

Crowmarsh News

Issue 462

March 2017

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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 and Layout: James and Toni Taylor

Editorial support: John Griffin, Amanda Maher, Edwina Johnson

What's On listings: Julian Park

Advertising: Pat Shields

Distribution: Frank Sadler and Team

Next month's issue

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

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

crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com

or deliver to the Editor at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

crowmarshadvertisers@gmail.com

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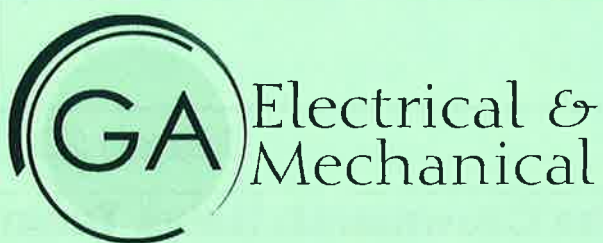


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Consultation

on Proposed Main Modifications to Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Part 1 – Core Strategy and Sustainability Appraisal Report Update, February 2017

Oxfordshire County Council is inviting comments on its Proposed Main Modifications to the Core Strategy and SEA/SA report update. These documents were approved for consultation by the Council's Cabinet on 24 January 2017 and are now being published for public consultation. The Council considers that these Main Modifications are necessary to make the Core Strategy sound.

The period for making representations runs for a period of six weeks to 20 March. All documents can be viewed on line and downloaded at:

<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/minerals-and-waste-core-strategy> and will be available for inspection during normal opening hours at Oxfordshire County Council, County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND.

Alternative means of viewing the documents may be arranged, if necessary, by contacting the Minerals and Waste Policy Team (contact details below).

Representations on the Proposed Main Modifications should be made on the form provided. Representations on the Main Modifications and the SEA/SA report update may be made in writing or by electronic communications and should be sent to the County Council by one of the following two ways:

- a) Send a representation by email to: mineralsandwasteplanconsultation@oxfordshire.gov.uk
- b) Send a representation by post to: Minerals & Waste Core Strategy Consultation, Planning Regulation – Minerals and Waste Policy Team, Communities, Oxfordshire County Council, County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND.

Representations must be received by 5pm on 20 March 2017. Representations received

after this date cannot be accepted.

Direct line: 07827 947324 or 07392 318899
Email: mineralsandwasteplanconsultation@oxfordshire.gov.uk
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Crowmarsh Ladies

We sadly have to report that the Crowmarsh Ladies group has now closed after meeting for more than 50 years.

Quiz'n'Chips – Friday 24th March – St Mary Magdalene

It's time for our spring quiz night: doors open on Friday 24th March at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. There will be a licensed bar with wine, beer and soft drinks; fish and chips will arrive around 8pm.

To book your team, please collect an entry form from Crowmarsh Stores or the church, or contact Sarah Nesbitt. It's £10 per head with food, £7.50 without. Ideally teams are 6-8 people, but if you don't have a team, come anyway and we'll create one. Please get your entries in by Sunday 19th March. We look forward to a full house.

Sarah Nesbitt
sjn62@icloud.com or 825903

Remembering Mr Peach Letter to the Editor

We were sad to hear that Mr Peach had died. He was a good man and a fine head teacher to all three of our children who went through Crowmarsh School in the '80s and '90s. We have a permanent reminder of Mr Peach in our garden here in Somerset. I look out of my bedroom window and there on the lawn is our faithful wooden tortoise; named by our children as Peachy. Because he had indeed "taught us".

Jim and Liz Stevenson

Colin Hamilton-Peach – Mr Peach to many people – was a former headmaster of our Primary School. He passed away on 31st December 2016, aged 82.

Crowmarsh Pre-School

At Crowmarsh Pre-school we have recently been looking at some key events that have been happening around the world including Australia Day and Chinese New Year. The children have been carrying out all sorts of activities and games and have also started a weekly cooking activity. We have cooked everything from sausage rolls to carrot soup, from animal biscuits to Australian lamingtons and even Chinese rice cakes. There have been some amazing smells wafting around Pre-school!

This term we will see the children looking at pirate treasure maps, and think about ways to thank the people who help us every day including Mother's Day, the colour yellow, space and Easter. And with the sun beginning to peek through we are going to be looking at springtime and all that it brings.

Vacancy – Manager

Located next to the primary school, Crowmarsh Pre-school provides learning and play for children during the term time school day. Rated Outstanding by Ofsted, with a great team of four staff and no more than 25 pupils per session, we pride ourselves on care, safety and experiences to grow.

