

Challow News

February 2022

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



HM Queen Elizabeth II

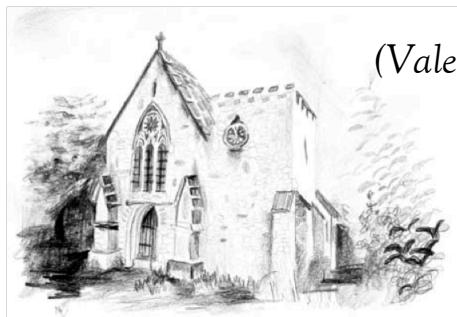
6th February 1952 - 6th February 2022

70 years

~ Platinum Jubilee ~

St. Nicholas Church, East Challow.

OX12 9SH



(Vale Benefice)

Parish Eucharist

Sundays: 11.00am

Family Service

Temporarily Suspended

~~2nd Sunday 9.30am (Monthly)~~

Weekday Eucharist

Thursdays 10am

Vicar: Rev John Durant

The Vicarage, Main Street, Grove. OX12 7LQ

01235 766484

Email: vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar: Rev Alec Gill

07739 563894

Email: vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

Curate: Rev Chris Ashton

Email: curatechris@valebenefice.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Sue Powditch

Email: llm@valebenefice.org.uk

Benefice Office: Grove Parish Church, Main Street, Grove. OX12 7LQ

Open: Mon - Fri 10.00 - 12.00

Tel: 01235 771479

Email: office@valebenefice.org.uk

Churchwardens

Mrs Ruth Pepler: 01235 762197

Mrs Liz Belcher: 01235 763966

Pastoral Support

To help our Vicars Revd John Durant and Revd Alec Gill in the pastoral support of the village, Liz Belcher will be acting as the local contact within the village for those who are in need of a home visit, home communion or other support that we as a church may be able to provide.

If we can help, please contact Liz on 01235 763966

VICAR'S LETTER - A PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Dear Friends

I dropped our youngest son off at Sandhurst to begin his commissioning course as an officer in the British Army at the beginning of January and it brought back many memories for me and how the Lord has guided and provided for us over the years.

I also learned that a friend who served with me in Afghanistan and at Pirbright is now the Senior Chaplain at Sandhurst and one of those who joined the army with me in 2000 is soon to be the Chaplain-General (*we always said he would !*).

In my mind that links to the generous gift of God's grace; for the verse I want to encourage us to consider this year is 2 Peter 2 v 18

***But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever!
Amen***

Grace for a Christian has a very wide range of possible gifts but effectively means God giving us what is best for us.

As we have started in this year of 2022 the one thing we can be certain of is that there will be more challenges, disruptions, frustrations and difficulties adjusting to life with Covid- 19. Which also gives us the opportunity to receive God's grace to cope and to grow in our faith and love.

May God's grace enrich your life in 2022

John

CHALLOW & CHILDREY



CRICKET CLUB

OUR WINTER OFFERING

Bar opening times through the Winter and Spring will generally be

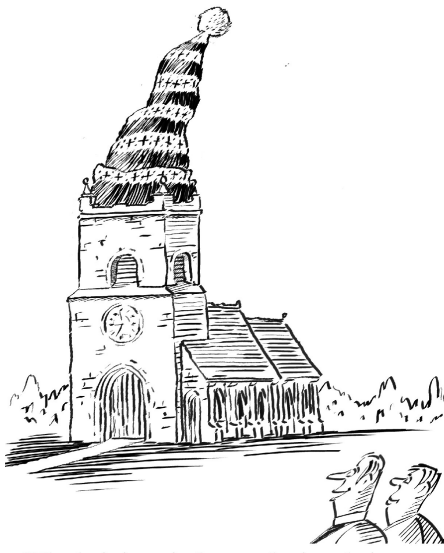
Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	CLOSED
Wednesday	4pm – 7pm
Thursday	4pm – 7pm (10pm when Darts match is on)
Friday	4pm – 9pm
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	11am – 3pm

The clubhouse is available to hire for a range of events through the 'close season' either during the day or in the evening, and makes a superb setting for your birthday, anniversary, christening or wake.

