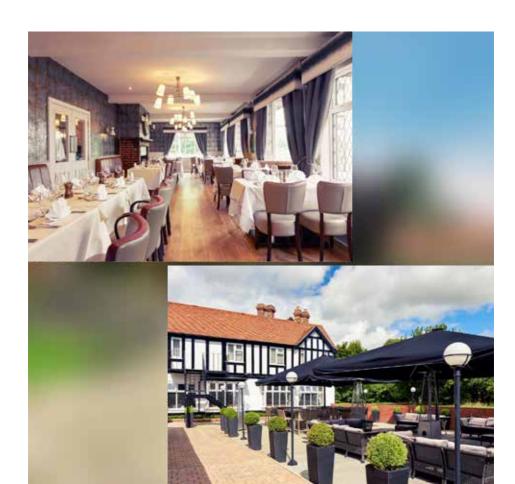
ASTON ROWANT, KINGSTON BLOUNT & CROWELL

PARISH NOTES



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CONTENTS

KB Village Hall	5
Useful Phone Numbers	5
Parish Council & Local Contacts	6
Letter from John Howell MP	7
Church Contacts & Services	8
August Service Rota	8
Crowell Church	9
Arrangements in Church	10
Pastoral Letter	11
Ride and Stride 2021	12
Aston Rowant Parish Council News	13
Aston Rowant Parish Council Notes	14
ARPC Footpath and Amenities Group	16
News from Fiveways	17
Point to Point Success	19
Chinnor Beer Festival	20
Letter from the Headteacher	21
News from ARCC	23
Chinnor Churches Go Wild	24
Tessa Wyatt saysGod, Creation and Me	26
Wycombe Rye Family Fun Day	27
Au Revoir but not Goodbye	31
Hedgehogs at Bourg's Meadow	33
Landscape Designation Programme	34
Village Defiled by Telegraph Poles	37
20mph Limit for Chinnor	39
The Green Recovery	44

There are 20 bee illustrations (including this one) throughout this issue - see if you can find them all. (Sadly no prizes involved - just a bit of bee fun!)

Information in this publication is, as far as we know, accurate. The Parish Notes however, cannot accept responsibility for the quality of the information, services or items provided by other people or organisations.

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With special thanks to our team of distributors, for their continuing hard work.



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Charges for Hire - Effective 1st January 2021

For Residents of the Parish of Aston Rowant

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To make a booking, email bookings@kbvh.org, phone 07391 139707 or visit our website www.kbvh.org where you will also find a full description of the facilities we can offer plus details of activities currently taking place in the hall.

KINGSTON BLOUNT VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is now open for bookings. The Hall operates under a set of regulations issued under guidance from the Government. These have been continually revised throughout the pandemic and it is expected that some of the procedures, particularly those relating to cleaning of the Hall and equipment by hirers, will continue for some time after restrictions have been lifted. Hirers will be advised of the cleaning requirements closer to their scheduled booking.

Andrea Tinson

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

CAB Local office www.adviceguide.org.uk	01844 214827
Chinnor Village Centre	01844 353733
Church Tower, Aston Rowant: R Newton	01844 352926
Dial-a-ride (for people with mobility problems)	01869 327048
Highways Pothole Hotline	0845 3101111
Highways Street Light Hotline	0800 317802
Library-Chinnor	01844 351721
Oil Syndicate adam.bernstein@mac.com.	01844 350440
Oxon County Council www.oxfordshire.gov.uk	01865 792422
Police-Thame (Thames Valley)	101 or 999
Poor's Hillock Allotments: Rupert Wolstenholme	07866 302697
Rupert.wolstenholme@btinternet.com	
Porch: S Thompson	01844 351334
Porch: J Rooksby	01844 352320
Post office-Chinnor	01844 351214
Schools:	
Aston Rowant C of E School	01844 351671
Icknield Community College Watlington	01491 612691
Lord Williams School Thame	01844 210510
Mill Lane School Chinnor	01844 352106
St Andrew's C of E, Chinnor	01844 351353
SODC Main Customer Services	01235 422422
SODC Refuse/Recycling	03000 610610
SODC Planning	01235 422600
Reporting Fly-tipping	03000 610610
SODC Environmental Department	01235 422403
Village Hall Hire/Bookings: Andrea Tinson	07391 139707

PARISH COUNCIL & LOCAL CONTACTS

Parish Website

www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

Tracy Lambourne clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 353989 07971039612

Parish Councillors:

Chairman Peter Tinson, Kingston Blount	
peter.tinson@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk	01844 352817
Councillor Matthew Day, Kingston Blount	
matthew.day@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk	07940752446
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steven.sowerby@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk	01844 351392
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trelawney.hill@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk	01844 353051
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adam.bernstein@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk	07785 905120
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matthew.priestley@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk	07976 373512
Councillor John Wyatt, Aston Rowant	
john.wyatt@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07710 2	232349

District Councillors:

Lynn Lloyd	01844 354313	lynn.lloyd@southoxon.gov.uk
Ian White	01844 352085	ian.white@southoxon.gov.uk

County Councillor

Jeannette Matelot jeannette.matelot@oxfordshire.gov.uk

MP

John Howell 01491 612852 howelljm@parliament.uk

Police Community Support Office

tel: 101 ThameHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Village Hall Hire/Bookings

Andrea Tinson 07391 139707 bookings@kbvh.org

Play Area

Tracy Lambourne 01844 353989 clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

Aston Rowant Cricket Club Chairman

Simon Tremlin 07780 672552

LETTER FROM JOHN HOWELL MP

Like many people I have been hugely impressed at the steady guidance from Professor Chris Whitty and Sir Patrick Vallance over recent months. As we waited to know whether or not the Government would move to stage four of the Recovery Roadmap I listened carefully to the 12th July briefing in which they made some very important points in support of the Prime Minister's decision to move to this stage. It is certainly worth looking at the data which is published on the Government website. As Chris Whitty stated there is wide agreement in scientific and medical circles in three key areas relating to the decision: 1) that the four week delay in moving to this final stage was the correct decision and has had a positive impact on the situation; 2) that whenever we go to the next stage there will be an 'exit wave' – an increase in infection rates; 3) that vaccination reduces the chance of someone getting the virus and the likelihood of them passing it on.

