



Early last year, thousands of volunteers helped the Ramblers (Britain's largest walking charity), to identify lost rights of way. They found that over 49,000 miles of historic paths – enough to stretch around the world nearly twice – are missing from official maps in England and Wales. In Gloucestershire alone, there are 910 miles of potential lost paths!

These paths are a vital part of our heritage, describing how people have travelled over the centuries within their communities and beyond, yet if they are not claimed for inclusion on the definitive map (the legal record of rights of way) by January 2026, we risk losing them forever. At a time when more than ever, we recognise the importance of being able to easily access green space and connect with nature, it is

vital that we create better walking routes to enable everyone to explore the countryside on foot.

The Ramblers would love people in Tidenham (and beyond!) to join their team of dedicated volunteers, researching historic evidence and submitting applications to local authorities ahead of the 2026 deadline, to get the most useful paths restored to the map. Having the support of local people with their knowledge of the history of their communities will be vital to helping reclaim these paths so they can be used and enjoyed for generations to come.

A detailed map of the potential lost paths identified is available on the Ramblers website and members of the public can now suggest priorities for the paths to help understand which may be most beneficial. The ramblers are developing a suite of resources and tools to support volunteers in putting these paths back on the map. You can sign up to hear more when you view the map: <https://dontloseyourway.ramblers.org.uk/>

**\*\* The Parish Council, with support from local volunteers, is working on identifying such missing footpaths in Tidenham Parish. A map of current Public Rights Of Way in Gloucestershire can be found through the Gloucestershire County Council website:**

Rights of Way online map - Highways ([gloucestershire.gov.uk](http://gloucestershire.gov.uk))

Please contact the Clerk if you have identified a missing footpath or for further information.

[clerk@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk)

## Safe Space Sedbury

The Covid 19 pandemic has left many individuals and families struggling with drug, alcohol or mental health related problems. To help overcome some of these challenges, Sedbury Space is pleased to announce a new confidential advice and support service available to all in our community. Provided by an experienced and qualified Advanced Practitioner the drop-in service is available at the Sedbury Space. You can also make confidential contact by dropping in, phone or email for advice, to book an appointment or a video chat.

**Drugs Anxiety Alcohol Depression**

**HELP and ADVICE**

**CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT**

we are here for you, supporting families and individuals

**YOUR SAFE SPACE**

**Drop in, Txt, Phone or Email for an informal chat**

[SafeSpaceSedbury@gmail.com](mailto:SafeSpaceSedbury@gmail.com)

or call our confidential helpline **07562 652987**

**NOT JUNK MAIL - NOT JUNK MAIL - NOT JUNK MAIL**



## Tidenham Parish Council - AUTUMN 2021 NEWSLETTER -

Welcome to the latest Parish Council newsletter. I hope it finds you well and that you have not been too badly affected by the challenges we have all faced over the past year or so.

The temporary amendment to the law that allowed Parish Council meetings to be held online came to an end in early May, and since then all of our meetings have been held face-to-face. Meetings are now held in Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, King Alfred's Road and we are enjoying our new location.

As ever, members of the public are welcome to attend meetings, agendas for all of which are displayed on the noticeboards throughout the Parish and on the website.

We have recently welcomed two new Parish Councillors - Bethan Kotecha and Liz McBride and look forward to working with them in the Parish.

The Parish Council has now launched its exciting new Youth Engagement Project and has welcomed Emily Timmins as our new Parish Youth Worker. You can read more about Emily and her new role later in the newsletter.

Having been approached by members of the public, the Parish Council is considering introducing a Community Garden in the Parish. If this is to go ahead, the design, location and use of such a garden will very much depend on what you, the community, would like. Please contact the Clerk if you have any ideas and / or would like to be involved in some way with this new project. [clerk@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk) or 01594 530779.

Finally - the Forest of Dean District Council has commissioned GRCC to conduct a Housing Needs Survey for the Parish. This will be sent to you by post early in the new year. PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY - your response will help ensure future housing will meet local needs.

I hope you enjoy this latest newsletter - please get in touch if you need any further information or would like to include an article in the next edition.

With very best wishes to you and your families for the festive season.

