

# The Parish Times

Keeping Hinton Parva, Bishopstone and Russley Park informed.

Volume 9. Number 2.

## true heart DEVELOPMENTS

On the 16th November 2009, Bishopstone Parish Council received notification of a planning application to redevelop the True Heart and build housing behind the current building. The development also called for the demolition of certain parts of the existing structure. Bishopstone Parish Council have, since this time, been actively working to try to get the planning officers to refuse the application. Unfortunately, Swindon Borough Council seem to be adopting the policy that provided there are 2 pubs in a village one can close without any impact.

This in effect give carte blanche to developers to close pubs in villages so long as there is an alternative.

Bishopstone Parish Council interprets the existing policies differently and are stressing that the Royal Oak and the True Heart offered different venues for different needs.

**The Planning application will go before committee on Tuesday 9th March 2010 at the Council Chamber, Civic Offices at 18:00 pm. The Parish Council feel that the more people attending as a show of moral support, the better. Our case will be viewed in opposing the application.**

The Parish Council's view is that, like the Wyncies development, once an application of this nature is allowed, more will follow.

The True Heart offers a much larger venue than the Royal Oak and is used for large social gatherings. It has also been a meeting place for many village clubs including, the school football team . It is the Parish Council's belief that the True Heart remains an extremely viable proposition. Furthermore, in the Conservation Area Appraisal the 2 pubs are noted as being important for the villages sense of community.

**The Parish council urges as many parishioners as possible to attend the Planning Committee meeting. Anyone having difficulty with transport could contact a Parish Councillor for help.**

**Participants** wanted for the Mad March Hare 10km/5km walk/run on Sunday 7th March 2010. This event is run as a fundraising event for Breakthrough Breast Cancer. If you fancy having a go at walking for running this event, entry forms and details of the event are available on the website [www.madmarchhare.org.uk](http://www.madmarchhare.org.uk) . There were 500 entrants last year and the committee are hoping for 800 this year. There is no requirement to raise sponsorship and all entry fees go directly to the charity.



### VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS

As you are all aware the Parish Council have been actively pursuing having vehicle activated signs erected at key points within the Parish. This work had been progressing well until on 3rd February 2010 a letter was received from Swindon Borough Council. The letter was from a senior assistant in the Congestion and Casualty Reduction Department of Swindon Borough Council. It notified the Parish Council that the Borough had recently appointed a new manager to the department and that in their opinion it was necessary to establish a policy so that all future requests can be treated in the same manner.

The letter then went on to basically say that despite the belief that everything was in hand and that the signs would be erected, the casualty reduction and speed management programmes needed to confirm the suitability of placements and provide evidence for assessing the signs' impact, post installation. The Borough are now requesting quotes and once those quotes are received the Parish will be informed of the costs.

The letter was discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 3rd February 2010 and it was noted that we can no longer progress the initiative as previously planned. Instead the project must be under the control of SBC and this will cause an inevitable delay due to internal restructuring. SBC are recommending solar or wind powered signs as there is a long lead time for electrical connection.

The Parish Council will continue to pursue this but it is unlikely to be implemented before the end of this financial year.

INFORMATION

INTEGRITY

PERSPECTIVE

ISSUES

INFORMATION

# Improvements to BUS STOPS

**As** part of the 2009/10 bus stop access maintenance works SBC are making the following improvements to bus stops in the Parish. The primary aim of the works is to provide a suitable bus hardstanding with a 160 mm kerbface (with ramped disabled access) where they do already not exist. Each location has been visited and assessed with a representative of Thamesdown Transport and, where applicable and available, the proposals were discussed with the adjacent property owners.

Proposed works for our Parish is as follows:

Calley Hill: Black Horse - 2 stops – create new hardstandings at both locations within existing verge  
Hinton Parva: Upper Farm - create new hardstanding within verge – existing bank to be regraded Lower Farm - do nothing – narrow verge and steep bank – existing access to Charlbury Farm may be used as a hardstanding Lower Farm - do nothing – narrow verge and steep bank – existing access to Pinewood Fencing may be used as a hardstanding City Corner (west side) – create new hardstanding within verge including piping short length of

ditch – owners of “Shukran” consulted City Corner (east side) – move stop further south to create new hardstanding within verge and avoid damage to hedge Russley Down Turn (St Swithins Church access) - create new hardstanding within verge Russley Down Turn (Foxhill turning) - create new hardstanding within verge Bishopstone: Whatley’s Orchard - move stop further south to create new hardstanding within verge and avoid steep bank Bishopstone Pond – do nothing? - road safety issues with creating new hardstanding adjacent existing bus shelter - defer pending a Safety Review.  
Works are due to commence, weather permitting, at the Black Horse bus stops on Friday 12th February  
Works at Whatley’s Orchard, will then follow on shortly, following a request from the Passenger Transport Manager and residents at Bishopstone to prioritise this site to create a hardstanding area for school children and other bus passengers. If you have any queries please contact me on: 01793 464553 or Kevan Wildy, Thamesdown Transport on 01793 428400