There is less agreement on the ideal date for easing restrictions further because, as Professor Whitty says, there isn't an ideal date, there will never be a perfect time. However the summer education break and the better weather provide a good set of circumstances, better than when schools return and the autumn draws in. As Sajid Javid has asked "If not now, when?" The Prime Minister is very clear that the pandemic is not over and that we must proceed with caution. We have to move slowly and carefully.

In the past 16 months we have become used to the rules we have had to live by, and freedom can be both welcome and worrying. One of the biggest concerns appears to be over the use of face coverings. Some people would prefer regulation rather than personal discretion. The Prime Minister has been clear that this should be on the same principle as lifting every other regulation, that we move to personal responsibility both thinking about ourselves and others. He is also very clear that there is strong guidance that in crowded places where we meet with people with whom we do not usually mix then we should still be wearing face coverings. We have to remember that when we first went into lockdown it was to prevent the NHS becoming overwhelmed. With the vaccine we have substantially weakened if not broken the link between the virus, hospital admissions and death. I strongly encourage those who are hesitant about having the vaccine to come forward for it. It protects not only the vaccinated person but others as well.

The coming weeks are not going to be easy as we deal with a wide range of issues that will inevitably emerge from the lifting of restrictions. I reiterate what the Prime Minister said - We cannot simply revert instantly to life as it was before Covid19. Over the summer months when Parliament will be in summer recess my office remains open and when Parliament returns in September I hope that the plans for more normal working will still be in place.

John Howell MP

LOCAL CHURCH CONTACTS

Rector to the United Parish

The Rev'd Dr. Jacky Barr The Rectory, Chinnor OX39 4DH 01844 352027 07769 825 305 revd.jackybarr@gmail.com

Parish Administrator

Tricia Prescott csarc@btinternet.com Chinnor Church Office, OX39 4PG 01844 352472

Associate Clergy:

Aston Rowant The Rev'd Des Foote 01844 355945 The Rev'd Dr. Brian Griffiths 01844 355953 Crowell To be appointed

Churchwardens

Aston Rowant: Richard Boarder 07795 681263, Jeremy Wilcock 01844 761119 Crowell: Maggie & Andy Warman 01844 351909

PCC Treasurer

Michael DeVal 12 Oakley Road, Chinnor OX39 4HB 07807 967452

For arrangements for Baptism, Confirmation and Marriage please contact the Parish Administrator (see above).

Methodist Services – Station Road, Chinnor

AUGUST SERVICE ROTA

As the Coronavirus restrictions ease, and we plan how to move forward, there will be one service in the United Parish on Sundays through August (see below). The service pattern for September is currently under discussion and will be available on the United Parish website when it is finalised, www.chinnorunitedchurches.co.uk

	ST ANDREW'S Chinnor	ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S Aston Rowant	ST MARY'S Sydenham	BVM Crowell
1st Sunday 1st August	11am Holy Communion Jacky			
2nd Sunday 8th August		11am Holy Communion Brian		
3rd Sunday 15th August			11am Holy Communion Joan	
4th Sunday 23rd August				11am Holy Communion Des
5th Sunday 29th August	Marquee Service at White's Field Jacky	11am Morning service Joan		

CROWELL CHURCH

There will be one service at Crowell during August: on the 22nd at 11:00am.

In September we will return to a somewhat similar service pattern across the Parish as it was at the beginning of the pandemic. Crowell will return to two services a month. Negotiations are underway to achieve one morning and one evening service to accommodate the wishes of the Crowell residents.

The church is always open when the Wardens are working in it or in the churchyard. Some restrictions will remain in place. Please see the Chinnor churches website for full details as these will alter as we go further into 'freedom'.

The church local meeting went ahead on 30 June. Many residents attended and frank discussions took place. Myths and rumours were put to bed and suggestions were made and noted. The residents were reminded that the church had been used for the Crowell Meeting and other events in the past and that was back on offer. As a result, the church was immediately booked for a local Crowell Meeting which went ahead. We await any output from that meeting which involves Crowell church.

For a short while, a Sunday service will still be broadcast on the church website as will the Diocese service on their website. This will support those who will not feel comfortable in joining an attended service. Should you wish to attend a virtual service, then go to chinnorunitedchurches.co.uk or oxford.anglican.org

If anyone would like an e-copy of the monthly Chinnor Parish Magazine and/or the weekly Chinnor on-line service booklet then please e-mail the parish admin office at csarc@btinternet.com

Maggs has been back working in the car park garden and is making inroads into the weeds. This is producing many good comments from residents and passers-by. With the help of our stalwart volunteers we have been able to mow and strim areas of the churchyard and around the exit of the car park to give a clear view of the road. This is still work in progress as the count is now due in the wildlife areas and cutting will resume once this is complete. We have already noticed some new rare species and some returning ones. Please bear with us as we are only volunteers and have no Parish Council to supply resources or grants such as at St Andrew's.

More and more graves are now being tended by families and this is wonderful news. These and their immediate surrounding areas will be removed from the wildlife area plot for next year.

At the local meeting, the residents wanted working parties restarted and so we will look to do this. Details will be posted on KBAR facebook page and Chinnor churches facebook page and website - probably starting September.

We were absolutely delighted that several residents attended the July evening service and their comments were noted. Please stay safe and please continue to consider others who may still feel vulnerable.

Andy & Maggs Warman

(Church Wardens) 01844 351909 themwarmans@btinternet.com

ARRANGEMENTS IN CHURCH

I don't know about you but I'm feeling somewhat conflicted by the removal of the Covid-19 legal restrictions. Part of me is joyful about it but another part is concerned by the huge increase in the number of daily cases being reported. And so I'm proposing a phased approach to lessening the restrictions.

Please be assured that our first priority will always be to protect the safety of everyone in the United Parish.

The following cautious approach to our services will be taken after the 19th July. This will be reviewed and updated for the beginning of September. Please pray for peace and wisdom as the country begins the slow process of attaining a degree of the normality lost over the past 18 months.

Face masks while being aware that the law has changed, we, along with many other public arenas (such as the GP surgery, hairdressers and smaller capacity shops), will continue to ask for face coverings to be worn while you are inside our churches and moving around within close proximity of other people. We believe that this measure is an important step in safeguarding everyone.

Hand sanitisers will remain and we ask that you continue to use them as you enter and leave the building, and of course at other times that you feel necessary.

Track and Trace we will no longer ask you to physically sign in but please do use the NHS app and the QR code to register your attendance in the church.

