

Chit-Chat

Parish Newsletter for the
residents of
Chitterne, Wiltshire
No 66, September 2011

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Summary of Parish Council (PC) Meeting Mon 11 July 2011

Village Hall Booking System - This item was put on the agenda at the request of Barry Ricketts as there has been conflicts of booking between 'Pigs in Heaven', who run pig keeping courses in the hall on a regular basis and villagers who want to book the hall at the weekends. He also raised the issue that the hall is not left clean after the courses. Barry explained the situation from his perspective (more detail see Reader's Letters page Chit Chat July 2011).

Carron McCann of Pigs in Heaven has written a letter in response to this, which was passed around at the meeting. Cllr Paul Pike (Chair Village Hall Committee, VHC) explained the current booking system and how the hall is run primarily for the benefit of the community. Commercial bookings are taken 6 months in advance and pencilled in. They are considered firm bookings only if they are within 3 months of the course date. If a resident of the village wants to book the hall within the 3 month period then the commercial booking should be moved in their favour. Cllr Pike claimed that the incidences of booking clashes between commercial and community have been very low and the only two instances that have arisen have been dealt with in a satisfactory manner. For example the booking for a pig course has been moved to accommodate the village Produce Show this year. Pigs in Heaven book the hall approximately two weekends per month.

How do pig courses benefit Chitterne? Cllr Pike explained that the money from the commercial bookings helps to pay for the upkeep of the hall so that less fundraising by the Village Hall Committee is needed.

Following the discussion the following actions were agreed;

ACTION 1: The Village Hall Booking system will be clearly explained in Chit Chat and on the village website.

ACTION 2: The Village Hall Committee will look into different methods of booking. For example a computerised calendar system available to view on the village website.

(continued overleaf.....)



Will it be Beauty....or The Beast?

Due largely to the vigilance of our Parish Clerk, the Parish Council was recently made aware of a consultation process initiated by Wiltshire Council - the Wiltshire and Swindon Proposed Submission Draft Waste Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD). This is a six-stage process of consultation and two stages of it have already been completed. However, at present, no record of these early consultation stages can be found by the present Parish Clerk or her immediate predecessors.

In essence, the scheme aims to make Wiltshire 40% self-sufficient in the disposal or recycling of waste. This is obviously a 'good thing'. But it must be implemented in a considered manner on sites that are suitable - and therein lays the problem as far as Chitterne is concerned.

Two types of waste management sites are proposed; 'Local' and 'Regional'. Chitterne is suggested as a 'Local' waste management facility for recycling, sorting and composting. The proposed site is adjacent to the existing Valley Farm inert landfill operation. Many sites throughout Wiltshire had been proposed for waste processing and an extensive consultant-led study (*Joint Waste Site Allocations*

Survey. Atkins 2010) evaluated the merits of each site. Wiltshire Council then produced the *Wiltshire and Swindon Proposed Submission Draft Waste Site Allocations DPD*, which was the document open for consultation.

The topic was introduced at the last Parish Council meeting. Many villagers attended which ensured a lively discussion and produced the following conclusions:

- Any such development is bound to exacerbate the already intolerable problems caused by heavy and speeding vehicles through the village;
- The increased volume of heavy traffic is likely to cause serious structural problems to properties in Townsend and on the Shrewton Hill;
- There are serious concerns about the effects on water supply (the proposed site is located on a major aquifer) - risking both increased flooding and possible water supply contamination;
- An area of unspoiled greenbelt is simply not the optimum location for such a site.

In the light of these concerns, a small task force was assembled to examine the proposals and prepare a response on behalf of the village - strongly objecting to the proposals. Individual villagers were also urged to make their own responses on the Wiltshire County website, and several chose to do so. (continued over...)

CHURCH SERVICES in SEPTEMBER

Sunday 4th September, Trinity 11	08.45	BCP, HC	All Saints, Chitterne
Sunday 11th September, Trinity 12	10.00	Group Service	Shrewton
Sunday 18th September, Trinity 13	11.30	Harvest Festival	All Saints, Chitterne
Sunday 25th September, Trinity 14	08.45	PC, Come to Church Sunday	All Saints, Chitterne
Sunday 2nd October, Trinity 15	08.45	BCP, HC	All Saints, Chitterne

(.....continued from front page)

ACTION 3: The Village Hall Committee is to make clear to those that book the hall that it must be thoroughly cleaned after use.

