

# The Parish Times

AUGUST 2019

## DROP IN SESSION 13 JULY 2019

Councillors would like to thank those parishioners who attended the drop in session. There was a steady flow during the 2 hours and many questionnaires were completed. However, if you were unable to attend and would like to complete a questionnaire please email the clerk on [clerk@bishopstoneandhintonparva.com](mailto:clerk@bishopstoneandhintonparva.com) and she will be happy to forward a copy by return. If you are unable to access the internet Councillors do have copies of the questionnaire for collection. All questionnaires should be back with the Parish Council by the end of July in order that the results can be collated and summarised for Councillors feedback to Swindon Borough Council.

## POLLING STATION AND LOCATION REVIEW

### NOTICE OF REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES 2019

#### The Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006

The above regulations require each local authority to carry out a review of Polling Districts and Polling Places on a five yearly basis. The reason for this review is to ensure that all electors within the Borough of Swindon have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable and to ensure that polling stations are accessible to all electors, including those with special needs.

The consultation period will commence on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

The Acting Returning Officer for the Parliamentary Constituencies of Swindon North and Swindon South will be consulted and will make formal comments on the existing polling places and stations and any newly recommended polling places and stations. These comments will be published within 30 days of receipt.

Representations and comments on the proposals are invited from all residents, elected members (MP's, Borough and Parish councillors) and persons or organisations that have a particular expertise in relation to access to premises for people with different forms of disability. Any representations given should, if possible, give alternative places that may be used as polling places.

More information can be obtained from Electoral Services, Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon SN1 2JH between the hours of 09:30am to 4:00pm Mondays to Thursdays, or from

[www.swindon.gov.uk/councillors,democracy & elections/elections](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/councillors,democracy&elections/elections) and voting

Representations should be submitted to arrive no later than Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2019 to:

Electoral Services (Review PD)  
Civic Offices  
Euclid Street  
Swindon  
SN1 2JH

Or email (please use subject 'Review PD') to [elecrag@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:elecrag@swindon.gov.uk)

Lesley Toogood, Electoral Registration Officer  
Dated: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019

## ODDS and ENDS

### IMPORTANT ADVICE

Swindon Borough Council often notify us of important consultations and drop in events with timescales that make it not worth inserting in the Parish Times as the deadlines will have passed before it is read. It is therefore important to keep an eye on the village noticeboards and website for up-to-date news.

### DOG EXCREMENT

It has been reported to Councillors that there is a lot of dog excrement being left on the roads and paths in the Parish and also hung in bags from the trees.

The Parish Council has funded several dog bins which are situated in various locations throughout the Parish and are emptied by our Lengthman regularly.

**PLEASE USE THE DOG BINS AND DO NOT LEAVE BAGS WITH EXCREMENT HANGING FROM TREES AROUND THE VILLAGES.**

Help keep the villages clean and tidy. Your help is very much appreciated.

### 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.

### PARISH BUSINESS

The Parish Council's monthly meeting is a very effective and immediate forum for discussion of matters of concern to villagers. Every Parish Council meeting starts with a 'public question time' and all residents are welcome to attend and ask questions. Dates for the year ahead are shown below. Meetings usually start at 7.30pm, alternating between Bishopstone and Hinton Parva. Residents can also contact the Clerk to raise any issue, and councillors will respond as quickly and fully as possible.

Agendas and minutes are published online at <https://bishopstoneandhintonparva.org/parishcouncil/> and paper copies are posted on the village hall noticeboards for all to read.

### For problems with Waste Collections call Streetsmart on:

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

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# Essential road upgrades will start in October to enable 8,000-home development to go ahead

Major highway improvements designed to facilitate the construction of new housing communities will begin in earnest over the next few months.

The schemes are part of a £72m programme of road improvement works which will be taking place over the course of the next few years to ensure vital infrastructure is in place before new houses are built east of the A419.

The New Eastern Villages (NEV) project is one of the largest greenfield developments in the country. It will consist of around 8,000 homes, new schools, employment spaces and community facilities. It will span 724 hectares, with its eastern boundary reaching the point at which the River Cole meets the A420.

In order for the development to go ahead, the Council has prioritised the need to ensure the roads and junctions around the A419 can cope with the anticipated increase in traffic that the NEV will bring, and a Cabinet meeting will be held on 10 July at which approval will be sought to allow the schemes to proceed.

The first improvement scheme is proposed to take place at the White Hart junction this October. This key project will involve the construction of a new northbound on-slip road from the roundabout onto the A419, replacing the existing unconventional and below-standard slip road. The southbound slip road from the A419 onto the roundabout will be widened, the roundabout will be signalised, the existing entry onto Ermin Street will be closed and replaced by a new priority junction on Oxford Road and the number of lanes circling the roundabout will be increased.

These changes will create extra capacity on the roundabout that will help to reduce queuing traffic which backs onto the A419 at peak times.

Some additional land will need to be acquired to enable the new northbound on-slip to be constructed and negotiations with landowners are currently ongoing.