Social distancing this will be left to your own discretion while in church. You will no longer be directed to your seat. We must be personally responsible and consider the obvious and hidden risks to both ourselves and others. Please be respectful of each other's personal space and ask if someone is comfortable with you sitting close to them, offering a handshake or hug - before you move in!

Congregational singing will resume behind our facemasks. Initially this will be for only one hymn in each service.

Hymn books and service booklets will be in use and there is no necessity to take yours home with you (but you can if wish!)

Sharing the Peace we will continue to share the peace with those around us, without moving from our pews.

Readers and intercessors from the congregation will again be invited to take part in our services from September onwards.

Holy Communion We will continue to offer communion in one kind only and we will re-instate coming forward to the altar to receive the sacrament. The priest celebrating will take all necessary measures to ensure that this is done as safely as possible. We ask that you wear your face mask as you move around the church.

Refreshments after a service will begin again in September.

Daily opening of the Churches once we have checked the insurance situation and confirmed our band of volunteers are happy to resume unlocking and locking duties, we will open the churches daily again.

For some of you, it will be disappointing that we are not just abandoning all Covid measures; for others it will alarming that we are dropping any of the measures. My

prayer is, that for the majority, you will be content and reassured with a phased return to what we recognise as "normal church" is in place.

As Philippians 2:3 reminds us, 'But in humility consider others as more important than yourselves'.

With all blessings

Jacky



Well, hello there dear reader, and so here we are in summer. As I write this in early July, my mind turns to holidays, not only because it's that time of year but also because Boris will surely say we can travel again soon. I want to start booking my holidays again, particularly because we had to cancel a trip to Alaska well over a year ago. It made me think how fortunate we are that we can travel to such far flung places.

This certainly wasn't the case in Jesus's time when it was an agricultural economy and the freedom to do things was dictated by the weather and seasons. They had no holidays in our sense of the word. The closest thing I can think of in the New Testament is Jesus' feeding the 5000. It certainly wasn't a holiday for Jesus since so many of the crowd were following Him and in the gospels it says He didn't even have time to eat. From reading the accounts it does seem like a holiday for the crowds flocking to see Jesus, they even brought their sandwiches!

I have to say the 'feeding the 5000' incident is one of my favourites in the New Testament. It must have been one of the favourites of the gospel writers since it is one of the accounts recorded in all four gospels. It tells of a boy giving Jesus his sandwiches (five loaves and two fish) which Jesus miraculously uses to feed 5000 people. I think the reason I find this account so attractive is that boy: who was he and why was he there? How old was he? Why did the writers even mention him? Surely because for some reason or other, he was important? Could he have been one of the disciples' children? Could the reason why the account is in all four gospels be because of that boy and what it says about small actions, children, generosity and following Jesus? This boy with some seafood and bread was chosen to be a significant piece of Jesus's plan not only for that day, but for history.

An incident happened the other day which brought the significance of children home to me. I was on a zoom call and one of the participants seemed familiar. He is presently the Director of a Christian Retreat Centre. It turns out he was one of the boys in the youth club I ran thirty years ago!! He came to faith in that youth club. The boy had grown into a man who is a Christian influencer at national level. Needless to say I was rejoicing!!

This encourages me in that it means we are never just lost in the crowd. We're never without anything to offer God and humanity. We never know how the Lord will use us in ways that we can't predict. The Lord knows us all. He knows where we are, what we have, and how we can be used. He can do eternally amazing things with the little fragments of our lives that we perhaps tend to think aren't worth much. Food for thought eh? Or rather five loaves and two fishes for thought!!

Revd Brian Griffiths

RIDE AND STRIDE 2021

The event this year is to take place on Saturday 11th September, in aid of The Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust. This charity is dedicated to helping to maintain and improve the fabric of all churches in the county. In 2012 they gave us £10,000 towards our kitchen and disabled loo annexe appeal and this year they have given us a further £7,000 for our repairs appeal. We are truly grateful for their contribution and do feel that in some way it reflects our effort over many years to support them through the Ride and Stride.

For those unfamiliar with the event, it involves people (that means you!), walking, cycling or riding to visit as many churches in the day as they can, first having secured sponsors per church visited or for a fixed amount.

Many churches will be manned on the day so that signatures can be obtained, but all this is, of course, rather more tricky in these Covid times. Jenny Flynn is once more going to co-ordinate welcomers for our church, so do please contact her if you can spare an hour or so on 352345.

Unfortunately I cannot Ride this year, so we are very much looking for someone who might take up the mantle. It can be great fun and is a chance to enjoy our beautiful churches and countryside, getting fit while raising money for our church and others in the county 50/50. I will continue to handle the Sponsor forms and collect and pay-in the money raised. I am also ready to sponsor anyone prepared to participate.

Here's hoping,

Julian Knight

351315 jknight652@aol.com



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ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The collapse of the Danish footballer Christian Eriksen during the Euro 2020 match between Denmark and Finland highlighted the importance of prompt interventions in medical emergencies. Eriksen's life was saved by the actions of his team mates immediately after his collapse and the medical staff who then attended him. In such circumstances time is of the essence and knowing where emergency equipment is can make a real difference.

We are fortunate to have a number of defibrillators in the Parish which can be used in the event of an emergency. Using a defibrillator before the emergency services arrive can greatly increase a patient's chance of recovery. The defibrillators are located outside the Village Hall in Kingston Blount and the School in Aston Rowant. In addition, a further defibrillator has been purchased by the Cricket Club and will be made publicly available in the near future. The Parish Council are looking at where more defibrillators can be located in the Parish.

Several parishioners have been trained in the use of this equipment and a course will be arranged in September to increase the number of trained personnel. However, even if you have not had training, should you find someone who is unresponsive and not breathing normally, call 999 and ask another person to fetch a defibrillator. The emergency services will contact a local first responder to assist or will give guidance on what to do.

On a happier topic, next June will mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Although there will be national celebrations, Aston Rowant parish has usually marked previous jubilees with appropriate events. Arranging such events takes both time and needs volunteers — so if you are interested in joining a working party to plan celebrations in the Parish, or have ideas for events, please contact the Clerk or myself.

Finally, although the work of the Council continues, we do take a short summer break and do not meet again until September. I wish you all a restful and safe summer.

Peter Tinson

Chairman - Aston Rowant Parish Council



ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Parish Council meetings were held on Wednesday 10th June 2021 and Wednesday 14th July 2021 where the applications detailed below were discussed.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 8th September (no meeting in August).

