



Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council and Community Newsletter

Issue 5 – May 2025

A message from the Chair

Parish Councillors are all local residents, who value and appreciate our Town. We come from diverse backgrounds and bring different skills and experience to the table. The golden thread, which binds us together, is our desire to work together as a team, not in isolation - but with local residents to make a difference. We have experienced some challenging times over the last few years -and, sometimes despite our hard work and commitment, the outcome is not what we wanted. However, we remain determined to improve how we reach local residents, so we can ensure people know where they can find information.

Sources of Parish Council Information

One of our key aims is to ensure that people can easily access information. To do this we need to ensure people know where to look

Newsletter

The newsletter was developed, as we wanted a new way to connect with residents and find a way to signpost them to existing information sources.

We have been expanding the readership by asking people to sign up to receive it electronically. This has been done at public events/meetings in the town and at joint surgeries in the town.

We have now added a QR code to the newsletter, so that when people find one in a shop, café, GP surgery, or one is posted through their door (we are trying to deliver to a different ward for

each issue) they can sign up to receive future issues. The code is on page:

We felt it was important to provide space, within the newsletter, where our local community can shine by showcasing the events/activities and services they provide.

The newsletter is usually only issued quarterly, so it is important you know where else to look for information and who to contact if you have a query, concern, or simply want some information.

- News

1. The Parish Council Website

This is the primary source of up-to-date information. There are a series of drop-down menus providing information on a range of topics including

- **Home Page** - here, you can find, for example, current vacancies for Councillors, or jobs within the Parish Council, local road closures and any updates on the court case.
- **Your Parish Council** – this section includes details of policies and procedures. Information on wards/councillors, information relating to the Town Hall. The dates for Parish Council meetings and also a copy of the agenda and the minutes for each meeting can be accessed here.

The other sections are:

- Living in the Parish
- Visiting the Parish
- Working in the Parish

2. Attending a Parish Council Meeting

Any local resident can come to observe the Council meeting. At the start of each meeting there is an allocated slot of ten minutes to allow the public to ask questions, raise a concern, or give feedback or praise.

Generally, issues raised in this way are answered after the meeting, so that an informed response can be given. This could be via a letter, email, or phone call from the clerk, or assistant clerk.

Please be aware, at Parish Council meetings, there is usually a section, where the public are asked to leave, whilst a confidential matter is discussed, for example, this could relate to a personnel issue, but they can return once any confidential items have been discussed



3.

4. Contacting a Councillor directly

Residents can make direct contact with their local councillor to ask a question, or raise a concern. The Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish covers Chapel East, Chapel West, Dove Holes and Martinside and Combs and Whitehough a map of the Parish is shown below.

Each ward is served by two or more Councillors. A full list of the councillors, along with their email address is given below:

Chapel East Ward

Councillor Jason Adshead – cllrjadshead@chapelpc.org

Councillor Jim Perkins – cllrjperkins@chapelpc.org

Councillor Andrew Foreshow-Cain - cllraforeshaw-cain@chapelpc.org

Chapel West Ward

Councillor Chris Williams – cllrcwilliams@chapelpc.org

Councillor Stewart Young – cllrsyoung@chapelpc.org

Cllr Tom Gouldburn – cllrtgouldburn@chapelpc.org

Cllr Tony Gilfillan -cllragilfillan@chapelpc.org

Combs and Whitehough Ward

Councillor Mike Chantler – cllrmchantler@chapelpc.org

Councillor Tony Dales – cllrtdales@chapelpc.org

Dove Holes and Martinside Ward

Councillor Melissa Drabble – cllrdrabble@doveholesvillage.co.uk

Councillor Mark Drabble – cllrmdrabble@doveholevillages.co.uk

5. Contacting the Clerk, or assistant Clerk with a query

Residents can also contact the Clerk, or Assistant Clerk to seek information. Details of the Parish Council Office hours and contact information are given below.

- **Monday – closed**
- **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays**

The office is closed to the public but people can ring the Town Hall on: 01298 – 813320 between 9.00am to 2.00pm or, email the Clerk – Gill Turner – clerk@chapelpc.org or, the Assistant Clerk – Emma Howe email: astclerk@chapelpc.org

- **Thursday mornings**

The office is open between 9.00am to 2.00pm for people to drop in.

Would you like to be a Parish Councillor?

Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council invites applications to fill two current Councillor Vacancies, which we intend to fill by co-option.

Applicants are asked to give an outline of why they wish to be considered for

co-option to the Council and what they would be looking to achieve in their role as a Councillor.

Please write to the Clerk of the Council at clerk@chapelpc.org



Parish Council Meetings

The Council generally meets monthly on a Tuesday evening, usually at the Town Hall – details are on the meetings calendar on our website: <https://chapelpc.org>.

Residents are welcome to attend as observers, and to raise brief points at the start of each meeting.

Before attending - Please check the website – using the link above, as occasionally meeting dates change



Local Government Responsibilities

There are three tiers of local Government, each with different responsibilities - not sure who to contact about an issue? Hopefully, this overview may be useful.

County Councils

Are responsible for services across the whole of a county, like:

- education
- transport
- fire and public safety
- social care
- libraries
- waste management
- trading standards
- highways/pavements
- household waste recycling centres

For more information and to report issues to Derbyshire County Council: you can contact Call Derbyshire Tel: 01629 533190 or by texting 86555.

Borough councils

Cover a smaller area than county councils. They're usually responsible for services like:

- rubbish collection
- council Tax collections
- housing
- planning applications
- street cleaning and parking

For more information and to report issues to High Peak Borough Council, contact:

Tel: 0345 129 7777 or 01298 28400

Parish councils

Operate at a level below county and borough councils. They can help on a number of local issues, like providing:

- allotments
- Town Hall
- play areas and play equipment
- grants to help local organisations
- consultation on neighbourhood planning

For more information and to report issues to Chapel en le Frith Parish Council, contact: Tel: 01298 813320



Spotlight on.....

In each issue we are planning to showcase an individual member of staff, councillor, project, or team within the Parish Council.

Our Parks and Open Space Maintenance Team

This time we are focussing on the team, which keep our parks in great condition. The team is made up of - Phil Brown, Park Manager, who is full time and supported by a part time keeper, Dave Johnson. In the spring/summer, which are the busiest seasons of the year, the year-round team of two is usually supplemented by an additional part time keeper – this year, the team have been joined two days a week by Neil Fridlington.

The responsibilities of the team include, maintaining a clean environment, undertaking horticultural tasks, for example, planting, weeding, deadheading and watering plants, mowing and maintaining lawn and greenspace areas, carrying out visual inspections of park equipment/machinery and ensuring any defects identified are dealt with by the team, for more complex repairs are reported to a the Norse Alliance maintenance team.



L-R Dave, Phil and Neil

The team have a range of skills and experience, which ensure our parks meet the needs of people and just, as importantly, those of the wild life, flora fauna, insects, birds and wild animals that reside in our park.

For example, there are strict rules around when hedgerows can be trimmed, as they can be home to nesting birds. Typically, this means our hedgerows are not cut between March-September. The team follow other nature friendly initiatives, for example, No Mow May, so that the best environment for flowers and plants is created, using flowers which are known to be attractive to bees and butterflies to support pollination.

The Memorial Park in the centre of Chapel is the largest Park, in the parish. The other parks are located at:

- Needham's recreation ground is on Ashbourne Lane, Chapel
- Sparrowpit has a park located adjacent to the Olive Tree Café
- Combs Village Park is next to the village primary school
- Dove Holes Park is sited next to the Mountain Rescue Centre

The role of the team is wider than that of supporting the grounds of the 5 parks located within the Parish. They also have responsibility for flower tubs located in the towns, they maintain the lawn for the bowling club, clean the paving in the market place twice a year, paint and repair benches around the town, maintain town notice boards and carry out some low level general maintenance.

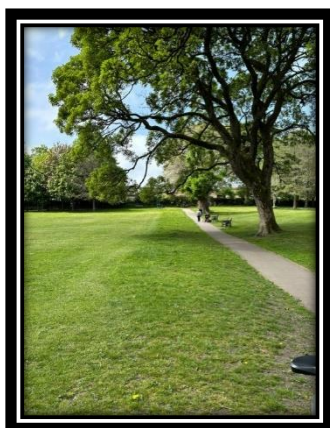
We have had a lot of good feedback recently about the quality of the maintenance of the parks from people from people calling in to the Parish Council Office, giving direct feedback to councillors, or the park team. Comments have included, 'the park is always green, full of lovely planting and is always well maintained.', 'we spoke to the park keeper, as they were laying bark chippings around the new wooden climbing equipment to say how glad we were to see this, as it will allow the area to be used even in wetter months', 'the park always well kept, with lots of benches to sit and relax.', 'the park is not very big, but it is always tidy and has shaded areas, so it's a nice place to take little ones.'

