

# Our Parish Matters

The newsletter for Cockshutt Cum Petton residents

Issue 32 winter 2021

*Welcome* .. to the winter edition of the Parish newsletter.

Dear Residents,

I hope everyone is keeping safe during these troubled times. It is good news that the vaccine rollout is gathering pace, I have had the first jab myself. Compared to some areas in the UK we are fortunate to live in a rural area and can exercise avoiding large groups of people. Of course, we still need to be cautious and follow the lockdown guidance, if you have had the vaccine, it can take up to four weeks to provide any immunity, and it is still possible to pass the virus to others.

Since our last newsletter we have recruited two additional councillors for Cockshutt Ward. Stuart Bruce, a former police officer joined us in September, and Joy Harrison, a former materials engineer who joined us in November. We welcome both and look forward to the time when we can all sit around a table, meeting by Zoom gets the job done, but it is no substitute for good old in the flesh interaction! We still require one more councillor to represent Petton Ward.

Later in this edition you will see information regarding the promised mobile phone tower, it is unfortunate that there are no immediate plans to resolve the poor signal in the parish, however, the parish council will continue to push for this work to be started as soon as possible.

Also, in this edition, information on the 2021 Census, the local elections, plus contributions from our usual groups.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy and Safe 2021

*John Cooling,*

Chair, Cockshutt cum Petton Parish Council

## Census 2021 – Census Day 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021

census  
2021

### Be a part of Census 2021

Census day is 21 March 2021.

By taking part and encouraging others to do the same, you'll help make sure your community gets the services it needs.



Find out more at [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk)

Follow @Census2021

Office for National Statistics

[www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk)

AM21

The Census will provide a picture of England and Wales, revealing the size and characteristics of the population and providing valuable information that will be used to inform policy development, funding allocations and future service planning. The 2021 census will be predominantly an online census with paper forms made available to people that are unable to take part online.

Each household in Shropshire will receive a postcard during the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021, followed by an initial contact pack (during the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021) requesting each household to complete the census questionnaire online or by requesting a paper questionnaire.

Help will be available to Shropshire households via support centres located in the libraries in Shropshire's largest six market towns (Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Bridgnorth, Market Drayton, Ludlow and Whitchurch), via online guidance, a national helpline and via trained field staff. The questionnaire can be completed using a mobile phone.

If you do have difficulties completing the questionnaire, please contact us and we will do what we can to put you in touch with census help.

## CCP – Remote Meetings

Parish Council meetings are being held remotely during the pandemic until April 2021.

As all the BBC updates have shown, in Covid19 terms, even next week is way into the future as the level of restrictions change so quickly; our geographical boundaries have shrunk to not much more than beyond the garden gate and the next village is a foreign land!

Until national restrictions are lifted Parish Council meetings are via the Zoom platform. If you are not a Zoom user, this does not preclude you from taking part in the meeting.

You can join by video/audio enabled on your computer or ipad/smartphone or, if your hardware does not have video or microphone, you can join by landline telephone.

Please contact the clerk for details and how to access meetings. Keep an eye on our website for up to date information.  
(Contact details page 4)

## Annual Parish Meeting

This meeting was cancelled in 2020 due to lockdown restrictions in April and May.

The next Annual Parish Meeting was scheduled to take place on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The Parish Council has the option to either cancel the meeting, postpone it to a future date or hold a virtual meeting.

A meeting in person in the Village Hall will of course be subject to government advice and local restrictions at that time but it is highly unlikely to take place during April this year.

Please keep an eye on the Parish Council website for up to date details.

## Highways & Streetlights

Shropshire Council has announced that by 2025 a speed limit of 20mph will be in force outside every school in Shropshire. Back in March 2017 a traffic calming survey was undertaken on the A528 through Cockshutt, but unfortunately this was delayed along with other such schemes in the county. It is the intention of the Parish Council, by referring to the traffic calming report of 2017, to lobby Shropshire Council to bring forward the 20mph speed limit for Cockshutt.

Shropshire Council has also announced that Willowbrook (intersecting with Crosemere Road) which at the present time has an unrestricted speed limit, will be re-designated at 30mph, and funds have been allocated for this change to take place.

The estate road on the Meadows has now been formally adopted by Shropshire Council. The street lighting on the Meadows development, including the lighting on the roundabout, will therefore be the responsibility of Shropshire Council.

There are still lighting checks to be completed, so in the meantime any lighting faults should be reported through the Parish Council.

