

June Parish Council Meeting

Under Planning, the application for 65 houses adjacent to Manor Green was discussed. There had been a separate Planning Committee meeting to discuss it; the conclusion was that it should be supported in part because the number in the village had been virtually static since Manor Green was built about 30 years ago. The Council asked the District Council to give consideration to a number of points; the text of the Council's response is given on page 3. Other planning applications are covered separately on page 2.

Under Matters relating to Council-owned lands, there was discussion about fencing the newly-installed play equipment. Mrs Beswick explained that following problems with dog fouling and for general safety reasons, it was felt that extra fencing around the newest equipment would be beneficial, whilst still keeping the existing fenced section separate.

The Clerk had been advised of a recent incident in which a child playing on the zipwire had been bitten by a dog, and several residents had asked that the zipwire be fenced. The incident had been reported to the police. The Council deplored this incident but felt that fencing the zipwire was not as necessary as ensuring that all dogs are kept under control. Following discussion, it was agreed by 8 votes to 2 with no abstentions That additional fencing be installed around the newest teenage play equipment excluding the zipwire.

It was also agreed unanimously that the zipwire should remain unfenced.

The Council considered the problems associated with uncontrolled dogs, including dog fouling, dogs allowed off leads, and dangerous dogs. It was difficult to ensure that dog owners control their animals and pick up the dog mess, but the Council agreed to consult residents about dogs on the recreation ground and other public places, including the possibility of asking for a byelaw to be imposed.

Also relating to the Recreation ground, noting that no objection was raised at the Annual Parish Meeting to Mason's Funfair using the recreation ground on a future occasion, the Council agreed to Mason's using the recreation ground subject to terms being agreed.

A model aeroplane flier had asked for permission to use the recreation ground at quiet times. The Clerk had received advice from the Council's insurers that the Council should not grant permission for such use because of increased risk factors. The Council agreed to abide by the advice from its insurers.

Among other items, Mr Fox-Davies proposed thanks to the Harwell Feast Committee for a successful Feast.

July Parish Council Meeting

Under Actions and matters arising, Mrs Beswick had drafted and circulated an updated Child Protection Policy; subject to minor amendments, the updated policy was adopted by the Council.

The Clerk had been obtaining information about Dog Control Orders; although quite easy to set up, the Council would need to enforce any new Order.

Mr Marsh had drafted and sent in the Council's contributions letter regarding the Alder View planning application. The letter requested contributions towards several areas of Council capital spending but said it would be willing to forgo these if the developers instead made a significant contribution towards the Village Hall extension project.

Mr Buxton reported that following the last Governors' meeting at Harwell Primary School, the OFSTED inspector has noted that the school is making good progress towards achieving a better grade. Some parents had been critical of the original report.

The Council discussed and approved a response to a request to put forward proposals and changes to the current setup of the civic parishes, for discussion and review as part of the VWHDC Community Governance Review. In short, the Council is suggesting that all the area to the east of the A34, currently within Harwell Parish, should eventually become a separate parish. More details are given on page 4.

A number of matters relating to Council Lands were discussed. Among these was a summary set of cemetery guidelines for cemetery users. This has since been put on the Parish web pages.

It was agreed that the Council will not change the allotment rents in September 2014, so they will remain at 13pence per square metre.

Because of a shortage of staff effort, it was agreed that the Council employs a contractor to cut the churchyard grass fortnightly from July to the end of September.

Due to an employee leaving shortly, it was agreed that a new grounds staff member be sought, and that the position should preferably be full-time and permanent. See ad below.

Under Any Other Business, Mrs Boughton-Waite reported that the Footpaths Walk was poorly attended and not all paths were walked. A report was to follow. She asked whether path numbers could be added to way-marker posts. Mr Davison agreed to draft a notice on thermal imaging, a method of checking your home insulation - see page 7.

Harwell Parish Council

is seeking a

Part/Full-Time permanent

Grounds Maintenance Worker

for general maintenance duties within Harwell Parish
£8 per hour.

Please contact the Clerk for further details.

Applications by Friday 6th September
01235 820006 or email clerk@harwellparish.co.uk

Full minutes of Parish Council meetings are available on the web, in draft form until approved at the following meeting. There not being a meeting planned for August, the next Parish Council Meeting will be on Tuesday 10th September. Items for the agenda need to be with the Clerk, Mrs S. Taylor one week before the meeting.

Contact the Clerk by email: clerk@harwellparish.co.uk, or by phone 01235 820 006, or by post to P.O. Box 223 Wantage OX12 2DH. Office hours, in the Pavilion, are 9am to 5pm Mondays. To contact Councillors, see the appropriate page at www.harwellparish.co.uk.

