

THE PUMP & POUND

The Newsletter of Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Issue 13

August/September 2013

Welcome to Issue 13. By now the Beaminster Tunnel will have reopened, hopefully with a reduction in the volume of traffic along the A356 which formed part of the official diversion route. The remedial works along the A356 scheduled for the autumn will result in short term road closures.

This is a busy time for our two villages. The Annual Picnic was held on the Millennium Green in glorious weather – what a contrast to last year! The Chedington Street Fair has also taken place. We are now looking forward to South Perrott's Open Day on Sunday 11th August and the Annual Flower Show on 7th September. Let's hope the fine weather persists and that you, your families and friends have the opportunity to enjoy many of these events.

Michael Johnson, Chairman

Alfresco Parish Council

It may be a first! The evening of 11th July was so warm that the Parish Council met in the open air as shown in the photograph taken by Rebecca Knox.



Chedington Street Fair

By the time you read this the 33rd Street Fair will have taken place. Let's hope that there were no problems and that the weather was fine. This event raises funds for both Village Halls and there will be a full report in the next issue. The organisers and Village Hall committees would like to thank all helpers and visitors for their support.

Annual Picnic

The Annual Picnic took place on Saturday 20th July on the Millennium Green and what better way to catch up on all the local news than whilst lazing in the sunshine (pictured right). The gazebos, parasols and colourful bunting added a festive air. What glorious weather we had – so much so that the games were dispensed with and even the annual tug-of-war seemed a bit too much effort in the heat! Everyone brought food to share, including strawberries and cream, which was enjoyed by all. Unfortunately the attendance was disappointingly low.



Special thanks go to Martyn and Angela Gillingham for organising the event.

South Perrott Festival Week – 10th to 17th August

The week starts with the Flower Festival in St Mary's Church on **Saturday 10th August** from 11am until 5pm. The theme this year is "Let's Face the Music" and there will be a bric-a-brac stall and teas from 2pm.

The main event of the week is the Village Open Day on **Sunday 11th August** starting at 11am until 5pm. This promises to be a fun filled day with something for everyone to enjoy. For the youngsters, and probably a few adults too, there is a play zone with face painting, a bouncy castle, a coconut shy and other games. Attractions around the village include classic cars, collectables and craft stalls, an art exhibition and open gardens. Entertainment will be provided with live music in various locations and by Morris Dancers in the Coach and Horses car park. And why not try your hand at bell ringing in the Church Tower? The popular scarecrow competition is open to all residents of South Perrott. If you would like to enter, fill in the form that has already been distributed, and return to Angela Gillingham (contact 01935 891931).

The week concludes with a barbecue on **Saturday 17th August** in the Coach and Horses from 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

The Flower Festival, Village Open Day and the barbecue raise funds for the upkeep of St Mary's Church.

News from the Village Pubs

Both our local pubs are planning a weekend of entertainment in August. On Saturday 10th August **Winyards Gap's** famous Cider Festival returns and on Sunday 11th August live music will be playing at the **Coach & Horses** as part of South Perrott Village Open Day.

Annual Flower Show

This year's flower show is on **Saturday 7th September** in South Perrott Village Hall and the schedule has now been distributed. For more details contact Bob on 891404 or Dominic on 891601.

Chedington and South Perrott Gardening Club

On 5th June the club joined with the Mosterton rambling club for a day out to Dunster Castle. The weather was very kind so eating alfresco was a pleasure. The gardens are imaginative and well laid out. The Castle itself is in a beautiful setting overlooking a picturesque village. But the real highlight of the day was the journey on the West Somerset Steam Railway. It was a very satisfying and enjoyable day.

10th July was a very busy day. First stop was Barrington Court. The house itself is well worth the visit being full of interest and the gardens are lovely. From there the club visited Farndon Thatch and what a find it was! The one acre gardens have been created in just 4 years to great effect. As the sun shone, afternoon tea was served in the shade overlooking a quintessential English garden. What bliss!

The next meeting is on September 11th with Martin Young speaking on Echinacea and Rudbeckia. Don't forget to bring you Fuchsia for judging.

