

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 39 No. 9

October 2016

## Halls Close Appeal Hearing

NB Due to inclusion of the following extended report (Halls Close), the report of the September Parish Council meeting has been held over till next month (*Richard Williams*).

### Halls Close Appeal Hearing

The above hearing was held at the Vale and South offices on Milton Park on Wed Aug 31st. The case concerns a planning application by Blue Cedar Homes to build 28 dwellings at the back of Halls Close, on a site that was **not allocated** in the Drayton Neighbourhood Development Plan. As most readers will know, 3 other sites **have** been allocated in the Plan, and between them, these are likely to provide approx 260 new homes in the village, probably within the next 5 years. Drayton currently has just under 1000 houses, so this represents roughly 26% growth. This is significant expansion, but the figure would certainly have been higher had we not had the NDP in place.

The Vale Planning Committee rejected the Halls Close application back in January, thanks to representations made by Drayton 2020, but Blue Cedar were entitled to appeal their case before a Planning Inspector. The company appointed an experienced QC as their main spokesperson. The proceedings began at 10am, and went on till 5pm, or including the site visit, till 6pm. It was a long and fairly intense day! We don't know the outcome yet – it could be mid-October before the PI produces his report. But how did the day go?

We had 4 'official' speakers, plus our Parish Clerk, and a number of other people contributed from the floor. It was pleasing to note that several councillors from other parishes in the Vale working on Neighbourhood Plans came along to lend their support, and, no doubt, to observe how a hearing is conducted. There were representatives from Wantage and Steventon, and from as far afield as Uffington and Woolstone.

The main arguments put by Drayton were as follows:

- to approve a site not included in the NDP would be to disrespect the wishes of those who voted for the Plan (90.8%)
- approval of this application would set a worrying precedent, possibly inviting speculative interest in other sites not in the Plan
- Drayton's NDP already makes extensive provision for new housing, and with all the other development going on in surrounding villages, the cumulative impact on traffic flows, local services etc. must be taken into account
- we should let the 3 allocated sites be built out first, and then assess the effects on the village, before we even consider additional sites.

All of these factors are important, and the effects on local infrastructure are a serious issue which gains in validity with every passing month. However, we have one overriding problem, which is the continuing lack of a 5 year land supply in the Vale!

IF YOU were at the 'Right Royal Picnic' (late August) then do please see if you got recorded on film – page 13

David Cameron's coalition government brought in new planning regulations in 2012. Amongst other requirements, the new framework demands that all local planning authorities must have, lined up, a 5 year land supply of 'specific, deliverable sites' suitable for housing development. 5 years is a minimum, which can be increased if the authority has a poor track record of delivering housing in the past. If the LPA cannot meet this target, its housing policies, no matter how recent, are deemed to be 'out of date' and so irrelevant. Planning permission will generally be granted, **unless** the adverse effects of a given development can be shown to 'significantly and demonstrably' outweigh its benefits.

As new housing is invariably seen by Planning Inspectors as a positive benefit, and 'adverse effects' can be hard to prove, the Framework is (intentionally) weighted in favour of development. This should not surprise us as the **whole purpose of its introduction was to speed up the process of house-building**, and make up the acknowledged shortfalls of past decades.

**But the land supply factor is key.** Once those 5 years are in place, the policies in the local authority's own development plan do apply, and they should give the LPA some control over what housing goes where. Unfortunately, the Vale hasn't had a current Local Plan since 2011, but Drayton at least had a Neighbourhood Plan which helped to plug the gap. Even though our NDP carried little formal weight in its early stages, it fended off development on unwanted sites, and delayed it on the allocated ones while we negotiated with the developers to get the best deal for the village.

In preparing for the appeal, we thought this issue had finally been resolved, and that the **land supply in the Vale was now adequate**. The new Vale Local Plan is finally nearing completion, and the official examiner's interim report says that, thanks to a spate of planning permissions, the Vale land supply is now well over 5 years, just over 7 in fact.

We were therefore dismayed to learn, the day before the hearing, that the **Vale had decided not to apply the latest figure** until the Inspector makes his final report in November. Until then, the Planning Dept insists that the land supply remains at 4.2 years, a figure which dates back to March 2015. In the circumstances, our housing policies are still deemed to be 'out of date', and therefore it is left to our Planning Inspector to weigh the balance between harm and benefits and rule accordingly. (Ed's Note:- I suggest that Matthew Barber, Vale Council Leader – who keeps talking about the 'progress' their plan is making!! – be bombarded with suitable complaints about this barmy situation. No wonder people get fed up with local & national politicians).

It is in Drayton's favour that our NDP makes substantial housing provision. Those NDPs which do not are more easily set aside, as a number of case studies have shown. Unfortunately, the outcome of appeal hearings is far from predictable. As one High Court judge has noted: what counts is not the law as such, but the decision maker's planning judgement. If the evidence is finely balanced, the judgement could go either way.

For this reason, we look forward to the Inspector's report with great interest! If we do not get the result we want, it is not necessarily the end of the road. We will attempt to get the appeal recovered by the Secretary of State, and Ed Vaizey, our MP, has already been approached in that regard.

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **November Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Fri October 28th**.

The Editor will be **Dave Lee (202699)**. Contributions may be e-mailed (see below, safest is to 'editor@'), or placed in the Chronicle letter box, outside Vickery's store on Drayton Green,

**NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, Oct 17th 2016.**

**After this deadline**, items are given less precedence for inclusion (No guarantees!), and certainly need to reach us by the Wednesday.

