

THE PUMP & POUND

The Newsletter of Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Issue 7

August/September 2012

Welcome to the seventh and first anniversary edition of The Pump & Pound. South Perrott is currently experiencing some extra traffic due to the tunnel being closed following the landslip on the evening of 7th July during what was exceptional rainfall and we later heard the news that two local people had tragically died. Our condolences go to their families and friends.

Mike Johnson - Chairman

WET! WET! WET!

The South Perrott and Chedington **Diamond Jubilee Celebrations** went ahead in Peter Hinton's Paddock as planned, despite intermittent showers and accompanied with an ample supply of umbrellas. The event was a great success and refused to be deterred by the rain clouds – even the sun made a brief appearance!! All young people up to and including 16 year olds received commemorative mugs. By now, they should have been distributed to all children who are eligible even if they were not at the tea. If any of your children have not received their free mug, please contact Vicky on 891654. Limited numbers of Diamond Jubilee commemorative mugs are available for sale. If you would like to purchase one at £5 please register your interest with Vicky or Martyn on 891931 by 14th August. South Perrott Village Hall Management Committee would like to offer its most sincere thanks to everyone who assisted, whether providing the venue, preparing sandwiches, baking cakes, transporting and erecting the marquee, gazebos, tables and chairs, putting up bunting and decorating tables or any other way, to make the afternoon such a memorable occasion.



The **Annual Village Picnic** traditionally held on the Millennium Green in July, was not so lucky! On the scheduled date, Saturday 7th July, a month's rain fell in less than 24 hours! As you can see, these photos explain why the "picnic" was transferred to South Perrott Village Hall where adults and children alike enjoyed hot drinks, sandwiches and homemade cakes accompanied by DVDs and lively conversation. The weather was not allowed to spoil the afternoon! We hope that the date set for next year's event will coincide with a warm, sunny day and villagers can enjoy a picnic and games on the Millennium Green.



The floods in West Dorset were some of the worst in living memory and their impact is still being felt. For the first time in its 32 year history the **Chedington Street Fair**, scheduled for Saturday 21st July, had to be cancelled. It was a difficult, but right decision by the Street Fair committee; waterlogged fields for parking got the upper hand. Sterling work has been done selling quizzes and raffle tickets. Costs have been covered and there is a small profit. Apologies to all those who were involved with its organization and to all those disappointed visitors.

There is still a need to raise funds for the upkeep of both village halls. It is good to see that the persistence of Joy and the Chedington Hall committee has finally paid off as Chedington Village Hall will be one of the nominated charities in **Waitrose, Crewkerne** throughout **August**. The Chedington Village Hall Committee would be delighted if you choose to support this charity each time you shop there. Any other suggestions for fund raising for either village hall would be welcome.

On a positive note, **South Perrott Festival Week** begins with the Flower Festival in St Mary's Church on Saturday 4th August and we are looking forward to **South Perrott's Open Day** on Sunday 5th August. Ann Studley and her team are busy with all the preparations and the event should attract visitors from a wide area as well as local residents. Surely there cannot be more rain!!!

It also coincides with the annual **3 day Cider Festival at the Coach & Horses**, which will provide an added attraction and boost visitor numbers. The Coach and Horses will have live music every day. We are now keeping everything crossed that the weather will be kinder than of late.

Sadly, this year will be the last year that Gary and Gill host a cider festival as they will be leaving at the end of August. We wish them the best of luck in their new venture.

Winyards Gap Cider Festival will be on Saturday 18th August during normal opening hours. Entertainment will be provided from 20:00 by The Mangledwurzels.

Chedington and South Perrott Garden Club The sun shone (really, it did!) for the visit to Cannington Walled Gardens on the 20th June. It had great variety, not too large, nor too pristine, therefore achievable; very pleasant. The priest's garden was peaceful, if a little surprising with his tomb in the centre of the lawn. The glasshouses were fascinating, from tropical to temperate, very exotic and colourful. After lunch we took the scenic route to Headford Farm, in a coach driven by an ex fighter pilot (so I am told), who hasn't forgotten his training; enough said! It was well worth the ride to see what can be done, from scratch, in a few short years. Hope for me yet I feel. Each 'room' in the garden was different, interesting and a surprise and a wild flower meadow too. Cream teas, in a lovely setting, in the sun, perfect. It was an excellent day out.

We now look forward to the next meeting on September 12th which features Michael Jordon on the subject of Fungus and Mushrooms.

Liz Fray

Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Below is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 12th July 2012. 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, County Cllr Rebecca Knox and District Councillors Janet Page and Caroline Payne were also in attendance.

❖ **Beaminster Tunnel** – County Cllr Rebecca Knox reported on the damage to the tunnel which had suffered from a landslide caused by the heavy rain. Structural engineers and a geologist had visited the site and reported that it was currently too unstable for work to start on stabilising the ground or rebuilding the head wall of the tunnel. There is no timescale yet for the tunnel to re-open. Emergency signage has been put up following the closure of the tunnel and further signage would be placed where needed and requested.

❖ **Superfast Broadband** – Everyone is encouraged to complete the survey about Superfast Broadband on the DorsetForYou website. This would help to raise the level of interest amongst prospective suppliers of the new service. A presentation on this subject is planned for the next Parish Council meeting in September.