Wiltshire Waste Site Allocation DPD 2011
(also see lead article on Page 1. Ed)

Open for public consultation 13th June – 8th August 2011

At the last Warminster Area Board meeting held on 30th July Geoff Winslow from Wiltshire Council (WC) made a presentation about the type of facilities that WC would like to see on the Valley Farm site. The scale and industrial nature of the proposals were quite a shock to the members of the Parish Council who attended the meeting. The document proposes the use of a 15ha Greenfield site adjacent to the current inert landfill site for such processes as composting, materials recover, local recycling, waste transfer and bulking. The site is highly visible from the B390, the Imber Range path and the safety implications for the proposed huge increase in lorries using the B390 to access the site are enormous. Concern was expressed to WC at the meeting about the traffic and visual impact this type of development would have. It was pointed out that similar sites are also planned at Solstice Park and Warminster Business Park.

Neil Harley of Harley farms said that his father Jack had been involved in originally promoting the site in the policy document. He has held a meeting with WC to discuss the proposals. They have already decided not to put outdoor composting facilities on the site. He claimed that any development of the Greenfield site would be small scale only and not visible. He mentioned that development could create employment opportunities within the village.

Cllr Newbury said that although the document currently open for public consultation is not a planning document, once the Valley Farm site is included there will be a presumption for future development. If Harley Farms do not want to pursue certain aspects then the sooner they are removed from the plan the better - before the end of the current consultation. The main issues are traffic and visual impact. Cllr Newbury said he would support the Parish Council with their objections to the scheme.

WC say that there have been two rounds of consultation with Parish Councils etc but there is no record of any documents being sent to Chitterne PC during 2006 and Jan 2010. **Police** – stated that only allowing lorries to approach Valley Farm from the West from Knook and not directly through the village of Chitterne could not be enforced.

Planning Applications – Felling of Leylandii trees adjacent to church. No objections. Proposed: Cllr Fenlon Seconded: Cllr Lucas

Correspondence – Chitterne has come first in the Best Kept Village Competition 2011 - Small Village in West Wiltshire Category.

Date of next meeting: Monday 12th September 2011 at 7pm

(.....continued from lead article)

The full Chitterne Parish Council response is available for all to read on www.chitterne.com. It is an amalgam of excellent work undertaken by a number of villagers and carefully deconstructs Wiltshire Council's proposals for the site at Valley Farm, Chitterne. In particular it highlights the concerns over traffic, road safety and environmental issues.

This is not the end of the matter as the planning process has some way to go yet. Waste Management is certainly an issue which affects each one of us and we must all take responsibility for it. However, there are better sites within the County for 'Local' recycling which do not have the unique pressures that Chitterne has regarding traffic, access, landscape, water and natural environments.

If the Chitterne proposals are not dropped at this stage, then we should be prepared, as a village, to take a robust view of the next stages of development of this plan - or take the consequences of inaction.

Personal Notices

For Sale

- White Mongoose Capture BMX, 6 Months old hardly used - £150 ono
 - Fender Stratocaster Electric Guitar And amplifier - £55 ono
- Fergus/Virginia 01985 851133

For Sale

2 Beech Bar Chairs ex John Lewis in good condition, will accept any sensible offer
Jan Sawyers 01985 850809

"Hi, my name is Bogdan. I do gardening and painting for £8/hr. I am available on Wed and Thu after 2pm. Mobile - 07908 152132 - References available from within Chitterne."



The Warminster Group of the RDA Present
Alfie Oats RVM
'Ramblings of an Old Royal Coachman:
Representing a lifetime's service to HM the Queen in Royal ceremonies and processions'
Thursday 6th October 2011
Chitterne Village Hall
7pm (doors open at 6:30pm)
Tickets £10 to include a glass of wine on arrival (proceeds to RDA)
For details and tickets apply to:
Sally Oliver t: 01985 851240
Rowena Gooch t: 01985 850893
Derinne Pargiter e: d.pargiter@virgin.net

**ARMY ACTIVITIES
SEP 2011**

STOP PRESS! Imber was not open over the August Bank Holiday. Instead, roads are open from: 1600 Tue 30 Aug to 1600 Tue 6 Sep instead. Church opening times and the bus time table for Sat 3 Sep can be found at www.imberchurch.org.uk.

