

THE PUMP & POUND

The Newsletter of Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Issue 9

December 2012/January 2013

Welcome to the ninth edition of The Pump & Pound and Season's Greetings to everyone.

Michael Johnson, Chairman

Refurbishment of Pound – Plans for the refurbishment of the Pound have progressed. As previously reported, Bob Buckland has kindly donated the seat that will be installed in place of the one that had to be removed for reasons of safety. Quotations are being sought for the remainder of the work, which includes the building of a planter, laying paving slabs and securing the seat. Funding to cover the majority of the work has already been pledged. Inserted in this edition of The Pump & Pound is an artist's impression, commissioned from Desmond Thomas, of the Pound once the work is complete.

Fund Raising

The **fashion show** presented by Djuna, a ladies boutique in Beaminster, and hosted by The Coach & Horses Inn was a great success! Over 70 people attended and £170.55 was raised for Somerset & Dorset Air Ambulance.

The **Chedington Charity Walk** and ploughman's lunch on 29th September raised a fantastic £400 for the Weldmar Hospice Trust and Macmillan Cancer Support. Everyone enjoyed the day, so much so that requests were made to make it an annual event.

Knitting Lessons at Chedington Village Hall on 5th October to boost hall funds was attended by a group of students who enjoyed the morning, and learned a great deal. Thanks from Susan and Carol for all the support given.

Mary and David George held their annual unique brand of Quiz night on the 9th November. They raised £181.10 for Chedington Village Hall funds with a further £70 from the raffle for the Parkinsons Society. It was a hilarious evening with not a dull moment.

Winters – Past and Present



Chedington - Jan 1963



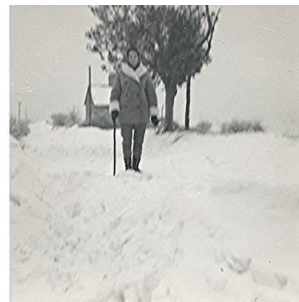
Mike Johnson and his mother – Jan 1963

2012 will be a year remembered for the summer when the rain never stopped and locally for the tragedy that occurred when the Beaminster Tunnel collapsed. In time this will be assigned to history and recounted to future generations.

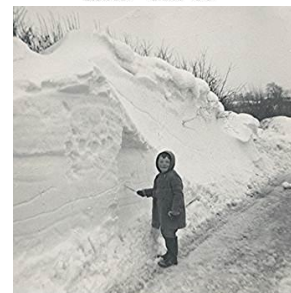
In the same way some of us experienced and still remember the winter of 1962/3! The snow began to fall on Boxing Day and did not melt until the end of March!

These photos, kindly supplied by Sylvia Daw and Mike Johnson, show the severity and impact of the snow in South Perrott and Chedington. The winter of 1978/9 was also severe and the two villages were cut off for 4 days!

Given the extreme weather we experienced this summer and again now, we hope that the weather conditions of 1962/3 are not repeated – or at least not in our life time!



Sylvia on a hedge in Picket Lane – Jan '63



Pipplepen Lane – Feb '63

Children's Christmas Party

The children's Christmas party funded by Chedington and South Perrott Village Halls will this year be held on Monday 24th December in Chedington Village Hall. All details are included on the enclosed flyer.

Christmas Refuse Collection

Refuse and kerbside recycling collection arrangements for Christmas and New Year are:-

Saturday 29th December 2012

Saturday 5th January 2013

Friday 11th January 2013

There will be no collection on Thursday 27th December. Normal collections for South Perrott and Chedington resume on Thursday 17th January.

Chedington Parish Notice Board

Thanks to Mike Charles, Chedington has a smart new custom made Parish Notice board. We are now actually able to read the notices thereon!

Country Car Scheme Update

DCC have decided we can now take passengers to and from hospital appointments as well as visits to the doctor, dentist, optician, visiting patients, etc. At least 24 hours notice would be appreciated although attempts will always be made to help in an emergency. It is not possible to carry anyone who cannot get in and out of the car on their own and volunteers are not equipped to handle wheelchairs. All journeys are dependent on a driver being able and willing to give up their time. Passengers are expected to pay the driver 30p per mile and will be given a receipt. Volunteer drivers are paid 45p a mile for trips of up to 50 miles. DCC will make up the difference to the driver. Anyone interested in volunteering for this service should contact Joyce Osbourne, on 01935 891625.

Chedington and South Perrott Gardening Club 10 October 2012

Malcolm (have secateurs will travel) from Castle Gardens gave a very informative talk on pruning. Two basic rules, if it is dead, dying, or diseased, cut it out; if in full bloom don't! After that it gets a bit complicated as to what to cut, when and by how much. February seems to be a good month for getting busy with the loppers and shears.

