

HOLYBROOK

AUTUMN EDITION

holybrookparishcouncil.co.uk

SEPTEMBER 2006



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As I write these words in July the Linear Park is scorching under a blazing sun in record-breaking temperatures, but the heat appears to have done little to curb the energy of the children attending the Holiday Club at the Beansheaf Centre! It is good to see so many youngsters using the community facilities and having so much fun in a safe environment.

The Parish Plan has reached fruition and has been distributed to all households in the parish, and I congratulate everyone who has been involved and look forward to helping the various projects come to fruition, some in the short-term, others over a longer timescale.

One particularly exciting event we are planning is the Holybrook Festival, to be held in the park on the ground in front of the Beansheaf Centre, on 2 June 2007. It is hoped it will become an

annual community event with a different theme each year, to bring the two halves of the community, Fords Farm and Beansheaf, together. Next year will have a 'green' theme to coincide with the 55th (emerald) anniversary of the Queen's coronation. The Festival Steering Group is looking for ideas and volunteers and we shall be pleased to hear from you. Please contact the Parish Office.

I hope by the time you read this you will have enjoyed your summer holidays and be looking forward (!) to Christmas.

Bernard Gilbert

STOP PRESS!

There will be a public meeting to discuss the proposed Kennet Meadows Development on Monday 16 October at 7.30pm in the Beansheaf Centre.

LINEAR PARK

The Friends of Linear Park have been continuing their pledge to promote, protect and enhance the Linear Park and its wildlife. On 17th June the group of volunteers in partnership with West Berks Council refreshed the woodland path with woodchip and cut back the brambles. This has allowed better access through the wooded area in preparation for the muddier times of year.

On 22nd July the group met again for a litter pick up and to carry out any other essential jobs around the park.

On 21st and 22nd October we are planning to clean up the balancing ponds, the large area next to the woods and playing fields covered in reeds. This work is necessary to manage the water level in the flood plain. If the trees continue to grow they will take all the water required by the reeds, these act as sponges when the water table rises. Again volunteers are needed and we will meet at the Beansheaf Community Centre car park at 9.30am until 4pm. Equipment, lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Please contact the Holybrook Parish Office for any further details or email: FOTLP@hotmail.co.uk

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Holybrook Parish

Office, Beansheaf Centre, Charrington Road, Calcot, Reading RG31 7AW.

Clerk to the Council:
Mr David Baldock,
Assistant Clerk:
Mrs Rachel Buckingham.

Open to the public
Monday to Friday
9am—2pm. Tel:
0118 945 4339 —
24 hour answerphone.

Email: holybrookcouncil@btconnect.com

www.holybrookparishcouncil.co.uk

PARISH PLAN LAUNCH 25 JULY 2006

About 30 people gathered at the Holybrook Centre on the evening of 25 July 2006 for the launch of the Holybrook Parish Plan.

Claire Tull, chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Group, paid tribute to the hard work of all members of the group which had culminated in the production of the Plan, which had been enthusiastically received within the parish. She told the audience that the Plan contains various projects, some of which had already started, which stemmed from the completed questionnaires, which would now require volunteers to carry them forward. Claire stressed that the Parish Plan is not council-driven, but needs to be driven forward by the community, and urged anyone interested in becoming involved in community affairs to put themselves forward as a volunteer.

Claire drew attention to the various displays, including one by the Newbury Volunteer Centre which compiles a database of organisations requiring volunteers and matches individuals to those organisations and tasks. Claire also read out a letter from District Councillor Brian Bedwell, who was unable to attend, congratulating the parish on the completion of the Plan and looking forward to seeing the

projects come to fruition.

Those attending were also asked to look at the various proposals for refurbishing the neighbouring Holybrook playground which were on another display, and to make their comments known.

Claire commented on the various photographs showing the best and worst of Holybrook parish and said that the Steering Group was in the process of setting up an Underwood Road Action Group to involve local people and local opinions in support of the parish and West Berkshire Councils.

June Scott, of Friends of Linear Park, described their work and said they were always glad of more volunteers. Claire Tull complimented the Friends on the splendid work they do within the park.

Tony Ward, parish councillor and leader of the Holybrook Festival Group, outlined the plans for next year's Holybrook Festival on 2 June, which it was hoped would bring the community together and be repeated each year. There would be a 'green' theme next year, in line with the 55th (emerald) anniversary of the Queen's coronation.