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

P21/S0146/HH Amendment (no. 1) for development work at Wych Elm, Chinnor Road, AR. As amended by plans and information received by SODC on 5th May 2021. Maintained objection, even though the wall/gates have been reduced in height, and in view of SODC Tree/Forestry Officer's comments.

P21/S1951/DIS Discharge of conditions 3 (materials), 4 (Arboricultural Method Statement), 6 (surface water drainage) & 7 (foul water drainage) on application P20/S2457/FUL at Queens Gate Bungalow, Butts Way, AR. For information only, no decision.

P21/S1890/HH New roof over existing garage at: Belvedere Cottage, Pleck Lane, KB. Support - minor amendment to garage roof.

P21/S2604/AG Lean-to extension to store at: Grove Farm Kingston Hill KB. Agricultural application - no response required.

P21/S2755/FUL New detached dwelling and carport at: land adjacent to Queensgate Butts Way Aston Rowant OX49 5SZ. Objected on basis of design, styling and impact on surrounds, whilst also awaiting response from SODC Tree Officer.

P21/S2845/HH Garage conversion to enlarge kitchen and construct new detached double garage at Woodlands, Butts Way, AR. Support.

WITHDRAWN APPLICATIONS:

None.

PLANNING DECISIONS OF SODC:

P21/S1694/HH Part 2-storey, part single storey side extension to existing house at: 9 The Rise, Kingston Blount. **GRANTED**.

P21/S1656/HH

Single storey front and rear extensions and internal alterations at 1 Aston Park, Aston Rowant. **GRANTED**.

P21/S2604/AG Lean-to extension to store at: Grove Farm Kingston Hill Kingston Blount - SODC determination: formal application for planning permission is not required.

P21/S0146/HH Proposed two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, internal and external alterations and swimming pool plus new entrance gates and boundary wall at: Wychelm, Chinnor Road, Aston Rowant. **GRANTED**.

PLANNING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

P21/S0907/HH Replacement pool house & leisure complex (as amended by plans received 21 April 2021 relocating proposed plant room and loggia, and altering proposed roof form and lowering rear eaves of pool house) at: Orchard House, High Street Kingston Blount. **GRANTED**.

PLANNING INSPECTORATE APPEAL:

None.

Please note that all Planning Applications for the Parish can be found on the Parish Council Website: http://www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk under 'Parish Council' and then 'Planning'.

All past minutes of Aston Rowant Parish Council (Including the Annual Parish Meeting) can be found under: http://www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk under 'Parish Council' and then 'Meetings'.

Occasional updates concerning the Parish are added to the Parish Council's website and Facebook pages as well as the Kingston Blount/Aston Rowant (KBAR) Facebook page.

Tracy Lambourne

Clerk to Aston Rowant Parish Council





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ARPC FOOTPATH AND AMENITIES GROUP

The biggest issue in the past 2 months has been getting the paths and verges cut following the rain and sun in the spring. After much time and effort, we managed to get the County Council to do the first cut and then followed it up with our contractor. But it is a bit like painting the Forth Bridge, as soon as one cut is finished, we need to do another one.

The FAAG group itself has remained dormant during the lockdown. At present we are looking to meet in September as a group so that we can review existing projects and look for new ones. We asked in May if anyone has ideas for the parish to improve/maintain the footpaths and can I repeat the request.

The one project we are committed to is the repair and possible upgrade of Church Lane in Aston Rowant, to repair the damage caused by the flooding last winter, hopefully this will be completed this autumn.

One thing parishioners can do to help walkers is that if your property has a hedge that overhangs either a footpath or pavement could you please ensure it is cut back to maximise access.

As usual Mike Eaton has written a separate piece for Fiveways.

The delayed parish walk took place in June, and whilst only 8 people came on the walk it was a very enjoyable morning, the next walk will take place in the new year.

Finally, as was noted in the last edition of the Parish Notes, Snowdrop Sunday will return next spring, provisional date is Sunday 20th February 2022, more details will follow later.

Steven Sowerby

Chair of Footpaths and Amenities Group steven.sowerby@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 351392



MID-SUMMER AT FIVEWAYS

All the spring flowers have gone and the stream is but a trickle but there are still flowers to see including purple Knapweed and plenty of geraniums of assorted types. The evergreen Holm Oak tree has outgrown its deer defences and is by the signpost at the cross roads. Being evergreen it should provide winter habitat for insects and birds. Shown below are a Mullein Moth and three new wild flowers



The new decking surface has been put in place, thanks to the Parish Council, which should last and be less dangerous for dogs' paws. As usual things have grown out of control but I have tried to keep the path open - in places the stream has been hidden. The electricity company have taken down some branches from the poplar tree and have left a bit of a mess. I was on holiday but did not expect the visit!

I noticed two demoiselle dragonflies (metallic blue) the other day hovering over the stream. These are new visitors and I am hoping some new young helpers will help to monitor them. These helpers have planted a mulberry bush where we have removed a rotten tree. I will clear out the nearby dead hawthorns when I get a moment to give it more room. I will plant some more Butchers Brooms in the same area, there are probably six naturalised on the site, if you know where to look. Note these are good garden plants or hedging as they will thrive in dry shady spots, albeit they grow slowly.

A group of us have completed our monitoring of local streams for nitrate and phosphate. In general the levels are higher than ideal but reflect the country as a whole. Fertiliser run off encourages grass and nettles. Most of the Chiltern streams are now being monitored. Again, can I remind you not to put chemicals in ditches, there have been cases of fish deaths in Watlington due to chemical disposal. Also be careful with glyphosate weedkiller near watercourses.

Due to Covid there has not been a Footpath and Amenities meeting for some time so there is a backlog of issues to discuss. If anyone has any suggestions or ideas for Fiveways please let me know.

Mike Eaton

mike.eaton@btopenworld.com

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LOCAL POINT TO POINT SUCCESS

The easing of lockdown measures saw the return of point to point racing at Kingston Blount. The final meeting of the year saw local success as Sir Mangan, trained by Alan Hill at Woodway Farm, won his race by four and a half lengths from stablemate The Brassmoulder. Sir Mangan's victory meant that he took the title of National Leading Horse having won more races than any other horse in the country this season.

Jockey Ben Sutton, seen here in the light blue colours with the white cap aboard Sir Mangan, had further success on the day with two more wins to take National Leading Men's Novice rider award. Alan Hill also had two more wins with Festival Dawn (Ben Sutton's third winner) and Normofthenorth which took him to 26 winners for the season. Sadly this was not quite enough for Alan to take the Leading Trainer award but a good return on what was a very disrupted season.



