

NORTH ASTON NEWS

APRIL 2012

No: 258



*The Social Scene in North Aston - a new initiative
Chewing the Cud, Gardening Club, Quiz Night, Easter Events*

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APRIL 2012, No: 258

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North Aston Pet Alert

Please notify of any Firework Parties

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North Aston 100 Club

Norman West. Tel (01869) 340368

CDC Local Councillor

James Macnamara, Lower Heyford

Telephone: (01869) 340109

Email: cllr.james.macnamara@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Thames Valley Police non-emergency

Telephone: 101

Out of Hours Doctor

Telephone: 08453 458 995

Upcoming Events

Coffee Morning

Weds 4th April. 10:30am-12:00pm. Old Bakery

Gardening Club Meeting

Wednesday 18th April. 7:30pm, Nether Cottage

Village Meeting

Thursday 19th April. 7:30pm, Old Bakery

North Aston Spring Quiz

Friday 27th April. 8:00pm, Nicholson's Barn

Village Hall Forum

Monday 30th April. 7:30pm. Old Bakery



CHAIRMAN Chewing the Cud

The next Village Meeting will be held at the Bakery on Thursday 19th April at 7.30pm. There's lots to talk about and those of you who are not yet involved can see how the Village Hall project is proceeding.

It was very sad to hear of the passing of John Davison. Having lived in the community for many years he will be greatly missed in our village. Within a few days we were also told of the death of Irene Spencer, who lived in North Aston for over 40 years. She moved to away about six or seven years ago to be closer to her children.

Spring has well and truly sprung, the one concern I know that gardeners are having is the lack of rain, so if anyone in the village knows someone who can perform a Rain Dance please come forward. Don't forget the hosepipe ban starts on the 5th April.

Very little has happened in the village this month to report on. The Village Hall project is moving forward as you will see from Marcus's report later in the Newsletter. We now have a *Wheel Tappers and Shunters Committee* who will be responsible for organising fund-raising events for the project and beyond. Again there is a calendar of events in this month's Newsletter.

The North Aston branch of the ORCC oil buying scheme is still going from strength to strength, this month is a record for the amount of oil bought by our group - close to 10,000 litres. In these times of austerity every penny counts. February's delivery saw a saving of up to 12p a litre or £120.00 for 1,000 litres. I would like to remind anyone who wishes to join that you pay the same price per litre whether you order 500 litres, 1000 litres or more. Give me a ring if you want to join, £20 joining fee applies.

That's all for now, please do not forget the Village Meeting posted at the top. Have a good month.

Chris Tuffrey

You can call me by telephone on 07903 339155, send me an email: info@offac.co.uk, or just knock on the door at Gilmore's, The Green.



The lucky winners
of the March Draw were:

First Prize (£10): David Hanna (#93)

Second Prize (£5): I. Scott (#78)

100 Club

If you think that's lucky, then perhaps you should be taking part! If you're not currently a member and would like to join the North Aston 100 Club later this year, please call Norman on 340368 to reserve your number.



You've got to be in it to win it!



Mail to: info@north-aston.co.uk

Sustainable North Aston

At a time when fuel costs are soaring, many of us are taking steps to improve the energy efficiency of our homes, and such measures also benefit the environment. There are other aspects of our lives where responsible energy management can also play a part; for example local renewable energy generation, water and waste management. These are more effectively addressed by looking at the village as a whole.

With this aim in mind, at the village meeting on 19 April there will be a presentation by Green Tomato Energy, a company which advises householders or whole communities on ways of reducing their environmental impact. If you are at all interested in the subject of 'environmental sustainability' as it affects or is affected by the daily lives of all of us, do come to hear what Green Tomato have to propose.

Jeremy Taylor

PS Green Tomato was founded by Tom Pakenham, whose grandfather Frank Pakenham (later Lord Longford) grew up in North Aston, his father having bought North Aston Hall in 1911.

