

Drewsteignton

Parish Post

ISSUE NO. 175
NOVEMBER 2020

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

I write to you feeling refreshed after getting an extra hour in bed, however this does mean that the nights are drawing in and winter is just around the corner. Please be careful when out walking, especially when walking dogs as they are hard to see in the dimpy evening light. This weekend there was a near miss - a child grazed by a car whilst crossing the road in the Parish. Fortunately, the child was not seriously injured, however this was in full daylight and highlights the dangers of speeding traffic.

At this month's meeting we were fortunate to have a guest speaker who is interested in rewilding some of our common land, verges and roundabouts. We would like to explore this idea, so if anyone is interested in forming a working group to take this forward please contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance. Cllr McInnes said that there could be funding available for a project like this. The council would like to thank John for his suggestion and help with this project.

Cllr James McInnes joined us for this meeting and gave us an update on how the county is doing during this pandemic. In our area there have only been 9 confirmed cases and we remain low risk. Cllr McInnes reported that there had been a slight increase in children being referred to social services, but overall child welfare has been steady with 93% of children returning to school after lockdown. Cllr McInnes also said that the economy has taken a hit during the pandemic and there is an allocation of £6 million to stimulate the economy and plan for the future.

Cllr Ridgeway gave an update on the Farm shop appeal. He reported that there had been a virtual meeting which had lasted all day. They had correspondence to confirm the evidence put to the appeal panel and we are now awaiting the verdict.

The Chair passed on two letters she had received from parishioners regarding the parking and speeding in Crockernwell, however, due to technical issues they were passed on too late for the councils to read before the meeting. The Chair highlighted some of the salient points and these will be carried forward to the next meeting. In the meantime, we have been informed that the police have been in touch with one of the parishioners to say they will be looking at the parking in the area, particularly in respect to the Lambert lane junction. The Chair is in correspondence with this parishioner and will ask them to keep the council informed of any conclusions that are drawn. Meanwhile, we have been unable to conduct a site visit as Highways are not conducting them due to COVID restrictions.

Whilst on the subject of COVID, some parishioners are concerned that not everyone is following the 2-metre rule. Please could I ask everyone to be considerate when out and about and remember to give people a wide berth. To reassure people, it is very unlikely you will catch COVID in an outdoor situation and even indoors it generally takes 15

minutes for you to breathe in enough to get ill. The government advice of 'Hands, Face, Space' still makes the most sense.

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In other business, the Clerk informed the council that she is awaiting delivery of the meter from EDF for the Night Landing light in the Playing Field.

Cllr Brennan requested the purchase of Perspex to repair the bus shelter in Crockernwell which was approved and our thanks to Cllr Brennan for undertaking the repair and upkeep of the shelter.

Cllr Brennan has also offered to build the Sharepoint site for the council's document storing and sharing, which will make the sharing of documents and confidential items easier and more secure. Our thanks to Cllr Brennan once again for this valuable work. With Remembrance Day approaching we have been discussing the laying of the wreath. Cllr James stated that she was happy to lay it on behalf of the Parish Council. Hopefully we will be able to have a church service. However, if not, Cllr James will lay the wreath in honour of the parish's fallen.

Highways sent the council their priorities in the parish and Cllr Imrie will liaise with them with feedback from the council.

Dartmoor National Park sent the council the parish's settlement profile. This item has been held over to next month's meeting to enable comment from councillors.

The council have voted in favour of moving the December meeting from 21st to 14th to enable actions to be completed before the Christmas break.

The Speeding sign competition is still open, but the closing date is fast approaching (30th November) so if you want to see your sign displayed in Crockernwell please get your entries in by then.

As always take care and look out for your neighbours in these difficult times.

