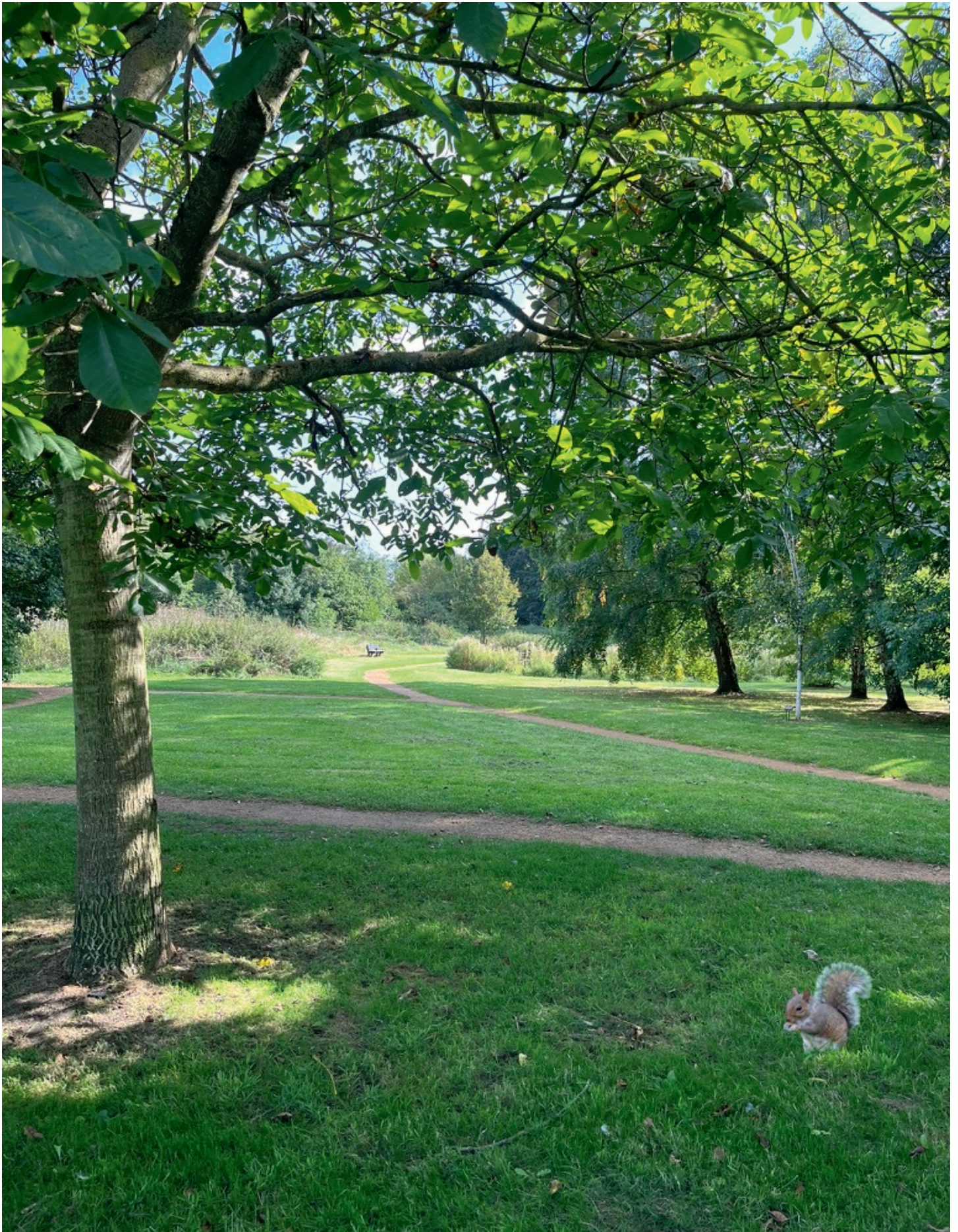


DRAYTON CHRONICLE



Chronicle Information



The next Drayton Chronicle will be the November issue, edited by Vicky Billingham

Key dates for next Chronicles:

| Issue: | Deadline for Contributions: | | Printed Chronicles available on: |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| | Adverts | Editor | |
| November | 18 th October | 21 st October | 1 st Nov |
| December | 15 th Nov | 18 th Nov | 29 th Nov |

Notes for Contributors

Contributions to and advertisements in the Chronicle are **very welcome**. Please send us your letters, reports from village clubs and societies, articles, tips and advice, photos, suggestions etc. Please be sure always to include your name, address, and (in case clarification is needed) your phone number. Without names we will usually not print an item at all. The editor reserves the right to place, edit, shorten or even reject contributions as required.

