

**Issue 482**

**November 2018**

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 distributed 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 — £8.50
- 3 months — £25.00
- 6 months — £45.00

### **Leaflet distribution**

For a single sheet loose insert in the *Crowmarsh News* (size up to A4), our current rate is £30 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 and Layout:* Amanda Maher and Kirsty Dawson

*Editorial support:* James and Toni Taylor, John Griffin and Revd Kevin Beer

*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 December 2018 issue of *Crowmarsh News* must reach us before our **20th November 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 Editors at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

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# District Council Report

## Three-year housing land supply

Following a consultation in July, councils in Oxfordshire now only need to provide a three-year supply of land for housing, instead of the five-year supply normally required by the government.

The government has agreed to this change while we work together with the other Oxfordshire Councils on a Joint Statutory Spatial Plan, the document that will address how we collectively plan to deliver 100,000 homes across the county by 2031, which was agreed as part of the Oxfordshire Growth Deal.

This means it is now much less likely for developers to win planning permission on appeal after we have rejected their applications.

## New legislation coming for HMOs

New legislation came into force on the 1st October, which affects landlords of houses in multiple occupation (HMOs).

As licensing authorities, both South and Vale grant licences to larger HMOs that are three or more storeys and occupied by five or more people forming at least two separate households.

The new legislation means smaller properties used as HMOs will also require a licence. Other changes to be introduced

include national minimum sizes for rooms used as sleeping accommodation and the requirement for landlords to adhere to council refuse schemes.

If you have any information on HMOs in your area that may require a licence, please email our Environmental Health Team [env.health@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:env.health@southandvale.gov.uk) or by phoning 01235 422403.

## Cooking oil recycling

We've just introduced a new cooking oil recycling service for residents as part of our food waste collections.

After cooking and once it has cooled, any leftover oil can be poured into a plastic bottle no bigger than one litre in size. The bottle and its contents can then be placed into the kerbside food waste caddy, along with other food waste, and put out for the weekly collection. For those who don't want to use a plastic bottle, oil can also be poured straight into the caddy along with other food waste. One litre of cooking oil can generate enough electricity to make 240 cups of tea!

*Cllr Felix Bloomfield*

**Short Mat Bowls** takes place at the Pavilion on Tuesdays at 7pm and on Thursdays at 2pm. For more information, please call Don on 202543



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# 1st Crowmarsh Gifford Scouts

New Beginnings for the Executive Committee.

Our newly enlarged Executive Committee got off to a flying start on Monday 15th October with everyone introducing themselves and sharing what they could contribute to the Scout Group. New additions were local vicar, Kevin Beer, Liz Ryall and John Grosse.

We were delighted to hear about Liz's financial knowledge and skills and John's fundraising and governance experience. We agreed to John's fundraising suggestion of creating a group of local supporters for Scouts called the 'Crowmarsh Cadre' (£10 annual subscription). The term 'Cadre' reflects Scouts founder Baden-Powell's adoption of military terms like scout/patrol/troop/tracking etc. as a means of attracting interest in his life-skills training scheme.

John is recruiting members now and welcomes any enquiries, contact him on 07711 938 697 or email [john.grosse@btinternet.com](mailto:john.grosse@btinternet.com).

Looking forward to the prospect of brighter and warmer weather in the Spring, we decided our Birthday Anniversary Celebration will be on 16th March 2019. Please put the date in your diary and await details of this great occasion - all will be welcome.

To find out more about Crowmarsh Scout Group please contact Ross Edmonds at [chair@crowmarshgiffordscouts.org](mailto:chair@crowmarshgiffordscouts.org) or Siobhan on 07703 473250.

We welcome helpers, Committee Members and supporters.

Beavers (6-8) meet on Mondays at 5-6pm;  
Cubs (8-10½) meet on Mondays at 6.15-7.45pm; and Scouts (10-14) meet on Tuesdays at 7-9pm.

**You can hire** the Dance Studio, Sports Hall or the Astro turf at Wallingford School.

Call Wilson Chong on 829762, or email [Leisure-centre@wallingfordschool.com](mailto:Leisure-centre@wallingfordschool.com)

# News from Crowmarsh Pre-School

As we write this article, the children are coming to the end of their first term at Pre-School. All the children have settled in happily, and we are enjoying playing and learning together in our beautiful setting. We have particularly enjoyed exploring the outdoor area and sharing traditional stories, then acting them out with a range of props and resources. Next term, we will be learning lots of new songs in time for Christmas!!