**STOP PRESS - ADVERTISERS should note** that the deadline for ads is **EARLIER, Friday Oct 14th**, due to their preparation time.

NB :- **Can we politely remind** Contributors that the above **deadlines** are exactly that; there seems to be a trend (with increasing use of e-mail) of sending items later. It should perhaps be realised that **the later an item is received, the less precedence it gets.**

## NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

All contributions to the Chronicle are most welcome. Be sure to include the name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number of the author. Contributions can be made :-

1. If you've Internet access, by **email** to the relevant editor (and please use a **meaningful title**, we get a lot called Chronicle!)

to reach the next editor ==>	editor@draytonchronicle.net
Derek Pooley >>>	derek_pooley@talk21.com
David Lee >>>	david_r.lee@ntlworld.com
Tony Holmes >>>	tony-holmes@ntlworld.com

**Please remember to check** that you soon get a confirmation reply. We do occasionally have emails sent that just don't arrive!

2. An email attachment, in WORD please (NOT a PDF file!).
3. A good, **black typescript** on white A4 paper or smaller. Or perhaps hand-written, either way, NAMES in CAPITALS please!
4. IF in any doubt, ASK the EDITOR!

THE FOLLOWING Chronicle		
Issue for	Copy for publication to Editor by (nb Agents Lottery Packs Fri before)	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Fridays:-
<b>Dec</b>	Mon 14 Nov	25 Nov

## ADVERTISING RATES

**For Block Advert (about 1/12<sup>th</sup> page)**

--- Number of Monthly Inserts ---

Advertiser Category	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£6.00	£16.00	£31.00	£60.00
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Half-size block adverts, normally for one or two inserts, are charged at half the above rates.

**All requests must be accompanied by cash or a cheque made payable to 'Drayton Chronicle'.**

They may be placed in the Chronicle Letter Box, outside Vickery's Hardware Store, Drayton Green, in shopping hours, OR send your requirements :- [advertising@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:advertising@draytonchronicle.net)

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# CHRONICLE LOTTERY

**Carol Arnold, Hon. Promoter**

## RESULTS OF THE - September - LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mrs J Booth, 87 Abingdon Road	Julie Brown
£20	Mrs Price, 39A Sutton Wick	Keith Clough
£15	Mr Allen, 49 Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
£10	T & M Brown, 65 Abingdon Road	Jayne Henderson
£10	Gary Holder, 32 Lockway	Sue Ash
£10	Ms Yeates, 28 Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
£10	Mr & Mrs B Sharp, 25 Steventon Road	Tamsin Meredith
£10	Mr & Mrs Donovan, 1 Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£10	June Greenaway, 15 Eastway MHP	Teresa Burnage
£10	Cliff & Victoria Hartley, High Street	Doreen Mason

Winning tickets, from 1911 sold, were randomly drawn via computer (similar to Premium Bonds).

Could YOU perhaps be an Agent - we always need more!

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**To book a place, please email Kally at [bettybloomdance@gmail.com](mailto:bettybloomdance@gmail.com) or: 07785 232862**

## ALL AROUND

### 1st Drayton Brownies Annette Mitchell

We hope everyone had a lovely summer break!

Welcome to our pack to Isla, Esme and Olivia who have started with us. We hope you enjoy your time with us!

This term we will be working on Brownie Skills, Hostess and Home Safety Badges.

We started the first week of term with a very short meeting introducing ourselves to each other, making edible bracelets and paper dolls of ourselves! Brownie showed off their skills at skipping and we all learned some old and new skipping songs!

Because of the fabulous grass cutting that has happened on the Millennium Green we were able to have a meeting there and the Brownies went to the orchard to pick apples and then we went looking for blackberries.

At our next meeting we will be celebrating Apple Day which is officially October 2nd!

We are full at the moment but would encourage you to put your daughter's name down if you would like a place next year, as our waiting list is growing! Details as follows:-

**Meetings are held** at Drayton Village Hall, on Wednesdays during school term from 6pm - 7.30, meetings are open to all girls aged between 7-10 years old.

**Further details** are available from:-

**Ruth Hudson** (Brown Owl) on 01235 205111;

**Esther Deabill** (Tawny Owl – 528502),

& **Annette Mitchell** (Barn Owl – 555216).

You can **register your interest** on the Girl Guiding Website & Join Us! See [www.girlguiding.org.uk/get\\_involved](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved) - OR you can email us on [drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk](mailto:drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk)

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The Editor reserves the right to shorten, clarify or reject any letter. Each letter must bear a legible name & address, and Tel. No in case any text needs verification.

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will visit anyone who is, or has been, ill or is recently home from hospital, or unable to get out because of a disability, or is in any other circumstances where support would be welcomed.

Please contact:- Jean Hager (531558), Sally Dixon (531547),  
Ros Blogg (535589) or Margaret Watts (527145).

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## DRAYTON W.I.

**Ann Webb**

We met after our summer break; after our usual business we were separated into two groups. One group settled themselves at a large table and prepared themselves for a craft session, the other group had a nice cup of tea and caught up with the news.

The first group completed their task and left to have their tea and chat while the second group took their places at the table. What were we doing? We were making a ribbon star, Gill, our craft lady showed us how to make these stars.

Quite amazing what can be made with cardboard and ribbon, and I'm sure they will adorn quite a few village christmas trees this year and for years to come. Thank you Gill for your patience, you are a star (!!).