Sunny Prospects

Just to say thanks to everyone who got in touch with me about our missing cat, Sunny. The good news is he came back after a two month absence, hungry but otherwise unscathed!

Best wishes, Jane Beaufof

Traffic Speed Monitor - November

As you will probably have noticed, the Traffic Speed Monitor has disappeared from the Green.

Unfortunately, the machine developed a fault last month, and started to self-reset almost constantly. It was subsequently discovered that the seal on the back of the unit had failed, allowing rain water to enter the casing, and cause short circuits within the electronics.

Chris Tuffrey has spoken to the manufacturers, and they have agreed to take it back for repairs. Hopefully, it will be back up and running again before too much longer. It may be imagination, but traffic does appear to be travelling through the village more quickly now that the monitor is no longer flashing speeds at them.

Sadly, for those who thought they'd set a new record just prior to the unit's demise, they were not clocked doing 188 miles an hour, but a mere 18.8 mph. If only everyone else was as circumspect!

North Aston Gardening Club

The next meeting of the Gardening Club will be held at Lynn and Fiona's, Nether Cottage, 7.30pm on Wednesday 18th April. Some of the items to be discussed will be the *Plant Swap & Sale* in May and planning for the *Flower & Produce Show* in September. The Village Hall project aims to raise funds towards the new building, and one of the suggestions is to hold a *Garden Open Day* in the village. Middle Aston is doing it, so why not us? The Gardening Club's help would be very much appreciated. This will also be discussed at our April meeting.

You may wonder what the envelope attached to the Newsletter contains. Answer: seeds! What type of seeds? Sunflower seeds.

We have a class for the tallest Sunflower at this year's *Flower & Produce Show*. We would like every household to grow at least one Sunflower and bring it to the show in September. The rules are quite simple:

You have three seeds in the packet, so plant each one separately.

The container you plant it in must not be bigger than a 20 litre pot (roughly the size of a normal builder's bucket). If you don't have a suitable container, Nicholsons have kindly agreed to donate one pot to each household. Just call round to the Nursery and pick one up.

You can weave whatever spell you like to make it grow, and then bring your tallest to the show where it will join the rest of the Sunflowers in our *Sunflower Enclosure*. There will be a special prize for the tallest.

Details of the potato contest will be announced in the next Newsletter.

Any residents who would like to join the Gardening Club please feel free to join us at our next meeting - a sense of humour and a dash of eccentricity essential.

The following dates for the diary:

The *Annual Plant Swap & Sale* will be on Saturday 7th May 2.30pm on The Green

Annual Flower & Produce Show followed by *Village Barbecue* and auction will be on Saturday 10th September on The Green.

Chris Tuffrey

Adverts

Babysitting Service

Mature and responsible 16 year-old available for babysitting.

Please contact **Yvie** on 01869 340090

Need a Baby Sitter ?

Responsible baby sitting service available most evenings, including weekends. Also dog walking.

Phone **Josh** on 01869 347356 anytime

Computer Problems Solved

Look no further for a reliable computer repair and maintenance service. We'll remove viruses, fix hardware failures, boost the performance of your PC, or tackle a broad range of tasks.

Phone 07522 342093 or visit the website at

www.naenterprise.co.uk

North Aston Social Club 2012 Calendar of Events

April

27th Village Quiz Night (Licensed Bar)

May

26th French Dinner Evening (Peach Pub Barn)

June

3rd North Aston Big Lunch & Jubilee Celebration

TBC Village Open Gardens

July

21st Village Fête & Evening Barbecue

26th Mikron Theatre Company

August

TBC Mid-Summer Event (To be arranged)

September

8th Flower & Produce Show (Green)

9th Stately Home Car Boot Sale (Green)

October

TBC Harvest Supper (Nicholsons Barn)

28th Halloween Barn Dance & Barbecue
(Licensed Bar & Fancy Dress)

November

TBC Medieval Banquet (Nicholsons Barn)
(Period Dress, Licensed Bar & Auction)

December

TBC Village Quiz Night (Licensed Bar)

Full details of every event will be advertised in the News in the months prior to each event.