We are keen to involve the whole community in our Pre-School. Over the next few months, there will be some exciting fund-raising events for you to come along to. The first of these will be a **Quiz Night on February 9th**. There will also be an Easter trail around the village and a very special event in the summer. Please watch this space for further details!

If you are interested in a place at Pre-School for your child, please contact Toni our administrator on:  
[admin@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk](mailto:admin@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk)

We have already received several applications for spaces in September 2019, so please do get in contact soon!

*Annie Goss*

# Seasonal Advice from Local Police

Leave a light on and burglars in the dark! Now that the days are getting shorter please follow some simple guidelines to help prevent becoming a victim of burglary:

- Invest in a light timer switch.
- Close and lock all your doors and windows when going out or to bed.
- Keep valuables out of sight.
- Don't advertise you are away from home on social media.
- Register your valuables with [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com).

For updates see [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk)



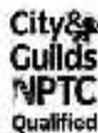
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## Henley and District Philatelic Society

A warm welcome to our meetings awaits stamp and postcard collectors and this is a particularly good month to come to a meeting. Tony & Rosa Lawrence, our friendly Postcard and Stamp Dealers, will be in attendance for our Postcard Evening on 14th November. We welcome back on 28th November Wendy Buckle and her display 'The Write stuff' which will show what can be done with philatelic material to tell a story.

Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month in Bix Village Hall at 7.45 p.m. Visitors and new members are welcome. Further details can be obtained by phoning 681739 or on our website: [www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk](http://www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk).

## Sue Ryder Sale Dates

The dates for the next sales of donated goods are: Saturdays 3rd & 24th November and 15th December – 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Saleable donated goods are welcomed on weekdays between 9am and 4.30pm. We regret we are unable to accept goods on Sale day or the day before. Volunteers needed to select and allocate donated goods and to assist with Sales. For further details call: 641384 ext 246 Sue Ryder, Nettlebed Hospice, Henley on Thames, RG9 5DF

## Crowmarsh Gifford Children's Christmas Party!

On Saturday 3rd December from 3pm to 5pm the Village Hall Committee are hosting a Christmas party for all children aged between 4 and 12 years old. The event is free to all children who live in Crowmarsh Parish. There will also be a visit by Father Christmas!

**All children must be accompanied by an adult.** Please book your place by filling in the flyer in this edition of Crowmarsh News or collect a form from Crowmarsh Gifford School or Crowmarsh Stores.

## Volunteering Grants Available

Volunteering grants worth a total of £25,000 are available to groups in South Oxfordshire, but time is running out to apply for them because applications must be in by January 2019. The money has been earmarked for community groups who have difficulties recruiting volunteers for financial reasons. The grant scheme was prompted by voluntary groups telling SODC that one of the biggest obstacles they face when trying to attract volunteers is finding money to meet training, transport and insurance costs.

In August the council launched a pilot volunteering grant scheme with a total of £25,000 to give away to help voluntary and community groups find the volunteers they need. Small voluntary groups in South Oxfordshire can apply for a new volunteering grant of between £250 to £750 to help cover costs, for example the costs of training as a sports coach or the costs of additional insurance needed to be a volunteer driver. The scheme will be run as a pilot in 2018/19 and depending on its success, councillors will decide whether to continue with it in the future.

The district council made a commitment in its Corporate Plan to provide additional support to voluntary and community groups to help them find the volunteers they need. This grant is the first of a range of exciting new projects underway to do that, and to help get communities working together to make life better in the district.

The new Volunteering Grant is open to small voluntary and community and social enterprise sector organisations operating in South Oxfordshire with a revenue turnover of less than £100,000 per year.

To find out more about the grant, eligibility and how to apply please see [southoxon.gov.uk/volunteering](http://southoxon.gov.uk/volunteering).

# Past Times: The 1918 Flu Epidemic

from David Beasley

A hundred years ago just as the First World War was ending, the world was in the throes of an even more deadly event, Spanish Flu. More people died from Spanish Flu than were killed in the First World War, there is some doubt over the exact figure but it is thought to be between 50 and 100 million people worldwide.