Planning Matters

Permissions:

P13/V0519/FUL Cherry Tree Court Church Lane Harwell Didcot OX11 0HL
Conversion of the Warden's flat into 2 one-bedroom flats.
P13/V0566/HH 49 North Drive Two storey front extension.
Rear single storey ext.
P13/V0899/HH The Bays Kings Lane single storey rear ext.
P13/V0831/HH 7 Barrow Road Harwell Rear extension
P13/V0484/HH Meum-et-tuum Grove Road Installation of four dormer windows & elevation velux roof window.
Demolition of existing lean-to and erection of side ext.
P13/V0855/HH The Crispin Burr Change garage proposed finish under application P12/V1507/HH to shiplap (black).
P13/V0688/HH At Last 7 Didcot Road Single storey rear ext., raising the roof, internal reconfiguration.
P13/V1142/FUL Village Hall Harwell Modifications to the approved refurbishment and extension of Harwell Village Hall to incorporate a small heritage centre and cafe facility.
P13/V1077/HH Carita Didcot Road Erection of detached double garage with studio above.
P13/V0981/HH The Cot Reading Road Extension to side of existing building.

P07/V0871/LDE Meadow View Didcot Road Application for a certificate of lawfulness for an existing use of yard space to rear of Meadow View as builders storage yard.

P05/V1492/LDE 4 Hengest Gate Harwell Certificate of lawfulness for an existing use of frontal driveway and access, two pillars and low wall to enclose frontage. Fitting of electronic bollard between pillars. (Retrospective).

P03/V0691/LDE 2A Chilbrook Application for a certificate of lawfulness for an existing self-contained flat in breach of condition three on planning permission HAR/7681.

Applications:

P13/V1329/FUL Little Meadows Downs Close Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling (resubmission).

The Council did not object to this application but had some concerns, that the new building will overlook and overshadow neighbouring properties to the front as these properties are at a lower level than the proposed dwelling which will be nearer to the neighbouring properties than the existing; that extra care should be taken to prevent possible subsidence of the earth bank at the rear of neighbouring properties during excavations for the foundations of the new building; that the proposed new building is larger than the one proposed in the first application for this site; that planners give consideration to neighbours comments. The Council requested that planners consider a site visit before making a decision on this application, given the concerns outlined above and the problems already encountered following the collapse of the thatched cottage some years ago.

P13/V0616/A Lloyds TSB Bank Plc Curie Avenue
Replacement of existing signage.

Applications registered since the July Council meeting:

P13/V1641/FUL Land by the A4185 and Fermi Avenue Harwell. Erection of antenna, total height including plinth 7 metres, in a compound with associated AER Cabin, generator cabin, UPS cabin and CCTV cameras on three lattice towers.

Curie Avenue Post Office

The Curie Ave Post Office is to move into McColls newsagents at a date to be confirmed, but proposed for October. There is a 6 week public consultation, but it looks like the proposals include longer opening hours including Sundays, and as we've already lost the village post office, any way to keep this one open is surely a bonus.

If you'd like to leave comments there is a questionnaire at postofficeviews.co.uk & you will need the branch code 23513799. Or you can send comments to FREEPOST Your Comments, or to comments@postoffice.co.uk.



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Alder View Land South of Grove Road

Outline planning application for a residential development comprising up to 65 dwellings with associated highway works, landscaping and infrastructure improvements.

The Parish Council gave a detailed response to the Vale WHDC as follows:

The Council supports the application, but asks that the following points are given careful consideration:

Footpaths: The Council notes the current difficulty of using the existing footpath beside Manor Green into Gaveston Rd for cycles; developers should be encouraged to provide a pedestrian and cycle way between the new development and

Westfield. Safety of pedestrians crossing from The Croft to Manor Green On their way to the school is of concern. When the junction is improved to provide access for the new housing, it should also be designed so as to allow safe passage of pedestrians moving north-south across the junction. There should be appropriate pavement on both sides of the road, with the place for crossing being at a point where pedestrians can see traffic in all directions, and in turn drivers can see pedestrians.

Traffic: Several residents have mentioned their concerns regarding traffic impact from the new development; these should be considered by Planners.

Village envelope: The Council regrets the loss of protection of village envelopes in current planning policy, however, because the school boundary already extends westward, this development could be said to fall within the village. Building here should not set a precedent for any further applications to extend the village envelope.

BMV land: The Council recognises that the land is lowest-grade BMV, and although it has not been used for agricultural purposes for some time, the loss of BMV land here should not set a precedent for other applications.

Character and Style Standards and Quality: The Council acknowledges that a full application has yet to be submitted, but is concerned that the development should reflect the mix of styles present in the village, and that the buildings should be to the highest standards possible. Garages should have pitched roofs.

Cycles and bins: The Council would support provision of enclosures for cycles and household bins, and would support a plan which ensures that litter bins on the development are not so prominent that they clutter the street view.