NORTH ASTON ORGANICS

Vegetable Stall

Open Mon-Sat from 9.00am
In the car park behind the Old Bakery

- Wide variety of fresh seasonal organic veg at affordable prices
- Minimal packaging & zero food miles
- Supporting the local economy



Too busy?

Why not try our Veg Box Scheme - Fresh vegetables delivered to your door.

Email: northastonorganics@gmail.com

Tel: ((01869)) 347702

ORCC Trading Oil Scheme

We published fuller details in last month's News, but if you use oil for your domestic heating, this scheme could save you hundreds of pounds each year. If you would like further details, or would wish to join the North Aston 'Collective', please contact Chris Tuffrey, North Aston's liaison officer with ORCC. Call him on 07903 339155 or email: info@offac.co.uk. Some members have saved over £250 in the last 12 months, which suggests that saving the annual cost of membership (just £20) several times over during the same period is not an exaggeration.

Fish & Chips!

Every Thursday afternoon from 5:00pm
until approx 5:30pm, by the telephone box

Support the Mobile Library

Every Second Thursday of the Month
09:40-09:55 by the Telephone Box

Not a member? Enrol at the library in Deddington, or on-line at www.libcat.oxfordshire.gov.uk. It's free.

Reserve your team
now for the

North Aston Quiz Night

Pit your wits against the rest!
Test your knowledge of History, Science,
Geography, Art, Music and the Local Area.
Special Picture Round. Bar & Refreshments
Teams of six @ £2/head. Call 347356 to reserve your table
or email info@north-aston-co.uk

At the Nicholsons Barn, The Park, North Aston
Friday April 27th 2012. Round 1: 8.00pm

French Dinner in the Barn

Come along to the Peach Pub Barn to enjoy a French-themed supper evening comprising delicious three-course dinner of classic French cuisine, including *Trou Normande* and a complimentary glass of *Saumur Moussant*.

Live accordion accompaniment between courses.

Strictly limited to 40 diners, with tickets offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Choice of main course and dessert, with a vegetarian option - please advise at time of booking. Please bring your own choice of wine.

Beach Pub Barn on Saturday May 26th
Arrive at 7:30 for Dinner at 8.00
Reservations: £18 per person.
Call 347356 or email info@north-aston.co.uk



CHIPPING NORTON Literary festival



20-22 APRIL 2012

Chipping Norton is to stage its first literary festival, with more than fifty authors appearing during the three-day event between 20 and 22 April. The town will be transformed into a literary haven for book-lovers.

There will be workshops and talks from well-known authors, including household names such as **Prue Leith**, **Joanna Trollope** and **Colin Dexter**.

The programme is certainly varied: crime writers **Mark Billingham** and **Dan Waddell** will be discussing the perfect murder, whilst the *Cotswold Gardens* panel includes such green-fingered gurus as **Sir Roddy Llewellyn** and **Robin Lane Fox**. For the chick-lit lovers the *Contemporary Women's Fiction* event promises to be a lively affair, with best-selling authors **Katie Fforde**, **Veronica Henry** and **Jill Mansell** headlining the panel.

The festival begins on Friday 20 April, when Chipping Norton schools will play host to authors of children's and young adult fiction. A VIP drinks reception on Friday evening will get the ball rolling for the adult section of the festival, which will run until Sunday, when performance poets will take to the stage at The Chequers Inn.

Throughout the weekend the Town Hall will be packed with free community events including readings, Scrabble games, a book exchange and children's corner, as well as an opportunity to meet authors and publishers, or just read a book over a cup of coffee.

Full details of the festival line-up can be found on the website www.chiplitfest.com. Tickets are priced from £7.50 and can be bought online or from the box office on 01608 642350.

