

Parish Council Meetings

September Meeting

There was no August meeting, and September's Open Forum began with the Chairman David Marsh welcoming the twelve parishioners who had come to comment on and hear about the proposed development at Blenheim Hill, which was on the agenda for later in the meeting. He said that so far 37 objections had been submitted to Vale WHDC planners on the application. Several of the parishioners voiced their concerns about increased traffic, proposed removal of parked cars along Burr Street, inadequacy of drainage and sewerage systems, the species-diverse nature of the land, and the fact that several new developments have been put forward which are extra to those proposed in the new VWHDC Local Plan.

Mr Marsh stated that the Council would cover all the matters raised when it responded to the Vale WHDC. He added that he had recently learnt that some trees at the site had been granted Preservation Orders.

The Council's discussion of the Blenheim Hill planning application was brought forward to follow the Open Forum. The Parish Council's Lands and Planning Committee had discussed the application at its previous meeting and the Chairman had produced a draft response from this. After discussion of possible additional points it was delegated to the Chairman to submit the PC's response, for which see page 4.

Also under the Open Forum, County Councillor Stewart Lilly reported that following an objection from Chilton Parish Council to the Secretary of State, the proposals for new slip roads connecting to the A34 at Chilton must now be discussed at a public inquiry. This may have an impact on OCC proposals for the A417, and on local highways projects such as the Harwell Link Road. On all the local development that was being proposed Mrs Beswick expressed concern that if it goes ahead there would be insufficient school places; Mr Lilly said that Section 106 funding should help provide them.

PCSO Tim Deane had submitted a report; the SID machine had been used in the village and had resulted in letters being sent to speeding motorists; parked cars are causing problems in some areas of the village, and residents are encouraged to report hare coursing.

Under External Liaison, the Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting with OCC and other parish council representatives regarding the A417 Blewbury to Wantage section. Discussions included provision of cycleways and crossing points along the route, and OCC stated that a reason for keeping the short 40mph section between Rowstock and Harwell was that it allowed for the transitional zone at the entrance to Harwell village, which would not be possible if the whole section was restricted to 30mph.

Under Local Planning matters, the Grove Road development was discussed. Access for construction traffic to the Alder View site had caused many

problems and complaints. The Chairman had posted a news item on the website specifically for this issue; clarification has been supplied about construction traffic routes and times, and Taylor Wimpey has encouraged residents to report any non-compliance.

Under Planning, the Council discussed its request for Section 106 money from the developer of the Blenheim Hill application. The Chairman had drawn up and circulated the draft letter based on responses from organisations in the Parish. The Council noted that if it took on ownership or management of the public open space in the development there was the risk of incurring costs associated with trees management. The document was approved and the final version is available on the Parish Council website.

Under matters related to Council lands, the Council adopted the Risk Assessment and thanked Debbie Greenfield for her assistance with the document.

The use of the Rec. by Harwell & Hendred YFC for a tournament next year and an overnight event this September were approved. It was reported that there were ongoing problems with emptying of cemetery bins. The Clerk would continue to follow the matter up.

Full minutes of Parish Council meetings are available on the web, in draft form until approved at the following meeting. The next Parish Council meetings will be on Tuesdays 14th October and 11th November. 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, by phone 01235 820 006, or by post to P.O. Box 223 Wantage OX12 2DH. Note that items posted can take some days due to the PO Box number service. Office hours, in the Pavilion, are 9am to 5pm Mondays. To contact Councillors, see the appropriate page at www.harwellparish.co.uk.

Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service

The Remembrance Sunday parade and service this year will be on Sunday 9th November. The Parade will form up at Townsend at 10:30am and set off for the War Memorial for the service there at 10:45am. After the service the Parade will continue to the Church. Following the Church service the RBL will march to a short ceremony at the War Graves.

Armistice Day

A short ceremony will be held on Tuesday 11th November at 11am at the War Memorial.

Harwell Feast

The Feast Committee is pleased to confirm its support for village groups with the following donations:

Village Hall Project - £500

Harwell Primary School - £500

Little Pippins Preschool - £420

Harwell Scouts - £480

Rosie Fishburn - £100

Planning Update

Vale Local Plan: The final version of the Local Plan will go for consultation in November. Details are emerging, and the Vale intends to send a leaflet to everybody with a summary of the Plan. Please watch the Parish Council website for more information. It looks as if the planned housing allocations, outlined in the April Harwell News, remain much the same with the exception of more houses in Valley Park, and more houses at the north end of the Harwell Campus, offset by a reduction of the number of houses on the Harwell Campus east site. The site for 200 houses, west of the village, will be in the plan.

If there is interest, and it seems appropriate, the Parish Council will arrange a public meeting during the consultation period. However, at this stage it is too late to change the plan. This next version of the plan is the final version which will be submitted to the Planning Inspector. Comments made by the public are comments for the inspector about whether the plan is legal and sound, rather than for the Vale.

However, Matt Barber, leader of the Vale DC, will be attending the PC meeting on Oct 14th. As with all PC meetings, this will be a meeting in public and people are welcome to attend and listen, but should be aware that the discussion will be with the Parish Council, and will not be a forum for an open discussion.

Blenheim Hill After the consultation the planning officer met the developer, Bloor Homes, and they discussed all the issues raised. Bloor Homes will consider these and probably submit a revised application. If and when this happens, everyone who has made a comment will be notified and there will be a short formal period (two weeks) for further feedback. To give time for this, the target decision date has changed to 24th Dec, with discussion at a Planning Committee meeting possibly in November.

Reading Road Application for outline planning permission has been submitted and comments can be made on the Vale Planning website. Closing date is not yet known but likely to be about Oct 20th – V14/2130/O



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Planning Matters

Permissions

P14/V1850/CC Land to North of B4493 Didcot Road Two form entry primary school (420 Pupils + 26fte Nursery) and associated groundworks

P14/V1654/LB The Cottage The Park Internal & external alterations.

P14/V1002/DIS Alder View Land South of Grove Road

Erection of 65 dwellings with associated highway works, landscaping and infrastructure improvements. Discharge of conditions 2 (wildlife), 5-boundaries, 7-Ecology, 8 -SUDS and sewage, 9 CMTP and 11 access visibility on application ref. P13/V2445/FUL.