Get your thinking caps warmed up for the **Wit and Wisdom quiz on Friday 11th November** (more details next month). **Our next meeting is on Thursday Oct 13th**, when the Butcher from Q Gardens will be telling us about meat, its preparation and the best ways to cook it.

If you would like to come as a guest, we meet at 7.30pm in the Day Centre, Gravel Lane, second Thursday each month.

# ST PETER'S CHURCH

<b>Priest in Charge</b>	Revd Rebecca Peters	531374
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Revd Rosie Bruce	07766 421773
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Mrs Alison Bone	202188
	Mrs Linda Johnson	527521
<b>Organist</b>	Vacancy	

## CHURCH NOTICES

### REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW - Traditional).
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (CW) except 3rd Sunday, when a non-Eucharistic All-age Service is held
Thursday	9.15 am	Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel

**PLEASE NOTE:- FROM NOVEMBER, THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE 8.00am SERVICE -- ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH -- and THE ALL AGE SERVICE WILL MOVE TO THE 3rd SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.**

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Monday	7.45 pm	Bellringing Practice	Bell Tower
Weds	10.00 am	Pebbles (term time only)	Church Room

### CALENDAR for OCTOBER

Sun	2nd	10.00 am	Harvest Festival Service (& Communion)
Tues	4th	2.30 pm	1st Tuesday Connections Church Room
Sun	16th	3.00 pm	Messy Church - Harvest Church

### PARISH REGISTER

**Baptisms** Sept 11th **Mason Gough**

## YOU STAY – WE PRAY (Oct)

2nd to 8th Drayton Rd; Milton Rd; New Cut Mill; Fisher Close; Marcham Rd; Meads Close; Rippington Ct; Stone Hill

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## Letter from St Peter's

Dear Friends,

As the autumnal hues gradually colour the trees and hedgerows, and 'Strictly' begins again, there is no doubt that the year is drawing on. September has simply come and gone in a flash, so 'welcome October!'

This year we are having **two Harvest Festival celebrations**, a traditional Harvest Festival service and Communion on Sunday Oct 2nd (10am), and a family Harvest celebration on Sunday Oct 16th (3pm), making crafts and thinking about a Bible story.

As we transition from Autumn into winter, I am also transitioning into a new position, so Sunday October 23rd (10am) will be **my last morning service at St Peters Church**, do join us as we celebrate God's goodness to us all.

In the mix, may I also encourage you to spare a thought for those for whom life is tough at the moment: those struggling with health concerns, the housebound, the refugees trying to find new lives in Europe. Remember that God is only a prayer away, and that in Jesus, he demonstrates his care and love for each of us, and invites us to get to know him in the real circumstances of life we face every day.

God Bless

*Rebecca*

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### MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

If by any chance your Area Agent is unable to deliver your Chronicle one month you can collect a copy from Vickery's shop in the week after normal delivery time. Lawrence has very kindly agreed to keep a small stock for us each month.

## (MORE) ALL AROUND

### Drayton BOWLS Club 'Roll Up'

First notes for a couple of months, we start by reporting on the AGM held in June, Chairperson Val opened the meeting by thanking the committee, green stewards, competition organisers, for their effort in making the club run so smoothly.

Secretary Pam Lacey congratulated all the competition winners, and also The Wasps on winning the afternoon league; treasurer Cyril Carter stated that membership stood at around 54, and that subs and green fees would remain the same for the coming year, and also announced that he would be standing down at the end of the year. Val thanked Cyril for all the hard work that he had put in over the last 12 years, and appealed for a volunteer to step into the breach, (though so far no one has).

There have been a few internal competitions played, The Doreen Jones 'never won' singles will be contested by Jane Pimm and Barry Davis on Finals Day (Dec 11th), also going through will be June Hyde and Val Locke who will be playing the ladies singles, and the gents singles will be between Lyndon Locke and Bryn Jones. The Rose bowl triple league went down to shot difference and the winners were Bryn, Avril, and Pat Mitchenson.

The club recently went to a skittles afternoon at the Ferryman inn, and the winners were Tony Mullins, John Goodacre, Jo Rosenga, Avril Holmes, and Len Smith. The club are again going to the same venue for a Cabaret lunch on 28th September, with over 20 members going.

The winter afternoon league has just got underway, The Wasps and Hammers will be competing in Division one, Wasps having a good start winning their first 2 matches.

We close by saying a **big welcome to the new members** who have recently joined, Libby, Liz, Jo, Sheila, Mavis, John, Paul, we hope they enjoy their time with us. **We have room for one or two more**, if interested contact any committee member you'll be very welcome. Club sessions are Monday and Thursday afternoons, from 2pm, and Weds evenings from 7pm.

Tea, cake, bikkies and a natter (oh, bowls too!), a good crowd, low subs, and a **warm welcome awaits**, what's not to like?!

**We look forward to seeing you.**

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### Drayton RAINBOWS Mary Thompson

The Rainbows had a busy summer term and celebrated both the Queen's 90th Birthday and the Olympic Games.

They have now started the new term with 12 Rainbows and will be having lots of fun in the coming weeks !

**Rainbows meet** on Thursdays in term time in Drayton Hall from 5.30pm until 6.30pm. They are the youngest members of the Girlguiding, for girls from 5 - 7 years.

For further information about volunteering, to help at meetings, or to register your daughter do look at [www.girlguiding.co.uk](http://www.girlguiding.co.uk)

You can contact us by email, [steventonrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:steventonrainbows@gmail.com) or by phone :- Victoria Wright (07801 447720), or Georgina Arnold (07767 762346).

