

# GIRL GUIDING IN PUCKLECHURCH



## 1st PUCKLECHURCH GUIDES

Did you see our posters in the Scout Hut? Some have also travelled around the country courtesy of Britton's lorries. They formed part of our Campaigning Badge, now completed. The Aspirations Badge organised by Lucy, our Adult Helper, helped the girls see that many small steps can lead to big changes. I applaud their visions to stop deforestation, poaching large animals and curbing pollution.

By creating a vision board with a goal, they saw their first small steps could be a letter to the local MP, vlogs or posters. Continuing along more steps will help them achieve their eventual goals of becoming a vet or teacher, an interior designer or working in the art world. This was a very worthwhile project helping them to plan a route to make their dreams become realities.

Continuing our meetings online we played games, held quizzes, and made Fathers' Day cards. We ended the summer term with an online party, complete with mocktails and mi-

crowave cupcakes, bingo and games. A mocktail menu and sampling variations at home gained the girls their Mixology Badge.

Regarding Covid19, Girlguiding strictly adheres to advice published by the National Youth Organisation (NYA). At the time of writing, the rule of 6 does not apply to Girlguiding in England and following completion of an action plan and risk assessment individuals may gather indoors or outdoors, provided there are no more than 15 young people per group + leader/workers. The scout hut has met the necessary Covid19 requirements – all groups will need to maintain social distancing and follow the latest government guidelines. For the latest up to date information, please visit [www.nya.org.uk/](http://www.nya.org.uk/) guidance

Guides will continue but we need new adult leaders. Lucy is planning to move away, and I really ought to retire! Maybe lockdown has given you time to consider becoming involved in village activities. Why not join the largest female organisation in the world - Girlguiding. We need more girls too, aged 10-14 years. Adults and girls contact me please on 07709 639846, [rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com)

I'm waiting to hear from you. Ros Abbott, Guide Leader

## News from Emersons Green Library

Emersons Green Library is open on its usual staffed days, albeit with slightly shorter hours – Tuesday/Thursday/Friday : 10am – 4pm & Saturday mornings : 9.30am – 12.30pm.

We are able to offer two services - Click & Collect and Computer/WiFi facilities - but in September we aim to expand these services. For more details see [www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries) or [facebook.com/sgloslibraries](https://www.facebook.com/sgloslibraries) (<<http://www.facebook.com/sgloslibraries>>.)

### Click and Collect

\* Library users can order up to 6 items per person to collect at a pre-booked time of your choice

\* To book a slot and tell us what type of books/authors you would like visit [www.sglibraries.eventbrite.com](http://www.sglibraries.eventbrite.com) (<<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/south-gloucestershire-libraries-2580683208>>) OR call 01454 865022 (Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm, Saturday 9:30am – 12pm) to speak to a member of library staff.

Items can be returned to Emersons Green Library at any time. If we are open staff will take books back at the door. If we are not open they can be returned via our letterbox. In either case returned stock will be quarantined for 72 hours before being processed, so don't worry if they still show on your account for a few days after return.

To book a FREE 1 hour computer or WiFi slot email: [CorporateContactCentre@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:CorporateContactCentre@southglos.gov.uk) (<<mailto:CorporateContactCentre@southglos.gov.uk>>) with your library card number, which library you wish to attend and the date and time, please also state if you wish to use the scanner during your session OR call 01454 865022 for more information and to book your session.

### Spread the word!

You and your family can join online using the link: <https://www.librarieswest.org.uk/join> - a membership number will be generated to enable you to access to our free e Books, e audio books, e magazines, e comics and e newspapers. You can then call into Emersons Green library to upgrade your membership so you can also borrow physical items such as books, DVDs and Talking Books.

Neil Weston - Group Librarian : Downend, Emersons Green and Staple Hill libraries

### Hedges and grass cutting

PPC has contractors that are employed to maintain areas/land that are owned by the Parish – it also has a contract with SGC regarding the cutting of amenity grassed areas. We have not been happy with the quality of service that has been recently provided by SGC and so are pursuing this through the appropriate channels. We are also aware that in some areas it may be beneficial to reduce the number of cuts that are delivered so as to create areas that are populated with wildflowers as a benefit to the local amenity as well as to the natural environment. We have agreed to discuss this with SGC but no changes will be made without wider residential consultation. With regard to hedges there are regulations that preclude cutting during the nesting season, but if the overgrowth is perceived to be detrimental to public health and safety then exceptions can be made. If you have issues with overgrown hedges and footpaths/pavements these matters should be raised directly with SGC StreetCare.

### And finally...

We are more fortunate than most to live in an amazing place surrounded by open countryside which has been a fantastic amenity to us all during lockdown and easily accessible because of the myriad of Public Rights of Way that enable us all to enjoy it. Please remember, however, to respect the fact that all land belongs to someone and that you should be mindful of crops, grazing animals and other users. Please follow Government's statutory guidance with regard to the Countryside Code:

#### Respect other people

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors.
- Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways is clear.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Follow paths but give way to others where it's narrow.

#### Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit and take all your litter home.
- Don't have BBQs or fires.
- Keep dogs under effective control.
- Dog poo - bag it and bin it.

#### Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead, check what facilities are open, be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs and obey social distancing measures

Please continue to stay safe and well.