P14/V1492/LB & P14/V1491/HH Wellshead House Wellshead single storey rear extension.

P14/V1396/DIS Kirk Fell Barrow Lane Discharge conditions 5-9 of planning permission P14/V0304/HH, two storey rear ext & garage.

P14/V1370/HH Russets Reading Road Raising of roof to create chalet bungalow and side extension.

P14/V1289/DIS Gibbs Yard Didcot Road Harwell Discharge of conditions 3 (boundary walls and fences details) and 4 (landscaping details) on application ref. P14/V0515/FUL. Change of use of strip of former agricultural land to B8 storage use in connection with adjacent Builders Yard. (Revision to application P13/V2473/FUL).

P14/V0957/HH Campanile House Blenheim Hill 2 storey ext.

P14/V0647/FUL Land adjacent to Didcot Road Harwell University technical college with a gross external area of 5800 sq. m. including parking, associated hard and soft landscaping, area for a football pitch and a MUGA

Applications

P14/V1393/FUL Land South of Grove Road Erection of a temporary site compound.

P14/V1764/HH Hill Crest Reading Road Construction of two dormers

P14/V1722/FUL West field entrance to Harwell Recreation Ground widen and reinforce existing access from A1417 Reading Road.

P14/V1663/FUL Land to the south of Blenheim Hill Construction of 94 dwellings with associated open space, roads and parking provision.

P14/V1500/DIS GWP Pavilion Sir Frank Williams Way Didcot

Erection of boundary park pavilion, car parking, access, landscaping and associated infrastructure P13/V1754/RM Conditions

P14/V1757/RM Great Western Park Southern Spine Road Reserved Matters Alignment of the carriageway.

St. Matthew's Church Hall Harwell

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Roz Shipp 01235 863342



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Little Pippins Pre-school

Our purpose-built pre-school is set in an idyllic orchard in the centre of the village and has a large outdoor play area. We are open during term time providing pre-school care and education for children between the ages of 2½ and 5 years. We also offer a Breakfast Club for 3-11 year olds with a walking bus to Harwell Primary School.

A big welcome to the sixteen children who joined us in September; everyone is settling in well. We still have some places available so if you would like your child to join us before the summer, please come and have a look round and register to join the waiting list.

Nursery Education Funding is available from the term after your child's 3rd birthday for up to 15 hours per week and we also offer some funded places for 2½ year olds under the Two Year Old early education scheme.

Our sessions and charges are:

Breakfast Club – 8am to 9:15am - £5.15

Morning Session – 9:15am to 11:45am - £10.30

Lunch – 11:45am to 12:30pm- £2.85

Afternoon Session – 12:30pm to 3pm- £10.30

After School Club – 3pm to 6pm - (with Harwell School)

There is more information about what we offer on our website and you can also download a registration form.

Little Pippins Pre-School, Freeman Orchard, Gaveston Rd.

Tel: 01235 821741, Email: littlepippins@btinternet.com

Website: www.littlepippins.org.uk

The **Mobile Library** will be in the Village Hall car park between 9.15 and 9.40am on the following Wednesdays: Oct 8, 22, Nov 5, 19.

Harwell After-School Club

Harwell After School Club is based at Harwell Primary school for children aged from 4 to 11years, Monday to Thursday 3:15 to 6pm, Friday 3:15 to 5pm during term time. We provide a safe, happy and relaxed environment with a range of activities for children to do while you work.

We currently have a vacancy for a play worker to join our friendly team ideally with a level 2 qualification in playwork or childcare but training will be provided. Please note that a successful candidate will need to undergo an enhanced DBS check.

If you would like more information about availability and registering your children or about the job vacancy please contact us -

Email: harwellafterschoolclub@gmx.com or call 07854738518 during opening hours and we will be happy to help.

Harwell Gardeners' Club

Meetings continue on Monday 6th October, when Joy Craig will talk on *Growing Fuchsias for Garden and Show Bench*. The competition is A Single Rose.

Then on 3rd November Paul Hervey Brookes will talk on *Trade Secrets – Behind the Scenes of Chelsea's Show Gardens*. The competition is Autumn Foliage. Meetings are at 7.30 p.m. in Harwell Village Hall. Visitors always welcome, as is anyone wishing to join the Harwell Gardeners' Club.

The AGM and Christmas Party are on 1st December.

Just space to report that at the Blewbury Show the inter-village class was won by – Harwell! We were a point behind Blewbury in the veg. but at least 4 points ahead in each of the other 3 categories – flowers, fruit and jam.

Have Your Say Meeting with local Police

The next Have Your Say meetings in Harwell are on Saturdays 25th October and 22nd November, both from 12 noon until 1pm at the Village Hall. If there is anything you wish to discuss with Tim do come along.

PCSO C9815 Tim.deane@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Didcot & District U3A meets each month at 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall. Membership is £25 per year. Visitors are welcome to come to one meeting as a taster before joining. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st October 2014 at 2pm at Didcot Civil Hall when Heather Shoot will talk about Medical Detection Dogs. Further details from email didcotdistrictu3a@virginmedia.com

Busy Bees Music Group

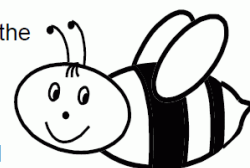
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joanne.slade1@ntlworld.com



Blenheim Hill Planning Application

P14/V1663/FUL 94 dwellings. Harwell Parish Council's response was a summary of points raised by Parishioners. See PC's web pages for full version. The Council objected to the development because:

- It contravenes saved policy NE10
- The density of housing, and location of the densest housing, is not appropriate and risks creating a community which is not properly integrated into the existing village.
- Access and distance to facilities question sustainability of proposal
- Numerous questions and issues, which individually may not be sufficient for objection, but all add up to an unsatisfactory application

These points may be addressed by a resubmission of the plans.