Please send your contributions by email to: editor@draytonchronicle.net

Advertisement requests should be sent to: advertising@draytonchronicle.net

If email is not possible, please place your contribution, either typed or handwritten, in the Chronicle box outside Vickery's Hardware Store on Drayton Green, or post to Vickery's, 5 The Green, Drayton, Abingdon, Oxon. OX14 4JA.

After the deadlines, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and then only if emailed, or delivered directly to the editor's house, by the Wednesday following the deadline.

Advertising charges: for single Block Advert (approx. 9cm x 4.5 cm):-

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Double-sized adverts (approx. 9cm X 9cm) are charged at twice the above rates. All advertising MUST be paid for in advance, either electronically, in cash or by cheque made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle' and placed in the box at, or sent to, Vickery's. Requests for advertisements should (preferably) be emailed to Stephen Fearnley, the Chronicle advertising manager (advertising@draytonchronicle.net), or placed in the box at Vickery's. If you wish to discuss your requirements, please phone Stephen on 01235 531347. Note: deadline for ads is the Friday before the deadline for contributions (see top of page).

DISCLAIMER: This Journal is published in good faith and great care is taken in its completion. The organisers of the DRAYTON CHRONICLE, and its Agents, therefore accept no responsibility for OPINIONS EXPRESSED, nor for the validity of any ADVERTISEMENT, nor for any EFFECTS ARISING WHATSOEVER.



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| Pro-Warden | Mrs Linda Johnson | lindajcw@gmail.com |
| Administrator | Alison Bampton | admin@damascusparish.org 01235 847179 |

The church is open daily, **Sun-Sat 10.00 am- 4.00 pm**
(please note change of closing time to **3.00pm** from October 27th)

REGULAR SERVICES:

Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) on 3rd Sunday of the month only.

Sunday 9.30 am Regular Sunday Service

Thursday 9.45 am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Thursdays),
Celtic Morning Prayer (2nd and 4th Thursdays)

Everyone is welcome

REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

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Every Monday evening 7:30pm

Knit and Natter - All are welcome for our Knit and Natter on the **first Monday** of the month, 2 – 4 p.m. No need to be a knitter if you'd just like a natter!

Tuesday Connect - We have started having tea, coffee and biscuit afternoons on the **first Tuesday** of the month, still from 2.30 – 4.00 p.m. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.

Pebbles Baby and Toddler Group

Wednesday mornings 10.00a.m. – 11.30a.m (term-time only)
If you have a baby or toddler, you would be so welcome to join us. We meet in Church. For more information, please contact Katy or Cheryl draytonpebbles@hotmail.com

Harvest Service with Holy Communion



Everyone is so welcome to join us for our Harvest Service on
Sunday 6th October at 9.30a.m.

All Souls' Service



This service will take place on
Sunday 3rd November at 3.00p.m

A time to remember loved ones who are no longer with us and
light a candle in remembrance of them.

ST PETER'S LETTER

From the Ministry Team...

"SEASON'S GREETINGS"

Last month, Rev'd Dov Whittle wrote about embracing the start of autumn, as he starts a new chapter in his life story. Dov was ordained this summer and joins the DAMASCUS ministry team with "eagerness and optimism."

Autumn is a season of change, but still holds to traditions. The Michaelmas Fair springs to mind. This was a hiring fair for the harvest and an essential part of rural life in the past. Harvest festivals and harvest suppers are held in our churches and villages to celebrate and be thankful for our food. In more recent times they have become occasions to share what there is. Donations to local food banks are collected in our churches throughout the year, but it becomes more poignant at harvest time. Please check out our collection boxes and for more information regarding items to donate.

DAMASCUS Parish Harvest services are on 6th October

Caring for those less fortunate than us is part of Christian living. James writes in the New Testament that Christians are to "care for orphans and widows in distress." He also says that we should be "quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger" which sounds rather obvious advice, but not so easily done.

Pruning is often done in Autumn, which is to enable better growth. It is also a good time to take stock of things before the winter months come. The same can apply to ourselves. What might need pruning or improving or preparing for? Which leads on to thinking about future seasons, future harvests, and particularly the environment.

October is traditionally the month for celebrating the harvest, and November is a time of remembrance. All Souls services are on 3rd November and Remembrance Day Services on 10th November. More details can be found nearer the time on the church notice board or on the website.

www.damascusparish.org.uk

Season's greetings,
from
Rev'd Rosie Bruce

PARISH REGISTER

Baptism

15th September Freya Ellis

Wedding

24th August Amy-Louise Lewis and Ryan Iley

YOU STAY WE PRAY OCTOBER 2024

| | |
|---|---|
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| 13 th – 19 th Oct | Manor Close; The Green |
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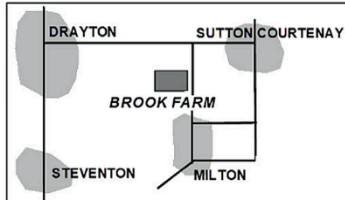
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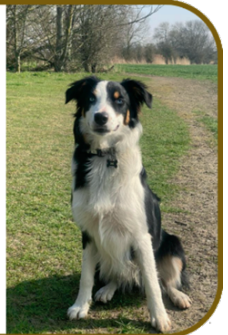
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GARD – GROUP AGAINST RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT

Recent News

The recent news that the Secretary of State, Steven Reed, has approved Thames Water's Resource Management Plan with SESRO at the centre is greeted with astonishment and deep resentment.