An opportunity has arisen to join and lead our inspiring team of staff at Crowmarsh Pre-school as a Manager. Working within this experienced and friendly team, candidates must possess excellent communication skills, supporting positive relationships with children, staff, families and external partners.

We are looking for someone who has great organisational skills, and a demonstrated ability to prioritise with good time management. The candidate must be passionate about providing a high quality learning environment for children and be driven in their expectations of professional practice.

Previous management experience is preferred, with a sound understanding of Ofsted, current legislation and a working knowledge of the EYFS. Applicants should hold a minimum Level 3 qualification in Early

Childcare, but ideally be a level 6 (or studying for it) and have had experience with being a SENCO. Crowmarsh Pre-school is committed to safeguarding and requires a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Check for each employee.

For more information or to get an application form and equal opportunities monitoring form, please visit www.crowmarshpre-school.org.uk

About Crowmarsh Pre-school

Crowmarsh Pre-school has a strong emphasis on learning through play. We are open to all children between the ages of 2 and 5 years and provide the perfect (and FUN) preparation for children getting ready to start school.

We offer two sessions a day during term time. The morning session runs from 8:45 or 9am to 12pm, and the afternoon session from 12 noon to 3pm. Lunch club is from 12 to 1pm and may be added on to the morning session.

To find out more information about the Pre-school please call 07951 599 623 for a chat or e-mail Vikki at admin@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk

Wallingford and District Stroke Club

Wallingford and District Stroke Club meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at Crowmarsh Village Hall for activities and companionship, tea and cake. In the summer months we arrange outings, both locally and further afield, using the Wallingford Coach with its accessible platform.

We'd love to welcome more members (fees are very reasonable at £2 per month). If you, or someone you know, would like to join us – or just give us a try – please contact Norman Goodall on 01235 834503 or Nigel Hessey on 01491 651114 and we'll be pleased to talk to you.

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Crowmarsh Fair



Crowmarsh Fair probably started in medieval times, when the tolls from the fair were paid to Edward III's son, the famous Black Prince.

In 1340 an armed gang assaulted the merchants and stole their goods. During the fight a man named Robert Cailly was killed. By the 1800s the fair was much smaller, and the goods that were sold by auction were mainly horses, cows and cheeses, the auction taking place in the orchard of the Bell Inn. By this time the fair was held in the first week of August.

The fair held on 1st August 1847 had plenty of horses for sale but the trade was dull and the prices were low. One local farmer who had previously bought a horse for £14, sold it for only £5, rather than take it home again. The following year Henry Hutt of Reading advertised that he had 100 horses to sell at the Crowmarsh Fair. The types of horses were

cobs, ponies and cart horses, plus harness. It was reported that he sold all but three of his horses and all the harness.

At the 1851 fair there was a very large number of horses but the supply of cheese was very low. It was at this fair that Mr Lovegrove, a grocer from Wallingford, was trying a horse in a cart, when the horse took fright and bolted. On striking another cart, Mr Lovegrove was thrown a considerable distance on to his face, which was badly cut, but he luckily suffered no broken bones.

By 1861 the number of horses for sale was considerably reduced and there were also very few cows for sale, but the sale of cheeses had increased. The fair struggled on for about another forty years before finally closing. What a spectacle it must have been, to see Mr Hutt driving a hundred horses up The Street in Crowmarsh!

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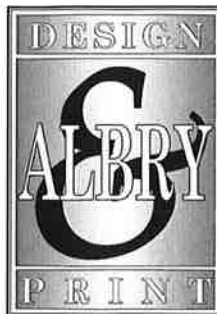
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Services for March

Wednesday 1st	8pm	Ash Wednesday - Team Service at St Leonard's in Wallingford
Sunday 5th	11am	Parish Communion
Sunday 12th	11am	Family Service
Sunday 19th	11am	Parish Communion
Friday 24th	7 for 7.30pm start	Quiz'n'Chips
Sunday 26th	11am	Mothering Sunday Family Communion
Morning Prayer - every Friday at 9am		Evening Prayer (BCP) – every Sunday at 4pm – switches to 6.30pm from 26th March for BST

March is that time of year when the days 'lengthen', from which the Christian season of Lent gets its name. It is traditionally the season for giving up things, though more and more people are also using it as a time for doing something extra. But why do either or both of these things anyway?

It's easy to say "I'll give up chocolate or alcohol" when really you were intending on going on a diet – but that's not what the discipline of fasting is about. True fasting is an attitude of the heart, a voluntary inner decision to give up something to bring us closer to God.