❖ **Lecher Lane Smallholding - theft and criminal damage** – currently crime in the Parrett & Axe area is low, with the exception of thefts from two smallholdings one in July in Lecher Lane, South Perrott and the other in Mosterton.

There is a continuing problem with "scrap" thieves and burglaries, but none of the 130 farms and rural businesses in the Beaminster/Bridport area that have installed a 'Stop that Thief' alarm system have reported further successful burglaries. New regulations requiring traders to present ID at all scrap yards may result in a reduction in the number of scrap thieves.

❖ **A356 - results from speed survey** – the results of the recent speed monitoring through South Perrott showed that the speed of the majority of vehicles entering and leaving the village on the Crewkerne side was 36-40mph, and that most vehicles passed the pub in the centre of the village at 26-30mph. DCC Highways had confirmed that there is no budget to conduct any further speed checks.

A number of residents have requested that a "SLOW" sign is painted on the road on the eastern approach to the village similar to that on the western side.

A number of large potholes have developed following the recent heavy rain. Repairs to these do not last and Highways have been requested to repair whole areas, rather than individual holes. Also, the drainage needs to be improved on the Hill Farm bend in South Perrott because the camber of the road causes water to track across.

❖ **A3066 - junction with Lecher Lane** – A joint letter from this Parish Council and Mosterton Parish Council was sent to DCC Highways requesting action to deter overtaking on the dangerous section of the A3066 at the junction with Lecher Lane. Highways responded that it would not be appropriate to paint a solid white line in the centre of the carriageway as the criteria for this road marking was a lack of visibility and this stretch of road had good visibility. However, they would be willing to erect a 'side road ahead' warning sign (for north-bound traffic) and to place 'SLOW' signs on the road adjacent to the warning signs. A further letter would be sent to Highways advising that there is still an issue with

visibility. Dave McSkelly is willing to keep a log of all near-misses.

❖ **Refurbishment of Pound** - Since the last parish council meeting, the question of funding the new seat for the Pound has been resolved. Bob Buckland is donating a seat to the village in memory of his wife, Sheila. The ground behind the seating area has been cleared by Phil Smith and Tim Bartlett, and Roger Legg has disposed of the waste material. We are grateful to them for all their work. The refuse bin has been re-sited. The seat will be secured and there will be separate planters.

❖ **Planning applications received:**

- Picket Lane Nursery, South Perrott - Application for residential development of two semi-detached properties. Issues were raised which have been forwarded to the planning authority;
- Change of use to part of the former Golf Club;
- Fencing between Rose Cottage and Church Hill Cottage.

❖ **Footpaths** - where it has been resurfaced Langmoor Lane is much improved; however, closer to the village a section had fallen into the stream. The footpath by the Old School House was firmly blocked by a gate, which was mysteriously being put back every time it was removed. Both of these issues had been reported to DCC's Footpaths Officer.

❖ **Other matters raised were:** - Flooding on Pipplepen Lane, near sewage works where water runs across the road where the catch pit is blocked; Flooding outside Maple Cottage, South Perrott – caused by a road surface alignment issue; Hill Farm bend, South Perrott – stopping lines at end of Lecher Lane are too far forward now that the footpath has been moved back; Manor Close, South Perrott – WDDC will be asked to cut the grass verge.

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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Next Parish Council Meeting Date:

Thursday 13th September 2012 Chedington Village Hall

What's On in South Perrott and Chedington?

August 2012		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Friday	3 rd	18:00	Cider Festival	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Saturday	4 th	11:00	Flower Festival	St Mary's Church	Anne - 891224
		12:00	Cider Festival	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
		14:00	Stalls & Cream Teas	St Mary's Church	Anne - 891224
Sunday	5 th	11:00	Village Open Day & Flower Festival	South Perrott	Anne - 891224
		11:00	Cider Festival	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Monday	6 th	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Wednesday	8 th	18:30	Parrett Trail Video and refreshments	The Granary, South Perrott	Anne - 891224
Saturday	11 th	18:30	BBQ	Coach & Horses	Anne - 891224
Sunday	12 th	19:00	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Saturday	18 th	18:00	Cider Festival	Winyards Gap	Toby/Michelle - 891244
Monday	20 th	20:00	Clog Dancing	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Monday	27 th	20:00	Flatland Boogie Band	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Friday	31 st	20:00	Gary & Gill's leaving party with music by Picture	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270

Sept 2012		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Saturday	1 st	14:30	Flower Show	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Monday	2 nd	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Wednesday	12 th	19:30	Gardening Club	Chedington Village Hall	Sue - 891240
Thursday	13 th	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Ched. Village Hall	Angela - 891931

Regular Events – Autumn 2012

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 (recommence 18 th Sept.)	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 (resumes 6 th September)	09:30	Yoga	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224
Every Friday	10:00	Upholstery	SP Village Hall	Helen - 01460 62621

Local Contacts

Chedington Village Hall:

Chairman Vacant
Bookings Ivan Williams 01935 891059
Toby/Michelle 01935 891244

Winyards Gap

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
Gary/Gill 01935 891270

Coach & Horses Millennium Green

Secretary Martyn Gillingham 01935 891931