Parking: The Council is concerned that adequate parking arrangements should be provided, to avoid on-street parking. It is not clear what garage space would be provided for the affordable housing. Some of the garages should be open plan, to discourage householders from using them for additional household storage space rather than parking.

Affordable housing: The Council would welcome any mix that helps to provide affordable housing for local people to purchase (rather than rent), and houses appropriate for elderly people (e.g. the bungalows). The

Council is concerned that the proposed layout represents clustering of affordable homes rather than wider distribution of such homes throughout the development.

Open Spaces: Whilst keen that open spaces in the development should be easy to maintain (simple grass cutting), the Council feels that some degree of contouring and landscaping should be encouraged. Any new playground equipment should preferably be concentrated on the existing village recreation ground, rather than a new installation within the development.

Site boundaries: When bounded by trees, ownership and maintenance responsibility for the land and the trees must be defined. The northern boundary with Grove Rd should not be a long line of close boarded fencing. Similarly, the western boundary should be sympathetic to the environment, because it is clearly visible when approaching the village along Grove Rd, and from the A4130. Although there is currently a line of Alder trees, thought should be given to planting to replace those trees when they reach the end of their natural life, so that the development remains fully screened.

Grove Road Flooding: Oxfordshire County Council must be satisfied that the proposed flood alleviation scheme will work and it must be implemented.

Street Lighting: The Council would like assurance that lighting on the development will cause as little light pollution as possible, and that it will be handed over to the County Council for maintenance presumably when the highways are adopted.

Formal Footpaths: The unsatisfactory status of Harwell Footpath #7 as it crosses the field north of Grove Road, and opposite the proposed development has already been noted. However, the footpath eventually goes nowhere. The Council would welcome discussion to see if the routing of Footpath #7 can be resolved, and extended by means of a formal of permissive footpath to reach the A4130. An alternative, which would be of direct benefit to the residents of the new development, as well as to the whole village, would be a permissive footpath and cycleway to run south of Grove Road (and parallel to it) all the way from the development up to the A4130, giving safe pedestrian and cycle access to the farm shops on that road. Alternative routing, using the existing tracks in the farm, would also be possible.

Infrastructure provision: Contributions should be sought towards Harwell Relief Roads and other Science Vale Infrastructure.

Neighbours: The Council asks that comments from neighbouring residents are given consideration by planners.

Update: The Vale Development Committee considered the application at its meeting on July 24th, and agreed to accept the recommendation that outline planning application may be granted by the Planning Officers once legal agreement has been reached on all the contributions that have been requested. This must be done within 3 months. Once this is agreed the developers may bring forward their detailed building plans, and subject to approval, they have to start work within twelve months.

District Council News

Money is available to help groups in the Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire stage one-off community sports events. The Community Games Fund can provide a maximum of £200 per event to help enable community groups and voluntary organisations stage sports and cultural activities in their local area.

The Community Games Fund is being provided by the National Lottery Legacy Trust and is being administered by South Oxfordshire District Council and Vale of White Horse District Council together with the Oxfordshire Sports Partnership. A total of £1,000 is available in each district. For more information about the Community Games Fund please visit - www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/communitygamesfund.

Is your green bin full? Don't panic – you can leave extra recycling out beside the bin in your normal recycling week!

Women throughout the Vale of White Horse now have the opportunity **to swim for free**.

Active Women, administered by Vale of White Horse District Council, is providing free swimming vouchers for women to use at the White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre and at Wantage Leisure Centre. Vouchers, which are available to women aged 16 plus, are available now by contacting the Active Women co-ordinator for the Vale Lil Roe on 07801203539 or via lil.roe@southandvale.gov.uk.

Reg Waite reg.waite@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

& Mrs Margaret Turner, tel 01235 821248.

County Council News

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN As a result of the VOWHDC Core Strategy documents County Council officials are modifying the strategy in order to accommodate some of the many District Council's growth aspirations. As far as I am concerned, development should only occur if appropriate and well balanced infrastructure is incorporated within every development proposal.

COUNCILLOR COMMUNITY BUDGETS I've been allocated a sum of money to spend on local organisations where funds are required to benefit the local community. I've received notification from some of my Parishes which already exceeds the annual amount I shall be receiving. I will be carefully considering each application.

AREA STEWARDSHIP FUNDING This is another allowance given to me as a County Councillor to undertake highway and road safety projects. I have been approached by several Parish Councils with suggestions for utilising this fund.

CHILL OUT FUND The County Council continues a £100,000 fund to support projects for children and young people. Please let me know if you either have or wish to apply for any of this finance.

Mr. Stewart Lilly County Councillor

Stewart.Lilly@Oxfordshire.gov.uk, tel. 832867.