September is a quieter month and sees a number of smaller exercises and the relaxation of the access restrictions imposed in August.

6 Bn REME will operate across the Plain conducting recovery exercises between the 3rd and 25th of the month and light armoured reconnaissance exercises span the Plain between the 4th and 16th.

Between the 22nd and the 8th of October Ex GRIFFIN VIPER, a major logistic exercise, will run on Larkhill Ranges and to the east of the A345. Over similar dates Ex LIONS STRIKE will run across most of the Plain but with the bulk of the armour deployed on SPTA (West).

Late Firing on Larkhill & Westdown Ranges: 1st, 6th, 8th, 13th, 15th, 20th, 22nd, 27th, 29th

Larkhill Ranges. Public rights of way through Larkhill Ranges are closed when red flags are flying. **No firing is planned for: 3rd, 4th, 17th, 18th, 24th, 25th**

Provisional Dates for Major Exercises. During the following major exercises access may be restricted on Larkhill Ranges and in the Chitterne – Shrewton – Tilshead Triangle north of the B390.

26 Sep - 30 Sep Ex LION STRIKE
10 Nov - 27 Nov Ex WESSEX THUNDER

2012

13 Feb-11 Mar Ex PASHTUN DAWN
26 Mar - 29 Mar Ex LION STRIKE
21 May - 25 May Ex LION STRIKE
4 Jun - 18 Jun Ex WESSEX THUNDER
13 Aug - 16 Sep Ex PASHTUN DAWN

Roads Open to Imber Village:

30 Aug - 6 Sep In lieu of BH plus St Giles' Day.

Note: Planned Church opening times: Wed 31 Aug to Sun 4 Sep are 1000 to 1700 but Thu 1 & Sun 4 Sep are 1115 – 1700. More info: www.imberchurch.org.uk

12 - 13 Nov Remembrance Day.

2012

17 Dec - 2 Jan Christmas & New Year.
6 - 9 Apr Easter Bank Holiday

Please report suspicious activity to **PLAINWATCH (01980 674700)**. If a crime is taking place call 999 and do not challenge the offenders.

Useful Telephone Numbers:

- SPTA Walks Line/Access Timings: 01980 674763
- Firing Noise Complaints: 01980 620819
- Low Flying Complaints: 0207 218 6020 or

Readers' letters

Views expressed in Readers' letters do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor or Parish Council

Get Involved to Make a Difference...

Dear Editor

There are frequent and justified complaints about the volume and speed of traffic through this village. As a result we have the Community Speedwatch camera on a regular but infrequent basis.

Sadly, manning the camera seems to have been a problem and despite Douglas Stobie's best efforts there have been days during the two weeks when we last had the camera when there have not been enough people volunteering their time and therefore the camera has been unused.

The use of the camera does slow the traffic, albeit temporarily, and it also provides good statistics on the traffic through this Village - regularly over 500 cars per hour at peak times. Hopefully it will also make people think twice before speeding - just in case. The more often we can use the camera, the more often people will have to think twice.

The camera can be manned at any time during daylight hours. You have to be trained to use it (there is more training planned for September) BUT you do not have to be trained to count traffic or help noting registration plates of those speeding. It is also fun to watch the vehicle's nose dip as the brakes are heavily applied! There is the occasional obscene gesture but there are many friendly and supportive waves. In politics it is often said 'If you don't vote you can't complain'. Could this apply to manning the camera for an hour or two every few weeks?

Ann Moody

Thank You from the Lucas's

Dear All

Just a short note to say a huge thank you to everyone who has sent cards and gifts, been a shoulder to cry on, listened, visited me in hospital or at home, thought about us, ferried me around, and just generally been there for us.

We have had a fairly intense couple of months but we got through it and I am pleased to say I have been given a clean bill of health!

Love to you all

Lindsay & Mike Lucas

This is fantastic news and we're all delighted for you Lindsay. Ed.

A Talk by Group Captain Stephen Shell
OBE

in aid of

SSAFA Odiham, All Saints Church Chitterne
and Chitterne Cricket Club

"The Chinook Force in Afghanistan"

Chitterne Village Hall
Wednesday 14th September at 6.30 pm

Group Captain Stephen Shell OBE commands RAF Odiham and the UK Chinook Force. In 2006 /2007 he commanded the Joint Helicopter Force in Afghanistan. His talk will cover the roles and challenges of flying Chinooks on operations in Afghanistan with spectacular video film of actual events.

