

Claydon with Clattercote Newsletter

November/December 2016



The surplus of this year's bumper apple crop will provide food for native and visiting birds

SYLVIA INGRAM CO-OPTED AS NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

At the Parish Council Meeting on November 8th Sylvia Ingram was co-opted to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council. Sylvia has lived in the village for 22 years. She has past experience of working on a committee and is regularly out around the village, walking her dog and noting items that require attention.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council Meeting on 8th November was attended by County Councillor George Reynolds. Parish Councillor Richard Millward sent his apologies. The following further items were discussed:

PLANNING

Rozel

The application for a large extension to the side and rear, and a coating of lime based render to the whole building has been refused by Cherwell District Council (CDC).

The Brambles

The Parish Council had not objected but submitted comments on the application for the replacement of the fence adjacent to the public footpath with a wall. It is awaiting a decision by CDC.

Point to Point Farm

The application for all conditions regarding the log cabin at Point to Point Farm to be scrapped has been refused. A farm consultant was apparently brought in by CDC to review the situation and concluded that there was no justification for a full time stock man on the site, negating the need for accommodation.

Cropredy Marina

The application for the creation of a north basin to accommodate a further 100 boats has been accepted.

Catesby Estates Cropredy

The application to build 60 new houses in Cropredy, in close proximity to the railway line has been refused. The developer has been informed that a smaller development may be considered.

Glebe Farm, Boddington Road

In advance of a planning application, an opinion from CDC has been requested on the environmental impact of a marina for 120 boats. There was concern that the traffic generated would overwhelm the single track road and the canal bridge.

PROPERTIES

Planning permission is apparently required on the driveway to the house, built on Fenny Compton Road as part of the CDC **Build!** project,. It is expected to be completed within 4 weeks CDC is still hoping that the new owner will have a local connection.

CDC is continuing to press for activity on the long term empty properties in the village. The executors of 12 Manor Park are apparently in dispute with

the insurers regarding the subsidence. A property inspection of the Old School House has taken place and work is underway to clear the grounds. However the long term plans for the building have not been established.

PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS

Playing Field

A budget of £1500 was earmarked for maintenance of the Playing Field, to be paid on invoice, including grass and hedge cutting and the safety inspection. The Playing Field Management Committee would be required to obtain 2 quotations for the work.

An additional £500 was earmarked as a contribution towards the possible purchase of replacement or new equipment.

Churchyard

The Parochial Church Council had requested a grant of £550 for mowing of the churchyard. As the current situation with a grant of £450, to be paid on invoice, appeared to be working satisfactorily, it was agreed that the grant would remain at £450.

Although no grant had been requested it was noted that the size of the crack in the churchyard wall had increased. It was agreed to earmark £250 as a contribution towards repair of the wall, to be paid on invoice.

Cluster Care

A grant of £75 was agreed. There are currently no Claydon residents attending the Cluster Care Group in Cropredy on a weekly basis.

CLAYDON ALLOTMENTS

All rents have been paid and the unoccupied plots have been strimmed. There are currently 5 vacant plots. The tenants of the two plots which have not been cultivated this year have been informed that if there is no further cultivation their tenancies will not be renewed in April.

BT PHONE KIOSK

After months of complaints an engineer visited the site and the phone is now working. However it is still earmarked for removal. There have been 3 suggestions for the use of the box, the site for a community defibrillator, a community noticeboard and a dog waste bag collection point.

MAINTENANCE

The work on the trees on the trees on the Village Green is scheduled for Friday 11th Nov. Winter aconites have been purchased by a parishioner for planting.

The Blue Brick Path was sprayed on 26th October and it is beginning to take effect. It has been recommended that the path should be sprayed twice a year. This will be considered at the budget meeting in January.

Obituary

Thelma Tibbetts



Thelma was born in Banbury on 22nd March 1937, to parents Alf and Mabel. She became a big sister to Roger and grew up attending a local school. After school she trained and worked as a hairdresser and during this time she met and married Terry. They were married at Banbury Congregational Church and while the children were small Thelma still occasionally worked as a hairdresser in order to help a colleague. They lived in Great Bourton for a time, and then moved to Creampot Close, Cropredy in 1966. Thelma worked with the Women's Royal Voluntary Service as a volunteer for Meals on Wheels with fellow Cropredy resident Hilary Ferguson during the mid 1970s. With this experience she became deputy manager of Banbury Day Centre on Britannia Road, working alongside Hilary, and later became the manager. Thelma greatly enjoyed this work with the community. In 1984/85 the family moved to Vicarage

Gardens. While living in Cropredy, Thelma helped to set up the Cluster Care Group, and served on the committee for several years.

In 1996 Thelma moved to Bignolds Close in Claydon. In 2002, the Queen's Golden Jubilee Celebrations provided the opportunity for her to use her organisational skills. The cream tea provided for the senior citizens on that occasion was the catalyst for the creation of the Jubilee Group, alongside Dorothy Beckett. The Church Room had been painted for the occasion but there was still more to do. The Jubilee Group then set about providing social events, with regular monthly coffee mornings and occasional, extremely popular suppers, alongside other fundraising to refurbish the Church Room. A new kitchen was fitted and stocked with new crockery and utensils, the floor was carpeted and Thelma used her contacts to acquire chairs and tables.

