

The Source

The Parrett and Axe Parish Council Newsletter

Vol 2:1

March 2011

It's Election Time!



On Thursday May 5th, six new Parish Councillors will be elected to represent the residents of Chedington and South Perrott for the next four years.

This is an important time for the villages and the current council is keen for people to put themselves forward for election. You may be unsure of what is required to become a councillor and what the work involves, so inside this edition of *The Source* one councillor describes his experiences. If you would like more information or a nomination form, please contact Angela Gillingham, Clerk to the Council on 891931 or email clerk@parrettandaxe.org.uk. The closing date for nominations is Monday 4th April 2011.

A356 Works Schedule

The following provides information on the remaining work to be done on the A356. There may some slippage to this schedule. See also page 2 for further details.

DATE	SITE	COMMENT
21st - 30th March	Coach & Horses to Coach House	
1st - 6th April	Swing Gate Cottage	
6th- 12th April	Swing Gate Cottage to Picket Lane	
13th-21st April	Road crossings	24 hour, full road closure 18th -21st April
3rd - 10th May	The Old Rectory to Sarum	Protective work for buildings
11th - 17th May	The Pound	
9th - 20th May	White Lines and Colouring	Pavement to be Buff colour
23rd - May - 3rd June	East of Picket Lane	

EDITORIAL

There is surely little doubt that the work on the A356 in South Perrott has been the focus of much discussion and some controversy in recent weeks. After decades of lobbying for 'something to be done' it is finally happening, though of course it remains to be seen whether the notion of 'shared space' actually results in greater pedestrian safety and lower vehicle speeds. Many are sceptical, but safety evaluations will take place in the coming months, so we will have data to provide some answers to those questions.

This edition of *The Source* contains the first in a series of local walks, described by Jill Turner and Dominic de la Poer. They would welcome feedback on their work and any suggestions for other walks in the area.

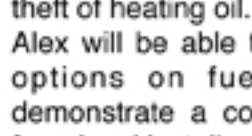
We have continued to suffer from the theft of domestic oil from tanks in the villages. Please be on full alert and report anything suspicious. On 10th May PCSO Alex Bishop will be coming to talk to everyone about the 'Stop That Oil' campaign. See below for further details.

I am delighted to report that the Christmas Tree recycling scheme, which was run for the first time this year has raised £20 for Parish Council funds. Many thanks to all those people who brought their trees to the recycling point.

David Lines

Stop That Oil

Secure it - don't lose it
Keep your fuel safe



Oil Theft

PCSO Alex Bishop will be coming to speak about oil tank security at the South Perrott Village meeting on Tuesday 10th May. Alex has been working closely with PC Tim Poole on security as part of the 'Stop that Oil' scheme to prevent the theft of heating oil.

Alex will be able to discuss with us the various options on fuel security and hopefully demonstrate a couple of the devices available from local installers.

'Stop That Oil' is a collaboration between the Safer Neighbourhood Teams, local OFTEC registered oil installers and the Bridport Crime Prevention Panel.

Chedington Court Golf Club

In December 2010 Chedington Court Golf Club was sold to Trevor Cligg of Pipplepen Farm. Trevor will be using the land for organic milk production.

It was a sad day for the four hundred plus members, the greenkeepers and clubhouse staff who had all worked hard to establish what was fast becoming one of the best golf courses in Dorset. The reality, however, was that the state of the clubhouse and the size of the membership meant that its viability was always going to be in doubt. It also reflects a national picture of declining interest in the game, especially amongst young people and straitened economic times, making people think twice before taking out membership of a golf club.

A356 Road Scheme

Since the road scheme has started, the Parish Council has been in daily contact with Dorset Highways and other interested parties to ensure that the wishes expressed by residents have been carried out. There have been some misunderstandings, such as the final colour of the pavement, which is now confirmed as being a buff, sandstone colour, which matches the colour of the cottages. This colour will be laid on the tarmac as one of the final jobs in the scheme.

The full 24 hour road closures, currently scheduled for 18th to 21st April, are needed to construct the crossing points. There are two of these, one just to the east of Pipplepen Lane and the other just to the east of Church Hill. The road will be closed in small sections, so residents will have access from one end of the village or the other, using the A356, Pipplepen or Picket Lanes.

There is still work to be decided upon at the entrances to the village. We will be having 'Dorset Gates' at both end, which will incorporate 30 mph roundels. There will be space for some other suitable symbol plus the name 'South Perrott'. Suggestions on what such a symbol might be should be forwarded to any Parish Councillor or Angela Gillingham, the Parish Clerk.