The talk will start at 7.00 pm and will be preceded by a drinks reception; doors will open at 6:30pm.

Tickets cost £10 and can be obtained from
Arthur Gooch (01985 850893) or
Anthony Knyvett (01985 851108).

HARVEST LUNCH
Sunday 18th September

The Harvest Lunch will be held in the Village Hall immediately after the Harvest Festival Service, which is at 11.30am. Everyone is welcome.



Do come along and bring your children: the more the merrier.

*Tickets can be obtained from Virginia Pryor 850255 or Sarah Gooch 850893
£5 for adults, free for children of 12 and under.*

Early Christmas Pudding Club

After the great success of the inaugural Pudding Club meeting in January, the Village Hall Committee is delighted to bring you the

'Early Christmas Pudding Club'

which will take place at lunchtime on
Sunday 4th December
in the Village Hall.

It will be a fabulous way to kickstart the festive season so....stick the date in your diary NOW and get planning your award winning pud!



NO DOGS!

The Parish Council would like to remind everyone that dogs are NOT allowed in the playpark/ cricket ground.



News From The Kings Head

The kitchen is now open. We are cooking Tuesday through to Saturday evenings, 7 – 9pm and weekend lunchtimes, 12 – 2pm. The menu is simple pub food and roast on Sundays, which is proving popular with both locals and passers-by. Fish and chips are available to eat-in or take-away on Fridays. Evie, Sophie and Madeleine from the village are helping us on busy evenings.

We did manage to get some time off to look around the Flower Festival. We were stunned by the beauty and artistic interpretations in the church.

The work continues on the pub. We have now started on the front of the pub and the gentlemen will notice improvements in the loos. We have not forgotten the ladies – there are plans to start on their facilities soon.

Hope to see you soon.

**Thea & Kenton
850770**

Community Speed Watch

At present, Chitterne receives the camera for a 2-week period in every 8 weeks. This will change soon, when we will only have the camera for 1 week in every 6-week period. When Chitterne has the camera, trained camera operators and volunteers decide the days and times they are willing to man the camera. Most sessions last for an hour, so the commitment is as great or small as you choose.

If you are willing to take part in this session, would you please inform Douglas Stobie (dmms@btinternet.com) or 851048 at your earliest convenience.

Are you willing to attend a training session here in Chitterne on Friday 30 September, starting at 1800 hours and lasting about 90 minutes? An early reply would be helpful as Douglas needs to confirm this date with the Police training team.

Alternatively, if you would like to join, but cannot attend these particular training sessions, please pass Douglas Stobie your name for future reference.

Bell Ringing Practice Nights

With the spread of holidays this summer, at the beginning of September. The next practices will be on Tuesday 20 and 27 September. Thereafter practice nights will be on Thursdays from 6 October at the usual time -1830 to 1930.

Any new ringers will always be very welcome.

Enquiries to George Unsworth White on 850433

Rural Police Team (RPT) News

As a result of the Neighbourhood Tasking Group meeting on Mon 25th July, two new policing priorities for the next quarter were agreed. These are:

Parking – Focusing on parking/obstruction issues in villages with the following areas being of particular interest:

- Opposite The Woolpack in Sutton Veny
- On the footpath in Sand Street, Longbridge Deverill
- Outside the Bath Arms in Horningsham
- On the road through Norton Bavant
- On the footpath opposite the school in Chapmanslade

The RPT ask that they are informed of parking issues including times that these problems tend to occur so that they can target offending vehicles. They would also like to be informed of vehicles obstructing footpaths and preventing wheelchairs or pushchairs passing by. Ensuring emergency vehicle access is also a focus for the RPT. For example, if a vehicle is obstructing the highway an emergency vehicle may force a path through the obstruction and any vehicles in the way may be damaged. This damage may not be covered by insurance. Therefore, ensure that your vehicle is not parked in a way which could obstruct emergency vehicles.

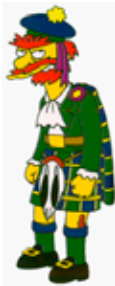
Farmwatch - Many of the crimes reported over the last quarter were of thefts from farms and other rural locations. Most of these were either metal, farm or gardening equipment thefts. If those who work within the rural community (farmers, estate workers, gamekeepers, equestrian workers) inform the RPT of their contact details they will be notified when a particular threat is detected. This may help reduce crime within rural areas by deterring the perpetrators. If you own or run a farm or equestrian establishment, please inform the RPT (details below) of contact names/email/phone numbers to ensure their information is accurate and up to date.