Ysanne James

Drewsteignton Christmas Craft Fayre

It is hoped that our ever popular Christmas Craft Fayre will be able to take place in our church on **Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th November** where you will have the opportunity to purchase some unique presents for your loved ones.....and yourselves, while supporting our very talented local crafters. Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer refreshments this year and all social distancing measures will be put in place with every effort made to make the event a safe environment for all to enjoy. As ever we will adhere to government guidelines with a track and trace system in place and we ask all that attend to please wear a face mask and bear with us if we have to restrict numbers for a few minutes as only 30 people are allowed in at any one time (and this includes the crafters!!)

If you feel that you would not be comfortable amongst others but would still like to come, then please contact me on 01647 281605 and I will do my best to offer you a time where you can look around on your own. If you have any other questions, please contact me on this number or email j.hocking05@btinternet.com.

Thank you and we look forward to your support.

Holy Trinity Church



Light, Love and Loss 6pm, Monday 2nd November

A special short (30 mins) service for All Souls' Day which includes poems, music and an invitation to light a candle in memory of a loved one.

The service will be held in Holy Trinity Church, Drewsteignton with light refreshments afterwards. Please bring your own glass which we will fill with wine or juice.

I would encourage all who are able to light a candle and place them in the churchyard on 2nd November as it is so heart-warming to see them twinkling with love throughout the night. The votive stand in Lady Chapel is always available when the church is open.

Outdoor Candles of Remembrance

As you may know there has been a special service to remember loved ones on All Souls Day for the past few years. An important part of this is the lighting of candles of remembrance. Holy Trinity Church would like to gift to anyone who would like one a memoriam outdoor candle.

If your loved one rests in Holy Trinity Church yard the idea is that the candles will be placed on the graves and lit before the service: if they rest somewhere else you would be very welcome to choose a special place within the church yard to light your candle. If for some reason you will not be at the service, Holy Trinity would like to offer you a candle which someone could light on your behalf*. Or, if you prefer, you may wish to collect a candle to light and place at a location special to you, at a time of your choosing.

The candles will be available from Drewsteignton Post Office or the Church from 27th October. *Please contact me:

(Jennifer on 01647 281657 or pmjmrmdm@aol.com) or leave instructions in the Post Office.

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Playing Field update – Bonfire Night:

Good news:

The Playing Field is open. There are loads of signs up, a copy of which is below. The helicopter night landing site is completed. We now have electricity in the shed.

Bad news:

Bonfire Night cannot take place.

Drewsteignton Playing Field COVID-19 MEASURES

This playground is not supervised and the equipment is not regularly cleaned.

For your safety and the safety of others please obey the following:

- Social distancing of 2m MUST always be maintained (or 1m with risk mitigation where 2m is not possible)
- Only one child is allowed on each piece of equipment at a time, unless from the same family group
- No eating or drinking in the playground
- Parents/Carers: you will need to clean the equipment before your child uses it. Use hand sanitiser or wipes to clean your children's hands before and after use.
- Do not touch your face. Remember to cough or sneeze into a tissue (use an arm if a tissue is not available)
- Take tissues and all rubbish home
- Children's clothes should be washed when they get home.
- Families with clinically vulnerable members: Do NOT use the equipment without first cleaning it

WHIDDON DOWN VILLAGE HALL

Happy November to everyone.

The Village Hall has been open for use now since mid-September. Although we are not making any money, we are providing a service for the few. We received a heart-warming message from one of our regular users, who told us how safe they felt using our hall. To me, that made all our efforts getting Covid user friendly worth it, all day long. Grateful thanks to Alex for keeping us up to date with the changes and to Sandra for keeping the hall clean.

Sadly, we have lost a valuable friend and active supporter of Whiddon Down village hall. Jim Wonnacott, along with his sister Margery, has been part of the hall's very being since it was gifted to the village in the 1960's. He has worn various hats over the years on the Committee, off the Committee, from caretaker to gardener, Carpark donations supervisor and bingo-caller. Nothing was too much trouble. We will miss him greatly, especially when we are able to hold bingos again. Our thoughts and prayers are with Margery at this sad time.

God bless you, Jim. You will be greatly missed by us all.