The influenza epidemic first broke in June 1918, by July it was a major concern as 700 Londoners died in a week and schools all over Britain were closed. The epidemic abated, only to return in a more virulent form in the Autumn of 1918, not only in Britain, but also in Germany and the United States, where it was thought to have originated. However, it probably came from China via the United States, as there was a large movement of labourers from China through America to Europe during the war, where they worked behind the lines with the British and French Armies.

The flu did not attack the usual victims, the elderly and young, but healthy adults in their 20s and 30s, causing the victim to die in a matter of hours. When the epidemic abated in spring of 1919, it was thought that between 150,00 and 230,000 people died in Britain. The Government put restrictions on the reporting of the epidemic in Britain and France, but there was no restriction on reporting of the outbreak in Spain, as this was a neutral country. It was assumed the outbreak started in Spain, hence the name Spanish Flu.

Officially Wallingford was not badly affected by the epidemic, but if you read the death columns in the papers there was a large increase in deaths from fever or pneumonia. Over one week in December 1918, there were eight deaths recorded, all in the 20 to 30 age brackets, when normally there would one or two a month.

One of the more notable deaths from Wallingford was Ernest Henry Latter. He served with the Canadian Forces throughout the war and was awarded a Military Cross for carrying wounded men back to safety, and he died in December 1918 in Namur, Belgium. He was a genuine Town hero, as a boy he helped rescue a woman from drowning and received a Humane Society award. When he was awarded the Military Cross in 1916 he was given a civic reception.

The schools in Wallingford and Crowmarsh were closed in November 1918, as were the Sunday Schools, and the schools remained closed for six weeks. Compared with the rest of the country Wallingford was lucky, as although many cases were reported there were few fatalities. By January 1919 the epidemic began to die out. It had spread from the Arctic to the Pacific Islands, and modern analysis now puts the death toll at nearer 100 million, 3-5 % of the world's population. It infected over 500 million people worldwide and was one of the deadliest natural disasters in human history.

## Friday Country Market

Wallingford Country Market is held in St Mary-le-More Church on every Friday 9.30am – 12 noon. Seasonal plants, produce and baking are on sale every week.

Friday 2nd November 'Mince Pie Tasting'  
Let us help you with your Christmas preparations. Orders taken for most items, including Christmas baking, fresh wreaths/ decorations and hand-crafted gifts.

Friday 21st December will be the last Country Market for 2018.

For further information, please call the Market Manager on 681596 or visit us one Friday morning. New producers are always welcome.

**To book Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall**

call Chris Strange on 07711 904252, or email [cvhbookings@gmail.com](mailto:cvhbookings@gmail.com)

## Wallingford Photographic Club

Wallingford Photographic Club is a friendly and welcoming club for photographers of all levels from novice to professional. The club meets every Thursday evening at 7.30pm for 8pm in Crowmarsh Pavilion from mid-September to late May, and are always very pleased to welcome visitors and new members.

1st November there will be a club Print Competition when members will submit prints to be judged and critiqued by an outside judge.

8th November Micki Aston will be giving a presentation on Black and White Photography.

15th November a talk by Paul Mitchell FRPS entitled "The Seeing Eye".

The last two meetings in November will be taken up with club competitions. Prints will be judged on the 22nd and Digital Projected Images will be judged on the 29th. Club competitions represent an excellent opportunity to see club members work and hear comments on their images from an outside judge. Full information can be found on the club website [www.wallingfordphoto.club](http://www.wallingfordphoto.club)

*Michael Parrott*

## Macmillan Cancer Support Buddy Scheme

A new, free service has started up for people affected by Cancer in Oxfordshire. Run by Macmillan Cancer Support, their trained volunteers can support you for up to 12 weeks with things like: light gardening or housework, shopping, a walk and a coffee, a lift to an appointment and just having a chat and a cup of tea.

To find out more or if you know of anyone affected by Cancer that needs practical and/or emotional support, you can contact us on 01904 756402 or email [oxreferrals@macmillan.org.uk](mailto:oxreferrals@macmillan.org.uk). If you would prefer, you can ask your cancer nurse specialist or health professional to contact us on your behalf.

If you are interested in becoming one of our trained volunteers, we would love to hear from you. Please contact: Joe Charters, Volunteering Services Manager, Macmillan Cancer Support on 07540 761 739 or email [oxreferrals@macmillan.org.uk](mailto:oxreferrals@macmillan.org.uk).



