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THE BIGG ISSUE

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF DINTON with FORD & UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

SUMMER 2014

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DINTON OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 22nd June, 2014 2pm – 6pm

Nine very varied gardens in Dinton and Westlington will be open to visit 22nd June, all within easy walking distance of the Parish Field car park. Combined admission fee is £6, children free, 100% of which goes to the National Garden Scheme. This is a charity that exists to contribute towards the main UK cancer charities—Macmillan Cancer Support (to which it is the largest single contributor) Marie Curie Cancer Care, Help the Hospices and also, this year, Parkinsons UK. Delicious homemade teas will be served in the Village Hall with all proceeds going to Dinton Church Flush Fund. The Church will be open all afternoon. All the garden owners look forward to welcoming as many as possible and are very grateful to every visitor who finds the time to support us as every £6 makes a big contribution to this very worthy cause and enjoy a very happy and sociable afternoon.

PLAYGROUND PLAQUES - Would you like to have a plaque with your child's or grandchild's name on it in the younger children's playground in Dinton? If yes, please contact Jon Horn (see Councillor Contact Details). The cost is £10 per plaque and the money goes towards the maintenance of the playground. It's nice to see that we are now having plaques made for the children of the children whose names were originally placed there.

DEVOLVED SERVICES TO PARISH COUNCILS

Bucks County Council are looking to devolve services such as grass cutting and some maintenance responsibilities to parish councils.

Discussion is taking place on what the work involves. The Parish Council will consider taking on these services which may mean an increase in council tax.



Bereavements

Eve Roads of School Lane, Dinton & David Keet of New Road, Dinton. Our thoughts are with their families at this difficult time



DOGS & LAMBS

A local farmer has had two lambs killed by dogs. Please make sure your dog is on a lead when sheep are in a field you are crossing. Also, please make sure your dogs cannot escape; farmers are in their rights to shoot dogs they believe to be a threat to their livestock, so please take extra precautions.





Haddenham Community Library

Since Haddenham Community Library last wrote to everyone in the parish, there have been some important and encouraging developments. A majority of our funding comes from the County and Parish Councils, supplemented by contributions from a number of village firms and organisations including Rectory Homes, Haddenham Beer Festival Trust, Haddenham Fete and Haddenham Garden Centre – these are listed on our 'honours board' in the library entrance. With this support we have been able to buy furniture and improve the counter area and 'back-office' to give customers an improved service. The number of library members has increased by over 200 and our space is very well-used both for library use and for meetings of a number of local groups and organisations. In fact we are bursting at the seams and would love to have more space, especially if the former health centre next door became a community as-set. Our success depends crucially on the quality of our staff and the marvellous group of some 50 trained volunteers. This team works so successfully that we currently have a waiting list to join it.

We have a budget for buying new books on top of the new stock provided by the County and are grateful for donations from library users. As part of our vision to provide facilities and activities for the whole community, we have a popular knit and natter group, a spinning group, cops and coffee drop in sessions, storytime for pre-schoolers, children's crafts, and PC and tablet taster sessions to name just a few.

Due to our excellent relationship with Buckinghamshire County Council we are able to offer public PC'S and free online access to over 30 subscription resources, including Encyclopaedia Britannia, Ancestry, Theory Teat Pro, Naxos Music Library and Which? Online. Free book loans including large print, over 800 DVD titles available to hire, over 500 spoken word titles on CD, Cassette and Playaway MP3 player, and free ebooks, eaudiobooks, and emagazines. Library cards issued at Haddenham can be used at all the County's public libraries and give access to the full range of library services. Borrow items from Haddenham and return them to other libraries in the County and return items from other Buckinghamshire Libraries to us. We can also search and reserve items from the wider library network if the item you are looking for is not available here.

