

St Martha Parish Council
Clerk's Report for the meeting on 15th January 2026

1. Additional Dog Waste Bins - from Gemma Withinshaw

Thank you for your continued help with this, which is much appreciated. To clarify a few points:

1. The track is accessible as cars use it every day to access the two properties at the end. The lower half was resurfaced earlier this year and is a huge improvement and top half is due to be completed within the next month or two. Off-road vehicles are not needed. The weekly bin lorry which comes is just the smaller size vehicle to assist with turning.
2. It would not create muddy tracks through the site or be difficult/time consuming to reach as the location could be just off the track (so not on the privately owned track) but just next to the information board which is literally three or four steps from the track itself.
3. As I walk there regularly I see a noticeable improvement of dog fouling near to the two bins already on the site. Whereas, locating a new bin in the suggested place means that all walkers which use the Downs Link path - which is the track mentioned - (which is a considerable volume) but do not venture within the Gunpowder Mills area itself, would pass by a bin. The track is currently overloaded with dog fouling as it is used daily by several "professional" dog walkers who do not pick up the waste.

I would really like to pursue this case, as it would hugely benefit the local area, if you are in agreement.

From Hendryk Jurk in October 2025

Dear Councillor Newson,

I am replying to your email regarding additional (dog) waste bins at Chilworth Gunpowder Mills.

There are currently bins at the entrances at West Lodge and on the main road at the end of the Vera's Path.

The locations are chosen so that the bins can be accessed by the waste crews independently from ground conditions. If we place bins further into the site that causes issues with emptying, both for resources requirements and creating muddy tracks.

The access track along Lockner Farm is not owned by the Council and the track's condition does not lend itself for easy access without off road vehicles to empty bins.

We were looking at the dog fouling issue at Chilworth some years back. At the time it turned out that significant dog fouling occurred despite the bins present, i.e. 50+ incidents within 10 metres of existing bins.

We would need to look at educating and enforcement to resolve. I have copied in Galvin, for further consideration.

From Galvin Gillies, Team Leader, Parks & Streetscene on 11/12/25

I do not have any further information to add and agree with Hendryk's email.

The land belongs to Countryside, and it is Countryside's decision on what bin provision is required on the land.

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2. Authors for the Chilworth Village Magazine

Please bring your diaries...! 2025 shown for reference

2025		2025
Feb/March	Debbie Toynbee	
April/May	Graham Brown	
June/July	Patricia Allen – Chairman's report	
Aug/Sept	Julia Tantram	12 th July
Oct/Nov	Debbie Toynbee	12 th September
Dec/Jan 2026	Maureen Osman	12 November

2026		Date to send to Clerk
Feb/March	Ray Young	12 th January 2026
April/May	Graham Brown	12 th March 2026
June/July	Chair's annual report	12 th May 2026
Aug/Sept		12 th July 2026
Oct/Nov		12 th September 2026
Dec/Jan 2027		12 November 2026

3. Maintenance at the Chilworth War Memorial

Ian Watson visited the site on Monday 12th January and found there was no tasks to compete on this occasion.

4. Meeting dates

Please bring your diaries for possible attendances at Shalford CC. Thank you.

Month/ Year	St Martha PC	Shalford CC	Shere PC
January 2026	Thursday 15/01/26	Thursday 22/01/26	Tuesday 13/01/25
February 2026	Thursday 12/02/26	Thursday 19/02/26	Thursday 12/02/26
March 2026	Thursday 12/03/26	Thursday 19/03/26	Thursday 05/03/26
April 2026	Thursday 09/04/26	Thursday 23/04/26	Thursday 09/04/26 (Annual Assembly)
May 2026	Thursday 28/05/26 PLUS The Annual Assembly at 6:30 p.m. in Chilworth Village Hall	Thursday 21/05/26	

5. Renovating the Bus Shelter opposite Lockner Farm

Work has started – on site and I have met with Bill to discuss replacing and re-positioning the Parish Council internal notice board. We also discussed the repairs to the roof of the Chilworth Bus Shelter damaged by Network Rail.