

# Crowmarsh News

Issue 463

April 2017

The *Crowmarsh News* is a self-funded publication and we regret that we are unable to accept unpaid advertising, even from local businesses and societies.

We welcome material for inclusion but do not necessarily endorse the views of contributors. We reserve the right to refuse material or to shorten contributions as may be appropriate. Editorial decisions are final.

## ADVERTISING RATES

The *Crowmarsh News* is currently distributed free to over 700 households in Crowmarsh Gifford, North Stoke and Mongewell.

Our rates for a one-eighth page display advertisement (nominal 9cm wide x 7cm tall) are:

- 1 month – £7.50
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- 6 months – £39.00

### Leaflet distribution

For a single sheet loose insert in the *Crowmarsh News* (size up to A4), our current rate is £25.00 for a single month. Advertisers must supply their own inserts (740 copies please).

Cheques should be made payable to "Crowmarsh News Association".

## The Crowmarsh News Team

The *Crowmarsh News* is run by the Crowmarsh News Association, a group of local volunteers.

### Editorial team:

James and Toni Taylor, Amanda Maher, Edwina Johnson and John Griffin

*What's On listings:* Julian Park

*Advertising:* Pat Shields

*Distribution:* Frank Sadler and the team

## Next month's issue

All new advertisements and all copy for the May issue of *Crowmarsh News* must reach us before our **20th April deadline**.

For all items of news, articles or correspondence, please e-mail

[crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com](mailto:crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com)

or deliver to the Editor at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

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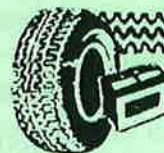
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## Neighbourhood policing news

Current priorities for the Wallingford area include theft, in particular bag/purse thefts. This has mainly occurred in the Wallingford Market Place area and Waitrose. Reports of this crime had increased over the last three months but are now in decline. Please can we remind everyone to be extra vigilant and not to leave any valuables on show or bags open and unattended?

We have received an increase in reports of dog fouling. Although this is a common complaint we make sure all reports are considered. We can issue tickets retrospectively for dog fouling if the incident is supported by a witness.

### Crime prevention

**Theft from vehicles:** We remind everyone not to leave items on show in your vehicle. We have seen an increase in vehicles being broken into, in particular tools being stolen from work vehicles. Do not leave tools in your vehicle overnight and make sure all vehicles are locked and secure. Also consider where you are parking and what other crime prevention options you have available: CCTV, alarms, blocking access to doors by reversing up against walls, garages, etc.

**Shed thefts:** We have been patrolling around local allotments after an increase in thefts from sheds. Make sure that your sheds are secure: use strong padlocks and check the doors are solid. Consider securing tools inside the sheds using anchor posts, chains and padlocks. You can also buy shed alarms from most DIY stores. Please contact us for further advice.

### Contact us

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team consists of Inspector Mark Harling, Sergeant Fraser Weller, PC Bob McIntyre, PC Simone O'Dell, PCSO Sue Harris, PCSO Marie Davenport, PCSO Sarah Jones, PCSO Tarran Golby & PCSO Clare Beale. To view more information on your neighbourhood team, visit the Thames Valley Police website: [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk).

To contact the neighbourhood team you can call the police non-emergency number 101 or email [WallingfordBerinsfieldCholseyNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:WallingfordBerinsfieldCholseyNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk). Please note this email address cannot be used to report crimes

or for any urgent matters. If it is an emergency, then dial 999. The Thames Valley Police Twitter account is kept up to date with what we are up to: please follow @TVPSouthandVale.



Dog fouling in Crowmarsh is a real problem, our paths and grass verges are becoming unsightly: please consider your community. Pick up after your dog. In order to maintain high standards of street cleanliness, PSCOs, acting on behalf of South Oxfordshire District Council, can now issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) of up to £80 (reduced to £50 if paid within ten days) to anyone over the age of 18 for allowing a dog to foul on a pavement but not picking it up.

## News from PACT

Did you know that more than 2000 children in England are currently in need of a permanent home? Adoption charity Parents And Children Together (PACT) is supporting a national campaign to encourage more people to come forward and provide a home to a child in care.

