

# The Parish Times

Keeping Hinton Parva, Bishopstone and Russley Park informed.

Volume 13. Number 4

## Bishopstone Sewage Problems

Two representatives of Thames Water attended the Parish Council meeting on 7th July and provided an update on steps being taken in an attempt to alleviate historic flooding problems in the vicinity of The Forty.

CCTV investigations had revealed that part of the sewer network was restricted by accumulations of fat deposits such that the system was only 70% effective at best. As a result, the affected part had been flushed through and the intention was to undertake an annual clean in the future. However, a further CCTV examination would be undertaken in October in order to assess the extent of any further build-up of fat deposits.

Thames Water have undertaken to provide a further update to the Council at the December meeting.

### THAMES WATER ARTICLE

## Bin it, don't Block it

Leftover cooking fat and oil poured down the sink will set hard. This creates stinking, pipe-blocking fatbergs beneath your house or in your street.

Wet wipes are another big no-no because they are made of plastic. They don't break down like toilet tissue, clinging to fat and clogging up the system. If drains get blocked, what you flush can come back up through your toilet or even your sink.

At Thames Water, we clear around 55,000 blockages from our sewers each year at a cost of £12m and 7,000 customers suffer from sewer flooding in their homes and gardens - a truly miserable experience.

continued...



### Potholes!

Although many potholes have recently been repaired, inevitably new ones will appear over time. Some more severe holes may cause damage to vehicles and there is often an expectation amongst drivers that the responsible council should pay compensation. At its simplest, the position is that a council is not liable for compensation where they can demonstrate that they were simply unaware of a particular problem. However, once a pothole has been reported, that position fundamentally changes and it is incumbent upon the council to effect repairs, ideally before any further damage occurs. In the meantime, however, the council may be liable to compensate for any further accidental damage.

It is therefore important that significant road surface damage is reported to the council as soon as possible. In the case of our parish, the responsible council is Swindon Borough and the number to call is 466252. When reporting a pothole, it is helpful to make a note of the date/time of doing so and the name of the person taking the call at SBC. Passing on the information to a parish councillor may simply delay the necessary information reaching the borough council.

**Please copy the Parish Council into any reports made.**

### Road Closure

Bourton road is to be closed for Culvert Replacement from 30 June 2014 - 25 July 2014 from 20:00 - 6:00 TBC

### Cycling Enthusiasts - SWINDON Sky Rides Prove Really Popular

Swindon has been selected as one of more than 100 locations across the country to host the British Cycling's Sky Ride Local programme.

Ranging from 3-30 miles, there is a Sky Ride suitable for all abilities and each ride is led by an experienced and qualified cycle leader to guide and support riders along the way.

Registration for free rides is now open - to sign up or find out more by go online at [www.goskyride.com](http://www.goskyride.com) You can also find out about the Tri-Active project by going online at [www.leisureinswindon.co.uk/tri-active](http://www.leisureinswindon.co.uk/tri-active). For more information contact: Ben Humphrey on 01793 465404 or [bhumphrey@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:bhumphrey@swindon.gov.uk)

Source: SBC

## Bin it, don't Block it

continued from page 1.

### To flush, or not to flush?

The drains connected to your home were not designed to cope with anything other than wastewater, toilet tissue and human waste.

Even the products labelled 'flushable' do not break down in the sewer. Flushing them could block your internal plumbing or the main sewer, causing sewage to back-up.

The message is simple, if it's not water, toilet tissue or poo, please... bin it - don't block it.

Thousands of unsuitable products are washed down the drain each year contributing to around 55,000 blockages across the Thames Water region.

This is made worse by confusing and misleading product labelling, which encourages customers to flush unsuitable items, particularly toddler wipes and sanitary items. Although these items disappear when you flush your loo, they can take a number of years to break down. There are currently no restrictions in place to prevent these products being sold as 'flushable'.

The only product to pass water industry 'flushability' tests so far is toilet paper. Manufacturers have their own tests, which are more lenient resulting in a greater number of products being labelled 'flushable'.

**Source: Thames Water**

## Apple tree on the Island Bishopstone

At the Parish Council meeting on 7th July, Councillors were deeply disappointed to hear that one of the two apple trees planted on the island last year had been uprooted and taken away. This was not casual vandalism. Nor can it have been simply opportunistic given the relatively secluded location. The inference must be that this was a deliberate and premeditated act of theft.

The trees were planted to replace the old apple tree that had died and become unstable. The council has agreed to purchase a replacement. The cost of a replacement tree may be minimal but it is disproportionate to the inconvenience caused to others and the loss of potential future amenity to the village.

