



BRYMPTON NEWSLINK - Summer 2011

Serving and informing the Community

www.brymptonparishcouncil.gov.uk



Chairman's Thoughts

We are now into a new quadrenium of the council and we are a fully elected council. At Brympton Parish Council we are non political and this ethos is a point of principle for us.

Allotments - this project is wending its way through the various processes and we now have planning permission. Once the legal agreements are signed and the existing crop harvested we will be able to start "on the ground" as they say. A great community project and a big thank you to everyone involved.

Highways issues - We were asked by SCC to submit bids for projects within our parish and now wait to see if we are successful in any of them. It is good to see that although SCC is cutting budgets there is still money for some essential works.

Bunford Bridge is to be closed for remedial work during the summer. Hopefully we won't experience the chaos caused by the last closure during the winter months.

The Parish Council continue to press for a **pedestrian crossing** from the Alvington area to Asda. It seems that, although there is money in a budget for improvements to the Western Corridor, there is a reluctance to spend it in a "piecemeal" way.

We have been approached again by local residents regarding the **Football Parking problems**, not just on Stourton Way but also at Houndstone. We are planning action when the season starts again, but the best thing residents can do is to report problems direct to the Police. If enough complaints are raised hopefully the Police will take action. It would, after all, only take a few parking tickets to be issued for the "penny to drop".

Littering - this continues to be a problem and not just at Oak Tree Park where the situation seems to have improved over recent weeks, thanks to those who are taking "ownership" of this area. The council is pursuing a project called the "On Side Steering Group" which is a chance for adults and young people to get together and get involved with litter picking in return for football opportunities. Adult involvement is crucial so please, consider joining this project.

Planning - as I mentioned earlier we are still awaiting the Key Sites to start building, but big concerns have been raised regarding the new alignment of the road through the Brimsmore Site. Another issue causing concern is the proposal for the development of land north of the Football Club and what impact this will have on additional traffic movements on the Western Corridor and also the affect it will have on businesses in the centre of town.

Boundary Review - this time from County level initially. Some county wards are overly large, in particular the Ilchester Ward of which Brympton is a constituent part. We will be having an input into this via our representative Roger Meecham.

Academy Status - Along with many schools in the area, Preston and Stanchester are considering Academy Status. Interesting times ahead for all concerned.

A final "plea" for the summer holidays .. please be **RESPONSIBLE** for **YOUR** litter in **YOUR** parks. There are plenty of bins for your use. So please use them.

Liz Glaisher, Chairman, Brympton Parish Council


PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

New Council (?) - Well, not really. At the elections in May there were 11 candidates for the 11 Councillor positions so there was no election required in Brympton - this, incidentally, saved us about £4,000.

There was one change however in that Alan Graham, after several years as a Parish Councillor, stood down, We were sad to see Alan go but we welcome, in his place, Eddie Galjaard. The full list with details of current Councillors is shown on the back page.

At our meeting in May we elected Liz Glaisher to continue as Chairman and yours truly as Vice-Chairman for another year. By the way, she doesn't like to talk about it much but Liz was lucky enough to have attended a garden party at Buckingham Palace recently.

At District Council level the elections did hold a few surprises. A number of the old 'stalwarts' decided not to stand so there are a few new faces many of whom are Conservatives and, although the LIB Dems still have a majority, it is a very slim one. For the Brympton ward of SSDC there was no change and we are still represented by Peter Seib (also a Brympton Parish Councillor) and John Richardson.

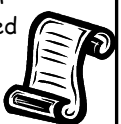
 **Youth Facilities** - In the last issue of Newlink I mentioned that Somerset County Council was withdrawing much of its funding support for youth facilities.

Unfortunately, one of the casualties in this respect has been the 'Time Out Together' group that was based at Abbey Trading Estate. Apparently SCC hadn't paid one of the bills that they had paid previously and, having insufficient time/funds themselves to sort this out, the organisers of 'ToT', with much regret, had to take the decision to close down. **Sadly this is probably a sign of things to come as Government and Council cut-backs kick in!**

Higher Ream Play Area - A few weeks ago there was some vandalism at this play area. What makes this even more annoying is that the parish council had just spent some money on refurbishment. It does make you wonder why we bother!



Quantum Theatre - We're sorry to advise that the intended performance of 'Twelfth Night' by the Quantum Theatre Group at Brympton House has had to be cancelled due to an unfortunate double-booking of the venue. We hope to try again next summer.

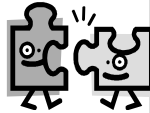


Post Office - We're still pursuing the option of having a Post Office of some kind at Abbey Manor Park but, despite the fact that we have the support of David Laws, there seems to be some reluctance on behalf of Royal Mail who are also being pressed by SSDC to provide a service at Westfield to replace the Post Office that closed down a little while ago.



MORE PARISH COUNCIL STUFF

Parish 'Clusters' - Brympton PC has joined up with other parish councils around Yeovil to create a 'Parish Cluster'. The objective here is for us to share ideas and common initiatives that may have more weight if all parishes express the same view.