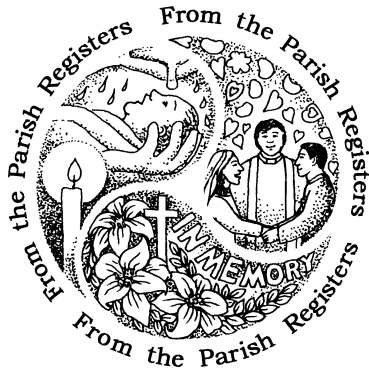
Please contact us to discuss your function requirements, we will always look to do whatever we can to make your event a success.

Remember that everyone is welcome at Challow, membership is not required to enjoy the facilities (although it does mean we can keep you up to date with news and events at the Club)

www.challowcricket.co.uk
admin@challowcricket.co.uk
01235 763335



"The knitting circle are playing their part in our heating efficiency programme."



Baptism

Jasper Culverwell

All Information / details are held as Public Records within the Vale Benefice

- NEWS FROM THE PEWS -

2021 has gone and February is here and I am just about getting used to writing 2022, it takes a while.

Christmas is over and I am delighted to report that all our services had a good attendance it was lovely to be able to welcome people on such joyous occasions.

We were also able to donate £164.90p to the Children's Society which was heartwarming

So thank you.

I am pleased to report that the statue of Saint Nicholas which had suffered some damage has now been repaired thanks to a very kind and talented man Geoff Lawson, and is now back in Church and has been rededicated. I must admit that I for one missed seeing him.

The Community Book Swap is going really well, it has been going for six months very successfully and a well deserved thank you to Sue Terry for organising and monitoring it.

It is very good news indeed that we now have Scouting back in the village for the young people 6 – 10 year old's, meet at 5.30pm on a Tuesday in the Village Hall. Numbers are rising so well done to the two Emma's for enabling this.

It's so good to hear that the village has a thriving community spirit despite the difficulties of the last two years.

Hopefully we will have the Park Footpath restored to us by the end of February which will make life easier for many of us. It has been closed for such a long time and is in a sad need of restoration. It will be a very different view from when it was last used.

While the Churchyard was being mown it was noted that dog poop was evident in the area, which isn't nice, so please keep an eye on your dog and clean up after if necessary.

Lets hope that 2022 sees a control on covid and we can resume life properly and safely.

Keep happy and healthy and please take care of yourselves and each other.

Liz

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Tree of Hope

A colourful illuminated Tree of Hope has been put up in the front garden of a house in Warmans Close, Wantage.

It is dedicated to all our residents who are fighting Cancer

If you have a spare knitted Christmas Angel, would you consider adding it to the tree.

Please help get the tree covered in Angels and at the same time help raise some much needed funds for Sobell House.

If there is no one at home when you call,

Please post your Angels and a Donation in the Post Box next to the front door

Please support us if you can.

Thank you

St. Nicholas - Service Information

DATE	READER	READINGS
February 6th 4th Sunday before Lent Green	Alan OR Ruth	Isaiah 6: 1-8 * 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11
February 13th 3rd Sunday before Lent Green	Peter	Jeremiah 30: 1-3 + 10-22 * 1 Corinthians 15: 12-20
February 20th 2nd Sunday before Lent Green	Jenny or Jeff	Genesis 2: 4b-9 + 15-End * Revelation 4
February 27th Sunday before Lent	Graham	Exodus 34: 29-End * 2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4: 2

Date	Sacristan	Sidesperson	Organist	Cleaning
06-Feb	Philip	Frances & Nigel	Ruth	Liz & Linda
13-Feb	Mary	Peter & Linda	Ruth	
20-Feb	Jenny	Jeff & Liz	Graham	Mandy
27-Feb	Nigel	Tricia & Sue	Graham	

Date	Intercessions	Flowers	Thursday	Sacristan
06-Feb	Philip	Heather	03-Feb	Mary
13-Feb	Mary	Mary	10-Feb	Jenny
20-Feb	Jenny or Jeff	Jenny	17-Feb	Juliet
27-Feb	Juliet	Mandy	24-Feb	Mandy
			03-Mar	Mary

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TOPICAL TALK

2nd Feb: Candlemas, The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2nd February. This is exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself.