---

# insurance fraud Information

Taken from SBC’s Members Bulletin for information

**Thousands** of British parents and even grandparents are unwittingly committing insurance fraud as their kids drive off to university in a car primarily insured for mum and dad, or grandma and granddad, with teenage children paying the penalty. New research from Zurich Insurance reveals that one in 10 people surveyed who've helped their child or grandchild buy a car currently has it insured in their own name - with many not realising that they could be breaking the law in doing so. A staggering 68 per cent of those who have insured the car in their own name admitted they did it primarily to help reduce premiums - as experienced drivers tend to pay lower insurance premiums than their young relatives, while a fifth mistakenly believe the car should be insured in their name because they legally own it. Known as "fronting", the practice involves one person insuring a car in their name and adding someone else as a "named driver" to the policy - when the named driver is in fact the main or only driver, rather than an occasional driver. According to the research, 57 per cent of those who have helped their child or grandchild buy a car don't realise that fronting constitutes insurance fraud, with more than a third (37 per cent) actively believing the practice not to be insurance fraud. Many parents appear to be underestimating the consequences of fronting, which can leave the driver uninsured if the insurer establishes that the named driver is, in fact, the main, or only driver. Although 46 per cent do think that the person on the insurance policy could be fined, just 24 per cent realise that it would be their child or grandchild who would pay as the uninsured driver. Likewise, 30 per cent believe that it is the policyholder who could stand to receive penalty points, while just 22 per cent realise it would actually be the driver. While many may

think that their insurer will never find out about fronting, if a driver is involved in an accident it could be too late and the consequences can be severe. These range from policies being cancelled and claims refused, to drivers being taken through the court system; receiving a fine, penalty points on their licence, or ultimately, being disqualified from driving.

Scott Clayton, Claims Fraud and Investigations Manager at Zurich Insurance said, "It's natural that parents and grandparents want to give their kids and grandchildren a helping hand when buying and insuring a car, but fronting won't help them in the long run. Although many don't realise that what they're doing is illegal, they also don't realise that it's a false economy with serious consequences, should the driver have an accident.

"An insurer would be within their rights to decline a claim or recover any third party costs from the child or parent and grandparents themselves. If declining a claim, the police could treat the driver as driving uninsured and so be fined hundreds of pounds and receive six penalty points on their licence, which would mean an automatic ban for a newly-qualified driver. They will also have to declare that a claim has been declined on future insurance applications, raising their premiums in future.

"We urge parents or grandparents to check that the insurance details for vehicles driven off to university are up to date, and the details of the main driver are accurate to avoid any future problems. A simple phone call to your insurer will make sure that the vehicle is in the right name and that in the event of an accident the young driver is covered."

INFORMATION	INTEGRITY	PERSPECTIVE	ISSUES	INFORMATION
-------------	-----------	-------------	--------	-------------

# 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 Ickneild 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).

## Council Meetings 2009/10

Wednesday 3/3/10 Bishopstone (Parish Assembly)

Wednesday 7/4/10 Hinton Parva

Wednesday 5/5/10 Bishopstone (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)  
Brigadoon  
Hockerbench  
Bishopstone Wilts  
SN6 8PW

Phone: 01793 791355  
Fax: 01793 791355  
Email: lesley@tynash.com  
E-mail: lesley@tynash.com  
website: <http://parish.bishopstone.net>

### Mr Richard Alcock

Orchard House, Hinton Parva, SN4 0DW. 790808.

### 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.

### 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

### Highworth Police Station

01793 762251  
Mon-Fri. 09-12.30 & 17:30-21.00

### 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

### Mobile Police Unit

## Planning Update

All planning applications, their history and all supporting documents can now be viewed online by visiting:  
**[www.swindon.gov.uk/planning](http://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 and usually take place on the first Wednesday of the month.

Members of the public are always welcome.

### Planning:

**S/CAC/09/2022ROBI** – Demolition of part of the existing building – True Heart, Inn, High Street, Bishopstone – REVISED PLANS

**S/09/2021ROBI** – Conversion and extension of public house to form 2no dwellings & Erection of 2 no dwellings & associated works – True Heart Inn, High Street, Bishopstone – REVISED PLANS

**S/LBS/10/0068ROBI** - Re-thatch section of roof on east side – Icknield Cottage, Hinton Parva Lane, Hinton Parva, Mr Roland Billington – 466365. Before 12/2/10

**S/10/0127CLMC** - Demolition of existing stable block & erection of a new stable block - Lower Farm House, Bourton Road, Hinton Parva. Miss Claire McMurray, 466062. Deadline 23 Feb 2010.

**S/10/0127CLMC** - Demolition of existing stable block and erection of a new stable block, Lower Farm House, Bourton Road, Hinton Parva.

### GRANTED

**S/09/2027KIWA** - Erection of a first floor extension & Covered verandha – The Court House, Church Walk, Bishopstone

**S/09/2108CLMC** - Erection of two storey rear extension, single storey side extension and erection of garage - 4 West End Lane, Bishopstone.

**S/LBC/09/2248CLMC** - Installation of 2 no. Roof lights. Spring Cottage. Nell Hill, Bishopstone.

### REFUSED

**S/09/1769RM** - Construction of a manage – Oak Tree Stables, Russley Park, Baydon

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.

INFORMATION	INTEGRITY	PERSPECTIVE	ISSUES	INFORMATION
-------------	-----------	-------------	--------	-------------