Another key project involves making major changes to the Gablecross junction, the work for which is proposed to start in January 2020. In its current form, the junction is not big enough to accommodate the expected increase in traffic levels. Plans are in place to make the junction larger and to add traffic lights. Modelling tests have shown that this will provide sufficient capacity to accommodate more vehicles. If approval is given, the work at Gablecross should be completed in March 2021.

In January 2020, work will also begin on the Southern Connector Road, a new road which will link the NEV with Commonhead roundabout. The two-way single carriageway road will be about 1.5 miles long and measures will be introduced to prevent it being used as a rat-run. A footway will be constructed on one side of the road and a shared footway/cycleway on the other. It is expected to be completed in June 2021 and is subject to a Housing Infrastructure Fund grant of up to £18.972m.

The need for a new link road across the A419 from the NEV to the existing community has also been identified. For this, the Great Stall Bridge will be constructed, but not until after 2021.

The Council is also assessing the feasibility of constructing an additional pedestrian crossing over the A420, east of the junction

with Old Vicarage Lane at South Marston. The purpose of the crossing would be to provide safe travel routes between the proposed village of Rowborough, to the north of the A420, and the new secondary school campus, to the south of the A420. Two possible locations have been identified and a feasibility study will consider the options.

A new road will also be built under the railway line near Acorn Bridge. This will allow access from the A420 to the proposed village of Rowborough.

A number of junctions to the west of the A419 have also been identified as likely to see an increase in traffic as a result of the NEV. The junction locations identified are Piccadilly roundabout and the Nythe Road/Oxford junction. Improvements to these junctions will also add greater vehicle capacity and will start in March 2020. They should take 12 months to complete.

Together the highways schemes at the White Hart roundabout, Southern Connector Road, Gablecross junction, Nythe Road junction and Piccadilly roundabout are expected to cost £72.5m and budgetary approval will be sought at the July Cabinet meeting. To support this, a grant of £47.63m from the Government's Local Growth Fund, delivered via the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership, is available.

Limitations with this funding has determined that work needs to be completed by 2021, which means some of the schemes will run simultaneously.

The remaining infrastructure improvements, such as the construction of new schools, health facilities and green spaces, will be addressed as part of the planning development process.

Councillor Gary Sumner, Swindon Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, said: "I am delighted to see that these important and necessary road improvement works will be brought before Cabinet next week. The New Eastern Villages is a huge development and these highways schemes are the largest we have ever undertaken.

"We are confident that, when finished, these roadworks will make things much better for motorists by reducing journey times and easing congestion.

"We have already been working closely with the residents and businesses who will be most affected while the roadworks are taking place and we will continue to ensure they, along with everybody else in Swindon, are kept up to date with everything they need to know as the works progress.

"It's important that we deliver these road improvements before work starts on building the houses as it will ensure that vital infrastructure is in place first.

"Delivering the NEV is one of this Council's key Pledges and I am pleased to say that work is progressing well and that we are giving priority to these vital infrastructure improvements which will benefit everybody in Swindon."

Recent roadworks at the Greenbridge roundabout and Coate Water roundabout were part of the NEV infrastructure improvements.

**Swindon Borough Council**

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## BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

### Lesley Drewett (Clerk)

Phone: 01488 71828

Fax: None

Email: Clerk@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

### Mr Julian Cooke

Councillor-jc@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

### Mr Nigel Crisp

Councillor-nc@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

### Mr Andrew Greenhalgh

Councillor-ag@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

### Dr Stuart McGuigan

Councillor-sm@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

### Mr Doug Stevens

Councillor-ds@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

### Mr Ian Thomas (Vice Chair)

Councillor-it@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

### Mrs Val Brodin (Chair)

Councillor-vb@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

### Mr Tom Green

Councillor-tg@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

### Mrs Gill May

Councillor-gm@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

Please note the Clerk and Councillors new email addresses  
The Parish Council agreed a new privacy policy in May 2018  
which is available from the website.

## Useful Information

### SBC Reception Premier House

01793 465055/465056

### Civic Offices

01793 463668

### Wat Tyler House


01793 463725

### General enquiries to Streetsmart 01793 445501

### Borough Councillor

Gary Sumner - GSumner2@swindon.gov.uk

Key Responsibility	Representative Hinton Parva	Representative Bishopstone
Finance	Nigel Crisp (Chair) Julian Cooke	
Footpaths and Highways	Julian Cooke	Stuart McGuigan Ian Thomas
Pond & Island		Doug Stevens Andy Greenhalgh
Hinton Parva Village Hall	Valerie Brodin	
Bishopstone Village Hall		Andy Greenhalgh
Hinton Parva Charities	Peter Cooke	
Bishopstone United Charities		Karolyn Tapper (Ex Cllr) Lesley Drewett (Clerk) Laurie Manktelow (Ex Cllr)
Trees	Julian Cooke	Ian Thomas
Russley Park Liaison		Andy Greenhalgh
Responsible Financial Officer		Lesley Drewett (Clerk)
Planning		Ian Thomas/Tom Green
Website/IT	Nigel Crisp	



WILTSHIRE POLICE  
Non emergency number:  
**101**  
IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999  
www.wiltshire.police.uk