PARISH NOTES

I would love to hear from you if you have anything you think we could feature in future issues of the Parish Notes: If you have a new neighbour, or would like to announce any births, marriages or deaths. Maybe you have an interesting story about the area or someone who lives in the area: It would also be great to feature photos and illustrations – I'm always looking for pictures to add to the pages!

Sally Brodermann

sallyparishnotes@gmail.com



If you have anything you'd like to see in the next issue please get in touch anytime. Copy deadline for the October/November issue is 15th September. Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com.

CHINNOR BEER FESTIVAL 2021

Whilst the shifting of the "un-lock" date to 19 July has caused us some issues, we are still on plan for the Chinnor Beer Festival 2021 to take place in the Marquee on Whites Field on 28th August 2021 – the August Bank Holiday Saturday from 12.00 midday until 7.00pm. Obviously, things could change, but all the indications are that we



should be able to go ahead providing all social distancing restrictions are lifted.

We will have our normal selection of great real ales, lagers, ciders, good food and music which we hope will bring the village together for a great day out – goodness knows we need some good cheer for a change.

We are still looking for volunteers on the day as well as for sponsors for the event. Please remember that any surplus from the day will be available in the form of grants to the youth of the village. If you are interested in volunteering to help at the event please contact Dave or Lorraine on 352841, Maurice on 354075 or Steve on 07866845819. If you would like to sponsor a barrel of beer or some of our other costs, please contact Alex on 07900 363566.

We look forward to seeing you on 28th August!

The Beer Festival Committee



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LETTER FROM A HEADTEACHER

Our vision for the children at Aston Rowant School is that we are all 'Growing Together' and that journey is supported by our values which spell GROWTH (Gratitude, Resilience, Outreach, Wonder, Trust and Harmony). We focus on a different value each half term but we continue to celebrate each value throughout our learning during the year, none more so than the last few weeks.

Gratitude: Recently, our KS2 children watched Eugene Onegin at the Wormsley Estate as part of the OperaFirst project with Garsington opera. We were grateful for the

unique opportunity and cultural experience.

Resilience: We focused on 'Resilience' in our P.E. lessons in the summer term. The result of Euro 2020 gave us all an opportunity to reflect on how we demonstrate resilience. Sport is not all about the winning but the journey, recognising the joy of winning and challenge of losing and how teams work together to improve.

Outreach: We are linked with a school in South Africa through the Connecting Classrooms project sponsored by the British Council. It is great to see the children talk passionately about the big issues that shape our world, and to see their desire to reach out and make a difference.

Wonder: With Japan hosting the Olympic Games this year we had a Manga Week in school. It was great to wonder about their culture, starting with the drawing and writing of Manga comics, then looking at the films and series they inspired and the impact of Manga in the wider world.

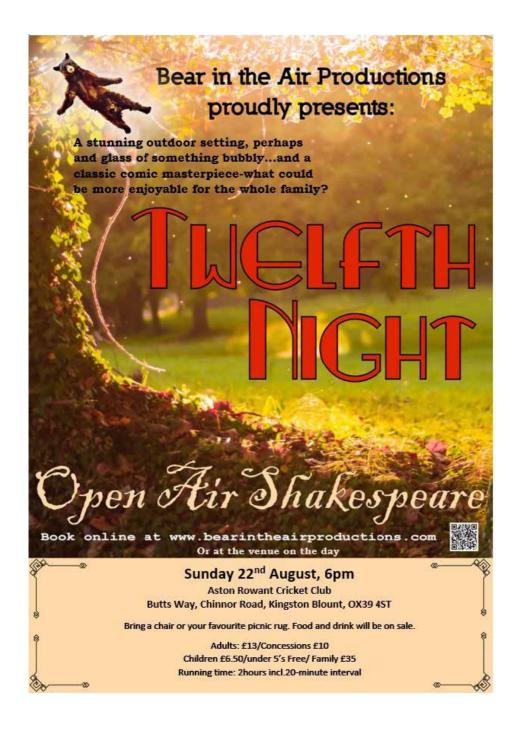
Trust: A core value of Forest Schools is trust. Children are set challenges and are trusted to lead their own learning and are also given tasks which involve trust and responsibility as they work in the school grounds.

Harmony: We have also been looking at climate change and the role that the children can play to make the world a better and safer place for their generation. We have designed climate change posters communicating our ideas about living in harmony with the world for the COP26 Conference on Climate Change in Glasgow being held in November.

As our vision statement summarises: **Growing together we inspire each other to achieve our full potential as courageous lifelong learners**. It's a privilege to be part of the process.

Mrs Helen France

Headteacher, Aston Rowant School



NEWS FROM ARCC

Can we start by thanking all the people who have supported the club this season. Whether you are player, member or spectator the response this summer so far has been fantastic and we are very grateful. The monies raised by both the 1881 club members and social members has been well spent with the purchase of new site screens for both grounds and the installation of an electronic scoreboard on the bottom field.

The season is just past halfway and after the disruption of the wet weather in May, cricket is now in full swing. The first team are disappointedly stuck in mid table when we had hoped for better. They had a winning draw away at Henley last Saturday which shows the talent is there. The second team are challenging for promotion in their league and currently are only one point from the top. This is a brilliant effort as they are by a very long way the youngest squad in the league and arguably the youngest squad in the club's recent history. The third team are also in mid table whilst the 4th team will be stronger now as the school and student players become available.

The junior teams have once again been successful at their age groups with U11's, U15's reaching their county finals and U13's finishing second in their league. The final results will be known by the time the Notes are published. The success of these junior teams is so important to the club both in short and long term. Our thanks to all the parents who ferry their children all over the county.

From the 9th July we have the return on Friday nights of the ECB sponsored All Stars for under 6's. Our thanks to Paul Humphries who once again has organised this as he has done for many years.

Also, we must congratulate our Director of Cricket Wes Morrick who has become the all-time highest wicket taker in the Home Counties League when he passed 457 wickets and has completed this in 600 overs less than the previous holder.

