

LOWER HEYFORD AND CAULCOTT

WELCOME PACK

All of the residents of the villages wish you a very warm welcome.

As a new resident or visitor to either Lower Heyford or Caulcott there are a number of bits of information that you may find useful. These are set out in the sections below.

If you are a new resident, in order to keep you better informed about local matters and local issues it is suggested that you **contact the Parish Clerk to let her know your name(s), address and e-mail address(s).**

The clerk maintains a directory that is not circulated to anyone except the parish councillors and so, if you feel that it may be useful for them to know, **please include a note of any of the following** which you feel may be of help: **your telephone number(s) (home and mobile), your occupation(s) (or former occupation(s) if retired).**

You can contact the Parish Clerk at any time by:

e-mail at : parishclerk.lowerheyford@gmail.com , or

phone on: 01869 347 000, or

post at: Westfield Farm Cottage, Fenway, Steeple Aston, OX25 4SS

Village Communications

Please make use of the village website: <http://www.heyford.info/> where you can find a wide range of information. You may advertise your business free of charge on the village website. Also many notices are put on the various noticeboards.

There is also a village Facebook group at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/224504831701597/>

And finally you will receive communications every now and then from the King George's Field Committee and the Parish Council to keep you up to date.

Doctors' Surgery

The nearest surgeries are at

Deddington Health Centre, Earls Lane, Deddington, OX15 0TQ. Tel: 01869 338 611

<https://www.deddingtonsurgery.co.uk/>

or

Montgomery-House Surgery, Piggy Lane, Bicester OX26 6HT Tel: 01869 249 222

<https://www.montgomeryhousesurgery.co.uk/>

or

Bicester Health Centre, Coker Close, Bicester OX26 6AT. Tel: 01869 249 333

<https://www.bicesterhc.co.uk/>

To register you will need to visit the surgery and complete a form. You will need to have a proof of identity, a proof of address and your NHS number.

Defibrillators

There are three at the following locations:

- The Bell Inn public house in Lower Heyford near the back door into the Garden;
- The Horse and Groom public house in Caulcott on the B4030;
- On the front of the King George's Field Community and Sports Centre in Lower Heyford.

In each case the procedure is to call the emergency services via 999 and quote the box number on the front of the box in which it is housed.

They will give you the code to unlock the box in which the defibrillator is located.

Hopefully you will never have to use one but please be assured that the equipment is designed to be used by a novice and, quite literally, talks you through how to use it.

It is not possible to use it when it is inappropriate: the equipment is designed to avoid this.

Recycling and residual waste collections

These are carried out every on alternate Wednesdays as follows:

1 st Wednesday:	Blue Bin	Recycling: paper, cardboard, hard plastics, tins, metals, metal foil (but not glass - see below)
	Brown Bin	Green waste (ONLY if you have subscribed)
	Silver	Food waste
2 nd Wednesday:	Green Bin	Residual waste (not collected in Brown or Blue)
	Silver	Food waste

Please look at what your neighbours have done to know which week it is!

To subscribe for Brown bin emptying (green waste) you need to pay £40 per bin per annum and you can sign up at: <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/10/rubbish-and-recycling/872/payable-garden-waste-collection>

Please note that glass MUST NOT be left in any of the bins and must instead be deposited at one of the bottle banks. The nearest ones can be found at: Heyford Wharf or Caulcott Layby.

Other items such as clothes, shoes etc. can also be left at Caulcott.

You can leave batteries or small electrical goods out with the regular bin collections in separate bags on top at any time.

For a full explanation of the Cherwell recycling and waste collection arrangements go to:

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/recycling>

The villages have an annual Litter Blitz that is undertaken by volunteers and you will be advised by flyer and/or e-mail about this. It is usually carried out in March or April each year. Please do offer to join in and contribute to the beauty and tidiness of the villages.

The nearest household waste recycling centre is at Ardley OX27 7PH where there are some limits as to how many things can be taken at once.

Local recycling: Increasingly some village folk are leaving unwanted but useable items outside their houses with a sign saying: HELP YOURSELF too.