The Parish Council is looking to upgrade the remaining sodium streetlights in the village to LED, which not only provide improved light, but also reduces the amount of energy used.

## Elections – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Every four years all the members of the Parish Council formally stand down and may stand again for re-election if they so choose.

Election time is your opportunity to get involved, become a councillor and contribute towards community well-being and provision of local services. More information will be posted on Shropshire Council and the Parish Council website.

Currently Cockshutt cum Petton PC has one vacancy for co-option for a representative for the Petton ward.

Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in joining us either now or at election time.

## Mobile telephone tower

The Parish Council has recently been in touch with Telefonica who applied for permission to install a mobile mast in Cockshutt. In response to enquiries regarding the post-code area SY12 the predicted network coverage is good for calls, texts and data outdoors and patchy indoors. However due to the local terrain in the area customers may not be able to get regular strong network coverage. O2's closest network masts to this area are between six and seven kilometres away so signal strength may well be intermittent and patchy.

Network coverage cannot be guaranteed at all times and in all places in the U.K. Coverage will be affected by local geography such as hills, valleys, trees and building walls that may be between where a customer is using their device and their nearest serving network mast.

Telefonica network's team have advised that unfortunately they do not have any current plans to install a new network mast in this area. Telefonica are currently investing over £2 million a day into improving networks across the U.K. and prioritising areas that will serve and benefit the largest numbers of customers and this does not currently include the Cockshutt area.

## Community Reassurance

Shropshire Council are advising residents of the importance of looking after their mental health during the national lockdown. You will find lots of information on organisations that can help here:-

<https://newsroom.shropshire.gov.uk/2020/11/mental-health-lockdown/>

## Cockshutt Parish Paths (P3)

Until recently members of the Cockshutt P3 group have been busy every Wednesday morning walking the rights of way around Cockshutt and Petton and clearing vegetation from around the stiles and kissing gates to ensure that the footpaths are accessible.

Now, because of corona virus we are in lockdown and the guidelines state that only two people from different households are allowed to walk together, whilst keeping social distance. This has limited the amount of work but as it is winter, the vegetation is not growing much anyway!

I would like to encourage residents to walk the rights of way around Cockshutt and Petton. If you have any questions regarding them, please contact Janet

Hopefully we can resume group walking soon and socialise again!

*Janet Hankey*



## Cockshutt CE Primary School & Nursery

2021 has not quite started in the way we imagined however our families and school staff are doing an amazing job of remote learning until we can all be together again. Please have a look at the website video library to see the fun ways in which our staff have tried to enrich the day to day learning. They have certainly pulled out all the stops!

<https://cockshutt-ce-primary-nursery.primarysite.media>

This term we have been exploring the value 'courage' I think we all need courage at the moment, not just our children. Stay safe and keep learning everyone, from all the staff and children of Cockshutt CE Primary.

*Mandy Jones*, Head Teacher

## Horticultural Show

The Show is open to all residents who live within a 6-mile radius of Cockshutt Church (as the crow flies) and who are amateurs.

We are hoping by Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021, that we will be able to hold our annual show, but this obviously depends on how this pandemic progresses! We will keep you informed as much as possible, but in the meantime I am sure with all this lockdown, when we can go ahead with our show you will all have something to exhibit.

## A Note from your Vicar

I'm sure none of us would have expected to still be under strict lockdown conditions at the beginning of 2021. It seems such a long time ago that we first heard of the Coronas Virus or Covid19. It has been so difficult for many people but particularly for those who've been bereaved over the last twelve months. Family, friends, neighbours and pastoral care from the Church has not been possible in the ways we would normally support one another in our grief. Please be assured that prayers are offered regularly for those who mourn.

Christmas was certainly very different for everybody but I want to thank all those who attended, in person or at home, the limited celebrations offered by the Churches at Petton and Cockshutt. Three Christingle Services in one afternoon meant all our school children could join in and then build their Christingle at home with their families. Carols by lanterns and Carols on our doorsteps were beautiful and, thankfully, the weather was kind to us.

We go into 2021 with HOPE, the vaccine is being rolled out very quickly and soon we will all have had our first injection. My prayer for 2021 is that the community spirit and neighbourliness we've seen grow over the last twelve months continues. If there is ANYBODY who needs support, please let me know and I will arrange some.

With my love and my prayers for you all,  
*Rev'd Maureen xxx*

## HALL Cockshutt Millennium Hall

Obviously, in view of current safety regulations and restrictions, it is not yet possible to re-open the hall. We have offered the premises as a venue for vaccinations, though it is unlikely that it will be required.