"What did the Romans ever do for us" - a great line from 'The Life of Brian' but did you know that Larkhill Road used to be part of the Roman road network linking Dorchester to Ilchester. Take a look at a modern map and visualise a straight line from the A37/A30 junction at 'The Quicksilver Mail' and project it across Westland's site to Larkhill Road and then on via Vagg Hill and the cutting back onto the A37 at 'The Halfway House', Chilthorne Domer.



Along this route there was a Roman villa sited near Westland Road but there is another important Roman villa site located north of Thorne Lane - to have a look, park near the Lufton Lane junction and head north along the public footpath. If you 'Google' 'yeovil roman villa' you'll find some interesting bits of info about old Yeovil and the surrounding area.

If you're into old maps, etc. I came across a useful website the other day at www.old-maps.co.uk/maps.html where you can view/purchase old maps of the UK dating back to 1889. The 1889, 1/500 scale maps for the centre of Yeovil are particularly interesting but you can check out any town.

Carry on Doctor - You may have noticed that the Doctor's surgery has moved from the building next to the Abbey Community Centre and is now located at the old Dialysis unit opposite. This leaves the old building empty for now but wouldn't it make a nice Post Office or a facility for the Pre-School group that currently uses ACC?

Speeding - The Parish Council has been considering the speeding problems that occur in some parts of the parish, notably Stourton Way and Bluebell Road. We may approach the Police Community Safety team to carry out some speed checks but these generally rely on local volunteers. Let us know if you're interested.



"All the fun of the fair"

Well perhaps not much of the fun but plenty of the noise, according to a complaint by a resident of Abbey Manor Park earlier in the year when the Fun Fair was at Yeovil Football Ground.

When we passed on this report to YTFC we received the following response from James Hillier, Operations Manager:

"I have been passed your email regarding the Fun Fair at Huish Park from my Chairman John Fry. I am sorry to hear that you have had some complaints regarding the noise from the Fun Fair. When agreeing to host the Fun Fair we issued a contract to the operator that specifically stipulated they should stay within the legal guidelines regarding the noise pollution created. The contract also stated that in the event of any complaint from the local residents the noise level will be reduced immediately. I am not aware that they had any complaints at the time the Fun Fair was operating but after speaking to the operators they would certainly have reduced the sound levels."

At the present time we do not have any scheduled Fun Fair operators set to come to Huish Park, however I will certainly contact you if we are approached to keep you informed. In the event that we do have another Fun Fair please ring YTFC direct on 01935 423662 to report any problems."

Larkhill Public Open Space



The Parish Council are looking to provide some replacement dog bins to replace the vandalised ones. I do wish the dogs wouldn't be so rough when using them!

We are also looking at the possibility of providing some lighting along the new paths linking to King Arthur Drive and to Abbots Way. We will have to cost this out and see if we can get some financial assistance but we need to know if there is public support for this. Please let us know your views.



Planning



Apart from the usual run-of-the-mill extensions, etc. that the parish council have been asked to comment on it's probably worth drawing your attention to a few applications and issues that have given cause for concern:-

The proposals for the first phase of the **Brimsmore Key Site** (North of Thorne Lane) featured in the last edition of Newslink (this can be seen on our website if you missed it). One of our major concerns, as Liz Glaisher mentions in her 'Thoughts', is the proposal to route all the traffic through the middle of the site instead of around the edge as originally envisaged. The developer is coming to our July meeting to discuss latest plans.

Details ('Reserved Matters') for the **Lufton Key Site** were submitted to SSDC some time ago and we have made our comments on these. The plans, etc are on the SSDC website, enter application ref 10/01875/REM under the 'Planning and Building Control', 'Planning Search' link and click on the 'Documents' tab.

The parish council is becoming increasingly frustrated at not being able to get a satisfactory answer from Somerset County Council about the highway 'strategy' for what's referred to as the **Western Corridor** (Western Avenue to Lysander Road). As far as we can make out, despite numerous traffic surveys and studies, there doesn't seem to be an overall strategy to accommodate all the proposed development on this side of Yeovill!

An application for a new **Pre-School building at Preston Primary School** has been submitted. The proposal here is to erect a new building to the front right hand corner of the main school building and to relocate the existing pre-school group that currently uses the facilities at the Abbey Community Centre. The parish council's main concerns here were to do with loss of trees, etc plus the extra traffic and pedestrian movement that would be generated adding to the current chaos at peak times.

KFC Site - Planning permission for a new KFC in the car park near 'Homebase' was granted some time ago but a planning application in respect of various signs was recently received for comment. The proposal is for the erection of some 22 signs, some of which will be illuminated. Most of these signs will be within the car park area and/or attached to the proposed building but there was one notable sign (number 5) 8.1m high x 2.5m wide that was intended to be erected within the proposed footpath link to Western Avenue.

This sign has now been withdrawn from the proposals.