101 is the new number to call when you want to contact the police - when it's less urgent than 999. In a non emergency dial 101 if:

- you want to report a crime/issue that does not require an immediate emergency response
- you or someone else are **not** in immediate danger
- you would like to speak to your local police officer
- you want to provide information about a crime

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired you can textphone 18001 101 in a non emergency

## PLANNING UPDATE

All planning applications, their history and all supporting documents can be viewed at:

[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 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/19/0936**—Demolition of the Chalet & erection of 1 no dwelling & associated works—The Chalet, Church Row, Hinton Parva—Pippa Moore 01793 466235—22.7.19

**S/LBC/19/0856**—Erection of a single storey side extension—Glebe Cottage, High Street, Bishopstone—Sarah Smith 01793 466292—Before 26.7.19

**S/HOU/19/0855**—Erection of a single storey side extension—Glebe Cottage, High Street, Bishopstone—Sarah Smith 01793 466292—Before 26.7.19

### GRANTED

### NONE

### REFUSED

**S/HOU/19/0525/PEKO**—Erection of a two storey side & first floor rear extension—5 High Street, Bishopstone

## SMALL PRINT

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.

### Obscured Road Signs, your help is requested

Keeping our village roads safe is a priority for all of us. Ensuring road signs are visible and clear of vegetation is an important contribution to this effort. If you have a road sign on your property or even one near you, please could you ensure that it is clearly visible and not obscured by vegetation. THANK YOU for your efforts.

### Reporting Problems to Swindon Borough Council

For the last several years the Parish Council has advocated the use of a third party website [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com) to report and track issues such as fly-tipping or pot-holes to SBC. There is now a service on SBC's website at [www.swindon.gov.uk/my\\_account](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/my_account) where residents can report these issues directly. Recent experience has shown there is a faster response to those issues reported directly.

### 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.

The Village Hall Management Committee asks that residents remember that *'Skips should not be positioned in close proximity to the Hall structure'*.

### Trees in conservation areas

The whole of Bishopstone and most of Hinton Parva lies within a Conservation Area and as such the legislation is similar to that relating to a Tree Preservation Order, including the financial penalties and tree replacement. If you want to carry out works to a tree you will need to submit a 'notice of intent' to Swindon Borough Council. If you have not heard back from them by the time the six weeks has expired then you may proceed with the works described in your letter. You can complete the Swindon Borough Council Notification for Works on Protected Trees in a Conservation Area form online: [https://www.swindon.gov.uk/forms/form/252/en/applicationnotification\\_for\\_works\\_on\\_protected\\_trees](https://www.swindon.gov.uk/forms/form/252/en/applicationnotification_for_works_on_protected_trees)

You are not required to submit a notice for the cutting down, topping or lopping or uprooting of a tree whose diameter does not exceed 75 millimetres; or the cutting down or uprooting of a tree, whose diameter does not exceed 100 millimetres, for the sole purpose of improving the growth of other trees (eg thinning as part of forestry operations). In either case, the diameter of the tree is to be measured over the bark of the tree at 1.5 metres above ground level. These exemptions do not apply in circumstances where a tree has more than one stem at a point 1.5 metres above the natural ground level if any stem when measured over its bark at that point exceeds the relevant minimum.

And remember—anyone who cuts down, uproots, tops, lops, wilfully destroys or wilfully damages a tree in a conservation area or causes or permits such work, without giving notice is guilty of an offence, unless one of the exceptions above applies.

## PLANNING

### Pre-Application Advice

The Parish Council encourages prospective applicants for planning permission to seek pre-application advice from Swindon Borough Council. Not only does this assist the Parish Council when commenting on applications but going through this process has many benefits for the applicant:-

- It can help applicants understand how relevant planning policies and guidance will be applied to their proposal.
- It can improve the quality of planning application submissions by identifying areas that need to be addressed at an early stage you where you might need specialist advice, such as ecology or high-ways, before you submit.
- It can help applications be registered more speedily and can improve the likelihood of a successful outcome.
- It can save you time and money by identifying if a proposal is unacceptable in principle at an early stage.

Further information can be found at:-

[https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20030/planning\\_and\\_regeneration/492/apply\\_for\\_planning\\_permission/2](https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20030/planning_and_regeneration/492/apply_for_planning_permission/2)

### Foxhill Motocross 2019/20 Calendar

11<sup>th</sup> August, British MX Championship

### PC Meetings

2019/2020

- 5 August 2019 Bishopstone
- 2 September 2019 Hinton Parva
- 7 October 2019 Bishopstone
- 4 November 2019 Hinton Parva
- 2 December 2019 Bishopstone
- 6 January Hinton Parva
- 3 February Bishopstone
- 2 March Hinton Parva
- 6 April Bishopstone
- 11 May Bishopstone—Parish Assembly & AGM

All meetings begin at 7.30pm except the Parish Assembly which starts at 7.00pm and members of the public are always welcome. Late changes are shown on the website <https://bishopstoneandhintonparva.org/parishcouncil/> and on the notice boards.

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