Parking and HGV Deliveries

As we live in small villages whose roads were not designed for cars or lorries, but for horses and carts, the roads are inevitably narrow and we do not have as much space as we may all wish for. So, please, do make sure that if you have to park on the roadway you do so in such a way that permits the refuse lorries, and above all, the emergency services, including fire engines and ambulances, to get through without delay.

Also if you have any deliveries of any sort be it large deliveries of furniture, large equipment or building materials (*or if you have contractors who are doing so*) **please request that no vehicle larger than 7.5 tonnes (and preferably smaller) and no articulated lorries are used for deliveries.**

Village Facilities

The following is a selection of some of the facilities that are available in the villages:

Bell Public House in Market Square in Lower Heyford: serves a wide range of drinks and food.

Horse and Groom Public House in Caulcott: serves a wide range of drinks and food. They hold a Bastille Day celebration each year as the owner is French!

Kizzie's Bistro at the Wharf: open for meals and drinks, fully licensed

Heyford Wharf: rental of canal boats by the day or week

Allotments: There are a number of allotments available at the top of the village by the crossroads. Chris Cox at The Old Steam Mill Cottage (which is on the left hand side of the road towards Upper Heyford, just outside the village) is the person to contact if you are interested. Chris can also be reached on 01869 340 844 or by e-mail at: chriscox233@gmail.com

Heyford House B & B in Church Lane: <http://www.heyfordhouse.org/>

Newspapers: can be purchased at Hopcroft's Halt filling station or there is a home delivery service offered by Smiths in Banbury: <http://smithsnewsagents.co.uk/>. The delivery time is usually around 5 a.m. in the week and 6 a.m. at the weekends.

St Mary's Church: in Church Lane, Lower Heyford. Service times are to be found at <http://www.cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk/ministry/services.html>

King George's Field Community and Sports Centre: This is to be found on the field in the middle of Lower Heyford. There are a variety of functions held there throughout the year with pilates and yoga classes, karate, darts, quiz nights etc. The centre can be hired for private parties etc. Booking and all details can be found at: <https://www.heyford.info/king-georges-field>

Heyford Athletic Football Club: Two adult teams on King George's Field. The teams both play in the Oxfordshire Senior league Saturday afternoons, 2pm kick offs. Train on Wednesdays and either Tuesdays or Thursdays depending on the time of year. Contact is Anthony Alder: ant.linda@hotmail.com or 07730 309 141 or 01869 245 737.

Lower Heyford Sports & Social Club: Situated in the King George's Field Community and Sports Centre. All Lower Heyford and Caulcott residents are automatically members and the bar is open on most Saturdays and other times by arrangement. There are two darts teams and there is an Xmas party for the children, Christmas raffle and a quiz on the last Saturday of every month.

Valley News: contains the news and views from the Cherwell Valley. It is published every two months and delivered, free of charge, to every house in Caulcott, Heyford Park, Heyford Leys, Lower Heyford, Somerton and Upper Heyford. Valley News is also available on-line at: <https://www.thevalleynews.co.uk/>

If you have any community message that you wish published, free of charge, or if you wish to contribute any articles, please contact the editor: Ian Lough-Scott at ianloughscott@btinternet.com or call him on 01869 232 788 or if you would like to advertise please contact Jackie Wood at adverts.valleynews@gmail.com.

Village Events

The following village events are held each year:

May Day Fete: held on the first Saturday in May on the King George's Field with a procession of the May King and Queen to and from the Bell Public House accompanied by Morris dancers. **PLEASE NOTE** that: exceptionally in 2022, this is being held in early June as part of the village's Queen's platinum jubilee celebrations.

Firework Display and Bonfire: held on a Saturday close to November 5th in the field on the other side of the lift bridge at the end of Mill Lane.

Carols, Mulled Wine and Mince Pies: usually held on the Friday evening before Xmas each year in Market Square with the Bletchington Silver Band orchestra. Everyone is very welcome.

Village Societies and Organisations

Village Bowls: meets every Wednesday at Lower Heyford Bowls Club on Station Road in season. Please contact: Kim Steventon at k_kitte@hotmail.com.

