The Parish Times

FEBRUARY 2021

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS

Tree service scammers and unwanted door-knockers were recently reported in Bishopstone and Hinton Parva.

The Parish Council would like to remind residents how to protect themselves and stay safe.

Doorstep scams take place when someone comes to your door and tries to scam you out of your money or tries to gain access to your home.

Doorstep scammers aren't always pushy and persuasive, they may seem polite or friendly. So if you're not expecting someone it's important to be vigilant when you answer the door, especially if you live on your own.

There are many different types of doorstep scams, including:

Rogue traders: They may claim to have noticed something about your property that needs work or improvement, such as the roof, and offer to fix it for cash or an inflated price.

Bogus officials: People claim to be from your utility company. Always check the ID of any official, and if they're genuine they won't mind waiting .

Fake charity collections: A fraudster may pretend they're from a charity and ask you to donate money or goods.

Made-up consumer surveys: Some scammers ask you to complete a survey so they can get hold of your details.

Hard luck stories: Someone may ask you to help them out with cash, ask to use your telephone or claim they're feeling unwell to con you out of your money or gain access to your home.

There are things you can do to feel safer when answering the door, such as setting up passwords with your utility companies to be used by anyone they send round to your home. Phone your utility firm to find out how to do this.

If someone does come to the door, it's important to remember:

Only let someone in if you're expecting them or they're a trusted friend, family member or professional. Don't feel embarrassed about turning someone away.

Don't agree to sign a contract or hand over money at the door. Think about it and talk to someone you trust.

Check their credentials - a genuine person won't mind. You can phone the company they represent or check online, but never use the contact details they give you.

Never disclose your PIN number or let anyone persuade you to hand over your bank card or withdraw cash.

Call the police non-emergency number 101 if you're not in immediate danger but want to report an incident. But call 999 if you feel threatened or in danger.

COVID CRISIS HELP AT HAND

You may be able to seek financial help if your income has been reduced and you're struggling with living costs as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Go to www.swindon.gov.uk/coronavirus and follow the links to Financial Support.
There is also lots of information on all aspects of Covid-19 in the borough.

Your circumstances might mean you can claim benefits.

However, it's sometimes complicated to make a new claim, especially if you claim already.

If you would like to talk to somebody about your benefits entitlement or appeal a decision, you can contact Citizens Advice Swindon on 0344 499 4114 or 0808 278 7813 or through the website www.citizensadvice swindon.org.uk.

You can also use the benefit calculators on the site to see what benefits you could get.

NEWS IN BRIEF

CHECK FOR PERMISSIONS

The Parish Council always extends a warm welcome to all new and prospective residents.

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.

This brings with it regulations aimed at preserving the character and beauty of the parish when it comes to tree felling, house alterations, solar panels, satellite dishes and more, which will need planning permission from Swindon Borough Council.

If in doubt, please check. Contact the Clerk, the Chair or any member of the council - the councillors' email addresses appear on the following page, along with the Clerk's telephone number.

TELEPHONE BOX UPDATE

The red heritage phone box outside Hinton Parva village hall, which was carried off by BT, is to make a return.

The telephone company has agreed to reinstate the box and the Parish Council will adopt it as an asset to the community. Plans to install a defibrillator are being considered.

FLY-TIPPING HOTLINE

Swindon Borough Council is responsible for removing fly-tipped waste on public land in the parish. SBC has developed a simple online tool residents can use to report the location and type of waste that has been dumped. Go to: maps.swindon.gov.uk/custom/logger/Logger_Flytip_Beta.html

Unfortunately, waste dumped on private land cannot be collected and is the responsibility of the landowner.

For problems with Waste Collections call Streetsmart on: Tel: 01793 445501 - Monday to Friday 8.00am-8.00pm; 01793 466453 at all other times

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

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Ms Jaine Blackman (Clerk)
Phone: 07913 819422
Email: Clerk@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org
Mrs Val Brodin (Chair)
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The Parish Council's privacy policy can be viewed on its website at bishopstoneandhintonparva.org/

Useful Information

SBC Reception Premier House
01793 465055/465056
Civic Offices
01793 463668
Wat Tyler House
01793 463725
General enquiries to Streetsmart 01793 445501

Key Responsibility	Representative Hinton Parva	Representative Bishopstone
Finance	Nigel Crisp Julian Cooke	
Footpaths and Highways	Julian Cooke	Ian Thomas
Pond & Island		Doug Stevens
Hinton Parva Village Hall	Valerie Brodin	
Bishopstone Village Hall		Tom Green
Hinton Parva Charities	Peter Cooke	
Bishopstone United Charities		Doug Stevens Christine Thomas Laurie Manktelow (Ex Cllr)
Trees	Julian Cooke	Ian Thomas
Russley Park Liaison	Nigel Crisp	
Responsible Financial Officer		Jaine Blackman (Clerk)
Plannng		Ian Thomas/Tom Green
Website/IT	Nigel Crisp	

PLANNING UPDATE

All planning applications, their history and all supporting documents can be viewed at:
www.swindon.gov.uk/planning
Planning issues are discussed at the monthly Parish Council meetings. Public representations are heard prior to the start of the meeting.

PC Meetings

2020/2021

1 February - Online

1 March - Bishopstone

12 April - Hinton Parva

All meetings begin at 7.30pm except the Parish Assembly which starts at 7pm. Late changes are shown at bishopstoneandhintonparva.org/parish council/ and on the notice boards. During the Coronavirus crisis, meetings are being held online. Members of the press and public are welcome and should contact the Clerk at clerk@bishopstoneand hinton parva.org or telephone 07913 819422 to submit questions or attend online.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/20/1497 Erection of 2no. dwellings and associated works at land adjacent to 1 Whatleys Orchard, Bishopstone.
S/HOU/20/1518 Installation of pv panels on rear facing roof slope. Retrospective. Lavenders, 3 Cues Lane Bishopstone.
S/20/1598 Erection of 1no. dwelling without compliance with conditions 9, 10 & 12 from previous permission S/12/1585 at land adjacent To Forty Cottage, Bishopstone SN6 8PH.
S/HOU/20/0952 Replacement doors and windows at Curtis House, Cues Lane Bishopstone
S/20/1396 Erection of two storey front extension and replacement porch (variation of condition 3 from Householder Planning Permission S/HOU/20/0499) at Swedish House, The Forty Bishopstone.
GRANTED
S/LBC/20/0951 single storey side extension with internal alterations and replacement of modern windows, at Somerset Farm House , Church Row Hinton Parva. **S/HOU/20/0950** single storey side extension at Somerset Farm House, Church Row Hinton Parva.
S/TWC/20/1457/LAND No objection to Works to trees at The Hawthorns, Cues Lane, Bishopstone
S/20/1372 Construction of a pond at Eastbrook Farm. **S/20/1371** Construction of 3 ponds at Eastbrook Farm, Bishopstone.
S/LBC/20/1085 Various internal works at Greystones, Church Row Hinton Parva.