

# The Parish Times

Keeping Hinton Parva, Bishopstone and Russley Park informed.

Volume 11. Number 7

## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS YOU!

SOURCE: Bishopstone Parish Council

This is a special issue of the Parish Times, to give all residents good notice of the Parish Council meeting on 3 September, as described below.



The Parish Council needs you! As your elected representatives, everything that we do is in the best interests of all parishioners BUT we need your ideas and feedback - positive or negative.

### Rural Speed Management

*Special Parish Council meeting at 7.00 pm on Monday 3 September*

The Parish Council and Swindon Borough Council have always been concerned at the incidence of speeding through our villages.

We met officials from SBC recently to discuss some ideas for managing these speeding issues; the meeting came about as SBC has a significant pot of money ring-fenced for the Parish in its budget; this has to be spent in the current financial year - i.e., by 31 March 2013. There is therefore a degree of urgency needed to ensure that any worthwhile and cost-effective ideas are approved and funded within the time available - allowing for any restrictions to be imposed by the onset of winter.

SBC will be attending the Parish Council meeting on 3 September 2012, at 7.00 pm to present its proposals. The meeting will be held in Bishopstone Village Hall and will start earlier than usual, at 7.00 pm.

The Parish Council would like to encourage as many parishioners as possible to attend the meeting, in order to get your feedback and support; we want to be as sure as we can that what we are doing is in the best interests of all parishioners; there may not be much time for further consultation after the meeting.



People of Marlborough and surrounding areas are being asked to get their walking boots on when the town plays host to the Prospect Hospice Starlight Hike on 15 September.

Last year's event raised £10,000 for the Hospice and this year, in order to grow the event even further, fundraisers at the hospice have opened the event up to men and women acknowledging that men are also looking for a challenge in support of Prospect Hospice. Becky Gammon, the event organiser, explained: "We've renamed this event the Starlight Hike to reflect the fact that the event is very different to the Swindon Starlight Walk. Whilst the Swindon event takes place mainly on well-lit roads through the town, the Marlborough Hike goes along byways and footpaths in the countryside.

"There are a few slopes to climb, a couple of muddy tracks, and of course the whole thing takes place at night, which means you could find yourself walking through the Wiltshire countryside at night. We make sure that the whole walk is well-signposted and marshalled, of course, so that people can just enjoy themselves, but the 15km hike is still pretty demanding.

"We also recognised that it's an event men might enjoy too, so we've decided, a first for our Starlight events, to open registrations to everyone. We're hoping that ladies who took part last year might like to invite their male family members and friends along this time too.

The event is supported by St John's school, Granham Hill, where the 15k route starts and ends and by caterers Pabulum, who will be supplying refreshments at the end of the walk. The Hike is also supported by Aspire Signs and Graphics who provided banners and graphics for the event.

A map and details of the route are available on Prospect's website where you can also register for £15 per person, which includes your red, white and blue themed event t-shirt.

To register for the walk please go to [www.prospect-hospice.net/marlboroughstarlight](http://www.prospect-hospice.net/marlboroughstarlight), or for further information email [fundraising&events@prospect-hospice.net](mailto:fundraising&events@prospect-hospice.net) or call fundraising on 01793 816161.

SOURCE: Prospect Press Release

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### **Community Speed Watch**

The Rural Speed Management initiative above is separate from Community Speed Watch, which has been advertised in recent issues of the Parish Times. We would like to thank all those who have put their names forward to assist, but we need more volunteers. If you would like to help, please speak to a member of the Parish Council.

### **Locality Meeting in Bishopstone**

You will have seen in the last Parish Times that SBC has a Localities Team in place covering South Swindon, which consists of Old Town, Lawns, Wichelstowe, Wroughton, Chiseldon, Wanborough, Liddington, Bishopstone and Hinton Parva and Russley Park. The Locality Lead Officer is Jackie Moyles and her Locality Facilitator is Tracy Scott. The next South Locality meeting will take place at 7.00pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at Bishopstone Village Hall; teas & coffees and information stands will be available from 6:30pm.

Jackie and her team wish to meet as many people as possible, to find out about the issues which are important to us, whether residents have any issues or concerns about their area and how things can be improved.