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## Good Friday Church Choir Concert

Wallingford Parish Church Choir continues the tradition of a Good Friday musical meditation with John Rutter's hauntingly beautiful Requiem. It will be performed at 7pm on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April in St. Mary's Church, Wallingford.

Though it necessarily has its dark moments, Rutter's Requiem is unmistakably optimistic in its message of hope and comfort, expressed through the beauty of the chosen texts and Rutter's uplifting music.

No ticket is required and all are welcome. There will be a retiring collection.

## Children's play area and outdoor gym in Crowmarsh?

The play area in the Recreation Ground is now more than 20 years old, and it is in need of replacement. Would you like to see new equipment there, such as a jungle climber, swings, roundabouts, rocking-horses on springs and slides? Facilities for disabled children would also be provided, and the play train (which is newer than the rest) would be retained.

We would also like to provide outdoor gym/training aids for teenagers and adults in the recreation ground, separate to the play area.

To make this happen we need community support, so that we can apply for grants. If you are in favour of the play area and outdoor gym, then please add your name to a list of signatures which can be found either in the Village Shop, or at Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School. Alternatively, you can sign by going onto the Crowmarsh Gifford website: <http://crowmarshgifford.org.uk/>

### Every name counts!

If you would like to help with any aspect of our application for funding, or find out more, please contact Andrew Johnson on 832266 or email him at: [ajo@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:ajo@ceh.ac.uk). Thank you.



## To book North Stoke Village Hall

contact Nikki Arnfeld  
(839736, 07969 788766 or  
[narnfeld@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:narnfeld@yahoo.co.uk))

or Stuart Soames (836058 or  
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## Wallingford U3A

On 1st March the inimitable Ken Fitt gave us "Treatment for the Funny Bone". Using film and video recordings he guided us hilariously through some of the changes in the style and content of modern comedy. As we laughed and watched, we learned that the great comedians from Max Miller, Les Dawson and Michael Crawford to Tommy Cooper, Spike Milligan, Jo Brand and Michael McIntyre all share the gift for faultless comic timing. And they were very, very funny. Thanks, Ken.

5th April - Speaker: Dr Jill Evers: "The Grave Trade .... archaeology of burial".

29th April – Outing to Hatfield House

3rd May - Robin Oakley: How 'personality has taken over politics'.

17th June - Theatre Visit: Sonning Mill, Lunch and Matinee "Don't Dress for Dinner"

We are a small U3A, very relaxed and friendly. Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm in Crowmarsh Village Hall. Visitors are always made welcome for the talk, tea and conversation.

To find out more about what we do please visit our website: Google: U3A Wallingford or phone Jill on 835994 or Marilyn on 651692.

## Wallingford Country Market

Wallingford Country Market has all sorts of spring bulbs, plants and small posies of spring flowers available, and in May/June we will have our usual selection of plants for bedding, baskets and borders. Our bakers are preparing some delicious cakes for Easter, too, so why not treat yourself to one?

Our usual Friday morning market in the Regal Centre, between 8.30am and 12 noon, will be replaced (for one week only) by our Easter Market, on Maundy Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> April. Please call the Market Manager on 681596 with any enquiries.

New producers are always welcome.



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Email: [teamvicar@wallingordcofe.org.uk](mailto:teamvicar@wallingordcofe.org.uk)

Churchwardens:  
Margaret Foster, tel: 836076  
Eva Thompson, tel: 201675

### Services and Events for April

Passion Sunday 2nd	11am	Parish Communion
Palm Sunday 9th	10.15am	Gather at St James' Church, Sotwell, to walk with a donkey to St Agatha's Church, Brightwell <i>There will be a dramatized reading of the Passion story from St Matthew's gospel, followed by a picnic (weather permitting).</i>
Monday 10th	8pm	Holy Week Compline service
Tuesday 11th	8pm	Holy Week Compline service
Wednesday 12th	8pm	Holy Week Compline service
Maundy Thursday 13th	7pm	'The Lord's Supper' shared fellowship meal at St Agatha's Church, Brightwell
Good Friday 14th	11am	Churches Together Service in Wallingford Market Square
Easter Eve 15th	8pm	Vigil with Renewal of Baptism Vows
Easter Sunday 16th	11am	Festival Communion
Wednesday 19th	7.30pm	Annual Parish Church Meeting
Sunday 23rd	11am	Family Communion (St George's Day)
Godparents' Sunday 30th	11am	Family Communion

Spring is the season of new life. You don't need to be a gardener to notice the buds, blossom, shoots and flowers. 'Now the green blade riseth', as the Easter anthem goes. Seeing our gardens spring into life reminds me of the importance of gardens as the backdrop for Holy Week and Easter. On the night that he was betrayed, Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane; John the Gospel-writer informs us that in the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and that in the garden there was a new tomb. And on the third day, Mary Magdalene, glimpsing Jesus through her tears, at first mistakes him for the gardener.