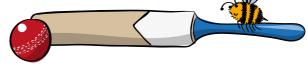
On Sunday August 22nd we are hosting a play (see the advertisement opposite for details on how to book). A touring company will perform Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night' on the bottom field. This is open to everyone - be you a cricket follower or not. It is a first for us so let's make it a great night and then perhaps we can look to make it an annual event. All the details for this and the club can be found at www.astonrowantcc.com

For the rest of the season, we will continue with the bar opening on Thursday and Friday nights and Saturday and Sunday from lunchtime. All we need now is some sun to increase the enjoyment. The barbecues and pizzas on Friday and Saturday nights have proved very popular especially with families walking up to the ground from the parish. If you haven't yet tried the food give it a try. Details of the food are on the website.

Congratulations to our under 11's team who won their Aylesbury League on Thursday 15th July by comprehensively beating Stewkley.

Finally, can we thank the responsible dog walkers who have kept their dogs on leads whilst walking around the ground, we appreciate their cooperation.

Steven Sowerby Aston Rowant CC



CHINNOR CHURCHES GO WILD - FLOWER SURVEY

On Wednesday 12th May Chinnor Churches Go Wild had 'Rough Around the Edges', or 'spot and count wildflowers' training, in St Andrew's Churchyard.

Katie Horgan, 'Rough Around the Edges' Project Officer from Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust came along to show a very eager group of 5 how to identify and record our sightings of wildflowers and grasses for the United Parish Project of Rough Around the Edges.

We started with a fun exercise - raising our arms to shoulder level, and making a fist with our hands, with closed eyes we tuned in to listen to the sounds around us. Every time we heard a different sound, we raised a finger. We had sounds ranging from several different bird calls to traffic noise, the wind blowing in the trees, people talking, and someone strimming their relative's grave.

Katie explained about 'No mow May': to get a good idea of what is growing in the churchyard each area should be cut before May, then left to grow in May after which it is recut, then left until the end of July. That way we have an idea of the flowers and grasses that grow in short grass and those which flourish in longer grass.

We were then asked to look around the churchyard and estimate what % of the churchyard was trees, rough ground, active plots, short grass. This was a lot harder than you'd think. What constitutes rough ground? What are active plots? Are trees counted by number or the area they are covering, either in trunk measurement or, canopy area?

We were then given a $50 \times 50 \text{cm}$ metal frame to place on the ground, or throw respectfully at random (!), and record the number of different species we saw. It didn't matter if we knew what they were or not at this stage. Next, we were asked to say what % was moss, grass, bare ground, plants. This taxed the brain cells a little. It was interesting how many different names were given for some of the flowers.

To round up the afternoon we were asked to go around the churchyard and name as many wild species of grasses and flowers we could find. The list was very varied, and we only scratched the surface of what is thriving in our prolific and disturbed plot. We discovered clover, buttercup, common sorrel, common daisy, speedwell, forget-me-



not, blue bugle, ferns, cow-parsley, dandelion, primrose, stinging nettles, moon daisy, plantain, thistle, dock, ivy, geranium, mint, cleavers, ground ivy, briars, holly, hollyhock, lavender, couch grass, plus many more.

There has already been a visit to St Mary's, Sydenham (see below) and Greening Chinnor's Donkey Lane Orchard, and hopefully there will be others at St Peter & St Paul, Aston Rowant and The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Crowell in the months to come.

If anyone is interested in joining the CCGW project, please contact: Rev. Brian Griffiths 01844 355953



WILD FLOWERS AND PLANTS SESSION

An enthusiastic group of wildlife enthusiasts, mainly from Chinnor Churches Go Wild!, met at St Mary's Churchyard, Sydenham on a lovely sunny day. The session was led by George, Community Coordinator, as part of The Beautiful Burial Ground Project, an initiative of the burial ground conservation charity Caring for God's Acre (www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk).

A little bit of background on Caring for God's Acre: The charity began as a small Shropshire based initiative in 1997 after being inspired by the National Living Churchyard and Cemetery Project (LCCP). Caring for God's Acre was established in 2000 as a national charity, promoting the conservation of burial sites and supporting the volunteers who look after and maintain them. There are around 20,000 burial grounds in England and Wales, ranging from small rural medieval churchyards to large Victorian city cemeteries, spanning different cultures, religions and centuries. Often these sites have been set apart for centuries and as such offer much needed refuge for our native wildlife of all varieties – plants, mammals, invertebrates and reptiles.

George was assisted by both Kathlyn, from Thames Environment Record Centre, and Katie Horgan, Rough Around the Edges Project Officer, Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust. George provided hand lenses to study the leaves and stems of the plants.

A big thank you to George, Katlyn and Katie for hosting this event. Thank you also to St Mary's Church for managing their churchyard in such a diverse way to welcome wildflowers and plants into their churchyard in a "managed" way.

There is a wealth of resources on the following link

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/resources



TESSA WYATT SAYS... GOD, CREATION AND ME

For those of you who know me, it won't surprise you that my connection with nature started with a horse! I met Dolly the coal horse when I was about three or four years old, living in London. There was me, a tiny blonde scrap, reaching up to give this beautiful, fragrant, glossy creature a carrot which she took so gently my heart turned over. Dolly made me aware that there were other beings with feelings. I learned that all the animals on the planet must surely have feelings, perhaps not quite the same as mine, but feelings nonetheless.

When I was a little older, I read the Book of Genesis. I learned that we humans were especially created by God to take care of His garden, Eden. It was around that time that I had my first encounter with Him. I had not had a good day at school (I got told off a lot for dreaming) and it had been raining. A thick, green hedge ran alongside the pavement, and as the rain stopped and the sun came out, the hedge appeared to be hung with shining, rainbow coloured diamonds. I was deeply moved by all this beauty, and before I knew it, I was burying my face in the leaves, and washing my face with the diamonds. Then I felt a huge, I can only describe it as a descent, of love from somewhere that washed over me and right through me so that I felt lit up from inside. Overwhelmed, I knew it was God, and that He loved me. I knew then, and I know now that it's a love beyond anything I would ever know on earth, but that I had to stay here on earth until it was time to leave, to go home.

I was also aware that He had given me a special gift in that wonderful moment. An understanding of how special the earth that I live upon is. It is His earth. His Creation. He made it, and it was, is, my job to take care of it. He never called me to be a scientist, or a naturalist, or a professional in the care of His world, but he gave me instead a passionate love for all of it. A love of animals, plants, clouds, trees, oceans, rivers and little ponds. I love every hair, every leaf and every drop of it.