ONSIDE FOOTBALL SCHEME - CAN YOU HELP?

Yeovil Town Community Sports Trust work in partnership with agencies and volunteers to reduce anti-social behaviour by engaging with local communities through the power of football.

Schemes are run in several local communities throughout South Somerset, encouraging 8 to 18 year olds of all abilities to join in.

The Trust's coaches deliver football training for all levels.

Incentives are offered to all who regularly attend - tickets to Yeovil Town matches and the opportunity to take part in an inter-scheme tournament with fun for all the family.

Those showing ability are given the opportunity to progress to Yeovil Town's Development Centre.

The steering group for this project is made up of representatives from:

- South Somerset District Council
- Avon and Somerset Constabulary
- Yarlington Housing Group
- Somerset Football Association
- The Royal Navy
- The Mendip and South Somerset Community Safety Partnership
- and Yeovil Town Community Sports Trust



Provided that willing adult volunteers can be found it is possible that an Onside Football Scheme could be started at Oak Tree Park. Would you offer to help?

If a regular commitment can be shown, an Onside Football Scheme could start after a successful period of volunteering.

The parish council would organise litter picks at Oak Tree Park over a period of time (say every week for a 4 week period) where adult community volunteers and young people work together. If the young people attend each of the sessions they will be rewarded with a tour of the football stadium or tickets to a Yeovil Town match.

After this time, if the volunteer adults have enjoyed working alongside the young people and are willing to continue, a regular Onside scheme would be considered. The Onside scheme offers the adult volunteer an opportunity to gain a FA level 1 football coaching qualification, together with a free CRB check. See <http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/sport-and-health/sport-/onside-football-skills-training> for further details and let us know if you're interested.

Report from one of your Parish Tree Wardens':

Building works are almost at completion in Alvington. The widening of the main access road to the new housing from Bluebell Road is likely to have an impact upon the longevity of trees bordering that access road. Time will tell.



The Viburnum Leaf Beetle infestation that killed some of the Guelder Rose trees along Bluebell Road in 2010 has returned in 2011. At present the results do not appear to be quite as severe, but I will continue to monitor this. Replacing the dead trees with a less-susceptible species may be an option in the autumn.

I have checked the progress of the saplings planted between Heather Way and Bluebell Road. At the time of writing, these are growing well and have not been vandalised.

Similarly, the saplings that were planted around the soak-away off Bluebell Road continue to develop slowly, despite early vandalism that resulted in many of the young trees being lost.

Flail cutting of the 'hedgerow' bordering Bluebell Road is having a negative impact upon the fruit trees at the western end of the road. The Hawthorn at the eastern end appears to cope with this rough treatment, but the Blackthorn and various apple trees, in particular, are not looking at their best. I wonder if a group of willing volunteers might be trained to look after these trees. They provide free food, after all!

Jane Harrison, Tree Warden

Allotments

It's been a bit of a struggle but we're almost there with the provision of allotments on our site at Lufton/Thorne Lane. Planning permission for the proposed access has now been granted (not without some difficulty) and the legal agreements between landowner, parish council and Allotment Association are ready to sign once we get the final go-ahead from the landowner who wants to harvest the corn on the site before releasing it to us.

A contractor is lined up to create the new access and car park and to install the water service. This should all happen at the end of August when the crop's gone.

Thanks to all the potential allotment holders for your patience.



News from Somerset County Council

In his latest report Sam Crabb, our County Councillor, advises that he is now Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group at SCC.

Sam's report also refers to the various bids by schools for Academy Status and, in particular, Stanchester school which is in his Ward. Stanchester, and presumably other schools, have been consulting parents and other interested parties about this and hopefully some of you may have responded. The main attraction seems to be that schools attaining Academy status, in addition to their 'independence', will get a lump sum of £300,000 from central Government. Sam's view is that the potential impact on the Local Education Authority (SCC) if all 31 eligible schools attain this status could be very significant. I leave you to ponder on this issue.

Sam also advised about the Boundary Commission Review of the County Council Divisions within Somerset. This has been prompted by the

large number of Divisions at variance with the average 7,212 electors. The worst offender is apparently Sam's Division, Ilchester, with 10,045 electors almost 40% up on the norm. Brympton parish is in this Division and, according to Sam, whatever happens Ilchester Division will change especially if you take into account proposed new development areas. At Brympton PC we will be watching this situation closely and will be involved as much as we can in the consultation process in order to protect the parish interests.

Sam advises that he is pressing for action in respect of the promised pedestrian crossing and safety work at Bunford Lane but seems to be coming up against the same 'brick wall' as we are in that funding seems to hinge on developing the Key Sites.

Sam advises that he is also pushing hard on getting roads on 'new' developments completed and adopted. Some of these seem long overdue.

News, Events & Information from South Somerset District Council

An introduction to the Area South Development Team

South Somerset District Council's 'Area South' covers the parishes of Barwick and Stoford, Brympton, Closworth, East Coker, Odcombe, West Coker, Hardington and Yeovil Without as well as Yeovil Town.