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present Him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

So, where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas.

The story of how Candlemas began can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West. But in medieval times, the Nunc Dimittis was mostly used just on this day, during the distribution of candles before the Eucharist. Only gradually did it win a place in the daily prayer life of the Church.

Beware bird flu this winter

If you are feeding the birds, please make sure that you keep their feeders very clean this winter. The UK is facing its worst ever outbreak of avian flu, and already there have been more than 40 cases around the country. The disease is thought to have been spread by migratory wild birds from Russia and Eastern Europe.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said: “Everyone should take care to maintain good hygiene when feeding garden birds, regularly cleaning feeders outside with mild disinfectant, removing old bird food, spacing out feeders as much as possible and washing your hands.”

Humans can catch the disease by touching infected birds or their droppings. So, the advice is to NOT approach any dead or dying birds, and to wash your hands every time you touch anything to do with your bird table.

Fortunately, avian flu mainly affects larger species than our much-loved garden birds.

Christine Middlemiss, Britain’s chief vet, recently told the BBC that the disease was at a ‘phenomenal level’ in the UK, which in turn has ‘huge human, animal and trade implications’. And meanwhile, the migratory period for birds does not end until March.

You and Chris Witty

Prof Chris Witty, England’s Chief Medical Officer, wants you to use the stairs more.

At the recent Confederation of British Industry’s annual conference, he told employers that they should tell their staff to take the stairs because it could mean the difference between entering old age ‘healthy or not’.

He said: “in the medium to longer term, a lot of it is about trying to make sure people can be as active as possible. And in doing small things that help, for example, ...take the stairs rather than the lift, can really help. It sounds trivial, but day in, day out over an entire work lifetime, it can be absolutely the difference between someone entering older age healthy or not healthy.”

What a tree can do for you

Trees can help prevent you getting depressed. At least, you are less likely to be on antidepressants if you live on a tree-lined street.

That is the finding of a survey by the Forestry Commission, which looked for the first time at the mental health value of our forests and woodlands. Apparently, they save the NHS something like £185million in antidepressants each year.

A spokesman at Mind, the mental health charity, said: “Although many of us feel like hibernating in winter, getting outside in green spaces and making the most of the little daylight we get can really benefit both your physical and mental health.”

Why you should do housework

Now here is a great reason to do some housework: older people who regularly do household chores have better memory and attention spans than those who avoid domestic duties.

Not only that, but housework is linked to superior leg strength in people over 65. That means their risk of a fall is reduced.

The study, published in *BMJ Open*, found that a combination of light housework, such as washing up, dusting, making the bed, hanging out laundry, ironing and cooking – and heavy housework, such as window cleaning, changing bedding, vacuuming, washing the floor, and chores involving sawing, repairing or painting, “was associated with higher cognitive function” among older people, who showed up to 14 per cent higher attention span scores than older people who did not do housework.



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CHALLOW NEWS**

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nigel.langford@me.com

27th Feb: George Herbert - Vicar and Poet

On this day the Church Calendar celebrates George Herbert. For those who are muttering 'never heard of him', just think of the hymn 'Let all the world/ In every corner sing', which he wrote, along with several other hymns which are still popular, even if they are well over 300 years old. In the course of his short life he was a graduate of Cambridge University, a favoured politician of King James, a distinguished poet of the so-called 'metaphysical' school, and a much-loved parish priest at Bemerton, in Wiltshire.

