

CRA NEWSLETTER- November 2021

AGM Special

Dear Residents,

We would like to thank the 28 households who came to the Social/AGM last week, but we were very disappointed that not more residents chose to attend. They missed the opportunity to review everything your committee has done over the last 2 years, and to hear our plans for future improvements to the environment you live in.

The Chairman opened the meeting by expressing the pride he feels in the hard work the committee put in on your behalf during the Pandemic, and in their energy and enthusiasm planning for the future. Helped by other volunteers, they have supported vulnerable neighbours, continued to maintain the road and grass areas, cleaned drains, rebuilt some of them to reduce flooding, put additional road markings at the roundabout to improve your safety, and developed Neighbourhood Watch and the CRA website.

The Treasurer, Matt Norris, showed slides to indicate resident's voluntary contributions to the funds, and showed very clearly that the progress towards resurfacing the remaining sections of road way will only be more rapid and keep abreast with inflation if the average contribution is raised. After extremely positive discussion, the meeting voted unanimously to raise the suggested annual contribution for 2022 to £100 -£120 per household. Contributions of any amount are of course welcome, but the suggested range is still only £2 per household per week and can be paid monthly or annually.

Full details of the financial review and predictions of costings can be found on the website.

There were no new nominations for committee members, and , unfortunately, committee members Brian Garvan and Laura Watson have decided to stand down because of family / work commitments and we thank them for their excellent contributions over the years. The current Committee was unanimously re-elected en-bloc for another year.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE COMMITTEE PLEASE CONTACT A COMMITTEE MEMBER.

RESURFACING / PAVEMENTS

Nobody in Chalklands could have failed to be aware of the weeks of substantial work and the final 140 metres of resurfacing to the road surface – all paid out of your CRA subscriptions – and to the new pavements and drives (all paid for by the 21 houses who joined the project). Tim Bowerman, who was heavily involved in this project, gave a review at the AGM of the proposed future plans for the next stage of the road resurfacing and the costs involved.

SWISH BROADBAND

The work in our road has clearly begun with the Swish sub-contractors ensuring that the OPENREACH piping that we have already explained is free of obstructions and ready to take the optical fibre. They have found some blockages – mainly caused by tree works or work previously done by Thames water / other utility companies - and are digging by HAND in grassed areas and clearing these. Work should be minimal and new broadband available by the end of 2021.

Those residents who had paid themselves for front drive / pavement refurbishment have reported back that they are delighted that no damage has been done to this recent work on their drives.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Geoff Pegg, Regional Director of NW, brought along some very interesting Security devices for sale. He also gave an excellent short talk on the latest scams and bogus calling that have infiltrated our busy lives

STAY SAFE, STAY WELL and thank you all for your continued support.

Copies of the AGM presentation and minutes can be found on our website www.chalklands.uk

Your Committee:

<i>Chairman:</i> Bill Leftwich	<i>Secretary:</i> Margaret Emery	<i>Treasurer:</i> Jennie/Matt Norris	
Tim Bowerman	Pam Edkins	Brian Jackson	Clark Schofield
Paul Slatter	Malcolm Blake - Website	Avril Grimshaw -	Neighbourhood Watch