



[www.churt.org](http://www.churt.org)

[parishclerk@churt.org](mailto:parishclerk@churt.org)

Tel: 07766 190201 or 01428 714375

## **Churt Parish Council Newsletter March 2023**

### **Our Council Budget 2023/24**

Our Finance sub-committee met at the end of last calendar year to set our budget for the year ahead and consider what was reasonable to set as our precept, which in turn is passed onto residents as part of our Council Tax. This was a challenging budget for us given increases in a number of the costs of the Council. Some our largest outgoings are increasing above the rate of inflation including grass cutting on the Recreation Ground, utilities at the Pavilion and waste disposal. Advice we had been given prior to our meeting was that average Parish Council increases across Surrey were likely to range from 5% to 50% and the average was expected to be 10-15%.

Conscious of the cost of living crisis, we felt it was important to limit the increase in our precept to less than 10%. To do this, we could utilize some of our reserves. We are confident that we can afford to do that having built up some reasonable reserves in recent years.

### **Emergency Plan**

Our updated Emergency Plan has now been adopted. A copy can be found on our website at [www.churt.org/churt-emergency-plan](http://www.churt.org/churt-emergency-plan). It was last year's fires on Hankley and Frensham Commons which highlighted the importance of being able to communicate with residents in the event of an emergency or major incident, and the impetus to update the plan. All Councillors hold a hard copy of the plan.

## **Churt Net Zero website**

Cllr Johnson continues to maintain the Churt Zero website including more material this month on food waste and activities at St John's School. The website has a wealth of information for residents considering how to reduce their carbon impact - do take a look. [www.churtzero.org](http://www.churtzero.org)

## **Farnborough Aircraft Noise Update**

We received an update at our March meeting of work by a group of residents in Churt to address the impact on the village of the CAA driven airspace changes at Farnborough Airport. There is a Post Implementation Review (PIR) pending to assess the impact of the airspace changes at Farnborough on the community, intended to guide revisions that may be deemed necessary.

The CAA's premise that people will be overflown less, has been questioned by many, including Waverley Borough Council. In more rural areas, including Churt, a very significant number of people are now overflown more regularly. Prior to the airspace change in the broader neighbourhood, residents may have been overflown up to 10 times per day - now in Churt it is 100 times per day with monotonous and increasing regularity in a very narrow corridor. The Parish Council has agreed a response to the PIR before the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> March including a call for noise level measurements to be undertaken alongside a review of the routing, so aircraft are more dispersed when approaching the airport. More information about these matters can be found on the [www.churtzero.org](http://www.churtzero.org) website.

## **Local Elections**

The next scheduled Borough and Parish elections will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> May. For the first time, voters are required to bring photo identification to the polling stations before they can place their vote - don't forget!

Elections mean we also need to adjust some of our activities during the pre-election period, including the Annual Assembly which was scheduled to take place on 19<sup>th</sup> April and has had to be cancelled.

Lisa Martin, Chair

[Lisa.martin@churt.org](mailto:Lisa.martin@churt.org)

The next meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Recreation Ground Trust will take place in the pavilion on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30pm. Anyone is welcome to attend.