

PUCKLECHURCH NEWS



SPRING 2023

FUNDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

www.pucklechurch.org

Pucklechurch Parish Council Chairman's Report

Hopefully by the time you read this Winter will have turned and we will all be able to look forward the weather getting brighter and warmer! Council continues to meet twice per month, once in person and once online. The latter is an advisory business meeting at which we are not able to make decisions as a Council as the law currently precludes this – both are public meetings in that residents and others are welcome to attend. All meeting details can be found on our website, with agendas published the week before.

Parish Council Community Grants - an update

The application window for our community grant scheme closed on 27 January 2023. As expected, the amount requested by community groups collectively exceeded the amount available, especially since we had a bumper number of applicants. Decisions on grant awards will have been taken at the Council meeting scheduled for the 15th February, so all those that have been successful will have been notified by the time this edition of Pucklechurch News lands on your doormat. Details of the awards will be published on our website.

Budget

Parish Council funds most of its services with funding collected by South Gloucestershire Council via the Council Tax process. Council agrees the amount of money it requires, known as the Precept, from Council Tax payers in our area and the amount appropriate to your tax band is shown on your bill. Our agreed budget is published on the website under the 'Your Council' tab (Accounts). The Precept calculations for 2023/24 are as follows:

22/23 Precept	£87,026.00
Approved Precept 2023/24	£96,896.00
Increase for 2023/24	£9,870.00
Band D tax base 956	£101.36
Increase from previous year	£11.08
Increase per week	£0.21

Local elections May 2023 & Voter Identification

South Gloucestershire Town and Parish Council elections will be held on 4 May 2023 as will elections for South Gloucestershire Council. Find out more about how to stand for election here: <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/stand-for-election> The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station at some elections. This new requirement will apply for the first time in England at the local elections on Thursday 4 May 2023. A wide variety of types of photo ID will be accepted - for more information on which are acceptable, visit www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID or call their helpline on 0800 328 0280. If you don't already have an accepted form of photo ID, or you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you, you can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate. You can apply for this at voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can complete a paper application form and send this to the electoral services team at South Gloucestershire Council. You can also apply in person at South Gloucestershire Council. Call 01454 863030 to make an appointment to go to the Badminton Road offices where they we can take your photograph and submit your application online for you. Appointments will be available during normal office hours. When applying for a Voter Authority Certificate, you will need to provide the following information:

name, address, date of birth

National Insurance number, a recent photograph

You should apply using the same name that you used to register to vote.

You can still apply if you do not have or know your National Insurance number. You will need to provide other forms of proof of identity, such as a birth certificate, bank statement and a utility bill.

Best Wishes

Gail Boyle, Chair, Pucklechurch Parish Council

PUCKLECHURCH VILLAGE TRIPS 2023

April 4th - Broadway & Stowe on the Wold
May 2nd - Lynton & Lynmouth
June 6th - Lichfield & National Memorial Arboretum
July 4th - Weymouth
August 1st - Sidmouth
September 5th - Dartmouth
October 3rd - Abergavenny (market day)
& Monmouth
December 3rd - Birmingham Christmas market

If you are not listed on our group email and would like more information about our trips please email pucklechurchvillagetrips@gmail.com or phone Elaine on 01179373105 or 07940207559

Pucklechurch Players Present

A play - yet to be decided.

Day 19/20 at the Community Centre

Please watch out for posters or keep a watch on our Facebook page.

Tickets will be available from the beginning of April.

Call or text Elaine on 07940 207559

BUO Drinks & Nibbles



PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The project to extend the community centre building remains on hold, as there are still a number of issues that need to be addressed before we can move forward. We are hoping to resolve these issues shortly and will provide updates about the project in future editions of Pucklechurch News.

If you are new to the village, you may be interested to know that a number of groups currently use the facilities of the building. The hall is also used by a playgroup that meets every morning and on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons during term time.

Please visit the website for Pucklechurch Community Centre at <http://www.pucklechurchcommunitycentre.co.uk> to obtain more information.

If you are considering starting a new group for activities that do not currently exist, please contact Karl Fuerstenberg at pcahallbooking@gmail.com to discuss your requirements and the availability of the hall at your preferred time.

Finally, we would like to appeal to residents of the village – would you be interested in joining the Pucklechurch Community Association committee, so that you can have a say in how the community centre building will be run in the future, particularly when the extension project is completed? If you would like to help improve the facilities available to the residents of the village, and you can commit to attending committee meetings on the second Wednesday of each month, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Please email Peter Nunez, Secretary of Pucklechurch Community Association, at peter.nunez@btinternet.com

Pucklechurch Good Neighbours

Over the winter, the Good Neighbour Scheme volunteers have continued to provide in person and telephone company to people and helped others with simple household tasks such as putting out bins and recycling.