It may involve food, social media, an interest or something else - it's denying ourselves of something that is not in itself wrong, but whose absence will help us to concentrate our minds and free our spirits – and it's meant to bring a blessing, not as a punishment to make us feel miserable. Fasting is a time of focusing and relying on God.

A while back, I came across an item entitled "Twelve Ideas for Lent" which involves both giving up and taking on. Here it is:

- Give up harsh words – use generous ones
- Give up unhappiness – take up gratitude
- Give up anger – take up gentleness and patience

- Give up pessimism – take up hope and optimism
- Give up worrying – take up trust in God
- Give up complaining – value what you have
- Give up stress – take up prayer (or "mindfulness" if you prefer to call it that!)
- Give up judging others – discover Jesus within them
- Give up sorrow and bitterness – fill your heart with joy
- Give up selfishness – take up compassion for others
- Give up being unforgiving – learn reconciliation
- Give up words – fill yourself with silence and listen to others

Even if we manage to do just one of these things we will have learnt about ourselves and God in a deeper way and made the world a better place. So why not try any or all of them for yourself this Lent? Hopefully, they may even be habit forming!

**Best Wishes,
Kevin**

Short Mat Bowls

takes place at the Pavilion on Tuesdays at 7pm and on Thursdays at 2pm. For more information, please call 837518.



What did Wallingford Castle look like?

Wallingford Castle was one of the greatest royal strongholds of Medieval England, and it ranked alongside the Tower of London and Windsor Castle in its importance in the Thames Valley.

When Wallingford Museum opened with its new exhibitions on 1st March there was also on display a new artistic impression of the Castle. The new illustration has been produced by Museum volunteer June Strong, whose striking drawing brings to life the amazing details discovered in newly translated documents and investigations, revealing the daily life and the layout of the Castle.

There are three new exhibitions:

Wallingford Castle - the Inside Story

presents a closer look at different parts of the Castle as revealed in the new documentary research. It explores how Wallingford and its local area was linked to the castle through provision of many essential goods, services, animals and food.

Details include what has been suggested about the layout and uses of the castle buildings and their architectural details - as interpreted in the striking new artist's impression by June Strong. It also considers where the building materials came from, how they were carried and who was employed. So come along and find out the latest about this incredible medieval royal castle!

Pettits: past to present exhibition gives a history of Wallingford's department store, and the family who have run it from its beginning in 1856 to the present day.

Ways to Wallingford describes how Wallingford has been an important crossing point on the Thames since Saxon times. This exhibition looks at the development of transport to and from the town over the ages, considering the impact of roads, the River Thames, railways and aviation. In addition to looking at how the

routes evolved and improved, it covers the many uses of transport, including the importance of RAF Benson, which was established just before the Second World War.

Further details at

www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk



New light on the Romano-British countryside

March's talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society will be given by Alexander Telford Smith. He will present "New light on the Romano-British countryside: Current results of the Roman Rural Settlement Project".

It has often been stated that Roman Britain was quintessentially a rural society, with the vast majority of the population living and working in farmsteads and occasional larger villages. Yet there was clearly a large degree of regional variation, and with the huge mass of mainly developer-funded excavation data created over the past 25 years, the incredible diversity and density of Roman rural settlement across the landscape is now starting to be demonstrated.

The current Rural Settlement in Roman Britain project is using data collected from both published sources and unpublished 'grey literature' to provide new light on how the Romano-British countryside worked, including chronological and regional trends in settlement form and architecture, agricultural and industrial practices, and in matters of ritual expression.

Dr Smith is a Senior Research Fellow at Reading University, and his main area of interest is the rural settlement of Roman Britain. His talk will be an overview of the current state of this research, concentrating on southern Britain, and assessing how the TWHAS excavated site at Coldharbour Farm fits in with wider patterns in the Romano-British countryside.

This talk will be held on Wednesday 8th March, 7.45 for 8pm at St Mary's Church, Wallingford. Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

Crowmarsh Parish Council News

Chairman: John Griffin, 29 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford, tel. 838523,
email: 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 at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 2nd February 2017

*Present: Councillors John Griffin (Chair),
Francesca Jones, Stuart Soames, Ann Sharp,
Stephen Sherbourne, Nigel Hannigan, David
Mannering, Andrew Johnson, Fleur Steven-
son, Denise Hall and David Topliss; Sue
Rance (Clerk); Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer);
County Councillor Mark Gray.*

*Apologies: from District Councillors Bloomfield
and Pullen.*

Items from previous meeting

The County Council is still waiting for a parcel of land to be transferred so that the access road to the Riverside via Stephens Field can be adopted. The Chairman and Cllr Gray will continue to follow this up.