He was born in Wales but grew up in a wealthy family in England. As a student he felt called to ordination, but when he had graduated, he was drawn instead into the government of the time. As a protégé of King James (yes, the one of the 'King James Bible') he could have pursued a career in government, but that youthful call persisted and after a while he turned instead to the ministry of the Church of England. It was an era when many clergy were absentee incumbents, paying someone else to do the parish work while they lived elsewhere, but Herbert set himself to be a true parish priest, noted for his pastoral care and practical support of his parishioners. The whole of his ministry was fulfilled in that one parish, until he died at 39 from what we would now call tuberculosis.

It is of course his hymns for which he is chiefly remembered today, though his Collected Poems are also regarded as jewels of English poetry.

Christians in England and Wales now less than 51 per cent

The number of Christians in England and Wales has fallen to 51 per cent of the population, from the 59 per cent recorded in the 2011 Census.

The latest figures from the Office for National Statistics have revealed just over half the population in England and Wales described their religion as Christian in 2019.

This coincides with an increase in the number of those not adhering to any religion, which has grown from 32.3 per cent in 2011 to 38.4 per cent now.

Of those with no religion, 53 per cent are aged between 20 to 29-year-olds followed by those aged between 30 to 39-year-olds with 46 per cent.

Young adults are therefore the smallest proportion of Christians, with only 35 per cent of 20 to 29-year-olds adhering to Christianity as their religion.

This compared to 60 per cent of 60 to 69-year-olds, 74 per cent of 70 to 79-year-olds, and 81 per cent of those aged 80 and over.

Although the results of the 2021 Census are due to be published, the Office for National Statistics has revealed data showing that "no religion" was the second most common response in 2019.

Reacting to the figures, Dave Male, the Church of England's director of evangelism and discipleship told the Telegraph: "It's encouraging that in an age where people are less likely to [class] themselves as 'Christian', more than half the population still do.

"We know from research that there is a willingness among younger generations to engage with faith and, for people of all ages, the need for meaning and answers in life hasn't stopped."



In 2022, Her Majesty The Queen will become the first
British Monarch to celebrate a
Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service

The May Bank Holiday Weekend will be moved to
Thursday 2nd June - Sunday 4th June
creating an extended four-day weekend to celebrate
Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Information and details required for hosting local events

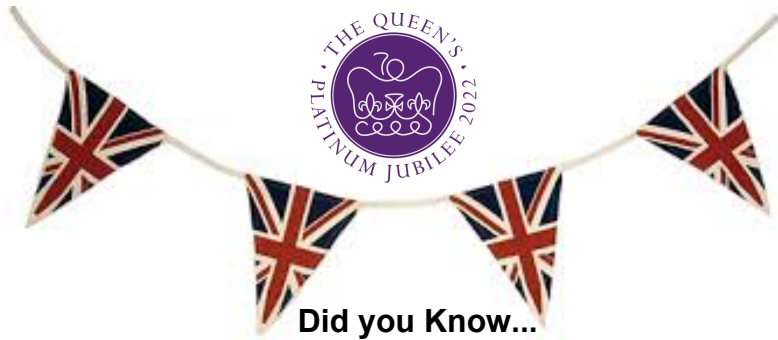
eg.

Street Parties ~ The Big Lunch ~ Beacon Lighting
~ Plant a Tree for the Jubilee ~

are available at

www.platinumjubilee.gov





Did you Know...

Westminster Abbey has been the setting for every Coronation since 1066. Before the Abbey was built, Coronations were carried out wherever was convenient, taking place in Bath, Oxford and Canterbury.

Queen Elizabeth II was crowned on 2 June, 1953 in Westminster Abbey. Her Majesty was the thirty-ninth Sovereign to be crowned at Westminster Abbey.

The Queen succeeded to the Throne on the 6 February, 1952 on the death of her father, King George VI. She was in Kenya at the time and became the first Sovereign in over 200 years to accede while abroad.