The AGM and dinner (pictured right) on the 14th Nov was well attended with, excellent food as usual!



In December we look forward to Colin Varndell's take on the wild garden and in January to Rob Curtis on turnpikes and Dorset coaching days. Visitors are welcome!

Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Below is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 8th November 2012. A full set of the agreed minutes will be available on the Parish website (www.parrettandaxe.org.uk) or from the clerk when accepted at the next meeting. In addition to the Parish Councillors and Clerk, County Cllr Rebecca Knox, District Councillors Janet Page and Caroline Payne, and PCSO Alex Bishop were also in attendance.

- ❖ **Beaminster Tunnel** - Dorset County Council's Cabinet had met to discuss two options. Option 1: soil nailing techniques, and Option 2: reinforcement of the entrances with concrete saddles and to erect hoods on each end of the tunnel. Option 1, soil nailing was agreed as investigation of the slopes found this would offer the safest and the most enduring solution to the problem of slope stability on and around the tunnel. It will also include reinforced concrete saddles over the tunnel entrances and reinforced sides. This option will enable the earliest reopening. It was hoped that work would start at the end of the year and efforts were being made to obtain national funding for this project.
- ❖ **A356 – Variable Message Signs** - The problems caused by oncoming traffic in the narrow section of road between Swing Gate Cottage and The Old Rectory wall has been an on-going problem for many years. This has become more acute since the footway and wall curbs were installed and Donald Hargreaves, resident of Sarum reported that the number of HGVs getting jammed outside his property was on the increase. Matthew Williams of DCC Highways has suggested the use of Variable Message Signs (VMS) which could be set to alert oncoming drivers to a large vehicle already in the narrow section of the road. The signs, which would be solar powered, would cost in the region of £15,000. Members expressed an interest in principle and it was agreed that Matthew Williams would be invited to attend an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council to explain in greater detail how the signs worked (*Matthew will now be attending the meeting on 10th January 2013*).
- ❖ **A356 – Further Issues**
 - There is a problem with flooding in the dip on A356 on Crewkerne side of South Perrott.
 - There are potholes and damage to the road surface outside Maple Cottage.
 - The cat's eyes had still not been fitted along the road by the former Golf Club (*the Clerk has now been advised by DCC that they do not intend to replace them*).
 - The kerbstones alongside Swing Gate Cottage were damaged and causing a noise nuisance to the owners of Swing Gate.
 - Surface water frequently runs across the road by Hunters Hatch.The Clerk advised that she had reported these issues to DCC Highways.
- ❖ **Lecher Lane turning** - Richard Stubbs of DCC Highways had attended a site meeting to discuss damage to Shire Cottage roof, caused by HGVs attempting to turn right into Lecher Lane. He advised that a Traffic Regulation Order to limit HGVs would not be appropriate. Richard would arrange for "Unsuitable for HGVs" signs to be erected at each end of Lecher Lane and for the "Mosterton" sign to be removed from the finger post at the junction. In addition, three 3m high black and white poles with reflective tops would be placed behind the kerb line where the damage has occurred.
- ❖ **Speed Checks** - The Police were continuing to conduct speed checks in South Perrott but the camera van team was finding it difficult to site their vehicle.

- ❖ **Refurbishment of the Pound** - reported on front page.
- ❖ **Waste Collection (Dorset Waste Partnership)** - In April 2013 all waste collection staff will become DCC employees. In April 2014 the waste collection timetable will change to fortnightly collections of general waste with weekly collections of food waste. Wheelie bins will be available.
- ❖ **Community Farmers Snow Plough Scheme** – The Snow Plough Scheme being promoted by DCC was discussed. It was suggested that as DCC is responsible for clearing the main road and local farmers generally clear the side roads to their farms, this would account for most of the roads in the parish. Therefore it was agreed that it will not be necessary for the Parish Council to join the Farmers Snow Plough Scheme. Cllr Knox suggested that all the grit bins in the two villages should be regarded as 'strategic'. The Clerk will write to DCC Highways and also request a replacement dumpy bag of grit.
- ❖ **Dorset Country Cars Scheme** - The Clerk reported that she and Joyce Osborne had attended a Country Cars meeting at DCC (see Joyce's article).
- ❖ **Parish Website** - Dave McSkelly has kindly agreed to undertake the task of keeping the parish website up-to-date.
- ❖ **Pipplepen Lane** - has been closed for several months due to flooding under the bridge. The Clerk will contact Somerset County and North Perrott Parish Councils to progress reopening the Lane.
- ❖ **Queen's Diamond Jubilee – Trees for Dorset** - A commemorative tree will be planted on the Millennium Green on 30th November 2012.
- ❖ **Footpaths** - Footpaths Officer, Dominic de la Poer, agreed to remind Jill Exton, Rights of Way Officer, that repairs are needed to the section of wall that has fallen into the river along Langmoor Lane bridleway.
- ❖ **Approval of Budget and Precept for 2013-2014** - Following discussion, members agreed a Precept of £3,800 and this decision will be ratified at the January meeting of the Parish Council.
- ❖ **Planning Applications** – 4 Applications have been handled since the last Parish Council meeting. The planning application for residential development of two semi-detached properties on land adjacent to Picket Lane has been withdrawn.

Parish Councillors

Councillor	Address	Telephone No	e-mail Address
Michael Johnson (<i>Chairman</i>)	Chedington	01935 891347 or 07813210266	mikej.chedington@btinternet.com
Peter Simmons	Chedington	07971007551	peterjsimmonsuk@btinternet.com
Liz Fray	Chedington	01935 891941	lizfray@btinternet.com
Kate Organ (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	South Perrott	01935 891391	
Sue Coutanche	South Perrott	01935 891019	sue.coutanche@btinternet.com
Anita Legg	South Perrott	01935 891666	

Clerk to the Parish Council

Angela Gillingham	Bridge Farmhouse	01935 891931	clerk@parrettandaxe.org.uk
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County Councillor for Beaminster Electoral Division

Rebecca Knox	01308 863365 or 07831168173	r.knox@dorsetcc.gov.uk
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District Councillors

Caroline Payne	01308 863690	Caroline.payne@onetel.com
Janet Page	01308 862422	member@hand-n-head.freeseve.co.uk

Editor – Pump and Pound

Dave McSkelly	01935 891891	davemskelly@aol.com
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2013 Parish Council Meetings:

Thursday 10 th January 2013	South Perrott Village Hall
Thursday 14 th March 2013	Chedington Village Hall
Thursday 9 th May 2013 (incl AGM)	South Perrott Village Hall
Thursday 11 th July 2013	Chedington Village Hall
Thursday 12 th September 2013	South Perrott Village Hall
Thursday 14 th November 2013	Chedington Village Hall

What's On in South Perrott and Chedington?

Dec 2012		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Sunday	2 nd	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	3 rd	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Thursday	6 th	Tba	Music & Readings	St Mary's Church	-
Sunday	9 th	19:30	Bingo with Xmas prizes	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Wednesday	12 th	19:30	Gardening Club featuring Colin Varndell	Chedington VH	Sue - 891240
Friday	14 th	19:30	Village Xmas Party	Mohun House, SP	-
Sunday	16 th	19:00	Village Xmas Meal (booking essential)	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	23 rd	18:30	Christingle	St Mary's Church	
Monday	24 th	14:00	Children's Xmas Party	Chedington VH	Vicky - 891654 Teresa - 891678
Monday	24 th	17:00	Live Music with Gothic Chicken	Winyards Gap	Toby/Michelle - 891244
Monday	24 th	19:00	Xmas prize draw (with buffet)	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Saturday	29 th	21:00	Live music with Left, Right & Centre	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	31 st	21:00	Live Music and free buffet	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270

Jan 2013		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Sunday	6 th	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	7 th	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Wednesday	9 th	19:30	Gardening Club featuring Rob Curtis	Chedington VH	Sue - 891240
Thursday	10 th	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	SP Village Hall	Angela - 891931
Sunday	13 th	19:30	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Thursday	25 th	19:00	Burn's Night Supper	SP Village Hall	Michael - 891890

Regular Events – Winter 2012/2013

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Every Monday	19:30	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Tuesday	10:00	Mosterton and District Over 50s Computer Club	Coach & Horses	Ella - 01308 868834 Barbara - 01308 867891 Martyn - 891931
Every Tuesday	14:00	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Tuesday	18:30	Aerobics with Gemma	SP Village Hall	Gemma - 07767 083780
Every Thursday	09:30	Yoga	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224
	18:00	Bokwa	SP Village Hall	Ali - 01460 74546/ 07753533727
	19:00	Pilates	SP Village Hall	Ali - 01460 74546/ 07753533727
Every Friday	10:00	Upholstery	SP Village Hall	Helen - 01460 62621

Local Contacts

Chedington Village Hall:

Chairman David George 01935 891512

Bookings Ivan Williams 01935 891059

Winyards Gap

Toby/Michelle 01935 891244

St Mary's Church:

Church Warden Peter Coles 01935 891232

Treasurer Wendy Stevenette 01935 891890

South Perrott Village Hall:

Chairman Dave McSkelly 01935 891891

Secretary Michael Stevenette 01935 891890

Bookings Vicky Reed 01935 891654

Coach & Horses

Jane 01935 891270

Millennium Green

Secretary Martyn Gillingham 01935 891931