

# The Parish Times

Keeping Hinton Parva, Bishopstone and Russley Park informed.

Volume 10. Number 2.

## TRUE HEART REMINDER

**The Parish Council** has been informed that the appeal against the original rejected planning application will take place on 22nd March 2011.

The Parish Council is still not aware of the venue or time, however, we will keep you in touch via the notice boards and the website and via a flyer once the information is available. Please keep this date free if you wish to attend the appeal. Remember, the more parishioners that can attend, the better aware the Inspector will be of the strength of feeling in the Parish.

## Parish Council Budget 2011/2012

**The Parish council** has formally agreed a budget of £13,480 for the next financial year. This represents a year on year reduction of 5% and this will in turn be reflected in the composite council tax bills to be sent out by Swindon Borough Council during March.

A simple breakdown of expenditure is as follows:

	£
Clerk's salary and admin costs	6580
Churchyard and pond maintenance	2150
Lengthman	2500
Village Hall grants	550
Provision for traffic calming	1700

A key concern for the Parish Council in the coming year is to continue to work with the Borough Council in relation to traffic management. The recent installation of the speed warning sign in Hinton Parva was fully funded by the PC and the provision for traffic calming in the budget, when combined with existing reserve funds, is sufficient to fund one further installation originally intended for Bishopstone.

However, current advice from the Borough Council and Police is that there would be limited benefit to be gained from this as originally intended and the PC is therefore actively considering whether funds could usefully be allocated to other traffic control schemes, for example measures aimed at restricting inappropriate vehicle access. Residents may be aware of recent problems with large vehicles becoming stuck in Bishopstone having followed 'satnav' directions, and consequential damage to verges.

The PC therefore intends to work with Borough Council highway specialists to explore potential solutions. In the meantime, to assist the process, residents are invited to pass on any views and/or suggestions to parish councillors.



Swindon Borough Council has published the 'Core Strategy' – their vision of the expansion of Swindon to 2026. A large part of that vision is a substantial 'Eastern Expansion' of Swindon in the countryside between Wanborough in the South and South Marston to the North reaching as far East as Bourton. This is now described as the 'Eastern Villages' but essentially forms large housing blocks with areas of development separated by areas of high flood risk and a large industrial area to the North of The Marsh and Burycroft.

Whilst originally proposed as some 12,000 homes this is reduced to 7,500 homes in the new plan as well as schools, shopping centres and industrial uses. With lower housing densities envisaged it will still take up much of the land that separates our Parish from Swindon.

It will affect us in terms of infrastructure or the lack of it. New roads are planned including one from the development area to Commonhead and this will run by 'The Marsh'. Access to Swindon will still be through the same already congested routes but with the added pressure of another 16,000 residents plus businesses and associated road users. Unless substantial early investment takes place in funding new infrastructure it will take longer to travel to Swindon or access the M4 motorway.

In initial meetings it is indicated by planners that substantial development could take place before infrastructure goes in, which will potentially leave traffic the choice of sitting in congestion or driving through the villages. An earlier development of some 900 homes is likely to commence by the hospital in late 2011, again with little improvements to the roads.

There is no doubt that this will impact the Parish in some way and anyone interested in finding out more should attend the Public Meeting being held in Wanborough Village Hall on Monday 4th April 2011 at 7pm.

*Source: Gary Sumner Wanborough Parish Council*

# The Swindon Borough Council Planning Service

Source: Swindon Borough Council

## Introduction to the Planning System

The Planning system regulates the development of land in the public interest. Most new buildings or significant changes to existing buildings need planning permission. The Planning Department at Swindon Borough Council is responsible for determining planning applications. This article explains the planning process at Swindon Borough Council.

## Pre-application

The starting point in the process is to find out whether your proposal needs planning permission. A useful tool for finding this out is the Planning Portal's 'interactive house'. This can be viewed at <http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning>.

The pre-application stage is an optional stage in the planning process. However, this stage can help de-risk the planning process.

A useful starting point is to consult the Parish Council prior to submitting your planning application. The Parish Council is a key consultee for all planning applications within or impacting on the Parish, and Swindon Borough Council is wary of going against the recommendations of the Parish Council.

Swindon Borough Council can also provide a pre application advice to prospective applicants. For a small fee (£75 in the case of householder proposals) the Council provides technical advice on how your scheme can be made to comply with both the Council's planning policies and the Building Regulations.

It is also recommended that you should consult your neighbours so that any concerns can be addressed prior to submitting the planning application.

## Submission of Planning Application

When you are ready to submit a planning application Swindon Borough Council requires the following information to be submitted so that the application can be processed without any delays:

- The application forms (filled in correctly)
- The planning application fee (currently £150)
- The necessary plans/elevations

The Planning Application forms can be downloaded from <http://www.swindon.gov.uk/environment/planning/environment-planning-forms.htm>

## Consultation on the Planning Application

Each planning application registered has a consultation period of 3 weeks so that the views of neighbours, the Parish Council and other interested parties can be sought on the proposal.

Copies of the application plans are made available for viewing at the Swindon Borough Council offices and online at <http://www.swindon.gov.uk/planning>

## Consideration of the Planning Application

The Planning Officer would conduct a site visit. The Planning Officer would then consider all comments received and would take into account Government planning guidance, the Borough's Development Plan and any other material considerations to the application. A key material consideration for Bishopstone and Hinton Parva is the Conservation Area status for both villages. The Conservation Area Appraisal can be viewed at <http://www.swindon.gov.uk/environment/planning/listingan-dconservation/environment-planning-conservation-areas.htm>

The planning officer may negotiate improvements to enhance the proposal in line with the Council's planning guidance.

## The Decision

Most planning applications are decided by the Planning Officers. However, in some cases, a planning application may be 'called-in' to be determined by Planning Committee. Applications can be 'called-in' either by a Councillor, a planning officer or the Parish Council.

Swindon Borough Council has targets to determine householder and other small-scale applications within a period of 8 weeks and to determine major applications within 13 weeks.

Anyone who has commented on a planning application will be informed in writing when an application has either been determined or when the application is going to a Planning Committee

## Swindon Borough Core Strategy

Consultation on a new Council Planning Policy Document The Council will soon be consulting on a Draft "Swindon Borough Core Strategy", which once adopted will become the Development Plan for the Borough. This document will guide and control development in the Borough over the next 15 years.

A previous draft of the Core Strategy was published for public consultation in July 2010. However, in light of the Government's intention to abolish the regional planning tier and updated economic forecasts the Council is proposing to reduce its housing growth targets for the Borough. The single most significant change is a proposed reduction in the housing allocation to the east of the A419 from the previous figure of 12,000 new homes to around 7,500 homes.

The re-drafted Core Strategy will be published for consultation in late March for an eight week period. The consultation document will be available on the Councils' website, as well as at Council Offices and libraries. A form for responses will be made available at the time of consultation.

# 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).

## Council Meetings 2010/11

14 June 2010 Hinton Parva Village Hall  
12th July 2010 Bishopstone Village Hall  
9th August 2010 Hinton Parva Village Hall  
13th September 2010 Bishopstone Village Hall  
11th October 2010 Hinton Parva Village Hall  
8th November 2010 Bishopstone Village Hall  
13th December 2010 Hinton Parva Village Hall  
10th January 2011 Bishopstone Village Hall  
14th February 2011 Hinton Parva Village Hall  
14th March 2011 Hinton Parva Village Hall  
(Parish Assembly)  
11th April 2011 Bishopstone Village Hall  
9th May 2011 Hinton Parva 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**

**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

**Foxhill Motocross**

**2011 Calendar**

No notification of meetings at this time.

**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:**

**APPLICATIONS**  
NONE

**Conservation Area – Section 211 Notices:**  
NONE

**GRANTED**  
**S/10/1849/RM** - Mounting of two solar thermal panels to SE elevation of roof. Gail's Cottage, High Street, Bishopstone.

**S/10/1744/RM** - Erection of a hay and feed store. Oaktrees, Russley Park, Baydon.

**S/LBC/10/1910/ROBI** - Demolition of rear lean to shed/summer house and erection of single and two storey rear extensions, first floor side extension, construction of new drive and vehicular access and associated works. The Old Bakery, Oxon Place, Bishopstone.

**S/10/1908/ROBI** - Erection of single and two storey rear extensions, first floor side extension, construction of new drive and vehicular access and associated works. The Old Bakery, Oxon Place, Bishopstone.

**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
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