If there are any points or questions that residents may have on the Scheme, please approach councillors in the first instance. We often have the answers or can tell you where they can be found.

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PARRETT & AXE PARISH WALKS: Number 1, South Perrott & Chedington

A circular walk around the Parish which includes the source of the River Parrett, a monument to the past, two pubs and panoramic views across Somerset and Dorset.

Directions are from South Perrott but you could start and finish at any point.

Distance: approx 3 miles

Time: 1.5 hours

Refreshments: Coach & Horses in South Perrott, Winyards Gap Inn at Chedington

Parking is available in The Pound, the lay-by opposite the Coach & Horses in South Perrott (Point A on map). Both pubs have a car park, but do ask the landlord first.

A The outward leg of this route follows the Parrett Trail so look out for the waymarkers.

Start by walking up Church Hill and through the Church gate; turn left through the church yard and follow the path, through the kissing gate and field until you reach Picket Lane. Cross the lane and take the bridlepath ahead of you towards the Millennium Green. Follow the path along the River Parrett or take the parallel permissive path along the adjoining field boundary to the right of the river.

B At the end of this watery track, cross the bridge, walk through or round the Millennium Green ahead of you, then climb the carved stile at the far end; cross the field, bearing right, to the gate. As you go through you will see a further gate to your left, next to a trough.

C Follow the left hand fingerpost to Chedington, heading up the left hand side of the field; through another gate next to a trough and keep again to the left, bordering the wooded stream valley. Beyond the next gate head across the field, bearing right to the next gate; you will see Chedington above, your path clearly marked ahead of you as you climb through 2 further fields, bearing left, until you reach the road. Here you will see a carved footpath sign and information board about the Parrett Trail. Pause here to admire the view back towards Somerset; just below you will see the source of the River Parrett, marked merely by clumps of reed in the marshy ground.



D Turn left for the Winyards Gap Inn. Steps to your right before the pub lead you up through National Trust woodland to the monument. (see over) From here, on a clear day, you can see all 4 counties of Wessex - Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire and Devon.

At the top, turn right to follow the path along the ridge through woodland, enjoying views to both sides; in May carpets of bluebells add even more splendour to this beautiful part of the Parish. There is a choice of paths but they all meet up at the end where you descend onto Penney's Hill. Turn right, cross the lane and take the narrow footpath in front of you down towards the village. At the bottom of this short path turn left, past Old St James and along the main village street. Enjoy glimpses of the view down between the hamstone cottages on your right, the phone box with its lace curtains and fresh flowers and the old village pump.

E At the end of the street take the footpath to your right, immediately past Lower Farm, selling eggs and sporting the old AA sign above. Follow the track down through the fields; at the third gate turn right through a further gate, then turn left down the side of the field and over a stile into the wood. As you exit the wood, walk across the large field in front of you, eventually bearing left towards the gate, point C. From here retrace your steps back to South Perrott.

Dominie & Jill

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Sketch map of the walk (not to scale)



The 43rd (Wessex) Division Monument

The tree-covered ridge overlooking Chedington was given to the National Trust in memory of the men of the 43rd (Wessex) Division of the Dorsetshire Regiment who fell during their first major battle in the Normandy Campaign in July 1944. On the northern end of the ridge, the Memorial Stone is a replica of the one on Point 112, the hill five miles south-west of Caen, where the battle was fought. It features the 43rd's Wyvern emblem, the most historically significant of all the divisional campaign signs in the European campaign, having first been carried into battle by King Alfred in AD879.



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Ring Those Bells!!

Bell ringing is easy to learn, fun to do and once you've learnt the basics, like most physical activities you can carry on developing the skill to whatever level you like. What's more, it is a unique English folk art that has been handed down, generation to generation, for centuries.

Churchgoing is not a pre-requisite, but ringing the bells is a way of supporting the Church and helping to keep our village traditions alive.

Bellringers are a friendly and welcoming crowd, always keen to support beginners, so come along and give it a try!

Tel. Peter Hinton 891292 or Jill Turner 891291

South Perrott Village Open Day & Cider Festival

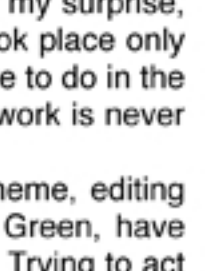
Sunday 14th August

11am - 5pm

We are now taking bookings for stall space for this event. The Open Day raises money to keep St Mary's Church open. We are still in need of helpers, so please give me a ring on 891224.