Credibility

- Tree survey accuracy. Locations incorrect, and species identification wrong.
- Mapping used of surrounding houses out of date, making it hard to evaluate plans in the right context.
- Misrepresentation of public consultation. Overall opposition, and specific requests for e.g. bungalows, low density housing, and sympathetic layout, ignored.
- No wildlife surveys – neighbours report rare birds, bats and nesting buzzards

Location

- Contravenes saved policy NE10 "In the urban fringes and important open gaps between settlements, as shown on the proposals map, development or changes of use which would harm their essentially open or rural character will not be permitted."
- Vale Local Plan SHLA assessment did not progress this site 'suitable in principle', but concern about access and proximity to a listed building. Also the site "doesn't relate particularly well to settlement for pedestrians".
- Heritage impact (Blenheim House) not properly considered
- Distance to school, shops and other facilities does not meet sustainability goals. Vale Urban Design Officer guidelines are 400m / 5 minutes. It is 420m from site entrance down Burr St to Drewitts Corner (shops). Drewitts Corner to school 520m. SW corner via the Cleave to DC 490m. SW corner via the Cleave to School 855m.
- Grade 2 agricultural land (see NPPF #112), still classed as orchard, and not garden use.

Access

- Foot access uses Blenheim Hill & Burr Street. Dangerous, narrow pavements – not sustainable.
- Foot access via cemetery would mitigate some of the issues for pedestrians
- OCC Bridleway diversions and landscaping at site entrance need better definition

- Not good for cycling – dangerous. No suitable routes to schools or shops in village or Didcot. Cut through to the Cleave is a footpath only.

Traffic

- Traffic forecasts lower than OCC data. Please check OCC highways views
- TRICS modelling and assumptions about direction of flow present forecast in too good a light
- Impact of Harwell Link Road not considered
- Speed on B4493 a major issue, especially for safety of pedestrians and cyclists
- Road west of junction not safe for overtaking cyclists. Development access will make it worse.
- Suggested removal of Burr St parking not practical or desirable.
- Mitigation to be considered includes: Position of 30 MPH limit sign to east of A34 / chicane / VAS / Road surface changes to reduce speeds

Open spaces

- Ownership and maintenance of boundaries and hedges (especially northern side) not defined and will need clarifying – also for POS boundary on east and south.
- Public Open Space – hard to use ribbon space round the boundary for anything other than walking.
- Unclear what is planned for the LAP

Housing

- Too dense in comparison with immediate neighbours. Site is 3.3 ha – 94 / 3.3 = 28.5, Adjacent (houses/ha.): The Cleave 15, Jennings Lane 18, Kings Lane 24.
- Positioning of densest housing (near the Cleave) contrary to consultation proposals
- No bungalows, and no market life-time homes (10 as affordable) as requested in consultation feedback
- Security and back alleys
- Affordable houses are concentrated and not scattered and have street parking only with lack of visitor space.

Land

- Best trees not retained – Vale Countryside Officer recommends that the applicant seek to amend the proposals to retain this woodland belt in order to preserve its existing and potential future biodiversity value.

Drainage

- Surface water. Possible flooding? Drainage Engineer requires more information re. underground storm water storage tanks (34% SUDS, 66% geo-cellular storage tanks)
- Sewage. Thames Water have "identified an inability of the existing waste water infrastructure to accommodate the needs of this application" and "the development may lead to sewage flooding" with an "adverse environmental impact upon the community".

Construction

- Construction access condition required - not through village.

Harwell Village Hall Redevelopment Project



Latest news:

What is it they say about the wheels of industry? Yes, they turn slowly and you must feel that about the development of the village hall! Slowly or not they are most definitely turning and the architects have now sent out tender documents ready for work to begin.

The planned build start date is Spring 2015, by which time we hope that more money will have been raised, both by you as residents (an amazing £225,000 so far), Section 106 money from the Alder View development of £275,000 and grant applications which are ongoing.

To date we have applied for local grants from the Vale of the White Horse for £20,000, (New Homes Bonus & Capital Communities) and, by the time you read this, a WREN grant of £75,000. Next are a Biffa grant and a Heritage Lottery grant. The Heritage lottery grant comes under Heritage Lottery Funding's 'Our Heritage' category and will be a platform for the History Group to share the history of the village (1000+ years). We plan to have an exhibition space and storage facilities for all our village photos, artefacts and archives in the new Café. If the wonderful exhibitions run so far by the History are anything to go by this promises to be a huge asset to the village - and there are more to come!

If we are successful with our grant applications we will be well on the way to funding the majority of the project. Soon, we will also begin canvassing all our local businesses for support as this will be vital when fitting out the interiors of both halls. If you have suggestions about fundraising, or work for someone who might help us, we would love to hear from you.

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Diary Dates 2014...

NEW!	Film Event: Dead Poets Society starring Robin Williams.	Harwell Village Hall. Doors and bar open 7pm; film showing from 7.30pm.
Friday 10th Oct	£5 per person. In support of the Village Hall Redevelopment and MIND, the mental health charity.	Tickets available from Bob's Butchers or Barbara Jackson on 835698.
Sunday 26 th Oct	"Young, Brave and Beautiful – the life of Violette Szabó GC" by Tania Szabó. £3 per person.	Harwell Village Hall 7.30pm – 9.30pm. Tickets available from Bob's Butchers or Kath Luker on 861057, kath.luker@tesco.net .
Sunday 23 rd Nov	Craft Group Christmas Fair – get some great Christmas gifts! Come and support us.	Harwell Village Hall 11am-4pm Free admission Refreshments.

Please check the Village Hall website (harwellvillagehall.co.uk) and the Fundraising and Community facebook pages for more information on these and future events and on how you can support our project.

Contact:

- Keith Beswick for letters of support, business contacts, etc. on 01235 835338 or keith@kbeswick.co.uk
- Clare Wagner for donations, SO mandate, etc. on 01235 835425 or clare.wagner@jabrin.co.uk

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HARWELL WI

Following our talk by the girls from The Abingdon Operatic Society, we are off to see their autumn production of *Sweet Charity* on 28th October.

There was no formal meeting in August but some members walked from Wallingford to Benson along the river, with a slight detour where the towpath was closed. On 19 August members visited Charlcoate Park and then continued to the Guide Dog Training establishment at Leamington.

On 1st September many of us went to the Annual Science Lecture at Didcot Civic Hall. The speaker was TV personality Professor Susan Jebb talking about sugar and other problems in our diets. Then at our September meeting Simon Wenham talked about Salters Steamers – the story of the long established boat hire firm on the Thames. Many of us had no idea how far back the family history stretched into the late 1800's originally building boats in Oxford.