The Parish Council hopes that as many residents of the Parish as possible will be able to attend.

### **Code of Conduct**

All elected councils have always had to adopt a Code of Conduct, under which members have to register their own interests and particularly their disclosable pecuniary interests. The new Localism Act requires all councils to adopt an updated Code of Conduct from 1 July 2012. The Parish Council has adopted the Code of Conduct proposed by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), which represents the interests of town and parish councils in England. Following the adoption, all councillors have to fill in a new register of their personal interests. On completion, these will be available on request to the Clerk, and an abridged version will be uploaded to the Parish Council website.

### **The "Lengthman"**

Did you know that the Parish Council employs a "Lengthman"? His job is to maintain and keep clean and tidy the verges and footpaths around our villages, the clearance of all gullies and drains to ensure the flow of surface water, the maintenance of the Island in Bishopstone, and to carry out other jobs as they come up from time to time. His name is Brian Martin and he may be seen around the Parish as he goes about his work, which is on behalf of all of us.

**If you have any queries or questions about anything in this issue of the Parish Times, please contact a member of the Parish Council.**

### **ROAD CLOSURE**

Network Rail is replacing the bridge on the B4000 (Station Road). The existing road will be closed for approximately 2.5 months. Details of the proposed diversion route are still awaited. Approx. dates are: Mobilise to site - 29th Sept, Demolition - 27th Oct, New Bridge - 3rd Nov, Road Open 21st Dec, Leave site - 16th Jan.

Nb:As soon as final details are confirmed Shrivenham will post an update on [www.shrivenham.org](http://www.shrivenham.org) and their notice boards.

## **Would you walk over hot coals for charity?**

That's the question being asked by Prospect Hospice, who are inviting the public to take part in their Firewalk event at Alexandria House Hotel, Wroughton on 28 October this year to raise money for the Wroughton-based Hospice.

The event sees participants being sponsored to walk barefoot over burning embers, at temperatures that can reach almost 800 degrees centigrade. The event also includes a Halloween Party for family and friends with traditional festive activities including apple-bobbing and a pumpkin carving competition. Last year's event at the Check Inn, Wroughton, raised nearly £8,000 towards the costs of the Hospice, which looks after 1800 patients and their families in the local area every year.

One of the participants was Marc Blackwell, who decided to take on the challenge after friend Louisa Francis spent her final days in the care of the Hospice. Marc, who raised over £1,000 in sponsorship at the event, said:

"I really enjoyed it, and I'd recommend anyone to give it a go. I was really nervous beforehand when we were queuing and watching the others take part, but actually when it was my turn I just concentrated on what I had to do and the nerves left me. It was a bit like walking over very hot sand - painful, but not unbearable. The important thing was that I was doing it for Prospect."

This year, the organisers are hoping that more people will take on the ultimate challenge and walk over hot coals for Prospect Hospice. The charity is looking for brave people to put mind over matter for the event and for their friends and family to come along to the spooky Halloween party and to watch them walk over red-hot coals in aid of Prospect Hospice.

Sheryl Crouch, head of fundraising, said: "A lot of our events are physical challenges of one kind or another, but not everyone wants to take on a physically demanding challenge. The great thing about the Firewalk is that it's extreme, and demanding without being too physically challenging.

"We are hoping that groups from businesses might like to take part. We're also hoping that people will bring their friends and family to buy a ticket to our Halloween Party to see how brave they are! Registration for the Firewalk costs just £25, and we hope you can aim to raise a suggested sponsorship amount of £150. If you would like to register please visit [www.prospect-hospice.net/firewalk](http://www.prospect-hospice.net/firewalk) or for further information, please call the fundraising team on 01793 816161.

SOURCE: Prospect Press Release

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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 Icknield 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.*

## Outside Lights

One of the things that makes the Parish so unique and wonderful is the lack of street lighting to blight the villages. Sadly more and more people are now erecting high wattage outside lights and leaving them on permanently. Please consider your neighbours who may not wish their rooms lit throughout the night especially bedrooms where sleep can be seriously disturbed.

Emma Marrington, CPRE's Rural Policy Campaigner said:

*'Many lives are affected by light pollution. It can disturb sleep, disfigure the countryside and make the stars at night invisible to huge numbers of people.'*

Discrete and considerate outside lighting that only comes on when needed is the best type to mount if lighting is considered necessary.