Parish Structure

You will have seen in the report on the July Parish Council meeting that the Council is suggesting that all the area to the east of the A34, currently within Harwell Parish, should eventually become a separate parish. The first thing to note is that this only relates to the civic parish, and has nothing to do with the church parish boundaries. The Parish Council is worried about how the parish can be managed in the future when it will contain about 700 houses within Great Western Park and over 2,000 new houses in Valley Park, and feels that, long term, it will be best if all these new houses are managed as a separate parish, leaving the existing Parish to focus on the village (about 1000 houses) and the Harwell Campus housing (eventually nearly 500 houses).

In the first instance the proposal has been put forward for discussion with the relevant experts within the District. We don't yet know, but one option might be to split the parish, and yet in the short term to continue to manage the two parishes as one entity until such time as there are enough residents for them to be able to elect their own Parish Council.

The Vale will be consulting on the proposals between November 2013 and April 2014, in time for implementation of any changes at the next scheduled Parish Council elections in May 2015. Where proposals involve moving properties from one parish to another, the District Council will pay particular attention to making affected residents of such properties aware of the proposals and given them the opportunity to comment before it takes any decisions. More information about the proposals and the consultation will be provided in the Harwell News, and on the Parish website, but if you have any questions or concerns before that, please contact me or any of your Parish councillors.

David Marsh

Chairman, Harwell Parish Council



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Little Pippins Pre-school

Little Pippins Pre-School is set in an idyllic orchard in a purpose built building in the centre of the village. We are open during term time for children aged 2½ to 5 years. We also offer a Breakfast Club for 3-11 year olds with a walking bus to Harwell Primary School and a walking bus to After School Club at the end of the day.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported us recently by buying a cake, raffle ticket, or burger at the school fair, or made a donation towards the cost of replacing our flooring. We have raised just over £1,000 so far. The flooring is being replaced over the summer break and the fundraising will continue next term. Thank you!

We would also like to thank Research Site Restoration Ltd for their generous donation towards making changes to improve the setting for the youngest and most vulnerable children in our care.

Last term we enjoyed a great day out at Beale Park and we also took our teddies for some fun and a picnic on the Recreation Ground. On the last day of term we held Sports Day when we also said goodbye and good luck to those leaving us and starting school in September.

We do still have some spaces available from September. Early registration is advised for children wishing to start after Christmas or Easter as we anticipate that, like this year, some sessions will be full by next summer. Please contact us if you would like to have a look round. Registration forms and more information are also available on our website.

Our term-time sessions and charges from 1st September are as follows:

Breakfast Club – 8am to 9:15am - £5.00

Morning Session – 9:15am to 11:45am - £10.00

Lunch – 11:45am to 12:30pm - £2.75

Afternoon Session – 12:30pm to 3pm - £10.00

After School Club – 3pm to 6pm - in association with Harwell School.

Our contact details are: Tel: 01235 821741,
Email: littlepippins@btinternet.com

Website: www.littlepippins.org.uk Little Pippins Pre-School, Freeman Orchard, Gaveston Road, Harwell, OX11 0HP

The **Mobile Library** will be in the Village Hall car park between 9.15 and 9.40am on the following Wednesdays: Aug 14, 28, Sept 11 & 25.



babies and toddlers at harwell



Are you a parent or carer for a baby or toddler, or even a mum-to-be? If so, come along to Fun Club and make new friends. We meet each Tuesday in term time at the Harwell Village Hall, from 9.30am to 11.30am.

We have a wide variety of toys for all ages, a weekly craft activity, and there is a dedicated baby area.

The cost is £1.50 per family which includes a snack and a drink for the children and adults.

Your first session is free.

We are currently taking a summer break and our next session is on 10th September.

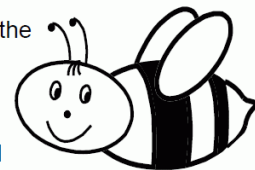
If you would like any further information please contact: Joanne at Joanne.Slade1@btinternet.com

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HARWELL WI

You may have noticed the appearance of another new bench in the Village courtesy of the WI. This one is in the new playground and commemorates the Queen's 'Diamond Jubilee' last year. It is made of 100% recycled plastic so should stand the test of time and we hope many villagers will get pleasure from using it.

Well I hope no one is complaining about the heat, there will soon be a hose-pipe ban!!

In June, local author Carol Bunyan, descendant of the famous John Bunyan, author of *Pilgrim's Progress*, talked about her first novel *The Choir Mistress* which she didn't publish until she was 60. Carol has worked extensively in theatre and television and was extremely entertaining.

Then in July, Chris Partington talked about 'Classic Cars and the Places they take you'. Partners attended this meeting to enjoy his talk.

Also in July, members went to Highgrove House, home of Prince Charles. Their tour was late morning, the weather was of course fabulous, their guide was excellent and they all enjoyed a late lunch in Tetbury before coming home.