Bell ringing: At St Mary's Church in Lower Heyford. Please contact: Denise Ball at deniseball7@btinternet.com.

Friends of Heyford Station: This is a voluntary station community adoption group working in conjunction with Great Western Railway to maintain the station and its environs. If you would like to be involved please contact: Chris Adamson at cadamson62@gmail.com or the Secretary at: honsec.fohs@gmail.com

Lower Heyford & Caulcott Community Fund: Provides totally confidential financial or other support for any needy parishioners as well as help for students, people changing careers and other organisations in the village that are there to help all residents. Please contact help.lhccf@gmail.com or look at the <https://www.heyford.info/community-fund> page for more information.

Parish Council

The Parish Council seeks to look after the interests of the community of Lower Heyford and Caulcott. It deals with the District and County Council on local issues such as highways, traffic, housing, rights of way and street lighting. It is consulted on all local planning matters.

Parish Councils are part of the local government system and work with District and County Councils to help ensure that the services in the village are maintained and developed. Representatives from the District and County Council often attend Parish Council meetings.

Parish Council meetings are usually held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.00pm in the Church. If there is no urgent business in February, April, June and October there may be no meeting in that month. There is no meeting held in either August or December. All residents are very welcome to attend. The agenda is posted on the website and village notice boards at least three days before the meeting and will confirm the date of the following meeting.

If you have any matter that you wish the Parish Council to consider just mention it to any of the councillors or send them an e-mail or send an e-mail to the Parish Clerk at:

parishclerk.lowerheyford@gmail.com

A list of the current councillors can be seen on the notice boards in the villages and at:

<https://www.heyford.info/heyford-caulcott-parish-council>

Planning Matters: Buildings

We live in a beautiful part of Oxfordshire and within no less than two conservation areas the aim of which is to ensure that they remain beautiful. We have many listed buildings in and around our villages for which planning regulations are more detailed and onerous.

Partly to this end, but also because good planning is a wisdom, we are subject to fairly rigorous planning rules which are overseen by Cherwell District Council.

As a statutory consultee the Parish Council receives, for its comments on behalf of the wider community, a copy of all planning applications that it receives.

To this end it is worth noting that planning consent is required for all building works greater than a certain size or nature and there are more specific requirements in place covering Listed Buildings.

To decide whether or not your plans require consent we suggest that you look at the planning portal: <https://www.planningportal.co.uk/>

This sets out in detail what does need planning permission, as well as the process for obtaining permission. Ignorance of the rules is of course no defence so the advice must be that it is better to be safe than sorry.

Planning Matters: Tree works

As our villages lie in a Conservation area we are required to give notice of our intention to undertake tree works including removal or re-shaping. You are required to give notice of no less than 6 weeks of your intentions.

This permits any particular tree to be subjected to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) if, in the interests of conservation, the particular specimen is deemed worthy of such by the Arboricultural Officer.

Conservation area legislation includes legal protection of *all trees* with a trunk/stem diameter greater than 75mm, when measured at 1.5m above ground level.

You are legally required to provide six weeks 'Notice of Intent' to the Local Planning Authority.

To find out whether your tree is subject to a TPO or for other guidance contact the Arboricultural Officer on 01295 221 804.

Again this is a complex area but ignorance of the rules is, of course, no defence hence it is better to be safe than sorry.

To decide whether or not your tree works require consent we suggest that you look at the planning portal: <https://www.planningportal.co.uk/>

Other information

If the information you want is not listed here we must apologise. We try and keep it up to date and inclusive but inevitably things do get out of date or are overlooked. So if you find that something is out of date or not there please tell the parish clerk at the address below.

Likewise if you have any brilliant ideas about something that should have a mention in this welcome note or have any other brilliant ideas please do contact the parish clerk and she will make sure it gets an entry in future or the idea is passed onto the right person who can do something about it.

Please e-mail your thoughts and ideas to her at: parishclerk.lowerheyford@gmail.com

And last but not least:

Welcome, again, to these beautiful villages!