Next on Wednesday 8th October we have 'Hands-on' Water Colour painting with our own local artist and WI Member, Agatha Gerard, and everyone who wishes will have the opportunity to produce a small canvas painting.

Then on 12th November Gillian Cane tells the story of the Mitford Sisters who were notorious and stylish independent-minded ladies.

Members meet regularly at The Hart of Harwell on a Wednesday morning for coffee and pastries. Visitors are welcome. Call in and say 'Hello'.

There is also a small group of 'knitters' meeting every Monday evening at 7.30pm in The Hart to make hats for Smoothies – don't ask; it's a charity thing! Just go along if you like knitting and see what it's all about.

There are Theatre trips, as and when available, which are notified to a mailing list of those wishing to be involved. There are also many other outings organised by Oxfordshire Federation of WIs and can be attended by the Members and friends and booked via Andrea, our Club Treasurer.

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 or email: wi@harwellwi.org



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From the archives - 50 Years Ago

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Friday September 25th at 8.00pm.

All Councillors were present except Mr Stuart who had sent an apology. The chair was taken by Mr Brinkley.

The minutes were read, approved & signed.

Matters Arising: The Clerk reported that he had written to the RDC informing them of the views of the Parish Council with regard to the proposed garages in The Park. Mr Smith reported that the RDC were accepting the views of the P.C. & would obtain more information about demand before proceeding further.

Rec. Grd. Toilet: It was pointed out that Mr East who had volunteered to look after the toilet in the Pavilion would incur a small expenditure on equipment & disinfectant. An incidental expenditure of £3 per year was agreed.

A417: The Clerk reported that he had brought up the question of double white lines along part of the A417 at the recent n Berks Highways Advisory Committee but had received little encouragement. The official attitude was that double white lines should not be used, in fact the Chief Constable opposed them, if they could not be enforced at all times. That portion of the A417 near the Broadway where the P.C. thought double white lines were necessary was not sufficiently wide to divide into two in this way. White lines were not used at places other than on curves. It appeared, however, the improvement to A417 would be carried out next year.

A34: There was little progress to report on that portion of the A34 outside A.E.R.E. The County Council were asking the Ministry to put double white lines at the deceptive bend & dip north of the AERE.

Planning Application: There were no important comments upon the latest list.

Broadsheet: The first issue of the Broadsheet would be ready in about one week. *continued page 14*

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The Frances Geering Almshouses Memorial Plaque

The Memorial Plaque on the front of the Almshouses in the High Street has recently been renovated by Abingdon Stone & Marble Ltd. Previous poor repairs have been expertly redone, the stone has been cleaned and the lettering repainted:



The plaque commemorates the gift made in 1715 by Mrs Frances Geering, wife of William Geering and daughter of Edward Jennings, all of Harwell. Almost 300 years ago.

The Trustees of the Almshouses wish to thank the Harwell Feast Committee for their contribution last year, which helped to enable the renovation to go ahead. The Almshouses are one of very few Listed Grade 2* buildings in the village of Harwell. The Trustees are keen to preserve our heritage and are very pleased with the result.

Harwell Scout Group Annual Firework Event

Friday 7th November 2014

at Harwell School

Gates open 6:30pm, Fireworks at 7:30pm

Entry by donation.

BBQ and licensed bar available.

ALL WELCOME!

For safety reasons **please do not bring Sparklers.**



Poppy Tea Room Royal British Legion Club Westfield, Harwell

Would you like to join us in Harwell on a Tuesday? One week we provide two course lunches between 12 and 2 p.m. and the next week a Tea Room in the afternoon, from 2 to 4 p.m.

There is plenty of parking and easy access, just call in one Tuesday and see what we offer. Our prices are very competitive, the lunches - £8 for two courses inc. tea/coffee. The Tea-Room - Only £2 for Cake/Scone plus unlimited tea/coffee. See the website www.harwellrbl.co.uk for more information.

Forthcoming dates:

Tea room - 14, 28 Oct, 11, 25 Nov.

Contact Yvonne on 07862 127 950 or yjhinchcliffe@outlook.com

Lunches - 7, 21 Oct, 4, 18 Nov.

Contact Carolyne on 07962 249 467

Harwell Feast Committee

VILLAGE QUIZ

Friday 28th November 2014
7.30 pm in Harwell Village Hall

Teams of UP to 8 people
£5 per person

Come and enjoy a fun and relaxing evening in the Village Hall, Harwell. Prestigious annual cup to be won and other prizes

All welcome
Licensed bar & snacks

As space is limited, please pre-book to avoid disappointment

Contact Susan on 01235 820399



Harwell Produce Show



Fred Gee and Alwyn Evans squaring up for the contest ... see over for the results

Harwell Produce Show 2014

Harwell Gardeners' Club hosted the 34th Annual Village Produce Show on Sat 13th September in Harwell School. Well done to the following:

The Harwell Produce Show Shield for the entrant gaining the most points in all classes:

1st Alwyn Evans
2nd Mike Kerswell 3rd Martin Ricketts



Alwyn was still preparing but Fred looks ready

The David Dewey Memorial Shield for Gardeners' Club member with the most points in all classes:

1st Mike Kerswell
2nd Martin Ricketts 3rd Sara Lee

The Mary Turner Salver for the W.I member gaining the most points in all classes:

1st Sara Lee
2nd Heather Coates 3rd Sue Greatbanks



The Vegetable Collections

The Harwell Rose Bowl for the entrant gaining the most points in the horticultural classes:

1st Alwyn Evans
2nd Mike Kerswell 3rd Martin Ricketts

The Chairman's Trophy, in memory of Mr. Ken Plumb, for the most points in the flower classes:

1st Alwyn Evans
2nd Joy Gee 3rd Susan Quinton



Susan Quinton and Mike Kerswell preparing their veg.

The Rowstock Orchard Trophy, presented by Messrs Caudwell and Woodall, for the entrant gaining the most points in the fruit classes:

1st = Martin Ricketts & Caroline Tyler
3rd Alwyn Evans



Wondering about the fruit?

