

'Formed by likeminded residents who love Dunchurch and its heritage and wish to protect and enhance its environment in order to make the village a better place to live in, work in and visit.'



FRIENDS OF DUNCHURCH SOCIETY

E - NEWSLETTER 5 22/10/2018

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This latest newsletter is a bumper edition which will bring you right up to date with our progress so far.....

Society Administration Structure

We are keen for our Society to have a sustainable management and operating structure and most of the main areas of the structure are now agreed and in place (see attached our management and operating structure chart). There are a few unfilled positions but we are confident that members will come forward. The enthusiasm for our cause and the generosity of volunteers has been overwhelming.

There is still a position open on the management group so if you have any management experience we will be very pleased to chat. Please in the first instance contact: -

Tony Kember friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

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Minutes of our Inaugural Meeting 6th September 2018

These are attached for your interest. They are to be ratified at our next members meeting (date to be advised).

3

Public Liability Insurance

Thanks to RBC for their guidance, we will have insurance cover for our members and public liability to the sum of £5 million with the Royal Horticultural Society. This however can only be taken out after our Constitution has been ratified by members.

4

Dunchurch in Bloom 2019

We are disappointed with the response from the Parish Council to our request for increasing its spending by £2000 on village summer planting. Unfortunately, our proposal wasn't properly considered at the October meeting and we have asked for it to

be put on the November meeting agenda for a proper considered response.

5

Dunchurch in Bloom 2019 Dunchurch Businesses and Conservation Area Scheme

This part of our original planting scheme for Dunchurch is being planned (there is no need for DPC involvement with this project).

Rimo Growers have been most helpful and have agreed to coordinate this part of the scheme which will now be based mainly on private property hanging basket displays.

Rimo have prepared a hanging basket with water reservoir and plants for £10 each. Hanging brackets supplied and fixed for £7.00 each will be offered if required to encourage busy local businesses and residents to easily join the scheme.

We are hopeful of having at least 70 extra hanging baskets in Dunchurch for 2019.

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Public Spaces in Dunchurch

For Dunchurch villagers, these must be the most disappointing areas of neglect in our village. These high-profile locations are places we see regularly and they set the image for our historic village. Friends of Dunchurch Society can make a significant difference to our environment.

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Volunteers

The response to our call for volunteers has been heart-warming and the enthusiasm inspiring.

Some positions still need applicants (see attached structure chart).

Greens and Public Spaces – we have had a good response for gardening positions but we still need a Team Leader to organise and coordinate the working group.

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Please find following our current vision of a job specification for Greens and Public Spaces Team Leader and Gardeners.

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Greens & Public Spaces
Team Leaders Role
Job Specification

The current proposal is to organise ourselves into teams of 5 / 6 gardeners / maintenance groups with a team leader organising and overseeing each of the working parties. The Team Leader will manage the group by agreeing and planning work dates and schedules with the relevant teams. Team Leaders must have easy access to email facilities and have a mobile phone. If you think you would enjoy organising the work in these most important areas of our village, please contact Tony Kember email: friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

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Greens & Public Spaces
Gardening Volunteers
Job Specification

Edging up, where appropriate, green areas and borders with hand tools only. Weeding etc. all areas within public spaces and monuments with hand tools only. Maintaining ground based Rimo flower tubs including watering, hand tools only, watering cans.

Clearing loose grass cuttings away after Council mowing using hand tools only. Litter picking, hand tools only.

We expect volunteers will want to use their own tools but we will be providing Hi Viz vests.

The Society's £5 million Insurance Policy will cover all volunteers doing Society work.

Importantly, for public spaces we will, thanks to our Health & Safety expert member Les Pearce, be providing proper volunteer safety training and a risk assessment programme.

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Refreshments - Village Green House

The Green have offered to provide light refreshments at break times to FOD teams working in the village.

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Friends of Dunchurch E News

This is working well and we are reviewing its format, frequency and content. Some of our members do not have email facilities so if you know of members who would like a hard copy perhaps we can hand deliver. We will try and identify the members who need this service.

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Facebook

Thanks to the efforts of Keith and Lynne Brushett we are now up and running with a closed group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/283143168981777/> We hope this form of communication will bring our community closer together and expand our membership numbers.

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Website

We have commissioned a local business to build a Friends of Dunchurch website www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org and this is currently under construction.

Initially this will inform visitors of our aims and objectives. Any input/suggestions about this website from our members will be most welcome. After the initial set up Keith and Lynne have kindly offered to maintain, update and develop the site.

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Contact Centre

Like all well run organisations we need to be easily contactable so with this objective, Steve Prime of Wild and Free has generously volunteered to monitor all incoming emails on a daily basis and direct enquiries to the relevant team/department in FODS.

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Projects Team

Projects - these are the jobs to be done in the village.