Advice Overruled

The Secretary of State has overruled his Environment Agency advice that Thames Water's plans should be rejected because of concerns about the reservoir's resilience to drought and lack of proof that it provides the best value for money.

Oxford County Council, the Vale District Council and Abingdon Town Council all responded with GARD and residents, expressing strong opposition to Thames Water's latest consultation. It is shameful that a week later, before analysis of the results, the scheme which includes the reservoir has been progressed to the next stage.

Public Inquiry

The Environment Agency had advised on the need for public scrutiny. A Public Inquiry, called for by GARD, reiterated recently by MPs Olly Glover and Layla Moran, is the only way of getting at the truth when confronted by an organisation with such a poor track record of openness as Thames Water. The Secretary of State has missed the opportunity to establish the facts and remove unresolved issues which remain on cost, construction environmental damage, post-construction safety, flooding hazards and crucially, if it is actually needed at all. Leaking more than twice the maximum supply of this Reservoir, Thames Water must also be held to account to reduce their leak rate to at least industry average.

Campaign Continues

This is certainly not the end of the road. GARD will continue its campaign against this monstrosity. The Reservoir needs final approval at Development Consent Order proceedings in 2026, and we will be contesting this project all the way. We are working to establish our next steps.

This reservoir remains the least drought resilient, longest delivery-time, most environmentally damaging and disruptive 'solution' to the coming water shortages in the south-east.

A high-risk construction like this is not the sort of project to be entrusted to a company which might not survive beyond next Spring.

Please get more involved:

- ✗ Write to your MP & councillors to demonstrate strength of opinion.
 - ✗ Write to the press giving your views about SESRO & Thames Water
 - ✗ Join in our publicity campaign
 - > Contact gard.secretary@gmail.com with ideas
 - > Suggest where to place banners.
 - > Contact us for posters to display.
 - > Ask work colleagues/ school groups/ sports clubs/ friends/ family to sign our petition with the email link on our website. We can provide a QR code, written copies & leaflets.
- See www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk for the facts behind our posters.

The fight is not over.

Thames Valley ALERT



Preventing keyless car theft

Dear Resident

Don't let thieves get an easy ride. Follow these rules to protect your keyless vehicle from thieves.

Cars with keyless entry unlock automatically when the key comes within a short distance of the car. This can be from inside a pocket or bag. If you have to push a button on your car key to open your car, you don't have keyless entry.

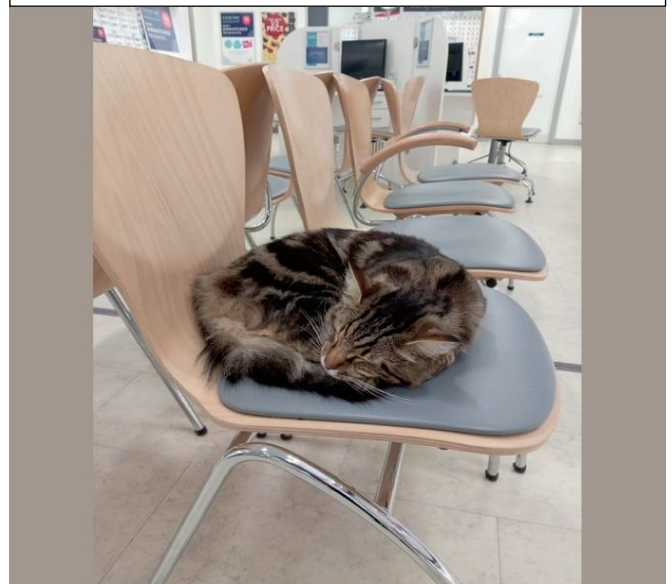
Keyless car theft or 'relay theft' is when a device is used to fool the car into thinking the key is close by. This unlocks the car and starts the ignition.

Thieves only need to be within a few metres of your car key to capture the signal, even if it's inside your home. This means that even if your car and home are secure, thieves can still unlock, start and steal your car.

How to protect your keyless entry car:

- When at home keep your car key (and the spare) well away from the car.
- Put the keys in a screened or signal-blocking pouch, such as a Faraday Bag and check if the bag or pouch is still working every few months.
- Reprogramme your keys if you buy a second hand car.
- Turn off wireless signals on your fob when it's not being used.

