

THE PUMP & POUND

The Newsletter of Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Issue 25

August/September 2015

The Parish Council was pleased that Matt Prosser, the Returning Officer for the elections in West Dorset, was able to attend our meeting on 9th July. A full report of his comments appears in the Parish Council minutes. It was very unusual for the Chief Executive to attend a Parish Council meeting and we all appreciated his presence, apology and clarification of the changes that he has made to the system to ensure that the mistakes do not occur again.

Summer has arrived and our usual fund raising events are happening. Chedington Street Fair took place on 25th July and we are now looking forward to South Perrott Open Day and Flower Festival. I hope the weather will be good and that many of you will come and enjoy the day.

Kate Organ, Chairman

South Perrott Annual Village Clean-up

This went ahead as planned on 7th June. Although there were fewer “wombles” this year we still covered all highways and byways within the parish boundary. Thank you to all the helpers and especially to Barry who disposed of all the litter sacks. Please will everyone help to keep our village clean and tidy throughout the year as we are fortunate to live in a lovely area.

Sue Coutanche

If you went down to the woods on 11th July.....

..... you were in the wrong place as the **Teddy Bear's Picnic** took place on the Millennium Green. The weather was warm with occasional sunny spells, so not too hot for the children's games including football dribbling, a hoop race, an egg and spoon race (with rubber eggs!) and a traditional sack race.

Although attendance was low, everyone brought food to share and the afternoon was enjoyed by all, including the Teddy Bears!

Our thanks go to Martyn and Angela for once again organising this event.



South Perrott Village Open Day Sunday 9th August 2015

The Open Day features many old favourites and some new activities too! As well as Sunday's events, cream teas will be served on Saturday from 2pm at Mohun House in Church Hill to complement the Flower Festival in the Church. We hope that you, your family and friends come and enjoy the event. Volunteers are needed to help set up and assist with activities on the day. If you can spare an hour or two please contact Ann on 891224. New this year is a Grand Raffle with a £100 cash prize. Tickets will be available on the day but can also be purchased in advance from Sue (891019) or Ann. We look forward to seeing you - let's hope for fine weather!

Winyards Gap, 43rd Wessex Division Memorial

Every September a service of remembrance, organised by the veterans of the Dorsetshire Regiment, is held at the 43rd Wessex Memorial at Winyards Gap, one of 4 memorials to the 43rd Division. The other memorials are at Hill 112 near Caen in Normandy, Mere in Wiltshire and Rough Tor near Bodmin in Cornwall, all on similar hills. The 43rd Wessex Division was made up of local West Country men. Following Operation Overlord and the D-Day landings, it was considered necessary to capture Hill 112 in order to widen the front and this was the site of the first major battle (codenamed Operation Jupiter) in which the division took part. The British attack was finally halted on 22nd July 1944. In the 12 days of Operation Jupiter, the 43rd Wessex Division suffered 7,000 casualties out of a total strength of 16,000 (over 40% of the Division).

In July, Tim Bartlett, whose father, Bob was in the 43rd Wessex Division, attended a service of remembrance held in the presence of HRH the Earl of Wessex at the 43rd Wessex Memorial Hill just outside the city of Caen. Tim is pictured meeting the Earl who unveiled a bronze infantry man and afterwards attended a function, a vin d'honneur, for veterans and their families in the nearby village hall.



News from the Pubs

I will be leaving the Coach & Horses (my final day is 31st August), and would like to thank all the locals for their support during the last 3 years. They have made it a pleasure. Myself, Helen and all the staff have enjoyed their good humour, the bingo and quiz, and their regular meetings. You have all made it a community pub and you will all be sadly missed. *Jane Holdsworth*

We wish Jane well for the future.

Jane will be fully involved with the Open Day and will be hosting the Festival BBQ on Saturday 15th August. The next and final Indian Night, provided by our favourite Chillies team, will be on Monday 17th August from 6.30pm. Please book your tables as soon as possible.

From 1st September, the pub will be closed for major refurbishment and alterations. It is hoped that they will be completed around the middle of next year. More information will be reported as it becomes available.

Winyards Gap's annual Cider Festival is on the 15th August. Starting with music from 3pm there will be live bands until late; Kash Folding will be playing from about 8pm. With a hog roast from 6pm, over 60 local ciders to try and free camping, the festival promises to be as lively and worthy of a visit as ever.