On her way to the Coronation, Her Majesty wore the George IV State Diadem - the crown depicted on stamps. Made in 1820, the Diadem features roses, shamrocks and thistles with 1,333 diamonds and 169 pearls.



The Archbishop of Canterbury conducted the service, a duty which has been undertaken since the Conquest in 1066. For the first time in 1953, a representative of another Church, the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, also took part.

The Coronation service fell into six parts: the recognition, the oath, the anointing, the investiture (which includes the crowning), the enthronement and the homage.

The Queen was crowned in St Edward's Chair, made in 1300 for Edward I and used at every Coronation since that time. It is permanently kept in Westminster Abbey.

The St. Edward's Crown, made in 1661, was placed on the head of The Queen during the Coronation service. It weighs 4 pounds and 12 ounces and is made of solid gold.

After the crown, the orb, also made in 1661, was the most important piece of regalia. It is a globe of gold surrounded by a cross girdled by a band of diamonds, emeralds, rubies, sapphire and pearls with a large amethyst at the summit.

The Coronation ring, known as 'The Wedding Ring of England' was placed on The Queen's fourth finger of her right hand in accordance with tradition. Made for the Coronation of King William IV in 1831, the ring has been worn at every coronation since then.

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All entries for the March Issue of the Challow News

Must be submitted by

15th February 2022

Email: nigel.langford@me.com

St. Nicholas Church

200 Club - Monthly Draw

December Results

£100 - N° 123 - Gill Moss

£50 - N° 10 - Mr & Mrs Davidson

£20 - N° 91 - Hilary Trimble

£10 - N° 80 - Henry Penfold

January Results

£50 - N° 30 - Mrs H Trimble

£20 - N° 170 - Mrs Y Ford

£10 - N° 19 - Mrs A Collie

Would you like to join?

For further information please contact

Tricia Shand - 01235 764222

email - the.shandies@btinternet.com



"We're looking for something to
help us survive our church's
early morning Winter services"

King Alfred Patchwork and Quilters Group

East Challow

We have all the procedures and protocols in place and in line with the latest government guidelines.

Programme for February 2022

2nd February - Quilters Dream - Talk & Trade Stall
East Challow Village Hall 7pm

16th February - Sewing Morning
Challow & Childrey Cricket Club 10am -2pm

Visitors and New Members are always welcome. You do not have to be a member to come along to one of our evening talks and demonstrations, but we are sure once you have seen some of the lovely handmade items and been inspired you might want to join us to have a go.

However, our sewing mornings are for members, if you would like to join our morning group then please pop along and speak to one of our committee members either on an evening meeting or a daytime one, or you can contact us on one of the numbers below.

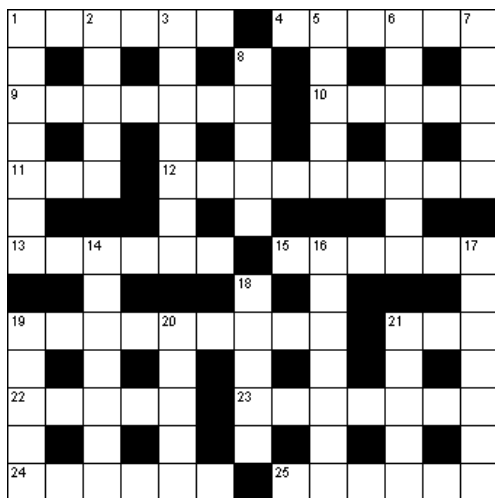
We are a friendly bunch and can offer help and advice, and welcome members of any level and our programme of events is varied throughout the year.

We look forward to seeing you.

