

The BIGG ISSUE

ISSUE 5 SUMMER 2008

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Don't forget to visit :

Seven Stars,
Dinton: 01296
749000

Bottle and Glass,
Gibraltar:
01296 748444

Dinton Hermit,
Ford:
01296 747 473

La Chouette,
Dinton:
01296 747422

PARKING AT DINTON SCHOOL

A meeting was held on 24th April at Dinton School to discuss the issues relating to parking at the school raised by local residents. It was clear from the discussions that the school are conscious of the dangerous parking which is currently hazardous, particularly on the blind bend on the C63 and fear was expressed about children's safety and the safety of other road users.

The School has sent a note out to all parents requesting them to park at Dinton Church and walk through the churchyard to the school. The Parish Council also asks that parents who feel they must park near the school

park courteously in the vicinity of residents' houses and do not block the entrance to School Lane or the entrances and exits to residents' houses.

The Parish Council is to ask the police to monitor the parking on the C63 and to issue tickets to those who park on the blind bend and in other dangerous locations.

The Parish Council encourages car sharing and also cycling and walking to school. From Sept a free school bus will bring older children to the school. Parents are encouraged to use this to reduce the number of cars arriving at the school.

Road Safety

The A418 is a very busy road as we all know and even more so during the morning and evening rush. The junction with New Road in Dinton is especially hazardous and several children have to cross this road to get to the bus stop. The Parish Council has campaigned in the past for further speed restrictions. It is unlikely that we will achieve a reduction in the speed limit in the near future. Please be extra vigilant when crossing this road.

Write to the Police and County Council to express your concerns and assist us in highlighting the issues we have on this matter.

VANDALISM (Fingerpost & Spinney)

The traditional fingerpost at the Church crossroads in Dinton, which a volunteer group restored and repainted two years ago, has been damaged by vandals. Part of one arm had been sheared off and was missing; fortunately litter-pick volunteers found it some way down the road in a ditch, and we're glad to say that it has been repaired and will once again be repainted and hung. It seems to us that this was a wanton act of damage, and ask you all to be vigilant and report any unusual and suspect activity to the police. In this context please be aware that some of us have had to remove obstructions placed across the Upton Road adjacent to the parish field; this sort of activity is reprehensible and no doubt the police will take a dim view of behaviour likely to cause an accident.

Earlier this year, David Hobden the parish tree warden, was very busy clearing an area of the Spinney prior to re-planting. In February a working party of volunteers and parish councillors planted 150 saplings of mixed native trees. The trees were supported by small canes and protected by plastic tree guards, which are protection from attack by rabbits and deer. After all the hard work by David and the volunteers ... (cont'd page 4)

CRIMESTOPPERS

Thames Valley Crimstoppers is a partnership of volunteers police and local authorities dedicated to fighting crime across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Milton Keynes. It is running a campaign against vandalism and appeals to anyone who has information about people spraying graffiti, damaging cars, breaking windows or doing any other damage. **To report an incident you can call anonymously on 0800 555 111**

POST OFFICES

We all value our local post offices, and although the Dinton post office was lost many years ago we are still well served with a choice of Haddenham, Stone and Cuddington for our needs. Rural areas cannot afford to lose these facilities and Aylesbury Vale District Council understands that and will resist local closures. **Please do likewise and use your post office!**

LOCAL AREA FORUMS

The Parish Council represents the community at various meetings across the county in order to ensure our interests are taken on board by the County and District Councils as well as the Police when making decisions that affect the parish of Dinton with Ford & Upton.

A number of these meetings will be closed and a new meeting structure will be in place—Local Area Forums. We will continue to represent the views of the parishioners at this meeting and if you are concerned about any particular matter please contact the Clerk to the Council or a Parish Councillor

Parish Fete

DON'T FORGET TO SUPPORT THE PARISH FETE ON AUGUST 25th

WE ALSO NEED AS MUCH HELP AND ASSISTANCE AS POSSIBLE BEFORE AND ON THE DAY

PLAY EQUIPMENT PROPOSALS

The proposal for a new goal end and basketball hoop was presented to the Annual Parish Meeting in April. This was generally well received with most of the parishioners in attendance supporting the plans. Some people believe the plans do not go far enough and would like to see more provided for the older children in the Parish. The Parish Council is moving ahead with the current proposals, we have a supplier in mind and are seeking grant funding to add to the donations kindly made so far. There is still some discussion regarding the best location for the new equipment, but a significant majority of those who commented at the Annual Parish Meeting favoured the site of the old playground. Once we have this phase of the project in place, we can examine how much it is used compared to the cost and get a picture of how much 'value for money' the Parish is getting. This will allow a sensible decision to be made regarding whether or not to seek funding for more equipment in the future.