Ash Dieback

Happily, no cases of Ash Dieback were found during a brief survey of our area. However, if anyone discovers any cases they should contact the tree warden, Bob Buckland, on 01935 891404.

The Maggie Walk at Chedington

Meet at Winyards Gap at 10 o'clock on **Saturday 17th August** for coffee, provided by Michelle and Toby, for the start of this year's walk in aid of charity. It is a pleasant guided walk incorporating the source of the River Axe. The walk is optional so if you prefer you can make your way to Chedington Village Hall where you will be joined by the walkers for a ploughman's lunch. Lunch must be booked in advance by contacting Mary George (details in "What's On" on back page). Money raised will go to Macmillan Cancer Support, Julia's House and Motor Neurone Disease.

Summer Holiday Fun Factory @ B-fit Leisure Beaminster School

B-Fit Leisure will be running a summer Fun Factory for children and young people (5-14), Mondays-Fridays from 29th July until 16th August 2013 inclusive. Activities will include trampolining, cricket, football, gymnastics and rookie lifeguarding, all coached by professionals, plus a variety of games. Light refreshments will be provided. The cost is £60 per week or £15 per day. Further details are available from Richard Mooney, Centre Manager on 01308 861911 or 07792 791038. Magna Housing has agreed to offer **10 free places** each week to residents in Magna properties including South Perrott. For details of free places contact Ken Bodycombe, Community Investment Officer, Magna Housing Association on 01305 216095

Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Below is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 11th July 2013. 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, also in attendance were County Cllr. Rebecca Knox and District Cllrs. Janet Page and Caroline Payne. Apologies were received from PCSO Alex Bishop

❖ **Beaminster Tunnel:** This is scheduled to reopen at 10:00 on Monday 29th July 2013 when Dorset County Council will open the road to two-way traffic. Temporary traffic signals may be used to allow the contractors to complete the work and ensure the safety of road users. However these signals will be used only at non-peak times and not during weekends.

❖ **A356 Road Issues:**

- **Kerbstones and Crossings** – Now that the Tunnel has reopened the kerbstones along the A356 from Swing Gate Cottage to Picket Lane will be replaced with an alternative material. If this proves to be successful this will be extended to other sections of the footway where the edging is fracturing. This work will be carried out in October 2013 to coincide with the resurfacing of parts of the A356 as the work will necessitate temporary road closures. DCC Highways have also agreed to feather the edges of the crossing at the Bakers Arms.
- **Resurfacing** – The section of the A356 past the former golf course is scheduled to be closed in October 2013 for resurfacing and also to replace the cats' eyes. The section of the A356 from South Perrott to the county border has not yet been included in this schedule as DCC Highways consider it to be in a reasonable condition.
- **Speed** – Following concerns by local residents that vehicles approach South Perrott at excessive speed a number of speed checks have been carried out in the past few months. These monitored traffic approaching South Perrott from the Dorchester direction. The results have shown that very few vehicles are travelling above the speed limit; however there is still a perception by local residents that there is an issue with speed. As budgets are very tight DCC Highways will not spend money on traffic calming measures unless there has been a history of serious collisions.

- ❖ **Refurbishment of The Pound, South Perrott** - Quotes from local contractors are being sought as the ones received to date exceed the available budget.

Following a suggestion made at the last meeting the Chairman of DIGS (Dorset Important Geological Sites), had inspected the rock face in The Pound. He identified the rock as Oolitic Limestone from the Middle Jurassic Period and said that it is not of any great geological significance. However, interestingly it is believed that the Coach & Horses may have been constructed from this stone possibly extracted from the rock face in The Pound.

- ❖ **South Perrott Village & Parish Planning Meeting** – A working group meeting has been arranged for **Thursday 29th August at 18:30 in South Perrott Village Hall Annex**. The purpose of this Group is to draft a development plan for the parish of South Perrott to cover both the short and long term i.e. next 20 years.