There is no formal meeting in August but there will be a river walk on Friday 9th, from Sutton Courtenay to Dorchester. There is also a social evening with members having dinner at The Hart in Harwell on Wednesday 14 August. Further details about either of these outings are available from Penny.

On Wednesday 11th September has a hands-on craft evening arranged by the Didcot Craft Shop 'No Two Things'. Members will be shown how to decorate items with Deco-Patch.

On 9th October Mike Payne is talking about 'The History of Pinewood Studios'. Partners are invited to this meeting.

The rest of the year has some exciting new topics including: The Air Ambulance; Digital Photography; Midwives and, in December, a Christmas Party.

There are also Theatre trips, as and when available, which are notified to those wishing to be involved. There are also many other outings organised by Oxfordshire Federation of WIs and these are advertised in our monthly newsletter, News & Views, and can be attended by the members and booked via Andrea, our Club Treasurer.

Come and see for yourself. Find out at first hand the many interesting speakers, visits and outings we have to offer. Visitors are always welcome. Meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. For more information about joining us or about any of the above activities, contact our Secretary, Penny Marsh, on 01235 835430. Email: penny@digitalsafaris.com.

Ed Vaizey MP local surgery dates 5.30 to 7pm

20th September – Wallingford Town Hall

11th October – Faringdon

Harwell Gardeners' Club

On August 12th we have a garden visit to The Manor House, Dorchester. If you would like to join us please let Ruth Alexander know. Tel: 835359. Cost is £5 members and £6 visitors.

In September we resume our monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

On September 2nd our speaker will be Steve Mole giving the talk *The Incredible Life of the Honeybee*. The competition is *A Wildlife Friendly Arrangement*.

Visitors welcome.

On Saturday 14th September the annual Village Produce Show takes place in Harwell School. All villagers are welcome to enter and schedules are available from Bobs now. As well as garden produce there are classes for flowers and flower-arranging, crafts, photography, painting etc. and classes for children to enter. Even if you aren't entering you are welcome to come along at 3pm

Police Surgeries and Advice

Have Your Say meetings are held monthly in the Village Hall. The next are:
Saturdays 10th August & 7th September 12 noon to 1pm

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Harwell Online 3 for Beginners

Are you thinking of taking the plunge and really getting to grips with the Internet? There is so much that is free when you go online, communicate with friends and family at home and abroad with email and Skype, catch up on missed TV and Radio programmes with iPlayer, find out about Harwell Village through using websites and much more, including being safe online.

Following on from the successful Harwell Online courses in Harwell Village Hall there is a new course for the Autumn Term. Beginners are very welcome on this course. Just bring your laptop and ask lots of questions.

Penny Marsh, your tutor, will be on hand to get you started and help you as you go along. You will be in a small friendly group using the WIFI in Harwell Village Hall to connect to the Internet. By coming on this course, you are supporting the Harwell Village Hall Redevelopment Fund.

Cost: £45 for 6 weeks plus 1 compulsory free week on Monday 9 September 2013 at 2pm to set up your laptop to include what we will use during the course.

Dates: Autumn Term will be 2pm on Mondays for 7 weeks from 9 September to 21 October inclusive, with the first week free.

Contact: Penny Marsh on 835430 or get someone to email penny@digitalsafaris.com if you are interested and to answer any queries about the course. The successful first Harwell Online course, come to this new course to enhance your online skills and ask questions. By coming on this course you are supporting the Harwell Village Hall Redevelopment Fund.

Do you have a laptop computer and want to widen your skills beyond replying to emails? Do you easily find what you want to when Googling? Join those already enrolled on this course and go online in a friendly environment.

Do you want to:
See your son on Easter Day but he lives in Canada?
See a photo sent by a friend by email but don't know how to open it?
Save money on utility bills and holidays?
Fill out an online application form e.g. job application,



Fingers & Forks Limited
9 Manor Green, Harwell Village, Oxfordshire OX11 0DQ
Tel: 01235 835198
Email: info@fingersandforks.co.uk

Harwell History Group

An informal Harwell History group has now been formed. Our first priority is to mount a display on aspects of Harwell's history in the Village Hall. We would like to hear from anyone who has information about anything relevant to Harwell's history, for example old newspapers, letters, photographs, legal documents, household bills, artefacts (such as sickles) and who would be willing to let the group to look at them and possibly, if you were willing, to photograph or scan them.

If you have anything, or would like to know more about the group, please contact us at history@harwellvillagehall.co.uk or via Heather Stevens on (01235) 835392.

Thermal Imaging

Are you concerned about how much energy is being wasted in poorly insulated houses?

The Parish Council is looking into the possibility of starting a thermal imaging project in Harwell. This involves the use of a special camera to record the amount of heat (i.e. wasted energy) that is escaping from a property.

To make this project viable requires a small group of people with an interest in energy conservation, and also with the relevant skills to use the thermal imaging camera and associated computer software.

