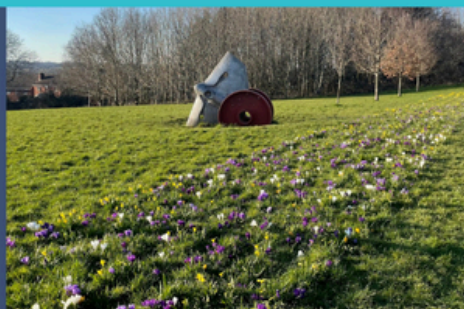




# Newsletter Q1 & Q2



West Swindon Parish Council



**Email us:** [contact@westswindon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:contact@westswindon-pc.gov.uk)

**Call us:** 01793 299399

**Visit us:** [www.westswindon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.westswindon-pc.gov.uk)



# Brush with Success



Our subway murals project is coming on.

This is where we are aiming to paint a mural on each of West Swindon's 18 underpasses, improving any poorly lit, graffiti covered ones and generally making our environment even more pleasant for anyone walking, running, or cycling through these tunnels.

So far, we have completed five subways.

They are:

- Rivermead Drive
- The Chesters, Westlea
- Roughmoor Way, Shaw
- Beaumaris Road, Toothill
- Bodiam Drive, Toothill





Our latest subway, The Chesters, was recently designed and painted by a group of students on work experience from St John's School in Marlborough.

Read more here: [Brush with Success](#)



Students from St John's

## West Swindon Art Trail

The murals form part of the [West Swindon Art Trail](#) which will be expanded as more subways are painted.

## Clean Sweep



Keeping West Swindon clean and tidy is one of the Parish Council's main aims and recently we contracted a road sweeper to tackle the weeds growing along the public kerbsides.

Although good the sweeper can't deal with every weed, especially if they're strong and living well on the detritus at the roadside. So, our next step will be to spray the kerbs with weedkiller and return with the road sweeper which should then be able to collect most of the dead weeds.

# The Green, Green Grass Likes to Roam

Grass likes to grow in all weathers and often over our pavements.

As a result, our team goes out regularly to cut back and tidy up the edges of the pathways to keep the grass at bay.

Please say hello if you see the guys out edging.



## Bright Side of the Road

Recently we have been cleaning our road signs so road users can see more clearly where they're going.

The signs, which are out in all weathers, get mucky from the hundreds of thousands of vehicles which pass by each year so need a wash and brush up from time to time.





# New Shaw Ridge Play Park

A brand new, state-of-the-art play park is being built this summer on Shaw Ridge to replace the aging one on the slope.

It'll benefit local children now and for generations to come with much of the equipment being accessible for all, unlike the previous play area.

Read more [here](#).



## Whitehill Way Play Park

We've been revamping this park, taking the old kit away and adding brand-new equipment including a trim trail and zip wire – just in time for the summer and school holidays. Watch [here](#).



# Hay Lane

A few old hedgerows and trees which were either dead or dying have been cut away to allow for new growth to come through. Plus, we planted three hundred Hornbeam - native to our area. By cutting down the dead wood it's given us more room enabling us to maintain the area easier.



We have also renewed the fence here as well as at Clayhill Copse (Horseshoe Crescent) and in a part of Shaw Forest.



## Hoppy Days



Did you see our Easter bunnies popping or hopping up around West Swindon in April? The large friendly rabbits, along with their brightly coloured Easter eggs, made surprise appearances in our village centres during the Easter holidays.

Expect them to hop up again next year!



# VE Day Commemorated

Our much-loved life-sized Tommy figures returned to our village centres in May to mark the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. Paying tribute to those brave men and women who served and sacrificed so much so we can all continue to live in peace.



## Aliens in West Swindon?

Did you see the masses of creepy looking cobwebs in the trees in The Chesters earlier this year?

This wasn't a visit by extraterrestrials but the work of something more down to earth – Cobweb Moths.

At certain times of the year, the moths spin dense silk webbing over tree branches and infest hedges and shrubs.

The webs are filled with larvae which look alarming but rarely cause long-term damage to healthy, established trees. And, as part of the wonders of Mother Nature, the birds eat the larvae. The circle of life!



# A Load of Rubbish

Our Litter Picking Stations have been welcomed by many in the community.



We place a board/station with litter pickers and bags in a part of West Swindon for people to come along and do some litter picking. Even two minutes can make an immediate, visual difference to our beautiful green parish. We move the station around to different parts of the parish weekly and would love to hear your suggestions as to where it could go next. Please let us know.

We also have organised litter picks in Toothill and Shaw Village. Toothill is the second Saturday of every month – meet by the Community Centre at 10am. Shaw Village is the third Saturday of every month – meet by the noticeboard (outside Tesco's) at 9am.

You are very welcome at either or both. All equipment is provided so all we need is you!

## Picture This!

The Parish Council's budgets are important and need to be easily accessible to you the taxpayer! To make all that number crunching easier to understand we have designed a new infogram on the Finance section of our website.

See it [here](#).



# New Recruits

West Swindon Parish Council has three new members in its team.

Chris is the latest addition to our outdoor team – the guys who do the grass cutting, hedge and shrub trimming and play park maintenance to name just a few of their many daily tasks.

Jacqui, our new Deputy Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer, looks after the administration and finances of the Council, supporting the Parish Clerk.



Mark



Chris

And, Mark, our new Community Engagement Officer, is here to communicate and liaise with everyone in the parish, including our volunteers, local businesses, partner agencies like the police and fire service, schools, charities, churches, and Swindon Borough Council.

Mark is on hand to feedback to the Parish Council and its elected councillors as well as communicating to the public which projects we are working on to make West Swindon an even better place to live.

It's your parish council so please tell us what you like and what could be improved in the area.

# West Swindon Parish Councillors



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Mustafa Ertas  
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