

**PUBLISHED BY
CHARNEY BASSETT
PARISH COUNCIL**

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Your councillors:-

Geoff Rumble (Chairman), Buckland Road 868738
Mike Cox, (Vice-chairman), New Road 868276
Jim Harper, Barnfield 868288
Jos Bath, Buckland Road 868260
Doug Hughes, Main Street 868438

Meetings are normally held at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall on the second Wednesdays of odd-numbered months.

**The next meeting is on 13th January 2010
but will be held in the Church**

ADVERTS AND EVENTS

Personalised Hand-made Cards

Can't find the right card for that special occasion? Eunice will make one for you. Ring her on 868646. Proceeds to the Village Hall Project.

Village Hall Bookings

Village Hall bookings are obviously suspended while the extension work is going on. However, contact Eunice Davies on 868646 for hire of tables, crockery, cutlery and the gazebos.

Table Tennis

Interested in playing table tennis in the Village Hall? Contact Dave Sibbert on 868734 for more details.

Charney Bassett and Lyford Educational Trust (CLET)

CLET supports a range of educational projects, with grants awarded both to individuals under the age of 25 and to community groups in Charney Bassett and Lyford.

Applications will be considered by the Trustees who meet in January, May and September. For further details please contact the Clerk: Mrs Frances Rothwell, Oldwalls, Buckland Road, Charney Bassett, Tel: 868704, E-mail: fc.rothwell@tiscali.co.uk

The next meeting of the CLET Trustees will be held in January 2010. Forms for applications to be considered at this meeting may be obtained from the Clerk and should be returned to her as soon as possible.

Charney Rangers FC

Any children interested in playing, please contact Bernard Townsend on 01235 868181, Mobile: 07747 094351 or Mr D Kitchen on 07823 446757.

St Peter's Church invites you to:-

1.Family Quiz Night

Sunday 17th. Jan. 6.30pm for 7.00pm start.

Tickets £5.00 each, including half-time brain food by Husnu and Roberta, on sale from Lucy and Paul from Wednesday 6th January
Ideal team size between 4-6 players. Adults and children welcome. We can help hook you up with a team if you need it.

All questions are to the team. No individual put on the spot! There will be a raffle.

2.Annual Pancake Coffee Morning.

Saturday 13th February.10.00am- 12.00 noon.
This year we hope to be using the village hall for the event. Please come along for lots of lovely pancakes and conversation.

We do not charge for entrance but invite you to be generous with your cash donations! We would be particularly grateful if you can gift aid your donations as this significantly increases the value to the Church.

Dates for your diaries in 2010:-

March 27th. Spring Bring and Buy Sale

June 12th. Lunchtime Meal on the Green

September 4th. Church Fete

October. Harvest Supper (date to be announced)

Charney Chatter

JANUARY 2010

VILLAGE HALL PROJECT

For those who have not had a look, I can report that as I write this, the roof work is nearly finished and we have slate tiles which complement the old slate roof on the original hall. This means the building will soon be weatherproof and work can start on the inside. The next job will be to put a steel lintel into the end wall and take out the brickwork underneath, to provide an enlarged main hall area. After that, the floor throughout the building will be made one level and work can start on fittings.

The external woodwork will be a dark holly green and gutters and downpipes black, while the internal woodwork will be white and walls a cream colour.

Flooring will be vinyl, with a non-slip specification in the lobby, toilets and the kitchen.

Finances are not a problem at the moment. As mentioned in the November Charney Chatter, we are claiming our grant from TOE against invoices from the builder and this arrangement seems to be working quickly and easily. We have also claimed back all the VAT to the end of October from HM Customs & Revenue and the money is already in our account. We have two grants from the District and County Councils that cannot be claimed until the work is finished and these could cause a short term cashflow problem but only at the very end of the project.

If anyone needs more detail on the project and any of the specifications, please let me know.

Geoff Rumble

CHAFT Treasurer & Parish Council Chairman

PETER DAVIES

A note went through everyone's door in December to let them know Peter Davies is seriously ill. Peter will be unable to continue with any of his community roles in the village but is keen to give a smooth hand over to volunteers who offer to pick up one of his many batons. You will see that Charney Chatter has already been picked up by John Daghlish and I would like to thank John for this and wish him success. Please note that John will be putting the Chatter together and arranging printing but needs news items from groups and organisations to keep the pages filled. Peter has been in a unique position as Editor of the Chatter and ..Continued on page 2

JANUARY 2010

HEADLINES

- *Village Hall Project on schedule.*
- *Appointment of Village Clerk*
- *Volunteers take on village jobs*
- *New Waste and Recycling Services*
- *Skimming Devices found in Wantage*

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Coffee Hour has suspended. See page 4

For further details contact Eunice (868646), Julie (868738) or Mary (868557).