Tony said that it would be a very large event and that our aim is to include all local groups and many others.

Sarah Ward, the Parish Plan Development Officer, added her congratulations to Holybrook on the successful completion of its Plan. She said that £150k was available in West Berkshire for the newly established Youth Opportunity and Youth Capital Funds, the idea of which is to put real spending power into the hands of young people aged 13-19 years. Sarah asked anyone knowing groups of young people with ideas to encourage them to contact the parish or West Berkshire Council to see whether or not their project might qualify for funding.

Graham Cooke and Roy Bishop presented the model of the new Kennet Valley Free Church, currently under construction, and said it was hoped that completion would be by March 2007 and that it was intended to be very much part of parish affairs and events.

Roy Brumpton had prepared a photographic competition of the parish (which was won by Angie MacMahon), and there was also a continuous display of data from the Parish Plan survey.

HOLYBROOK FESTIVAL 2 JUNE 2007

Please make a note in your 2007 diary, for the first Holybrook Festival, this will be one of the best events to be held in the West Berkshire area during 2007.

This Festival will be a Fun Day for all, Fancy Dress to cover highlights of the last 55 years of HM Queen's reign (1952-2007) all ages can take part from 1 to 101 years with prizes for the best. Dog Completions, Music and Food, the

way we were in 1952, with a cultural exhibition of Holybrook's past history and Friends of Linear Park, West Berkshire Council and interactive sports for all. Full and updated details will be in the next issue of the Parish Newsletter, in the meantime if you wish to help with this event please contact the parish office during office hours

Monday—Friday 9am—2pm.
Tel: 0118 945 4339.
e m a i l
holybrookcouncil@btconnect.com



READIBUS

If you would like help when shopping in Reading town centre, we can arrange for one of our Shopping Assistants to meet you, just request this when booking your journey. There is an hourly charge for this service, but the first time you use the service this year it will be free.

Do you know anyone who would like to drive a Readibus to either home or away Reading FC Premiership football games, or both? Entry to games will be included. If so please ask them to contact us by writing to Readibus, Cradock Road, Reading RG2 0JX or by phone on **0118 931 0000**.

If you live in the Reading area and cannot afford to travel as often as you would like, then please contact Liz on 0118 931 0000 for support from the Blagrove Travel Scheme.

NEW CONSULTATION FINDER SYSTEM FROM WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL

The system is an online directory of consultation exercises planned or currently taking place across the Council, making it easy for the public, you and stakeholders to find, register for, be alerted to, and participate in consultations. It makes it equally easy to obtain information on the results and eventual outcomes and policy. You can access Consultation Finder at westberks.gov.uk/consultation.

Consultation Finder allows you to search for and respond to consultations. The findings of closed consultations are published on the same site, providing an easy way of finding out what the collective views of all participants were, as well as how these were used by the Council.

As part of the system, you can register an interest in particular upcoming consultations, as well register interests in particular topics (such as environment, health, transport or social care). In this way, you will be notified by email when particular consultations 'go live' and can be responded to.

THE BEANSHEAF DROP-IN

The garage is currently open Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-8pm. There is no charge to come to the drop-in. We have a small pool table, TV and a radio/CD/tape player and other activities that young people can get involved in, or they

can just sit and chat or buy hot and cold food and drinks. Examples of two favourite items are beans on toast which costs 20p and hot dogs which also cost 20p. There is also a small tuck shop. Further information can be found on the West Berkshire or the parish council website (see Beansheaf Drop-in).

ACTION FOR ALL

Connecting Communities in Berkshire

www.ba4all.org.uk

Are you a member of a voluntary/community organisation?

Would you like to have your own web page—free of charge?

Action For All is a one stop gateway for information on the local voluntary and community sector across the county of Berkshire. It enables any voluntary or community organisation, however large or small, to join an on-line community committed to supporting the needs of others. Action For All allows any organisation that registers to set up and maintain its own Web pages. Membership is free and training is also provided free of charge.

By joining your organisation will be visible and accessible to all who need your help, wish to support you or who want to work with you! We now have over 650 organisations registered on the Action For All website.

For further information please contact Katie.mccabe@cawb.org.uk/Tel: **01635 523861**.

LOOKING BACK IN HOLYBROOK

PARISH

Ford's Farm Autumn 1977
Nearly thirty years ago the residents of the newly built Ford's Farm were requesting that Newbury District Council (now West Berkshire Council) undertake surfacing of the roads, times don't seem to change, most of our roads in the parish are well time

worn, and in a recent traffic speed survey one of our roads showed an average of two cars every minute using the road (this was based on a 24 hour day survey so the day use could be a lot higher).

