

The Parish Times

Keeping Hinton Parva, Bishopstone and Russley Park informed.

Volume 10. Number 11

Public Meeting FOLLOW UP

The Parish Council took up almost two pages of the November issue of the Parish Times, with a full report on the public meeting held on 12 September in Bishopstone Village Hall. We put forward a number of suggestions for improving the quality of life in the Parish, but principally Bishopstone, and asked for comments and ideas to be passed to any Councillor by 30 November.

We have not received any feedback, which is both surprising and disappointing given the healthy turn-out and enthusiasm shown at the meeting. We therefore consider that this issue is closed for the time being. We are however always open to feedback and to the suggestions and concerns of parishioners, and would be pleased to receive these at any time in the future.

We can however report the following:

1. A management plan has been approved for the Pond & Island in Bishopstone; this will be posted on the Parish Council website and will be available on request from the Clerk to the Parish Council.
2. A new risk assessment for the Pond & Island has been carried out, to improve public safety.
3. SBC have approved our plans for maintenance of the trees and the creation of a boundary hedge on the Island; we are getting quotations and we hope to carry out the work next year, subject to agreeing the funding.



THE PARISH COUNCIL
WOULD LIKE TO WISH
ALL PARISHIONERS
A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND A
HEALTHY NEW YEAR.



Press Release: Walk of Memories

Date of release: 10/11/2011

If you have plans to get active in the new year, then Prospect Hospice's first fundraising event for 2012 might be the just the ticket.

Prospect Hospice's Walk of Memories takes place around the scenic Cotswold Lakes on Sunday 26th February next year. This five-mile sponsored walk is an opportunity to remember a friend or loved one, or simply to enjoy a peaceful and reflective walk with your family in support of your local Hospice.

The circular walk, from the Four Pillars Hotel, will take around 2 hours to complete, following the footpaths and bridleways that run around several of the lakes in the area, including the picturesque Thames and Severn Canal, before ending back at the Centre, where there will be a hot drink waiting.

Please be aware the walk is on varied terrain and not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs. Dogs are welcome, but must be kept on a lead. Registration costs £8 per adult and £2 per child.

To register, please go to:

www.prospect-hospice.net/walkofmemories

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

If you are over 18 and enjoy working outdoors then why not get involved in one of the Ridgeway and Thames Path supervised volunteer tasks.

No experience is required, just enthusiasm and willingness to get hands dirty.

For more information contact:

The Volunteer Scheme 01865 810211

email:

ntvolunteers@oxford.gov.uk

or visit either of these web sites:

nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway

nationaltrail.co.uk/thamespath

THE LENGTHMAN has finished tree works on the island and has left the wood cut from the trees neatly stacked in piles. This wood is ideal for stakes in the garden or other garden uses and Parishioners are invited to help themselves.

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INFORMATION

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PARISH PLAN

The Parish Council has been considering whether to seek to put a Parish Plan in place; we received a presentation in October from Community First in Devizes; they act as coordinators and facilitators of Parish Plans for all parish councils in Wiltshire.

What is a Parish Plan?

Think of it as a Parish Strategy or Business Plan; it shows:

- Information about the parish
- How and why the plan was drawn up
- Local problems and opportunities
- How the parish wishes to develop over the next 5 to 10 years

What issues are covered by a Parish Plan?

All those of concern to people in the parish; it could include items such as:

- built environment
- people
- community information
- sport/recreation
- crime
- landscape
- education
- public transport
- employment
- tourism
- health / care
- community buildings
- heritage
- wildlife habitats
- housing
- young / old
- retail services
- traffic
- recycling
- climate change issues

What could a parish plan do for our parish?

- Help influence and develop the future of the community
- Provide evidence for funding bids
- Demonstrate what we might want or need over the next 5 – 10 years, and what we do NOT want or need

- Manage change
- Provide the evidence to back this up
- Influence housing and development issues
- Determine budget and spending priorities
- Improve community spirit and communications

Who should be involved?

It is prepared by the community and Parish Council - working together

- It is led by a *Steering Group* of parishioners, plus 1 or 2 from the Parish Council; it is likely to need around 10 members
- It can include representatives of specific groups, e.g. young people, the elderly
- Everyone who lives in the parish should have an opportunity to give their views
- It involves outside agencies providing services in the parish – local authority etc

Who else is producing a parish plan?