Thanks to the generosity in both volunteering time, and sponsorship, from the local Community, Haddenham Community Library are able to offer free wifi, daily and weekly newspapers, advice and information relating to local groups and services, activities for the Community at large including School visits and coffee mornings, an excellent choice of magazines, additional book stock, and a wonderful new counter and "back-office" space. Our amazing volunteers, in addition to two members of staff, are always on hand to offer help and advice in a friendly and helpful manner. Pop in to see us, we can ensure you will get a well informed and professional service.

HADDENHAM MEDICAL CENTRE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Mailing lists for patients: the Patient Participation Group are compiling a list for patients of the medical centre who wish to be kept informed of news and information about the practice. If you wish to be included please either send a note to Barry Lynch, who is Vice-Chairman of the Patient Participation Group, at Pine Hill, High Street, Dinton or email him at barrylynch@gmail.com.

SPAM email alert: if you receive an email from NICE (National Institute of Health & Care Excellence informing you that your recent tests have indicated you have cancer it is a SCAM. Haddenham Medical Centre does not send out any results or clinical information by email.

Nurse Appointments: one of the practice nurses is on long term sick leave as a result until the practice are able to recruit a locum, there may be longer than usual delays for non-urgent appointments. Electronic Prescription Service Go Live 2 July, 2014. The Haddenham surgery will be introducing the Electronic Prescription Service on 2 July 14. Patients are invited to nominate their preferred pharmacy for their routine repeat prescriptions. This should be done direct to the pharmacy.



DINTON VILLAGE FETE - 25th August, 2014

Come and Join us for a fun filled day at the Fete.

For further information contact: *Sylvia Eaton* - Tel: 01296 748537



The Annual School Ball was held in the Junior Site field on Saturday 10th May. The theme of the event was Blitz and Glitz. As ever it was an amazing evening with a great deal of money raised for the school. The final total is not yet known but generous friends of the school once again enabled us to raise a substantial amount to help with the children's education. Mrs Price and the Governors are extremely grateful for the hard work done by the Ball Committee and the generosity and support of parents and their friends. All of the money raised is being put towards the redevelopment of the infant site. We have completed Phase 1 (the staffroom and the magnificent toilets) and 2 (knocking down internal walls, building a new office and moving the front door) should take place in the summer holidays, depending on planning permission.

Any money raised will be wisely used for a new library and ICT area.

Every half term we explore one of the School Values in greater depth. This half term we are looking at Integrity. We have explained it to the children as "doing the right thing even when nobody is looking".

Mrs Reed, who has been teaching Year 6 since the first junior children reached that landmark for the school, has now gone on maternity leave. All the staff and children wish her well for the future. Mrs Pearce will be teaching Year 6 until the end of term.

The infant children spend a wonderful morning on 22nd May dancing and singing in Cuddington village. The Year 6 children will visit Hazard Alley at the beginning of June where they learn all sorts of exciting things about dealing with everyday dangers. At the end of June Years 5 and 6 will be spending a week at the Chateau de Broute northern France. Their week will include climbing and getting very wet, as well as the more serious visits to wartime battlefields. This will help to reinforce and bring to life some of the lessons learned during their World War topic this year.

As ever the summer term ends with sporting activities including a sports day on both the infant and junior sites—we hope the weather is a little more kind this year than it has been in previous years.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2014 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

The year since my last report is best characterised by the words uncertainty and change. In dealing with these themes it is important to say that my job has been made easier and more tolerable by members of the council and their input. I thank Colin Minton (Vice Chairman), Lorraine Gooch, Jon Horn, John Owen, Barbara Green and Giles Kidner for their time and hard work.

We are all very ably supported by our Clerk, Keith Gray, whose knowledge, professionalism and advice keeps us on the right path. The other officer to thank is our Tree Warden, David Hobden, who puts in many hours, often with Jon Horn, managing and improving the Spinney along with the tree planting scheme.