It is hoped that the work on the patio area will be resumed when weather and regulations allow. We would like to remind readers that, when we are eventually able to re-open, new committee members and volunteers will be urgently needed if the hall is to continue to be available to both local people and the wider community.

If you could help in any way, or want any further information, please email [bookings@cockshuttvillage.com](mailto:bookings@cockshuttvillage.com)

## Playground

Playgrounds have been allowed to remain open during the current lockdown, though recent information has suggested they may yet have to be closed. In the meantime, please, if your children use the playground, do encourage them to do so safely, avoiding close contact with other children and sanitising hands before and after using the equipment. Please also ask them close the gates behind them on every occasion. New gates have been purchased and are now waiting for the P3 group to be able to meet again and install them.

## Goal posts

We are delighted that some local young men have taken the initiative to form a new football club. The hall committee have agreed that, due to the problems we have had arranging for installation of the new goalposts, for a few years now, we will employ a suitable contractor to come and do the job, once the field dries out sufficiently to allow the necessary machinery on it.

## Post Office

Don't forget the Post Office is open at the Village Hall from 10:00am until 1:00pm on Tuesdays for all your banking and postal needs.

## Library van

The library van visits Cockshutt regularly parking in the lay-by / bus stop near the church, from 14.35 to 15.50 on "Black Bin Week" Wednesdays.

☎ 01743 255024

This service is currently closed and will be reinstated post lockdown, keep an eye on the noticeboards and website for details  
In the meantime visit <https://shropshire.gov.uk/libraries/> for e-library and how to access ready reads and click & collect service.

## Useful Contact Details

### PARISH COUNCIL

#### Cockshutt Ward

Julian Bowers	07759 985835
Stuart Bruce	07816 549068
John Cooling (Chair)	01939 270309
Pam Edwards	01939 270255
Joy Harrison	01939 270524
Simon Lewis	07792 218252
Ian Webb (vice Chair)	01939 270265

#### Petton Ward

Vacancy

### Shropshire Councillor

Brian Williams 01939 234198

## HALL

[bookings@cockshuttvillage.com](mailto:bookings@cockshuttvillage.com)

### Cockshutt C of E Primary School & Nursery

School Office (term time only) 01939 270616  
Email: [admin.cockshutt@shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin.cockshutt@shropshire.sch.uk)

Our Parish Matters is produced by:  
Cockshutt cum Petton Parish Council

Email: [clerk@cockshuttcupetton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@cockshuttcupetton-pc.gov.uk)  
[www.cockshuttcupetton-pc.gov.uk](http://www.cockshuttcupetton-pc.gov.uk)

## IT'S GOOD TO TALK

Don't wait until you can't cope before you seek help. For good days, bad days and all the in-between days, there are lots of places you can turn to for support.

These organisations all provide free, confidential and impartial support and guidance.

The image shows a central blue telephone handset surrounded by six colorful cards representing different support services:

- Mental health:** mind. Tel: 0300 123 3396. Open: 9am-6pm Mon-Fri. www.mind.org.uk
- Medical (Non emergency):** NHS. Tel: 111. Open: 24 hours
- Emotional:** SAMARITANS. Tel: 116 126. Open: 24 hours. www.samaritans.org
- Money:** citizens advice. Tel: 03444 111 444. Open: 24 hours. www.citizensadvice.org.uk
- people planet prosperity** logo at the bottom left.
- MCDermotts** logo at the bottom right.

IT'S ALWAYS OK TO ASK FOR HELP

### Benefice

Reverend Maureen Read  
Telephone 01939 270759  
Email - maureen.read09@btinternet.com  
The Rectory,  
Shrewsbury Road,  
Cockshutt SY12 0JQ

The website for Cockshutt & Petton Churches  
<https://meresandmeadows.com/>

### How do I report it?

- Potholes
- Dog Fouling
- Overgrown verges and hedges
- Litter problems and fly tipping
- Dead animal on the road
- Vandalism or anti-social behaviour
- A stray or lost dog
- Low supplies in salt/grit bins

Contact Shropshire Council customer services on 0345 678 9000  
or email: [customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk) or report it on-line at <https://shropshire.gov.uk/report/>

### Coronavirus (COVID19)

For information visit <https://www.gov.uk/> or <https://shropshire.gov.uk/> and follow the links from the homepage.

This newsletter can be made available in large print and audio tape. Please call 01948 663281 for further details.



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