The Bible is a story of three gardens. It begins in the Garden of Eden, where the first humans succumb to temptation and reject God, 'not God's will, but ours be done'. As a result, humanity is banished from this garden to the wilderness of a fallen world, paradise lost.

The next garden is the olive grove of Gethsemane, where Jesus is tempted to save himself and abandon God's plan for redemption. But Jesus resists temptation with the prayer, 'not my will, but thine be done'.

Lastly, there is the garden of resurrection. The 'garden tomb', in which the body of Jesus was

laid at sundown on Good Friday, becomes the empty tomb of Easter Day. It is there that the angels announce to the women, 'He is not here, he is risen', and it is also there that Mary sees Jesus, before returning to the others exclaiming 'I have seen the Lord!'.

Over the next forty days, many more see Jesus, touch him and eat with him. Through their testimony and the witness of the Holy Spirit, the presence of the risen Jesus begins the long, slow task of transforming the wasteland back into God's garden, paradise regained – a work that will come to completion when God brings in his new heaven and new earth (Revelation 21, 22): 'Behold, I make all things new!'

As spring comes, I look forward to spending more time outdoors. Hopefully I can keep the vicarage garden in a reasonable state, although my gardening skills involve mainly pushing a lawn mower! Whether you will be gardening or not, I hope that, like me, you will find time to reflect on this story of the three gardens and what it means for us and for our world.

Wishing you a blessed Holy Week and a Happy Easter!

**Rev'd Kevin Beer**

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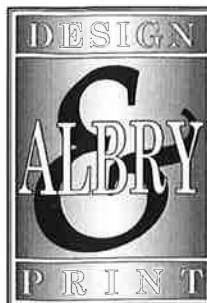
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## Crowmarsh Primary School

We have had another fantastic month at Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School, full of fun and exciting surprises. Over the past month, we've managed to squeeze in a visit from the Fix Up Team, another big act of kindness and looking forward to a great Red Nose Day!

The Fix Up Team are a group of positive, inspirational people who come into schools to tell us how amazing we are. Alim came in and was a brilliant rapper who was super cool. He first did a whole school assembly and then came into class 5 and 6 to do a workshop. We really appreciated him coming in, so a big thank you to the Fix Up Team.

Last week five children from year 5 and 6 got to go to Oxford to Jamie's Italian where they learnt how to make pizzas. Jamie's then donated ten pizzas for the children to pass out to homeless people they saw in the centre of town. "It was amazing," one person exclaimed. "We love to make people happy and love to see people smiling with joy." Crowmarsh School is having lots of fun. We hope you have a wonderful month and will update you again next month!

*Above written by Emily and Emily from Class 5*

As you can tell there has been lots of exciting events happening at Crowmarsh School these last few months. In the lead up to Easter we have many events and activities that keep us extremely busy. We continue our theme of #BePhenomenal and have welcomed in visitors to share their stories of resilience, courage and mistakes.

Elizabeth Wright, swimming Paralympian, also came in with a truly inspirational story of working through her early fears to eventually win medals in the Olympics. The children were captivated by her message of strength and resilience. Even the staff room conversation was taken over by how amazingly brave Elizabeth is and that we must never give up on our dreams.

We wish you and your families a restful Easter and look forward to welcoming you into our school soon.

Until Next Time!

**Mrs Barton, Headteacher**

## North Stoke Children Raise Money for Comic Relief

Well done to the children in North Stoke who organised a junior cake sale on Saturday 18th March and raised a whopping £133 for Comic Relief. The team were led by Hannah, Macy, Charlie, Jack, Chris, James and Thomas, and they would like to thank all the folks of North Stoke who participated.