*Jan Roving* Parish Council Chairman

## Litter Pick

A record 27 adults & children turned up for the Sedbury community litter pick on a summer morning. The rain held off but it was very warm!

3 groups formed with Scouts heading for the Wye Valley Greenway and adjacent playing fields. Everyone else split into 2 groups to walk the Offa's Dyke Path to its junction with Sedbury Lane & in an opposite direction to Tutshill & playing fields. Surrounding roads were covered on the return to Wydean School.

Once condensed, we collected a total of 4 orange bags of general litter, 2 purple bags of plastic/tins and 2 glass bags & not forgetting a broken school chair - seat only! All litter was removed from site & recycled.

This event was organised as part of the 'Tidenham Parish ECO-Project' with help from Transition Chepstow, Sedbury Space, 1st Sedbury & Tidenham Scout Group, Wydean School, & WyeValley Greenway volunteers.

Our 'Keep Chepstow Tidy' group runs regular community litter picks and the recent 'Plastic Free Chepstow' initiative organised multiple projects to help reduce our local reliance on single use plastics.



**\*\* The Parish Council is keen to establish a parish wide Litter Picking Group to carry out regular and ad hoc litter picks. All equipment will be provided. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Clerk - Carol Hinton - [clerk@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk) All welcome - however much time you are able to offer!**

Join the Tidenham Parish Council Facebook Group and keep up to date on what's happening in the Parish.

# Tidenham War Memorial Hall & Recreation Ground Trust



Coming out the other side of the pandemic, it is great to see the Trust's facilities being used again as intended, by locals from all over the parish and further afield.

The Trust has emerged in better shape, being able to have carried out improvements to the Memorial Hall and the facilities within the buildings. In addition, our Tutshill Pre-school have enhanced the Hall's outside space making it more user friendly with the work being completed by volunteers from within their group and their own finances. Tidenham Boys FC have also returned to play on the Rec and are investing in some outside storage nearer to the pitches. They now have several teams playing regularly in the Gloucestershire Leagues. As ever they are always looking for additional players wanting to play for a friendly local team.

A concern has been whether user groups would return, but it appears at this time the majority, including the Pizza man in the car park, have continued, however if anyone is looking for any time slots please get in touch. For next year additional bins are going to be added to the Rec, repairs to the fencing and improvements to Shirley's Grove are planned.

The Trust would like to thank the Parish Council for remaining committed to cutting the grass for the next grass cutting contract period and maintaining the play equipment on the Trusts land for everyone's enjoyment. With so many new developments within the area this green space is vital for everyone's wellbeing, as shown so clearly over the last year. One issue that is a regular occurrence is dogs being exercised on the Rec. This is not permitted or wanted by the majority of residents and users. Please respect their wishes and use Shirley's Grove, for instance, for this purpose. There are signs on all entrances and it is for the safety of all the users, many of whom are young children.

If you wish to volunteer to become a Trustee and help manage and improve this great local amenity, or hire out any of the facilities please get in touch on 07984 184709.

## Tidenham Parish Wellbeing Chaplain



My name is Nicki Bullivant. I was born and brought up in Tidenham Parish and have lived here for most of my life. I have previously served on Tidenham Parish Council for two years until November 2017.

I have worked as an NHS nurse for 36 years, working in St Lawrence hospital, the Royal Gwent, and, latterly, Chepstow hospital. I retired from nursing in August this year.

I was ordained a Church of England priest in June 2021 after 4 years of intensive training, both in college and in local parishes.

At the end of September, I started a new role: Wellbeing Chaplain for the whole of Tidenham Parish. My aim is to help those within the parish to address any issues or concerns they might have in relation to their physical, spiritual, relational, or emotional wellbeing, especially as we emerge from the Covid 19 pandemic.

I will be working collaboratively with other agencies within the parish and am excited about this new opportunity to serve my local community.

If you see me out and about, please don't hesitate to stop me for a chat. Likewise, if you would like to contact me my phone number is 07936 787 409.