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## Deadline Approaches for Local Groups Grants in South Oxfordshire

Whether it's money for a new sports hall, church bell or a village noticeboard, South Oxfordshire District Council now has £145,000 available for local groups doing building work or making major improvements. The council's capital grants scheme opened on the 1st October and local organisations in South Oxfordshire have just six weeks to apply to the council for money towards improving, creating or replacing community facilities. The deadline for applications is **15th November**.

Grants range from £1,000 which could cover the replacement of a village noticeboard to £100,000 towards a project like a new recreation ground, but the improvements must benefit local residents. In the last 18 months the council has helped fund more than 35 projects with grants ranging from £1,799 up to £250,000, including sea scout equipment in Clifton Hampden and a new cricket pavilion in Thame. Crowmarsh Parish Council Playground Action Team successfully applied for a grant of just over £99,000 towards the building of a playground and outdoor gym in Crowmarsh.

We are lucky to have so many active community groups in the district delivering great projects that benefit our residents and we want to help them achieve their goals. We've already awarded more than £700,000 this year so any groups planning community improvements contact our grants team and start an application as soon as possible.

For more information and advice please visit the council's website [www.southoxon.gov.uk/grants](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/grants), email the grants team at [grants@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:grants@southandvale.gov.uk) or give them a call on 01235 422405.

*Councillor Felix Bloomfield, Benson & Crowmarsh Ward, South Oxfordshire District Council*

## \*STOP PRESS\*

Mr Silvester from Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School has won the award for 'Teacher of the Year in a Primary School' at the 20th annual Pearson Teaching Awards! Many congratulations, what an achievement!

More details can be found here:  
<https://www.teachingawards.com/project/andysilvester/>



Please use the Parish Council website for news and updates of local affairs:

[www.crowmarshgifford.org](http://www.crowmarshgifford.org)

### To book North Stoke Village Hall

Contact Nikki Arnfeld (839736, [narnfeld@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:narnfeld@yahoo.co.uk)) or Stuart Soames (836058, [sjwsoames@btinternet.com](mailto:sjwsoames@btinternet.com))



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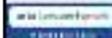
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Tel: 01491 599873

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

Churchwardens:

Margaret Foster, tel: 836076

Eva Thompson, tel: 201675

### Services for November

|                     |           |  |
|---------------------|-----------|--|
| Sunday 4th          | 11am      | All Saints Festival Family Service           |
|                     | 6pm       | "All Souls" Memorial Service                 |
| Saturday 10th       | 10am-12pm | Crowmarsh Community Café –Village Hall       |
| Sunday 11th         | 10.45am   | Gather for Remembrance Sunday Service        |
| Sunday 18th         | 10am      | Team service at St Mary-le-More, Wallingford |
| Sunday 25th         | 11am      | Family Communion                             |
| Sunday 2nd December | 11am      | Advent Family Service                        |
|                     | 4pm       | Advent Carol Service, Newnham Murren Church  |

Morning Prayer - every Friday at 9am, Evening Prayer - every Sunday at 4pm

Full details at [www.wallingfordcofe.org.uk/calendar](http://www.wallingfordcofe.org.uk/calendar)

We will remember them...

November brings the Centenary of the Armistice which also falls on a Sunday this year and so we will have a particularly poignant **Remembrance Service** (gathering at 10.45am around the Lych Gate War Memorial for our Act of Remembrance, followed by the Service in church).

We hold together our sense of loss for a generation of young men with our gratitude for their self-sacrifice and dedication to their King and country. 1918 was supposed to be the end of the "War to End All Wars". Despite WW2, which would bring even higher loss of life around the world and genocide, in our own country we have managed to avoid a repeat of the hopeless fate of the millions of conscripts, who were sent over the top into the no-mans' land of barbed wire, poisonous gas and curtains of machine gun fire. Huge positive social changes would follow as class and gender equality also resulted from WW1, and for this we can give thanks.

The previous week gives us a much more intimate opportunity to remember our loved ones who have died as we hold our "All Souls" Remembrance Service at 6pm on Sunday 4th November. At this service the names of the departed will be read out and there is an opportunity for those who wish to light a candle in memory of loved ones. If you wish to include the names of anyone known to you please add their name to the list at the back of Church which is open every day.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them."