Everyone is becoming more aware how energy wastage is resulting in the earth's resources being diminished. Every light that is on when no one needs to use the light it casts is adding to this wastage.

So please look at your lighting needs and think of your neighbours as well as the planet and only light when needed.

# USEFUL INFORMATION

**Crimestoppers:** 0800 555 111  
(Call anonymously with information about crime)

**Domestic Violence** 24hr National Helpline:  
0808 2000 247

**FRANK:** 0800 77 66 00  
(drug related)

**Anti Social Behaviour:** 01793 445500

**Noise Nuisance:** 01793 445500

**NHS Direct:** 0845 4647

**Swindon Community Safety Partnership:** 01793 466506

**Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust** 01225 794652 provides home security services to people aged 60+ or with special needs. (NB: the WBVT is a charity - donations are welcome).

### Beat the Burglar

If you see anyone acting suspiciously, take their description and vehicle registration details and call the police on: 0845 408 7000. In an emergency call 999.

For a free home security pack and information about offers on home security call the Home Office:

**0800 456 1213**

(Packs are subject to availability).

### Police search website.

<http://www.police.uk/>

### Parish Website:

[parish.bishopstone.net](http://parish.bishopstone.net) (no www in front)

## Meetings for the year

### 2012/13 Meeting Dates

3 September 2012 B  
1 October 2012 HP  
12 November 2012 B (Changed from 1st Monday due to Bonfire Night).  
3 December 2012 HP  
7 January 2013 B  
4 February 2013 HP  
4 March 2013 HP  
1 April 2013 B  
13 May 2013 HP (Changed from 1st Monday due to Bank Holiday).

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)  
2 Downs Close  
Eastbury  
Hungerford  
RG17 7JW

Phone: 01488 71828  
Fax: None  
Email: lesley@tynash.com  
website: <http://parish.bishopstone.net>

### Mr Julian Cooke

Church Farm, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790278.

### Mr Nigel Crisp

Willow House, Church Row, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790035.

### Mr Andrew Greenhalgh

Old Farm House, West End Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8PX. 791469.

### Mr Simon Jenkins (Chair)

The Old Vicarage, Bishopstone. SN6 8PY. 790545.

### Dr Stuart McGuigan

Greenoak, Newtown Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8QA. 790219.

### 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

### 101 new non Emergency Police Number

**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

### Refurbiz - the Domestic Appliance Re-cycling Charity.

Refurbished appliances at affordable prices with warranty

Replacing your washing machine, dryer, fridge or electric cooker? Please donate your old machines to us so we can refurbish them for families in need. Wiltshire-wide collection and delivery service. Call us on (01380) 720200. Or visit our showroom at Hopton Park, Devizes [www.refurbiz.org](http://www.refurbiz.org). Registered Charity Number 1107150.

Committee	Representative (Hinton Parva)	Representative (Bishopstone)
Finance (sub committee)	Ian Thompson (Chair) Julian Cooke	Karolyn Tapper Simon Jenkins
Footpaths & Highways	Julian Cooke	Stuart McGuigan Ian Thomas
Pond & Island Management Committee		Doug Stevens Andrew Greenhalgh
Hinton Village Hall	Ian Thompson	
Bishopstone Village Hall		Karolyn Tapper
Police & Media	Nigel Crisp (Media)	Simon Jenkins (Police)
Hinton Parva Charities	Peter Cooke	
Bishopstone United Charities		Karolyn Tapper Lesley Drewett Laurie Manktelow (Ex Cllr)
Tree Warden	Julian Cooke	Ian Thomas
Russley Park Liaison	Andrew Greenhalgh	
Responsible Financial Officer		Lesley Drewett

## 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.

Members of the public are always welcome.

### Foxhill Motocross 2012 Calendar

No more racing in 2012 is scheduled.

### Planning:

#### APPLICATIONS

None.

#### Section 211 Notices:

NONE

#### GRANTED

**S/12/0185ROBI** – Erection of an outbuilding – Vorty Stables, The City, Bishopstone

#### REFUSED

NONE

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.

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