I have had many gardens in my life. I had a lovely one in Kenya, including a beautiful bed of blue petunias, until a giraffe came and picked all the flowers. I had a lawn (rare in Africa) until the warthogs came and decided to turn it into a dust bath. But to me it didn't matter, the animals were enjoying it and it must have been doing them good. I had a courtyard garden in London, only 12 feet square, but I filled it with shrubs that would attract bees, which I often had to rescue from my kitchen and put back outside. Today I have a country garden. I have a wild area, unmown, for the smallest creatures, an old woodpile for hibernating insects as well as small animals, and I'm planning to dig a pond in the front garden for frogs and newts and as a watering station for the birds. None of this is Big Stuff. It's one person doing her best to provide a sanctuary in a small space. But if we all do a little bit, it all adds up, and we can be a big help to the animals and insects, birds and fish, plants and trees, that God gave us to look after, long ago.

That's what Chinnor Goes Wild is all about. We can turn our churchyards into wildlife havens. We can build bee boxes, create safe spaces for birds and bats to nest, scatter wild seeds in areas allowed to grow wild. We can build tiny Edens where God's Creation can grow and flourish. I invite everyone who reads this to join in, rewilding our world piece by piece, churchyard by churchyard, garden by garden, until at least some of our lost Eden is restored. Amen

Tessa Wyatt



WYCOMBE RYE FAMILY FUN DAY

A brand-new family fun day is coming to Wycombe Rye this August.

This exciting free-to-attend event is running from 11am – 4pm on 8th August with an array of entertainment and activities for everyone to enjoy.

There will be falcon displays, ferret racing, children's craft activities, face painting, pole lathe demonstrating, lacemaking, ice cream stalls and more on offer, all to celebrate the heritage and landscape of the Chilterns. Chilterns based businesses Chiltern Rangers, BBOWT, Buckinghamshire Council and Amersham and Wycombe Museum will also be in attendance with more fun activities for the whole family to try.

There is no need to book for the fun day, just drop in on the day to experience the best of what the Chilterns has to offer!

The fun day is part of a week-long celebration of the Chilterns running from 1st – 8th August, with many more activities planned throughout the week including walks, pub tours and workshops, all designed to showcase the best of the Chilterns and encourage people to explore somewhere new. To find out what's on and book your place visit: www.chilternsaonb.org/ccc-fest

The Chilterns Celebration has been organised by Chalk, Cherries and Chairs, an exciting National Lottery Funded project, spearheaded by the Chilterns Conservation Board.





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MARK LORD, LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Many of you may have met Mark during his doorstep project in 2020 when he photographed the residents of Kingston Blount & Aston Rowant to mark 75 years since VE Day. In all Mark photographed 75 households on their doorsteps during lockdown 1 & last Summer. The images will be on display in the village hall soon. Mark has lived in Aston Rowant for almost ten years & is often seen out with his camera photographing his clients using our lovely local countryside as a backdrop. Book Mark to photograph your family & you will meet at his home in Aston Rowant before walking down towards Fiveways. A relaxed family shoot, the walk helps everyone unwind, interact & Mark will capture some beautiful images which your family will treasure for years to come. After the shoot you will receive a secure online gallery from which you can choose digital files, prints or he also has some stunning wall products to choose from. Portrait shoots from Mark's home are £25, or a shoot can be arranged at your family home if you prefer.

Please contact Mark for more information. info@marklordphotography.co.uk 01844 351218





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AU REVOIR BUT NOT GOODBYE

It seems such a long time ago now since the election results. I lost my seat and, I won't lie, it's still difficult to take in. I know I was a very successful, hard-working candidate and was also very popular. Almost 1700 people voted for me and I like to think most of the votes came from the villages as that had been my patch for the past four years. When I was elected as a Conservative councillor in 2017 my colleague Nick Carter had a 1400 majority and I had a 1200 majority. The one conservative who won has only a 55 majority and the other conservative seat was lost. The first time ever there hasn't been a Conservative councillor for the villages. The local Conservative branch decided last November that they didn't want me to stand as their candidate and they lost the seat. Karma.

Mine was the last division counted and on it hung the balance in County Hall. They were unhappy to lose their control – they lost nine seats, three in South Oxfordshire. They hadn't listened to the electorate who had repeatedly asked them to slow down on vast commitments to housing developments all over Oxfordshire and especially in the Green Belt. I see this loss of control as an achievement which would have been impossible if I hadn't stood as an Independent – I took most of the 1700 votes from the Conservatives. It was always going to be difficult fighting the political parties despite their leaflets being full of vague promises but I have kept those leaflets so that I can monitor their progress. The last four years I have grown a fondness for the villages and I intend to stick around. I am still very much involved in planning as a member of the RTPI and the TCPA and I am lobbying with them against the Government's White Paper on planning. I can still give advice (my husband will confirm this) but unfortunately can no longer facilitate.

Thank you to everybody who supported me. I am sorry I didn't do it for you but every vote was very much appreciated. I ask you to please keep your new councillors under the same strict scrutiny you gave to me! My new email address is matelotj@gmail.com.

Jeannette Matelot Green

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HEDGEHOGS AT BOURG'S MEADOW

On the 2nd June 2021, Katie Horgan (Project officer at the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust) lead a 'hedgehog' activity at Bourg's meadow in Great Missenden (HP16 9AE). It is a wild meadow alongside the stream and has lots of wildlife.

The session consisted of three activities: Katie giving a mini-lecture on hedgehogs, the placing of a hedgehog nesting box and the placing of a hedgehog tunnel.

Key points from Katie's lecture:

- There's been a massive decline in hedgehog numbers. In the 1950's there were 50 million but today there are only 1 million.
- The massive decline is due to loss of habitat (building, concreting grass areas, pesticides) and us strangling their 'highways' by blocking fence holes etc.
- They are nocturnal animals with poor eyesight but have great hearing and sense of smell.
- They curl into a tight ball for protection against predators.
- They emerge from hibernation from June onwards, have at least one litter and then spend the summer and autumn feeding in preparation for hibernating from November.
- They typically travel 2km each night feeding mainly on invertebrates.

Following Katie's lecture there was an activity to place a hedgehog box in the meadow to attract hedgehogs to nest. A key feature was that the entrance needs to be 13cm wide.

Next was the placing of a hedgehog tunnel where it was thought there was a hedgehog highway. This was an attempt to capture hedgehog paw prints giving an indication of the number and size of hedgehogs in the meadow. It consists of a central tray with hedgehog food in it. There are pads pasted with carbon black, then white A4 paper sheets. The idea is that hedgehogs go into the tunnel to feed and as they come out, their feet are coated with carbon black and they make footprints on the A4 paper. We await the visit of little footprints!!