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### **A new number to call when the lights go out**

A new national phone line has been launched to make it easier to report power cuts in your area and get help and advice.

The free-to-dial 105 number was developed by the energy industry to help clear up confusion about who to contact.

People can call 105 from most landlines and mobile phones, no matter who they choose to buy electricity from.

# BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Secretary:- Mrs Jayne Henderson..... 522161

## REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

**Please note** there is no longer an 11.15am Service.

**Family worship** can now be enjoyed at Drayton School (Third Sunday of the month, 3.30pm)

6.00 pm **Evening Service.** A traditional form of service, frequently with guest speakers. (Communion every second Sunday)

Come and join us every Sunday – we look forward to seeing you. **EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME**



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## WESTMINSTER VIEW

Ed Vaizey's column (Wantage & Didcot MP; and recent star appearance on This Week – BBC1 Thursdays)

Being a backbench MP now gives me more freedom to raise constituency issues in Parliament. As a Minister, I could not ask parliamentary questions or participate in debates outside my own department. I have hit the ground running since Parliament's return, and details of the questions I have asked and debates I have hosted can be read on my website.

The last few weeks have seen two tragic accidents along the A34, and this has led to renewed calls to make improvements to the road. I have had a meeting to discuss this situation with local MPs Richard Benyon and Nicola Blackwood, and I am arranging a meeting with the Minister responsible for roads, having raised the issue in Parliament. I am looking forward to discussing what proposals the Govt has to improve the safety of the A34.

I have also been made aware of a number of **funding opportunities for local community groups and charities**. First, the RBS Skills & Opportunities Fund is a £2.5million fund, with a maximum grant of £35,000. It is designed to help people get work or set up a business, or improve the financial skills of people from disadvantaged backgrounds. More information can be found at <http://skillsandopportunitiesfund.rbs.co.uk/>.

Also the Aviva Community Fund, awarding up to £25,000 for **local community projects**, applications can be made until Oct 11th via <http://www.aviva.co.uk/good-thinking/community-fund/>.

**If you need to get in touch with me**, telephone 020 7219 6350, write, c/o House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, or you can e-mail me (quickest) on [dicksonce@parliament.uk](mailto:dicksonce@parliament.uk); the Website is [www.vaizey.com](http://www.vaizey.com) with up to date news and surgery details (these are on Fridays, 5.30pm to 7pm, & need no aptt).

I also send out occasional general interest emails about local developments in the Wantage and Didcot Constituency. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please complete the online form at:- <http://bit.ly/EdVaizeyMP>.

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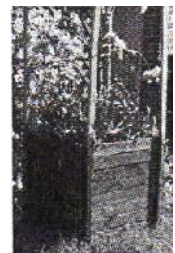
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## PARISH COUNCIL - Conservation

### Drayton and its Conservation Area

Drayton's Conservation Area was first designated in the 1960s and was last reviewed by the VWHDC in 1990. Drayton Parish Council is now embarking on a new and more comprehensive description of our Conservation Area and is suggesting that the area be reviewed by VWHDC and extended in three possible areas: to include the Millennium Green and the historic area of buildings and pond at Sutton Wick; to the east further behind High Street/St Peters Church; and south-east of High Street.

A report is currently being compiled by a Conservation Consultant for the Parish Council, and discussions will take place with VWHDC on her recommendations so that a proposal for a new description and any justifiable extensions can be presented to Drayton villagers for public consultation later in the year.

#### Can You Help Now?

As part of the submission to VWHDC the community can supply a 'Local List' of buildings and features. A Local List is a list of heritage assets within the parish considered by the public, and VWHDC, as having special local architectural, archaeological or historic interest, but that are not statutory listed.

We already have a number (actually 33) of listed buildings and features in Drayton (such as St Peters Church, the Manor House, various farmhouses, thatched cottages, barns etc.), but the local list allows other buildings and features to be listed and these must then be taken into account by VWHDC in its planning decisions.

For instance, Drayton's two public houses (including the historic Red Lion, an 18<sup>th</sup> century coaching inn) and the Baptist and Methodist chapels are not statutorily listed, but might well be thought worthwhile including on such a local list. Features such as walls (one is already statutorily listed) or street furniture might be suggested (the old water pumps and a milestone are already on the statutory listing), or even areas of ground (the old pound is statutorily listed). Should Sutton Wick Pond be on our Local List?

**Could you please send** your suggestions (and photos if possible) for buildings and features for a Local List to the Parish Clerk (David Perrow): email [draytonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:draytonclerk@gmail.com) or post to c/o 12 Loddon Close, Abingdon, OX14 3TB.

**The next Parish Council meeting** will be on Monday Oct 3rd, at 7.30 pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. As ever, all are welcome to attend. ➔➔➔

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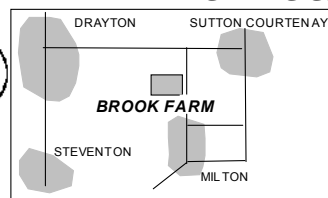
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➔➔ **To contact any members of the PC**, all enquiries should be directed to the **Parish Clerk, David Perrow**. David may be contacted via email at [draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk), or by phone on 07909 176061, and he'll ensure that any messages are passed on. Any Drayton resident may also ask to be added to the emailing list, to receive prior notice of meetings and any relevant documents. In addition, all PC minutes & 2020 info are now archived on the village website: <http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/> (also has back copies of the Drayton Chronicle).