(from "For the Fallen" by Laurence Binyon, 1914)

Blessings, Kevin

## Crowmarsh Bowling

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 2pm in the Crowmarsh Pavilion. We play on a shorter green mat, indoors, rolled out. Come and have a go, you can use our bowls. Call Don on 202543 for more info.

## Charity Race Night

The Chairman of South Oxfordshire District Council, Councillor Lorraine Hillier, is hosting a charity race night on Friday 9th November. The event will take place in Didcot Civic Hall and all profits will be shared between The Smallwood Trust and the Citizens Advice Service.

There will be eight exciting races to bet on, 'buy' a horse, prizes for winners, raffle with great prizes and all proceeds go to these fantastic charities. Doors open at 7.30pm first race at 8pm. Tickets, including a fish and chip supper, cost £12 per person. Contact Karen 01235 422082 or email her at karendodd@southandvale.gov.uk.

## Oh, What a \*@\$#~\*% War!

On Friday 9th November, Cholsey Day Centre will host an excellent and fitting entertainment to mark the centenary of The Great War. Devised by Ian Wheeler and collaborator Steve Head, it will be an evening of poetry, prose, music and song.

The evening will reflect tragedy, human frailty and the general folly of war but will also present lighter moments, celebrating the heroic bloody-mindedness of the British 'Tommy' and the insubordinate 'trench songs' that kept up his spirits in the face of appalling danger.

The evening will include a talk, researched by Sir Steven Sedley, a noted folk music historian, which looks at many of the wry, sarcastic and downright insubordinate songs that helped our soldiers keep up their spirits at the Front. *The Bells of Hell* carries a 'PG' rating on some of the language but don't panic: there's nothing downright obscene. There will be a few choruses, should you be in good voice.

There will only be one hundredth anniversary

of the close of that dreadful conflict and I hope you will come to this event to share in acknowledging the heroism and suffering that this country should never forget.

Admission is **FREE** but donations are appreciated, with profits going to Cholsey Day Centre. The event starts at 7.30pm on Friday 9th of November. For more information contact Ian Wheeler on 652295.

## Wallingford Flower Club

Wallingford Flower Club invite you to a Floral Demonstration "A Cheshire Christmas" by NAFAS demonstrator Ian Lloyd, on Wednesday 14th November 2018, at the Corn Exchange Theatre, Market Place, Wallingford, OX10 0EG.

Doors open 7pm for 8pm start. For tickets (price £12.50) contact Fay on 834303.

## Benson Garden Club

At our meeting on Thursday 1st November, Ray Broughton of Sparsholt College will be taking as his topic 'The Gardening Year: A Month by Month Guide'.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 6th December, with an appropriately festive theme. In a change to our published programme, professional naturalist and wildlife author Michael Leach will be drawing on his recently published book 'The Natural History of Christmas', to explain the unlikely story of why robins are so closely associated with Christmas and to reveal, amongst other things, the pre-Christian roots of hanging mistletoe and the origins of the yule log.

Whether you are thinking of becoming a member of the Garden Club or would simply like to come along to our meetings as a visitor, you will be made very welcome. They are held in Benson Parish Hall, starting at 7.45pm, and further information may be obtained from Esther on 837242.



## Have you seen it?

Wallingford Museum's 'Treasures with Tales' exhibition closes soon ... have you seen it yet?

Earlier this year the Museum received a wide variety of fascinating objects on loan from local people for this special exhibition, each with their own special significance, from exotic to fun to poignant, or just beautiful! A few examples:

- A Grandfather's walking stick – Towards the end of WW1 on his first solo flight grandfather crashed his plane ending up in a hedge! By the time he had recovered, the war was over. This hollow walking stick was made from the wreckage.
- Old shoes built into a house wall in North Stoke – to bring luck.
- Carved limestone, from Wallingford Castle or Priory, found in Crowmarsh.
- A 1918 postcard commemorating the amalgamation of the Royal Flying Corps with the Royal Navy Air Service, to form the Royal Air Force.
- Autographs from the GB athletes at the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris.
- A special edition of Isambard Kingdom Brunel's distinctive hat made from Bristol blue glass.