The next meeting will be June 7th at 7pm in the Village Hall. Do come along.

Ann Studley



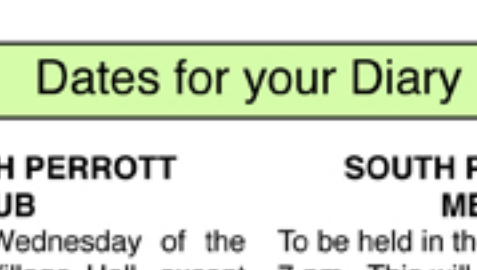
Being a Parish Councillor

Since my election two years ago, I have become immersed in the work, which, to my surprise, has been incredibly hectic. I suppose I thought that since the Council meetings took place only every other month that, apart from the odd planning issue, there would be little more to do in the meantime. What I have discovered is that, like the proverbial iceberg, 80% of the work is never seen!

I recognise that in some ways these have been exceptional times. The road scheme, editing *The Source*, revising the web site, as well as the challenges of the Millennium Green, have meant a flurry of activity. The road scheme in particular has been time consuming. Trying to act on behalf of the villagers of South Perrott in dealings with the County's Highways Department, at the same time as liaising with fellow councillors has been fascinating, but has often resembled full time employment, especially when six or seven emails come flying through the ether in one afternoon!

But don't let me put you off standing for the Parish Council. The fact that you live close to the people you represent means that issues can be raised and acted upon rapidly and, hopefully, with sensitivity. Also, as a councillor you have access to the professional skills of the clerk, who is a lynchpin in the workings of the Council. There is no pay, of course, but there is a great deal of satisfaction. So if you are a good listener, can formulate an argument, have a certain amount of free time and are keen to contribute to your community, give it a try. Contact Angela Gillingham on 891931 or email clerk@parrettandaxe.org.uk.

David Lines



Why not hire South Perrott Village Hall?
For meetings, classes, family parties, etc.
Space for up to 100 people.

Annexe also available for smaller meetings.
£6 per hour / £45 per half day / £60 day + evening includes kitchen & all equipment

Equipment also available for hire for use off-site: tables, chairs, wine glasses, crockery.

For bookings contact Vicky Reed 01935 891654

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Dates for your Diary

CHEDINGTON AND SOUTH PERROTT GARDENING CLUB

The Club meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in Chedington Village Hall, except during the summer, when a varied programme of activities is organised. New members are always welcome.

SOUTH PERROTT ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING & HALL A.G.M.

To be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 10th May at 7 pm. This will consist of:
1 Village meeting; discussion items will include the Millennium Green and the A356.
2 PCSO Alex Bishop to talk about oil tank security.
3 Village Hall AGM

CHEDINGTON STREET FAIR

Saturday 30th July

All systems are go and plans are well advanced! If you would like to book a stall please contact Peter Coles 891232.
For other information and if you would like to volunteer to help in any way please contact Michael Stevenette 891890 or Joy Coles 891232

	South Perrott Village Hall	Chedington Village Hall	Coach & Horses	Winyards Gap
April	30th St George's Day Supper	12th: Village meeting and Hall AGM 13th Gardening Club: Cyril Whitlock Preparing for Show. End of April Visit to Wayford when gardens are open	1st Italian Night 3rd Quiz Night 4th Coffee Morning 7th Fashion Show 8th Bitter & Twisted (Band) 16th Individual skittles knockout 7.30 22nd Easter dinner 24th Cryin' out Loud	3rd Mothering Sunday carvery. Choice of 3 West Country meats, large selection of seasonal vegetables and home made puddings. 29th Celebrating the Royal Wedding with the 'KING' himself. Barry Paull as Elvis. 8pm till late.
May	10th 7.00pm Village Hall Meeting	8th Bluebell walk, teas in Village Hall and gardens open 19th Gardening Club: Visit to Corton Denham	1st Quiz Night 2nd Coffee Morning 18th Morris Dancers 20th Gold (Band)	
June		22nd Gardening Club: Join Mosterton Rambling Group visit to UpPark		
July		30th Street Fair		

The next meetings of the Parish Council are Thursday 12th May (including the AGM) in South Perrott, Thursday 14th July in Chedington, Thursday 8th September in South Perrott. All meetings are in the village halls and start at 7.30 pm.

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