A photo of local celebrity cat 'Willow' of Didcot Orchard Centre – waiting to get his eyes tested



LETTER FROM WESTMINSTER



Dear all

Life in Westminster and our constituency continues to be a hive of activity as I'm now in my 3rd month as your MP. I've had the opportunity to raise questions including at Prime Minister's Question Time and contact ministers regarding matters important to you. Some of our residents will be affected by the government's withdrawal of the winter fuel allowance, and I will continue to fight for those least able to bear this cut in their income.

National Farmers Union

Recently I joined the National Farmers Union to celebrate the hard work of farmers and growers at their Back British Farming Day. I am proud to celebrate and support the terrific work of our local farmers, especially as we approach Harvest time!

Reservoir

Knowing, as I do, the concerns of many of you regarding the SESRO scheme, I have written to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Steve Reed, to request a public inquiry. I have informed him that our communities have not been convinced that this reservoir is the best solution for meeting the needs of South-East England for the reasons many of you have shared with me. I will continue to press for a meeting with him to continue to take forward your concerns.

Contact me

My team here in Oxfordshire and Westminster continues to grow and provides support for all our constituents. Please contact me if I can help, or if you would like me to attend a local event or meet with a local organisation. My parliamentary email address is olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk I continue to look forward to meeting as many of you as possible,

Best wishes

Olly.

Olly Glover MP



NHS Health Checks

Getting an NHS Health Check is a great way to stay on top of your health. It's a simple process that can give you peace of mind and help you stay healthy.

Think of an NHS Health Check as an MOT for your body. The aim of the check is to keep you as healthy as possible and reduce the chances of problems in the future. It's all about prevention and helps detect potential problems before they get the chance to do real damage.

Health Checks Oxfordshire provides free NHS health checks on behalf of the council at convenient community-based locations across the county, including libraries. This is in support of existing GP practice provision, making it easier than ever to get one.

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COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT - Peter Stevens

Hi all,

It is with pleasure that I write my first column for the monthly magazine. I apologise upfront for the late start – I was elected councillor back at the end of June, and then promptly went on holiday with my family, followed by the normal summer holidays through to the end of August, which has meant that I am only really coming up to speed now in September. However, I have now attended the council meetings for all of the six parishes in my division, as well as sitting on two full county councils and three committees that scrutinise council work. Public life as a councillor is quite different from my normal work, lots of wordy reports to read and more formalities – but more formal for a good reason to ensure everyone gets their democratic say, so worthwhile and rewarding.

News

In terms of news, we are waiting to hear about the new HIF road and bridge across the Thames in between Appleford and Sutton Courtenay. I spent a lot of time over the summer trying my best to help resolve issues with school buses which have faced considerable challenges over the holidays to prepare for the new school year. I visited the massive landfill site in between the two villages, where I saw what action is being taken to prevent bad smells re-occurring from leachate problems over the past year, and I have asked to visit the waste transfer site there to find out what they are doing to minimise their impact on us.

Planning

I am trying to support the new pavilion for the football club at Milton through planning difficulties. I will be trained on the legalities of planning before being allowed to join the county planning committee in November, where I will then scrutinise plans for the landfill site, gravel pits, waste transfer stations, the HIF road, and other infrastructure and large new local developments, to try to get the best deal for local residents and long-term outcomes for communities.

Reservoir

At county, district, and parish level, we objected to Thames Water and their proposed SESRO mega reservoir, and I continue to feed into the consultation to improve their strategic plans for the Thames, improving resilience to flooding, harnessing flood waters, stopping leaks, stopping sewage spills, and improving water recycling, as well as safe-guarding water supplies.

Road surfaces

This week, I am going to meet the county highways team at Marcham to discuss improving the roads, and to find out what steps they are taking to make the repairs to pot-holes last longer and be more resilient to the climate changes increasing their prevalence.

I am also being briefed on the master plan to redevelop the Dalton barracks next to Abingdon, and will find out more about the new Joint Local Plan ahead of next month.

More next month, until then enjoy the last of the summer sun,

Best regards
Peter

*Councillor Peter Stevens
For Sutton Courtenay & Marcham Division*

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Let's face it, there are times when we need to use a car. But have you ever thought about trying a different way to travel?

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Our travel choices campaign is asking people to make a difference one journey at a time and help reduce congestion by using public transport when possible.



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DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT



Dear all,

Joint Local Plan

As I write, at a meeting last night, the Joint Local Plan (with South Oxfordshire) was approved unanimously in Council.

This has come after a lengthy and exhaustive process, in which we were given a series of requirements to meet for future development in the Vale (which were non-negotiable from Government) and we aimed to put them into the best possible outcome we could get.