The Museum has welcomed visitors from all over the world this year. Here are some of their comments:

*A great museum staffed by terrific volunteers (Australia), Haven't been for some time. Great to see changes—new exhibits and other archive rooms (Wallingford), Very interesting. More to see than we expected. Will definitely be back (Benson), What a wonderful place. The best museum I have been to for ages. Fascinating story of Wallingford, and lovely friendly welcome (Cholsey), Didn't realise it was so extensive (Wallingford), The kids loved it – such fun! (Oxford).*

There is still time to visit the Museum, but it closes at the end of November for the winter refurbishment, opening again on 1st March 2019. The Museum is open on Tuesdays to Fridays 2.00pm – 5.00pm, and Saturdays 10.30am – 5.00pm.

[www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk)

Stu Darby



## Excavations at a Roman Villa

Andy Hood (of Foundations Archaeology) will talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about the recent excavations at Celsea Place in Cholsey.

An archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2015 identified a previously unknown Roman Villa in Cholsey. Subsequent large-scale excavation of the land immediately adjacent to the villa building revealed evidence for intensive agricultural activity, situated within a landscape of ditched enclosures. Features included five corn drying ovens, wells, clay-lined water-tanks, human/animal burials and scattered pits and postholes.

Andy Hood of Foundations Archaeology will give a presentation detailing the initial findings of the fieldwork and an update on the post-excavation analysis.

This talk will be held on Wednesday 14th November, 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford.

Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

[www.twahas.org.uk](http://www.twahas.org.uk)

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# 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 held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 6th September

Present: Councillors John Griffin (Chair), Nigel Hannigan, Denise Hall, Andrew Johnson, Francesca Jones, Elizabeth Ryall, Stephen Sherbourne, David Rowley, Stuart Soames and David Topliss; Sue Rance (Clerk) and Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer); District Councillor Sue Cooper, Mrs P Millar and two members of the public.

Apologies were received from Councillors Francesca Jones and Fleur Stevenson .

### Matters from the previous meeting

One quote for repairs to the pavilion roof had been received; another quote is awaited. Quotes are awaited for cutting the hedge at Home Farm and beside the footpath from the church to the recreation ground. Overhanging trees near the Emery Owen allotments will be pruned in December.

Mrs Barton, Headteacher of Crowmarsh Gifford School, will run a competition for pupils to design a speed awareness sign.

Cllr Sherbourne will investigate a mature tree to replace the diseased ash tree that was felled at Jethro Tull Gardens.

### Finance

The schedule of payments made in September was agreed. They included £8,604.36 paid to FCC Recycling UK as third-party funding for the playground, £3,114.81 for insurance from Axa (three years' premium) and £480 to Moore Stephens Ltd for the annual audit.

The parish council has high levels of reserves, which are held in anticipation of future projects. An estimate of the cost of each project with an indication of the timescale will be updated to enable the council to budget for these more accurately. Apart from the playground project, the next priorities are

pedestrian crossings for the A4074 Portway and The Street, although a Toucan crossing at Portway could be funded from development money with expected support from the county council. Other road safety projects include speed indicator devices and traffic calming in North Stoke.

The damage at the pavilion and Bellamy Way caused by a stray Thames Travel bus has now been repaired.

Donations to the new playground project amounting to around £500 were received following Mr John Bellamy's funeral.

### New Parish Councillor

We co-opted Mrs Patricia Millar, a resident of North Stoke, as a new parish councillor. Councillors introduced themselves and welcomed her to the meeting.

### District Councillor's report

Councillor Cooper reported on the District Council local plan review of large sites for housing developments, to be published by the end of 2018. The new National Planning Policy Framework has reduced the number of houses needed in South Oxfordshire but officers have recommended keeping the previous higher figure in support of a joint agreement between Oxfordshire councils to access government grant funding for infrastructure. SODC is likely to face budget cuts next year and the new homes bonus may be cut in future.

Cllr Cooper attended the planning committee meeting for the Bloor development and made a request for Section 106 developer funding for a pedestrian crossing in The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, where traffic figures are expected to rise substantially when this development is built and when SODC returns to Benson Lane, but this was not accepted. She also asked for a contribution towards the village hall extension, where there is a possibility of a suitably-fenced access through

from the new development to Benson Lane.

There had been complaints about Biffa staff leaving residents' wheelie bins in inappropriate places after emptying them.

## **Planning**

### *Decisions by SODC:*

P18/S1420/RM: Reserved matters application following outline approval P15/S3387/FUL. (The demolition of existing buildings and erection of a new headquarters for CABI) for the approval of layout, appearance, landscaping and scale. CABI, Nosworthy Way, Mongewell OX10 8DE. PERMISSION GRANTED.

