

The Parish Times

Keeping Hinton Parva, Bishopstone and Russley Park informed.

Volume 11. Number 2

Parish Council ELECTIONS

Elections will be held on 3 May 2012 to form a new Parish Council for the next four years. Notices of Election have been provided by Swindon Borough Council and are displayed on the notice boards in the Parish and in the Parish Council website. These contain information on how to stand for the office of Parish Councillor, and guidance on postal and proxy voting.

So if you would like to help the village by working on its behalf, now may be a good time to learn a little more about the roles and responsibilities of Parish Councillors. Attending one of the meetings is a good start, or you could contact the Clerk or one of the existing Council. There are 12 meetings per year, each lasting about 2 hours.

Boundaries Changing DOG problem

Source: Tom Marshall

All the electoral wards in the Swindon Borough are changing. The Local Government Boundary Commission have completed their electoral review for Swindon, resulting in final recommendations comprising of 57 councillors representing 20 wards. If you would like more detail on any of the new wards please visit the SBC website where you will find maps of all 20 wards. The changes will take effect after the elections on 3 May 2012. All Borough councillor seats will be up for election this year which means Parishioners will have the opportunity to vote for up to 3 candidates in most wards. Chisledon & Lawn ward, and Ridgeway ward, are the only Borough wards with less than 3 councillors representing them. In these wards you will be able to vote for up to 2 candidates and 1 councillor respectively. So with all seats up for election now is your chance to make a difference. Vote on 3 May. Polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm. If it is not possible to go to the polling station or you wish to have a postal vote then apply now at:

www.swindon.gov.uk/cd/cddemocracy/cd-democracy-elections/cd-democracy-electionsvoting/Pages/cd-democracy-elections-voting-postal.aspx
or email the electoral officers on elecereg@swindon.gov.uk
or phone them on 01793 464601.

Councillors have received complaints regarding dogs which are left to roam through the parish and onto private properties.

Dogs are fouling gardens and footpaths and it has been reported that on one occasion a dog was found with its head in a child's pram in the garden.

The Parish Council reminds parishioners of the current legislation pertaining to dogs and urges owners to ensure that their pets are under control at all times.

ODDS and ENDS

There is an opportunity to get your voice heard and influence decision making in the South Locality. Your local councillors and agencies working in South Swindon will be in attendance at the South Swindon Locality Meeting on Tuesday 20th March 2012. The location is the Ridgeway School, Inverary Road Wroughton, SN1 9DJ. Refreshments available from 6:30pm. Meeting to start at 7:00pm. There is a varied agenda and this is on the News page of the website.

If you have any agenda items for future meetings, please contact Jackie Moyles at jmoyles@swindon.gov.uk or 01793 466278.

The Parish Council welcomed Inspector Roger Bull (Sector Head of Swindon East Neighbourhood Policing Team) to its January meeting. Inspector Bull identified that in his view speeding was a problem within the villages in his area of responsibility, and he explained the new Community Speed Watch (CSW) scheme. Volunteers in communities will be given hand held devices, high visibility jackets and appropriate training, to measure the speed of vehicles; speeding is then reported back to Police and a warning letter may be generated. The devices cost approximately £1,000, and a small number will be available for deployment to villages. There is no charge for this project, other than the time given by volunteers.

The CSW scheme is being launched in Blunsdon on 22 February, with a press launch via Swindon Advertiser and BBC Wiltshire.

To meet the national criteria for the scheme, more than 15% of the traffic has to be travelling above the enforceable speed limit. We understand that traffic surveys in 2010 indicate that Body Horse Hill Hinton Parva and Icknield Way Bishopstone would qualify for inclusion in the CSW scheme. Please let the Parish Council know if you think there are any other locations which give concern.

To implement the scheme in the Parish we would need at least 6 volunteers. Please therefore let any member of the Parish Council know before the monthly meeting on 12 March 2012 if you are prepared to volunteer for the CSW scheme, if it goes ahead in the Parish. We would need your name, telephone number, address and e-mail address.

INFORMATION

INTEGRITY

PERSPECTIVE

ISSUES

INFORMATION

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Borough of Swindon

Election of Parish Councillors

for the Parishes listed below

Parishes	Number of Parish Councillors to be elected
Bishopstone	Nine
Liddington	Seven
Covingham	Fifteen
Wanborough	Eleven

1. Forms of nomination for Parish Elections may be obtained from Clerks to Parish Councils or Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH from the Returning Officer who will, at the request of an elector for any electoral area, prepare a nomination paper for signature.
2. Nomination papers must be delivered to the Returning Officer, Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH on any day after the date of this notice but no later than NOON on Wednesday, 4th April 2012.
3. If any election is contested, the poll will take place on Thursday, 3rd May 2012.
4. Applications, amendments or cancellations of postal votes must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH by 5 pm on Wednesday, 18th April 2012.
5. Applications to vote by proxy at this election must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH by 5 pm on Wednesday, 25th April 2012.
6. Applications to vote by proxy at this election applied for on grounds of physical incapacity, where that physical incapacity occurred after 5 pm on Wednesday, 25th April 2012, must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH by 5 pm on Thursday, 3rd May 2012.

Dated Tuesday 27 March 2012

Stephen P. Taylor
Returning Officer

Printed and published by the Returning Officer, Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH

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 (no www in front)

Meetings for the year

13th February 2012 Bishopstone Village Hall
12th March 2012 Bishopstone Village Hall
(Parish Assembly) **7:00 pm start**
9th April 2012 Hinton Parva Village Hall
14th May 2012 Bishopstone Village Hall (AGM)

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 Simon Jenkins

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

Mr Stuart McGuigan

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

Mrs Sarah Paye

Senama, Russley Park, Baydon, SN8 2JY. 01672 541600.

Mr Rob Selbourne

Prebendal Farm, Bishopstone, Wilts. SN6 8PT. 790485.

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

Foxhill Motocross 2012 Calendar

May 6th
May 7th
May 12
May 13th
June 30th
July 1st
July 7th
July 8th
August 4th
August 5th

Racing will take place on all the above days.

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 Registered Charity Number 1107150

Planning Update

All planning applications, their history and all supporting documents can now be viewed online by visiting: **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 councillors 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.

Planning:

APPLICATIONS

S/LBC/12/0106ROBI - Internal renovations and the installation of a new roof - Vorty Stables, The City, Bishopstone .

Conservation Area – Section 211 Notices:

NONE

GRANTED

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.

INFORMATION	INTEGRITY	PERSPECTIVE	ISSUES	INFORMATION
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