You may have seen the Rose & Crown ran a raffle over Christmas. The £284 profit from the raffle was donated to the Good Neighbour Scheme. We are very grateful to Rhianne, Jamie and the team at the Rose & Crown, and of course to everyone who bought raffle tickets.

If you think you or someone you know would benefit from our help with such things as putting out bins, simple household tasks or company, please contact us. Remember that if your regular helpers have to self-isolate or become unwell we may be able to help whilst they are unable to do so. If this is the case, please contact us to see if we have volunteers who can help you.

If you would like to join us as a volunteer, please get in touch. You decide how much time you give and what types of tasks you'd like to help with, and everything we do is local.

You can contact us on 07961 939574 or by emailing good-neighbours@pucklechurch.org. If you leave a message on the phone or email we'll reply within 24 - 48 hours.

You can also find more details on our website at http://www.pucklechurch.org/html/good_neighbours.htm

World Book Day at Emersons Green Library

Our next Mini-builders session – Duplo building for pre-school children – will be held on Friday 10th March from 1pm to 2pm. No booking required, we would love to see you.

And don't forget on the first Tuesday of each month (7th March) we have a drop in Coffee Morning starting at 10am. If you have pre-school children why not come to Storytime at 9.30am and then stay for a coffee and a chat afterwards?

Find out more about all our services and opening hours at www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries or on Facebook www.facebook.com/sgloslibraries or follow us on Twitter www.twitter.com/southgloslibs Neil Weston - Group Librarian

Pucklechurch WI

In our 86th anniversary year we sadly report that the Pucklechurch Branch WI will be suspended from the March meeting. The decision to do so was taken by a vote with the overwhelming majority of members in favour of leaving WI affiliation. We hope to carry on as a social group in much the same way and will keep you informed. However, the WI Federation will hold any residual funds for three years in case anyone else wants to resurrect the branch. We held many enjoyable events over the past year but we have reached the stage where no-one is willing to take on the role of President and we have found the increasing bureaucracy a challenge for little reward.

Tower Preschool

Monday and Friday 9.00 – 12.00
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9.00 – 15.00
Well qualified staff ensuring the Children's preschool experience is a happy, positive time.
15 hours free education for
2 year olds/up to 30 hours for 3 year olds (if eligible)
Website: www.towerpreschool-pucklechurch.co.uk
Telephone: 07722029077 Email: towerplaygroup@gmail.com

POP IN TO SEE US IN ACTION
Ofsted – 'Good'

Pucklechurch News

Funded by the Pucklechurch Parish Council

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Please email articles to editor@pucklechurch.org or drop them off 34 Hawthorn Close. Please include your name and telephone number in case we have questions about your article. We reserve the right to edit all articles. We cannot be responsible for the accuracy of articles submitted for publication.

Copy Deadlines:

10th May for June Edition (Summer)

10th August for September Edition (Autumn)

10th November for December Edition (Winter)

10th February for March Edition (Spring)

Revel 2023

The Revel Pixies have been busy planning and we have lots of information to share.

First off we have a theme. This year we will be doing the 1980s; however, we are being specific, so this means no neon! We want films, music and technology, so get your thinking caps on!

We have also made another decision regarding the parade, which may upset some. This year we are asking for no floats and only walkers. This is due to health and safety. We have to have copies of the public liability insurance for the floats and these are rather expensive for 30 minutes. We feel it's rather unfair to expect groups to pay these costs. We also have more walkers these days. For this reason, the route has been shortened to Hill View, Castle Road, Westerleigh Road and Abson Road to save little legs. We know this is sad to see, and it was not a decision that was taken lightly. We hope you respect our decision.

We have booked the Flaming Feathers dance troupe to lead the parade. They will also be doing dance workshops for all ages and a big finale in the arena.

The afternoon band (4pm-6pm) is 'Stupid' and will be playing a mix of all your party favourites.

We are still taking bookings for stalls, local and commercial, so please get in touch if you are interested.

The Beer Festival will be on the 16th and 17th June and plans are well underway to make sure there is plenty of cider and ale to drink. We have confirmed the Friday band as Dreamscape and are in negotiations for the Saturday band at the moment.

The Bob Todd Race night will be on Saturday 1st April at the PVSSC with wooden horses and moderate stakes and is fun for all the family.

The Revel Disco will be on Saturday May 6th and will share a Coronation with HRH King Charles III. This will also be at the PVSSC this year and will be an American supper.

The Revel Quiz will be Monday 12th June and this will take place in the Village Hall Social club.

We are meeting regularly and always looking for more pixies to help and volunteer - you can do as much as you like.

If you would like to be involved or have something to say, please contact me, Lori-Anne Button or either pucklechurch.revel@gmail.com or ring on 07789707278.