*Richard Williams* (Drayton PC – chair / and Drayton 2020)

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# YOUR LETTERS

# WHY all the wretched NOISE?!!!!

## Well Done Brian & Pete (+ Mind the Ducks!)

Dear Editor, via email

1) On behalf of the residents of Sutton wick Lane, I would like to express **thanks to Brian Webb and Pete** for the work on the verge.

Not only did they remove the bushes that had fallen into the Lane (which the various Councils and highways authorities were unwilling to deal with) but also trimmed the whole length of hedge between the Millennium Green and the Lane.

A job well done. Thanks!

Keith Clough

Also :- 2) Last month we reported that that all the wild ducks on the Sutton Wick Pond had left. However, last week a pair flew in and took over the duck house. By Saturday morning, another pair had arrived and this morning (Sept 19th) there was a fifth one. Are any of these 5, coming back 'home'?

At least one seems to understand how to ask for food (by crossing the road!). How many will there be by the time you read this? They do not seem to be too traffic conscious, **so please drive carefully in the Lane.**

Keith Clough

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## To Irresponsible Dog Owners – if they can read?

Dear Editor via email

Recently, the people who cut the grass in the churchyard discovered 10 separate occurrences of dog poo in the grass. To enable them to cut and trim the grass, they had to first go round the whole area picking it up, which is not pleasant!!

I understand that the great majority of dog walkers do pick up after their dog and get really annoyed with the few who don't as they don't want to be "tarred with the same brush".

So, PLEASE can you keep dogs on leads in the churchyard, and please pick up and dispose of the waste in the dog waste bins provided around the village.

Many thanks Alison Bone

✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉

**Letters to the Editor**

We welcome articles and letters on a variety of subjects. However, the Editors reserve the right to shorten, clarify or reject any letter or text. If something is rejected, or held over to the next issue (this for space reasons) then the sender will usually be suitably advised.

Dear Editor via email

I am a relatively new resident living in this wonderful village for over 18 months; 6 months in I found our once quiet village was being invaded by more and more **aircraft noise**. It has only been until having a child last December that it has got worse, multiple low flying, very loud aircraft in the day and it continues from 12am until 4am, regularly waking us up.

I am not sure if your readers are reporting this to the local air authorities, but I think the Chronicle could also assist as it is bringing our quality of life in this village lower and lower.

My partner and I are at the point where we are thinking of leaving due to the noise and level of communication, as our attempts to contact the council and local air authorities have yielded no information as to whether this will continue and why this is happening.

If you know any further I would appreciate this. As for the Drayton 2020 plan, this will all mean nothing to us if we are never at peace.

Best Wishes, Kieran Mace

(Ed's note: this is another topic that gets aired sometimes, some residents don't seem to notice the 'buzzings' from low-flying helicopters, or occasionally planes, others as here find it all very intrusive – especially if sleep is at an understandable premium! This was passed to the Parish Council, and it is indeed a subject they've had before. People can complain directly to RAF Benson <http://www.raf.mod.uk/RAF Benson/flyinginfo/flyingcomplaints.cfm>)

#####  
**NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING Newsletter**

{from Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Sue Haynes}

**Crime** In the early hours Sunday Aug 21st 'Tuk Tuk' (three wheeler vehicle) was stolen in Church Street, Sutton Courtenay. This was found a week later in a field and returned to its owner. If you have any information about this incident or any other incident please call the police non-emergency line on 101.

**Neighbourhood team** On Aug 21st at the Millennium Green, we were invited to the 'Right Royal Picnic' by the Parish Council. We were promoting the **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, which needs more members**. This was a very successful day and we also were showing the children around the police van, which they enjoyed very much. If you are interested in Neighbourhood Watch then **please contact us by email**.

**Contact us** If you want any advice, or to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 (for emergencies dial 999). You can also email [AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk) (but best not for urgent matters). To view info on your neighbourhood team visit the TVP website at: [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk).

To receive **free local crime alerts** and crime prevention advice, you can register via website [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk) - this allows anyone who signs up to choose what updates they receive and how they would like to receive them.

✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉

NB We also received a **letter from Angie Stevens**, complaining that the graveyard was being compromised by an overgrown hedge, which was forcing people off paths and onto graves to get past. The Parish Council have already responded – they do liaise with the church, and cut the hedge at appropriate times, but are obliged by law to avoid doing the work when nesting birds would be disturbed. And it's been pruned now.



## Neighbourhood News

**Congratulations & Best Wishes** to Shona & Neil Ware of Church Lane on the recent birth of their son, a baby brother for Darcy.

**Welcome** to Rob and Lira Needham who have moved to 71 High Street from Sydney, Australia.

**Also to :-** Bev, Dave, Jason and Dominique who have moved to Binning Close from Didcot.

**And** Joe Vaughan & Emma Bowles who have moved into Lockway from Abingdon.

**Also welcome** to George Fisher & Laura McGuinness (Kiln Lane) – and their cute little dog!!



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### HELP Urgently Needed

Campaigners fighting to save **Abingdon's Children's Centres** are now focussing on South Abingdon Children's Centre, the point of greatest need.

This will close in March next year, unless a sustainable business plan can be produced by January. The steering group desperately needs **contributors with business skills** to help with documentation, negotiation and fund-raising.