P18/S2693/HH (Householder): Demolition of conservatory. Construction of new single storey rear extension and single storey front porch. 7 Jethro Tull Gardens, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8DS. PERMISSION GRANTED.

### **Parish Council responses to SODC:**

P18/S2871/FUL: Retrospective planning application for a change of use from an existing car workshop (B2) use to the retention of the car workshop use (B2) with ancillary car sales, and the erection of a fence. Nuffield Garage, Crowmarsh Hill, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BG: RECOMMEND REFUSAL for the following reasons (summarised): This application is retrospective and in contravention of the conditional permission granted (also retrospectively) in 2003. This intensification of use from a low-key reuse of a redundant agricultural building, compatible with a rural location, to an intrusive commercial use is causing visual impairment to the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty as well as to the neighbours by means of high security fencing, floodlights, advertising signs, hard standing without appropriate drainage and loss of landscaping as well as producing increased traffic movements.

P18/S2866/FUL: Detached dwelling (amended scheme to planning approval number P16/S2454/FUL). 27 Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8ED: RECOMMEND REFUSAL for the following reasons: The size and

positioning of the proposed development are significant on this relatively small narrow parcel of land. The scale, bulk and design of the proposed dwelling are out of character and overdevelopment of the site.

P18/S3221/PHD: Conservatory, depth 3.7m, height 3.62m, height to eaves 2.12m. 18 Robert Sparrow Gardens, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8DQ. This is Permitted Development and no comments are allowed.

## **Land east of Benson Lane**

The Chair of Planning spoke at the SODC Planning Committee Meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September opposing the duplicate application for up to 150 houses on Land East of Benson Lane. The Planning Committee unanimously voted to approve the application, overturning their unanimous decision to refuse 15 months earlier, despite no significant changes to the application and completely ignoring the fact that SODC now have a five-year land supply. There was very little discussion by the Committee and the Chair of Planning was not asked any questions. District Councillor Cooper, asked for a number of infrastructure projects to be included in a Section 106 Agreement: all were rebuffed. The applicants remained silent on their intentions to claim the £225,000 costs awarded by the Inspector.

John Howell MP has told us that he will contact the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to ask why he has not replied to the Parish Council's letter.

## **Environment & recreation ground committee**

Cllr Sherbourne had asked for an additional litter bin in The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, on the south side near the entrance to the coach house at Newnham Manor: the Clerk will contact SODC to arrange this.

## **Update on playground project**

The parish council has been awarded all of the major grants applied for towards the play area and gym project, a total of £185,000. It was confirmed that the project can proceed.

A meeting was held on 3rd October with representatives of Eibe (the potential main contractor for the playground) and the project manager from Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association (OPFA) to discuss project details. At SODC's request the paths in the play area will be extended and material improved to provide better disabled and wheelchair access. An additional quote will be obtained for a specialist, more robust surface around the roundabouts.

After discussion it was agreed to accept Eibe's quote for the play area with a new layout that moves the zip wire further away from the houses, in place of the gym equipment, at no extra charge. Subject to checks, the gym equipment will be supplied and installed by the manufacturers, Fresh Air Fitness. There will be a full report in the December Crowmarsh News. A vote of thanks was made to Cllrs Johnson and Rowley and all their helpers, especially Mrs Michelle Reynolds.

### **Update on noticeboards**

A quote for replacement noticeboards has been received from Greenbarnes. It is likely that the noticeboard at St Mary Magdalene Church will be replaced in its current location, as to move it would require a faculty from the Oxford Diocese, which the Vicar advised would be a lengthy process.

### **Traffic and transport**

Cllr Griffin reported that the 134 Goring and the Stokes bus is no longer serving Crowmarsh Gifford but going via Hithercroft, in expectation of a new Lidl store being built there.

Cllr Hall reported that the council would have to source brackets for the radar speed signs. She and Cllr Sherbourne planned to visit a site near Bicester where they are used.

### **Correspondence**

Correspondence about dogs on leads at the Recreation Ground was discussed. The RoSPA guidance is to have plenty of signs about dog fouling. Although there are signs in the car park, it was suggested that a notice could be posted to the effect that dogs must be kept under control at all times. This matter will be discussed further by the Recreation Ground Management Committee and placed on the agenda for the next council meeting.