## Road Closure for St George's Day event – 22<sup>nd</sup> April

During the St George's Day Celebrations in Wallingford on 22nd April St Martin's Street and St Mary's Street will be closed to vehicular traffic from the High Street to St. Leonard's Square between 10am and 4pm. Buses will stop outside the Wallingford Museum during this period. For more information contact Amber Wells at South Oxfordshire District Council, Tel. 01235 422553, Email [Amber.Wells@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:Amber.Wells@southandvale.gov.uk)

The St George's Day event will take place in the town centre from 11 am until 3 pm. To book a stall ring 01491 839415.

## SwapShop 8th April

**Don't chuck it, Swap it!**

**Time for a Spring clearout!**

The next Sustainable Wallingford SwapShop is at the Regal Centre, Wallingford 9.45-11.30 on Saturday 8th April, 2017.

Bring your unwanted things for re-use and help yourself to amazing items that others no longer need. Anyone can come – you don't have to bring anything. Completely free, and good fun!



## Wallingford Castle and Town history walks



By popular demand, on Saturday 8th April two historic guided walks will be led by Judy Dewey (local historian and Museum curator).

A Castle history walk 11am will be followed by a Town history walk at 2.30pm. Each walk lasts about 2 hours and starts at the Museum. The charge is £6 for each walk, or do both walks for £10 (unsuitable for dogs!)

You could immerse yourself in the town's fascinating local history for the whole day and also visit the new 'Wallingford Castle - the Inside Story', 'Pettits: past to present' and 'Ways to Wallingford' exhibitions at the Museum.

Just come along or contact Judy Dewey on tel. 651127 or [www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk)

### Regular guided Wallingford History Walks!

There will be a Guided Historic Town Walk at 11am every Saturday, from 15th April until 30th September. Meet at the Town Hall: there's no need to book. Walks last 1 to 2 hours and cost £5 per head, donated to Wallingford Museum.

These general walks cover the rich history of our town, touch on the links with Agatha Christie and 'Midsomer Murders' and will appeal to residents and visitors alike.

To organise a Town Walk for your group / society / school please contact Philip Burton on 836200 or [pburton6@talktalk.net](mailto:pburton6@talktalk.net)

More specialist history walks can be offered by arrangement. Contact Judy Dewey on 651127 or [judy@piepowder.co.uk](mailto:judy@piepowder.co.uk)

## Wallingford Flower Club

The April meeting of Wallingford Flower Club will be on Wednesday 12th April at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall (7 for 7.45pm). Coral Gardiner, a National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS) Demonstrator, will give a floral demonstration entitled 'Nature's Spring Palette'. Tickets are £5 each and all are welcome. Details from Fay Crabbe on 834303.

## 'Excavations at St Brieuc, Brittany – an Iron Age town?'



Tim Allen will talk at the Wallingford Historical & Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about the archaeological excavations at St Brieuc, Brittany on Wednesday 12th April, 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford.

Tim is Senior Project Manager at Oxford Archaeology Ltd (OA) and has directed and written up OA archaeological excavations for over 30 years. He has also directed research excavations and surveys built around public participation for the Earth Trust at Little Wittenham.

In 2009-10 OA excavated a major late Iron Age settlement at Tregueux, near to St Brieuc, Brittany ahead of road construction. Stretching over nearly 1km, this consisted of a defensive enclosure, a unique monumental timber courtyard building, a series of metalled roads and a very large settlement parcelled up by drainage ditches, with a series of wells along its line.

This is one of very few such 'agglomerated settlements', as the French describe them, in NW France, and marks the emergence of towns in Brittany. It also provides an important contrast to late Iron Age settlement in Southern England.

Visitors (£4) are most welcome. For more details visit [www.twhas.org.uk](http://www.twhas.org.uk).

## Wallingford Gardening Club

The April meeting will be at Ridgeway Community Church, Wallingford at 7.30pm on Thursday 13th April. Timothy Walker will talk about 'Bordering on Insanity - creating an all-year-round border'. This is the Club's prestigious annual 'Bill Baker Memorial Lecture'. Visitors very welcome, entrance £3. For more information call Isabelle Darby on 836867.

