

NEWSLETTER

Winter Edition 2025

Cholmondeley & Chorley Parish Council

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Chairman's Message

Dear Residents,

Welcome to the Winter edition of your parish newsletter!

As winter settles over our beautiful parishes, we reflect on a year of collaboration, resilience, and progress. From planning consultations to community events, your voices have shaped every step. Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

This issue brings together council updates, key events, local services, and exciting developments across Cholmondeley and Chorley.

Whether you're a long-time resident or recently moved here, we hope this helps you feel informed, involved, and inspired. Warm regards,

Councillor Izzy Cundy (Chair) and
all of Cholmondeley Parish Council

Useful Contact Details

Councillor Information:-

Izzy Cundy – Chair Izzy.Cundy@Cholmondeley-Chorley.co.uk

Chris Hopley – Vice Chair
Chris.Hopley@Cholmondeley-Chorley.co.uk
Councillors

Sarah Aspinall - sarah.aspinall@cholmondeley-chorley.co.uk

Chris Crossley - Chris.Crossley@cholmondeley-chorley.co.uk

Tony Fennell – Tony.Fennell@cholmondeley-chorley.co.uk

Gemma Nicholas -
Gemma.Nicholas@cholmondeley-chorley.co.uk

Philip Probin –Phil.Probin@cholmondeley-chorley.co.uk

Borough Councillor

CLlr James Pearson –

James.pearson@cheshireeast.gov.uk |
07947 572785

MP

Aphra Brandreth –

Aphra.Brandreth.mp@parliament.uk

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF CHOLMONDELEY & CHORLEY!

Join the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group



We're now at the final stage of developing the Cholmondeley & Chorley Neighbourhood Plan — the Regulation 14 consultation —and we need driven, community-minded volunteers to help us get this crucial phase completed. The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group supports the Parish Council in preparing and promoting Regulation 14 consultation, collecting and analysing feedback, and finalising the draft plan for submission to Cheshire East.

- ✓ Planning or community consultation
- ✓ Writing, communications or public engagement
- ✓ Data analysis or project management
- ✓ Local environment, heritage or rural issues

If you are organised, proactive, and want to make a real difference, we'd love you to join us and help get the plan across the finish line.

Flexible, voluntary role

☐ **Zero-cost or subsidised project**

Current members: Councillors I Cundy, S Aspinall & C Crossley

Contact to get involved:

Parish Clerk: Clerk@cholmondeley-chorley.co.uk

Chair of Working Group: [Izzy Cundy@cholmondeley-chorley.co.uk](mailto:Izzy.Cundy@cholmondeley-chorley.co.uk)

Parish Council Updates/Information

Defibrillator Available at the Cholmondeley Arms

The Parish Council has a defibrillator located on the wall of the outbuilding in the Cholmondeley Arms car park. This life-saving device is easily accessible in emergencies.

Important: Always call 999 before using the defibrillator to get expert guidance immediately. For more information on how to use a defibrillator, please visit the St John's Ambulance website: www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/how-to/

Rural & Farming Support

Take advantage of **free and subsidised training**, provided directly by official schemes (no need to contact the council):

- **DEFRA webinars** on animal health & sustainable farming:
- **Farming Advice Service:**
www.farmingadvice.org.uk
- **Countryside Ranger Apprenticeships (Level 4)** in Cheshire East:
findapprenticeshiptraining
- **Lifelong Learning (Cheshire East):**
cheshireeast.gov.uk/lifelong_learning

At a Glance – Parish Council Highlights

- **Noticeboard Replacement:** The Council is still awaiting a response from the Estate regarding consent for a new noticeboard near the Post Office. Further correspondence is being issued, and alternative sites are being explored with Cheshire East Highways.
- **Local Policing:** Recent reports show low burglary levels, three A49 accidents, and one dog incident.
- **Highways:** Concerns raised with Cheshire East and the local MP about ongoing disruption from Bickerton Road culvert works.
- **Finance:** Routine payments approved, interest of **£22.65** received, the Clerk's updated contract and 2026/27 budget agreed.
 - **Governance:** Updated Standing Orders adopted.
- **Neighbourhood Plan:** New Working Group formed—volunteers welcome! Regulation 14 consultation materials to be finalised at the next meeting.
 - **Planning:** No comments submitted; applications fell within permitted development.
 - **Communications:** A WhatsApp Group has been formed for local Residents.
- **Council Vacancies:** Two residents have expressed interest in joining the Council—applications in progress.
 - **Next Meetings: 18 Nov 2025, 17 Mar 2026, 5 May 2026 (AGM).**

What's On?