Our District Councillors Judy Brandis, Brian Roberts and Andrew Douglas-Bate have continued to serve us well and it is comforting to know they may continue without any ward boundary changes. Meanwhile Paul Irwin, our County Councillor, has been most helpful and supportive despite the large ward he covers and we hope his good office prevails. I mention these councillors because change is in the air with the tightening of fiscal belts affecting County and District so that there will be possible pressures to take on some of the roles they presently provide at parish level. To make some of them work would require an increased commitment by parishioners. That commitment already exists in some degree by events such as the litter blitz; in Ford 30 people turned out with 14 in Dinton. It is relevant as in June 2014 Dinton and Westlington will be judged for the Best Kept Village Competition. Working parties will be needed. Remember, Cuddington always wins!

This brings me to the uncertainty regarding the state of the parish. The primary one is regarding the long-running saga of the wind turbine proposal. The appeal by the applicant is due to be heard in public on 22/9/14. As a council we are maintaining a close liaison with FAGAT and Ford Village Society.

The more immediate uncertainty is the state of the roads and ditches in the parish, which give us all grief. The bad winter rains have not helped. Whilst Transport for Bucks (TfB) are under pressure to repair we are disappointed at the slow pace. Often safety as in road signs and white lines are an issue. Natural phenomena such as wind and fire have taken their toll thankfully not with any personal injury but fallen trees have damaged property and houses were flooded in Ford. That parishioners, and the emergency services, responded so well is to be applauded.

Amongst village institution it is important to note the new school hall won a design award and that helps to ensure that the school's success is maintained. The village pubs have more mixed fortunes with the Seven Stars thriving and winning awards whilst the Dinton Hermit remains shut and has an uncertain future. This is of concern to the Parish Council as it is of importance to Ford's community life.

Financially we are in good shape, with the good stewardship of our Responsible Financial Officer,
Mike Thompson.

(Continued on page 5)

DINTON with FORD & UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

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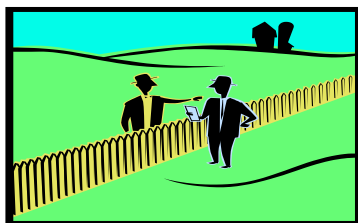
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Barbara Green

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barbaragreen@dinton.org



PARISH GOOD NEIGHBOURS SCHEME

Help we can give: Transport to the Doctors, Hospital, Dentists, Opticians, Collection of prescriptions. Help with getting out of the house in bad weather and shopping in the case of illness

VOLUNTEERS

GIBRALTAR

Barbara Green 748529
Chris Hargraves 748205

FORD:

Marilyn Pipe 747336
Mary Hobden 748476

UPTON:

Jo & David Troup 747735
Chloe Lambert 748221

Phil Nuckley 747117

DINTON:

Lorraine Gooch 747655
Carol Lynch 748392
Honor Vane 748177
Valma Thompson 748 561

Sylvia Eaton 748 537
Keith Mitchell 747018
Helen Wild 748679
Stella Young 748771

Co-ordinators: Jo Troup and Helen Wild

Useful Numbers

Bell Ringing Tower Captain

Andrew Wild - 01296 748679

Church of England Minister

Rev'd Peter Rich: 01296 748068

Church Wardens

Raymond Medhurst - 07793 541456

Jean Moore - 01296 748063

Churchyard Working Party

Andrew & Helen Wild - 01296 748679

Cuddington & Dinton School

01844 291206

cuddingtonoffice@cds.bucks.sch.uk

Dinton Cricket Club

Jonathan Morgan—07843 265962

Haddenham Health Club

0844 477 8575

Girl Guides (Sue Napier)

01296 748554

1st Stone Brownies

01296 655692

Marquee Hire (Alan Weston)

01296 748287

Parish Magazine (Dinton)

Mike Thompson - 01296 748561

Police Station (Waddesdon)

PC Dean Kingham - 101

Pre-School, Dinton Village Hall

Valerie Partington - 01296 747495

Village Hall Bookings (Dinton)

Ruth Chelmick - 01296 747381

Hotline against Fly Tipping

0845 330 1856

Parish Good Neighbours Scheme

Jo Troup - 01296 727735

Helen Wild - 01296 748629

Chairman's Speech (cont'd)

Whilst the parish precept has gone up for the present financial year it is to cover inevitable and unpredictable expenses. These could well occur in relation to the bigger problems of planning in Vale of Aylesbury. AVDC have had to start again after their Vale of Aylesbury Plan was rejected by the Inspector and could lead to pressure for more houses and their infrastructure in villages.