Notes from the Fords Farm Residents Association Annual Report 1977

Some pressure was applied which resulted in the main roads through the estate being surfaced. You may wonder

why nothing has been done to complete the access road between Carters Rise and the shopping centre. This area is not the subject of any road agreement. The matter is now in the hands of the District Council who are seeking legal advice. You will also have noted that the roads are somewhat cleaner, although they still leave much to be desired, this again was a result of negotiation by your Committee.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

WARDENS

If you have any problems you would like us to help sort out please don't hesitate to contact us. You can reach us by phone, fax or text on:

0118 945 5286. We won't always be in the office so please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can or you can email us with your enquiry at westberks.wardens@sovereign.org.uk

**YOUR
HOLYBROOK
COUNCILLORS:**

MARY BEDWELL
0118 942 0196

**VALERIE
BETTERIDGE**
0118 941 1265

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0118 941 2711

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Mob: 0798 0055724

**THE MEMBER OF
PARLIAMENT FOR
READING WEST:**

**MARTIN
SALTER MP**

0118 954 6782

Salterm@
parliament.uk

**THAMES VALLEY
POLICE**

0845 8 505 505

KENNET VALLEY PRE-SCHOOL

(Holybrook Centre)

is open on Monday, Tuesday &
Thursday from 9.30am—12pm &
12.45—3.15pm,

on Wednesday from
12.45pm—3.15pm,

and Friday from 9.30am—12pm.

We will be returning after the Summer
holidays on Tuesday 5th September.

NEWBURY COLLEGE

Interested in Art? Newbury College runs an Art
class on Monday afternoons term time at the
Beansheaf Centre.

Telephone: 01635 845000.

FOUND

Child's pencil case and contents at Brookside

Please telephone: 0118 942 1534.

BROWNIES AND GUIDES

**Brownies and Guides are held at the Beansheaf Community Centre on
Monday evenings between 5.15pm and 8.45pm.**

**Please telephone 07799 287685 (Brownies) and 0118 9831447
(Guides).**



COMMENTS FROM YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

DEALING WITH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A subject which concerns us all at some time is planning, from a neighbour wishing to build an extension to a large company wishing to develop nearby land. The question most frequently asked is what can we do about it if we do not agree with it or if we think it will affect our lives in some way.

Firstly, any development which requires planning permission must be advertised. If it is a minor scheme, notices will be displayed near the site and residents in the immediate vicinity will be given written notice. This is the time to object. A letter must be sent to the Planning Office and it does help if you advise the Parish council of your objections. The majority of planning applications fall into this category and Council Officers do have delegated powers to make decisions. The applications will however be heard at Committee if 10 or more people object and/or one of your District Councillors request it to go to Committee. The decision is then made by the Planning Committee after hearing the evidence.

If the proposed scheme is a large one called a major application, this will automatically be heard by the Planning Committee. You should be made aware of the proposals through a consultation procedure which may be a local meeting or press announcements. You should make your views known to the Planning Office and your Local District Councillor who will be ensuring that issues such as infrastructure, noise, pollution are discussed in detail before any decisions are reached. This is usually a long process and the applications can be heard at more than one meeting if problems are not resolved initially.

Finally, you should be aware that no matter how hard everyone tries to stop what is seen as an objectionable scheme—a Government Officer can make a final decision which may not suit everyone.

THE CALCOT HOLIDAY CLUB

**meets at the Beansheaf Community Centre every school holiday. We cater for children aged
4-14 years.**

**We offer a wide range of activities. For further information please call Lynn Williams on
07963 817615.**

Ward Surgeries (Saturdays between

10.30am and 11.30am)

9th September

Greenfield House

14th October

Beansheaf Community Centre

11th November

Holybrook Community Centre

Peter Argyle

Brian Bedwell

Monohar Gopal

Calcot Ward Councillors

**Parish Council
Meetings 2006**

Next Quarter

Monday 4th September

Monday 2nd October

Monday 30th October

WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL

MAIN SWITCHBOARD 01635 42400

(email:westberks.gov.uk)

OUT OF HOURS EMERGENCIES:

Social Services: 01344 786543

All other Services: 01635 42161

STREETCARE: 01635 519080

streetcare@westberks.gov.uk