Mel Macartney has volunteered to make his considerable management skills and experience available to help us get things done in Dunchurch. There is currently a list of 40 projects needing a good result. Mel



intends to build a team of project managers who will focus on a project through to a satisfactory conclusion. If you think you could be a project manager, please get in touch with Mel via our email friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

Current projects are listed below. If you have any comments or would like to add to the list, please contact Mel with your thoughts. This department will make the difference in our village and hopefully fill the vacuum created by our ineffectual Parish Council.

1. Newsagent, Corner shop, The Square – change window display and condition of property
2. Truly Scrumptious – Discuss with Planners change of pink sign
3. Repair seat and replacement plan on Daventry Road green
4. Clean tourist information stand, Daventry Road green
5. Repair French street lamps or replace on Rugby Road and Maypole green
6. Repair or remove/review black planters around maypole
7. Repair round old tree surround in middle of car park
8. Write to selected businesses about poor state of their shops
9. Thatched Bus Shelter – assessment of condition and refurbish/paint etc. (ref Nick Jones, DPC)
10. Remove old WCC parking pole outside estate agents
11. Paint lamppost front of thatched bus shelter
12. Maintain grass on green to a higher standard, clear top grass as necessary after RBC mowing
13. Edge and weed greens – Coventry Road, traffic island green statue, Daventry Road green, Conservation Area Public Spaces
14. Weeding monuments – Market Cross, both war memorials, Sir Douglas statue
15. Review planting and border layouts to statue surround
16. Liaise with RBCP about coordinating with Rimo planting
17. Members E newsletter production and distribution
18. Village newsletter professionally produced and distributed to all Dunchurch homes (now in production)
19. Village centre businesses and restaurants to be included in Dunchurch in Bloom hanging baskets
20. Removal of WCC diversion stand at Traffic lights, Daventry Road
21. Litter picking programme
22. Review village entrance signs
23. Establish 24/7 access to a defibrillator
24. Fundraising team leader (post now filled)
25. DPC funding for Dunchurch magazine
26. Boundary (A45 & A426) surround monument team
27. Bus stop at the chemist for 64 and 580 routes
28. Pruning trees Dunchurch Hall, smarten up Southam Road
29. Community notice board at bus stop? The Green & Rugby Road
30. Julia Sanders – cycle lane issue
31. Concrete area end of Waring Way – no maintenance and scruffy
32. Spring bulbs planted on village greens and verges (school project)
33. Travelers early warning in the area (internet/Facebook)
34. Dun Cow embarrassing exterior flowers etc.
35. DPC sponsorship of 2019 planting scheme
36. FOD's practical assistance to local businesses for 2019 Dunchurch in Bloom – hanging basket displays
37. Defibrillators in Dunchurch PAD
38. Planting out Daventry Road traffic island
39. DPC refusal to spend £2k to beautify the village – dispute the decision
40. Promote FOD's members at DPC elections 2nd May 2019 (See item 18)

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Fundraising Group

As you know we are funded by sponsorship and the support of local businesses but soon we will have to raise funds to enable us to do the good work necessary to improve our village. We are lucky to have Carol Seager to head up this group and if you would like to be involved and help with fundraising events please contact Carol on friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

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Health & Safety Issues

It is most important that we are aware of the various aspects of this whole area of care. We are most grateful to Les Pearce for agreeing to help set up our Health & Safety management systems. Les Pearce is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Health and Safety and also Hon President of IOSH Mid Shires Branch.

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Parish Council Elections May 2019.

It is important to have a good cross section of residents represented on our Parish Council and it would be helpful if we could have FOD member representation. To do this, we would welcome hearing from anyone who would like to 'stand' in the forthcoming Parish Council Elections on 2nd May 2019. If you would like to discuss the possibility of becoming a Parish Councillor, ex Parish Councillor Tony Kember would be pleased to hear from you friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

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Dunchurch News and Diary Magazine

Again, we are so lucky to have as members such an amazing range of skills and experience. The magazine is now being put together by members Janet Beaumont, who has produced some fabulous graphics and layout and Sue Protheroe who is managing the Editorial section.

Advertising is an important part of making a success of our magazine. We need a volunteer to visit local businesses to obtain advertising copy. Please contact Tony Kember friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

The magazine will be published quarterly. The first edition will be a 12 page A5 full colour glossy magazine and will be hand delivered by professional distributors to every Dunchurch household. Edition 1 will be distributed by 1st December.

We will be printing extra copies and these will be available at retail pick up points in the village and in the library. Can't wait to see it!

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Members Letters

If you have anything to say in our e newsletter, please get in touch at friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com It is now just 6 weeks since our inaugural meeting at the WI Hall and we hope you will agree, we have made some good progress and we can say we have a structure that will take our cause forward in a sustainable, efficient and effective way.

The Friends of Dunchurch, a charity formed on September 6th 2018 has over 65 members. Formed by likeminded residents who love Dunchurch and its heritage and wish to protect and enhance its environment in order to make the village a better place to live in, work in and visit

Contact us:

email: friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

Tel: 07773 334143

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