COFFEE MORNING

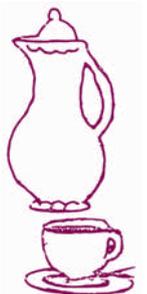
Come and join us for an informal get-together at the Bakery on the first Wednesday of each month. Tea, coffee and cakes will be served from 10:30am till 12:00 noon.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

If you would like transport, or a helping hand across the road, please ring *Gwen Short* (01295 810762) or *Beryl Greenwood* (340122) to arrange.



We hope to see you on Wednesday April 4th



Viridor

Ardley Energy from Waste Development Planned highways works on the B430.

Major highways works are required in order to create the new access road to the proposed waste processing facility off the B430 in Ardley. Although the majority of the works are within the highways verge, the existing roadway has to be modified to accommodate such issues as drainage falls and the installation of additional traffic islands and road markings.

During road widening and construction it is proposed to close the southbound lane of B430 over the length of the works. Temporary two-way traffic signals will be used to control traffic with single lane alternating traffic flows using the northbound lane. Traffic management signage,

cones and barriers, as well as temporary traffic signals will be employed.

Earthworks for the road widening itself will take place in phases. The initial phase will take place at the site of the new access road, and for approximately 100m to either side. This will be followed by works to the southern end of the site and finally by works to the northern end. Traffic signals will be positioned to suit these phases.

The works will be carried out by Fergal Contracting Co Ltd, on behalf of our EPC Contractor CNIM Clugston Joint Venture. The works has all been designed in consultation with Oxfordshire County Council and the council's Highways team.

The work will begin in mid-March and will last for at least 9 weeks. There is likely to be some disruption to traffic. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact site management on 01869 343459 or Anthony Warder, Senior Project Manager on 07799 436547.



John Davison 1935 – 2012

It is with great sadness that we record the death of John Davison and we extend our condolences to Kathleen his wife.

Born in Sunderland, John developed his love of horticulture from his grandfather, who was a keen gardener and grower of show-standard leeks and sweet peas.

After attending Grammar School and passing his A-levels he went on to gain a degree and his PhD at Nottingham University.

He came to Oxfordshire in the early 1960's when he took a post in the research department of the Weed Research Organisation (WRO) at Yarnton, where he became a Principal Scientific Officer and Section Leader. He was well known and respected in the horticulture business for his knowledge of pesticides and travelled the country and Europe in this capacity.

After living for a short time at Tackley he settled in North Aston in 1966 and quickly took an interest in village activities. He soon had his own allotment where he met many friends and demonstrated with great success some of his ideas on cultivating crops, which were often very different from the old established methods.

He spent much time and effort in building an annex to Magnolia Cottage, converting it from a small cottage to

the large house it is today and to developing the beautiful landscaped garden surrounding it.

He met Kathleen at WRO in the 1970's and they had been married 23 years.

When he left WRO in 1984 he, and Kathleen who joined him later, set up a very successful nursery business in North Aston, growing ground cover plants and holly trees (Kathleen called these his Folly) for supply to the wholesale trade. This they did until their retirement some 10 years ago.

John's knowledge of flowers, plants, fruit growing and trees was extensive as was his ability to recite their Latin names.

After retirement he demonstrated his artistic skills in wood carvings of a very high standard and also his woodworking abilities in the form of the garden furniture he made in the last 18 months. He was a very competent chef as those who were privileged to sample his culinary expertise will confirm.

He sometimes claimed to be a reserved man, he was very methodical and liked a good discussion (some might call it argument) and he was always good company and a true friend to those who knew him well. He will be missed by all his friends and our thoughts are with Kathleen at this time.

Ted Short

Easter Egg Hunt

The traditional Easter Egg Hunt will take place on the Village Green on Easter Monday, April 9th, from 10:00am

Children and Parents all welcome!

Call Jane on 347504 for further details.

*Easter Monday
10:00am on the Green*

Announcements

Irene Spencer 1921 – 2012

It is with great sadness that we learn of the death of Irene Spencer on 26th March 2012, at the age of 91.