We would like to formalise this process and find a way for people to provide regular feedback on our greenspaces.

When using the parks please be respectful to others, dispose of any litter and clear up after your dog, thank you



No Mow May and a Nature Strip at the Memorial Park



As spring comes to Chapel this year those who use the Memorial Park will notice that an area of the park, inside the perimeter path is not being mowed. This isn't because the Park keeper has forgotten to do so.

No Mow May is a national movement encouraging people to delay starting mowing their lawns to enable spring flowers to grow, flower and set seed. More Information can be found here:

(<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/>)

Approximately 97% of flower-rich meadows have been lost since the 1930s, and with them, vital food and habitat needed by wildlife.

But we can help tackle this decline and an area of lawn with some longer grass and wildflowers helps to tackle pollution, benefits wildlife and can even lock away carbon below the ground. Even the smallest grassy patches can add up and deliver enormous gains for nature, people and the climate.

No Mow May is the perfect starting point for summer and leaving a mix of grass lengths in your lawn from #NoMowMay and beyond means you're giving nature the boost it deserves.

As a Council we will be doing rather more and will also be supporting Let it Bloom June and beyond. The nature strip will remain in place throughout the summer and be cut in the autumn.

You may have to forgive its straggly looks towards the end of the summer, but by doing so you'll know that it will be full of insects, butterfly and moth larvae and offer a refuge and a home to many hard pressed insects and animals – including Chapel's thriving hedgehog community that live in and around our wonderful park.

Allotments in Chapel Parish

Chapel Parish is fortunate to have three allotment areas – in Dove Holes off Meadow Lane, at the Leys (just off the Sheffield Road) and round the back of Ferodo on Church Lane (The Courses).

An allotment is more than just a patch of land for growing vegetables and flowers—it provides numerous benefits for physical health, mental well-being, and the environment. Whether you are a seasoned gardener or a beginner, cultivating an allotment can be a rewarding and life-enhancing experience.

One of the most obvious advantages of having an allotment is access to fresh, homegrown produce. Unlike supermarket fruits and vegetables, which may be treated with chemicals or stored for extended periods, allotment-grown food is organic, seasonal, and

So, we ask you – try not to run through the nature strip or let your dog's foul in it. Admire it and look out for the flowers that will come. Local gardeners who have done the same have seen common spotted orchids, Tway Blade Orchids and much more come up as if by magic. Nature is amazing and giving her a helping hand is good for all of us.



Thank you

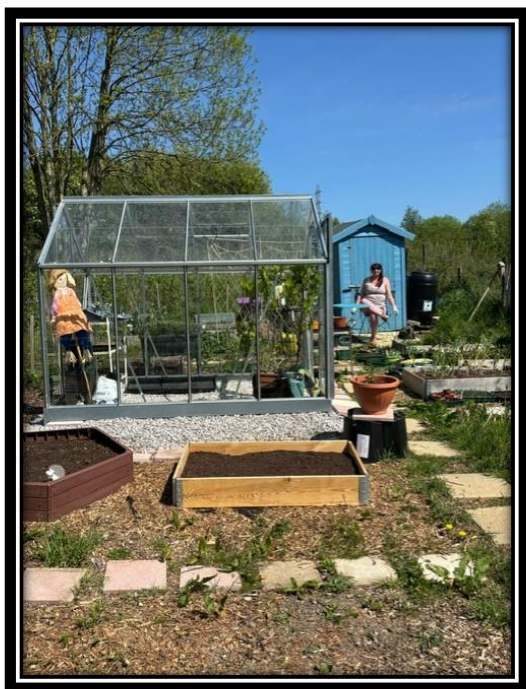
rich in nutrients. Growing your own produce also allows you to experiment with a variety of crops, including heritage vegetables that are often unavailable in stores.