We have now submitted our application form, together with letters of support, for a Grant to WREN – Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd. Their Advisory Panel for Buckinghamshire will consider our application on 30th May and then the Directors of the Company will make their decision on 17th June 2008. Fingers crossed!!

CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Councillors elected their Chairman to serve for a term of one year. We are pleased to announce that Diana Coole has been re-elected as Chairman. It is agreed by all the councillors that Diana does a marvellous job as Chairman and we look forward to working with her in the coming year. There are seven Councillors and the Clerk working for the benefit of the parish. We are consulted by both the County and District Councils and make decisions on matters affecting the parish of Dinton with Ford and Upton. We also have various powers to ensure the parish is how we want it to be.

CHURCH PATRONAL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 28th June and SUNDAY 29th June, 2008

The Patronal Festival of St Peter and St Paul at Dinton takes place on Saturday and Sunday 28th and 29th June. Don't let the smaller children miss the opportunity to see teddies parachuting from the Church tower on Saturday afternoon (2pm to 4pm). They can also take part in a painting project and teas will be served in the afternoon. Donations of cakes will be gratefully received, please contact Helen Wild on 01296-748679.

On Saturday evening at 7.30pm there is a summer concert at the Church. On Sunday morning at 10.00am there will be a celebratory communion service and afternoon teas served at the Church from 2.30pm to 4.30pm

PARISH FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

If you are a regular walker along many of the parish footpaths and come across any problems with stiles or blocked paths—please pass this information on to the parish council via Cllr John Owen who keeps an eye on the footpaths on behalf of the parish council.

You can also report any problems direct to the County Council who manage and maintain these rights of way. Telephone John Owen on 01296 748769 or County Council on 01296 395000

DON'T FORGET THE PARISH FETE AT DINTON ON AUGUST 25th

OPEN GARDENS - Anne and Mark Seckington are opening their garden again on behalf of Friends of Si-Kunda, a charity helping to support village schools in Gambia, on 5th July. For opening times call Anne on 01296 748228

PARISH FETE—Dinton Village on August Bank Holiday Monday

Plans are well ahead for this year's August Bank Holiday Monday fete. All the usual attractions are planned plus a few new games. The Hearing Dogs for the Deaf will give us a demonstration and tell us about their valuable work.

Colonel Custard will entertain children 'of all ages' again in the Village Hall. This year we will have a fly past by a World War 2 Dakota for a change as the flying hours for the Memorial Flight are restricted. I'm sure it will be a great attraction.

As usual we rely on the generous help and assistance of so many people in the parish to sell raffle tickets, donate bottles, cakes, plants, books and good bric-a-brac. Thank you in advance to everyone who helps before, on the day and afterwards to clear away and store in the shed.

Don't forget to let us have your letters of request for a portion of the profits. The purpose of the fete is to help local organisations as well as having an enjoyable afternoon (if somewhat tiring!)

This year we have invited Fairford Leys to provide a team for the wheelbarrow race, so don't forget to volunteer for Dinton, Ford, Upton and Gibraltar teams. The winners' shield seems to have taken up permanent residence at the Seven Stars!! Start training now! The fete committee look forward to seeing you all on August 25th!

DINTON VILLAGE HALL

We are nearing our target for this year's planned refurbishment. The kitchen and toilet areas have been refurbished, the decoration inside completed and the corridor tiled. The hall as a whole looks so much brighter now.

The entertaining talk by Lord Wilson of Dinton gave us a profit of £800—a wonderful result! The Quiz night also gave us a profit of £500 both of which goes a long way to paying the remaining expenses for tiling the corridor, painting the outside and building a store shed in conjunction with the fete committee.

We plan to run another quiz in the Autumn and maybe the Fete Committee will be generous again!

Please support us when you can by hiring the hall for parties etc. You can do this by telephoning Debbie on 01296 748437 and maintain this communal centre of the parish.

TRAFFIC CONCERNS—The Parish Council continues to raise concerns with Bucks County Council and the local police about speeding traffic through Ford as well as safety issues on the Oxford Road.