The Floral Art Trophy for the entrant gaining the most points in the floral art classes:

1st Debbie Davies
2nd Sara Lee 3rd = Joan Impey & Pauline Fretter

Debbie Davies has now won this 10 times in a row! Next best runs for current holders of open trophies are by Alwyn Evans – this was his 7th consecutive win of the Rose Bowl, and his 6th win of the Chairman's Trophy.



Debbie's entry for English Country Garden.

The Novices Trophy, presented by Mr & Mrs A.F Thompson, to the Novice with most points in all classes:

1st Pauline Fretter
2nd Kathryn Nesbitt 3rd Rob Padst

The Vegetable Trophy, presented by Rhoda & John Putnam, for the most points in the vegetable classes:

1st Alwyn Evans
2nd Mike Kerswell 3rd Martin Ricketts



Bryn Gibson helping Alwyn display his trophies

The Domestic Cup, presented by Michael & Pauline Lay, for the entrant gaining the most points in the domestic classes:

1st Martin Ricketts
2nd Di Baker 3rd = Rose Wadley & M Kerswell

The Young Person's Challenge Cup, donated by Mrs Sheila Davidson for the young person aged 14 or under gaining the highest points in all classes:

1st Alister Pickles
2nd Isobel Glover 3rd Joseph Cockburn



Alister Pickles collecting the Young Person's Cup

The Handicraft Trophy for the most points in the handicraft classes:

1st Lynn Nickerson
2nd Sara Lee 3rd Rose Wadley

The Laurie Chumbley Photographic Trophy for the most points in the photographic classes:

1st Sara Lee
2nd Kathryn Nesbitt 3rd Lynn Nickerson



Sara Lee carries off the Photographic Trophy

The Trophy for the competitor making the highest number of entries in the show, presented by Mr & Mrs Ponting:

1st Alwyn Evans
2nd Mike Kerswell 3rd Sara Lee

Certificate for the entrant with most points in the Pansy & Viola classes:

1st Janice Markey
2nd Alwyn Evans 3rd David Drummond



One of Janice's entries

Photos of preparations by Sara Lee, others by Martin Ricketts

Thank you all for supporting this great Village event, and I would like to thank the School for allowing us to use their hall, for all their help in preparation, and their new Head Teacher Bryn Gibson for presenting the trophies. The show goes from strength to strength with a record number of entries.

It was so good to see more flower arrangements as they attract attention as do the giant vegetables. Well done everyone - see you 12th September 2015

Adele Harris Show Secretary



The Remembrance Garden – by Sara Lee

Children's Results

Ages 4 & 5:

A Lego Model - Catherine Wood

Ages 6 and 7:

A picture made from Sweets - Rory Youngman

A plate of Jam Tarts - Lily Sadler

Ages 8 & 9:

A picture from Natural Materials - Rowan Cockburn

Something made by Origami - Catherine Dunphy

Ages 10 & 11:

Embroidery - Isobel Glover & Catherine Dunphy

Something you have grown - Rebecca Sadler

Any age up to 14:

A Birthday Cake - Oliver Pickles

Animal made from Fruit / Veg - Lily Sadler & Laurence Glover

Flowers in a recycled container - Letty Martin

A picture to remember – 100 years since the start of World War 1 - Jamie Cockburn

A photo of my family - Alister Pickles

A Bird Box - Sydney Dunphy

Childrens Art – ages 8 and under

A painting of your Garden - Jenna Youngman

An animal picture - Joseph Cockburn

A picture of a cottage in Harwell - Abigail Pickles

- ages 9 to 14

A waterside scene - Isobel Glover

An animal picture - Polly-Mirren Cockburn

A Still Life - Isobel Glover



Some of the School Children's work

Harwell History Group Harwell in the Wars Exhibition, September 21st 2014.

It seemed fitting to hold this exhibition in the centenary year of the outbreak of World War I – a war in which 17 Harwell men lost their lives. Harwell has a rich network of memorials to the dead of both wars, in the parish church, on the memorial in the High Street, and in the cemetery which contains both the trees planted in 1930 in memory of the men lost in 1914-18, and the Commonwealth War Graves for the 1939-45 conflict. In view of the connection with RAF Harwell, the History Group decided to include exhibits from both World Wars. The exhibition was well attended, particularly so in the afternoon.



Displays tried to reflect both military and civilian life during war. Therefore exhibits included not only military records, memorabilia and photographs of army and RAF uniforms, but also items on rationing in both wars and, from World War 2, Utility design in clothes (using material from the Marks and Spencer archive).

A tea table was set with Utility chairs and crockery, a contemporary rationing book and newspaper, and some home-made marmalade (not contemporary!).

Harwell's experiences were put into a national context: a display of books on the R.A.F. D-Day glider operations including those from RAF Harwell, and the Lancaster bomber (on which a Harwellian armourer worked), was shown with a wide range of exhibits from R.A.F. Harwell, and a log book and training records.

Information on government policy on farming was supported by copies of the surveys made of Harwell farms in 1941-2; a display on the popularity of postcards sent to and from soldiers in World War I was illustrated by an album of the postcards sent to Jessie Pateman, later landlady of the White Hart, from serving soldiers, including her brother who served in Palestine.

A visual record was exhibited for each of the Harwell war dead and for those in the Commonwealth War Cemetery, showing their names, when and where they died, and where they are buried; these formed an extensive "wall" of display which packed an emotional punch. Memorabilia included a strikingly wide range of medals, certificates and mementoes of Harwellians who served in the wars, supported by family photographs. Memorabilia included a strikingly wide range of →

In Support of the
Harwell Village Hall Redevelopment Fund

Be part of it!  Charity number 1152858

Harwell History Group
presents

"Young, Brave and Beautiful"

The story of Violette Szabó GC, agent of the Special Operations Executive in WWII as told by her daughter, Tania Szabó





Also an exhibition of war memorabilia including guns, grenades, etc.
Kindly provided by Mark Yeats

Harwell Village Hall
Sunday 26th October 2014

Doors and Bar open from 7pm, programme starts at 7.30pm

Tickets £3 per person, available from:
Bob's Butcher, High Street, Harwell or Kath Luker on 01235 861057,
kath.luker@tesco.net, Kamarlu, Barrow Road, Harwell.