From 1986 to 2014 Timothy worked at the University of Oxford Botanic Garden & Harcourt Arboretum (OBGHA). Between 1992 and 2000 the OBGHA won 4 gold, 2 silver-gilt and one silver medal at the Chelsea Flower Show.

## Past Times from David Beasley

### The Elm Tree Murder

Sunday 3rd March 1946 was a cold, grey day with a threat of snow in the air. Florence Honey, a 60-year-old spinster who lived in The Street, Crowmarsh, went out early. She liked to ensure that the parish church, St Mary Magdalene, was always clean and tidy before the morning service. After church, Miss Honey returned home and finished preparing Sunday dinner for herself and her invalid sister Elsie, who had recently moved in with her. The sisters spent the afternoon quietly at home, listening to Tommy Handley and others on the radio.

After tea, Miss Honey walked into Wallingford to visit her bed-ridden friend, Mrs Harriet Lay, at 3 Compton Terrace. This was something she did three or four times a week. However, there was considerable disturbance in the town in the evenings, due to the number of British and Polish soldiers (from the nearby Transit Camp at Howbery Park) drinking in the pubs and roaming the streets, so walking there and back at night was not for the faint-hearted.

Miss Honey stayed with Mrs Lay until the radio closed down for the evening. On her way home, close to Leonard Shepherd's grocery shop (which was in the building that used to be Launderama, but is now two flats), she passed Thomas Beasley, who was returning from a visit to a friend in Crowmarsh. All was well until Miss Honey walked over Wallingford Bridge. As she reached the Crowmarsh side someone stopped her, dragging her into Wilder's Yard.

At about 6.30am the following day (Monday), Walter Green, of 14 Wood Street, Wallingford, was walking over the bridge and into Crowmarsh, where his lorry was garaged. As he passed Wilder's Yard he saw Miss Honey's body lying in the field opposite, her unopened brown handbag close by.

He immediately went to the police, and Scotland Yard was called in (it was not unusual at the time for this to happen with local police cases). A tarpaulin tent was erected over the body to protect it from falling snow, while local police awaited the arrival of Chief-Inspector Fabian (later the subject of a 1950s TV series, *Fabian of the Yard*, starring Bruce Seton as Fabian). A Home Office Pathologist, Professor J.M. Webster, also travelled down from London and both arrived in Crowmarsh later that afternoon. Under the glare of some strategically-placed car

headlights, Professor Webster crawled beneath the dripping wet tarpaulin that evening, to perform a preliminary examination of the body.

Meanwhile, the Crowmarsh 'Bobby', PC Peachy, had been standing outside a house at the bottom of Crowmarsh Hill, keeping watch on a family who had just moved to Crowmarsh. He was eventually ordered away by an irate Inspector Day, of Thame, who was working on the case and happened to be a friend of the family.

A Polish soldier was questioned that day, but later released. The ban on British and Polish soldiers leaving the Transit Camp was lifted at 5pm, allowing the Polish soldiers to meet their English wives, who were lodging nearby. There was talk locally of a 'wall of silence' at the Transit Camp. However, the footprints found at the murder scene were found to have been made by rubber-soled shoes, not Army issue boots. Several airmen at RAF Benson were also interviewed later in the investigation.

The inquest was opened at the British Legion Hall, Crowmarsh (formerly the village school, where Miss Honey had been a pupil) and then adjourned. It was re-opened at Henley Town Hall. In a statement given to the police, Miss Honey's sister Elsie explained that she had not been unduly concerned about her sister's absence on the night of the murder, as she had assumed that she was staying with Mrs Lay, whose condition had worsened. Miss Honey's body was formally identified by her brother, Herbert Honey.

The post-mortem showed that Miss Honey died of shock following a physical and sexual assault. She had been attacked under the elm tree in Wilder's Yard, and afterwards her body had been dragged over the road to the field.

At the inquest, the Coroner, Mr Arthur Lett, paid tribute to Miss Honey, saying 'she was a most lovable person who was full of charity for others', and that it was 'a tragedy that she should die this way'.

Eventually, the inquest concluded that Miss Honey had been murdered 'by a male person unknown' (because she was a victim of sexual assault). She was buried in the churchyard at Newnham Murren and the police investigation into her murder dragged on. The case was never officially closed, and to this day it is still open. After all this time Miss Honey's murderer has not been found, though local people still think he came from the Transit Camp at Howbery Park.