LIVING IN A CONSERVATION AREA - Planning Issues

The Conservation Area in the parish was recently reviewed and parishioners may be interested in planning issues relating to being in a Conservation area. The following is a list of types of development that are controlled and therefore require applications for planning permission or Conservation Area consent. The list is not exhaustive and includes: (1) Demolition of all, and in some cases part, of any building or structure (2) An extension that exceeds 50 cubic metres or 10% of the volume of the original house as it was first built or as it stood on 1st July, 1948 (3) Cladding any part of the outside of a building with materials (4) Any alteration or addition to the shape of the roof (5) any extension or alteration to any structure within the grounds of a building with a cubic content greater than 10 cubic metres, such as a garden shed.

For more information contact the Conservation Area Officers at AVDC on 01296 585748 or email historic.buildings@aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk

MURIEL MARY TOFTS

19/4/15 to 27/3/08. Muriel was born in Slough, and came from a family of three. She had an older brother and younger sister. Her brother died a few years ago and her sister lives in Weston Super Mare. She first came to Ford with her husband Geoff. They took over the Dinton Hermit on July 4th 1950 and ran the public house for thirty two years. Geoff died in 1975. They used to have Beagles meet at the pub and arranged teas. They also arranged the Cricket Club teas when Ford had a team. After retiring from the pub Muriel came to Upton but still missed the pub. She is survived by a daughter, 3 grand children, 4 great grandchildren and 1 great great grandson.

REFUSE FREIGHTER

This service is always a very popular one and these are the next dates for your diaries:

Wednesday 3rd September 7.30am—
11.30am

Wednesday 5th November 12pm—3.30pm

**DINTON with FORD & UPTON
PARISH COUNCIL**

Keith Gray, JP
Clerk to the Council
26 Woodmans Croft
Fairford Leys
Buckinghamshire HP19 7FU

Office 01296 422800
Home 01296 381397
keith.gray6@btopenworld.com

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Diana Coole	01296 748763
Lorraine Gooch	01296 747655
Les Sheldon	01296 747285
Jon Horn	01296 748297
Rebecca Lyall	01296 747870
John Owen	01296 748769
Helen Wild	01296 748679

ROAD SAFETY—A418 PLEASE WRITE TO THE POLICE AND COUNTY COUNCIL TO VOICE CONCERN!

Dinton Open Gardens

Eight private gardens in Dinton and Westlington will be open on Sunday 22nd June from 2pm to 6pm. Home made teas will be served in the Village Hall (proceeds of teas go to Dinton Church which will be open for visitors during the afternoon). Proceeds from the gardens go the National Garden Scheme Charity who also give grants to other charities such as MacMillan Cancer and Marie Curie Care. A wide variety of plants will be on sale at Hermits Cottage and parking will be available in the parish field. This has become a very popular event and all the garden owners look forward to seeing you.

VANDALISM (cont'd)

...the Parish Council was very upset to discover that someone had vandalised the saplings, stolen all the canes and smashed the tree guards. If anyone in the parish has any information concerning this act of vandalism, we would be grateful if they could get in touch with a Parish Councillor or contact the Clerk to the Parish Council.

We must all work together to stop this from happening again otherwise our village will be destroyed and the council cannot continue to replace trees every time this happens.

LITTER—A polite reminder to all those who use the Spinney, **please will you take your litter home.** Litter is being dropped, especially near the areas that the boys use for biking, it is mostly cans and bottles, sweet and crisp packets, all of which are unsightly and potentially dangerous.

TREES FOR THE FUTURE

The Parish Council is discussing the possibility of taking on responsibility for further tree planting and maintenance of the trees along Chestnut Avenue. Some trees have suffered with disease and we need to plant more trees to ensure the avenue remains a tree-lined road in the future.

Useful Numbers

Bell Ringing Tower Captain
Faith Newell—01296 748508

Church of England
Mrs Avril Clark—01296 747755

Churchyard Working Party
Andrew & Helen Wild—01296
748679

Dinton C of E School—01296
748264

Dinton Cricket Club—01296
748162

Haddenham Health Ctr—0844
477 8575

Girl Guides (Sue Napier) -
01296 748554

1st Stone Brownies—01296
655692

Marquee Hire (Chris Robinson)
-01296 748113

Parish Magazine (Dinton)
Mike Thompson—01296 748561

Police Station (Waddesdon)
PC Mark Wray—07989498979

Pre-School, Dinton Village Hall
Valerie Partington—01296 747495

Village Hall Bookings (Dinton)
Debbie Pratt—01296 748437