

THE PUMP & POUND

The Newsletter of Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Issue 11

April/May 2013

Welcome to the eleventh edition of The Pump & Pound. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all parishioners to attend their respective Village Meetings, 18th April in Chedington and 30th April in South Perrott. These are good forums for people to discuss issues affecting their communities.

Michael Johnson, Chairman

Village Open Meeting to discuss A356 Road Issues

A meeting was arranged specifically to garner the opinions of South Perrott residents further to the Parish Council agreeing in principle to the installation of Variable Message Signs (VMS). These signs would warn of oncoming large vehicles in the narrow section of the A356 at Swing Gate Cottage. The meeting also provided a forum to raise other A356 road issues. Councillors had met with Officers from DCC Highways to consider sites for the location of VMS signs and as a result it raised a number of practical issues, which compromised the viability for their installation in South Perrott. The meeting, which was held on 20th February 2013, voted on the motion: "***The installation of Variable Message Signs opposite Hill Farm and Rowan Tree Cottage properties.***" This motion was overwhelmingly defeated. The Parish Council therefore agreed not to pursue these signs any further at this time.

A further motion was proposed and voted upon at the Open meeting. "***In principle, the installation of flashing 30mph signs opposite Hill Farm and Rowan Tree Cottage properties.***" This was narrowly defeated. Discussions are now taking place between the Parish Council and DCC, Highways.

Other A356 issues were discussed and a third motion was proposed: "***In principle, the removal of the crossings and the replacement of the kerbstones alongside footways with something less obtrusive but retaining the delineated area of footway***". This was in response to the frequent fracture of the kerbstones on the section of the footway between Picket Lane and the Coach & Horses. The kerbstones, especially where they are raised as a result of the fractures, constitute a health and safety hazard. This motion was overwhelmingly supported. Andrew Bradley of DCC Highways commented "DCC Highways are currently considering a longer term solution to the failing kerbstones." In the meantime fracturing kerbstones will continue to be repaired when reported to DCC.

The Parish Council has informed DCC Highways of all the outcomes from the Open meeting.

Skittles Evening Raises £156!

Over 30 people enjoyed the skittles match, held in aid of the **South Perrott & Chedington Millennium Green**, at the Coach & Horses on 23rd February 2013. Ticket sales, (wonderfully organised by Sue & Martyn), a raffle and contributions on the night resulted in £161.20 being raised towards the upkeep of the Millennium Green. A big "thank you" to everyone who took part, and in particular to Martyn Gillingham & Colin Warren as scorer and MC, Jill Knights for the raffle and Jane at the Coach & Horses for providing the venue and buffet. Richard & Sue Coutanche donated the trophy which was presented to Chas Warren (pictured) the winner of the knock out competition. It is hoped that this will continue as an annual fund raising event for the Millennium Green.

Bob Buckland, MG Trustee



New tree for Millennium Green

The promised tree was planted on 5th March by Peter Hinton (pictured) and Angela Gillingham. It has been donated to the parish by Waitrose to mark their 75th anniversary of joining the John Lewis Partnership. The tree is a *Crataegus laevigata Paul's Scarlet*, an ornamental cultivar of our native Hawthorn. In due course a brass plaque will be obtained for it.



Calling All Wombles!

South Perrott Village Spring Clean – Sunday 28th April 2013

Following the success of last year's village tidy up we are once again looking for volunteers to help tidy up the village as part of the "Keep Britain Tidy – Big Tidy Up". We will meet in the **Coach & Horses car park at 10:30** when I will supply gloves, tabards and the necessary waste sacks. Please wear suitable clothing and especially footwear – we will be asking for a few agile volunteers to collect litter from the River Parrett! Refreshments will be available in the Coach & Horses from 11:45. Why not bring a friend? – In this case "many hands make light work"!

Sue Coutanche

News from the Village Pubs

The major refurbishment to the bar area in the **Coach and Horses** has now been completed. Jane and John would like to thank all their patrons for their patience whilst work was in progress. Jane looks forward to welcoming all customers old and new.

Meanwhile, at **Winyards Gap** the building of four B&B rooms continues and is on schedule for completion during May 2013. These will complement the two self-catering flats that already exist. In celebration of their 5th Anniversary at Winyards Gap, Michelle and Toby are hosting a band, MicroLight, on Sunday 28th April. The entertainment will start at 17:00 hours and their hope is that all, from both villages, will come and join the party. The timing is deliberately early so that children can also attend.