We also aimed for the greatest transparency (to the point where you may have become sick of all the “please comment on the Joint Local Plan proposal” requests) and the maximum possible feedback from residents. This, of course, has to be weighed up between responses, but I think the team did pretty well.

It’s long been my firm belief that where development happens and/or is needed, giving people affected by it the maximum control over what goes where and what infrastructure goes with it is crucial. This is why the way the Neighbourhood Development Plans being bypassed by developers and that bypassing being supported by Government legislation has been so damaging.

The new Local Plan writes in greater support and safeguards around Neighbourhood Development Plans. We do, though, also need much stronger powers and authority for planning enforcement to drive the required infrastructure elements through. In addition, we’ve written in the requirement for 40% affordable housing, so hopefully residents and their families can get a look in.

As well as infrastructure, increased affordable housing, and stronger safeguards on NDPs, environmental protection and safeguarding have been woven in throughout. There are areas where we’d have liked to go further, but we still have to get it approved through the Government inspection process, and we’re probably as far along most of those limbs as we can get away with.

A crucial reason for accelerating this through is that it sets the agreed housing targets before any changes come from Central Government. This may have to be changed in future, but it starts us off on the old targets.

Reservoir

In a surprise move, the new Secretary of State signed off Thames Water’s Water Resources Management Plan, despite advice from the Environment Agency not to do so, and a number of outstanding requests to see and speak to him about it (from ourselves, amongst others). This “establishes the need” for the reservoir, but, crucially, doesn’t act to approve it. Although Thames Water seem to be trying to give the impression that it does.

There are numerous hurdles yet to jump through, and we have written again to the Secretary of State, urgently asking for a discussion. I know that our new MP, Olly Glover, has done the same, asking to meet him as well and for us at Vale, for OCC, and for GARD to be involved. No response has yet been received.

Thames Water still haven’t given answers to all of the critical questions – especially on safety (dam-break), and flooding, which have been further reinforced by the recent floods in Europe. Such extreme events are likely to become more common, which underlines the urgency of this. When experienced and independent dam engineers and reservoir specialists find this alarming, I think it **MUST** be addressed up front. This is not to mention:

- The issues on fantasy costings and timelines (if you believe it’ll come in at their £2bn or so and be in operation by 2040, I’ve got numerous bridges to sell you...)
- How they propose to refill the reservoir in prolonged droughts (which is the only scenario where they can get the numbers to remotely justify it – but can’t find a way to refill it when it runs dry partway through, as the Thames is the most water-stressed river in the country)
- The use of inaccurate and wholly overblown population projections (the ONS have already disproven their projections)
- And why they’ve completely ignored the National Infrastructure Commission’s recommendations strongly urging water transfers and leakage reduction first and foremost.

Instead of the above, they’ve devoted significant amounts of time and money to creating fantasy images and virtual reality simulations of something that they know and accept would not resemble what is produced.

The cynic in me can’t help but suspect that the commercial issues around the entire water sector in general and Thames Water in particular might be related to this unexpected and controversial sign-off by the Secretary of State. Hopefully that’s just me being too cynical.

Community Safety Partnership

Ourselves and South Oxfordshire work with Thames Valley Police and Oxfordshire County Council in a Community Safety Partnership – aiming to try to help deal with Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and crime. There can be “easy wins” by engaging with the causes of ASB and crime early on, and with taking steps to support vulnerable people, especially when out and about.

These include providing advice on targeting areas prone to ASB and crime, providing things to do for youngsters, providing independent mediation services to reduce domestic abuse, raising awareness of child exploitation, supporting places such as shops, libraries, community, and leisure centres to become “Safe Places” where people can ask for help (look for stickers in the windows for this). I confess I was sceptical about the effectiveness of these at first, but after going through in depth on the Joint Scrutiny Committee, I’ve become quite a fan. It seems to be one of the best “bang for the buck” interventions in the field. They have a recent report here: <https://democratic.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/documents/s61316/Join%20Scrutiny%20Committee%20-%20South%20and%20Vale%20CSP%202023-24.pdf>

Community Hub – support

Don’t forget that if you need support or advice, you can contact the Community Hub here:

Tel: 01235 422600

Email: communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

Website: whitehorsedc.gov.uk/costofliving

Office hours are 8.30am-5pm Monday to Thursday, 4.30pm Fridays

All the best, Andy

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



The Parish Council met on September 10th.

Walnut Meadows

An archeological survey of the site designated for the sports area took place between February and April of this year. The results showed nothing that would alter the planned development of the site. However, they provided evidence that the immediate and surrounding landscape was extensively settled and exploited during the later prehistoric and Roman period.