Could that be you?

Do you have a good level of competence with digital cameras?

Do you have experience of using imaging software?

If so please contact Stuart Davison who will be happy to explain in more detail what is involved – stuart@harwellparish.co.uk - or phone 01235 833105

Harwell Feast Committee

Organisations are reminded that applications for funding from the proceeds of this year's Harwell Feast, should be made to info@harwellfeast.com by Monday September 2nd.



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Harwell Arts and Craft Group

Well here we are well into our fourth year and we are still having lots of fun. Members come and members go for one reason or another but when two of our members from Cholsey left it was because they had been so inspired by our group that when the new Cholsey Pavilion opened they decided to start their own group and it seems that it is already a success. We see this as a little feather in our cap and hope as time goes by we will inspire the setting up of more groups.

In our four years we have had a few requests for items to be made, advice on how to do something and where to get something done but the following is far the best. One of our members has a daughter living in Cornwall who is involved in a group of would be knitters but being new to the craft speed is not an option for them. Mum was a very good knitter so her help was enlisted in a very important task and she of course enlisted the help of other knitters in the group. "Cornwall Midwives SOS for Breasts" a task which encouraged many a titter from our members. Knitted breasts are used as a resource to teach women both before and after their baby is born about how to position a baby to breast feed comfortably and pain free, expressing milk amongst other things. They are used as a teaching tool by health visitors, Midwives, Support workers in Children's Centres and Hospitals. So still tittering our members got to work and quickly supplied 50 breasts for delivery to Cornwall. The photograph below shows an example of the excellent work. A big thank you from Cornwall to all those who took part.



As a group we still continue to support the fundraising for the village hall with our monthly member's raffle and the sale of items surplus to requirements.

So don't forget if you have time on your hands and have crafts that you need to allocate time to then Thursday morning in the village hall is the place to be. Or of course failing that there are general excellent crafted items for sale or for order. We also share a good cup of tea/coffee and biscuits. So don't be shy come along and join us 9.30 till 12.15.

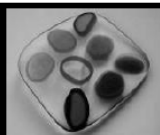
BBOWT - Sutton Courtenay Environmental Education Centre

Our Wildlife Garden Needs You!

The Wildlife Trust is looking for budding volunteer gardeners to help with the maintenance of the Wildlife Garden at its Sutton Courtenay Nature Reserve, which is partly in Harwell Parish.

The Wildlife Gardening group meets twice a month on a Monday from 10am - 2.30pm. Volunteers do not need to have any gardening experience, they just need an enthusiasm for wildlife and enjoy physical outdoor work. The site is located at the Southern end of Milton Park. For further information please contact: rachelstrachan@bbowt.org.uk or phone 01235 862024.





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Summer Clumps Club.

Monday 5th – Friday 9th August, 9.30am-4pm.

A week of outdoor adventures for children aged 8-12. There'll be a different theme and loads of fun every day! £25 per child per day.

. Booking is essential, call 01865 407792 or email admin@earthtrust.org.uk.

Little Explorers: Tuesdays 6th & 20th August

A sensory sensation for babies and toddlers

Come and explore the Earth Trust with your baby or toddler - buggies (ideally all terrain), walkers and talkers all welcome. During these sessions we will be exploring and using all our senses to learn about the natural world around us: stopping to smell, touch, taste, listen and look! We will walk a different route on each date, so join us for them all.

These sessions are particularly for babies and toddlers, although pre-school siblings are very welcome. We will meet in the Earth Trust Centre car park, Little Wittenham and set off on our expedition! Each walk starts 1.30 and ends 3pm.

No need to book, and there is no charge; please bring imagination, enthusiasm and probably wellies - sessions will go ahead whatever the weather!

Toilets and nappy change facilities will be available at the Earth Trust Centre, you may like to bring a drink and snack. Suggested donation £2 per family.

For more information please contact Jenny Cresse: jenny.cresse@earthtrust.org.uk

See www.earthtrust.org.uk – there's lots more!

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Harwell Royal British Legion

We need your help - have you a spare few hours during the Poppy Appeal Remembrance period October 28th to November 10th to take part in the

house to house collections in Harwell and Chilton Village? The Collection Tins, Poppies etc will be delivered to you and collected afterwards, you will be advised on how much was raised in 'your' tin and the total collected.

All money raised goes to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal which helps servicemen and women past and present who are experiencing all sorts of difficulties be it wounded, injured or sick service personnel returning from active duty, help with caring for a dependant or just some comradeship. For more information about how the Royal British Legion helps ex-service personnel visit www.royalbritishlegion.org.uk

If you are able to help then please contact Wendy Clarke, Poppy Appeal Organiser, Harwell Village and District via email ian.clarke470@ntlworld.com or post, Royal British Legion, Westfield, Harwell, Oxon OX11 0LG.