The Area South Team are based at Petters House in Yeovil, where they provide information, advice and support to around 30,000 residents a year. They work with individuals and groups on a wide range of community based projects, both large and small scale, from the provision of community facilities such as Milford Hall to support for community associations. They also provide small grants for community groups. They manage Yeovil Town Centre and run the markets in the town. They also support the Yeovil Vision and are involved in a number of regeneration projects in Area South including the development of the Glove Factory and the refurbishment of Princes Street.

Please contact Natalie Ross, Community Development Officer, on 01935 462956 or e-mail natalie.ross@southsomerset.gov.uk or Kim Close, Area Development Manager on 01935 462708 or e-mail kim.close@southsomerset.gov.uk to discuss ways in which the Area South Development Team can provide help and support to you or your Parish Council.

Identification & enquiry service from SSDC Heritage Team

Have you ever wondered what happened to the George Inn in Yeovil, or would like to discover the identity of that mysterious metal object found in your flower border? SSDC's Heritage Team could help!

They can help with:

- local history enquiries;
- identifying objects (including archaeological items such as coins and discovered 'finds');
- photographic reproduction (including copyright notification);
- access to family history contacts and local name traces;
- providing local maps and local reference books
- arranging research visits;
- accepting items to be donated into museum collections.

They also have a large collection of South Somerset photographs, focusing on Yeovil, including people, places and events.

They aim to respond and answer enquiries within two weeks although some enquiries may take longer.

Please note that they do not give valuations. For contact details please visit SSDC's website

Museum of South Somerset, Yeovil



The building which housed the Museum of South Somerset closed on 31st March 2011. The items in the museum have been moved to the Community Heritage Access Centre (CHAC) at SSDC Lufton Depot, 7 Artillery Road, Lufton, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 8RP which is open by appointment, Monday - Friday, 9.00am - 5.00pm. Please ring 01935 462855 to make an appointment to visit

Stuck for ideas of what to do during the school holidays?

- ◆ Play Pitch & Putt or Mini Golf at Yeovil Recreation Centre
- ◆ Create something amazing from the Art Shop & Scrapstore (located at Garrett Road)
- ◆ Pay a visit to the Community Resource Service (also at Garrett Road). There are so many great inexpensive products at the Art Shop and wild and wonderful items are available from the Scrapstore.
- ◆ Join the Countryside team for exciting events. Get involved with the Countryside Team. Check out their events page for details.

Summer holiday activity leaflet

SSDC are planning to produce a packed leaflet listing all the summer holiday activities. If you'd like to receive a copy please email them asking for the next Holiday Activity Leaflet.

Watch out for information on SSDC's website about the National Play Day at Ninesprings in Yeovil on Wednesday 3rd August 2011.

Events

Somerset Farmers Market - Sat 23 July 9am to 1pm



Somerset Farmers Market visits Yeovil town centre, lower Middle Street on the 4th Saturday of every Month. Up to 24 stalls with a huge range of choice and variety of Fresh local produce and much more. 9am - 1pm

Community Safety Day - Sat 23 July 9am to 1pm

There will be displays of emergency vehicles, Police, Fire and Ambulance. Demonstrations and safety advice from many other agencies.



Yeovil Flower and Gardeners' Market

Sat 24 September 10.00am to 4.00pm Middle Street, Yeovil
Following on from last year's successful event, Yeovil Town Council - with the support of the Brimsmore Gardens Group and Viridor - is staging another Flower and Gardeners' Market. A variety of stalls will be provided on a horticultural/gardening theme with prices to suit all pockets. Entertainment has been arranged to suit all ages, including:

- Photographic Exhibition and Community Group Displays
- Yeovil in Bloom Gardening Competition - presentation of prizes
- Best Kept Allotment Competition - presentation of prizes
- Music in the Performing Arts Area - featuring Yeovil Town Band
- Competitions
- Children's Activities

The event provides an ideal opportunity for local producers, clubs and organisations to promote their products and attract new members.

Anyone interested in taking on a stall or entering the Flower and Vegetable Show should contact the Town Council on 01935 382424 for further details and an application form.

Neighbourhood Watch

This from Catherine Dunn, Neighbourhood Watch Network



I am contacting you from the Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network (NHWN) - the official umbrella group for Neighbourhood and Home Watch schemes across England and Wales,

endorsed by the Home Office and the Association of Chief Police Officers.

A new website incorporating lots of useful information and advice has been launched and can be found at www.ourwatch.org.uk. You may wish to sign up for our e-newsletter to keep up to date on all the latest developments.

In addition, the National Neighbourhood Watch Academy, part of Safety Net Associates, has developed a new Vocationally Recognised Qualification in the shape of a BTEC Advanced Award for Community Advocates. It is a great training resource to enhance and improve partnership working with local community advocates and the agencies and officers who work with the community. The training is suitable for CSP colleagues, police, volunteers and elected members. You can download further details from the website.