The Chairman reported information from SODC relating to the 2008 legal agreement including eventual transfer to the Parish Council of the Public open space at Stephens Field: more information is awaited.

Cllr Gray was thanked for his advice on obtaining a defibrillator from the British Heart Foundation for North Stoke, now installed at the village hall (see photo below).



The council has contracted Mr David Cottrell to cut back four trees on Botany Allotments at a cost of £700.

Environment and Recreation Committee

Semi-mature black poplars have been planted in the nature area in the hope that most will grow to maturity.

The cost of the new basketball practice facilities was £6,692.50. There have been four complaints from neighbours in Jethro Tull Gardens about the location, which was chosen to be away from the area subject to flooding. The situation will be monitored.

Berinsfield Community Business have been chosen as the contractor for the recreation ground grass cutting, as they offered a competitive quote and their work in other villages has been satisfactory.

The Committee proposed a project to renew the children's play area. The current playground is 20 years old and well used by residents and visitors but much of the equipment is reaching the end of its life.

It is proposed to display posters at the school for parents and children to sign and also at the village shop to demonstrate community support for the project. It will be necessary to apply for grants as the cost of a new playground could be up to £120,000. It was agreed to go out to consultation in the community first.

A sub-committee would be needed to plan the project and share the work of grant applications. The new area could be about 20% larger than the existing playground and will incorporate the existing train, which is relatively new and was bought in memory of former Councillor Pratt.

County Councillor's report

Cllr Gray is now a governor of Crowmarsh Gifford Primary and is very impressed with the

school. The county council still has responsibility for most primary schools, although most secondary schools are now academies.

Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group has launched a consultation on the NHS.

A further £7 million in cuts is expected in the County Council budget for 2017-18. However, there will be a significant rise in council tax: 5% extra is to be used to support adult social care in addition to a 2% general rise. Daytime support is due to be cut from £9 million to £4.5 million, and as a result 14 adult day care centres will close.

However, OCC has £200 million in central government grants for specific projects such as road improvements.

Homelessness is an increasing problem in Oxford and elsewhere. Three hostels are to close in Oxford, each supporting 50 people. District councils will provide about 15 beds but it is uncertain where these will be.

There is a new advisory group for street lighting as the street lamps are wearing out.

Better broadband for Oxfordshire has achieved 90% coverage, which should reach 95% by December 2017.

A new community interest company is operating the 134 Wallingford-Goring bus. New timetables have been posted. The service will extend to Wallingford School from a date to be advised. Note that the 134 now only runs one-way through Crowmarsh Gifford and leaves Wallingford via the hospital and the A4130 Wallingford bypass bridge.

OCC officer Gordon Hunt met with Cllr Sherbourne to discuss drainage problems in The Street caused by a section of the ditch having been filled in. A partial solution was proposed to run a pipe to connect up the two sections of the ditch.

Finance

Payments were agreed including £6,292.50 for the basketball practice facility, £1260 to Arrow Fencing for the bus shelter opposite the village hall in Benson Lane, £754.80 to Scofell for

work at the nature area and £200.93 to SODC for emptying dog bins.

The Finance Officer suggested that the council should reconsider using Internet banking, but first we will seek advice from the Society of Local Council Clerks, the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC) and other parish finance officers.

Requests for grants/donations

A grant of £100 was agreed to Oxfordshire Association for the Blind and a grant of £150 to the South and Vale Carers' Centre. The Clerk will ask for further information from Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South and Vale before a decision is made.

The roof on the Corn Exchange Theatre in Wallingford needs replacing. The Sinodun Players own the building (a registered charity). Cllr Jones declared an interest as she is a member. The theatre, which is run by volunteers, first opened in December 1978. The total cost will be £500,000 but the appeal is to raise £350,000.

It is hoped to improve insulation and repairs must remain sympathetic to the listed building. It will be closed from June until October while the work is carried out.

The Finance Officer will check on the regulations relating to donations and a grant to the Corn Exchange Roof Replacement Fund will be discussed at the March meeting.

Planning

The Council noted the following decision from SODC:

P16/S3918/HH (Householder): First floor rear extension over existing. 54 Park View, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BN.
PERMISSION GRANTED.