Deadline for copy for the next edition in March 2010: 20 February 2010

Contributions are welcome, preferably by e-mail. Adverts are free!

Charney Chatter can be e-mailed free to anyone giving their e-mail address to the Editor

It's already international with copies going to France, Australia, Japan and Wales!

Visit www.charneybassettpc.org.uk for the very latest village news

PETER DAVIES*..continued from front page*

also directly involved in many of the village activities. As Editor he was able to write many of the items that appeared in the Chatter, whereas John will be looking for us to keep him supplied with typed copy.

I should also like to thank Stephen Cowlam, who immediately responded to the note about Peter and has offered to take over the Parish Clerk position, including the finances. This is very good news for which the whole Parish Council is most grateful. The next meeting is scheduled for 13th January (in the Church, as the hall is not yet available) and it is hoped both Peter and Stephen will be there to aid the handover process.

We also have a volunteer for the website. John Wright has a challenge as the website is currently showing some strange signs which suggests it needs a computer expert to sort it out. Many thanks for offering to run the website John and good luck

One of Peter's more recent projects is Chaffinch. As reported previously, a shopping list of equipment to help with flood protection work was drawn up by Charney Army (ie Peter!) and sent to the Vale Council in the hope of obtaining a grant from their Flood Fund. I am pleased to announce that despite the state of finances these days at every level of government, a grant has been approved, subject to our providing secure storage facilities. So anyone wishing to take on the stewardship of Project Chaffinch will also have some funds as well!

My thanks to everyone who responded to the note through the door in December. The thought of replacing Peter in his many village roles was certainly daunting but it has been most encouraging how a number of people have offered help and I now have much more confidence that we will be able to keep all the activities running.

Geoff Rumble

NEW WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING SERVICES

I attended a meeting called by the Vale of White Horse Council. Regrettably it was poorly attended. That said the meeting was informative and in essence the rollout programme will be similar to the one used in South Oxfordshire with whom we share the services, capitalising on lessons learned.

Each household will be issued with the following:

- (1) 23 litre green bin and a 7 litre kitchen caddy for all raw and cooked waste collected weekly
- (2) Green Recycling bin (240 litre) for paper, card, magazines, telephone directories, glass, plastic, aluminium products etc. collected fortnightly, alternating with general waste

(3) General Waste bin (180 litres) grey/black for polystyrene, crisp packets, nappies, sanitary products etc. collected fortnightly

Arrangements for garden waste will remain the same - Brown wheelie bins collected fortnightly.

Currently, surveys are being carried out by the Contractor including the identification of householders who will require assistance in moving the bin from their residence to the roadside i.e. the elderly and disabled. This will be undertaken by the Contractor.

During the early part of 2010 each household will receive a mail shot containing all the relevant information with a further information pack shortly before *....continued on page 3*

FROM YOUR MP - ED VAIZEY

The New Year is a good chance to look at what issues our local area will be facing in months to come.

There are still some major infrastructure issues facing the local area. The reservoir public enquiry is due to start in the spring. Neither the district council nor local pressure groups have the resources to take on fully Thames Water, and I have asked the Government to provide funds for this. Personally, I think the reservoir is less likely to happen, mainly because Thames Water does not have the resources currently to build it. But I also think that the alternative options seem more and more viable. The other issue is the incinerator, near Didcot. This has been on the back burner since the County Council turned down the planning application, but it remains an issue that needs to be monitored very closely.

Then there is housing. The development of 2,500 houses in Grove is back on, as property developers emerge from the credit crunch. We now learn that Wantage will be the site for 1500 homes, making a total of 4,000 for the area. Personally I do not think Wantage and Grove can take that much development, even if it is spread over nearly two decades. It means growth of almost 50 per cent. Didcot will also see some 3,500 houses, and there are more planned for the north of the town. And Wallingford is fighting an additional 750 houses. And there is the constant worry of the expansion of Swindon to the east, which will

affect villages around Faringdon, though I think this threat is receding. All in all, this is a huge and unprecedented development for our area. While we need new homes, we do not need them on this scale. And it is ironic that local villages, that need and want a few extra homes, are consistently turned down when they ask for them. The system is completely bonkers.

Transport is another issue that will take up my time. I am campaigning for the re-opening of Wantage Road station, and also want the improvement of Didcot station to be used as a chance to enhance the Didcot Railway Centre as a tourist attraction. I have saved some of the train service in Appleford, and continue to represent commuters worried about high rail fares and car park charges.

Then there are numerous local issues, such as the future of Wantage cinema, which I will continue to be involved in, as well as issues specific to individual constituents, such as benefit and child support payments, housing and health waiting lists and numerous other matters.

My new year surgeries will be 22 January in Faringdon, Pump House; and 5 February - Wantage, Civic Hall, both at 5.30pm. As usual, I can be contacted at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350, vaizeye@parliament.uk

VILLAGE DINER

The Village Diner provides home-made food from local sources in Buckland Village Hall, at 12.15 p.m. every third Wednesday in the month. For £4 you get a two-course meal, tea or coffee.

Next date: Wednesday 20th. Jan.2010
Mary Daghish, Julie Rumble or Eunice Davies can give you more information and can recommend the quality and variety of the food.

POLICE MATTERS

Just a quick mail to let you know, we have recently found 'skimming devices' on cashpoint machines in Wantage, Faringdon and Abingdon. They are usually put onto the machine in the morning and removed before the branch opens. The devices are noticeable if you are looking for them, but if you are not, it is easy to mistake them for part of the cashpoint machine. The card is not retained and the service requested by the user is proceeded with.

you have any doubts about a cash machine you are using, do not use it and report it immediately on the 0845 8 505 505 number.

I am now away from the office until the New Year, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe, Merry Christmas and a Happy New year

PCSO Myra Stokes
Faringdon East

Please can everyone be extra vigilant and if

COFFEE HOUR

The Coffee Hour is due to start again on Tue.19th. Jan 2010 and will be held in the Church. Look out for notices around the village

Eunice Davies

AUNT SALLY

Interested in playing Aunt Sally at the Chequers? Existing and new players are required to sign on by mid February.

New players can be assured of a warm welcome Don't leave it until the last minute.have a word with Roberta or Husnu nowor if you want to have a chat about what is involved contact Joe Ody on 868469.

Come and enjoy a competitive but family friendly game in the open air on Wednesday evenings from May to September.

WASTE COLLECTION *from page 2*

the collection programme commences, which has been set for October 4th. business premises and a computer within the vehicle will record weight etc.

Other initiatives will take place including the use of an Exhibition trailer and presentations for District & Parish Councillors. I have further information and will attempt to answer any questions you may have.

Bins will be fitted with a micro chip with a Pin number for each individual household and My best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to you all.

Mike Cox

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

FARINGDON EAST NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP - LATEST NEWS.

HARE COURSING

The Neighbourhood Policing Teams in Wantage, Faringdon and across the border in Hungerford are running an operation targeting hare coursing and related offences. Hare coursers cause criminal damage to crops, fences and buildings and in addition are sometimes in breach of various traffic laws. There have been a number of arrests.

If you have information regarding hare coursers, please call the Police immediately on 999. You are strongly advised not to approach suspected persons.

PARKING AND ROAD SAFETY ISSUES AT HANNEY SCHOOL

In response to issues raised by parents, residents the Headteacher and Chair of Pre-school discussions have been held with officers from the County and District Councils.

The County Council has agreed to fund a Traffic Patrol Officer to supervise children crossing the road (details on the village notice board) They have also taken action to enhance the school warning signs with yellow backing and provide red bands across the road marked SLOW"

CRIME PREVENTION.

Alison Smith (the newly appointed Crime Prevention and Reduction Adviser at Wantage) will attend our next meeting when we will discuss possible initiatives in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch aimed at protecting the most vulnerable. We live in a relatively low crime area. However, the recent distraction burglary in Stanford - in - the Vale, and recent incidents in Longworth Road and New Road emphasise the need for continued vigilance.

VOLUNTEER WANTED.

Following recent changes I have taken over as Chairman. The Group urgently requires a Secretary to deal with routine matters for meetings held every six weeks. I promise you the position is not very onerous. Interested? Want to know more?.....please contact me on 01235 868734.

David Sibbert