Ed Vaizey MP Parish News July 2013

I am delighted that the Department for Transport has allocated £5 million to help sort out the Milton Interchange on the A34. This junction is a significant 'pinch point' which has long needed addressing. The scheme will improve the operation and increase the capacity at Milton Interchange, by providing a 'hamburger' style roundabout of the type which have so improved the traffic flows around the Oxford bypass. It should enable the junction to operate effectively even with planned growth in traffic, and help all of us living and working in the area.

This month I've had emails and letters focussing on the European Union Referendum which was debated in the House in early July. My colleagues and I want to allow the British people to decide the UK's European future with an in-out referendum by the end of 2017, and we want to turn this commitment into law so that future governments will be held to it. Like last month I have also continued to receive emails about the proposed badger culling to stop the spread of TB. As I understand it, the "Good Practice Guidelines" for the badger cull pilots agreed with Natural England set out the features to be complied within the pilots as the best basis for badgers being killed humanely under controlled shooting - and even that is still in the pilot phase. In addition, Natural England will observe six nights of controlled shooting and carry out a series of follow up visits and telephone interviews with marksmen to check what happened on the previous night's shooting. I am assured that this information will then be reviewed by a group of independent scientific experts.

As ever please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com. Ed Vaizey MP



Didcot & District University of the Third Age

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm at Didcot

Civic Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to one meeting as a taster before joining.

The August meeting will be held at 2pm on 20 August (the topic will be Journey to the East: Travels in China) and the September meeting at 2pm on 17 September (the topic will be 35 years on a milkround).

Didcot & District U3A is a democratic, self-funded and self-managed organisation which exists to provide educational and leisure activities at minimal cost. It draws upon the knowledge, experience, skills and enthusiasms of its members to organise interest groups in accordance with the wishes of the membership. There are over 20 interest groups including wine appreciation, science & maths, play reading, creative writing, walking, knitting, bridge, crafts, books, poetry, singing, badminton, photography and 5 languages. There's something for everyone!

Tel: 07804159993

Email: didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>

Editorial Notes: Other than where stated and in reports of Parish Council matters any opinions expressed are not those of the Parish Council. Items for the October issue should be sent by September 20th.

Email news@harwellparish.co.uk. Distribution by Mrs. Pat Staples, Talbot's Way, Grove Road. Advertising queries to the Clerk - see p2 - Martin Ricketts, editor.

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Wild About Plants?

Wild plant charity Plantlife is hoping to reach out to many wild plant enthusiasts and nature lovers by inviting them to become wild plant 'pioneers' and subscribe to a free quarterly e-learning bulletin to learn more about our native wild plants via the 'Wild About Plants' project website - www.wildaboutplants.org.uk.

The Wild About Plants team delivers Plantlife's outreach programme and work to help people reconnect with the outdoors and their local greenspaces. Working with schools, families and communities from all walks of life and with fantastic free downloadable resources, the team hope to engage people with the nature on their doorstep. In recent years subscribers have been asked to record the plant life in their local area and recount what they used to see, pick and forage for.

Plantlife has just launched *Flowers on the Edge* - their annual road-verges campaign. It is asking communities to record how their road verges are looking this summer by taking photos and sending in stories.

The Wild About Plants team is funded by Natural England through Access to Nature, as part of the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme. It is a partnership project involving organisations throughout the country.

Finally, did you know that the County flower of Oxfordshire is the Fritillary? - visit

www.plantlife.org.uk/wild_plants/plant_species/fritillary/

Children's Drama Club



Is your child interested in acting? Do they want to make new friends and play games? Are you keen to develop their confidence, social skills and literacy knowledge?

Creation Drama Club explores classic children's literature and Shakespeare in a fun and inclusive atmosphere.

We run for 12 weeks of fun, devising and performing at the John Mason School in Abingdon.

Come and join us for a FREE TASTER SESSION on Tuesday 10th September.

8-10 yrs – 5pm till 6pm

11-13 yrs – 6pm till 8pm

There's no obligation to join, just come along and meet us.

Booking essential, please call 01865 766266 or email: education@creationtheatre.co.uk

D-DAY SERVICE AT THE RAF HARWELL MEMORIAL STONE 8th JUNE 2013

The annual service took place commemorating the events of 5th June 1944. It was organised this year by Peter Davies of the Harwell Branch of the Royal British Legion and Duncan Rogers of Goodman Science Parks with Harwell and Chilton Churches.



Thanks to the good weather, the event was well attended by about 200 people. This included representatives from organisations and business on the Harwell Oxford Campus and British Legion Branches and Veterans organisations across Oxon. and Berkshire. These included the Parachute Regiment Association, the RAF 38 Group Association, Glider Pilot's Regimental Association, Airborne Forces Association and the RAF Regiment. 14 Standards were paraded.

