

# Gawsworth Gazette

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JANUARY 2022



## Neil elected as new Chair at Gawsworth Hub

We start the New Year with a new Chair at Gawsworth Hub. A huge thank you to interim Chair Paul Stanion who has led the Hub since the Ray Shaw, stepped down in June 2021 after many years of service.

A new Chair, Neil Phillips, has now been elected by the Board. Neil is one of 17 volunteers who have each achieved over 10

years of service. He was a member of the original steering committee that established Gawsworth Community Shop and, a couple of years later, he joined the Board.

Neil has been very much involved in the development of our community hub which will provide a wider range of community services and activities in

Gawsworth.

2021 saw 17 of our volunteers each achieve 10 years' service. A December celebration and recognition of this amazing achievement has been deferred until spring 2022 when they will be formally thanked and recognised for their ongoing support.

## Five Year Plan

Gawsworth Parish Council put a 5-year strategic plan in place which concluded in 2020. You can find it on the Gawsworth Life website. Looking back it's good to see how much has been achieved against the objectives set back in 2015. The park and Nancy's Wood have management and [cont..]



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## Five Year Plan (cont.)

development plans in place with progress already made with initiatives such as the new Community Orchard and extensive new tree, hedgerow and bulb planting.

We now have the Gawsworth Gazette every month and all Parish Council meetings are streamed live. Money was spent on many

maintenance jobs like the new Christmas Light Arch (*pictured, cover*), replacement street name signs and hundreds of spring bulbs for Nancy's Wood.

Great efforts were made to understand the views of residents on significant issues like the, now dropped, Dark Lane development and the Parish Council continues with its efforts to promote residents interests in the issues

of the day like the proposed development behind the Rising Sun and Cheshire East's proposal to transfer a third of our residents out of Gawsworth and into Macclesfield Town. The work continues.

What do you think should be the priorities in the next 5 years? Have a chat with your councillors - their contact details are on the website and on the Parish Council notice boards.

## Gawsworth WI Report

A fun filled evening when we were very ably entertained by Melanie Latham – Chutney and Cheer with lots of lovely goodies to buy afterwards.

Melanie very kindly does not charge for her talks but a donation is made to the Stroke Association for any sales that she makes, as Melanie herself has suffered from strokes in her past.

Ladies had a enjoyable

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evening with lots at chatter and laughter, crisps and mince pies were eaten and wine or a soft drink was available.

A future trip to Liverpool in June is planned for next year and looking further ahead a trip to Blist Hill Victorian Museum and Ludlow with an overnight stay in Leamington Spa for November.

Please feel free to come and join us at any of our meetings you will be made to feel very welcome.

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We meet the first Tuesday of the month at the Parish Hall, Church Lane at 7.30 pm.

## Council moves to Wednesday

To enable the council to continue streaming its meetings, the Parish Council is moving its meeting day to the second Wednesday of each month. The first council meeting of the year will be at 7:30pm on Wednesday 12th January in the Scout Hut and streamed on Facebook/Zoom.

# On the roads

Reports of incidents involving cyclists on Gawsworth lanes and roads suggest that a few comments here might be helpful in promoting understanding, patience and goodwill between road users.

The Highway Code's main message seems to be that we should all behave responsibly and be considerate of other road users.

Regional and National cycle routes pass through Gawsworth taking in Woodhouse End Road, Dark Lane and Marton Lane and growing encouragement to walk and cycle more means this topic is getting more important.

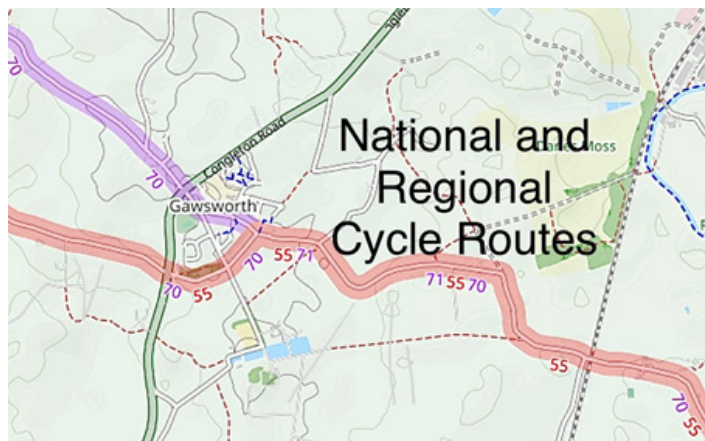
Care is needed everywhere but some Gawsworth hotspots come to mind. Lowes Lane and sections of Woodhouse End Road and Dark Lane are shared by pedestrians, cyclists, motorists and occasional horse riders. The A536 is

still a safety concern for all road users. The speed control measures and resurfacing should help considerably. Worryingly, although the funding has been provided, work seems to have stalled on safety improvements to the Dark Lane crossroads.

The Highway Code advises that cyclists shouldn't ride more than two abreast, and ride in single file on narrow or busy roads and when riding round bends. Cyclists' positioning on roads is contentious. A new Highway Code is due out soon and it will advise cyclists to "ride in the centre of your lane to make yourself as clearly visible as possible" when on quiet roads or streets - but if a faster vehicle

comes up behind, move in to let them overtake." Our lanes with their potholes and badly eroded edges mean that cyclists often can't safely hug the road edge.

The revised Highway Code will introduce a hierarchy of road users which ensures that those who can do the greatest harm have the greatest responsibility to reduce the danger or threat they may pose to others. Drivers will also now be given a specific duty to ensure people on bicycles are safe, while those on two wheels in turn will be told to look out for pedestrians, as part of the new rules announced by the Department for Transport.



# Gawsworth Hub News

Gawsworth Community Hub wishes you all a happy, healthy and prosperous new year. Let us hope that we can return to a more normal life early in 2022.

Our Community Hub has flourished for another year thanks to you our loyal customers and stalwart volunteers, without you all we would not be able to support you, our great community.

We have received many compliments and thanks throughout this difficult time. Our most exciting project has been to bring the Meeting Place and Café into life.

Many of you have already tasted some of the amazing cakes and mince tarts served up with coffees other hot drinks. Special thanks go to Kathryn in the shop and Janet in the meeting place and café. Subject to the rules and especially to keep you safe, 2022

will see us expanding activities in the Hub.

You can get together in small groups in the Hub and there will be an ongoing diary of events for you to enjoy. We hope that you will continue to support our efforts.

The new Café and Meeting Place widen the range of opportunities for individuals to volunteer at Gawsworth Hub.

Would you like to meet new people and give back to your local community? In addition to specific volunteer roles, we also welcome support on ad hoc projects from individuals with additional skills and expertise.

To find out more, have a look on the notice boards inside, and outside, of the hub or visit our website [www.gawsworthhub.co.uk](http://www.gawsworthhub.co.uk)

*Subject to no changes to Covid-19 rulings the following activities are scheduled to start in the hub in January 2022.*

## **Knit and Natter**

2nd Wednesday 2-4pm

*A craft afternoon with friendly chat and refreshments*

## **Caring Space**

4th Monday 2-4pm

*A safe space for carers and those cared for to relax, socialise and take refreshments*

## **Free Hand Massage**

19th January 2-4pm

*Chill out with reflexology and a drink*

*To avoid disappointment, please contact Janet to book your space [janet@gawsworthhub.co.uk](mailto:janet@gawsworthhub.co.uk)*

## **COMING SOON**

Community Garden Group, championed by Macclesfield Plant Swap.