Locally, both Wanborough and Liddington have the drafting of a parish plan under way; you may have seen signs in Wanborough. Many other parishes in Wiltshire have completed a parish plan.

Some completed examples can be viewed at

<http://www.communityfirst.org.uk/index.php/community-development/case-studies>

The Parish Council has decided that it is worth taking this project forward to the point of testing whether parishioners are sufficiently interested to support the project, including whether there are enough to form a Steering Group to lead the project. This will therefore be on the agenda for the Parish Council meetings in January and February 2012, as follows:

- 7.30 pm on Monday 9 January 2012, at Hinton Parva Village Hall
- 7.30 pm Monday 13 February 2012, at Bishopstone Village Hall

If you are interested to find out more about Parish Plans and may wish to become involved, please come to either of these meetings. If you would like to get involved but are not able to attend, please contact one of the members of the Parish Council and let them have your views.

SMALL PRINT

Welcome

The Parish Council always extends a warm welcome to all new and prospective residents of the Parish. We are very pleased that you've chosen to live in our community.

The Parish contains two conservation areas and everything south of the Icknield Way is also in the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Many houses are also listed.

Naturally this brings with it all sorts of problems when it comes to tree felling, house alterations, etc. There are also other regulations aimed at

preserving the character and beauty of the parish. If in doubt, please check, we are only a phone call away.

The Parish Council is therefore always available to answer any questions you may have on any particular aspect of living in a conservation area, the area of outstanding natural beauty or in listed buildings. Please do not hesitate to contact either the Clerk, the Chair or any member of the council - the numbers appear on the next page.

We do hope you will be very happy here.

Parish Documents

The Parish has an archive room in the village hall in Bishopstone. This is not accessible to members of the public, however, with advanced warning any document stored there may be viewed by contacting a member of the council.

Documents of particular importance are also stored on the parish website and may be viewed

by anyone with a PC. Members of the parish without a PC can ask the clerk to provide them with a hard copy.

Documents on the website include the precept, the accounts, standing orders, annual Returns, etc.

Parish Parking

The Parish has many narrow lanes and these need to be accessible to residents, utility and emergency vehicles at all times. Cars are now being parked along some of the narrowest sections of road (e.g. Cues Lane in Bishopstone, High Street, Bishopstone, etc.) often blocking these routes to even small vehicles. Please remember that emergency vehicles need to be able to move freely down all the roads and lanes of the parish at all times. Could we therefore ask that owners of vehicles park them responsibly and avoid the narrowest sections.

THE Village Hall car park in Bishopstone is a private space available only for those using the village hall. It is not somewhere for parishioners to park on a long term basis; whatever the circumstances might be. This is clearly signed on

the wall of the hall.

Cars parked here make it very difficult for legitimate car park users to find space for their vehicles. It is also incredibly inconvenient for those users having to load and unload items, or for the infirm or disabled who wish to make use of the hall.

Provided the hall is not in use, loading and unloading of vehicles is permitted, as is visitor parking for short periods. By prior arrangement with the committee the siting of skips can also be accommodated.

The committee very much regret that it cannot offer parking for those in need, however, hall users must come first and from the complaints received these are frequently finding it difficult to park.

Protected Trees

Trees are vital to the quality of our lives for a number of reasons:-

- They help make our two villages more pleasant and attractive places in which to live and work.
- They are often a familiar and cherished feature and so provide a sense of place.
- They provide a valuable habitat for wildlife.

They are often older than many of the buildings amongst which they stand and so contribute to our local history.

Because they are so important to our environment all trees within a Conservation Area are protected by law*. The **whole** of Bishopstone is within a Conservation Area. The **whole** of Hinton Parva centred around the church is also within a Conservation Area.

Anyone planning to cut down or carry out work to a tree here must give the Borough Council six

weeks written notice of their intention to do so.

*Whilst there are one or two exemptions, such as trees with a diameter of less than 3 inches (measured 1.5m from the ground) or when a tree is in a dangerous condition, you are strongly advised to check first with the Council's Tree Officer since any unauthorised works can be a criminal offence which could lead to prosecution and heavy fines of up to £20,000. Better to be safe than sorry!

The Council's Tree Officer can be contacted on 01793 466318.