Chedington and South Perrott Gardening Club

Our summer season along with the glorious weather has been very special. We have been treated to the sight of a golden coach and a walled rose garden that assaulted our senses in a most delightful way at Mottisfont Abbey. Then there was the peace and tranquillity of beautiful, well planted and maintained lakes at Longstock Water Gardens. Mottisfont and Longstock are between Romsey and Stockbridge in Hampshire and visits are highly recommended.

Our sincere thanks go to Joy and Peter who hosted the June Garden Party. Their garden is always a great pleasure to amble through on a balmy summer's evening. As a bonus the food and drink as always, was very good.

Cadhay, near Ottery St Mary, was a very pleasant surprise. Dating from the Tudor period, both house and gardens are never overwhelming but always interesting and well worth the visit.

On 9th September, Chris and Judy Yates will be talking about roses old and new. Members are reminded that their pepper plants will be judged! Please come along and bring a friend if you wish. All are welcome.

South Perrott Flower Show

The South Perrott Flower Show takes place on Saturday 5th September in the Village Hall and we look forward to another year of wonderful and varied entries in the different categories, which include vegetables, flowers, floral art, fruit, cookery and photography. There is also a range of children's classes in which all entries will receive a small prize. Full details are contained in the schedule which has been distributed around the villages. The show opens at 2.30pm and the auction is at 3.15pm. If you wish to exhibit, please bring along your entries between 9am and 12noon.

Helping families in the local community

Dorset County Council's Family Information Service offers FREE support to parents and carers of children aged 0 - 19 (or up to 25 for young people with a disability) through its online directory and over the phone. Families can access a wide range of information, including details of nearby children's activities, local childcare and parent support groups. It also supports struggling families by pointing them towards help with childcare costs and other local services such as Children's Centres, the Citizen's Advice Bureau and family learning. To contact the FIS, telephone 01305 221066, Email familyinfo@dorsetcc.gov.uk or visit www.dorsetforyou.com/fis.

Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Below is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 9th July 2015. A full set of the agreed minutes from this meeting 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 District Cllrs Tony Alford and Peter Barrowcliff, and River Warden Martyn Gillingham. Matt Prosser also attended for the first half of the meeting in his role as Returning Officer for West Dorset. Matt is also the Chief Executive for West Dorset and North Dorset District Councils, and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council. Apologies were received from PCSO Alex Bishop and Dominie de la Poer (footpaths officer).

Report from West Dorset District Council - Cllr Alford referred to the WDDC's Local Plan which is waiting for the Inspector's report and, if it is positive, the new Plan will receive formal adoption in October. Until the new Plan is adopted developers are using this opportunity to submit an increasing number of building applications which is creating extra demand on staff.

❖ **River Warden's Report** - A request has been received from the Environment Agency for South Perrott to be responsible for storing and putting out "Road Flooded" signs when needed. The area that regularly floods is outside Sarum and the resident is happy to be responsible for the signs, which will be stored at an adjoining property where they will be readily accessible.

