

Claydon with Clattercote Newsletter

May 2012

DEADLINE FOR FREE MUGS

The green forms, registering the children who reside in the village and will be aged 11 and under on 5th June, have been returned. However, if there are any outstanding **the deadline for return of the forms is 28th May.** After this date, any surplus mugs will be made available for sale. Already enquiries are being received for the purchase of mugs at £4 each.

For a replacement form please telephone 690510 or e-mail theclaydontrust@gmail.com.

JUBILEE GROUP ANNOUNCE BIRTHDAY PARTY

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee will also mark the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Jubilee Group. The achievements of the group in making the Church Room fit for use during those years was documented in the Newsletter Supplement in January 2011. To celebrate they will be holding a party with tea or coffee and cake in the Church Room on Saturday 2nd June at 2.30 p.m. All are welcome. **It is not a fundraiser.**



Members enjoying a coffee morning in August 2003

Photograph by Dick Blenkinsop

DIAMOND JUBILEE STREET PARTY

Phoebe Shaft is organising a free Street Party to take place behind the church on Tuesday 5th June from 1.00 pm. All are welcome. It will have a Commonwealth theme, with food, music and singing from countries where the Queen is still Head of State. It is hoped to display a map of the world in the Church Room so that anyone interested can find the locations of the countries featured. Details are not finalised, so watch out for posters. More helpers are needed - please contact 690048 or 07846339621.

CHURCH ROOM PROJECT UPDATE

The decorating team of Keith Hamilton, Michael O'Donovan, Spencer Prestidge and Pete Kearney are to be congratulated for their work on the room. Further donations have been received. In addition to those mentioned elsewhere in this Newsletter, there have been personal donations and £500 left by the Old Newsletter and originally handed to the Courier. Unfortunately the project received £2000 less than expected from Oxfordshire County Council (OCC).

PLAYING FIELD NEWS

At the Playing Field Trustee Meeting on 8th May, the Playing Field Management Committee (PFMC) members appointed by the Parish Council were confirmed as Paul Gallagher, Garry Putt, Mike Smith and Emma Gallagher. The PFMC Chairman, Paul Gallagher, thanked everyone who took part in the recent Working Party Day. The donated bench is planned to be installed once the Play Area fence has been painted. A new fence of the same type will be installed from the rear of the slide to meet the existing fence at the Appletree Road end. The plan to install a shelter has been shelved and priority will be given to drainage of the field.

It was agreed that £500 could be donated to the Church Room Project. Mike Smith, the Treasurer, reported available funds totalling over £6500.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the Parish Council Meeting on 8th May David Hill was confirmed as Chairman and Clive Mutch as Vice-Chairman for the next twelve months. The meeting was attended by District Councillor Ken Atack and County Councillor George Reynolds.

BUS SHELTER

David Belchamber, from OCC Highways Department visited the village on Friday 4th May to view the site suggested for the bus stop (and eventually a shelter). He agreed that this location (at the end of Manor Park) is

preferable to the existing one and will approach Stagecoach to see if they have any objections.

Response at the Parish Council Meeting was not so enthusiastic. Other suggestions from both Parish Councillors and the floor were for an open porch on the Church Room, a partially enclosed canopy at the bottom of the Church Room steps and a small shelter squashed onto the present verge next to the wall of the Churchyard. None of these solutions would solve the unsatisfactory situation of the bus stopping at the T-junction. There would also be no space for seating.

THAMES WATER

The mains water pipes in Bignolds Close, Boddington Road and Fenny Compton Road are not scheduled to be replaced as they allegedly do not have such a poor history of leaks as the rest of the village. **The section of road between Manor Park and Main Street and possibly parts of Church Lane will need to be closed at some stage during the present installations.**

TREES AND VERGES

The Works Inspector from OCC has agreed that the damaged verges in the village will be reinstated. There was an objection from the floor as it was felt that the company who caused the damage to the verge outside Home Farm should fund the repair themselves. OCC will not fund any more bollards to prevent future damage to verges.

The trees on the Boddington Road may be pruned, subject to the OCC budget allocation.

DANGEROUS DOGS

The Parish Council has received further complaints regarding the aggressive dog that is left to wander along Crossing Lane. Several residents feel that the lane is now a 'no-go' area. The Dog Warden has allegedly been completely ineffective. The Parish Council resolved to invite the Dog Warden and a police representative to their next meeting.

WEBSITE

Paul Gallagher was congratulated on the continued development of the village website. It is planned to upload the agenda and minutes of Parish Council Meetings to the website. Once this routine has bedded in the practice of e-mailing the agenda and minutes to residents who have requested them will be discontinued.

PLANNING

Cherwell District Council has received applications for an additional barn and a new dwelling at Point to Point Farm.

FINANCE

The Parish Council agreed the payment of £500 to the Church Room Refurbishment Project and £50 to the Cluster Care Group. Although £250 has been set aside for a Diamond Jubilee celebration the Chairman stressed that the money should not be used to buy food to sell.

A great deal of time was spent in discussing the value of the village assets for insurance purposes. It was finally resolved to determine what proportion of the insurance premium is to cover public liability before determining which assets should be included.

Councillor Reynolds revealed that he has been allocated £25,000 to spend on projects within his ward, but stressed that it has to be shared between 20 villages. Councillor Attack was asked why the road sweeper visited the village twice per year and appeared to achieve very little, when money could be better spent on sorting out the drains.

OVER SIXTIES FILMS

Unfortunately the March film was cancelled at short notice due to the failure of the equipment. The good news is that funding has been confirmed for the 2012/13 financial year. The next film showing will take place in the Church Room at 2.00 p.m. on

Friday 15th June

starring Sally Hawkins, Miranda Richardson and Rosamund Pike in

Made in Dagenham

The 1968 strike for equal pay for women

COMMENT

Only by experiencing the return to the village on the 277 bus service can the unsatisfactory situation at the T-junction be fully appreciated. The bus stops a short distance from the high verge. Passengers are expected either to descend into the gutter and then mount the verge or stretch across the gap to the verge and then wait while the bus moves away. We should not expect our residents, especially the elderly, to have to do this.

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Whilst every care is taken the Editor accepts no responsibility for errors, omissions or their consequences.