# Crowmarsh Parish Council News

Chairman: John Griffin, 29 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford, tel. 838523,  
email: [johngriffin@phonecoop.coop](mailto:johngriffin@phonecoop.coop)  
Parish Clerk: Sue Rance, 2 Home Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford  
Website: <http://www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk/index.php>

## Notes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 2nd March 2017

*Present: Councillors John Griffin (Chair), Francesca Jones, Stephen Sherbourne, Nigel Hannigan, David Mannering, Stuart Soames, Andrew Johnson, Denise Hall and David Topliss; Sue Rance (Clerk); Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer); County Councillor Mark Gray. Mr David Rowley was co-opted to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council.*

*Apologies: from Councillors Ann Sharp and Fleur Stevenson, District Councillors Felix Bloomfield and Richard Pullen.*

### Matters from previous meeting

Cllr Sherbourne will ask Mr Cottrell for a quote to prune the overhanging branch of the ash tree at Jethro Tull Gardens (not subject to a tree protection order). Trees on Botany Allotments will be pruned on 21st March.

Two salt/grit bins have been installed in Park View. The County Council decided the other two bins we had requested were unnecessary.

Cllr Gray will arrange for an officer from OCC Highways to meet councillors to discuss the proposed pedestrian crossing on the A4074.

A piece of land has now been transferred to the County Council enabling adoption of the new Riverside Park access road.

Cllr Soames has publicised the North Stoke defibrillator locally: 35 residents have requested training. The two defibrillators in Crowmarsh Gifford will have new pads for use with children.

The Parish Council has written to the Chairman of Thames Water in support of a local resident who has had problems with the mains drain across her property.

Cllr Sherbourne reported that an underground pipe had been installed to carry flood water where the ditch had been filled in. County Cllr Gray will investigate further work needed.

## County Councillor's report

County Cllr Gray reported that the Oxfordshire County Council tax will increase by 5% in 2017-18, and 3% of this is for social care.

Secondary school places for September 2017 have been allocated and 90% of students have been given their first or second choice. From 1st April, community groups will run the remaining 34 children's centres in Oxfordshire. The 12 centres in the South and Vale area plan to work together on fundraising.

Keith Stenning (Oxfordshire Highways) will visit to inspect potholes in Thames Mead. Everyone is encouraged to report any road problems at <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk>.

A vote will be held at the County Council in March on the 'One Oxfordshire' proposal for unitary local government. Oxford City Council is opposed to this arrangement, but South Oxfordshire District Council is now supportive.

### Finance

Payments agreed included £888 to Arrow Fencing for repairs to playground equipment, £489 for the Clerk's laptop, software and virus protection and £293.86 subscription to Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils, which gives legal and financial advice.

The Parish Council's precept for 2017-18 (which determines the council tax) will remain at this year's level of £38,201.

It was agreed that requests for grants/donations would be considered at the meeting on 16th March. Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows Parish Councils to spend money to benefit our area and its inhabitants. There is a maximum we can spend in a year.

Cllr Soames reported that he has obtained £10,000 lottery funding for the refurbishment of North Stoke Village Hall's kitchen.

Mr John Warburton spoke on behalf of the Corn Exchange Roof Appeal, reporting that the Sinodun Players have already raised 50%

of the cost of the major project to replace the 150-year-old glass roof and improve the theatre facilities. The work is planned to start in June and is expected to take 17 weeks. Mousey Lane will remain open throughout.

A grant has been requested to install a bench at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall in memory of Mrs Maie Knight, who lived in the Old School next to the Village Hall and worked at the primary school for about ten years. The Emery & Owen Charity (which runs the allotments between The Street and Thames Mead) has also received a request for a grant towards the cost of a specially-adapted tricycle for a disabled local child.

## Planning

### *SODC decisions:*

P16/S2961/FUL: Erection of two detached houses with new (shared) highway access (as amended, removing car ports, alterations of parking arrangements and reducing extent of flat roof to the side of the dwellings). Land fronting Wallingford Road, North Stoke, OX10 6BD. PERMISSION GRANTED.