If you have any questions, comments or feedback please do not hesitate to contact me.

Catherine Dunn (catherine.dunn@ourwatch.org.uk.)

Information & Database Officer

Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network (England and Wales)

Crime & Disorder

Included with this edition of Newslink is a leaflet from Avon & Somerset Police giving loads of information and advice so probably not worth mentioning too much apart from the fact that the Police have been following up the vandalism incident at Higher Ream.



You may want to respond to their survey to do with policing priorities for summer 2011. This is only the second online survey that the Avon & Somerset Police Authority has undertaken and they are very keen for as many people as possible to have their say by completing the survey which can be found at: www.consultation.avonandsomerset.police.uk/aspola/priorities2011/consult_view

Words of Wisdom

- Quality means doing it right when no one is looking. *Henry Ford*
- When women are depressed they either eat or go shopping. Men invade another country. *Elaine Boosler*
- History will be kind to me for I intend to write it. *Winston Churchill*
- When in doubt tell the truth. *Mark Twain.*
- To avoid criticism, do nothing, say nothing, be nothing. *Elbert Hubbard.*
- To err is human but to really foul things up requires a computer. *Paul Ehrlich.*

Motoring with Pete - the 'E-Type'.



This year is the 50th anniversary of perhaps one of the most beautiful and iconic cars ever produced in England and probably the world. A car that became a legend within its own lifetime.

I am of course referring to the **"E" Type Jaguar.**

The Series One was introduced, initially for export only, in March 1961. The domestic market launch came four months later in July 1961 and replaced the XK150 who's triple SU carburetted 3.8 litre, 6 cylinder engine was used in the new "E" Type.

The initial 500 cars produced had flat floors and external bonnet latches and are today one of the most rare and valuable of the "E" Types. After that the floors were ditched to provide more leg room and the twin bonnet catches were moved to inside the car.

The "E" Type Jaguar was produced as a two-seater, fixed head coupe and as a convertible open two-seater. The 3.8 litre engine was replaced in October 1964 with a 4.2 litre 6 cylinder engine. A 2+2 version of the coupe was added in 1966 which was 9 inches longer and offered the option of a 3 speed automatic transmission, which was unavailable on the other cars.

The initial 3.8 litre engine cars were produced with a 4 speed Moss gearbox with no synchromesh for 1st gear. All "E" Types had independent coil spring rear suspension with torsion bar front ends, four wheel power assisted disc brakes and leather-upholstered bucket seats with an aluminium trimmed centre instrument panel and console (changed to vinyl and leather in 1963).

When the 4.2 litre engine was introduced in October 1964 the gearbox was replaced with a Moss all synchromesh gearbox, improved brakes and more comfortable seats.

Following the Series 1 car, there was a transitional series of cars built in 1967-1968, unofficially called the "Series 1 1/2", which are externally similar cars. Due to American pressure the new features were open headlights, different switches, and some de-tuning (with a downgrade of twin Zenith-Stromberg carbs from the original triple S U carbs) for US models. Series 2 features were gradually introduced into the Series 1, creating the unofficial Series 1 1/2 cars, but always with the Series 1 body style.

"The Motor" magazine in 1961 tested one of the first production "E" Types and achieved a top speed of 149.1 mph with a fuel consumption of 21.3 mpg and a 0 to 60mph of 7.1 seconds. The test car cost £2097.00 including taxes.

A total of 15,498 Series 1, 3.8 cars were produced; 16,195 4.2 cars and 6,726 1 1/2 Series cars.

The Series 2 car was introduced in 1969 with open headlights, a wrap round rear bumper, repositioned and larger front indicators and tail lights below the bumpers, better cooling with twin electric fans, uprated brakes and more comfortable seats. Air conditioning and power steering were available as factory options. A total of 18,809 Series 2 cars were produced.

The Series 3 car was introduced in 1971 with a new 5.3 l, 12 cylinder engine, uprated brakes and power steering. The short wheelbase FHC body style was discontinued and the V12 was only available only as a convertible and a 2+2 coupe. It is easily identifiable by the large cross-slatted front grill, flared wheel arches and a badge on the rear that proclaims it to be a V12.

The "E" type production finished in 1974 and a total of 15,287 Series 3 cars were produced being split almost equally between the open convertible and the 2+2 coupe.

Happy motoring,
Pete



If you're interested in cycling and/or other modes of sustainable transport this SCC website may be of interest <http://www.movingSomersetforward.co.uk/>

This just in from Somerset County Council - Givin' It To Youth

Communities across Somerset are being given the chance to run their own youth clubs with £76,000 up for grabs.

Grants of up to £5,000 have been earmarked by Somerset County Council to help people start up or keep youth clubs open. These grants can go towards all aspects of running youth clubs from staffing, buying equipment, to paying the bills.

Funding has been made available from the UK Youth Parliament Advisory Group (UKYPAG) which Somerset County Council supports. The group is made up of Members of the Youth Parliament (MYP), their deputies and other young people who are interested in making youth activities a priority.