Cholmondeley and Chorley Castle November 2025-January 2025

1) Cholmondeley Castle Gardens — winter closure (note for readers)

Copy to paste:

Cholmondeley Castle Gardens — winter closure

Please note: Cholmondeley Castle Gardens are **closed for the winter and will reopen in early 2026**. For enquiries and updates, contact the Estate on 01829 720 203 or eo@chol-estates.co.uk. cholmondeleycastle.com

2) St Nicholas' Chapel / Cholmondeley — services & open chapel

Copy to paste:

St Nicholas' Chapel (Cholmondeley Estate) — The historic chapel at Cholmondeley (St Nicholas') is part of the Estate and is open to visitors on garden open-days; occasional services and local events are posted via the parish/benefice and local Facebook pages — keep an eye on St Wenefrede's / Cholmondeley group for seasonal services.

Upcoming Events – Cholmondeley and Chorley Castle

Chorley Christmas Tree Lighting Friday 8th December | ● 6:00 PM | ●
Village Green Mulled wine, mince pies, and carols with the school choir.

Winter Walk & Wildlife Spotting Sunday 14th January | ● 9:30 AM | ●
Cholmondeley Estate Join local naturalists for a guided walk through our frosty countryside.

Community Winter Events

Even in the chill of winter, there's plenty to look forward to!

Highlights include:

- **Festive Coffee Morning** – *Saturday 14 December, 10am, Bickerton Village Hall.*
Join neighbours for mince pies, hot drinks and cheerful company.
- **Tree Planting Morning** – *Sunday 12 January, 10am, Cholmondeley Park Entrance.*

Help plant native trees and hedgerows to boost local wildlife.

Upcoming Events Over the Festive Season

CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP – CHOLMONDELEY FARM SHOP

Cost: £60 per person

Includes: All materials plus a festive refreshment
Just bring yourself and enjoy a relaxing creative afternoon.

Upcoming Sessions:

- Thursday 13 November — 2:30–4:30
- Tuesday 18 November — 2:30–4:40
- Thursday 27 November — 2:30–4:40
- Tuesday 2 December — 2:30–4:40
- Tuesday 16 December — 2:30–4:40

Booking essential – please contact the Farm Shop.

FESTIVE EVENTS

AT THE CHOLMONDELEY ARMS

Monday 24 November

Festive Wreath Making Class

10am–1pm

Create your own festive door decoration.

£60 per person (includes all materials and a glass of English Buck's Fizz).

Booking required.

Friday 28 November

Christmas Menu Launches

Saturday 13 December

Breakfast & Meet Santa

9:30am–11am

A magical morning for families

"Please book in advance"

Tuesday 16 December

Christmas 'Awfully Good' Quiz Night

Hosted by The Judge – Chris Sartori

Thursday 18 December

Carol Singing

with St Wilfrid's Church Choir
From 6.30pm



Wednesday 3 December

Annual Gin Appreciation

Fruit Gin Makers

Competition

From 7.30pm

Featuring guest judges
a special gin show.

Carol Singing

with St
Wilfrid's Church
Choir

From 6.30pm

New Year's Eve

The Chum New Year's Eve Supper

with pianist Ben Richards

Booking essential – 01829 720800

Safety and Security Tips

• Winter Safety Tips

- Keep footpaths clear of ice and debris
- Check on vulnerable neighbours
- Use torches and reflective gear when walking at dusk

• Home Security Tips

- **Lock Up:** Even if you're just in the garden, always lock doors and windows.
- **Lighting:** Install motion sensor lights or leave a lamp on a timer if you're away.
- **Neighbourhood Watch:** Consider forming or joining a local group. A strong, connected community is a safe one.