This leads me to say that we have commented, for an opinion on a great many planning applications. Most of these are approved by AVDC sometimes despite our comments. Also there is a streamlining with the introduction of householder development orders which is in line with central Government thinking. We will continue to try and ensure that adjacent neighbours are aware of and can comment on applications, as well as informing them of Parish council meetings to debate them. Communication with parishioners is important and the Bigg Issue and the website are a major part of that process although we recognise that the latter needs attention and updating.

This meeting is always an enjoyable occasion to meet together and is certainly helped by Sylvia Eaton, Valma Thompson and Janet Morgan who have laid on the refreshments. Also to thank Carol Lynch who has brought along some of the parish archive and memorabilia. Please keep us informed of your concerns and comments.

Cllr Martin Usherwood (CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL)



Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition 2014

Thank you to all those who turned out to help tidy up on May 17th and 18th and also thank you for everyone's hard work tidying the outside of their properties. The judging will be sometime during June and the area being judged will be from Westlington Green to the Church and Chestnut Avenue. We have arranged for extra grass cutting around the village in June and this has been partly funded by a grant from our county councillor, Paul Irwin. The judges will mark the tidiness of public areas such as the Church, School, Parish Field, Village Hall, Bus Shelters and Telephone boxes. They will also mark the general tidiness of the village and are particularly looking for evidence of community effort. If you see litter please pick it up and ensure the outside of your properties are looking as tidy as possible. Lets hope we win!

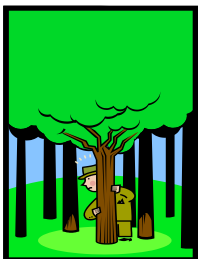
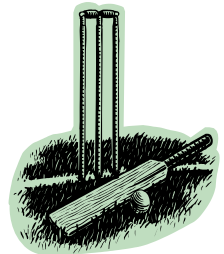
Dinton Cricket Club News June 2014

The refurbished changing rooms, showers and practice nets are now completed. The changing rooms were fully funded by a grant from Sports England and the nets have been partially funded by Aylesbury Vale Community Chest Fund, other kind donations and a loan for £10000. The club are hoping to pay of this loan as soon as possible by further fundraising. There was an official opening of the new facilities by John Bercow M.P and speaker of the House of Commons on 7th June at 12.00.

On the playing side the season has started in typically wet way. Many of our games have been abandoned, our 1st team have though managed to win their only completed league game and have progressed to the regional final of the National Village Knockout competition which will be at Dinton on June 8th. We also have senior 2nd and 3rd teams playing on Saturdays, a Sunday Social team and Junior teams for boys and girls 6-18 years. Our Senior players practice on Wednesday evenings at 6.30 p.m and our Juniors on Thursdays from 5.45 p.m. New players of all ages and abilities are very welcome to come along and try out and we have several ECB qualified coaches available to help you improve your game.

Details of all our events and fixtures are on our website: <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/dinton> or contact secretary@dintoncc.co.uk

We would be very pleased to see you at the club during the season or perhaps at Lords for the final of the National Village Knockout on September 7th!



Dinton Spinney

The Parish Council is grateful to two members of the community for the voluntary work they do for the parish. Mr David Hobden, who fulfils the role of Parish Tree Warden, and Councillor Jon Horn, who helps David on a regular basis.

Both volunteers carry out a lot of maintenance work for council and save the council a great deal of time and money because of what they do. They look after the Spinney near the parish field and carry out a lot of work by doing repairs to the playground too.

Recently Jon and David did some grass cutting to ensure safety for drivers using the road leading into Dinton. Parish Councils are taking on a lot of work within their parishes; work which was normally carried out by the principal councils. Further discussions continue on proposed devolvement of work to parish councils.