Gardening is also an excellent form of exercise that involves a range of physical activities, such as digging, planting, weeding, and harvesting. These activities help improve flexibility, strength, and stamina. Regular gardening can contribute to better cardiovascular health, reduced risk of obesity, and lower blood pressure. The exposure to fresh air and sunshine (and the inevitable rain of the High Peaks!) also boosts vitamin D levels, which is essential for bone health and immune function.

And as we all know spending time in nature is a great way to reduce stress, anxiety, and lift our mood. The act of

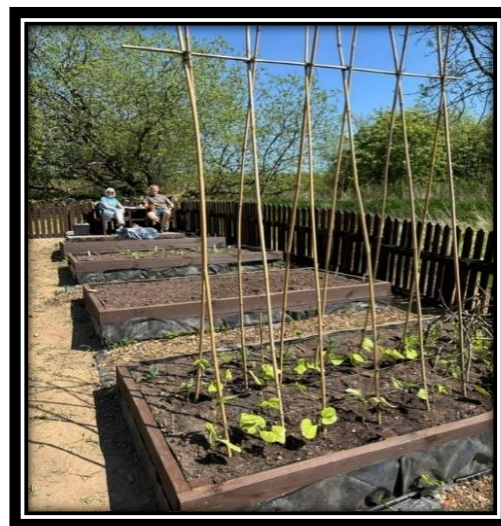
tending to plants and watching them grow fosters a sense of achievement and purpose. The peaceful work of an allotment can provide a much-needed escape from the pressures of modern life.

And of course, allotments are a great place to meet your neighbours, usually people you would not otherwise see. There is always a great sense of camaraderie, sharing ideas, seeds, plants and the inevitable chats about the weather. And if you have kids then getting them to help is a great way to. There is a waiting list, but allotments do come up regularly. Whether you have a green thumb or are just starting, embracing allotment gardening can lead to a healthier, happier, and more connected way of life.



teach them about the environment and to get them away from those blasted screens and into the sunshine.

If you're interested in an allotment in Chapel (you have to be resident in the Parish to qualify) then contact the Town Hall on 01298 813320 or Email: astclerk@chapelpc.org



Above - Mr and Mrs Shepherd, enjoying lunch in the sun at their beautiful plot, on Leys Allotment They have this since September 2024 and said 'they are delighted to have taken possession of a plot and are working hard to develop it.'

Left – Kathryn Burrows – taking a break in the sunshine, between planting on her Leys allotment plot

Consultation Regarding Use Of Our Parks

We are always keen to hear your views. Over the next few months, we will be carrying out a consultation about how people use/would like to use our park and recreational areas. So, that we can ensure any future development of recreational spaces within the Parish reflects the views of Chapel residents. This supports the Councils wider aim of ensuring a more inclusive approach to Council business.

Parks are so much more than the equipment they contain; they provide valuable greenspaces which people of all ages can enjoy. They are also important spaces for our local wildlife and allow us to increase our biodiversity.

We will be carrying out the consultation using a variety of different methods including face to face, so we can capture the views of the wider community.

More details about how to share your views will be made available on our website.

Electronic mailing-list for this newsletter

We are developing an email mailing-list for this newsletter. So, we would be grateful if, as many readers as possible, would send a short message to clerk@chapelpc.org giving your consent for your e-address to be added to the mailing-list.

The Parish Council, like all local government bodies, is legally bound by data-protection rules which forbid us to use your data for other than the purpose we have stated, and we

certainly won't. Many thanks for your help!

Community Directory

We are very lucky in Chapel to have a number of local organisations who operate within our community offering practical and emotional support, or somewhere to meet new people, gain a new skill and have fun. . These include: Tea and Chat, Blythe House, Little Cherubs, Boys and Girls Brigade, Chapel en le Frith Methodist Church, the WI, Chapel Ladies and Mens Choirs, the Mustard Seed Café, along with charity shops, which support local charities including The GEM Foundation (Stage 4 Deserves More)

All of these organisations require your support either with donations, or volunteering. Or, they may be able to provide you with support, advice, or a place of friendship. In partnership with Cllr Depee (HPBC), as part of our drive to improve access to community information, we want to develop a local directory, which puts in one place all the local non-profit community, voluntary and fun/learning organisations.

If you would like to be included in the directory please contact:

Emma Howe, Chapel Parish Council on:

Email: astclerk@chapelpc.org

Community

News

800th anniversary of Chapel-en-le-Frith & St Thomas Becket Church

This year, along with the town of Chapel-en-le-Frith, St Thomas Becket Church will celebrate our 800th anniversary.