The initial meeting will be to agree a strategy for producing the plan. This meeting will consider the remit and develop a questionnaire designed to give every resident the opportunity to express their views. Subsequent meetings will include data collection and analysis. There will be further public consultation on the draft plans prior to publication.

If you are interested in joining the working Group please contact one of the South Perrott Councillors. Contact details are given below.

- ❖ **Thefts from Vehicles – warning.** Thefts from unattended motor vehicles are common at this time of the year. The police are reminding everyone who parks in isolated areas never to leave belongings in their vehicle even if they are hidden away.
- ❖ **Superfast Broadband** - the Broadband contract has now been signed by the local authority and 97% of the county should receive improved broadband coverage by 2016.
- ❖ **Empty properties** - Since April 2013 properties which have been empty for two years or more will have a Council Tax levy of 150%.
- ❖ **County Councillor Rebecca Knox** - is now a member of the DCC Cabinet with a portfolio for Safeguarding Children & Families. Rebecca remains Chairman of the Fire Authority.
- ❖ **Summer Holiday Fun Factory @ B-fit Leisure Beaminster School**
See separate feature on second page.

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.freeseerve.co.uk

Editors – Pump and Pound

Dave McSkelly	01935 891891	davemskelly@aol.com
Sue Coutanche	01935 891019	sue.coutanche@btinternet.com

2013 Parish Council Meetings:

Thurs 12th September 2013 “ South Perrott Village Hall
 Thurs 14th November 2013 “ Chedington Village Hall

What's On in South Perrott and Chedington?

August 2013		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Sunday	4 th	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	5 th	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Saturday	10 th	11:00	Flower Festival	St Mary's Church	Ann - 891224
Saturday	10 th	11:30	Cider Festival featuring live music with "The Helium Thieves" from 20:00	Winyards Gap	Toby/Michelle - 891244
Sunday	11 th	11:00	Village Open Day	South Perrott	Ann - 891224
Saturday	17 th	10:00	The Maggie Walk	Winyards Gap	Mary - 891512
		18:30	Festival BBQ	Coach & Horses	Ann - 891224
Thursday	29 th	18:30	South Perrott Village Planning Meeting	SP Village Hall	Kate - 891391
				Annex	Anita - 891666
					Sue - 891019

September 2013		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Sunday	1 st	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	2 nd	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Saturday	7 th	14:00	Annual Flower Show	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
					Dominie - 891601
Sunday	8 th	19:30	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Wednesday	11 th	19:30	Gardening Club	Chedington Village Hall	Sue - 891240
Thursday	12 th	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	SP Village Hall	Angela - 891931
Saturday	21 st	14:00	Jumble Sale	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224

Regular Events – Summer/Autumn 2013

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Every Monday	19:30	Short Mat Bowls (not August)	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Tuesday	10:00	Mosterton and District Over 50s Computer Club (restarts 10 th September)	Coach & Horses	Ella - 01308 868834 Barbara - 01308 867891 Martyn - 891931
Every Tuesday	14:00	Short Mat Bowls (not August)	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Thursday	09:30	Yoga *	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224
	18:00 19:00	Bums, Legs & Tums (BLT) Pilates	SP Village Hall "	Ali - 01460 74546/ " 07753533727
Every Friday	10:00	Upholstery	SP Village Hall	Helen - 1460 626 21

* Yoga restarts on 19th September

Advance dates:

Barn Dance & Hog Roast, South Perrott Village Hall on Saturday 12th October at 19:30. Contact Sue on 891019 for more information.

Local Contacts:

Chedington Village Hall:

Chairman Dave George 01935 891512
Bookings Ivan Williams 01935 891059

South Perrott Village Hall:

Chairman Dave McSkelly 01935 891891
Secretary Michael Stevenette 01935 891890
Bookings Vicky Reed 01935 891654

Winyards Gap Toby/Michelle 01935 891244

Coach & Horses Jane 01935 891270

St Mary's Church:

Church Warden Peter Coles 01935 891232
Treasurer Wendy Stevenette 01935 891890

Millennium Green:

Secretary Martyn Gillingham 01935 891931