Alex Harvey, MYP for Taunton Deane and West Somerset, said: "We know that spending cuts have to happen but we don't want to lose activities for young people. These grants will help out communities who want to do it for themselves."

Cllr John Osman, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, said: "We're pleased to be able to offer this funding to help local communities. This is a great opportunity for people to take up the reins to run their own youth clubs."

Applications available online from 1 July at: www.somersetyouth.co.uk or call 01823 410135.



Editor's Comment

Call me cynical but this announcement to do with funding for youth groups, although welcome, is a bit too late for the Time out Together Youth Group that was, until recently, thriving at Abbey Manor but had to close down due to lack of financial support from County. Not much evidence of forward thinking there!

It may, however, be of use to the Westfield Youth Group that SSDC and the Police are trying to restart.

Ed.

The Somerset Crane Chronicle

The newsletter of the Great Crane Project

Issue 6
May 2011



Welcome

Welcome to the sixth newsletter of the Great Crane Project - the project that aims to re-establish a population of these magnificent birds in the Levels and Moors and enrich the Somerset landscape in an inspirational way.

2nd year begins in earnest

The second year of the project has begun with 24 eggs taken under licence from nests in eastern Germany and transported back over Easter.



Photo Credit - Paul Ham

Twenty chicks are now growing big and strong at the WWT Slimbridge rearing facility (crane school) with exercise and feed provided by their surrogate human 'parents'.



Photo Credit - Marie-Anne D'Almeida

The young cranes grow incredibly fast. Over their first ten weeks they grow into a bird standing well over a metre tall with a two metre wingspan! These early days are a very busy time for the surrogate parents who have twenty hungry mouths to feed.

Exploring and expanding

Meanwhile, last year's release birds - 'The Somerset Eighteen' continue to prosper and expand their range. All supplementary feeding ceased in early April, and the birds are fully tending for themselves - and thriving.



Photo Credit - John Crisain

They have turned up as far away as Calcott, (where a small group spent the night) Shapwick and Greylake Nature Reserves, and have been seen flying up to around 1000 ft. high, soaring effortlessly on the thermals and checking out their new world.



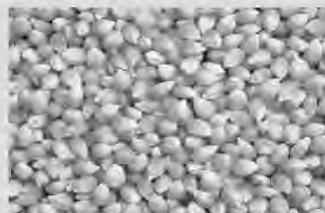
Photo Credit - Michael Leigh-Mallory

Volunteer involvement continues to be essential to the project with over thirty local people now involved in the daily monitoring of the cranes. Information is gathered on the cranes' health, their behaviour and interactions and their foraging and roosting habitats.

Crane droppings are also gathered weekly for analysis. It seems that worms, leatherjackets and some kind of plant root have all featured large on their list of tasty treats this last month.

Crane people of Somerset!

The cranes have been taken to the heart of many local communities - not least the local farming community whose support has been and continues to be essential to long term success of this project. As well as carrying out some supplementary feeding on arable land, the project has supported the creation of small blocks of unharvested maize and other crops to provide some extra winter feed for the cranes in these early years of the project.



Local community groups, Huish Academy, and many local primary schools have also been busy creating crane-inspired artwork, in combination with Somerset Art Works. Much of this is going on 'tour' to WWT Slimbridge from mid June to early August, and then will be displayed at Machelney Abbey during Somerset Art Weeks in September. (15/09/2011 - 30/09/2011)



Wirenet Crane - Mantlech Primary School, Somerset

More information

- 01458 254414
- twitter.com/thecraneproject
- facebook.com/thegreatcraneproject
- www.thegreatcraneproject.org.uk

Preston Primary School Sports Week

Preston Primary School enjoyed a fantastic week recently in which children from all classes learned through the medium of sport.

Activities included a golf lesson taught by a London based professional, free running tuition, martial arts classes and the centrepiece of the week, which took the form of an Olympic style torch relay where children from reception to year 6 ran a lap of the school track and passed an Olympic torch to each other in a spirit of friendship and competition.



Teacher: Why are you late, Joseph?

Joseph: Because of a sign down the road.

Teacher: What does a sign have to do with your being late?

Joseph: The sign said, "SCHOOL AHEAD. SLOW!"

A brighter future for Somerset's wetlands

The Great Crane Project (GCP) is a partnership between the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT), the RSPB, Pensthorpe Conservation Trust and Viridor Credits Environmental Company. The project aims to re-establish a sustainable population of common cranes in Britain, securing its future as a breeding species.



News from St. James Church



Local Vicar to exchange roles with Aussie counterpart

Australian vicar, the Revd David Jones will be exchanging roles with local vicar, the Revd Tony Perris, for three months over the summer. Mr Jones traces his ancestry back to a time when his forefather was deported from this country for stealing a pair of shoes.

The parishes are very different. Revd Perris is exchanging summer in the beautiful south west for winter in inner city Melbourne.