Chedington and South Perrott Gardening Club

On 5th February the speaker, Phil Gamble, wasn't able to provide the scheduled talk about hanging baskets but on this cold dark February evening he did give us a welcome reminder of things to come in our gardens this summer. Ideas to try, colour combinations, and spectacular colour clashes. Good advice too on companion planting to control pests. Tip of the month; if you have a sickly shrub, plant a herb (any herb apparently) close to it and it will have a therapeutic effect.

On 10th March the speaker was Neil Lovesey of Picket Lane Nursery. Neil as always was very generous with his information and the sharing of his expertise and experiences. The audience was enthralled hearing the mass of interesting information about bees that everyone thought they knew then realised they didn't! However one thing we believe hasn't changed. It has been confirmed that in a hive all work is done by the females, and the males (drones) do nothing at all (all analogies are your own!). An excellent reason to resist the nagging to mow the lawn; dandelions are one of the best flowers for attracting bees when fruit trees need pollinating. Tip of the month; if you want to encourage bees into your garden, and reap all the benefits that they offer, (apart from growing the bee attracting flowers) provide water in a shallow dish with a piece of sponge in it so that the bees can land to drink.

Chedington Village hall 'gardens' need a rethink.

The village hall committee would like the garden outside the hall to be more attractive and are looking for suggestions to achieve this aim. Please pass any ideas to Dave George on 891512.

South Perrott Village Hall AGM

This year the AGM of South Perrott Village Hall will be on Friday 10th May. We will be providing refreshments after the formal meeting to make this a bit more of a social event than in previous years. Your attendance is most welcome and will provide you with the opportunity to discuss the activities and functions that you would like to see in the hall. I am hopeful that there will be some very interesting information to impart at this meeting.

Dave McSkelly, Chairman, SP Village Hall Management Committee

Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Below is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 14th March 2013. A full set of the agreed minutes will be available on the Parish website (www.parrettandaxe.org.uk) or from the clerk when accepted at the next meeting. In addition to the Parish Councillors and Clerk, also in attendance were County Cllr Rebecca Knox and District Councillors Janet Page and Caroline Payne.

Apologies were received from PCSO Alex Bishop.

- ❖ **A356 Road Issues** - See front page article.
A full set of minutes from the A356 Open Meeting are available on the parish website or from the Parish Clerk.
- ❖ **Refurbishment of The Pound, South Perrott**
As reported previously quotes had been received and a contractor appointed. Work will commence mid April 2013 weather permitting. It will be completed in time for spring/summer planting.
- ❖ **Assets of Community Value** – These are local amenities which if they were lost would have a detrimental effect on the community. For example, if a village has only one pub or one shop and it closes the community will have a 6 month option to purchase said amenity.

- ❖ **Dorset Waste Partnership** – will be taking over responsibility for refuse collection from 1st April 2013. All contact details will remain the same.
- ❖ **Rights of Way - Parish Grant Scheme** – This scheme enables parish councils to employ contractors to carry out minor works on the rights of way network within their parish, using funding from Dorset County Council. Works can vary from clearance of surface vegetation to replacement of furniture such as gates and stiles. It was agreed that applications for this grant will be made via the footpaths officer, Dominie de la Poer, where scope is identified. There is a very limited amount of funding available.
- ❖ **Stiles** on the footpath from Lecher lane to Chedington Lane, which exits by Broadmead Close, Mosterton, are to be replaced with metal gates.
- ❖ **Grit Bins** – Both villages currently have three grit bins each. These bins are either filled once per season or throughout the year, as necessary, according to their designation by DCC. Additional bins have been requested for Picket Lane by Picket Farm and on the Chedington side of Winyards Gap Inn. Pheasant feeders were suggested as suitable and cheaper alternatives to grit bins. It was also reported that the **grit spreaders** supplied to both villages were not working. The clerk is taking action on both these matters.
- ❖ **Village Spring Clean – South Perrott – Sunday 28th April 2013** see “**Calling All Wombles!**”
- ❖ **School Transport – Beaminster School** have introduced electronic smart bus passes. These passes will monitor usage and indicate whether there is spare capacity which could be allocated to sixth form passengers. Travel arrangements within the Beaminster pyramid which includes Parrett and Axe Primary School, are being consulted upon and reviewed.
- ❖ **Planning Applications** –1/D/12/001625 & 1/D/12/001626 Rose Cottage, South Perrott – erect rear extension (renewal of previous permissions). Approved by WDDC. Three applications have been submitted by Picket Farm and one for Lower Farm Cottage Chedington. The Parish Council raised no concerns.