Irene had lived in North Aston since the early 1960s with her husband Bernard and their three daughters, Dorothy, Ruth and Ann. Following Bernard's death in 1995, she continued to live in the cottage at 16 The Green until 2005, when she moved to Kidlington to be nearer her eldest daughter.

Deirdre Oakley

Welcome to

Christopher & Jennifer Drake

who have moved here from Salisbury
and are now resident in Greenside Cottages.

Artweeks 2013

Just a reminder that North Aston is planning to participate in the 2013 Artweeks Festival, May 18th-27th.

If you'd like to take part, please contact us at the *News*. Email info@north-aston.co.uk, or drop in a note at Two School Cottages. Whatever your artistic talent, start preparing now to exhibit your works and take part in what should be an exciting community project. Volunteers to help with organising the event also very welcome.

This Month's BIRTHDAYS

Tracy Boss Peter Durnin

David Greenwood

Beryl Greenwood

Kath Hazell Mary Hoare

Olivia Kneale

Franca Potts

Susannah Taylor

Norman West



Many Happy Returns to all the North Aston residents who celebrate birthdays this month. If you're not listed, or know someone who should be, please let us know.

NICHOLSONS

New herbaceous stock in now!

Come to Nicholsons for beautiful blossom trees, fragrant roses and trees for garden shade & structure.

We also stock all you need for irrigation in the garden to beat the hosepipe ban.

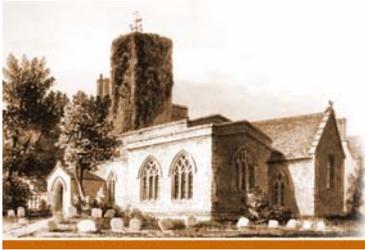


The Park, North Aston, Bicester, Oxfordshire.

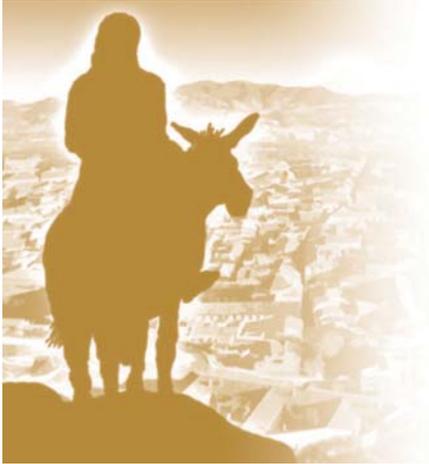
01869 340 342

Open weekdays 7.30 - 4.00 & Saturdays in March, April & May 9.00 - 12.00.

www.nicholsons.gb.com



CHURCH SERVICES



Easter is nearly here

Palm Sunday (1st April)

9:30 am we meet on the Green, walk in procession down to the Church, and narrate the events of Holy Week from St Mathew's Gospel, with parts for everyone - young and old(er).

Tuesday April 3rd

Compline. 8:00 pm in the Church

Easter Sunday

9:00 am. Easter Family Communion

See back page of the News for other services in the Benefice during the week.

Annual Church Meeting

Our Annual Church Meeting is on 17th April 2012 at 7:15 pm in St Mary's. As usual, the Meeting is in two parts. Anyone resident in the parish may attend the Parish Meeting and may take part in the election of the Churchwardens. The Annual Meeting, which immediately follows, is for those on the church Electoral Roll. To join the Roll, call Norman West (340 368), and get a form from him (it closes 2 weeks before the meeting). Those who are not on the church Electoral Roll cannot participate in this meeting, but are welcome to attend and observe if they wish.

Party - Advance Notice

Jubilee Reception, Anne Monument Opening & Concert

Tuesday June 5th at the Church

This will be a big and joyful celebration to round off the Jubilee long weekend, and everyone is invited of course. It will start at 4:30 with drinks of all sorts & a special children's programme, move on to the unveiling of the restored Anne Monument, a talk about it and what's happened, more drinks and then a lively short concert by the Elastic Band finishing off at about 6:30 with a rousing National Anthem.

Please - put it on your calendar and come and enjoy. Full details in next month's News.



Any comments about the above are very welcome.

Please email Kildare: k.bourkeborrowes@btinternet.com or tel: 340 200

If you wish you can also email Clive: goosegirl@hotmail.co.uk or tel: 338 434

Any other member of the PCC will also be very happy to talk, and they are: Bill Adams, Richard Bailey, Nick Bevan, Beryl Greenwood, Jenny Martin, Ted Short, Jeremy Taylor and Norman West.

It's your Church

Village Hall

The monthly meeting of the Village Hall Forum seems to be picking up the pace of developments as we move further along the path towards a Village Hall. The most recent meeting, on the last Monday of March, saw a modest gathering of regulars, and the usual lengthy list of “apologies for absence”, but at least this demonstrates that the enthusiasm is there, even if the timing may not always fit in with people’s busy schedules.

The meeting saw those present thrashing out ideas on what uses were thought most appropriate - and likely - for the new building. It was decided that having a list of these events and bookings would help guide the planning group as they considered the design and size of the Hall and the kind of facilities it would need to contain.

It was decided that a main room, roughly the size of the new Nicholsons Barn, would be required to accommodate the larger events that we traditionally hold in the village. It should be capable of seating a maximum of around 80 people. In addition, this room would need to have the option of being partitioned to create smaller areas to make lesser gatherings more “cosy”.

A bar area was believed vital. Using the survey results of 2007 and 2010 as a guide, having a regular Social Evening has always been one of the most popular “requests” for the new Hall project. In association with this, a “comfy area”, with seating and tables, was deemed desirable. Obviously a well-equipped kitchen would be essential, and much time was spent discussing the need for toilet facilities - ladies, gents and for disabled visitors. A store area where the village marquees, chairs, tables and other items could be safely housed was thought to be a good idea.

A surprising level of support was mooted for a “Community Shop” – not in the general store sense, but somewhere that local crafts people and artists could sell their creations, perhaps supported by an occasional, maybe even monthly “farmer’s shop”, offering an outlet for vegetables from North Aston Organics, organic meat from North Aston Farms, and dairy products. During the summer months, the Hall might also act as a weekend Tea Room, to capture trade from passing cyclists, walkers and through traffic, and this might offer the best opportunity for sales from the “shop”.

It was generally accepted that the once-possible “rural office” idea might be too complex to manage and administer, so pending the results of the Business Plan, that facility has been placed “on hold”.

Speaking of which, Nicholas Kneale has tentatively suggested that the Business Plan should be completed towards the second half of April. This should tie in well with the completion of the process to create a Charity to oversee the Project, and the beginning of the search-in-earnest for grants, donations and funding.

Some debate also went into discussing the actual siting

of the building. While accepting that it will be somewhere in Beesley’s Close, the precise footprint is still open to debate. With a wish to remain sensitive to the desires of those hoping to retain some aspect of a view towards Deddington, it was also considered important that it remained close enough to the children’s corner that it could fulfil its full potential when employed to serve events staged on the Green, such as the Fête, Easter Egg Hunt, Flower & Produce Show, and so forth. In the end, it was decided that some compromise would have to be reached whereby the principal view from the Green, through the existing farm gateway, should be unimpeded by the Hall, but that the area currently obscured, at least during the summer, by the trees towards the right (as viewed from the Green) might not be unduly changed by the siting of what will be an attractive vernacular building.

Full minutes of the Forum meeting will be available shortly. If you would like to receive a copy, send a request via email to info@north-aston.co.uk. Copies of the February minutes are still available.