Both are excited about the opportunity - Revd Jones to enjoy the history and culture of England and Revd Perris to learn something of the great city of Melbourne.

Revd and Mrs Jones will be present at the services in August, Sundays at 10:30 in St James church and then in September and October in the Abbey Manor Community Centre and St James Church. They are looking forward to meeting you all.

Regular Groups

Tots and Toys - Tues 10.00 -11.30, for 0-2's and their parents /carers, St. James church room.

Parents and Toddlers - Weds 10.00-11.30am, Abbey Community Centre. Ring Karen on 425877

Coffee Mornings, - 1st Thursday of every month,

Youth & Junior Youth - Sunday Evenings, contact Karen on 425877 for details

The church is open for visitors and prayer on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 10.00am - 12 noon

Caryl Plewes, Parish Administrator for St James and St Peter's St James Church, Preston Road, Yeovil, BA20 2EZ

Contacts: Church Office 414097, Rev. Tony Perris 429398, Rev. David Keen 422286, email: clergy@stjames.org.uk

The Church of St. Peter & St. Paul, Lufton

(Part of the Church United Benefice of Odcombe with Lufton, Montacute & Brympton)

Our beautiful, small, rural Church nestles at the heart of the ancient hamlet of Lufton and we welcome all those who wish to worship with us. For those of you who have had difficulty in finding us, we are situated adjacent to the Manor Farm section of Lufton College. Follow the Montacute road out of Yeovil and take a right turn where you see a sign to the College, pass through the hamlet, turning left at the first T junction and you will view the Church by the Green.

Our regular Services are more traditional, as we still enjoy **BCP (1662) Services of Holy Communion on the 1st Sunday of each month & Evensong on the 2nd & 4th Sundays** of each month, at **6.00pm** throughout the year.

We still enjoy traditional hymn singing.

On the **3rd Sunday of each month** we are holding a Celtic Service (in the Iona Tradition), unless stated otherwise. Each service has a differing theme, the time remains at **4.30pm**. throughout the year and is led by our regular Lay Reader, Bill Chapman.

On the 29th May (Rogation Sunday) we held our Annual United Benefice Holy Communion. The Church was full and most of the congregation stayed for our traditional summer refreshments, 'al fresco'!

On **19th June** we held a special service for 'Sea Sunday', remembering all those whose working life is mostly spent at sea, or saving lives at sea. We were joined by Lufton College students and all enjoyed doing the actions to appropriate hymns.

Services continue as usual throughout the summer.

Special Services & Events coming up during the coming months include:-

On **Sunday 18th September** we will be holding our **Harvest Thanksgiving Service** at 4.30pm. All produce generously brought to decorate the Church is donated to Barnabus House and gratefully received.

ALL ARE MOST WELCOME AT OUR SERVICES.

For more information about the Church & Services please contact Rev'd. John Jenkins (01935 863034) or Churchwardens Mr Marvin Collins (01935 426153) or Dr. Francis Burroughes (01823 652500 during office hours).

Music in the Park Event - Saturday 2 June 2012

Yeovil Town Council is looking to organise a Music in the Park event at Yeovil Recreation Ground on the above date as part of next year's national celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Glastonbury 40+ at the Somerset Rural Life Museum, Glastonbury 14th May - 3rd September 2011.



A new exhibition celebrating the Glastonbury Festival is being held at the Somerset Rural Life Museum Glastonbury.

Glastonbury 40+ celebrates forty years of the Glastonbury Festival from the archives of seven Somerset-based photographers. Between them they have covered every festival since Glastonbury began in 1970.

Images range from the early days, when handfuls of hippies arrived on horseback, to the mud baths and tented cities that we see today. The exhibition reflects Glastonbury's journey from a small party on a farm to the biggest musical festival in Europe.

Photographers include Brian Walker, who has not missed a single festival; photographer Ann Cook, who has been going to Glastonbury for 25 years; and press photographers Steve Roberts, Jason Bryant, Anna Barclay, Matt Cardy and Ian Sumner. All continue to cover the festival today.

Despite its monumental growth, the heart of the festival has remained the same. Images of people welcoming the dawn, dancing in the crowd and rolling in the mud can be seen across the four decades.

The exhibition is open Tuesday - Saturday and Bank Holiday Monday 10am- 5pm, Admission is free. Also visit the excellent Dairy Tearoom at the museum open from 10.30am until 4.30pm.



Annual Report from Brympton Parish Council 2010 - 11



The past year has again been a busy year for the Parish Council during which we have welcomed four new Councillors - Ernest Appleby, John Hanson, Peter Sealey and John Strong. Their input is greatly valued and adds to the strength of the Council as a team.

I would like to extend our thanks to our County Councillor, Sam Crabb, and District Councillors Peter Seib & John Richardson for all their support during the last year. Also our thanks go to Liz James, our clerk of 10 years, for all her hard work. My particular thanks go to all our Councillors for their hard work and dedication to the parish and its issues, the team work has been great, a big thank you to everybody.