Individual trees or groups of trees that make a particularly important contribution to either of our villages may be worthy of special protection by way of a Tree Preservation Order. If you know of any such trees then please do not hesitate to contact any Member of the Parish Council or the Borough Council's Tree Officer who will be happy to make an inspection.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111
(Call anonymously with information about crime)

Domestic Violence 24hr National Helpline:
0808 2000 247

FRANK: 0800 77 66 00
(drug related)

Anti Social Behaviour: 01793 445500

Noise Nuisance: 01793 445500

NHS Direct: 0845 4647

**Swindon Community Safety
Partnership:** 01793 466506

Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust 01225 794652
provides home security services to people aged 60+ or with special needs.
(NB: the WBVT is a charity - donations are welcome).

Beat the Burglar

If you see anyone acting suspiciously, take their description and vehicle registration details and call the police on: 0845 408 7000. In an emergency call 999.

For a free home security pack and information about offers on home security call the Home Office:

0800 456 1213
(Packs are subject to availability).

Police search website.

<http://www.police.uk/>

Meetings for the year

9th January 2012 Hinton Parva Village Hall
13th February 2012 Bishopstone Village Hall
12th March 2012 Bishopstone Village Hall
(Parish Assembly) **7:00 pm start**
9th April 2012 Hinton Parva Village Hall
14th May 2012 Bishopstone Village Hall (AGM)

All meetings begin at 7.30pm
and members of the public are always
welcome. Late changes are shown on the
website <http://parish.bishopstone.net> and on the
notice boards in Hinton Parva and Bishopstone.

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Lesley Drewett (Clerk)
2 Downs Close
Eastbury
Hungerford
RG17 7JW

Phone: 01488 71828
Fax: None
Email: lesley@tynash.com
website: http://parish.bishopstone.net

Mr Julian Cooke

Church Farm, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790278.

Mr Simon Jenkins

The Old Vicarage, Bishopstone. SN6 8PY. 790545.

Mr Stuart McGuigan

Greenoak, Newtown Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8QA. 790219.

Mrs Sarah Paye

Senama, Russley Park, Baydon, SN8 2JY. 01672 541600.

Mr Rob Selbourne

Prebendal Farm, Bishopstone, Wilts. SN6 8PT. 790485.

Mr Doug Stevens

Church View, Church Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8PY. 791107.

Mrs Karolyn Tapper (Vice Chair)

Orchard Cottage, Bishopstone, Wilts. SN6 8PL. 790658.

Mr Ian Thomas

Littlecot, High Street, Bishopstone, Wilts. SN6 8PH. 790106.

Mr Ian Thompson

Snowberry House, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790970.

Useful Information

**101 new non Emergency
Police Number**

Police Headquarters
0845 408 7000
24hrs, 7 days a week

**SBC Reception Premier
House**

01793 465055/465056

Civic Offices

01793 463668

Wat Tyler House

01793 463725

Borough Councillor

Andrew Bennett 01793 790563

**Fly Tipping and other
similar problems**

Swindon Commercial Services
01793 463463

Keeping Swindon Safe

SBC 01793 445500
Police 0845 408 7000

**Foxhill Motocross
2011 Calendar**

No more events in 2011.

**Refurbiz - the Domestic
Appliance Re-cycling
Charity.**

**Refurbished appliances
at affordable prices with
warranty**

Replacing your washing machine, dryer, fridge or electric cooker? Please donate your old machines to us so we can refurbish them for families in need.

Wiltshire-wide collection and delivery service. Call us on (01380) 720200, Or visit our showroom at Hopton Park, Devizes www.refurbiz.org Registered Charity Number 1107150

Planning Update

All planning applications, their history and all supporting documents can now be viewed online by visiting:
www.swindon.gov.uk/planning.

Planning issues are discussed at the monthly Parish Council meetings. All plans for that month are laid out on display prior to the meetings and councillors and members of the public are invited to take a look. Public representations are heard prior to the start of the meeting.

Parish Council meetings alternate between Hinton Parva Village Hall and Bishopstone Village Hall.

Members of the public are always welcome.

Planning:

APPLICATIONS

None.

Conservation Area – Section 211 Notices:

NONE

GRANTED

S/11/1421/CLMC - Variation and alterations to previous planning permission S/10/1022 for the erection of a two storey rear extension linking with garage building and two storey garage extension, conversion of existing garage and construction of chimney – Harlestone House, Mount Pleasant, Bishopstone SN6 8PN

REFUSED

NONE

Don't forget that all important information is displayed on the notice-boards in both villages and on the website at <http://parish.bishopstone.net>.

The Parish Times will always be available on the website. It is added there as soon as it is ready to go to the printers.

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