrote Benjamin Franklin in 1789 in regard to the US Constitution. It also just happens to lead into two of this issue’s topics.

Council Tax: At the November meeting, the Council considered the budget requirements for next year, based on assumptions of carry-over, likely price increases and proposed activities the Council wants to undertake in the coming year.

Between November and January these assumptions will be firmed up and at the January meeting the Council will set the Precept demand on East Northamptonshire Council (ENC), which will eventually make its way into your Council Tax bill for next April.

The ideal result would be a small increase in the overall amount, but with a reduction in the individual household contributions, which should be possible due to an extra 27 houses (mainly at Chelston Rise) that will be contributing next year.

Burial provision: The Parish Church records indicate that some 900+ parishioners have been buried in the Churchyard over the centuries, which is creating a little uncertainty as to exactly how much space is actually left.

In order to plan for the future, the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council have formed a joint working party to determine the current spare capacity of the Churchyard and to consider what future cemetery provision may be required.

First a manual survey will be carried out for areas likely to be unsuitable (e.g. too close to tree roots, prone to flooding), after which it may be necessary to commission a Ground Penetrating Radar survey of the remaining free areas to ensure they are not already “occupied”. It is hoped to report the results of the surveys to the parishioners at the next year’s Annual Parish Assembly.

Wind Farms: The appeal by Chelveston Renewable Energy (CRE) against the refusals by ENC and Bedford Borough Council (Beds BC) will be heard by a Planning Inspectorate on 6th – 9th and 12th – 16th March 2012 (total 9 days). The appeal will take place at the ENC offices at Thrapston.

Burton Wold has applied for a second expansion to Kettering Borough Council. This is for a further 5 turbines, in addition to the 10 already operational and the 7 consented in the first expansion.

305th BG War Memorial damage update: the driver’s insurer has now settled the claim and the Council have ordered a replacement granite post.

Traffic Calming update: The Council’s Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) has arrived and is undergoing testing on the Caldecott Road post site, after which it will alternate between sites in the parish.

As well as the instant reminder for speeding traffic, the VAS will also record the speed of all traffic passing it. This will enable the Police Safer Community Team to target their resources in an intelligence led manner at times when speeding is most likely to occur. It will also allow the Council to provide NCC Highways with data on traffic flows as evidence for future road improvements.

We are grateful to County Cllr Derek Lawson MBE, who has contributed £1,000 from his Cllr Empowerment Fund toward the VAS purchase.



Northamptonshire’s own acclaimed food writer **Vanessa Kimbell** has joined forces with NCC in the fight against good food going bad. The average family throws out up to £50 a month in uneaten food!

Vanessa has written 4 new recipes with leftovers in mind to help you cut down on food waste. You can get the recipes, use the Perfect Portion calculator, download a weekly meal planner, and find lots of useful kitchen tips on the campaign website, www.ilovefoodnorthants.co.uk

NCC’s general enquiries number has changed to 0300 126 1000. It replaces the 01604 number and means that everyone in the county calling from a landline will only be charged at a local rate.

Bulbs: A big thank you to *Blom’s Bulbs* of Melchbourne for their donation of 4,000 bulbs and the team of Mike McCormack, Arthur Wright, Malcolm Russen and Cllrs Martin Emerson and Adrian Dale for planting them around Chelveston.

Also thanks to Cllr Melvyn and Mrs Rosemary Wooding for again donating and planting further bulbs in the Caldecott verges.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the Councillors and the Clerk.

Next issue: The February & March issue of the Newsletter should be delivered in the first week of February, so if you want to publicise a parish event, please let me know before the end of January.

Edited by the Clerk.

O/2011/156/MHH

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Events – December 2011 & January 2012

The Chelveston Parish Church of St. John the Baptist (by Arthur Wright – 624530)

There is a communion service every Sunday morning at **9.00 am**.
You are most welcome to stay afterwards for coffee, tea and biscuits at the Servery.

The Village Carol Service will be held on Sunday 18th December at 2:30 pm (see below).

The Christmas Day Communion service will be held on Sunday 25th December at 9:00 am.

This year there will be a **Village Carol Service** in Church on **Sunday 18th December at 2:30 pm**. It will be a festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in the village church. The Rushden Salvation Army Band will accompany well known carols and all village residents are welcome. Please bring your children/grandchildren as well.

Please note there will not be a separate event in the Village Hall this year.

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Women's Institute (further details from Wendy Williams - 624585) meets on the second Wednesday of the month at **7.30 pm**. in Chelveston Village Hall. Visitors are always welcome to the meetings @ £3.50 per head suggested donation including refreshments.

Wednesday 7th December – Christmas meal at the **Star & Garter**.

Wednesday 11th January “*My TV and Stage Career – or Nearly*” by **Mike Neville** of Rushden.

A big 'thank you' to everybody who supported the **Christmas Fayre on Saturday 26th November**. All the stalls reported they were well attended. Thanks, Wendy

Free Spirits Ladies Group (by Tricia – 07977 490198) meets on the third Monday of the month from **2.00 – 4.00 pm**. in Chelveston Village Hall. Mainly flower arranging with tuition, but can also include other crafts. Please note the next meeting is on **Monday 12th December**, then **16th January**.

Visitors are welcome @ £2.50 per head to include tea & biscuits.

Chelveston Chorus (For more information contact Sharron Smart - 622020).

Participants of either sex are invited to come to sing with the encouragement of **Natasha Thompson**.

Fortnightly on Thursdays at **7.30 pm**. in the Village Hall, 1½ hour sessions for £3.00.

Nene Valley Astronomical Society (www.neneastro.org.uk) meets in Chelveston Village Hall, also on the third Monday of the month in the evening from **8.00 – 10.00 pm**. to view the wonders of the universe and the planets of our solar system. Visitors are welcome @ £2.00 to cover refreshments, etc. Contact Steve Williams (650331).

Next meetings - Monday 19th December and 16th January.

The Village Hall is Wi-Fi enabled and available for hire - please email Chelveston.Village.Hall@gmail.com or contact Adrian Dale (622624) with booking enquiries.

The Parish Council usually meets on the **second Monday of the month at 7.30 pm**. in the Chelveston Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings and there is time for the public to speak on any agenda item at the Chairman's discretion.

Members of the public may inspect Council papers by prior arrangement with the Clerk. The agenda is posted on the website (www.chelveston.org.uk) and on the parish noticeboards at least 3 clear days before the meetings.

Parish Council Members & Officers

Chair: Adrian Dale, 21 Water Lane (622624).
Vice: Melvyn Wooding, *Melrose Cottage*, Caldecott.
Martin Emerson, *Middle Farm House*, The Green.
Glenn Harwood MBE, 7 Britten Close.

Jennifer Harwood, 7 Britten Close.
Mick Izzard, 6 Pretoria Cottages, Raunds Road.
Patricia Mommersteeg, *Church House*, Caldecott.
Clerk: Mark Hunter Ashbury, Caldecott (626039).

E-mails to the Council on Clerk@Chelveston.org.uk