## Farewell and Thank You!



At the October meeting, Tidenham Parish Council Chairman Jan Koning, on behalf of the Council, presented a hamper to Haydn Bynon as a thank you for his hard work for the Council over the past years. Haydn has been carrying out essential inspections and urgent repairs on Parish Council play equipment for many years and has been cutting the grass in Shirley's Grove for 17 years. Haydn has decided to retire which is sad news for the Parish, but good news for Haydn! The Chairman thanked Haydn for his hard work, enthusiasm and dedication to the Parish and wished him well for his retirement.

**\*\*Would you or anyone you know be interested in carrying out ad hoc jobs around the Parish (not grass cutting)? These would be on a contract basis and Public Liability Insurance would be needed. If so please contact the Clerk clerk@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk or 01594 530779.**

## Tidenham Parish Council



### – Youth Engagement Project

The Council is delighted to welcome Emily Timmins to the Parish Council team as our new Youth Worker who you will be seeing around the Parish – a few words of introduction from Emily on her new role:

Hi, I'm Emily a biology graduate, founder of a charitable organisation called Lydney Hub and volunteer youth worker at Lydney Youth Hub.

I am passionate about developing community wellbeing and have previously worked to improve youth provision in the Lydney area.

Well connected neighbourhoods are key to making a positive difference to people's health and wellbeing. Taking part in local groups and activities is an important way for children and young people to reduce social isolation, meet other people like them and feel like a valued member of the community.

As the new Community Youth Engagement lead in Tidenham, I want to help young people be the experts in their own lives, helping them find opportunities to connect and make friends in a range of activities, as well as talk about things that matter to them most and offer practical advice and support.

I feel privileged to have been selected for this role and look forward to working with young people in the area.

timmins@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk

## Dog Waste and Litter



Did you know that Tidenham Parish Council spent £13,000 during the last financial year on the clearing and collection of litter and dog waste in the Parish – not including the purchase of new and replacement bins?

Litter is collected from bins owned by the Parish Council on its own land which is also cleared weekly by a contractor.

The Council owns, installs and empties the dog waste bins on land owned by the Gloucestershire Highways. Last year the cost to Tidenham Parish Council of emptying these alone was almost £6000! These bins are emptied at least weekly. Over the last year or so the use of these bins has increased hugely and our contractors have reported the waste from some bins can weigh over 20kgs.

Thank you to all of you who pick up your dog waste but.....please don't leave bags of waste on the ground or hanging in trees - and if the waste bin happens to be full PLEASE TAKE THE WASTE HOME WITH YOU. Dog waste can be put in your black home waste bins.

Thank you for your help with this.



## GDASS (Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service)

GDASS is a county-wide support service designed to reduce the level of domestic abuse in our communities and improve the safety of victims and their families.

GDASS support anyone over the age of 16 who are, or who have, experienced domestic abuse.

Domestic abuse can be;

- Physical
- Psychological
- Economic
- Sexual
- Emotional

This includes those so-called 'honour-based' crimes.

We are proud to support the LGBTQ+ communities and provide specialist support to those within the LGBTQ+ community who are experiencing domestic abuse.

We offer a range of bespoke packages of support to support people to move on from domestic abuse. These are tailored around you and the support needs you have identified for you and your family.

GDASS offer floating support, group work, support for those identified as being at high risk of harm, young people, and specialist support for those engaged with the family courts.

We work very closely with our partner agencies (including statutory services) to help provide holistic, person-centred support, including support through the criminal and civil justice systems.

If you are, or someone you know, experiencing domestic abuse, please do not hesitate to contact us for advice, information and/or support.

Our helpdesk is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

**GDASS Helpdesk: 01452 726570**

**Email: support@gdass.org.uk**

**Online referral form: www.gdass.org.uk/referral-form/**

**Website: www.gdass.org.uk**

## Community Speed Watch

A big 'thank you' to those of you who volunteered to take part in the Parish Council Community Speedwatch Initiative. Following training with the Police, the first couple of speed check sessions have taken place on the B4228 on the approach to and from Woodcroft to Tutshill, near Bishton Lane. Information gathered from the checks is forwarded to the Police.

\*\* Volunteers for speed checks in other areas of the Parish are still required – please get in touch if you would like to be involved. clerk@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk