

# The Parish Times

Keeping Hinton Parva, Bishopstone and Russley Park informed.

Volume 8. Number 5.

June 2009

## Parish Council Budget 2009-10



*The following note has been published on the Parish Council website for some time. Following comment by parishioners, it has been decided to publish it as part of the Parish Newsletter.*

A number of residents have expressed concern at the level of increase in the parish council's share of the overall council tax bill for the coming year. A year on year increase of around 35% will understandably seem excessive. However, in agreeing the budget for the coming year, the parish council had to take into account a number of growing pressures for expenditure.

Not least, it is clear that ownership of the pond and island now brings with it a range of current and future liabilities for additional expenditure. Funds are therefore being contributed to a reserve account as a prudent precaution. It is increasingly important that a long term strategy for managing the pond and island is now developed.

Another major expense is the contribution towards churchyard maintenance and in particular management of an ageing tree population. Although Swindon Borough Council has contributed about £1000 annually towards this in the past, continuity cannot be taken for granted in times of increasing financial constraint. As with the pond, a reserve fund has now been designated to help deal with potential future liabilities.

A significant item of potential expenditure is the ongoing maintenance and upgrading of the Parish Council website. Whilst to date this has been carried out at no cost to the council on a goodwill basis, it was considered prudent to make provision to meet the direct costs in future years.

One of the key issues facing the two villages is that of increased traffic levels and excessive speeds. Although Swindon Borough Council is funding the proposed measures to improve safety at Bishopstone School, it has become clear that more general traffic calming measures in our villages do not feature as a priority for them. The parish council is therefore keen to explore ways of achieving this through direct funding and some initial provision has been made in the coming year's budget. One proposal currently being explored is to install reactive speed warning signs at strategic locations/potential danger spots. One of these signs would cost about £2500.

Letter received by the Parish Council.  
**Re: Liddington Warren farm**

Dear sir or madam,  
You will be aware that following a review of the premises License 881070360PREM, for Warren Farm at the end of last year, we undertook to give notice to your Parish Councils of events that exceed 500 attendees in number, along with some other undertakings with respect to such events. At this stage we have no such events planned for the site, however, as a matter of courtesy Mr Ford and I did want to make you aware of an event "summer Breeze" which will not exceed 499 in attendance which will be happening on the site on 4th July this year. This is an event that has happened in each of the last two preceding years 2007 and 2008 and has not to our knowledge attracted any attention, or caused any disturbance on those occasions. If you have any concerns or would like to discuss the event further, then please don't hesitate to get in touch with me at your convenience.

Yours sincerely,  
**Peter Allison Event and  
management Services Ltd For  
Warren Farms**

# Parish Council Budget 2009-10 continued

The Parish Council budget for the coming year is £15764 (net of the Borough Council contribution towards churchyard maintenance referred to above), up from £11972. This translates into an annual contribution for a Band D property of £51.46, about £1 per week in total and representing an increase of about 25p on the previous year. By comparison, the Wanborough parish figure for the coming year is £61.31.

In determining the budget for the coming year, the Parish council has attempted to create a sound financial basis for the future and to move to a position

where it can be proactive in addressing a range of concerns and liabilities. It is hoped that, notwithstanding the headline percentage increase in the parish council budget, residents will feel able to support the council's broad approach.

If anyone would like further explanation, or has any query, they should come along to the next Parish Council meeting (which will be held on July 1st in Bishopstone Village Hall) where they would be welcome to raise any matter that they wish at public question time. This will enable the issue to be completely clarified.

## Free off-road cycle training in Swindon this summer

This summer is your chance to have a go at off-road cycling in Swindon and it won't cost you a penny. CTC's Cycle Champions project in Swindon and the Great Western Community Forest's Woodland Games Initiative are putting on 4 free off-road training sessions through the summer at the cycle track at Croft Woods.

This is a fantastic opportunity to be given free off-road cycle training and tips from our fully qualified off-road skills instructor. As long as you can ride a bike, even if you don't have a mountain bike, you are welcome to come along and give off-road cycling a go.

CTC Cycle Champions Officer Tamina Oliver said: "Off-road cycling has so many benefits: It's a great cardiovascular workout, helps to manage your weight, is a great way to explore the beautiful green spaces around Swindon and is a sociable means of getting some fresh air with your friends and family. In fact, the free sessions are the perfect way for families in Swindon to do something together on a Sunday that they will all enjoy." All sessions run from 1pm to 4pm from the track at Croft Woods near Nationwide (SN38 1NW) and take place on Sunday 28 June, Sunday 26th July, Sunday 23 August and Sunday 20 September.

To book your free off-road tuition or to reserve the use of a free bike, please contact Tamina Oliver on 07717696672 or email [tamina.oliver@ctc.org.uk](mailto:tamina.oliver@ctc.org.uk).

All ages and abilities very welcome, but under 16s must have parental consent. All levels of experience are catered for but all participants must already have the ability to ride a bike.

For more information or an interview, contact CTC's Cycle Champions Officer in Swindon Tamina Oliver on 07717696672, email [tamina.oliver@ctc.org.uk](mailto:tamina.oliver@ctc.org.uk) or call CTC's Press Office on 0844 736 8453 or 07786320713.

- CTC is the national cyclists' organisation, with 70,000 members and affiliates in 250 clubs across the UK. We

are the oldest and largest cycling body in the UK, established in 1878. We provide a comprehensive range of services, advice, events, and protection for our members and work to promote cycling by raising public and political awareness of its health, social and environmental benefits. For more information see [www.ctc.org.uk](http://www.ctc.org.uk).

- CTC's Cycle Champions programme will improve the health, transport and environment prospects for individuals and communities across England who have historically not benefited from cycling. In partnership with local organisations, our officers will work with volunteers to bring CTC's knowledge and expertise to inspire, train and support 34,000 new cyclists who are currently inactive or at risk of inactivity.

- CTC's Cycle Champions is part of a portfolio of projects being delivered by a consortium of leading walking, cycling and health organizations and is funded through the Big Lottery Fund's Wellbeing Programme. The consortium is lead by Sustrans and includes CTC, Cycling England, British Cycling, Living Streets, London Cycling Campaign, the National Heart Forum, the National Obesity Forum, the Ramblers' Association, Campaign for Better Transport and Walk 21. It is delivering projects that will enable 2 million people to become more physically active by walking or cycling as part of their daily lives by 2012.

- The Swindon Cycle Champions project is a partnership between CTC Charitable Trust, Swindon Borough Council's Leisure Services Team and Strategic Transport Group. The Community Cycling Development Officer is hosted by Swindon Borough Council's Leisure Services Team.

# Parish Council Budget 2009-10

continued

PARISH COUNCIL	2008/09	2008/09	2008/09	2009/10	2009/10	2009/10	Notes:
	Budget	Actual Exp	Variance	Revised Budget	Forecast Actual	Forecast Variance	
Clerk's Salary	4030	4019	-11	4200	3988	-212	Actual cost will depend on hours
Pension Contribution	170	142	-28	158	150	-8	Currently 3.75% of salary
Lengthman	2060	2292	232	2400	2400	0	Contract for footpath maintenance etc.
Telephone expenses	120	120	0	130	130	0	
Insurance	300	201	-99	250	208	-42	
Audit	190	159	-31	180	180	0	
Postage etc.	220	431	211	400	400	0	Budget reflects last yr actual
Upgrade of computer equipment	125	0	-125	150	150	0	See reserve provision below
Data Protection	0	35	35	45	45	0	New requirement
Website maintenance	0	0	0	0		0	
Churchyard maintenance	1910	2716	806	2720	2900	180	Contract recently re-tendered
Contribution from SBC		-1065	-1065	-1055	-1055	0	
Pond	1000	1451	451	500	500	0	
Contbn to Hinton Village Hall	250	250	0	275	275	0	Increase reflects energy price rises
Contbn to Bish Village Hall	250	250	0	275	275	0	As above
Newsletter	400	400	0	450	450	0	
Ridgeway Link	75	75	0	75	75	0	
Subscription to WALC	170	202	32	210	196	-14	
CPRE	30	29	-1	33	33	0	
Soc Local Clerks	90	82	-8	90	90	0	
Ad Hoc Items:							
New Notice Board (Bishopstone)	0	0	0	0	199	199	
Road Safety/Traffic Calming	0	0	0	2500	5000	2500	Provision for 2 speed warning signs
Other Income - bank interest	0	-52	-52	-10	-10	0	
- VAT rebate	0	-396	-396	-200	-200	0	
- 1st Responder Refund	0	-500	-500				
- Inland Revenue rebate	0	-100	-100				
Contingency	582	0	-582				
Contribution to/from reserves	0	0	0	1988	-616	-2604	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11972</b>	<b>10740</b>	<b>-1232</b>	<b>15764</b>	<b>15764</b>	<b>0</b>	
Reserves b/fwd 1st April		7504			8878		
Reserves c/fwd 31st March **		8878			8411		
** of which:							
Computer		420			570		
Graveyard trees		1236			1436		
Pond		1700			1700		
Village Appraisal		250			250		
Clerks pension reserve		1045			1195		
Free balance		4227			3260		

(local council name) BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

**Notice of appointment of date for the exercise of electors' rights**  
**Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009**

Audit Commission Act 1998, Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/533) as amended by  
the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/564)

<p>1. Date of announcement: <u>6 July 2009</u> (a)</p> <p>2. Each year the Council's/Meeting's (b) Annual Return is audited by an auditor appointed by the Audit Commission. Any person interested has the opportunity to inspect and make copies of the Annual Return and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts etc. relating to them. For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009, these documents will be available on reasonable notice on application to:</p> <p>(c) <u>THE CLERK (LESLIE DREWETT)</u> <u>BRICADON HOULIBENCH</u> <u>BISHOPSTONE</u></p> <p>between the hours of (d) <u>18:30</u> and (d) <u>19:30</u> on</p> <p>(e) <u>MONDAY</u> to (e) <u>FRIDAY</u></p> <p>commencing on (f) <u>20 July 2009</u></p> <p>and ending on (g) <u>14 August 2009</u></p> <p>3. Local Government Electors and their representatives also have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the opportunity to question the auditor about the accounts. The auditor can be contacted at the address in paragraph 4 below for this purpose on <u>17 August 2009</u> (h) and after that date will be available at the address given in paragraph 4 below until the audit has been completed; and</li> <li>the right to make objections to the accounts or any item in them. Written notice of an objection must first be given to the auditor and a copy sent to the (i) Council/Meeting.</li> </ul> <p>4. The audit is being conducted under the provisions of the Audit Commission Act 1998, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (as amended) and the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice. Your audit is being carried out by:</p> <p>Mazars LLP, Regency House, 3 Grosvenor Square, Southampton SO15 2BE</p> <p>5. This announcement is made by (j) <u>L. D. Drewett</u></p>	<p>(a) Insert date of placing of the notice which must be not less than 14 days before the date in (f) below</p> <p>(b) Delete as appropriate</p> <p>(c) Insert name, position and address of the Clerk or other person to whom any person may apply to inspect the accounts</p> <p>(d) Insert the times between which any person may apply to inspect the accounts. NB Indicate if there is a lunchtime closure</p> <p>(e) Insert working days of the week any person may apply to inspect the accounts – usually Monday to Friday</p> <p>(f) Insert date at least 21 working days before the date appointed for audit in (h) below</p> <p>(g) The inspection period between (f) and (g) must be 20 working days and (g) must be at least one day before the date appointed for audit in (h) below.</p> <p>(h) This must be at least one working day after the end of the inspection period. Amend as necessary if period for display of notice and inspection period cannot be completed by 14 August 2009.</p> <p>(i) Delete as appropriate</p> <p>(j) Insert name and position of person placing the notice</p>
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## 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.*

# NEWS IN BRIEF

The Parish Council had been in contact with Annie Ellis regarding the condition of the bridge connecting the footpath running from Ickneild Way (by Greenbanks) across to Body Horse Hill. We are pleased to be able to report that a new bridge has now been installed. It is a high quality construction and our thanks go to SBC for their help in resolving this matter.

### Council Meetings 2008/9

Wednesday 3/6/09 Bishopstone  
Wednesday 1/7/09 Bishopstone  
Wednesday 5/8/09 Bishopstone  
Wednesday 2/9/09 Hinton Parva  
Wednesday 7/10/09 Bishopstone  
Wednesday 4/11/09 Hinton Parva  
Wednesday 2/12/09 Bishopstone  
Wednesday 6/1/10 Hinton Parva  
Wednesday 3/2/10 Bishopstone  
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

## 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 councilors 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/09/0718RM** Erection of a single story Front extension - High Ridge, Icknield Way, Bishopstone, Mrs Rhian Morris 466285 Before 2/6/09

**S/09/0439/CLMC** GRANTED - Erection of an agricultural Building for the storage of Implements & feeds - Manor Down Farm, 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.*