Roman pottery and animal bones were recovered dating to the 2nd century. In total 270 pottery shards, 106 fragments of animal remains and 11 fragments of worked stone were found. These included 76 shards of handmade pottery from prehistoric to the Roman period and 192 shards of wheel made pottery. The animal bones include those of equine nature, cattle, possibly red deer, pigs, sheep, goats and dogs. Oxfordshire County Council has asked for a further analysis of the pottery remains.

A meeting with our contractor, Agripower, has been held regarding the sports pitches. The best estimate is that the sports pitch development may not be complete until September 2025. Sadly, substantial further building rubbish has even found on site which will cost in the region of £9000 to remove. The PC has contacted the enforcement team from the District Council to try and hold Miller Homes to account (again).

The planning application for the MUGAs (multi- use games area) has been submitted.

Traffic calming

The PC is waiting for the OCC contractor Milestone to get back to us with further plans for the crossings on the High Street and Abingdon Road outside Walnut Meadow and the extension of the pavement to the south of the High Street

Sutton Wick Pond

We are currently seeking quotes for the clean-up and restoration of Sutton Wick Pond.

The planned reservoir

The PC noted that despite a vast number of objections to the reservoir, the Secretary of State has signed off Thames Water's water management plan that includes plans for the reservoir. The Parish Council was one of the bodies that submitted their objections. This document can be seen on the Parish Council website.

Support with IT

There may be people in the village who struggle with IT. If you are someone who could do with a hand in completing electronic forms or support with basic IT please let someone on the Parish Council know. You can either email the clerk@draytonpc.org or contact the Deputy Clerk Chris Price on 07401 197712. The details for all the Parish Councillors are listed on the Parish Council website.

continued...

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on

**8th October, 7.00 pm at the
Caudwell Day Centre.**

All welcome.

There are vacancies for new councillors! If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please do come along to a meeting or contact one of us. All that is needed is an interest in the village and a little time every month (not hours and hours!).

Elaine Wade

For further Parish Council info.....

.....please see www.DraytonVillage.co.uk for Agendas, Minutes and Papers for the Parish Council, as well as details of current PC Committees and Working Groups.

Here you will also find archives of The Drayton Chronicle, History of Drayton, Village Information, photographs and more.



Residents are encouraged to use the FixMyStreet app, or go to <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk> to report any road, cycleway and pavement defects in the village.



LOCAL GROUPS and CLUBS

Drayton Table Tennis Club

I hope everyone had a good summer. With autumn here the new league season has started. For Drayton it's 41st year in the Didcot League. Again, we have 6 teams entered. There are three divisions each with 12 teams so that's 22 matches for each. In addition, we will have cup matches and the Club cup competition known as the Bidmead Cup. You will see we will be kept active over the next 6 months! Our 6 teams are – Artisans in Div 1 captained by Matt Davies, Buzzards, Corinthians & Dingos all in Div 2 and captained by David Hudson, Jonathan Cattell & Richard Brown respectively. In Div 3 the Eagles will be led by Mike Russell & the Flamingos by John Gould.

Our club nights started back on Mondays in early September. Coaching sessions are run by Coach Jonathan Cattell for the first hour and thereafter 2 hours of social play. These are structured to ensure a gradual improvement in ability and no doubt will produce our league players of the future!

We have been pleased to welcome a number of new members to the club, including beginners and more experienced players, since the start of these sessions. Things are looking very healthy (as are most of the participants) and the club continues to thrive.

John Gould
Chairman

Steventon and District Royal British Legion News

The Steventon and District Branch, of which Drayton has always been a part, is approaching its Centenary which is in 2027, having absorbed Sutton Courtenay and Milton in past years. Our membership remains above 30 and we welcome new members, especially those with a service connection.

We say goodbye to our Treasurer, Matthew Lindley, who has served us loyally but is moving to Cirencester so we urgently need a replacement.

The Traditional Curry Lunch on Remembrance Sunday 10 November

The Curry Lunch will again be held from 1230 in the Steventon Village Hall at a cost of £20 per adult (children under 16 go free and there will be a Non-Curry option) The Committee agreed that any profit will go towards the refurbishment of the memorial at Sutton Wick to the aircraft crash. This will be a direct donation so it will not go through our RBL Account. Applications to me with cash or cheque made out to N H Thompson.

Nick Thompson Hon Chairman
27 Stocks Lane Steventon OX13 6SS
01235 832077

WI Report

Our September meeting was Block Printing by Marea Brown. We were limited on numbers due to holidays, illness and, sadly, the road closure in the village.

We all learnt the technique, practiced before creating our masterpieces. A great time was had by all, and we will be definitely getting her back for another workshop.

We are now looking forward to a talk by Lynn Carter on Antiques and Glass

Our meetings are usually the 2nd Thursday in the month at 7:30pm at the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane

Don't forget the WI Christmas craft Fair 9th November 11am -3pm. 20 stalls, refreshments and a raffle with some fabulous prizes! We hope to see you there!!

