

Charney Chatter

NUMBER 50

July 2012

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

The Charney picnic and Olympics were a great success, and we were very lucky with the weather. The beacon and fireworks were a fitting end to a lovely day.

Many thanks to all those who helped and to all the people who came with family and friends to celebrate together.

Thanks again to all concerned,

Jane Fry

KEEPING OUR VILLAGES SAFE AND LOW CRIME AREAS

Charney Bassett is a member of the Faringdon East Neighbourhood Action Group covering Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor, The Hannes, Stanford in the Vale and the surrounding villages. The purpose of the Group is to provide two way liaison with the Neighbourhood Policing Team and assist in the identification and resolution of crime and community safety issues in partnership with the police, local authorities and other relevant partners.

Your Parish Council Chairman Mike Cox is a member of the Group and I act as Chairman. Recent priorities have covered road safety outside schools, speeding, anti-social behaviour, hare coursing and support for the vulnerable.

Our priority this year is to 'connect up' with Neighbourhood Watch at local level. Neighbourhood Watch is an independent network of volunteers supported by the Police and the Home Office which seeks to cut crime and offer help and reassurance to the general public. Our village area coordinator is Margaret Roberts.

As a first step the Group has launched a pilot initiative in Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor to:-

REVITALISE and strengthen the local network of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers.

OFFER help and reassurance to the general public.

OFFER additional support for the most vulnerable.

ENCOURAGE residents to sign up to the community messaging scheme operated by Thames Valley Police

LAUNCH focused crime prevention and community safety initiatives e.g. fire safety in the home, doorstep crime etc.

FACILITATE an enhanced two way flow of information between the local community, the Police and local Councils.

If successful the pilot will be rolled out throughout the area later this year. Updates will be provided in future editions of the Charney Chatter.

David Sibbert (Tel. 868734)

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Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour takes place on Tuesdays in the Village Hall from 10.30 - 11.30 am.

The cost of £1.00 per person includes as much tea or coffee as you like and biscuits.

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Clerk to the Council: Stephen Cowlam

Phone: 868318

stephencowlam194@btinternet.com

Editor: Roger Watson

Phone: 868345

roger.watson@tiscali.co.uk

Your councillors:-

Mike Cox (Chairman), New Road , 868276
Dave Nellist (Vice-chairman), Buckland Road, 868593

Doug Hughes, Main Street 868438

Pam Edwards, New Road 868787

Vacancy - See Village Notice Board

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

The next meeting is on Wednesday 11th July

ADVERTS AND EVENTS

Table Tennis

Our regular fortnightly sessions in the Village Hall have now been suspended until September. However, occasional sessions are being arranged on request, subject to Village Hall availability.

Please contact me if you require further information or would like to borrow the equipment for a private session.

Aunt Sally at the Chequers

The Chequers Aunt Sally team has gone top of Division D in the Abingdon Aunt Sally League after winning 5 of the 6 matches played so far.

There will be an informal OPEN NIGHT on Wednesday 25th July, commencing at 8.00pm.

Pop down and try your hand remember beginners frequently out score regular players.

And just to encourage you even more there will be a barbeque (weather permitting)

The next league home fixtures are on:-

Wed. 4th July v Stanford FC

Wed. 11th July v Crown Didcot

Wed. 1st August v Pack Horse Milton

Spectators welcome. All games commence at 8.15pm and are played whatever the weather.

For further information contact Joe Ody on 868469 or ask at the Chequers.

PERSONALISED HAND-MADE CARDS

Can't find the right card for that special occasion? Eunice will make one for you.

Ring her on 868646.

Deadline for copy for the September 2012 edition: **20th August 2012**

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. roger.watson@tiscali.co.uk

Community Oil Buying Scheme 2012**Ordering dates - all orders to be received by 12 noon.**

July 25th	November 21st
August 29th	December NO ORDER
September 26th	January 2013 <u>Monday 7th</u>
October24th	

Please note - These are revised dates - Please update your schedule

Dog show**CHARNEY BASSETT COMPANION DOG SHOW**

Sat 7th July - On the Green

Judge: Cindy Stangroom (Lappakia)

Entries from 1.00 pm - Judging from 2.00 pm

4 Pedigree Classes & 8 Novelty Classes

Rosettes for 1st - 5th in all classes

Four Trophies

Entries £2.00 per class

Enquiries: Yvonne Hobbs. tel. 01235 868428

CHAFT 100 Club Draw - Winners This Quarter

	April	May	June	June Prizes*
First Prize £ 25	Number 107 Lisa Knowles	Number 42 Eunice Davies	Number 85 Sue Champion	£50*
Second prize £10	Number 136 Roger Watson	Number 59 David Sibbert	Number 31 Mary Daghish	£25 *Higher prize money for midsummer

Congratulations to our winners.

The subscriptions collected for the year until April 2013 raised the sum of £822 for the Charney Village Hall and Field Trust after deduction of the annual prize monies. Thank you to all members for their support.

Mahala & David

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

Charney Bassett Parish Council - Annual Meeting

Charney Bassett Annual Parish Meeting took place on 9 May 2012. The Chairman's Annual Report was posted on line at the village website.

The two key topics of discussion were the VWHDC's Interim Housing Supply Policy, and flood avoidance in the village. The key points were as follows.

In November 2011 VWHDC advised the PC that it had calculated that Charney Bassett should have ten more houses by 2026. This is based on a prediction of the number of houses needed to maintain the same population, and reflects the declining number of people per household over recent years. In February 2012 VWHDC revised this in an attempt to counter its inability to meet its house-building target, and identified scope for 10-20 houses that could be built within a year or so, on land in the village owned by OCC. A "site screening" application has been made "with the knowledge and consent of the land owner", we believe, by consultants to OCC. The PC has responded to VWHDC (by 20 April, as required) that we could support ten, but not twenty; and has commented on the absence of necessary infrastructure. The PC also said that it could identify two sites, though it did not divulge these, as they are privately owned, and the owners had not been approached. Our best means of bringing influence to bear emerges from the recent Localism Act, which empowers communities' involvement in the planning process. Wealthier councils have the income and expertise to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. Charney Bassett PC has neither! However, we could prepare a Community Plan. (This does not have such demanding hoops and hurdles). Fur-

thermore, a Community Plan needs to be prepared and owned by the community, though the PC can assist in its preparation. At the meeting residents agreed to prepare a Community Plan.

Jim Gardiner gave a presentation of his analysis of the July 2007 flood, with graphs, photographs, and maps (some from the Environment Agency). The key points are as follows. The course of the Charney Wick Ditch is through the lowest lying part of the village, so a flood in this watercourse presents the greatest flood risk to the village. The flood in the Charney Wick area was caused by high waters in the River Ock back-flowing up the Gainfield Brook to its junction with the Charney Wick Ditch, and then down the Charney Wick Ditch, and along the Mill Stream, thereby flooding southwards from the Bridle Path and northwards from the Mill Stream. Future flood risk could be reduced by three low-cost measures: installing a restriction where the Charney Wick Ditch emerges from the Gainfield Brook, installing a restriction where a ditch on the site of a former causeway joins the Charney Wick Ditch, and building up the earth bank alongside this ditch. Residents agreed that a next step is to explain these findings to those residents who were not present at the meeting, and to the Environment Agency, and seek their support for the measures. Some other details have to be resolved still.

Stephen Cowlam,

Clerk to Charney Bassett PC.

14 May 2012.

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

Community Bus - Urgent Call for Volunteer Drivers

The Stanford Community bus service is in urgent need of new volunteer drivers.

Due to age restrictions three of the current team will no longer be eligible within the next few months so they need more recruits to keep up to strength, and continue to provide this valuable service. The age limit is 75.

The bus operates a different timetable each day, and comes through Charney and Lyford on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The only Charney Bassett resident who is a volunteer driver at the moment is Colin McGuire. He currently drives the

bus once or twice a month, and would be delighted to give you further information about the volunteer driver scheme.

If you are interested - or think that you might be, Colin would be happy to answer your questions in the first instance, before passing your name on to the Chairman.

You can contact Colin in any of the following ways: -

Colin McGuire

Home phone 01235 868666

Mobile 07968 417772

E mail address

colinmcguire56@btinternet.com

CLET: Charney and Lyford Education Trust

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: Beverley Cowell, E-mail: richpbevcc@aol.com

The next meeting of the CLET Trustees will be on Wednesday 5th September 2012. Please contact the Clerk for a Grant Application Form, which should be returned to her at least one week before the above date, for consideration at this meeting.

CHAFT News

PLAY AREA HAS A MAKE OVER.

The play area on Charney Field has had new play chippings laid to keep it safe for all the children using it. This involved laying 10 cubic metres of chippings over the whole area, done by four members of the Charney Army. So, a big thank you to Dave Nellist, Dave Sibbert, Mike Welham and Mike Newman for their hard work in offloading and laying the above in far from ideal weather conditions.

CHAFT Committee.

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From your MP - Ed Vaizey

You may have heard the Vale has abandoned its interim housing plan. Because of the recession and other problems some of the large housing projects in the constituency have been delayed which means the council had to consult on an interim plan to deliver enough new homes to meet their five year targets. Small sites were identified in villages such as Marcham, Drayton, Kingston Bagpuize, Harwell, Steventon and Sutton Courtenay. I know there was a lot of concern about the plans, but I also know that many villages do need a few more homes. I will be awaiting the publication of their new core housing strategy which should come out soon.

This month's postbag is as interesting as ever. I continue to receive a steady stream of emails about same sex marriage – supporting both sides of the argument. However, my inbox has also included letters asking me to support to a proposal to make sure all tobacco products are sold in plain packaging with larger health warnings. I have also received emails and letters to draw my attention to a recently released report by Diabetes UK which suggests that £10 billion is spent on treating diabetes every year – and therefore that money could be saved with better preventative treatment. However, the largest volume of correspondence I've received this month has been about the appalling famine in the Sahel region of West Africa. The problem is an urgent one because, in countries like Chad, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and northern Senegal, the rainy season is fast approaching and the massive population could find themselves stuck without proper food while the weather prevents any aid from reaching them. International Development Secretary Andrew Mitchell has announced that the UK will be sending an additional £10m in drought aid to help combat the situation. He has also urged other nations to follow the example of the UK and send their support before the rains come.

In November, we will be asked to go to the polls and vote for a position which has never been elected before – an elected Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner who will be responsible for choosing and implementing the policing priorities for Thames Valley Police (TVP). In preparation for this, the TVP has released a report called "Policing the Thames Valley: How We Cut Crime and Protect Our Community" which you can read on-line <http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/>. If you don't have

access to the internet I can send you a copy. The report has some interesting statistics: there were 8,600 fewer victims of violent crime and 22,500 fewer victims of crime than last year; burglaries are also down by nearly 4,000, which is also very impressive. The report also lays out the current strategies and procedures of the TVP, it gives a detailed analysis of how they work with communities and neighbourhood groups and it also gives case studies of how they deal with all varieties of policing matters from personal theft to policing Royal Ascot. In short it outlines every reason we should be proud of our local police force and gives you everything you need to make an informed decision on polling day.

As the Olympics are around the corner, here is the constituency's link: the youngest ever British Male Olympian is from Wallingford. Ken Lester, who coxed a pair in the Rome Olympics 1960, was a member of Wallingford Rowing Club and has lived in the town all his life. He's still very much involved in rowing in the town, and is the current Mayor's Consort since his wife, Ros Lester, became Mayor in May this year. Interestingly, the last Olympics in London (1948) were also held while Cllr Lester was Mayor of Wallingford - not exactly the same Cllr Lester, but members of the same distinguished local family!

Also, I am delighted to hear that 3 more rowers from Wallingford have been selected for the Olympic Squad in 2012- Lindsey Maguire and Katie Greves are in the Women's Eight and Zac Purchase in the Men's Lightweight Double Sculls. Zac won a gold medal in Beijing. I'm sure everyone will join me in sending them our very best wishes.

Finally, I would like to make everyone aware of the new Money Advice Service, a free and independent service established by government and funded by a levy on the banks and financial services industry. It is very important that everyone has access to advice on their personal finances. The website (www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk) gives a wealth of financial advice tailored to all kinds of difficult situations. It also offers a free financial health check and a quick questionnaire to help people plan for the future.

As ever please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.