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medals, certificates and mementoes of Harwellians who served in the wars, supported by family photographs. Future exhibitions will follow up the theme of those who returned – from the Boer War and both world wars. As at the March exhibition, visitors appeared with more photographs and stories. For example, Robin Pryor produced badges, buttons and photographs from the Royal Berkshire Yeomanry in 1914-18. And thanks to Derrick Stow for some rapid research into why there were civilian casualties at RAF Harwell in August 1940.

Preparations for the exhibition included some practical experiments. A balaclava and socks were knitted from contemporary patterns, and 1940s recipes making the best of rationed ingredients – some taken from the 1940s cookbooks on display – were tried out with varying degrees of success. The exhibition's refreshments were cooked from such recipes by volunteers.

The History Group would like to thank those who contributed displays from their own personal collections and archives - Betty Pyke for her exhibit of family and village history, Ted Lay for the loan of RAF flying helmets and memorabilia, Nigel Nicklin for the loan of armaments (including a machine gun), equipment and ARP items, Dell Puffett and Matthew Day for setting his display up. Thanks also to Margaret Ewen, Maureen Davies, Della Fredericks, Sylvia Bainbridge, Pauline Purling, and Wendy Metcalfe for running the refreshments, and to all those made them.

If you have personal collections, mementoes and photographs, please contact us, so we get some idea of what material is already available.

The History Group is still an informal group carrying out personal research and coming together to put on exhibitions and to arrange visiting speakers. There are only seven of us and we desperately need more helping hands. If you are interested in researching, exhibiting or helping out, please contact us on batty@tesco.net. Since World war 1 lasted for 4 years, it is likely there will be a second exhibition on this topic in the future – to be continued.....!

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Harwell Scout Group
continues to thrive with a membership of over 120 boys and girls across the four sections. Meetings usually take place in St

Matthew's Church Hall, The Park. The age groups are:

Section	Age	Meeting Day
Beavers	6-8	Tuesday
Cub Scouts	8-10½	Monday
Scouts	10½-14½	Wednesday
Explorers	14½-18	Monday

If your child is interested in joining, please contact the appropriate section leader. You can find the contact details at <http://harwellscouts.org.uk/contactus/>. Please note that the Beaver and Cub Scout sections are currently full and you should consider requesting membership well before your child reaches the appropriate joining age.

Late last year due to the huge demand we started a second Beaver Scout Colony and as these members progress through the group it has become necessary to also expand our Cub Scout provision which we intend to do this autumn. The creation of a second Cub Scout pack will mean some places for new Cubs may be available later this year.

This term the Cubs will be working hard to achieve their Fitness Challenge badge and some of the older Cub members will be taking part in a camp in Dorset with the Explorers, who are now focusing on their Duke of Edinburgh award. The Beaver colony will be making a night hike later in the term as well as enjoying a torch trail at Youlbury. All sections will take part in the Remembrance Day parade on Sunday 9th November.

**In Support of the Harwell Village Hall
Redevelopment Fund and**

for better mental health

only in their dreams can men be truly free

Friday 10th October 2014

Harwell Village Hall

Film showing at 7.30pm

Doors and Bar open from 7pm

Tickets £5 per person available from:

Bob's Butcher, High Street, Harwell
Or Barbara on 01235 835698

"We provide advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem. We campaign to improve services, raise awareness and promote understanding."

"Be part of it!"

Harwell Village RBL Club

The summer has proved to be busy for the club with many activities taking place on the Recreation ground that have impacted on us. The new children's play area has been a massive attraction for the community but has shown clearly the need for toilet facilities available for family use. We have been inundated with desperate parents looking for facilities due to emergency calls of nature. It has been fortunate that the club has been open almost on a daily basis for redecorating or for Poppies Tea rooms and lunches etc so that we have been able to accommodate these requests. Now that the Parish Council has seen its way clear to offer every organisation in the village the opportunity to bid for 106 Funding we hope to apply for money to build on a public toilet facility to the club to save having to open every time there is a need. [Note - The PC applies and the Vale WHDC and Developer agree the s106 funding – editor]

At the beginning of the year we started a SOC (Save Our Club) Fund. This was set up because the club was in financial difficulties and needed a fund to fall back on if the crisis continued. We received support from a wide range of people (not just members) but also people who recognised what a worthwhile facility we have for the village. This fund made a massive difference. The Committee's plan was to pay off the debts by reducing outgoings to a minimum and clearing the major ones (Gas and Electric) first but trading in such a way that regular VAT Bills could be met without causing a reduction in our debt payments. The SOC Fund gave us the security to achieve this and also allowed us to modestly redecorate the building internally. This has been done and we have also been able to meet our financial targets having to use the fund only on odd occasions and for small amounts which were paid back almost immediately. We are now in a position to use some of this funding to improve our building even further and within the next few weeks we will be installing a new sound system through the club. We are indebted to those who supported the SOC Appeal as this has been crucial to our recovery.

There was a good attendance at our meeting on September 5th when the Chair and members of the committee outlined the club's progress. Mr Ron Hayley the Treasurer reported to members that 18 months earlier he would never have expected to be reporting the incredible financial improvement that the club has made. He thanked those who had given of their time voluntarily to 'run' the business and thanked Mr Patrick Muldoon for his efforts in keeping the Bar and cellar operations running as well as they have been. He finished by saying that while we had made massive strides over the last 18 months the next six months will be crucial in 'finishing the job!' Due to Mr Ian Clarke being on holiday Mrs Yvonne Hinchliffe the Vice Chair read the Secretary's report and finally the Chair Mr John Fisher thanked all those who had given so much time and effort on behalf of the club. He also appealed for others to come forward to continue the work that had been started and reiterated the Treasurers remarks regarding the next six months. He also alerted members to the issue of a change of licence at the club and that this may well be an item for consideration at the next AGM. He raised again the misconception that as the club was a 'Royal British Legion' it was a private members club that was not open for anyone to use and join. It was also difficult for him to understand why so many people living in the village had never set foot inside the building and had no concept of what it could offer as a facility. As the building stands on Parish Council land and is leased from them by the current occupants it technically belongs to the Parish (i.e the village) and is therefore in many ways a community facility. Over the next months we have a very full programme of events, as well as Poppy lunches and teas - see page 5 for these.