The Wantage Air Training Corps made a welcome return as Guard of Honour as did pupils from Chilton School who lined up in attendance. It was good to see a small group from 2nd Chilton Scouts. Serving personnel from across the Armed Forces and Civilian Organisations attended in dress uniform.

The Service was conducted by Rev. Pam Rolls. The Last Post was sounded by Tony Hughes.

Wreaths were laid by the above organisations and those on the Harwell Oxford Campus, including the Civil Nuclear Constabulary, Public Health England, STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Harwell Oxford Campus, Research Sites Restoration Limited, Medical Research Council and Diamond Light Source.

Wreaths were also laid by the Didcot Mayor, the Chairmen of Chilton and Harwell Parish Councils, RBL Berkshire County and RBL Harwell Branch. The pupils from Chilton School laid poppies and small crosses.

A collection for the Poppy Appeal raised £55.46.

Thanks are due to Goodman and others for providing the Orders of Service and Goodman and the Civil Nuclear Constabulary for site preparation and management. Thanks are also due to the volunteers for the excellent array of food provided at Harwell RBL Club after the Service. Thanks also go to all organisations and individuals that attended and helped make it such a successful event.

The inscription on the stone reads:

"THIS STONE MARKS THE END OF THE
RUNWAY FROM WHICH AIRCRAFT OF No. 38

GROUP ROYAL AIR FORCE TOOK OFF ON THE NIGHT OF 5 JUNE 1944 WITH TROOPS OF THE 6th AIRBORNE DIVISION WHO WERE AMONG THE FIRST BRITISH SOLDIERS TO LAND IN NORMANDY ON THE MAIN ASSAULT FOR THE LIBERATION OF EUROPE"

Peter Cox, Harwell RBL Branch Secretary



In the run up to the opening of Oxfordshire's newest museum, The Soldiers of Oxfordshire are giving you a little taster of what you can expect to see in the new galleries. As of April 2013 SOFO will be showcasing some of their collection in the Object of the Month case at The Oxfordshire Museum at Woodstock.

From War Horses, Prisoners of War to the secret work of the FANY you can experience what the new museum will have on offer. June's objects tell of the contribution of the FANY in both world wars.

The First Aid Nursing Yeomanry, always known as the FANY, was formed in 1907 as a corps of volunteer female nurses who would ride onto the battlefield to pick up wounded men and carry them to the Regimental Aid Post on horseback.

Today the FANY continues as an exclusively female part-time unit providing civil and military communications, language skills and drivers. The Commandant in Chief is HRH The Princess Royal and today the Corps is known as the FANY (The Princess Royal Volunteer Corps).

The museum is continuing its work behind the scenes on the galleries ready for the grand opening next year. If you were in the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry or have a story about them to tell we would love to hear from you. Please contact the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum on 01993 813 832 or email admin@sofo.org.uk



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Poppy Tea Room

We meet every other week on a Tuesday afternoon from 2 p.m. onwards in the RBL Poppy Room. Call in, have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee and choose from our range of cakes or homemade cheese scones etc. You can also have a go at our table top quiz if you like, no pressure, it's just nice to get together and chat to other people from the Village. We also have a raffle. The cost is only £2.00 per person for unlimited tea/coffee and a portion of something lovely.

If you have a mobility problem and need a lift to and fro, give me a ring and I will arrange transport for you. Our next Tea Room is Tuesday 6th August and then fortnightly. For any more details either ring me on my mobile 07862127950, my home number Ab. 835397 or email me YJHinchliffe@aol.com

Also in the Poppy Room, Carolyne is now providing very affordable lunches for our Village and local Community on the alternate Tuesdays. Give her a ring on 07962 249 467 to find out more and to book a table. You are all very welcome, come and support us in our efforts to provide a meeting place for everyone.

Hope to see you soon – Yvonne Hinchliffe

SPECIAL RBL MEMBERS MEETING

All members need to be present

Fri, August 30th, 8pm – 9pm



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Exhibitions

THE COLOUR GREEN to 17 August

This year's open exhibition takes a colour for inspiration. The colour green has many associations, some in conflict with each other. Linked with nature and also sustainable living, it can also be the colour of fantastical creatures, or even the poisonous potion of a wicked witch, who might be green with envy. We give you the green light to experiment with this theme – see the work of local artists.

ANDREA BRAILSFORD:
TEXTURES, MARKS AND
SCRIBBLES 3 – 29 September

Textures, Marks and Scribbles is a collection of work produced over a number of years, using a combination of largely recycled materials: wax candles, string, boxes, paper, and fabric, with glue, charcoal, crayon and acrylic paint. Farm, factory, canal buildings, wooden fences, gates and paths are chosen for their textural qualities and simple contrasts, hard/soft, rough/smooth. Rather than having any narrative or philosophical content, these works have been produced for 'a love of the materials'.



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