The role is short-term, 6-9 months at most. If you can help, please contact Lesley Legge, [lesleylegge@btinternet.com](mailto:lesleylegge@btinternet.com)

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### Your Opinion Counts!

Dear Editor

Henleys Lane

**Deadline 5 October** The Manor Farm field is rural in nature but currently inaccessible to the public. The Neighbourhood Development Plan proposes turning it into a new village green with links to the Millennium Green and Sutton Wick. The Plan envisages up to 50 small houses to the south of the field, some of them overlooking the new green. A new access opposite Hilliat Fields would visually connect both sides of the B4017. This vision has been negotiated with the landowner over a number of years.

However, Cala Homes have submitted a planning application for 58 houses, including 16 with four bedrooms; many of the remainder are tall, semi-detached dwellings like those in the south Abingdon development. Their access is moved north and the remaining space offers a greatly-diminished village green.

**Conservation Area** The entire site is contained within Drayton's Conservation Area so any development has to 'preserve and enhance' its character or appearance. DOES THE CALA PLAN DO THIS?

**Number of Houses** More houses, particularly big ones, means less public space. IS THIS ACCEPTABLE?

**Type of Houses** Reflecting Drayton's rural nature, the NDP proposes housing be in the 'farmyard vernacular'. Instead, Cala plans more in the style of the south Abingdon development. IS THIS ACCEPTABLE?

**Access** The Cala plan would result in a new road joining the B4017 between Hilliat Fields and Henleys Lane - a distance of 100 yards, rather than opposite the existing Hilliat Fields junction. IS THIS ACCEPTABLE?

#### **How to Register your Opinion**

Online: [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk), enter the reference P16/V1705 in the main search box and follow the directions. By mail: write to Stuart Walker, Vale of White Horse District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Abingdon OX14 4SB, quoting reference P16/1705. **DEADLINE: 5 OCTOBER**

Kind Regards

Andrew Bax

## Richard Webber - Oxon CC

### Is there *any* future for Local Government in Oxfordshire?

The Press Releases are positively flying and becoming more and more heated. Is this a measure of progress? Or is it a sign of panic? The undeniable facts are these:-

1) Both independent reports (commissioned at some public expense by County and District Councils) conclude that the status quo of 3 tier local government (Parish, District and County) is not in the interests of Oxfordshire residents and that **Unitary government is the obvious way forward.**

2) Both independent reports conclude that a stand alone full-blown Oxford City Unitary Council is not likely to be financially viable.

3) Bickering between councils, with one side claiming that the other is poorly run or incompetent, does not go down well with the public. All involved need to remain dignified.

4) If we wish to maintain services as they are – let alone restore any services lost as the result of recent austerity cuts – we need to capture the savings from going Unitary **as quickly as possible.**

If residents are to come first in all this, it is essential that Council Leaders return to the table, stay at the table and do not leave the room until a solution has been worked out. It behoves us all to cajole, press and even demand this of our Council Leaders via Oxfordshire's Parish Councils, its Business Community, its Educational establishments, its Science Community and all other stakeholders. Residents can let their feelings be known directly to their councils and council leaders.

I suspect we have all had enough of referenda, but the future of Local Government in Oxfordshire is too important a matter to be left to Council Leaders and certainly too urgent for the status quo to persist much longer.

And so to Planning matters:- Planning (where houses are to go) is principally a matter for District Councils although transport, highways and education planning matters are the concern of the County Council. This current split responsibility is itself a powerful argument for Unitary government. Because so much of my casework is the result of planning issues and grievances, I think it is reasonable to update everyone on the major issues. →



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→ **Appleford** – concerned about the encroachment of Didcot – affected by the landfill site, recycling works and trains – very concerned to keep its Rail Station and get a few more trains running so that working people can actually use it.

**Milton** - very concerned about possible development in arguably unsuitable areas – impacted by decisions and effects of the very successful MEPC.

**Drayton** – with its Neighbourhood Plan, better protected from speculative development than others – but even so, waiting to hear from the Planning Inspectorate just how well protected.

**Marcham** – having taken hundreds of new houses (and more to come!) – struggling with the impact on its main roads and its air quality – fighting to get enough infrastructure to cope with its rapid growth.

**Sutton Courtenay** - last, but certainly not least Due to more than double in size over a five year period – largely as a result of speculative planning – affected by a thriving MEPC, an expanding Didcot – large new warehousing – a potential gravel pit – a recycling works and Didcot Power Station. I am quite sure that everyone in the area sympathises and is in support of a move to make Sutton Courtenay a 'special case' by permitting an argument of 'cumulative impact'. If we cannot get this status for Sutton Courtenay, it's difficult to see anywhere in the County where we could.

If you have feelings on any County issues you would like me to hear, **please contact me** on [richardwebber777@gmail.com](mailto:richardwebber777@gmail.com) or 01235 534001.

*Richard Webber* (Cllr OCC)



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## Councils binning black and coloured sacks in recycling bins

From November, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils will **only empty green wheelie bins if the recycling in them is loose or in clear sacks**.

Despite a recent campaign to raise awareness of the issue, some people are still putting in things like food waste and dirty nappies, **contaminating whole truckloads of recycling** - when these things are put into recycling bins in black or coloured sacks they're not spotted until it's too late.

If there's a sack in a recycling bin and the waste crews can't see what's in it, **they'll have to assume it contains contamination and won't empty it**.