Saturday October 4th Quiz and Ploughman's Supper – ring the club on **01235 797070** to order food.

Saturday October 11th New to the club – 'Lee Rivers' entertains – **All SOC Members invited to a light buffet**

Saturday 25th Private party with Disco

Sunday 26th Sunday lunch reservable - SOC Draw

NOVEMBER

Saturday 1st Fireworks Quiz Supper-Bangers and Mash +.... ring club to book or Yvonne on 835397

Sunday 9th Remembrance Sunday – you are invited to join us for a 'Spam and Spuds' buffet after the service.

Saturday 15th Curry-o-Kee night –Chicken Curry and Rice Supper (£4:00) Come along and have a sing – have we got a Gary Barlow or Adele living in the village? Please ring club to book supper.

Saturday 22nd – Club Dance Artist TBC

Saturday 29th Private Party with Disco

Sunday 30th –Sunday Lunch – reservable – SOC Draw

Early notice – Saturday December 14th Children's Christmas Party for all children in Harwell and district – Father Christmas in his Grotto/ Disco entertainment – ring to put your child's name down with their ages – £5 per child

We need a volunteer to join our cleaning team for 1 hour a week. Several of the team are away currently and not back until the New Year so we could do with some support up until Christmas? Any offers would be gratefully accepted!! Call Yvonne for more details or ring the club. Check our webpage and calendar: www.harwellrbl.com.

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Thermal Imaging in Harwell

Don't be alarmed, Harwell Parish is not about to see swarms of night time snoopers tracking nocturnal animals at all hours of the night. In 2011 VWHDC purchased a Thermal Imaging (infra-red to most of us) camera and last year we were able to borrow it and try it out. The camera does not see images the same way we do in terms of colour. Instead the "colour" of the image is dictated by the temperature of the object. The camera differentiates between an object that is cold, such as a well-insulated roof space, and one that is emitting heat, such as a poorly insulated wall area.

Our neighbours in Blewbury have carried out a number of surveys on domestic properties over the past couple of years with the aim of advising owners where energy losses can be detected and our aim is to extend this process to Harwell.

We are looking for a small number of friendly volunteers who have property that can be easily surveyed. This has to be done on a clear, dry, cold evening when there has not been any direct sunlight on the property. There must be adequate space around the building for an operator to walk and heating must have been on for a few hours to stabilise the building temperature. The survey will take a couple of hours at most and depends largely on the ability of the operator to resist the cold. It is advisable for the owner to notify neighbours that a degree of nocturnal activity will be taking place.

Our aim is only to illustrate to property owners where energy losses are occurring - we must stress that the operators are not insulation or energy recovery specialists and therefore no advice can be given.

Harwell has the camera for the month of November so if you are interested in having your property thermally surveyed please email thermal@harwellparish.co.uk. The output from the survey will be a report containing colour images of the property with spot temperatures highlighted.

For more information on the work Blewbury have been doing you can visit their excellent website at: <http://www.blewbury.co.uk/energy/> which contains images similar to those we will be able to create.

Orchard House - formerly The Crown

As I am certain the residents of Harwell were relieved to see, June saw the completion of the building work and stunning facelift of Orchard House, formerly The Crown Nursing Home, and as the Deputy Home Manager I would personally like to thank you all for your patience throughout the months of upheaval in the village.

By way of a brief introduction to our company, Christchurch Group is an award winning neurological rehabilitation specialist with over 15 years of experience in the high quality care and rehabilitation of adults living with an acquired brain injury.

Orchard House is the group's newest facility in the heart of Oxfordshire where a true need was identified for this type of specialist care, and we are proud to open our home with the support and outstanding reputation of our other successful and established services throughout the country in Northampton, Bedford and York, but to name a few.

Our impressive refurbishment of the building boasts nine individual en-suite bedrooms individually designed with the needs of our residents in mind, and our highly trained rehabilitation staff and specialist multidisciplinary team look forward to working together to achieve positive outcomes for individuals with neurological conditions as a result of injury, illness or disease.

We were very proud and privileged to show a number of Harwell residents around Orchard House during our Open Days in June, and to receive so many well wishes and words of kindness from the community was uplifting!

Our team here at Orchard House are very caring, friendly and dedicated to their work, and we are certain this will reflect in our success at providing those individuals we welcome into our service with individualised care plans which focus on enhancing the skills required to maintain and maximise their independence. So when you see us around the village please say hello!!

Adrian Pye, Deputy Home Manager

Below - the planned High Street elevation:



Ed Vaizey MP Parish News September 2014

Over the summer there were many events both across my Constituency, in the UK and across Europe which marked the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. Each was quite different – from the names on the war memorial being read out in Wallingford to the unveiling of the Memorial Arch in Folkestone where I was deeply moved to see a parade, which was a stark reminder of the men who marched off to serve their country a century ago. For me, perhaps the most moving event of all was when people all over the country put their lights out and we all paused to remember the courage and dignity of the millions who fought for freedom and democracy, so many of whom never came home.

It's so important that we don't just remember for a day or a week, but that we really do try to learn the lessons of what became known as the Great War, which so sadly was not, as so many hoped, the war to end all wars. In particular, getting young people today to engage with the real impact of the First World War is a challenge. I was therefore delighted to come across a truly imaginative and effective way to do just that set up by one of my constituents - a Facebook page of a soldier-to-be had the platform have been available 100 years ago. I know that young people are already checking out the Facebook page to see the latest information, and I'm sure that the numbers will continue to grow over the summer. You can see the page at:

www.facebook.com/WW1SoldiersTale.

Not only does the page recount the events in one life, but it sets it all in the context of a family and friends, and all the other events – local and national – happening at the time. Not least among those events is the campaign for votes for women: it is still less than a century since any women at all were allowed to vote and it was only in 1924 – within living memory - that women were finally able to vote on the same basis as men.

