Hill Chorlton Community News

Connecting the communities in Hill Chorlton, Woodside, Sandy Lane, Chorlton Moss, Kennels Lane, Mill Lane and Lakeside

April 2021

REPAIRS TO CHORLTON MOSS FOOTPATH

The many residents of Chorlton and Whitmore parishes who use the Chorlton Moss footpath (aka Chapel and Hill Chorlton Footpath No. 1) have been greatly inconvenienced by flooding during the past very wet winter. Large muddy patches developed and detours around the flooded areas increased the mud and caused severe erosion of the verges.

On a fine afternoon in March a group of volunteers from Hill Chorlton and Lakeside laid two tons of crushed limestone along the worst-affected parts of the path and on the short path that runs behind the houses on Pasture Close. Our thanks to Don Law who donated the stone. A further ton of stone has been donated by Slaters, which we will be laying in due course.

SPRING IN HILL CHORLTON

The new planting of daffodil bulbs on the inner verge at the Chapel Bend is making a very pleasing show this spring. The crocuses on the outer verge also flowered well in February and March. The established daffodil plantings along the A51 between Kennels Lane and Sandy Lane are also making a good spring show.

The interim parish council has recently purchased a new flower tub which has been placed on the inner verge at the Chapel Bend and will be planted up in due course.

REPAIR AND RESTORATION OF CHESHIRE RAILINGS

The Cheshire Railings at the junction of the A51 and Moss Lane in Hill Chorlton are a distinctive feature of the hamlet and make an important contribution to its character.

The railings were badly damaged by contractors working for Severn Trent during the past two years and we are pleased to say that at long last they have been repaired. It is unfortunate that the profile of the replacement posts does not match that of the originals, but at least the railings have been repaired and we must be grateful for that.

With kind permission from the farmer, Mr Harry Butters, we have now trimmed back the hedge where it was growing through the railings and obscuring them. Now, with the better weather conditions of the spring and summer months, we will complete the restoration work by cleaning up the railings and giving them a fresh coat of paint.

The railings before and after repair

FLOODING IN SANDY LANE

The deep flooding at the northern end of Sandy Lane has continued throughout the winter, causing road safety problems and a great deal of inconvenience to all users, especially anyone wanting to get around on foot. Minutes of the interim parish council show that the matter came up at a recent meeting. It was suggested that people should report the flooding to county highways whenever it occurs. Does anyone have any better ideas?

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

Thirty residents of Hill Chorlton, Woodside and Sandy Lane requested an election to fill six casual vacancies on the parish council. After the close of nominations on 8 April the borough council announced the uncontested election of: Tom Davies, Mark Humphries, Richard Montague, Richard Oppenheimer. They take office immediately.

THE LETTERBOX

The interim parish council made a complaint to Royal Mail in February. Royal Mail is now investigating and says that replacement could take up to **25 weeks**. A resident who made a complaint in September 2020 was told that a work order for a replacement had been issued and it would take up to 12 weeks. Please continue to watch this space.

HILL CHORLTON SPEED WATCH

With the gradual easing of the latest lockdown we hope that Community Speed Watch activities will soon be permitted to resume. New volunteers for the Speed Watch will be warmly welcomed – please contact the coordinator Richard Oppenheimer or the deputy coordinator Sue Montague.

HIGH SPEED 2 (HS2)

HS2 contractors are already starting work in Whitmore parish. Although the railway will not pass through Chorlton parish there will be a variety of inevitable impacts on the parish and its residents. These will include growing pressure on the amenities of Chorlton parish – for example, public rights of way – as similar amenities in Whitmore parish become increasingly inaccessible to Whitmore parish residents. If you have any questions or observations regarding the expected impacts of the HS2 project we would be interested to hear from you. Please use the "Contact Us" link on the website **www.hillchorlton.co.uk**.