Councillor Tony Harbour, cabinet member for waste at South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "Contaminated recycling has become a real issue that we have to tackle. Insisting on loose recycling or clear sacks is a simple change that will make a big difference - and most people won't be affected. If you do want to use bin-bags in your green bin, you can use clear ones, which are available from most large supermarkets and hardware stores. In most cases, clear sacks work out cheaper than black ones."

Councillor Charlotte Dickson, cabinet member for waste at Vale of White Horse District Council, said: "Throughout October we'll leave a note on any bins with the wrong colour sack in it to explain the problem - we'll empty the bin on that occasion, but from **November we'll then have to start leaving them unemptied** to help us protect everybody else's recycling from getting contaminated."

Take a look at the VofWHDC video that shows how bad the problem is when people use black or coloured sacks (but not just before dinner . . .):- <https://youtu.be/ycwHKZ3-3vY> For more info, email [admin.vale@biffa.co.uk](mailto:admin.vale@biffa.co.uk) or call 03000 610610.

## MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

If by any chance someone doesn't get their Chronicle delivered (we always need more agents!) they can collect a copy from Vickery's shop in the week after normal delivery time. Lawrence has very kindly agreed to keep a small stock for us each month.

## District Council Stuart Davenport

### The new Local Plan

For watchers of the planning process, a key event we are waiting for is the adoption of the District Council's new Local Plan. This Plan will contain the policies directing development over the next 15 years. Although there are contentious elements within the document, once it has been approved and adopted the council will have regained local control over development.

The Council's proposed new Local Plan (Part 1) was subject to some modifications after the Planning Inspector assessed the contents. These modifications have been consulted on over the summer; the consultation has now closed. The Inspector will hopefully issue his final report in November and if he approves the changes the council can move to adoption of this part of the local plan, expected in December.

Whilst adoption of Part 1 isn't the end of the Local Plan process, it will demonstrate the council has enough of a land supply to meet our obligations as set down by Government. This would be a significant achievement for the council, meaning we are subjective to fewer speculative planning applications.

### Devolution

Prior to the political upheaval seen after the referendum, debate was ongoing about local government re-organisation. The County Council was advocating a single Council to undertake all of the local authority functions in Oxfordshire, whereas the District Councils were proposing a reduction in councils.

The new Ministerial team in Government will have their own ideas about council evolution and so there has been a slowing of the process. This doesn't necessarily mean there won't be change, however the approach and timeframe may have shifted with the new faces in change.

I am always available to discuss council issues; please email Stuart.Davenport@whitehorsedc.gov.uk or call 01235 521078.

(Ed's Note:- I hope Stuart will forgive me on making a comment about the Vale's Local Plan, as in the text above. He wasn't part of the Council back then, but in 2013, the Govt's 'independent' Inspector granted the then developer's appeal re the housing estate now going up – Morland Gardens – just south of the Preston Road traffic lights. Way back then, his report pointed out that such a Local Plan would have limited the freedom for developers to get their own way on such sites, despite rejections by local planners. That WAS in 2013.)

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## Right Royal Picnic - Millennium Green

This event was way back now, and had just missed the deadline for our last issue. Here we're catching up with the day, with some snaps kindly sent by Derek Pooley – so if any embarrassing poses etc, blame him!

A group shot of some of the helpers for the day, and then Tom & Gwen judging the bake-off (perhaps we should tell Channel 4, as there is a vacancy suddenly and surprisingly just become available?!).



## 100 Years Ago This Month

Continuing our set of memorials to local WW1 casualties, here are the references to Fred Mott & John Pointer.



**In Memory of FREDERICK CHARLES MOTT** (Private)  
Royal Berkshire Regiment (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion); Service Number 9390, Killed in Action 28<sup>th</sup> October 1916. Son of Joseph & Charlotte of Drayton, Berks, Remembered with Honour. Bancourt British Cemetery ref 111M14



It is quite easy to visit the Somme battlefield cemeteries, and those around Ypres (eg Tyne Cot). All beautifully maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, they provide a moving testimony to the madness of war (and that one was supposedly the “war to end all wars”).

### **In Memory of JOHN WILLIAM POINTER** (Private)

Royal Berkshire Regiment (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion); Service Number 17728, Died of Wounds 30<sup>th</sup> October 1916 (Battle of the Somme) Aged 31. Son of William and the late Emily Pointer of Drayton Berks, and Husband of Elsie Pointer of Old Moore, Milton. Remembered with Honour - Etaples Military Cemetery.



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## NOTICE BOARD

### FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company? Why not come along to our monthly tea and chat afternoons. They are held on the first Tuesday of the month in St Peter's Church Room from 2.30pm to 4:00pm (NB **NEW start time!**) and you are invited to drop in during these times.

The teapot is always at the ready and you can be sure of a warm welcome. Our next dates are **Oct 4th & Nov 1st**.

**AND - PLEASE NOTE** :- our Christmas Party will be on Weds (yes, not a Tuesday!) December 7th.

If you need transport or further information please give me (**Jean Hager**) a call on 531558.

#### **YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-**

**Parish (Clerk)** David Perrow (draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk  
OR phone 07909 176 061);  
**District (VofWH)** Stuart Davenport (01235 521078)  
& **Oxfordshire County** richardwebber777@gmail.com

### DRAYTON HALL NEWS

Would all users please note that the new front door is scheduled at the end of September, so by the time you read this many of you should either have had a new key, or will have heard about a date to exchange old for new.

A new group has just started, **Seniors (Gentle!) Yoga** (much of it sitting), Mondays at 11am for an hour (£5), first reports were very good, to give it a try please call Helen Pull :- 07712 646382.