- ❖ **Superfast Broadband** - Martyn Gillingham reported that he had been in contact with the Superfast Broadband team at DCC, who informed him that they are currently carrying out surveys to find a suitable site to run a fibre optic cable to South Perrott. They are intending to install four green cabinets in this area and are still on schedule for installation in South Perrott (likely to be on eastern side of the village) before the end of 2015. A cabinet will be sited north of Chedington in 2016. Please keep up the momentum by registering an interest via the Superfast Broadband website on www.dorsetforyou.com. Note that when superfast broadband is available it is necessary to contact your ISP to access the improved service.
- ❖ **Parish Council Election - South Perrott** - The Chairman explained that significant errors had been made in the South Perrott election when Chedington voters had been handed South Perrott ballot papers. Despite this being queried early in the day, the polling station inspector confirmed that Chedington voters should continue to be given the ballot papers. This was an incorrect instruction and subsequent alerts to the Elections Office were not acted upon. Matt Prosser responded by saying that he had clearly failed in his responsibility as Returning Officer. Although the District Council runs the elections, as Returning Officer he is personally liable for them. It had been a challenge for the Elections Office to administer general, district and local elections on the same day. Mr Prosser explained that once the ballot boxes had been sealed at the end of the election day, the Chedington ballot papers could not, by law, be removed from the count. Following the count, it would have required a prohibitively expensive court order to have the boxes opened and the count verified. As a result of the error, lessons have been learned and new procedures put in place to ensure that future “split polls” are conducted correctly. He is also in contact with the Electoral Commission for a change to the law to allow Returning Officers more flexibility and enable them to respond to irregularities.
- ❖ **A3066/Lecher Lane Junction** - Another “near miss” was reported when a pedal cyclist was turning right and a car ignored her hand signal. The parish council are continuing to lobby for promised safety improvements to be made as soon as possible, and will continue to put pressure on DCC Highways to address other outstanding highways issues in both villages.
- ❖ **Public Discussion** - issues raised and discussed were: - Superfast Broadband (item above refers), cost of electronic sign on A37 near Charminster, under-reporting of local crime and cost and efficiency of new parking meters in Bridport and Beaminster.
- ❖ **Thanks go to** – Barry Chatfield for varnishing the Parish Council notice board and Jill Turner for selling the grit spreaders.
- ❖ **Planning Applications** -
 - Decisions notified: WD/D/15/000073 Pea Mead, Chedington - approved.
 - New & pending Applications: WD/D/15/001181 Cornerways, South Perrott (Listed Building Consent) - internal and external works to stabilise structural elements. WD/D/15/001343 Shepherds Farm Bungalow, South Perrott - extend west wall, include front door, continue north wall and roof, include window in loft of north wall.
 - Applications pending and decisions notified can be viewed on www.dorsetforyou.com.

Parish Councillors

Councillor	Address	Telephone No.	e-mail Address
Kate Organ (<i>Chairman</i>)	South Perrott	01935 891391	kateorgan@hotmail.co.uk
Sue Coutanche	South Perrott	01935 891019	sue.coutanche@btinternet.com
Anthony de la Poer	South Perrott	01935 891601	delapoer@btinternet.com
Liz Fray (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	Chedington	01935 891941	lizfray@btinternet.com
Jane Cooper	Chedington	07860 710300	cooper111@xlninternet.co.uk
Chris Birtwhistle	Chedington	01935 891437	chrisbirty@gmail.com

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

Tony Alford	01308 488319	cllra.alford@westdorset-dc.gov.uk
Peter Barrowcliff	01935 891525	member@hand-n-head.freemove.co.uk

Editors – Pump and Pound

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

Parish Council Meetings for 2015:

Thursday 10th September - South Perrott
 Thursday 12th November - Chedington

What's On in South Perrott and Chedington.

August 2015		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Saturday	1 st	11:00	Coffee Morning	Chedington Village Hall	Susan - 891035
Sunday	2 nd	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	3 rd	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Saturday	8 th	11:00	Flower Festival	St Mary's Church, SP	Ann - 891224
Sunday	9 th	11:00	Open Day	South Perrott	Ann - 891224
Saturday	15 th	15:00	Cider Festival with live music and hog roast	Winyards Gap	Toby/ Michelle - 891244
		18:30	Festival BBQ	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	17 th	18:30	Indian Night	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270

September 2015		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Saturday	5 th	11:00	Coffee Morning	Chedington Village Hall	Susan - 891035
		14:30	Annual Flower Show (with auction at 15:15)	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404 Dominie - 891601 Joyce - 891625
Monday	7 th	11:00	Coffee Club	Granary, Hill Farm, SP	Ann - 891224
Wednesday	9 th	19:30	Garden Club with Chris and Judy Yates	Chedington Village Hall	Sue - 891240
Thursday	10 th	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	SP Village Hall	Angela - 891931
Saturday	19 th	14:00	Jumble Sale	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224

Regular Events – Summer/Autumn 2015

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Every Monday	14:00	Art Classes	Grey Abbey, SP	Rose - 891808
	19:30	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Tuesday	10:00	Mosterton and District Over 50s Computer Club	The Admiral Hood, Mosterton	Ella - 01308 868834 Barbara - 01308 867891 Martyn - 891931
Every Tuesday	14:00	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Thursday	09:30	Yoga (restarts 3 rd September)	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224
	18:15	Pilates	SP Village Hall	Ali - 01460 74546/ 07753533727
Every Friday	10:00	Upholstery (restarts September)	SP Village Hall	Helen - 01460 626211

Local Contacts:

Chedington Village Hall:

Chairman Vacant
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