REVEL

REVEL - JUNE 17TH, 2023



Pucklechurch Recreation Field, BS16 9RF



11-4pm

Are you a stall holder, vendor or business owner?

We are looking for a variety of stalls to come to our Revel in June.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact us on: Facebook, [@PucklechurchRevel](https://www.facebook.com/PucklechurchRevel), Email, pucklechurch.revel@gmail.com or phone on 07789707278.



Guides.

1st Pucklechurch Guides just keep on growing, 25 girls and counting! 2023 began with a sleepover at Airhop – a huge place

filled with umpteen trampolines, soft play challenges and daring slides where you whizz down headfirst before taking off and floating briefly through the air before landing on a huge inflatable cushion. Our Young Leaders, Izzy and Frankie, made their Promises on the balance beam, and Izzy whizzed down a slide whilst reciting hers.

Over two hours of bouncing were followed by pizzas, a movie and bed at midnight. Did I say it was a sleepover? Sleep seemed rather optional for some, especially as we rose at 7am for breakfast, more bouncing and departure at 9am. Great fun.

This adventure qualified all for a One Nights Away badge, and some gained their Five Nights Away. A few are on their way to Ten Nights Away.

Guides are now choosing and organising their own patrol activities, one popular item being composing a song with actions reflecting Guiding values. This naturally must be rehearsed very loudly and performed before everyone else at the end of the meeting.

Omi's badge design for our neckerchiefs was voted the best and this will be made into cloth badges, in line with official Girlguiding design rules. A big thank you to Wendy Wilmott for sewing thirty neckerchiefs. These will readily identify our Unit.

We continue to work on our Guiding History badge and discussed how we would react should we be invaded and Guiding banned, as was the case under Hitler. The guides were appalled to learn that they could be arrested just for being guides, and we leaders could be shot! This is historical fact. As we are growing larger, we would like more adult help. If you are 18+, male or female, and enjoy working with 10-14 year old girls, and are free most Tuesday evenings during term time, please contact me for fuller details. Ros Abbott on 07709 639846 is awaiting your call!

Carers Support Centre Seeks Volunteer Sitters

Carers give invaluable care and support whether this is to a family member, friend or neighbour who could not manage without that support.

Regular time-out is vitally important to help them to "recharge the batteries". Could you help to make this happen?

The Carers' Support Centre is looking for volunteers to expand its Carers'

Breaks Service. This free service enables carers to have regular breaks of

2-3 hours each week or fortnight. Volunteers receive induction, training,

regular support and travel expenses and are DBS checked. Volunteers are not required to provide personal care or any hands-on help.

If you would like a rewarding role where you can make a real difference and could

spare 2-3 hours each week during the day to enable a carer to have a break, we would love to hear from you.

To express interest and obtain more information please contact Marilyn Crump on 07840 818316 or email volunteering@carerssupportcentre.org.uk



My name is Mike Pibworth, and I am leader for First Pucklechurch Beavers.

Over the past few months Pucklechurch Beavers have been actively taking on a number of challenges and activities. We went along to The Wishing Well in Codrington and put on a retro computer event, which they enjoyed and this went towards the Beavers earning their Digital Badge. The Beavers decorated Christmas trees for the church, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Over the coming months, we are opening up the Scout Hut one Sunday per month for tabletop sales to fundraise for the Beavers and equipment. We will also be offering free tea and coffee for the elderly community who can have a chance to meet people and have a chat.

Pucklechurch Beavers meet up every Thursday at the Scout Hut between 5 and 6pm. To join Beavers, children need to be aged 5 years and 9 months, up to 8 years. We do have a waiting list for those not yet old enough to join. For further information on joining, please email AllisonMoore1963@sky.com



Mike Pibworth's daughter

GARDENERS' CLUB

As I write it's the first week of February. January was such a very wet start to the new gardening year, and my poor garden was looking very waterlogged. But now, as I look outside at the beautiful frosty morning, my garden looks full of promise, and I can't wait to start planning some changes and looking for new shrubs to replace ones that haven't survived the winter.



The new club program began on Wednesday 1st Feb when we invited Andrew Jeanes back again to talk about the "The A-Z of Climbing plants" The evening was well supported, and everyone enjoyed Andrews' slide show. Jean announced the club's day trip to Hidcote Manor and Batsford Arboretum on Saturday 8th July. Members wishing to go were asked to pay full amount by the March meeting, when fellow member Martin Hall will speak to us about "A Garden for all Seasons."

The club competition of "Make a vase/bowl out of recycled garden material" was won by Dave Harris.

St Aldams Farm, Kemps Garden Centre & Elmwood Nursery offer members 10% discount on plants when membership card is presented.

Gardeners' Club Contacts: Jean Powell 01454528066 Val Seaman 01179372095

or Ann Smith 01179372030

For Club News 2023 contact Sallie Brooks: sallie61@me.com