Cholmondeley & Chorley Quiz

Cholmondeley & Chorley Quiz - Test your local knowledge with our fun quiz!

1. What is the historical significance of Cholmondeley Castle?
 - a) It was a royal residence
 - b) It served as a military base
 - c) It's a family estate with notable gardens
 - d) It was a monastery
2. Which river flows near Chorley?
 - a) River Dee
 - b) River Weaver
 - c) River Mersey
 - d) River Severn
3. What annual event is held at Cholmondeley Castle?
 - a) Music Festival
 - b) Food and Drink Fair
 - c) Power and Speed Festival
 - d) Literary Festival
4. Which wildlife species is commonly found in our local woodlands?
 - a) Red Squirrel
 - b) Barn Owl
 - c) Hedgehog
 - d) Otter
5. What is the name of the local walking trail connecting our villages?
 - a) Cheshire Ring
 - b) Sandstone Trail
 - c) Marches Way
 - d) Cholmondeley Loop

Answers: 1-c, 2-b, 3-a, 4-b, 5-d

Highways, Reporting and Other Useful Contacts

Highways & Footpaths Update

We continue to liaise closely with **Cheshire East Council** on highways maintenance and traffic safety. Recent updates include:

- Pothole repairs completed along Wrenbury Road and Croxton Green Lane.
- New reflective markers installed on narrow bends near Chorley Green.
- Plans for additional speed awareness signage in early 2026.

Existing highways infrastructure - FixMyStreet

To report a repair or replacement of existing items like streetlights, potholes, and damaged kerbs, submit a maintenance request using [traCE](#).

For anything you cannot report through the reporting tool, you can email

CheshireEastCouncilCustomerServices@CheshireEast.gov.uk or, you can call the team on 0300

OTHER USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

- **Local Services**

- **Go-Too Rural Bus Service**

Flexible and affordable transport for rural areas

0300 123 5103 | go-too.co.uk

We're pleased to welcome:

PC Gary Fulton – your new beat officer for Crewe Rural including Cholmondeley & Chorley

07814 063235

✉ gary.fulton@cheshire.police.uk

Useful Numbers

Police (non-emergency): **101**

Crimestoppers: **0800 555 111**

Childline: **0800 1111**

Samaritans: **116 123**

Cheshire East Council: **0300 123 5500**

Planning/Development and Stay Connected

Planning & Development

Recent applications reviewed:

- **Chorley Lane Barn Conversion** – Approved with conditions
- **Cholmondeley Road Extension** – Pending site visit
- **Solar Panel Installation (Chorley Green)** – Approved

Czechoslovak Commemoration – Parish Council Tribute

5th July 2025 – Cholmondeley

On 5th July 2025, the Parish Council was honoured to support the annual commemoration marking the 85th anniversary of the Czechoslovak Troops' arrival at Cholmondeley Castle in 1940. As part of the ceremony, we donated a wreath on behalf of the community, with sincere thanks to our Vice Chair, Christopher Hopley, for arranging this for us.

The service brought together distinguished guests, local organisations, veterans' representatives, and many young people whose contributions added real dignity to the occasion. We remain proud to support this important annual event, ensuring that the bravery and sacrifice of the Czechoslovak troops and all who supported them continue to be remembered with respect and gratitude.



Stay Connected

We're always looking for ideas and feedback from residents. Want to write an article, share a memory, or suggest an event? Drop us an email or attend a council meeting.

Your opinions matter! Share your thoughts on community matters, suggest ideas, or provide feedback on council initiatives by contacting us through our website:

Visit our website: www.cholmondeley-chorley-pc.gov.uk

☐ **Contact us:** clerk@cholmondeley-chorley-pc.gov.uk

Follow us on Facebook & WhatsApp for real-time updates.

We're growing our local communication channels to make it easier to stay in touch.

Thank You

Our sincere thanks go to all residents, volunteers, and local partners who help make Cholmondeley and Chorley such a special place to live. From everyone at the Parish Council

Wishing you a peaceful Christmas and a bright New Year!