For more information, please contact either

Janice Miller 01235 771552

Mary Wearn on 07789 888569



Solutions on Page 22

Across

1. Afternoon nap in Spain (6)
4. Wide street (6)
9. Coherent (7)
10. Speak (5)
11. Playing card (3)
12. Exactly the same (9)
13. Not as strict (6)
15. Armed thief (6)
19. Set up or found (9)
21. Australian flightless bird (3)
22. Stories (5)
23. Chosen by vote (7)
24. Fervid (6)
25. Basement (6)

Down

1. Save from destruction (7)
2. Bird of prey (5)
3. Haptic (7)
5. Strongroom (5)
6. Observed (7)
7. Join up (5)
8. Hints (5)
14. Resolved (7)
16. Sports contestant (7)
17. Booming noise (7)
18. More judicious (5)
19. Additional (5)
20. Large shaggy bovid (5)
21. Exalt (5)

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Home Visits



Christmas Lights 2021



Thank you to everyone who decorated their homes with Christmas lights.

The displays looked fantastic and some were even featured on TV

Putting the Village well and truly on the map!



Book Swap in the Phone Box

(Situating on the village green opposite the village hall)

The Books are refreshed regularly and displayed in an
A - Z format

~ Come and take a look at what's available ~



As everywhere, late December and early January is a quiet period in terms of district council activity with many people taking a long holiday. However, life goes on here as everywhere.

Covid

From the beginning of December the Omicron variant of Covid became superimposed on the very slow increase in cases caused by the delta variant with the result that the number of new cases has shot up and although the number of new daily cases in Oxfordshire fluctuates wildly, in the first week of the New Year, daily cases were around the 1000-1500 mark. This time last year the number of new cases was half that. However, this time last year we saw 50-75 deaths daily and in this last week [12/01] there has been 1 in Oxfordshire! The value of vaccination, clearly! Having said that there is an increasing problem with NHS and care home staff shortages so we must hope this situation does not deteriorate. But vaccination will reduce the number of Covid-positive patients requiring ICU support since >80% of those in ICU are unvaccinated, undoubtedly some of whom may have been vulnerable but for whom vaccination may have kept them out of hospital. This combined with staff shortages has caused big delays in a number of routine and other elective surgical procedures.

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Neighbourhood Plan

I would like to thank those who contributed to the progress of the village neighbourhood plan by submitting comments. These have all been useful. These will now be incorporated into a final version for formal submission to the Vale.

Footpath around the Crest Nicholson site

We are all concerned about the delay in completing (or even starting) the footpath on the A417 around the Crest site with the risks to school kids crossing the road there – which they do. I have contacted the Crest Site Manager and OCC Highways. They have been waiting for a cable to be laid. SSE are supposed to be doing this at the end of January and I am told that the footpath should be complete by mid-March.

Speeding

Speeding through the village on the A417 remains a problem. We met in late January with the county council highways officer about siting a Speed Indicator Device (SID, see www.elancity.co.uk/evolis-radar-speed-sign/ as an example). We are also exploring the county council's "20's Plenty" and have found out that we can, as far as we know, include the A417 which would make a big difference if coupled with a very visual SID. There is a 20 mph limit on the A361 on the way into Burford – slightly different situation possibly? We will see what can be done.

Rain and flooding

We have had quite a lot of rain in the last few weeks and no sign of flooding down on the A417 at Haynes. Fingers crossed! I am hoping that having pressed for and having had the ditch along Woodhill Lane cleared out this will stop flood water backing up and take the pressure of the road drains. Well, someone once said something about counting chickens hatching so I had better not say any more!

Happy New Year!

Cllr Dr Paul Barrow

Ridgeway Ward

Have your say on the future of transport in Oxfordshire

People who live, work in, or visit Oxfordshire are urged to have their say on a plan to deliver a zero carbon transport network by 2040.

Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet approved the draft Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) last October, which – among its many ambitions – aims to cut car journeys by a quarter by 2030 and reduce them by a third by 2040. It also plans to increase the number of cycling trips from 600,000 to one million by 2031.

Now residents can have their say on the plan until 16 March. People can take part and make their voices heard at letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ltcp. Final adoption of the plan is currently scheduled for summer 2022.