The church was built in 1225AD by the foresters who lived in this part of the Royal Forest of the Peak, to save them having to go over to the parish church in Hope for services. It was consecrated a year later by the Bishop of Lichfield. The town was named for the church – Chapel-en-le Frith literally means the church in the forest – and dates itself from this time too.

In 1925 the 700th anniversary was celebrated with much enthusiasm, and some of you may remember the 750th anniversary 50 years ago. We hope that this year we will be able to celebrate our octocentenary just as well.

We are planning a number of events throughout the year, and in the summer, there will be a two-week festival starting with the Chapel Carnival on Saturday 21st June and running through to a Festival Service at St Thomas Becket Church on Sunday 6th July. Throughout the festival the church will be open for visitors and there will be concerts, tower tours, a ringing day, a fair in the Marketplace, a churchyard trail, a teddy bear's picnic, historical talks and exhibitions, and lots of other things to join in with across the town. The first way to get involved is a logo competition so look out for that.

We hope that you are as excited about this as we are! Please keep an eye on social media for information, and together we can make this an anniversary year to remember.

The planning group is convened by St Thomas Becket Church and comprises representatives from many of Chapel's community groups, schools and local councillors.

Thank you,

The Chapel-en-le-Frith 800th Anniversary planning group



If you would like more information or would like to be involved, please contact us on:
chapel800th@gmail.com or visit our dedicated Facebook page at 800th anniversary Chapel en le Frith or our Instagram @chapel800th.



We are holding an event to celebrate 800 years of St Thomas Becket Church and Chapel en le Frith Town.

A fun day for all the family with live music, food and traditional fairground stalls, tombola and raffle

Saturday 28th June, 2025

Chapel Market Place

12.30 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.

Everyone Welcome

The event is being organised by the Bonfire Committee Team on behalf of the Chapel-en-le-Frith 800th Anniversary planning group



**OUR NEXT REPAIR CAFES ARE AT 09:30 - 12:00,
THE SECOND SATURDAY IN THE MONTH:**

8th March

12th April

10th May

14th June

12th July

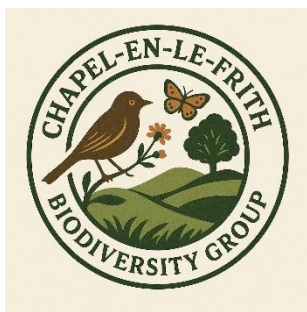
9th August

Find us:

**89 Market Street, Chapel, SK23 0JD
(opposite Carpet Creations)**

Contact us:

**chapelrepaircafe@gmail.com
01298 815 335 (Kath)**



CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH BIODIVERSITY GROUP

As part of our parish's 800th anniversary celebrations, we are launching a nature drawing competition for creative kids, kindly sponsored by Bluebird's Nest, 27b Market Street.

Can you help us create a beautiful window display at Bluebirds?

We are looking for budding artists to create a picture of a colourful butterfly, bugs, busy bees and insects that you may have spotted whilst out walking.

You can make your creations as colourful as you like.

Please do drop your creations off at Bluebirds Nest before the 18th June with the child's name and contact details on the reverse of the artwork.

Winners will be announced on 23rd June.

We can't wait to see your drawings!

PRIZES



FREE NATURE BASED FUN SESSION

SUNDAY 6th JULY 2025 from 2pm – 4pm

Chapel-en-le-Frith Biodiversity Group will be holding a nature based fun session for children in the War Memorial Park, Rowton Grange Road, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

This is a free fun filled session which will include a bug hunt, rock painting and tree drawing.

Please drop by and see us! Little treats to take away at the end.

For more information regarding the group and our work please visit our website – www.chapelbiodiversity.blogspot.com

Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council and Community Newsletter

Once you have read the newsletter please give to a neighbour, family member, friend, or take it along to a group that you belong to, so that we can increase the number of people who can access it.

**To receive a copy by email please scan the
QR code below**

Step 1 – scan the code below this will take you to the home page, scroll down to the bottom of the home page and look for the green and link tree icon



Step 2 – click on the Linktree icon (pictured right)

Step 3 - scroll down the options and click on subscribe to the newsletter and the next issue will be sent to you by email