Marcus Potts. (marcus@cmcgraphics.co.uk)

Being Social

Arising from the February meeting of the Village Hall Forum, an additional gathering was staged in mid-March to establish a new Social Committee with responsibility for organising a new series of events within the village. The purpose is not only to demonstrate the type of social activities that could be staged in a new Village Hall, if it were built, but also to begin the process of encouraging an increased community spirit.

To that end, as you’ll see elsewhere in the *News*, a provisional schedule of events has been published that will see at least one function every month between now and Christmas.

The first will be a Quiz Night on 27th April. This will follow the style of the very successful evening staged last Spring, so book now to avoid the disappointment (as happened last time!) of there being too few places to satisfy demand.

In May there will be a French-themed Supper Evening in Peach Pub Barn, with diners offered a generous three-course meal with all the trimmings, including live music. Places for that are strictly limited, so reserve a seat now. Please see adverts in this issue for details, with more to follow in the May issue.

If you would like to be involved, either as an organiser, volunteer or participant, please email: info@north-aston.co.uk.

Village Clean Up

Can we just repeat the appeal made in last month’s *News* for residents to take part in our annual Spring Clean.

If those residents who take walks around North Aston, to stretch their legs or exercise dogs, could head out one day with a bag and collect some litter, that would be much appreciated. Please wear gloves, and place the rubbish into your green wheelie bin.

Councillor Calling



On the Waterways

Canal Conservation Area consultation has started and, thanks to the interest shown, been extended for a further four weeks so there's a chance to get involved and have your say.

Even for those whose parishes don't abut the Oxford Canal directly, there can be few who live in the Astons & Heyfords ward who don't enjoy it in some way, and everyone can have their say. Like the more normal village conservation areas, this will attempt to define what is special about the canal and then ensure that any development that affects it must "preserve or enhance the character and appearance" of the area.

Strictly speaking, the "area" itself will be the limits of the canal and towpath plus any current or former canal property (wharves, for instance) but, of course, development within a much wider space has the potential to affect this and so will be affected.

A benefit of the joint working with South Northants Council is that this will not stop abruptly at the boundary north of Banbury. It was quickly spotted, though, that between Lower Heyford and Kidlington, it also meanders into West Oxfordshire, so WODC are being, rather belatedly, invited to join in.

Being linear, it traverses another rather different conservation area, that of Rousham which, because of the importance of the sight lines designed from the house and garden, covers both Lower and Upper Heyford: this hasn't happened elsewhere in Cherwell, so someone in Planning is going to have to work out the precedence.

Meanwhile, on a more straightforward level: how will it affect you and do you approve?

Following Protocols

Neighbourhood Planning Protocol has been published by Cherwell to complement the Localism Act's introduction of Neighbourhood Plans by setting out the steps for producing one and how the District Council can help. Now any parish (or, indeed, community) can see clearly what they have to do to produce a document that will become a formal part of the District's *Local Development Framework*. The sort of thing it could set out is exactly where residents want to see new development – though with an important proviso that Neighbourhood Plans are specifically forbidden from reducing housing numbers imposed on Districts and can only increase them!

I am rather sceptical as, in turning the idea into law, the process has been made so complex it has been priced out of reach of most Parish Councils – the lowest estimated cost is £17,000 (not to mention the costs to the District's taxpayers), which is far more than most PC's in the ward precept for everything they do. (How a "community" with no precepting power is expected to come up with this sort of money is also a mystery to me). But the Protocol at least makes this clear for all to see.

PCC Mark 2

Police & Crime Commissioners are also on the way, with elections due on 15th November.

PCC's (it will be confusing for those who help run our churches to have a rival "PCC" constantly in the news!) will be scrutinised by a Police Crime Panel made up of a councillor from every council in the Thames Valley Police area, so somebody will have more meetings to attend – luckily not too far away as Bucks County Council have volunteered to host it. That somebody will not be me as my portfolio, *Environment*, has quite enough as membership of the bewildering number of Health scrutiny boards evolves in parallel with the NHS reorganisation!