Thelma was also instrumental in organising the concerts in the church by *Impromptu*, which provided funds for the Church Room and other local causes. Thelma also indulged her love of films by setting up the Over 60s Film Club as an offshoot of the Jubilee Group. She loved musicals and Howard Keel featured more than once in the programme, with *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* being a particular favourite. She selected recent releases too, but was very sensitive to the needs of the audience after they were extremely offended by the persistent use of the 'F' word in one of these.

When John Lloyd felt that he could no longer run the Claydon Car Service, Thelma took over and continued running it for several years until her own ill health forced her to give up. Thelma retained her links with Cropredy by attending the Lunch Club and FIRS meetings and outings.

Church was always an important part of Thelma's life. On one occasion years ago in Cropredy she rushed forward to help when altar boy Chris, her eldest son fainted. More recently in St James the Great Claydon Thelma helped in the keeping of the seasons and ensuring church colours were correct for every occasion. She loved to read in church and she encouraged the practice of refreshments after church so that people had more of a chance to get together, which she knew was important. Taking

communion was very important to her, and when she was less mobile, Revd Hilary Campbell would like to share communion with her at home.

Thelma often spent time with her great friend Marjorie Fox sat around Marjorie's kitchen table, to which many Claydon residents would gravitate at one time or another. Several pieces for the Newsletter originated from Thelma picking up news at one of these gatherings.

Thelma loved going out to the theatre to concerts, and to musicals. She enjoyed the revival of musicals such as *Top Hat* and made many trips to London with Star Travel to see them. She would also travel to Oxford to see the visiting productions at the New Theatre. She was also an avid listener to Radio Oxford and as a result became an armchair-fan of Oxford United Football Club.

Holidays were important, a time to be with family, to be in the sun and to provide the opportunity to swim. Thelma loved swimming and taught all of her grandchildren to swim. It was a cruel irony that her dialysis prohibited this activity. There was still the sun, and Thelma would make the most of sunbathing in her sheltered south facing garden in Bignolds Close.

Thelma was devoted to her family, but she was also a great neighbour and will be sorely missed by many residents of Bignolds Close and Claydon as a whole.

SHOULD THE FILMS CONTINUE?

The extremely poor turnout at the last film showing calls the future of the Over 60s Film Club into question. It may have been due to the loss of Thelma, or it may have just been lack of interest, but with such a small audience long term continuation is not viable.

Currently the only expenses are the cost of the hire of the Church Room, the ice creams and the chocolates, but Age UK has indicated that a charge will soon be introduced for the hire of the film. Therefore more support will be needed to pay for this and to keep the club running. It's up to all of us.

HORTON HOSPITAL UPDATE

Consultant led maternity at the Horton closed on 1st October. Since then there have been one or two incidents, with problems with capacity at the John Radcliffe Hospital (JR) and a premature baby being born in the foyer of the Horton.

As the JR cannot cope with the number of births which would have taken place at the Horton it is only accepting patients with OX postcodes, plus Brackley. Other patients are expected to travel to either Warwick or Northampton. The Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals Foundation Trust (OUHFT) was recently castigated by Secretary of State for the Environment and MP for South Northamptonshire Andrea Leadsom for not informing her of this situation.

It had been hoped that sufficient obstetricians could be recruited by the end of October to allow the service to reopen in January, but even before the end of the month the OUHFT announced that this would not be happening.

Meantime beds have disappeared from the main hospital with the closure of Oak and F wards as part of an exercise to prevent Delayed Transfers of Care (DTCOC). The OUHFT is working with Social Services to ensure that patients are not occupying hospital beds when they would benefit from a suitable care package either at home or in a nursing home. Although this has been classified as a significant change of service and therefore requiring a consultation, the consultation will only take place after the event in January. The OUHFT insists that the bed closures are reversible, but in "solving" the DTCOC situation the Horton Trauma Service has been left extremely short of beds.

The January consultation will also include the first part of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan which includes the permanent loss of consultant led maternity at the Horton. The second part will take place in May or June and will include the 24 hour children's ward, the remaining trauma beds and Accident and Emergency. If we want to keep our acute hospital it is up to as many people as possible to vehemently object to these proposals.

Reminder

Please remember to clear up after your dog.

Diary Dates

OVER SIXTIES FILM

The next film showing will take place in the Church Room at 2.00 pm on

Friday 9th December

starring Robert Carlyle and John Goodman in

**Marilyn Hotchkiss'
Ballroom Dancing and Charm School**

CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 18th December at 4.00 pm at St .James' Church

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

In the week before Christmas. Watch out for notices.

COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday 21st December at 10.30 am in the Church Room

CRIB SERVICE

Saturday 24th December at 3.30 pm at St James' Church

HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 25th December at 10.00 am at St James' Church

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 10th January 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Church Room

HISTORY SOCIETY MEETING

Monday 16th January at 7.30 pm in the Church Room.

*Edited and produced by Jenny Jones
with thanks to Revd Hilary Campbell*

Contact: **tel. 690510**, e-mail clayclatnews@btinternet.com