Reading about the fight for the right to vote is a timely reminder that our we can, perhaps, take our democracy and our right to participate for granted. Over the next few months, the electoral roll which will be in place for the 2015 General Election will be compiled. Please do make sure that you encourage anyone just coming up to 18 both to look at the facebook page above and to get on the electoral roll – and do both yourself too!

This month my mailbox was dominated with concerns over the breeding and sale of puppies and kittens, where there is believed to be a lack of thought for the health or welfare of the animals. I was pleased that MPs had the opportunity to debate this issue, which is clearly of great importance to many of my constituents. The debate helped clarify the belief that dog breeders only need a licence if they have a bitch producing five or more litters per year. DEFRA discovered that when the relevant Act came into force under the last Government, the Home Office sent a circular indicating this; it is now writing to councils to stress that anyone in the business of breeding dogs must be licenced. Recent Government action shows that much can be achieved without new legislation. That said, I do share concerns about unregulated sales over the internet, so am pleased that the Government has acted to create a voluntary code which has resulted in 100,000 adverts being removed since the start of 2014.

As ever please feel free to contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to get in touch, as I keep a very close eye on my emails and can reply very quickly. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.

Ed Vaizey MP

50 years ago – contd. Footpaths: Mr Mc Niven reported that path no. 6 running parallel with Holloway was not, as had been suggested, being obstructed by a new garage. The Clerk had not yet received a reply from the County Council with reference to the closing of path 7.

It was reported that a notice had been put up across path 3 (Abingdon Path) giving warning about a bull. The Clerk was asked to investigate. ...

It was agreed that it was unreasonable to prohibit the riding of cycles along The Cleeve at present.

Continued page 16 →



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Autumn Water Festival

5th October 11am to 4pm

A celebration of Autumn, harvest, water and wetland landscapes at the Earth Trust - lots of family fun!

Activities include Sustainable water play (waterproofs and wellies are essential for this!), Mini raft making competition, using natural materials from the area

Apple pressing, Rushlight making, Storytelling, Bug Man Adventure – go exploring on a spider and beetle walk, Foraging walk and scavenger hunt

Didcot Fire Service will also be bringing a fire engine! There will also be live music from some of the members of local band Kismet, who are writing a special piece for the Festival.

This event is part of our Introducing Water for Life project, supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Adults £5, Child £2, Family £12 (2 Adults, 2 Children)

Earth Trust Half Term Events

Woodland Adventure

Wed. 29th October 10am to 12 noon

An expedition for 5-8 year olds. Use your detective skills to discover our secret destination where we will explore, build and play. Drop in, no need to book.

Discover and Play

Friday 31st October 10am to 12 noon

Forest School for pre-school children. Come to the Earth Trust for a morning of play and discovery in our woodlands. Forest School offers children hands-on learning experiences in a natural environment. Sessions are led by a trained Forest School leader.

For both of these - Drop in, no need to book. £3 per child, accompanying adult(s) free

Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham, OX14 4QZ

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Phone: 01865 407792

For more events, and news visit www.earthtrust.org.uk

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Didcot Cornerstone – Free Exhibitions

The Bullpen: Industry to Art

Thursday 2 Oct 2014 to Sunday 9 Nov 2014

This group exhibition shows the work of UK sculptors who are passionate about iron casting as part of their practice. Their work is a response to an exploration of engine parts and old foundry patterns at the Swindon STEAM Museum of the Great Western Railway, including taking inspiration from objects not normally available to the public. The resulting sculptures will be cast in iron using a cupola furnace at The Bullpen foundry near Abingdon.



We're thrilled to be showing this unique exhibition of contemporary sculpture in a beautiful gallery setting, within sight of one of the original Great Western Railway stations.

Patrick Jeffs: Secret Spaces

Thursday 13 Nov 2014 to Sunday 21 Dec 2014

Within each of Patrick Jeffs' paintings is an enclosed landscape; a complex wilderness of marks and structures, rich and vibrant in colour. Although influenced by natural forms and inspired by the local landscapes of Oxfordshire, the paintings do not show scenic or topographical landscapes as we would recognise them, but the hidden terrain of the imagination.

These paintings are mesmerising and beautiful. As the nights draw in, come by for a splash of colour as we brighten our gallery walls.

- See more at: <http://www.cornerstone-arts.org/gallery>

We are open from 10am – 6pm on Tuesdays to Saturdays and 11am – 4pm on Sundays, except on evenings when we have a performance when the venue is open until after the end of the performance. We are not open on Mondays.

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 December issue should be sent by November 21st. - *Martin Ricketts, ed.*

email news@harwellparish.co.uk
Distribution is by Mrs Pat Staples, Talbot's Way, Grove Road. Advertising queries to the Clerk - see page 1.

**BBOWT - Sutton Courtenay
Environmental Education
Centre**

Half-term Event

Wildplay

*Tues 28th, Wed 29th and
Thurs 30th October, 10 - 3pm*
*Why not join us for some wild
play in the woods this half-
term? Build a den, create your
own muddy masterpiece and
then head over to the
campfire for toasted
marshmallows.*

*All activities take around two
hours, and there's no need to
book - just drop in. Picnics
welcome. £3 donation / child*

*For those with pre-school
children we run Nature Tot
sessions every month. A great
opportunity for you and your
little one to have fun natural
surroundings. Activities
include: mud painting, mask
making, bug hunting and much
more. Booking essential*

*We're at the east end of Milton
Park OX14 4TE*

Contact: Ceri 01235 862024
sceec@bbowt.org.uk

Berkshire
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Oxfordshire



Archives – 75 years ago

A Meeting of Harwell Parish Council held in the Technical Institute on Thurs 28th September 1939 at 6.30 o'clock.

A communication is received from Mr Faulkner, Chief Officer, Didcot Fire Brigade enquiring if the Bath can be kept filled which would be an assistance in the event of fire caused by an Air Raid. Resolved that Mr Faulkner be informed that the Bath is full and the Council will endeavour to keep it so.

The Clerk reported that the caretaker of swimming bath had handed to him the sum of 2/9d for the sale of tickets during the past season.

Orders are drawn on the Treasurer as follows:

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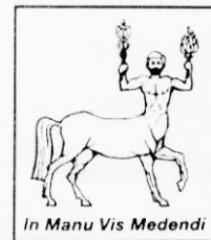
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