

Claydon with Clattercote Newsletter

July/August 2017

FAVOURITE PIECE OF EQUIPMENT CLOSED FOR SAFETY REASONS



The slide in the Play Area is currently closed while its condition is evaluated. There is considerable deterioration in the metal which in its present state could cause injury to anyone using the equipment. If it cannot be repaired it will need to be replaced. At the Playing Field Trustee Meeting on 11th July it was suggested that should a replacement be necessary, a grant be applied for through the Tesco Groundwork Scheme, where tax from the purchase of plastic bags is returned to the community.

It is estimated that the slide is at least 30 years old. It has been extremely popular with generations of Claydon children and its position on the mound has made it acceptable under the Disability Discrimination Act for a carer to assist a child in using it.



The holes in the metal on the base of the slide

DUMP THE POO RESPONSIBLY

On the whole villagers are very good at clearing up after their dogs. However, some seem to think that bagging the poo is sufficient and bags can be left anywhere. An extreme case recently occurred when a bag was thrown over a hedge into the garden of a house in Bignolds Close.

Villagers may not be aware that dumping a bag carries a heavier on the spot fine (£75), than leaving the poo uncleared (£50), as it is classed as littering. Bags can be disposed of in the GREEN bin in the Playing Field and in the village waste bins.

Remember that poo bags in the Playing Field Dispenser are very expensive to buy and are for EMERGENCIES ONLY. Free bags can be obtained from Julie Cozze-Young on 01295 690139.

INTEREST IN THE NEW HOUSE INVITED FROM BUYERS WITH A CLAYDON CONNECTION



After a house on the site of the former garages on the Fenny Compton Road was first mooted almost four years ago and after interminable delays in the building process, the resulting building is now being actively marketed by the Cherwell **Build!** team.

Although the people who expressed an interest at the outset have been contacted, and at least one offer has already been made, the team is determined to reach everyone who could qualify by having a connection to the village.

The house will be sold in its part finished state with a £20,000 discount on the valuation of £260,000 to enable the purchaser to provide the finish to their own requirements. A bath and sink unit have had to be installed in order to make it saleable. The works to be completed are the kitchen, the bathroom, the internal woodwork, tiling, flooring, painting and landscaping.

The house has two double bedrooms and a downstairs cloakroom and has been fitted with an air source heat pump for efficient heating and hot water.

In order to bring the price in the range of first time buyers, the house is being offered on an 80% ownership basis, bringing the price down to £188,000. The rental charge on the remaining 20% will be £119.17 per calendar month. It could also be purchased outright.

Further information can be obtained from a member of the Cherwell **Build!** team on 01295 221615 or email build@cherwell-dc.gov.uk.

Interest must be registered online via www.helptobuysouth.co.uk.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the Parish Council Meeting on 11th July the following further items were discussed:

NOTICE BOARD

The new notice board has been delivered and is awaiting installation.

WASTE BINS

Although in the past there have been suggestions to remove all of the waste bins, the majority of respondents to the recent village survey indicated that bins are still wanted. It was therefore decided to replace the two bins on Main Street, but to remove the bin outside Sunrising. This is no longer the hub of the village as the pub, the school, the smithy and the chapel have all closed.

ALLOTMENTS

There are currently 4 vacant plots. Three were repossessed by the Parish Council, but two of these have since been let to new tenants. It was agreed that Plot 17 should be put back to grass, as possible fuel contamination has made it unsuitable for growing anything.

An unfortunate incident occurred recently when some allotment holders were locked in, necessitating the padlock on the gate to be cut off. A new lock will be installed as soon as possible.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH / POLICE INFORMATION

The recent burglaries in the village have prompted more interest in Neighbourhood Watch, and the police are keen to have more people signed up to their Newsletter. As the village lies on the border of 3 counties it means registering with three police areas. A possible alert site is also included.

<https://www.police.uk/thames-valley/N425/crime/subscribe/>

<https://www.police.uk/northamptonshire/SCT152/>

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/2271/Southam?uprn=100071241774>

www.thamesvalley.police.uk/news/campaigns/sign-thames-valley-alert-today/

Residents are reminded to be wary of any suspicious activity and report it immediately by dialling 999. There have been recent heating oil thefts in Farnborough.

SPEEDING

Although the survey results indicated that villagers do not wish to purchase a vehicle activated sign, there remained concerns regarding speeding in the village. One suggestion which will be explored further is the erection of signs in the shape of children. The police will also be asked that if Claydon could be included when they are conducting speed checks in the locality.

EMPTY PROPERTIES

There has been little activity at the Old School House and 12 Manor Park. Concern was expressed that 1 Bank Cottages may also fall into this category and it was agreed to check this out with Cherwell District Council.

VILLAGE GREEN

Councillor Hoggins has kindly agreed to loan her brown bin for the collection of leaves from the Top Green. It was agreed that the purchase of a bin would be delayed until CDC is offering them at a discount.