The Council agreed its response to SODC on the following application:

P17/S0215LB (Listed Building): Replace porch as original. Kimberley, The Street, North Stoke (in the parish of Crowmarsh), OX10 6BL.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

Planning Committee meeting 1st February 2017

Application P16/S2961/FUL to erect two detached houses with new (shared) highway access fronting Wallingford Road, North Stoke (as amended) had come before SODC Planning Committee on 1st February. The Parish Council maintained its objections, but the application had been approved.

Appeal under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against SODC's decision to refuse application P15/S3387/FUL (Demolition of existing buildings and creation of a new headquarters for CABI, erection of 91 dwelling houses, comprising open market and affordable housing, provision of open space, landscaping and parking and other associated works. CABI International, Nosworthy Way, Mongewell, OX10 8DE).

The appeal will be determined on the basis of a public inquiry. All representations made already have been forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate and the appellant. Further comments must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 27th February.

Neighbourhood planning

Cllr Sherbourne reported on a meeting held in Benson about neighbourhood development plans. Crowmarsh has not embarked on a neighbourhood plan and Cllr Sherbourne wanted to ascertain whether earlier survey results and consultations could be a starting point. This will be discussed further in March.

Consideration of a quarterly meeting to discuss major projects

It was agreed to meet on Thursday 16th March at North Stoke, starting at 7.30pm, to plan strategy. The Clerk will circulate again information on the strategic projects that have been identified as a starting point.

Correspondence

- SODC had requested information on the history of the name 'Pocock Lane' in North

Stoke. Pocock Lane currently has the same postcode as Cook Lane, which is not permitted in Royal Mail policy.

- Letter from a local resident asking for a footway on the south side of The Street between Watery Lane and the end of the bridge.
- Letter from BT proposing to remove the telephone box outside Jewsons, which had been used very little in recent years.
- A health and well-being open day will be held at Wallingford Community Hospital.

Other business

- Parish Council noticeboards: Cllrs Jones and Sherbourne will survey the state of the noticeboards and report back.
- Cllr Jones is re-writing the emergency plan in a new format.
- Cllr Topliss reported that further street signs are needed in Newnham Green to indicate house numbers.
- Mr David Rowley would like to join the Parish Council. There is one vacancy and it was agreed to co-opt him at the March meeting.

Next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd March 2017 at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

The date of the Annual Parish Council Meeting has still to be agreed.

There will be County Council elections on Thursday 4th May 2017.

Sue Ryder – Sale Dates

The next Sale of Donated Goods is on Saturdays 18th March. It will run from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Saleable donated goods are welcomed on week days between 9am and 4.30pm, but we are unable to accept goods on Sale Day or the day before.

Volunteers are always needed to select and allocate donated goods and to assist with Sales. The Sue Ryder Nettlebed Hospice is at Henley on Thames, RG9 5DF. For further details, please call 01491 641384 ext 246.

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WHAT'S ON – MARCH 2017

Regular events and meetings

1st & 3rd Mon	19.00	Knitting Circle	Queen's Head, Crowmarsh
Every Tuesday	19.00-21.30	Short Mat Bowls	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Thursday	14.00-16.30	Short Mat Bowls	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Thursday	19.45-22.00	Wallingford Photographic Club	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Friday	08.30-11.15	Wallingford Country Market	Regal Centre
Every Saturday	10.00-12.00	WAGS Store open	Centre 70
Most Saturdays	10.00-13.00	Local Producers' Market	Regal Centre

This month

Wednesday 1st	14.00	U3A: The global housing crisis... can we find a solution?	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 2nd	19.30	Parish Council Meeting	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Sunday 5th	13.30	CTC 26-mile road ride	Meet in Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 8th	19.45	Henley Philatelic: Open Auction	Bix Village Hall
Wednesday 8th	19.45	TWHAS: New light on the Romano-British Countryside	St Mary's Church, Wallingford
Saturday 18th	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Sunday 19th	13.30	CTC 30-mile road ride	Meet in Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 22nd	19.45	Henley Philatelic: Visiting Society TBA	Bix Village Hall
Saturday 25th	10.00-13.00	Health and well-being open session	Wallingford Medical Practice
Sunday 26th	All day	Mothering Sunday Specials	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Tuesday 28th	19.30	Café Scientifique: Why you should love wasps	Wallingford School

For details of walks with Didcot & Wallingford Ramblers, please see www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford

if you would you like to see the equipment in the play area replaced, please support the scheme by adding your name to the list, either in the Village Shop, or at Crowmarsh Primary School. Or sign at the Crowmarsh Gifford website: <http://crowmarshgifford.org.uk/>