Inner freedom is not guided by our efforts; it comes from seeing what is true.
with love from Zen x

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Acorn Community Support

Thank you to all our volunteers for their continued support of Acorn. Our clients, as always, are supported through the generosity of time and spirit by the volunteers without whom we could not function. We applaud you all for your support through these trying times.

The Dartmoor Community Kitchen meals are going down (literally) very well indeed. The menu is varied and tasty. If you would like to discuss this service, then please contact Mandy in the office on 01647 252701.

If you, or anyone you know, needs some support, whatever it may be, then please do contact us.

We at Acorn decided that FUN is a word lacking in our vocabulary at the moment and so we thought that FUN should very definitely be reinstated and to that end we have had two momentous occasions in the last couple of weeks. Momentous insofar as they are the first since COVID restrictions started in March.

Firstly, we were able to reinstate the monthly lunch and 12 people all suitably masked and sanitised sat down to a lovely lunch at the Red Lion in Tedburn St Mary. There were four people per table, and we are very much looking forward to the next lunch date on the first Thursday of November. Contact Jean Martin on 01647 24586 if you would like to be included in the next or future lunches. Of course, all activities are subject to the current COVID guidance but as long as we are able to safely undertake activities we will continue to do so.

Our second activity was a trip on the Minibus. Four clients and two volunteers took a trip out to Dartmoor on a day of sunshine and showers, laughter and chatter. Rainbows chased them throughout the route from Cheriton to Dunsford and over the open moor from Moretonhampstead to Two Bridges. With the weather holding, the group enjoyed beautiful views and then enjoyed lunch at Ullacombe Farm Cafe. All the clients were able to socially distance in the minibus and all were masked and sanitiser was in abundance. Mask and distance did not in any way spoil the enjoyment This will hopefully be repeated - again subject to guidelines.

We would like to thank all our Cycle 300 team. Collectively, the team managed to cycle 5,100 miles and it looks like we will have raised around £8,000 thanks to the generosity of our many supporters. This funding will enable us to commence the hunt to replace the Christow Minibus which is great news

We have now launched our Christmas Raffle and tickets are available from various outlets across the practice area. We have two luxury christmas food hampers, a festive drinks hamper and many more prizes. If you would like tickets and are unable to buy through the outlets, please do contact Mandy in the office.

Acorn continues to be able to offer support to anyone in our community who needs support. Please do not hesitate to contact us on 01647 252701 or office@acorncommunitysupport.co.uk. We are YOUR community organisation!!! Warmest and best wishes to all of you!

The A(corn) Team.

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STONE LANE GARDENS – OPEN ALL SEASONS

No matter what the weather, **Stone Lane Gardens remains open** every day throughout the winter months from 10am till dusk. As a National Collection of Birch and Alder, the arboretum lends itself to all year viewing even when the leaves are gone until the spring. The water gardens and the beautiful coloured bark of the many unusual specimens enchant at every turn. Children and dogs on leads welcome.

The tea-room is open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. See web site for details, admissions and information on winter tree sales from the specialist nursery.

Stone Lane Gardens, Stone Lane, Chagford, TQ13 8JU. www.stonelanegardens.com

A promotional banner for Stone Lane Gardens. The banner features a green background with a white central text box. On the left, there is a photograph of birch trees. On the right, there is a photograph of a white bird in a field of yellow flowers. The text in the white box reads: "Stone Lane Gardens, Chagford, TQ13 8JU", "RHS Partner Garden", "Open all year round", "Woodland and Water Gardens", "National Collection of Birch and Alder", "Summer Sculpture Exhibition 'The Mythic Garden'", and "www.stonelanegardens.com". The Stone Lane logo is at the top center, and the RHS Partner Garden logo is on the left side of the banner.

Stone Lane
garden sculpture nursery

Stone Lane Gardens,
Chagford, TQ13 8JU
RHS Partner Garden
Open all year round
Woodland and Water Gardens
National Collection of Birch and Alder

Summer Sculpture Exhibition "The Mythic Garden"
www.stonelanegardens.com

COVID-19 advice from West Devon Council

Test and Trace Support Grant

If you are required by law to self-isolate because you have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, and you are on a low income, you may be supported through a payment of £500, which would be administered by your local Council.