Gail Boyle

Chair, Pucklechurch Parish Council



# PUCKLECHURCH NEWS

AUTUMN 2020

FUNDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

www.pucklechurch.org

## Pucklechurch Parish Council – Chair’s Report August 2020

It’s hard to believe that we have now been coping with the Covid:19 pandemic for over 5 months but first and foremost I would like to pay my respects to all those that have suffered the consequences, however these have manifested themselves and particularly to those of you who may have lost loved ones. I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to each and every one of you that stepped up to the plate to enable those that were vulnerable, hungry or in need of friendship and a general helping hand, to the all the keyworkers, carers, and NHS staff and our own Good Neighbours, to those of you that clapped, sewed and donated, put teddies and rainbows in your windows or painted stones to make a snake, as well as those that kept our shops open and made deliveries to our doors – we are very grateful to you all.

### Parish Council Meetings

Parish Council meetings take place on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. Under normal circumstances these would usually take place at Pucklechurch Community Centre but in light of the COVID-19 situation this will not be possible until the Government removes restrictions on public meetings such as these. This means that until further notice we will continue to hold our meetings online using Zoom. Members of the public are welcome to attend using the meeting link published in the meeting agenda on our website - agendas are published by Friday morning the week before the meeting (3 clear days). All subjects that are to be discussed by PPC must be advertised on a meeting agenda as this provides people with an opportunity to know what is being discussed in advance of the meeting and to attend and to speak at the meeting to express their views.

Please be aware, however, that PPC can only discuss matters that are brought to its attention if these are made known to the Clerk by email, letter or by phone, or by raising them in person at a Full Council meeting as part of Public Participation. Similarly PPC can only pass resolutions/make decisions at a public meeting - if issues are not raised directly with the Clerk by one of the methods described above then we cannot deal with them to the best effect.

### Parish Council Website

By the time you read this PPC will have commissioned the design and delivery of a new website. The current website was audited in light of new accessibility standards and found wanting in several areas. Our website, which was built at no cost by a Councillor several years ago, cannot easily be edited to ensure that it meets the new standards required. This means that the Council took the decision to commission a site produced and supported by specialist website providers experienced in the needs of Town and Parish Councils. One consequence of this will be that our website address will change so that PPC will have an address that identifies it as a ‘.gov.uk’ organisation and similarly our Clerk’s contact email address will change, whilst Councillors will also be provided with dedicated PPC email addresses. Until we transition to the new website all contact details will remain the same (see [www.http://pucklechurchparishcouncil.weebly.com/](http://pucklechurchparishcouncil.weebly.com/)) and our old site will remain up and running but redirect to the new one after that.

### Changes to the Planning System

Some of you will be aware that the Government is consulting on proposed changes to the planning system (see <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future>).

Since our Parish Council is a statutory consultee for applications made within the parish we will be making a full and robust response to these proposals. You may also be aware that South Gloucestershire Council has begun the process of drawing up a new Local Plan, one element of which is a ‘Call for Sites’. One of the key aims of the Local Plan will be to allocate sites for the new homes,

## Hello Everyone

We’re pleased to have been able to produce another short Pucklechurch News for the autumn. We will continue to produce Pucklechurch News in some form every quarter as long as we have enough content to make it worthwhile. We’ve included a letter from Pat Brown in the village and we echo her comments about the local shops and businesses which have kept going during the pandemic. It’s also great to see the other businesses which have now been able to start trading again.

We will start to collate the December issue from 10 November 2020 so if you have any news, please don’t hesitate to share it with us for consideration. If you would like to be on the regular contributors’ reminder list, please do drop a line to [editor@pucklechurch.org](mailto:editor@pucklechurch.org), or contact Sarah Nunez on 07540 243627.

With warm wishes

Sarah Nunez and Claire Dolman, Pucklechurch News Team

Pat Brown writes; “A big thank you to our local shops: especially Mike, Catherine, Tisha and all of the girls for the Post Office, newsagents and all of the extras i.e. milk, eggs and essentials for us all. In addition: the ladies in our bakery for always being so cheerful and helpful and of course for our fabulous ‘daily bread’.”

Since our Parish Council is a statutory consultee for applications response to these proposals. You may also be aware that South Gloucestershire Council has begun the process of drawing up a new Local Plan, one element of which is a ‘Call for Sites’. One of the key aims of the Local Plan will be to allocate sites for the new homes, jobs, infrastructure, services and facilities that will be needed in South Gloucestershire – it remains to be seen how much of an effect the Government’s proposals will have on this should they be enacted as described. Nevertheless the purpose of the ‘call for sites’ is to provide an opportunity for people to identify sites they think may have the potential for development (for housing and economic purposes) through the Local Plan. SGC has drawn up a list of frequently asked questions to provide more information about what the ‘call for sites’ is, what it is not, and how it fits into the overall process of preparing the Local Plan 2020. Please be aware should you see or hear of a site added to a list of possible sites this does NOT mean it will be automatically approved for development. Find out more at [https://consultations.southglos.gov.uk/consult.ti/Call\\_for\\_sites\\_2020/consultationHome](https://consultations.southglos.gov.uk/consult.ti/Call_for_sites_2020/consultationHome).

### Parish Play Areas – reminder

Our play areas were re-opened on 4th July. We hope families and children are able to enjoy them safely and in spite of the changeable weather! Please remember to:

- Consider coming back at a later time if a play area is busy. Talk to your children about this possibility before visiting.
- Follow the current social distancing guidelines when visiting.
- Wash your hands and your children’s hands before and after visiting.
- Ensure you and your children are using hand sanitiser frequently when out and about.
- Adhere to all current Government advice.

continued overleaf