We have held our monthly meetings in two venues this past year, being the Parish Room and the village hall at Thorne Coffin.

Planning - we have considered 42 planning applications this year in addition to such issues as the Core strategy, 2 employment sites, 2 key sites, eco-urban extension, YTFC development and, of course, the Sports Zone - just to mention a few. Traffic impact remains a major issue along the Western Corridor - we keep shouting but are greeted by "deaf ears".

Finance - our budget was £50,863, roughly £20 per house, and major items of expenditure were as follows:

- Grants - £2,515
- Loan payments for ACC improvements - £5,894
- Yeovil in Bloom - £700
- Part funding of Open -Space Ranger - £3,532
- Footpath, etc at LOSP £7,800
- Additional litter picking at Oak Tree Park - £1,650
- Street furniture - £924
- Higher Ream play area £1,008
- The Noise £1,352

Parish Office - the Parish Office was opened last year and has been utilised as a contact information point - where Councillor Pete Dutton has attended an open session on Wednesday afternoons with the Clerk. This was initially well used but of late use has dwindled.

Larkhill Open Space - this project has really shown some major benefits in the last 12 months with the sterling efforts of Darren our Ranger. The new paths and bridge being a big hit with residents - still much to be done.

'The Noise' & 'Quantum Theatre' - two very diverse and successful events organised by the Parish Council during last summer. The Play in the Park was a new venture for us and, relatively speaking, less stressful than the Noise. The litter problem did mar the end of 'The Noise' but the day itself was very well attended by residents and display groups - which made it all worth while.

Youth Provision - we have tried many avenues to facilitate this provision but have been unsuccessful due to various reasons. We were very grateful to Time Out Together who were running a youth group and are very sorry that the group has now closed.

Post Office provision - this is an on-going aspiration and has been for many, many years. We will continue to put a "foot in the door" with those who have the power to deliver this much needed community asset, especially as there will be two major key sites on this side of Yeovil.

Allotments - at a public meeting attended by more than 40 parish residents, we have project managed the provision of allotments, as we are legally required to do. We have been offered a field by a local farmer who expressed a wish to contribute to the community. The planning application was recently approved for creation of the access off the highway and an on-site parking area. It is hoped that the allotments will be available from October onwards.

Financial Report

Summary of Financial Statement year end 31 March 2011

Income	
Balances brought forward	£38,754
Annual Precept	£50,863
Other receipts	<u>£ 6,521</u>
	£96,138
Expenditure	
Staffing costs	£16,120
Loan interest (Abbey Community Centre)	£ 5,894
Other expenditure	<u>£38,669</u>
	<u>£60,683</u>
Balances carried forward	£35,455

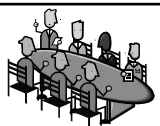
Your Parish Council

<p>Elizabeth Glaisher (Chairman) Roger Meecham (Vice Chairman) Ernest (Ernie) Appleby Peter Dutton Edwin (Eddie) Galjaard John Hanson Graham Pritchard Peter Sealey Peter Seib Darren Shutler John Strong Parish Clerk: Elizabeth James</p>	<p>11 Athelney Way, Yeovil, BA21 3TN 13 Tintagel Road, Yeovil, BA21 3RE 41 Arlington Close, Yeovil. BA21 3TB 46 Thorne Gardens, Yeovil, BA21 3RG The Gatehouse, 1 Percivale Road, Yeovil 12 Tintern, Yeovil. BA21 3SJ 10 West Combe, Yeovil, BA21 3UE 19 Nash Lane, Yeovil. BA20 2HN 11 Forde Park, Yeovil, BA21 3QP 5 Streamside Cottages, Yeovil, The Estate House, East Coker The Parish Office, Abbey Community Centre The Forum, YEOVIL. BA21 3TL</p>
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Parishioners can contact the Parish Council by:
 Telephone: 01935 424332
 e-mail: clerk@brymptonparishcouncil.gov.uk
 post to: Brympton Parish Council, The Parish Room, The Forum, Yeovil BA21 3TL

Parish Council Meetings

Members of the public are always welcome at Brympton Parish Council Meetings and there is an open forum at the start to raise any concerns.



Agendas are published on the Parish Notice Boards 5 clear days before the meetings and also on our web site

www.brymptonparishcouncil.gov.uk

The next few meetings are:

27 th July	Parish Room, Abbey Community Centre
24 th August	Jubilee Hall, Thorne Coffin
28 th September	Parish Room, Abbey Community Centre
26 th October	Parish Room, Abbey Community Centre

All meetings start at 7.30 p.m.
 The meetings held at the Community Centre are held at the Parish Room and entrance is from the external ramp only - there is no entrance from the main hall

Brympton Newslink is published by Brympton Parish Council and is normally delivered to about 3,000 houses in the parish.

Our thanks to St James Scouts who are helping to deliver this edition of Newslink.

The views in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of Brympton Parish Council or the Editor (Roger Meecham)