Councillor Duncan Enright, Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Travel and Development Strategy, said: "We want to know what it would take for people to make fewer journeys by car. We want to hear from them about the financial implications and what they need in terms of alternative transport arrangements.

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“The estimated average cost of owning a car is nearly £500 per month if you are paying for it on credit, or nearly £300 if you only take into account fuel, insurance, tax, maintenance and so on. How much would you spend on alternative ways to get around by bus, train, bike, taxi or on foot? What else would you need to cut the number of cars in your house and cut your monthly bills?

“We know we face considerable challenges as we seek to deliver our aspirations. There will be tough decisions around how we use existing road space, but now is the time for an ambitious and comprehensive plan which the LTCP provides. We believe it will help create a thriving county, tackle inequality, protect our environment and improve the health and wellbeing of residents.

“We are really keen for the people of Oxfordshire to engage with us in this process, not just now but throughout the years as it evolves. We know it will take a long time to get to where we want to be, but we have a clear vision of shifting the balance away from single occupancy cars in favour of something more sustainable.”

The LTCP is a wide-ranging document with more than 90 policies, which aim to provide the backbone for the council’s commitment to invest in an inclusive, integrated and sustainable transport network for the county. It looks at ways of reducing the need to travel and discouraging unnecessary individual private vehicle use through making walking, cycling, public and shared transport the natural first choice. Key policy areas include:

- walking and cycling
- road safety
- digital connectivity
- public transport
- environment, carbon and air quality
- network, parking and congestion management
- freight and logistics.

The county council will be hosting a series of online webinars to introduce the LTCP in more detail and answer questions. Detail about how to sign up for these will be provided on the council’s website and social media in the coming weeks. Webinars will be hosted on the dates below for the following audiences:

- **Town and Parish Councils: 24 January and 1 February (7pm - 8pm)**
- **Businesses: 26 January (8am - 9am)**
- **Transport Stakeholders: 20 January (2pm - 3pm)**
- **General Public: 19 January and 7 February (7pm - 8pm)**

Residents can also email LTCP5@oxfordshire.gov.uk if they have any further questions or issues.

Cllr Yvonne Constance

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting takes place in the Village Hall at 7.30pm
on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

www.eastchallowpc.co.uk

Parking

Please park responsibly around the Village as parked vehicles on pavements and grass verges cause problems for pedestrians and other vehicles, especially the Emergency Services.

Dog Fouling

Dog fouling continues to be a problem in many parts of the Village. As well as being unpleasant it presents a health risk to everyone. Please be a responsible dog owner and clear up after your dog.

Parish Council Website

We are looking for some photographs for the website.

If you have any that you would like to share,
whether they are new or old, please contact the Clerk.

Also, what have you been doing during the COVID year's? You might like to share words/photo's of how you/your family and friends have spent time and how it has changed your life.

Please contact the Clerk.

eastchallowclerk@gmail.com

Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 9th February at 7.30pm

All Villagers are invited to attend Parish Council meetings as observers.

Parish Councillors

Vanessa Bosley: (Chair) 01235 764068

Frances Webb (Vice Chair) 01235 765176

Sarah Parker, Trevor Hayes, Paul Barrow, Iris Game

Clerk to East Challow Parish Council

e-mail: eastchallowclerk@gmail.com

Solutions

A	R	L	L	E	C		T	N	E	D	A	R	
E		O		T		R		O		E		R	
D	E	T	C	E	L	E		S	E	L	A	T	
N		X		L	S		I		T			X	
U	E	M		H	S	I	B	L	A	S	T		
H				T		W				E			
T		D	I		B	A	N		E	R	S	I	E
		E				S		L					G
	L		A	I	C	A	L		D	E	N	T	I
O			I		L		U		T				V
R			T	E	R		U		T				L
N			O		A		C		A		A		A
E			U	E	N	A	V		A		S	T	A

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