Parish Councillors

Councillor	Address	Telephone No	e-mail Address
Michael Johnson (<i>Chairman</i>)	Chedington	01935 891347 or 07813210266	mikej.chedington@btinternet.com
Peter Simmons	Chedington	07971007551	peterjsimmonsuk@btinternet.com
Liz Fray	Chedington	01935 891941	lizfray@btinternet.com
Kate Organ (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	South Perrott	01935 891391	
Sue Coutanche	South Perrott	01935 891019	sue.coutanche@btinternet.com
Anita Legg	South Perrott	01935 891666	

Clerk to the Parish Council

Angela Gillingham	Bridge Farmhouse	01935 891931	clerk@parrettandaxe.org.uk
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County Councillor for Beaminster Electoral Division

Rebecca Knox	01308 863365 or 07831168173	r.knox@dorsetcc.gov.uk
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District Councillors

Caroline Payne	01308 863690	Caroline.payne@onetel.com
Janet Page	01308 862422	member@hand-n-head.freeseve.co.uk

Editor – Pump and Pound

Dave McSkelly	01935 891891	davemskelly@aol.com
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2013 Parish Council Meetings:

Thurs 9 th May 2013 (incl. AGM) 19:30		South Perrott Village Hall
Thurs 11 th July 2013	“	Chedington Village Hall
Thurs 12 th September 2013	“	South Perrott Village Hall
Thurs 14 th November 2013	“	Chedington Village Hall

What's On in South Perrott and Chedington?

April 2013		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Monday	1 st	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	7 th	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Wednesday	10 th	19:30	Gardening Club	Chedington VH	Sue - 891240
Saturday	13 th	21:00	Live music	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	14 th	19:30	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Thursday	18 th	19:00	Annual Village Meeting (Chedington) followed by Village Hall AGM	Chedington VH	Mike - 891347 Dave - 891512
Saturday	20 th	19:00	St George's Dinner	SP Village Hall	Michael - 891890
Friday	26 th	19:00	Wine Tasting Abbey Wines - tickets £5 (£7 with cheese & biscuits)	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	28 th	10:30	South Perrott Village Spring Clean	Meet in C & H Car Park	Sue - 891019
		14:00	Bluebell Walk, Chedington		Dave - 891512
		17:00	Live music with MicroLight	Winyards Gap	Michelle/Toby - 891244
Tuesday	30 th	19:00	Annual Village Meeting (South Perrott)	SP Village Hall	Angela - 891931

May 2013		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Wednesday	1 st	19:00	Gardening Club visit to Brimsmore		Sue - 891240
Sunday	5 th	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	6 th	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Thursday	9 th	19:30	Parish Council Meeting (including AGM)	SP Village Hall	Angela - 891931
Friday	10 th	19:00	SP Village Hall AGM including refreshments	SP Village Hall	Michael - 891890
Monday	13 th	19:00	Indian Night with Chillies	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270

Regular Events – Spring 2013

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Every Monday	19:30	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Tuesday	10:00	Mosterton and District Over 50s Computer Club	Coach & Horses	Ella - 01308 868834 Barbara - 01308 867891 Martyn - 891931
Every Tuesday	14:00	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Tuesday	18:30	Aerobics with Gemma	SP Village Hall	Gemma - 07767 083780
Every Thursday	09:30	Yoga	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224
*Starts 4 th April	18:00	Bums, Legs & Tums (BLT) *	SP Village Hall	Ali - 01460 74546/
	19:00	Pilates	"	" 07753533727
Every Friday	10:00	Upholstery	SP Village Hall	Helen - 01460 62621

Advance dates:

Chedington Street Fair Saturday 27th July 2013 – contact David on 891512 or Michael on 891890.

South Perrott Village Open Day Sunday 11th August 2013 - contact Ann on 891224. Volunteers needed for both events.

Local Contacts:

Chedington Village Hall:

Chairman David George 01935 891512
Bookings Ivan Williams 01935 891059
Winyards Gap Toby/Michelle 01935 891244

St Mary's Church:

Church Warden Peter Coles 01935 891232
Treasurer Wendy Stevenette 01935 891890

South Perrott Village Hall:

Chairman Dave McSkelly 01935 891891
Secretary Michael Stevenette 01935 891890
Bookings Vicky Reed 01935 891654
Coach & Horses Jane 01935 891270

Millennium Green

Secretary Martyn Gillingham 01935 891931