And soon it's the **WI Quiz, Friday Nov 11th**, with their famous ploughman's at half time, so give a thought to your team.

And before that (Oct 8th) do try and support the **Charity Concert** (advert below) which is for a very good cause.

The **Bowls club** tell me they've space for a few new members, a friendly bunch and it's an easy game to get the hang of; the **Sequence Dance group** (Thurs eves) are also on the lookout for a little new blood, so do consider that for a spot of gentle exercise and a good social evening (a number of their group travel a fair distance, so it must be good!).

### JEFF'S DRIVING SCHOOL COMPETITIVE RATES CONTACT : JEFF COX



01235 – 203038  
07866 – 903400

JC\_OX14@YAHOO.CO.UK

**ABINGDON MARATHON** – Sunday Oct 23rd DO BE aware that a number of road closures will apply that morning, in Abingdon near Tilsley Park, and then in Drayton Road (to Sutton Courtenay, the Milton Road junction), and then in SC itself at Brook Street. Runners come down from Abingdon, then do 2 laps through Drayton, down to Milton and up to Sutton Courtenay, before ending back at Tilsley Park. They use Peep O'Day lane to go back towards Abingdon. You could check their website <http://www.abingdonmarathon.org.uk/index.php> but it's very hard work

### LISTINGS

**Oxford Museum Resource Centre** - Open House, Sunday Oct 16th, 10-4; Go behind the scenes and discover what we collect, why we collect and how we use it. Guided tours, conservation and preservation and collections. **Free event.** Witney Road (A415), Standlake, OX29 7QG; call 01865 300972 or see [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/museums](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/museums)

**Abingdon Scottish Dance Club** meet every Monday at 8 pm at the Northcourt Centre, Abingdon. Beginners and experienced dancers alike, no partner is required (possibly a kilt?!) and it is a good way to have exercise and keep fit! Call the chairman for details (525436) or see [www.abingdonscdc.wordpress.com](http://www.abingdonscdc.wordpress.com).

#### **OTHER LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP**

**Methodist Chapel** High Street, Milton,  
Sunday Service: 10.30 am  
Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

### **FOSTER CARERS NEEDED**

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In a concert benefitting  
**Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project**  
**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October in Drayton Village Hall**  
Doors open at 7pm.  
Cost £6 to include hot drink & cake  
Tickets from Vickery's and 01235 868327  
Licensed bar and raffle.



# DRAYTON DIARIES

## DIARY FOR OCTOBER

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

NB To book Drayton Hall call Tony Holmes on (01235) 531180  
or visit the website :- [www.draytonvh.co.uk](http://www.draytonvh.co.uk)

Sat	1	noon	Private Function (Child's b'day)
		6.00pm	Private Function
Sun	2	9.00am	Griffon Bruxellois Dog Show
Mon	3	7.30pm	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b> <i>Caudwell DC</i>
Sat	8	11.00am	Private Function (Child's b'day)
		7.00pm	<b>Charity Function</b> (ad page 15)
Sun	9	10.00am	Dance Rehearsal
Sat	15	9.00am	Finnish Lapphunds Dog Show
		6.00pm	Private Function
Sun	16	10.00am	Dance Rehearsal
Mon	17	5.00pm	<b>Chronicle Deadline</b> (p2) – Ads 14th
Sun	23	1.00pm	Private Function (Child's b'day)
Sun	30	9.00am	Bowls Club



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**Saturday 10.00 - 4.00**

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## OPEN GATE THURSDAY MORNING



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We would love to see you

At the **Baptist Church**,  
opposite the Village Green.

Every Thursday morning throughout the summer.

Children and Pets welcome

## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

NB PLEASE – if an entry is wrong – tell one of the editors (page 2)

### MONDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	Seniors 'Gentle' Yoga (07712 646382)	
1.15 pm	Baby sign-language classes (1 hr – 07927 339102)	
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
6.00 pm	'Bounce Fit' (1hr - Sophie 07791 778388)	
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.00 pm	Table Tennis (Coaching, one hour)	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	<i>St Peter's</i>
8.00 pm	Table Tennis (Social Play, one hour)	<i>School</i>

### TUESDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.20 pm	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>The Green</i>
2.30 pm	First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday)	<i>Church Room</i>
5.45 pm	Zumba Fitness (Kelly)	
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (three hours)	<i>School</i>
8.00 pm	'Clubbercise' (Hannah – 07811 209242)	

### WEDNESDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
10.00 am	Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer gp – p4)	<i>Church Room</i>
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month)	
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.00 pm	Brownies	
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (three hours)	<i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>

### THURSDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
9.00 am	Foot Clinic (1st Thurs)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
9.15 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group (NB Term-time ONLY)	
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
2.00 pm	Wives' Whist (Mthly – 2nd Thurs)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
5.30 pm	Rainbows (girls 5 to 7 years, call Mary 832077)	
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (three hours)	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing (Brian - 01235 531701)	

### FRIDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>Sch'l Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.00 pm	Whist Drive (ACHLoFriends)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>

### SUNDAYS

8.00 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's</i>
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (Family Service 2nd Sunday)	<i>St Peter's</i>
3.30 pm	Baptist 'Family Time' (3rd Sun)	<i>Drayton School</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Service	<i>Baptist Church</i>
7.00 pm	Zumba Fitness (Gemma)	

**NB :- The ARCHIVE of past Chronicles** can be found  
at the NEW village website <http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/>

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