Horton under Scrutiny

Community Partnership Network, which provides a forum to scrutinise the Horton, will need to be fitted into that somehow. Meanwhile, we reviewed the impact of the retirement of the Horton's Director, with his responsibilities going to the Director of Clinical Services for all four sites of the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust – three of which are, of course, much larger and in Oxford. It was good to use the CPN to get a public assurance that this will not see services being "rationalised" away from Banbury. Additionally, we scrutinised major changes to the way Pharmacy services will be delivered, replacing a fixed pharmacy with ward-based services. Again, potential pitfalls, particularly GP's concerns, were explored in public. Similarly, teething problems with the new Electronic Patient Record system could be aired. So this sort of scrutiny can be a useful way to protect local interests and needs to be preserved.

James Macnamara

Tel: 01869 340109

cllr.james.macnamara@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

NEXT VILLAGE MEETING

The next Village Meeting will take place on Thursday 19th April at 7.30pm in the Old Bakery.

The agenda will include discussions of a broad array of "Summer Events", including Jubilee Celebrations and Big Lunch, the Fête, the new Social Club, and an update on the Village Hall. A full agenda will be posted on the Village Noticeboard.

If you have any items you would like discussed, please supply or email brief details to: info@north-aston.co.uk.



CHURCH SERVICES

PARISH WORSHIP IN APRIL 2012

STEEPLE ASTON

NORTH ASTON

TACKLEY

Sunday 1st - Palm Sunday

11.00 am
Holy Communion &
Palm Sunday Procession
Fr Mark Clavier

9.30 am
Palm Sunday Procession
Mr Richard Bailey

10.30 am
Joint Procession
with Tackley Methodist

6.00 pm Evensong
Fr Robin Gibbons

Thursday 5th - Maundy Thursday

7.30 pm
Holy Communion,
Stripping of the Altar & Vigil
Fr Mark Clavier

No Service

7.30 pm
Joint Service at
Tackley Methodist Chapel

Friday 6th - Good Friday

7.30 pm
Veneration of the Cross
Fr Mark Clavier

No Service

12.00 pm
Service of the Word
Fr Mark Clavier

Sunday 7th - Easter Sunday

11.00 am
Holy Communion and
Blessing of the Paschal Candle with
Children's Church
Fr Mark Clavier

9.00 am
Family Communion
Fr Mark Clavier

10.30 am
Holy Communion & Easter Egg Hunt
Rev'd David Muston

6.00 pm
Evensong
Fr Robin Gibbons

Sunday 15th - Second Sunday of Easter

10.30 am
United Benefice Service
Fr Mark Clavier

No Service

6.00 pm
1662 Holy Communion
Fr Mark Clavier

Sunday 22nd - Third Sunday of Easter

11.00 am
Holy Communion
Rev'd Geoffrey Hunter

9.30 am
Service of the Word
Fr Mark Clavier

11.00 am
Holy Communion
Fr Mark Clavier

Families are welcome to **all** services.
Father Mark provides a children's sermon for children 4+ during the service.

6.00 pm Evensong
Fr Mark Clavier
Fr Robin Gibbons

Sunday 29th- Fourth Sunday of Easter

11.00 am
Holy Communion
Fr Mark Clavier

9.30 am
Holy Communion
Fr Mark Clavier

9.30 am
Holy Communion
Rev'd Geoffrey Hunter

Morning Prayer: **Mondays** 9.15am, N/Aston; **Tuesdays** 9.30am, S/Aston; **Wednesdays** 9.15am, Tackley
1662 Holy Communion: **Thursdays** at 12.00 noon in Steeple Aston church

6.00 pm Evensong
Fr Mark Clavier
Fr Robin Gibbons

Other Events this Month

4th April: 10.30 - 12.00 pm **Coffee Morning** at the Old Bakehouse in North Aston
Bible Study at the Rectory 23rd and 30th April, 1.30 - 2.30 pm
25th April. **A Pint with the Parson** - The Red Lion, Steeple Aston from 7:30pm