Find out more... www.westdevon.gov.uk/article/7300/Test-and-Trace-Support-Grant

You can apply for the Test and Trace Support Payment of £500, if you meet the following criteria:

- You are over 16 and have been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace on or after 28 September 2020.

- You are employed or self-employed.
- You cannot work from home and will lose income as a result.
- You are currently receiving at least one of the following benefits:
- Universal Credit,
- Working Tax Credit,
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance,
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance,
- Income Support,
- Housing Benefit and/or Pension Credit.

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Devon is 'medium local COVID alert level'. What does that mean?

Medium alert level areas are subject to the national restrictions that continue to be in place.

This means:

You must not socialise in groups larger than 6, indoors or outdoors (other than where a legal exemption applies) businesses and venues can continue to operate, in a COVID-secure manner, other than those that remain closed in law

Certain businesses are required to ensure customers only consume food and drink while seated and must close between 10.00pm and 5.00am

Businesses and venues selling food for consumption off the premises can continue to do so after 10.00pm as long as this is through delivery service, click-and-collect or drive-through

Schools and universities remain open

Places of worship remain open, subject to the [rule of six](#)

Weddings and funerals can go ahead with restrictions on numbers of attendees

Exercise classes and organised sport can continue to take place outdoors, or indoors if the [rule of six](#) is followed.

You must:

[wear a face covering in those areas where this is mandated](#)

You should continue to:

Follow social distancing rules

Work from home where you can effectively do so

When travelling, plan ahead or avoid busy times and routes. Walk or cycle if you can.

Full guidance on the restrictions in place to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in an area where the local COVID alert level is medium is (see above).

With thanks to Cllr. Brennan

I cannot go down the rabbit hole.

But I can, and do, think for myself.

Not like a sheep or head in the sand.

It's the way we are told, by the theorists who demand

We see it their way

It's a pandemic and the public

unaware

A doctor friend knows a thing or two. I'll introduce you.

And there is a virus making people ill and die.

A nurse in Exeter, she told me of those she cared for and who died.

Our government don't know how

to deal with it.

We need meaningful, holistic leadership with the environment on top of the agenda.

Yes, I've seen all the posts.

And Icke on a stage shouting to the unmasked, in crowds, in a rage.

Wonder how many infected?

But everyone's so tetchy as intolerance grows.

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Climate change is definitely here.

And a sick suffering planet = sick people.

Nature's warning.

Humans are not that clever if they can't see Actions in everyday life can set us free.

But I hear you scream about our rights.

Been walking out, every day,

And my head will explode If I read any more posts on losing freedom and the warnings on the dollars notes

They've be planning it for years!

I can go with a nature point of view.

We screwed our home and the biosphere.

baking, preserving, growing in every way

Not under arrest for anarchy.

If you're feeling lonely or depressed

Take over green spaces, plan and plot, knowing that we humans, being blessed with skills

We do not need to go back, just leap forward.

We are resilient least we forget

J Whatley

Comment

A thank you to the farmer who kindly tidied the walls damaged by his sheep at the end of Knowle Lane. **Ed**

Dog-owners beware: The law clearly states that any dog in a field with sheep 'being at large (that is to say not on a lead or otherwise under close control) in a field or enclosure in which there are sheep' is guilty of an offence under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953. The law does not define what 'under close control' means but if there is **any** chance that your dog may chase sheep, keep them on the lead.

There have been occasions when sheep have been injured and, in one recent case, had to be killed after dogs had chased or harassed them.

Respect the farmer's sheep and he will respect your dogs. **Ed**

The Drewsteignton

Parish Post

ContactDetails:

If you have trouble reading this publication please do let me know and a large-format version will be sent to you

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The Parish Post reserves the right to edit contributions and wishes to state that views expressed are not necessarily those of the Parish Post. Contributions for the next edition by end of 24th November. Thank-you, Ed