Michaelmas and Runaway fairs



The Michaelmas and Runaway fairs take place each year in October and the Michaelmas fair is reputed to be the longest street fair in Europe.

When are the fairs held?

By law, the Michaelmas fair must take place annually on the Monday and Tuesday falling first before the 11 October in the centre of Abingdon-on-Thames, covering Ock Street, High Street and the Market Place.

Ancient origins

The fairs began as a way to hire labour in the period after the Black Death in 1348, when the population fell by upwards of 40%, giving workers more power to seek work elsewhere. Skilled workers would carry the tools of their trade over their shoulder, while unskilled workers would carry a mop instead, which is why the fair is sometimes known as the 'mop fair'.

The Runaway Fair takes place a week after the Michaelmas fair and was so named because it was a chance for anyone who had made a mistake and started work with a master who was perhaps cruel or untrustworthy to literally run away and find another place to work.

Source: www.abingdon.gov.uk

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Starting in November 2024.....



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- If you drive a **private car** in Oxford, you may need to change your journey if you don't have a (free of charge) permit.
- A permit is only required to drive a car through the traffic filters during their hours of operation. No permit is needed to drive any other type of vehicle through the filters.

| Permit Type | Who can apply | Details |
|--|---------------|--|
| Resident in the Oxford permit area | Resident | Permit allows for 100 day passes per car per calendar year. Max 1 car per person, 3 cars per household |
| Resident in the Oxfordshire permit area, inc Drayton | Resident | Permit allows for 25 day passes per car per calendar year. Max 1 car per person, 2 cars per household. |

See oxfordshire.gov.uk/trafficfilters

for more info



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<https://www.mybusoxfordshire.org.uk/mybus-oxfordshire-tickets>



Modern Art Oxford grand reopening

Modern Art Oxford. 2nd of November 2024.

Modern Art Oxford reopens on Saturday 2 November after a transformational refurbishment creating new spaces for everyone.

After a 5 month closure, we have created a redesigned welcome area, a new ground-floor gallery, an artist-designed café and an expanded Studio space for visitors of all ages. **The building will open with two exciting new exhibitions**, Belkis Ayón: Sikán Illuminations and The Platform Graduate Award, alongside a programme of talks, workshops, music and more, so plan your visit today.

LETTERS

Drayton Residents wish to say a big 'thank you' for the excellent, friendly and cheerful service provided by our postman **Kevin Betteridge**. He is much appreciated!



The Abingdon Community Hospital League of Friends

The Abingdon Community Hospital League of Friends charity is holding their AGM on:

**Tuesday, November 26th, 2024 at 35 Ock Street,
Abingdon, at 2.30pm**

Some of the Committee are standing down and new members are needed to help continue the fund raising for your local hospital. New blood is needed to continue the good work of this charity. Please come and join us. For more information, go to our website www.achlof.weebly.com or contact Phil Selby on achlof1@gmail.com

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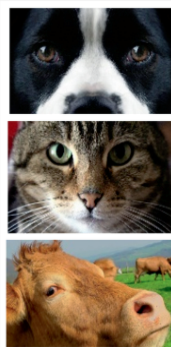


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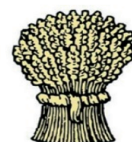
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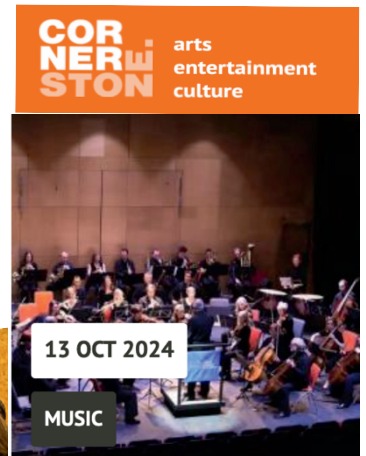
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DRAYTON HALL NEWS



FIRSTLY --- **GRATEFUL THANKS** to Marco & Simone of The Wheatsheaf, for all their help with the Hall bar, and those 'Tribute' evenings (Elvis & Abba).

The very best of luck for the future!

THANKS also to all those who bring clothes items to support the **Child Air Ambulance charity bin** – BUT --- if you find the bin is FULL, then PLEASE call the charity number (on the bin!!) and TELL THEM it's full?!

We've another **ANTIQUES Fair**, **Sunday Oct 6th**, 9am to about 3pm, and a few new stalls apparently, that's plus Kathy Head running her excellent value cafe for one of her good causes (lovely breakfast, or perhaps just a bacon sarnie!).

Our **Bowls Club and Sequence Dancers** are always on the lookout for new members, the Bowlers are on **Monday & Thursday afternoons**, (+ Tuesdays for the Winter League, starting soon) and Weds evenings if that suits you better.