General Crime Prevention Advice

The RPT have been promoting shed alarms which have been proved to be an effective crime prevention tool. These are available to buy directly from the RPT at a cost of £6.00 each. If you are interested in buying one then please contact the RPT directly or via your local Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

RPT Contact details:

nptwarminster@wiltshire.police.pnn.uk or 0845 408 7000



Village Warning!

This is an early warning for all Chitterne Residents to be on high alert in late January 2012. We have received good intelligence that a band of Scottish Marauders (some fake) intend to camp in the Village Hall to drink malt whisky, eat offal and dance!

Apparently they will be celebrating an old Scottish custom call "Burn's Night". At this stage we are seeking undercover volunteers to infiltrate the event (for a small charge) and show those "Teuchters*" the Wiltshire Way. Those up to this challenge should register their interest at cameron657@btinternet.com or contact Andy and Lorna.

* *teuchter* (choo•chter) *Dialect, chiefly Scot ~n.*

1. (trad.) one who derives from the Highlands of Scotland (a Highlander); more commonly used by city folk to describe rural dwellers.

2. Gaelic-speaker (mostly to each other) esp. at strange Gatherings known as Mods [definitely not Rockers]. Occasionally partakes of a wee dram (see also *heuchter teuchter*).

Chitterne's Own Harvest & Produce Show Saturday September 17th 2011, Village Hall

Open to villagers only, this event was a big success last year - and enormous fun. Schedules with details of classes will be distributed this week.

There really is a class for everyone - from veg, baking, photography or crafts. Come along and join in!

Weekly Events

- Mondays, Village Hall 9.30-10.30am Morning Yoga Essence Class
- Tuesday 20th & 27th Sep, Church, 6.30pm, Bellingring Practice
- Wednesdays, Village Hall, 7.15-8.15pm, Evening Yoga Essence Class
- Thursdays during term-time, 10.30-11.30am, Sticky Fingers, Parent & Toddler Group
- Thursdays, Chancel (until Sep 15), 5.30pm, Compline/Evensong
- Fridays, Village Hall, 9.30-10.30am, Pilates
- Fridays, 10.30am-3pm, 9th Sep in Church, 23rd Sep in Village Hall, Kneeler Project (note later start time and venue changes)

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Chitterne Village Hall
Friday 30th September 2011
10am - 12 noon

Please call in for a cup of coffee & a slice of cake to support this worthwhile cause.

More info: <http://coffee.macmillan.org.uk/>

Peter Heaton-Ellis OBE

Chit Chat is sad to report that Peter died at home on Sunday 21st August.

Peter was born on 31 Aug 1923. He and his family came to live in Coach House, Chitterne in 1974.

He served as an Army Officer for many years, reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and was commandant of West Down Camp, Tilshead. Peter also gave many years of service locally as Chairman of Chitterne Parish Council, as Churchwarden and as Chairman of Governors of St Thomas a Becket School, Tilshead. He hunted for many years with the RA and was MFH.

Peter was a great character and raconteur. He will be much missed by all his friends and family.

Parish Council Meeting

Monday 12th September, 7pm
Village Hall
All welcome.

Lt Col (Retd) Nigel Linge MBE who is part of the Army's Salisbury Plain Training Area team will be addressing the Parish Council on the subject of Rights of Way on the Plain and the Army's plans to resolve issues regarding them.

Chit-Chat next issue

All contributions for the October issue by last week of September, by hand, CD, memory stick or email to: chitchated@hotmail.co.uk, tel: 850016 or at Well Cottage.

To download *Chit-Chat* from the village website:

www.chitterne.com, click on the *Village Life* link on the home page, then click on *Newsletters* and the monthly issue you want. You will need *Adobe Acrobat* to read them.

Downloads may take a few minutes.

Church Cleaning and Flower Rota

Sep 4/11	Elizabeth Johns/Erika	Clean & Flowers
Sep 18	Sally Oliver/Kato	Clean & Flowers
Sep 25	Anne Neave	Chancel Clean & Flowers
Oct 2/9	Sarah Gooch	Clean & Flowers

** Oct 30 - Clean By All - come along & join in - refreshments available too**