## Cardiac Science Powerheart Defibrillator

The July edition of the Parish Times included an article about the possibility of locating a "defibrillator" in Bishopstone. These are of assistance when someone has suffered a heart attack and an urgent response can make the difference between life and death. The article asked for expressions of interest from anyone willing to be trained in its use before the Council affirmed interest on behalf of the village. To date, there have been no expressions of interest and subsequent correspondence has also indicated a significant cost to the Parish Council of installing and maintaining such a facility. Although the Council is willing and able to fund the provision, it was reluctantly decided at the 7th July meeting that, given the lack of local commitment, there is no practical way of pursuing this project at this time.

If any parishioners were willing to come forward and take a lead role in the future installation of a defibrillator, the Council would be happy to re-consider the position.

# 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.*

# 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

**To access non-emergency urgent care, dial 111**

**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 WVBVT 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/>

### 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.

## Meetings for the year

**2014 /15**

**4th August 2014 Hinton Parva**  
**1st September 2014 Bishopstone**  
**6th October 2014 Hinton Parva**  
**3rd November 2014 Bishopstone**  
**1st December 2014 Hinton Parva**  
**5th January 2015 Bishopstone**  
**2nd February 2015 Hinton Parva**  
**2nd March 2015 Hinton Parva**  
**6th April 2015 Bishopstone**  
**4th May 2015 Hinton Parva**

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](mailto:lesley@tynash.com)  
website:<http://bishopstoneandhintonparva.org>

### 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.

### Dr Stuart McGuigan

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

### Mr Doug Stevens

Church View, Church Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8PY. 791107.

### Mr Ian Thomas (Vice Chair)

Littlecot, High Street, Bishopstone, Wilts. SN6 8PH. 790106.

### Mr Ian Thompson (Chair)

Snowberry House, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790970.

### Mrs Val Brodin

The Coombe, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DH 01793 791949

### Vacancy

## 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

### Household Recycling and Green Waste

North Swindon Library: 01793 707120

West Swindon Library: 01793 465555

Dorcan Leisure Centre: 01793 533763

Highworth Rec: 01793 762602

Croft Leisure Centre: 01793 526622

Pinetrees: 07785 454357

General enquiries to Streetsmart 01793 445501

### Fly Tipping and other similar problems

**Swindon Commercial Services**  
01793 463463

### Keeping Swindon Safe

SBC 01793 445500  
Police 0845 408 7000

### Locality Team contacts:

#### Andrea Barrett:

([abarrett@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:abarrett@swindon.gov.uk))

Locality Lead (South) SBC

Tel: 01793 463387

Mobile: 07584 151303

#### Tracy Scott:

([TScott@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:TScott@swindon.gov.uk))

Locality Facilitator - South Locality

Tel: 01793 466239

Mobile: 07769 281805

### Borough Councillor

**Andrew Bennett: 01793 271577**

### Committee

Finance

Footpaths and Highways

Pond & Island Management Committee

Hinton Village Hall

Bishopstone Village Hall

Hinton Parva Charities

Bishopstone United Charities

Tree Warden

Russley Park Liaison

Responsible Financial Officer

### Representative Hinton Parva

Nigel Crisp (Chair)  
Julian Cooke

Julian Cooke

Ian Thompson

Peter Cooke

Julian Cooke

### Representative Bishopstone

Stuart McGuigan  
Ian Thomas  
Doug Stevens  
Andy Greenhalgh

Andy Greenhalgh

Karolyn Tapper (EX Cllr)  
Lesley Drewett  
Laurie Manketelov (Ex Cllr)  
Ian Thomas  
Andy Greenhalgh  
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.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**S/14/0939RM WITHDRAWN** Variation of condition 5 from previous planning permission S/00/2695 - 1 The Granary, Russley Park

**S/14/0971RM** Erection of 1 no dwelling - Land Off Short Drove, Hinton Parva - Rhian Morris - 466285 Before 8 July 2014

## GRANTED

**S/14/0815HECO** - Construction of a carport over existing parking area (retrospective) - Summer Cottage, 2 West End Lane, Bishopstone

## REFUSED

None

### Foxhill Motocross 2014 Calendar

**16/17 August 2014 Two Day Youth Event - Portsmouth MXC**

### For problems with Waste Collections call Streetsmart on

Tel: 01793 445501 - Monday to Friday 8.00am-8.00pm; 01793 466453 at all other times

Don't forget that all important information is displayed on the notice-boards in both villages and on the website.

INFORMATION

INTEGRITY

PERSPECTIVE

ISSUES

INFORMATION