### *Parish Council responses to SODC:*

P17/S0435/HH: New porch to front elevation. 28 Park View, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BL. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

P17/S0448/HH: Garage building with storage, home office and guest bedroom/bathroom. Larkrise, Mongewell, OX10 8BP. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

The Chair of Planning had attended a meeting with the SODC officers recently, concerning the large planning applications in the Parish.

A member of the public asked the Parish Council to request Rule 6 status (to appear as a main party at the appeal inquiry into SODC's decision to refuse CABI's application P15/S3387/FUL).

## Environment and recreation ground

Scofell will continue to maintain the nature area and will discuss with Cllrs Hall and Topliss the best treatment of nettles.

It was agreed to appoint a separate sub-committee (including Cllrs Griffin, Johnson, Rowley, Sharp and Sherbourne, and the Finance Officer), to discuss plans for the proposed new play area and to apply for

grants, once we have demonstrated community support. Five estimates will be obtained, including one from Arrow Fencing, who built the current play area. Local people are asked to sign the petitions displayed on noticeboards in the village shop and primary school, or to sign the petition online on the Crowmarsh Gifford website: [www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk](http://www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk).

## Traffic and transport

The 134 bus service is now operating for Wallingford School students, but bus passes have not yet been issued. The 134 timetable has changed, and buses only run one way, through Crowmarsh Gifford towards Wallingford.

## Correspondence

An allotment holder had requested a tap so that allotments may be watered with a hose. A tap fitted in the past had been removed after it was left running for long periods, resulting in high water charges. It was therefore decided that a new tap should not be installed.

## Notes of the Parish Council Meeting held at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 17th March 2017

*Present: Councillors Nigel Hannigan (Chair), Ann Sharp, Francesca Jones, Stuart Soames, Stephen Sherbourne, David Mannering, Andrew Johnson, Denise Hall and David Topliss; Sue Rance (Clerk) and Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer); Apologies: from Cllrs John Griffin, David Rowley and Fleur Stevenson*

The main business of this meeting was to discuss major projects and grant applications. The new playground project was adopted as the council's major focus for the year. See page 4.

A donation of £1000 was agreed to the Sinodun Players (Corn Exchange) Roof Appeal.

## Next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Thursday 6th April 2017** at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on **Thursday 18th May** at Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School, starting at 7.30pm. Thames Water and the Police Community Support Officers will be invited. All welcome.

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# WHAT'S ON – APRIL 2017

## Regular events and meetings

Every Thursday	19.45-22.00	Wallingford Photographic Club	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Friday (not 14th)	8.30-12.00	Wallingford Country Market	Regal Centre (see below & p. 4)
Every Saturday	10.00-12.00	WAGS store open	Centre 70
Most Saturdays	10.00-13.00	Local Producers' Market	Regal Centre
Various Days & times	Didcot and Wallingford Ramblers <a href="http://www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford">www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford</a>		

## This month

Saturday 1st	13.30 onwards	CTC 27-mile road cycle ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 5th	14.00 onwards	U3A: Jill Ayres on the archaeology of burial	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 6th	19.30 onwards	Parish Council Meeting	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Saturday 8th	9.45 till 11.00	Sustainable Wallingford Swapshop	Regal Centre Wallingford
Saturday 8th	11.00 & 14.30	Wallingford History Walks	Meet at Museum (see p. 11)
Saturday 8th	10.30 onwards	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Wednesday 12th	19.30 onwards	Henley Philatelic: Members evening	Bix Village Hall
Wednesday 12th	19.45 onwards	TWHAS talk: Excavations at St Brieuc, Brittany	St Mary's Church Wallingford
Thursday 13th	8.30-12.00	Wallingford Country Market	Regal Centre (see p. 4)
Friday 14th	19.00 onwards	Church choir concert: John Rutter's Requiem	St Mary's Church Wallingford
Sunday 16th	13.30 onwards	CTC 30-something-mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Sunday/Monday 16/17th	All day	Easter holiday trains	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Sunday 23rd	All day	St George's Day trains	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Sunday 23rd	11.00-15.00	St George's Day Celebrations/parade	Wallingford Town Centre
Wednesday 26th	19.30 onwards	Henley Philatelic: Barry Stagg Postcard display	Bix Village Hall
Saturday 29th	10.30 onwards	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Sunday 30th	All day	Bank Holiday trains	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway