

# THE PUMP & POUND

The Newsletter of Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Issue 10

February/March 2013

Welcome to the tenth edition of The Pump & Pound. Once again the A356 is to the fore and you will note that we are addressing matters of concern. We are pleased to learn that Beaminster Tunnel is to reopen earlier than expected. Let's hope that in 2013 we will not experience the extreme weather of 2012

*Michael Johnson, Chairman*

## South Perrott and Chedington Millennium Green

The Millennium Green Trustees and Committee members were delighted that the Millennium Green was chosen as the site to plant the Wild Service Tree donated to the parish by 'Trees for Dorset'. This is to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the planting took place on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2012. The photo opposite shows the tree being planted by Tony Warne from Trees for Dorset and the Millennium Green Trustees, Bob Buckland and Peter Hinton. A brass plaque will be mounted alongside the tree.



**Fundraising Event** - The Millennium Green costs nearly £1000 a year to maintain and income is derived solely from private benefactors and fundraising activities. Following the success of the **Skittles & Supper Evening** held last year, a similar event is planned for **Saturday 23rd February**. We hope that you and your friends and family will join us at The Coach & Horses for a fun evening including supper. Tickets are £5 each. See the 'Calendar of Events' on back page for further details.

## A356 Road Scheme Variable Message Signs

Matthew Williams, Manager, Network Traffic Control, DCC Highways, attended the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2013, to present his proposals for tackling traffic flow through the narrowest part of South Perrott, by Swing Gate Cottage. He proposed that Variable Message Signs (VMS) were installed at each end of this narrow section. These will be triggered, when a large vehicle enters this section, to warn traffic coming from the other direction. These illuminated signs will have a "road narrows" symbol above with suggested wording, "Oncoming Vehicle in middle of road". The two signs will be linked by radio and will be solar powered. Matthew Williams reported that VMS had been used successfully in the north of the county. VMS are advisory signs and it is not mandatory for traffic to stop. An alternative type of sign reading "HGV approaching, please wait here" would be considerably more expensive and take longer to provide as it would need Department of Transport permission. The proposal for Variable Message Signs was accepted with a request for installation as soon as possible. A site meeting has been arranged between Matthew Williams and councillors to agree the most appropriate positions for the VMS. Matthew's plans are displayed on the Parish notice board in The Pound.

## Superfast Broadband

The government is providing £18m as a contribution towards the funding of a Superfast Broadband infrastructure in rural areas by 2015. This will provide a minimum of 2 Mgb/s in areas currently without broadband and over 24 Mgb/s in areas already with broadband. The money will help to bridge the funding gap in those areas where it is uneconomic for telecoms providers to develop the service due to the low density of population. A 28 week procurement programme has begun, with 2 companies interested in laying the necessary fibre-optic cables. Implementation will take place between June 2013 and December 2014. Once completed, the greater the take-up by customers, the more money the county will be able to claw back in order to re-invest and roll out the service further. The new faster broadband is not expected to cost customers more than their current service. Residents of Dorset are being urged to register their interest online. Registrations from specific parishes will demonstrate that communities are keen to see faster broadband speeds and thus add weight to the business case for laying cables in our area. If you haven't already done so you can register your interest online at [www.dorsetforyou.com/superfast](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/superfast).

*Neil Dienhardt and Jill Turner - Superfast Broadband Champions*

## News from the Village Pubs

The **Coach and Horses** is undergoing a major refurbishment to the bar area. During this time the inn will remain open. It is expected that the work will be completed by March 2013. Jane and John would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused to their customers.

Meanwhile, at **Winyards Gap** the building of four B&B rooms continues and it is hoped that they will be ready during May 2013. These will complement the two self-catering flats that already exist.

Both pubs are offering special Valentine's meals. Booking is advisable.

## Children's Christmas Party

Held as usual on Christmas Eve in Chedington Village Hall, the annual Children's Christmas Party was deemed a great success by youngsters from both villages. Thanks go to everyone who helped to organise the event, particularly to Teresa Charles and Vicki Reed. The Village Halls fund the party and special thanks go to Trixie Frampton and Teresa for funding the entertainer.

## Chedington and South Perrott Gardening Club

On 12<sup>th</sup> December Colin Varndell made a very welcome return to the Gardening Club with a presentation that described the development of his wild garden, illustrated by more of his remarkable photographs. This was followed on 9<sup>th</sup> January by another return visit, this time from Rob Curtis, who gave an illustrated lecture on the fascinating subject of turnpikes, toll houses and the days of the stage coach in Dorset. The next meeting will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> February, when Phil Gamble will be giving advice on hanging baskets. New members and guests can be assured of a very warm welcome.

## Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Below is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 10th January 2013. A full set of the agreed minutes will be available on the Parish website ([www.parrettandaxe.org.uk](http://www.parrettandaxe.org.uk)) or from the clerk when accepted at the next meeting. In addition to the Parish Councillors and Clerk, also in attendance were County Councillor Rebecca Knox and District Councillor Janet Page. Matthew Williams, DCC Highways, attended as an invited guest speaker for the first part of the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Liz Fray, District Cllr Caroline Payne, PCSO Alex Bishop, Dominic de la Poer and Dave McSkelly.

- ❖ **Beaminster Tunnel** - Work has started on the Beaminster Tunnel and it is hoped that it will be reopened by May 2013.
- ❖ **A356 – Variable Message Signs** – Presented at the Parish Council meeting and featured on the front page.
- ❖ **A356 – Further Issues**
  - The hedges of some properties alongside the A356 need to be kept cut to improve visibility on the road. Please will all residents ensure that overhanging foliage does not cause an obstruction thereby endangering the public.
  - The kerbstones outside Swing Gate Cottage were loose and broken.
  - The cat's eyes on the road past the former golf club, should be reinstated for reasons of safety.
  - Pot holes on the Crewkerne side of South Perrott keep opening up despite frequent patching. Cllr Knox advised that the road is scheduled for resurfacing where necessary but cannot be closed for works until the Beaminster Tunnel is reopened as it is part of the official diversion route.
  - Drains between Sarum/Winton Cottage and Shepherds Farm, and also outside Hunters Hatch, need regular clearing.
  - At the Lecher Lane junction with the A356 water tracks across the road and is a hazard in icy weather.

Matthew Williams suggested that these problems were listed and sent to his manager. It was possible that these might be included when the site visit was made to discuss the installation of the Variable Message Signs.

### ❖ **Local Services –Timetables**

- **Broadwindsor to Dorchester Bus 213** Wednesdays only, which departs from South Perrott (The Pound) 09:19 & Winyards Gap 09:22 arriving in Dorchester 10:21 and returning at 13:20 from Dorchester arrive Winyards 14:20 & South Perrott 14:23.
- **Thorncombe to Yeovil Bus 204** Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays only, which stops in South Perrott (The Pound) 10:25 and Chedington (Penney's Hill) 10:30 Returning from Yeovil Borough at 13:50 arrive Chedington 14:35 & South Perrott 14:40.
- Both services are operated by Damory Coaches 01258 452545.
- **Mobile Library Service** – Thursdays fortnightly.  
On February 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> also March 7<sup>th</sup>; the old times of - South Perrott (The Pound) 12:10 to 12:25 & Chedington (Hazel Barton) 12:40 to 13:10 apply but:-  
**Please note these times change from March 21<sup>st</sup> 2013 to South Perrott (The Pound) 11:40 to 11:55 & Chedington (Hazel Barton) 12:10 to 12:30.**  
These timetables are posted on the Village notice boards.

**Please try to use these services. If you don't use them you'll lose them!**

- ❖ **Superfast broadband** - Cllr Knox reported that progress was being made with Superfast Broadband and hoped that the parish would benefit from the money which was available specifically for rural areas. Jill Turner and Neil Dienhardt are our local Superfast Broadband Champions. Jill Turner reported that she had attended a meeting of Champions held in County Hall. At this meeting it had been explained that superfast broadband would be available to 95% of properties by 2015. – Jill's report is included in this issue. The County Council is encouraging people to register their interest online at [www.dorsetforyou.com/superfast](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/superfast) or by telephoning 01305 221048. The Parish Council will write to the Superfast Broadband Team to express an interest in an improved service.
- ❖ **Mobile Phone Signals** - In South Perrott and Chedington mobile phone signals from most service providers are poor to non-existent. This could be resolved by the installation of an additional transmitter. Sites have been suggested in South Perrott and it is understood that the host site receives a hosting fee from the service provider. A number of residents would like to pursue this as it is considerably inconvenient these days to be without mobile phone access. Cllr Knox was alerted to the fact that there is no mast serving South Perrott.
- ❖ **Refurbishment of The Pound, South Perrott**  
Two quotes have been obtained for building a planter and laying paving slabs: one for £903 and one for £640. The quote for £640 was agreed and work will start imminently. The parish council has funds of £300 allocated in its budget and South Perrott Village Hall has promised a donation. It was hoped that the remainder of the cost would be raised by donations. Residents have all received a copy of the sketch of the proposed refurbishment and no negative comments have been received. The repainting of the telephone kiosk is on BT's maintenance schedule. A reminder will be sent to BT to action.
- ❖ **Road Clearance** - at this time of year it is particularly important that farmers, landowners and contractors are aware of their responsibilities to keep the roads clear of hazards, including mud and hedge trimmings, to minimise the risk to other road users.
- ❖ **Pipplepen Lane** – The flooding under the bridge had been cleared before Christmas; however at the time of writing it had flooded again and was currently impassable.
- ❖ **Precept for 2013-2014** - Members approved the Precept of £3,800.
- ❖ **Planning Applications** – One application has been handled since the last PC meeting: 1/D/12/001625 & 1/D/12/001626 Rose Cottage, South Perrott – erect rear extension (renewal of previous permissions).
- ❖ **Council Tax for Second Home owners** – From April 2013 second home owners will be required to pay the full council tax rate.
- ❖ **Waitrose, Crewkerne** have offered the parish a tree to mark their 75th anniversary of joining the John Lewis Partnership. This was gratefully accepted and a suitable site will be found.

### 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:

Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2013	Chedington Village Hall
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2013 (incl. AGM)	South Perrott Village Hall
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2013	Chedington Village Hall
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2013	South Perrott Village Hall
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Chedington Village Hall

## What's On in South Perrott and Chedington?

### February 2013

		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	18:30	Re-arranged Burns Night Supper	SP Village Hall	Michael - 891890
Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	4 <sup>th</sup>	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Gardening Club with Phil Gamble	Chedington VH	Sue - 891240
Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup>		Valentine's Lunches and Dinners	Winyards Gap	Michelle - 891244
Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup>	19:00	Craig's Special Valentine's Supper	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	18:00	Family Bingo – eyes down 18:30	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	19:30	Charity Skittles and Supper Evening	Coach & Horses	Martyn Sue - 891931 - 891019

### March 2013

		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Friday	1 <sup>st</sup>	21:00	Live Music with Mojo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	4 <sup>th</sup>	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup>	12:30	Mothering Sunday Special Carvery	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
		19:30	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Gardening Club	Chedington VH	Sue - 891240
Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedington VH	Angela - 891931

### Regular Events – Winter/Spring 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
	19:00	Pilates	SP Village Hall	Ali - 01460 74546/ 07753533727
Every Friday	10:00	Upholstery	SP Village Hall	Helen - 01460 62621

Advance dates:

Chedington Street Fair Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2013 – contact David on 891512 or Michael on 891890.

South Perrott Village Open Day Sunday 11th August 2013 - contact Ann on 891224.

### 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