The United Parish hopes to put on similar events in our churchyards so that we can get an idea of hedgehog numbers. Also, many families have hedgehogs in their gardens so we will put sessions on for families so they can build hedgehog tunnels in their own back-gardens. Please keep your eyes out for announcements in the Parish Magazine and here in the AR/KB newsletter.

Revd Brian Griffiths





LANDSCAPE DESIGNATION PROGRAMME



Today, Natural England publishes its ambitious new Landscape Designation Programme, forming part of broader Government plans aimed at delivering better outcomes for nature, landscapes and people.

As part of its Programme, Natural England has announced that it will explore a 'boundary extension' to the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), taking into account an application made by the Chilterns Conservation Board in 2013 and proposals set out in the Landscapes Review (the "Glover Review") – an independent review commissioned by the Government.

Natural England has also announced plans to work with the Chilterns Conservation Board, local authorities and other stakeholders to jointly consider new management and governance arrangements to support the improved conservation, understanding and enjoyment of the Chilterns landscape.

The Chilterns is home to many vibrant and growing communities. An extension to the Chilterns AONB would provide direct access to high-quality natural environments from many urban areas such as Luton, Hemel Hempstead and Slough. Newly designated land would provide people living in these areas with greater opportunities to access the countryside, benefit from the tranquillity it provides and get away from the pressures of everyday life.

Today's announcement is equally important for Chilterns' wildlife and habitats. With its globally rare chalk streams, wildflower-rich chalk grassland and prehistoric settlements -including Bronze and Iron Age hillforts - extending the boundaries of the AONB provides opportunities for a more strategic approach to caring for the special features of the Chilterns' that are currently outside the protected area.

Dr Elaine King, Chief Executive Officer at the Chilterns Conservation Board, said: "We are delighted that Natural England has chosen to consider our proposal for the Chilterns AONB to be increased in size. This is an exciting chapter in our history, which will help bring more people closer to nature and increase opportunities for recreation and enjoyment of this special landscape.

We are also excited at the opportunity to explore new and innovative approaches by which we can tackle the impacts of climate change, reverse declines in nature, support our local businesses and improve people's wellbeing and access to our special landscapes. This is even more important as we all work to recover from the impacts of the Covid pandemic."

The Chilterns Conservation Board is looking forward to working in partnership with Natural England, local authorities and other stakeholders in the region to take forward this element of Natural England's Landscape Designations Programme to help address the huge challenges facing the Chilterns landscape, while also helping improve its resilience for nature and for people.

For more details go to www.chilternsaonb.org



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VILLAGE DEFILED BY TELEGRAPH POLES

I am raising the subject of the rash of new telegraph poles that have been erected around parts of Chinnor by broadband provider Airband. I, and many others, are particularly incensed at this imposition as there was no consultation on siting these poles prior to them being erected and one has appeared on an area of amenity land in Hailey Croft- which is, I believe, against the Electronic Communications Code. One is at the back of my garden - now all I see is this 30ft brown pole - and can only imagine what it will look like once the services are connected. I cannot believe that they are allowed to do this with no consultation – they did not even have the decency to notify the Parish and District Councils. They have also just enraged Henley by doing the same and other areas have been equally upset. We had no telegraph poles on this estate prior to this, with broadband being provided - quite rightly - by underground channels – why could they not use these? Yes - you have guessed it – it costs more to pay BT Openreach for access to the underground network – so they adopt the cheap alternative of telegraph poles. So once again the environment is sacrificed for profit. You can object to these blots on the landscape by emailing andy.brain@airband.com For those contemplating using Airband you may find this link useful www.broadband.co.uk/broadband/providers/airband/reviews/

Laws need to be changed to protect the environment. If they had installed it below ground, I believe nobody would have objected.

Dave Wales





20mph LIMIT FOR CHINNOR

United Nations is calling on legislators around the world with this message:

On our streets, worldwide, where we walk, play and live, we call for action on speed. Low speed, liveable streets are essential and urgent.'

We can't wait for national legislation; we need 20 mph in Chinnor sooner! We are delighted that Chinnor Parish Council has already shown its support and Oxfordshire County Council is also in favour of '20 is Plenty'.

During Lockdown One, we all witnessed a different world. Families had the confidence to cycle on roads that are usually dominated by cars, lorries and motorbikes. We enjoyed cleaner air and we could even hear the birds singing.

If we introduce a 20mph limit in Chinnor, there are many advantages.

- It will be safer for us to walk and cycle with our children and grandchildren.
- We will enjoy better mental and physical health.
- People will have more time to give way to each other on roads.
- We will all enjoy cleaner air.

It is better for children, better for elderly, better for pedestrians, better for cyclists, better for disabled, and better for those keeping their social distance on our streets.

We call on Chinnor residents to support our '20 is Plenty' campaign.

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THE GREEN RECOVERY





THE GREEN AND FAIR 10 POINT PLAN

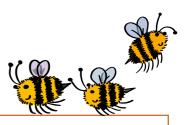
This important Manifesto is to be presented at the landmark COP26 meeting on September 5th. It is felt that we would like to join the many Churches throughout UK in signing in support of its recommendations. Therefore Rev Jacky Barr will be signing on behalf of the Parish of Chinnor.

On the 6th October 2020 the Prime Minister confirmed that the Government would take action to achieve 40GW of offshore wind by 2030, more than enough to power every home in the UK. This was set out as the first point of a 10-point plan for a 'green industrial revolution' to put the UK on the pathway to net-zero by 2050. The Prime Minister is due to set out the full ten-point plan before the end of this year. Leading UK NGOs working on climate change and development set out below our own 10 Point Plan for the UK to forge a green and fair recovery from the pandemic and inspire the world to follow, ahead of the crucial COP 26 climate summit that the UK will be hosting next year.

Our Ten Points are as follows:

- 1. UK nationally determined contribution to global action on climate change:
- 2. Green homes:
- Renewables:
- 4. Zero carbon transport
- 5. UK nature protection
- 6. Investment and finance
- 7. Net-zero test
- 8. Clean energy finance overseas
- 9. Support impacted communities
- 10. Protect & restore ecosystems globally

For a more detailed explanation go to www.theclimatecoalition.org/greenrecovery



If you have anything you'd like to see in the next issue please get in touch anytime. Copy deadline for the October/November issue is 15th September. Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com.