The Sequence Dancers are a friendly crowd, Thursday evenings, they also have a few Sat'day social events through the year, and a big Xmas 'do'.

Oh, and we also have two **BADMINTON** groups on a similar quest, one on Weds afternoons, the other one is Monday evenings, the latter has traditionally been for Ladies (but does accept Gents, come on lads, don't be shy!) and they say they're to a "reasonable standard" – to me just hitting that feathered thing was 'reasonable'!

I hear that the sessions of **KEEP FIT with FAYE**, (Fridays at 11am), have quite a crowd now, but still room for a few more, aimed at the 'more mature' customer, so seated if you prefer, they're **just £6** per class and get great reviews (she runs them at several other local halls).

Oh, **a couple more things**, 1) we'd LOVE to know which of our groups felt the need to 'restring' the Stage Curtain in the last month or two. And, um, WHY?!!

Plus 2) with lots of new villagers these days, we'd love to try and gather **some more expertise** and, er 'young blood' onto the Hall Committee!

Tony Holmes



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(Mostly) Hall Diary for October

All events held in Drayton Hall **unless otherwise stated**

To book the Hall :- bookings@draytonvh.co.uk or call Tony Holmes on (01235) 531180; see the website :- www.draytonvh.co.uk

| | | | |
|------|----|---------|---|
| Sat | 5 | 9.00am | Private Function (child's party) |
| Sun | 6 | 9.00am | ANTIQUES FAIR (to 3pm) |
| Tues | 8 | 7.00pm | Parish Council Meeting (Caudwell DC) |
| Sat | 12 | 4.00pm | Private Function |
| Sun | 13 | noon | Private Function (child's party) |
| Sat | 19 | 9.00am | Private Function (all day) |
| Sun | 20 | 9.00am | Private Function (child's party) |
| Mon | 21 | 5.00pm | Chronicle Deadline |
| Sat | 26 | 5.00am | Private Function |
| Sun | 27 | 11.00am | Private Function (child's party) |
| Weds | 30 | 1.30pm | Drayton Wives |

'Regular Events' - IF an error, DO PLEASE tell us!

REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

NB PLEASE – if an entry is wrong – **DO tell an editor** (page 2)

MONDAYS [## = Small Hall in Village Hall]

| | |
|---------|---|
| 2.00 pm | Short Mat Bowling Club Session |
| 6.00 pm | Damascus Youth ## |
| 7.15 pm | Badminton (Looking for NEW Members!!) |
| 7.45 pm | Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours) <i>St Peter's</i> |

TUESDAYS

| | |
|---------|---|
| 9.30 am | Pilates (via Alexandra Merson 07788 248925) |
| 1.45 pm | Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i> |
| 2.30 pm | Tuesday Connect (back to 1st Tuesday!) <i>Church</i> |
| 6.45 pm | Karate/'Dojang X' session (Sabrina 07938 537310) |
| 7.45 pm | Health & Fitness (ditto) |

WEDNESDAYS

| | |
|----------|--|
| 10.00 am | Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer group) <i>Church</i> |
| 1.30 pm | Whist Drive <i>Caudwell DC</i> |
| 1.45 pm | U3A Science/Tech, 1st Weds (07890 385931) ## |
| 2.00 pm | Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday, most months) ## |
| 2.15 pm | Badminton |
| 6.30 pm | Brownies (term-time / Laura 07916 459435) ## |
| 7.00 pm | Short Mat Bowling Club Session |

THURSDAYS

| | |
|----------|--|
| 9.30 am | Parent & Toddler Group |
| 9.45 am | Holy Communion (**) <i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i> |
| 11.00 am | Baptist Café (to 1pm) NOW IN >> <i>Caudwell DC</i> |
| 2.00 pm | Short Mat Bowling Club Session |
| 2.00 pm | Crafts Group (2nd Thursday – run by U3A, but it's simple to join. Call Kate for info 01235 550486) ## |
| 5.30 pm | Rainbows (girls 5 to 7 yrs) ## |
| 7.30 pm | Sequence Dancing (Brian - 01235 531701) |
| 7.30 pm | Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs) <i>Caudwell DC</i> |
| 7.30 pm | Drayton Community Choir (2nd/4th Thurs) -- Call Kay for info 01235 204187 <i>Church Room</i> |

FRIDAYS

| | |
|----------|---|
| 11.00 am | Keep Fit with FAYE (07815 583591) |
| 4.15 pm | Karate/'Dojang X' sessions (07938 537310) |

SUNDAYS

(**) For all the latest info re their Services (Thursday communion, & especially Sundays), **PLEASE see our St Peter's Church page**

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| 6.00 pm | Evening Service <i>Baptist Church</i> |
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