### **Other matters**

Cllr Soames reported to the police that a large vehicle had damaged the drain at the North Stoke crossroads and a safety barrier has now been installed there.

### **Next meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 8th November at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

### **For details of walks with Didcot and Wallingford Ramblers**

please see

[www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford)

### **To book the Pavilion or Hardcourt area in Crowmarsh Gifford ...**

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| <b>Police non-emergency number</b> | 101          |

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## WHAT'S ON — NOVEMBER 2018

### Regular events and meetings

|                |                 |   |  |
|----------------|-----------------|---|--|
| Every Thursday | 19.45-22.00     | Wallingford Photographic Club   | Crowmarsh Pavilion                                     |
| Every Friday   | 9.30-12.00      | Wallingford Country Market  | St Mary-le-More Church or<br>Market Place, Wallingford |
| Every Saturday | 10.00-12.00     | WAGS Store open   | Centre 70  |
| Most Saturdays | 10.00-13.00     | Local Producers' Market   | St Mary-le-More Church,<br>Wallingford                 |
| Various days   | Different times | Didcot and Wallingford Ramblers<br><a href="http://www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford">www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford</a> | Different places                                       |
| Every Sunday   | 11.00 onwards   | Parish Communion. Family service on the<br>first Sunday of the month  | St Mary Magdalene's<br>Church, Crowmarsh               |

### This month

|   |               |   |   |
|---|---------------|---|---|
| Saturday 3rd Nov                        | 10.30 onwards | Sue Ryder Sale  | Nettlebed                                   |
| Saturday 3rd Nov                        | 18.00 onwards | Wallingford Fireworks                                     | Kinecroft, Wallingford                      |
| Sunday 4th Nov                          | 18.00 onwards | "All Souls" Remembrance Service                           | St Mary Magdalene's<br>Church, Crowmarsh    |
| Saturday 3rd Nov &<br>Saturday 10th Nov | From 10.00    | A walk for Jim Spence                                     | Meet St Mary-le-More<br>Church, Wallingford |
| Sunday 4th Nov                          | 13.30 onwards | CTC 20-mile road cycle ride                               | Meet Wallingford Market<br>Place            |
| Wednesday 7th Nov                       | 14.00 onwards | U3A: Swan Upping!   | Crowmarsh Village Hall                      |
| Thursday 8th Nov                        | 19.30 onwards | Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting                          | Crowmarsh Village Hall                      |
| Friday 9th Nov                          | 19.30 onwards | Oh What a *@#\$~*% War: The soldiers'<br>perspective      | Cholsey Day Centre                          |
| Friday 9th Nov                          | 19.30 onwards | SODC Chairman's Charity Race Night                        | Didcot Civic Hall                           |
| Saturday 10th Nov                       | 10.00-12.00   | Crowmarsh Community Café                                  | Crowmarsh Village Hall                      |
| Sunday 11th Nov                         | 10.50 onwards | Armistice Centenary Remembrance<br>Service                | St Mary Magdalene's<br>Church, Crowmarsh    |
| Sunday 11th Nov                         | 10.50 onwards | Remembrance Sunday: 100th Anniversary<br>of the Armistice | Wallingford Market Place                    |
| Wednesday 14th Nov                      | 19.45 onwards | Henley Philatelic: Postcard Evening                       | Bix Village Hall                            |
| Wednesday 14th Nov                      | 19.45 onwards | TWHAS: Excavations of a Roman Villa in<br>Cholsey         | St Mary-le-More Church,<br>Wallingford      |
| Sunday 18th Nov                         | 13.30 onwards | CTC 30 mile road ride                                     | Meet Wallingford Market<br>Place            |
| Saturday 24th Nov                       | 10.30 onwards | Sue Ryder Sale  | Nettlebed                                   |
| Wednesday 28th Nov                      | 19.45 onwards | Henley Philatelic: The Write Stuff                        | Bix Village Hall                            |
| Saturday 1st Dec                        | 19.30 onwards | Benson Choral Concert: A Plea for Peace                   | Dorchester Abbey                            |
| Sunday 2nd Dec                          | 16.00 onwards | Advent Carol Service                                      | St Mary's Church, Newnham<br>Murren         |
| Wednesday 5th Dec                       | 14.00 onwards | U3A: Xmas party   | Crowmarsh Village Hall                      |

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