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THE CAMPDEN SOCIETY



Protecting the architectural and historic quality of Chipping Campden, its open spaces and its natural setting.

Dear Member

Planning Matters

The Campden Conservation Trust has offered to fund an independent professional valuation of the Craves to assist the Town Council with their deliberations over this complex issue.

We have received numerous letters regarding the quality of the replacement pavements and verges in the High St. Last week, representatives of GCC met with the Town Council and High Street house owners. The GCC representatives have agreed to remedial work which will be carried out in the Summer. This will include the laying of turf adjacent to the new footpath and the replacement of all the paths from the pavement to the High Street with artificial Cotswold stone.

We encourage everyone to submit their individual views about planning applications. The Society believes it is important our elected Councillors and planning authorities hear from as many people as possible on matters that will impact the economic and social future of our town.



Wolds End Orchard Update

Open Orchard: You are warmly invited to visit the Orchard on the long weekend 1-3 May, when we will have the gate open each day between 10 and 4. You will be very welcome to pop in and see what all the local volunteers have been up to over the last five months and enjoy Blossom Time.

At time of writing we're beginning to see leaves and buds unfurl, and blossom appear across the Orchard: pears first, then the apples. This beautiful time of year is such an uplifting sight in these difficult times – not to be missed! – and the 'dead hedge' is a new feature you may not have come across before.

Please note:

- It's a natural environment, which is uneven underfoot and with long grass and trip hazards including rabbit holes – so please wear appropriate footwear and watch your step.
- We ask you to observe the government Covid-19 regulations in place at the time, for example in respect of social distancing and any rulings around the number of people who can gather on the day.
- The Orchard is a Nature Reserve so dogs (exception assistance dogs) are not permitted, and do not bring food or drink onto the site.

Spring Orchard Update

The ambitious winter programme of maintenance was rounded off by creating two formidable 'dead hedges' with the brash and prunings from the maintenance work. These unusual features are going to be an amazing habitat for nature, especially for small mammals and birds and it will give them somewhere to shelter that is protected from predators and from the wind and rain. They are also a haven for insects and are really beautiful!

Huge thanks this month go to all the volunteers, including for monitoring the newly planted trees in what has been a very dry period. An army of watering cans have been used to keep the newly planted whips and trees in good health. Thanks too to Dee at The Co-Operative for handing over the shop window to an Orchard display – hope you have enjoyed it. Additional thanks to The Midcounties Co-Operative Community Fund for allocating the Orchard a £250 grant which will be used to provide community access and events during 2021.

volunteer co-ordinator, Donna Evans on foweo2020@gmail.com or 07867 361180. No expertise necessary – tools, instructions and safety gear will be provided.

Update from Julianne Davis – Vice Chair Campden Society and Chair of Wolds End Orchard Sub Committee.

Society News

We are planning (hopefully!) to hold a physical AGM in the Summer at Chipping Campden school. Further details will be sent out when arrangements have been finalised. Since November last year, a further 48 people have joined the Society. If you know of anyone in Campden who supports our charitable objects of: working to secure the protection of the architectural and historic quality of our town, its open spaces and its natural setting, please pass on our Membership Secretary's contact details. Judy Barclay can be reached at campdensocietymembership@gmail.com or phone 841849.

We are currently looking for a volunteer with experience of fundraising and major donations; also someone who can build our social media reach and help manage our social feeds of Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. If you have any experience in these areas, we would love to hear from you!

Elizabeth Devas – Chair
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Images: Orchard Blossom / Keyna Doran



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