BULBS

The survey also indicated that residents would like more bulbs to be planted in the village. As the verges are the most logical place, permission from the landowners will be sought to plant there. If this is granted volunteers will be required to plant the bulbs.

COUNTY CONNECT

The service is not greatly used and is unlikely to continue beyond the trial period.

BONFIRES AND NOISY GARDEN MACHINERY

Despite the notice in the last Newsletter the situation has not improved. Since the meeting, on the weekend of 15th/16th July some houses on the north side of Bignolds Close were swamped by black smoke from a bonfire.

HORTON HOSPITAL UPDATE

The results of *The Big Health Care Consultation* have now been published and reveal that the majority of respondents are against the proposed downgrade of the Horton Hospital. Thanks to everyone who responded by letter, rather than answering the questionnaire which appeared to be designed to give Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) the answers that it was seeking. 9,248 letters were received as opposed to 646 questionnaire responses.

OCCG has digested the results and is due to put forward proposals as to how it will proceed at its board meeting in Oxford on 10th August. The board papers will be published ahead of the meeting and should be available online at www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/. The fears are that the Board will decide to bulldoze ahead with the original plans regardless of the wishes of the community.

It is extremely disappointing that the process has not been stopped, firstly by the referral by Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) of the temporary closure of the consultant led maternity service to the Secretary of State for Health, and secondly by the seeking of a judicial review by all of the local district and Banbury Town councils, and Keep the Horton General Campaign Group (KTHG) of the process of splitting the programme into two phases leaving the stance on Accident and Emergency unclear until the second phase.

KTHG is continuing to fundraise in order to meet its £30,000 share of the legal bill. There will be an evening of live music by the band *Under The Covers* and disco with DJ Chris Baxter from 7.00 pm to midnight on 25th August at General Foods Social Club. Tickets £10 from GF Club or by calling 07397 838 345 or 07786 037 542.

Meantime Oxfordshire University Hospitals Foundation Trust (OUHFT) has recruited more obstetric doctors who could operate at the Horton. The total is now up to 7, but the OUHFT is still insisting that 9 are required in order to run the consultant led maternity service.

One hope for a halt to the proceedings is that Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will meet on 7th August, having had sight of the papers. The members may have more regard for the opinion of the local population than does the OCCG.

A THANK YOU FROM DEVON

This is a much overdue letter to all our many friends in Claydon & Clattercote. We would like to thank all those who contributed so generously to our leaving present. Jo will put it towards improvements in our garden in Okehampton.

It was really good to see so many of you in the Church Room at our leaving do. A special thank you goes to all of you involved in arranging it and making it such an enjoyable evening.

We feel very guilty that we did not personally get to say goodbye to many of our friends in Claydon & Clattercote particularly those of you whom we have known for most, if not all, of the 38 years that we lived in Claydon. We would actually have been living in Claydon House for 39 years this September. Hence you can imagine the very many happy memories we have of both the residents and the many events that were held during that time.

Unfortunately, as many of you will no doubt have heard, circumstances rather curtailed our activities in Claydon after the 1st April. David & Lars were out of action during April & May but have now recovered. Many thanks to neighbours, friends and family for the help during our move from Claydon to Okehampton at a very difficult time. We could not have managed without their help, especially Hallane & Andrew, Sara and Sue & Ken Merron. Sue & Ken, who lived at Manor Farm during the 1980's, now live near Okehampton.

The past three months have often seemed unreal but we are now settled in our new home and getting to know the surrounding area which is very beautiful.

Best wishes,

David, Josette & Lars

Thanks

to Zabin Al-Anazi for his efforts in strimming around the edges of the churchyard and spraying the weeds on the path.

Appeal

from Anne Hoggins for cakes and any unwanted items for the cakes and bring and buy stalls to be run by Gala Bingo on 2nd September in aid of a variety of children's charities. Any items can be delivered to Anne (tel. 690675) from 28th August.

Diary Dates

EVENING PRAYER

Sunday 6th August 6.00 pm at St. James' Church

NO SERVICE AT CLAYDON

Sunday 13th August - 9:30am Fairport Communion Service at Cropredy

COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday 16th August at 10:30 am. in the Church Room

UNDER THE COVERS

Friday 25th August at 7.00 pm at GF Club

MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 27th August 9.30 am at St. James' Church

EVENING PRAYER

Sunday 3rd September 6.00 pm at St. James' Church

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 12th September at 7:30 p.m. in the Church Room

BCP HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 17th September 8.30 am at St. James' Church

LITTLE LIGHTS GROUP

Thursday 21st September 10.30 to 12.00 for pre- school children and carers in the Church Room

HARVEST FAMILY SERVICE

Sunday 24th September 4.00 pm with refreshments afterwards

UNITED BENEFICE COMMUNION

Sunday 8th October 10.00 am at St. James' Church

Edited and produced by Jenny Jones

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