

THE PUMP & POUND

The Newsletter of Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Issue 24

June/July 2015

I am very grateful to you for my re-election to the Parish Council and honoured to be appointed chairman. Members of the Parish Council challenged the District Councillors at our first meeting over the irregularities in the administration of the South Perrott election on 7th May and have requested an acknowledgement of their responsibility for their procedural errors.

It is a pleasure to introduce your new Parish Council. We welcome three new members on to the council, Anthony de la Poer for South Perrott and Jane Cooper and Chris Birtwhistle co-opted for Chedington. They will join Sue Coutanche, Liz Fray and myself, who are all re-elected.

We strive to work hard on your behalf to improve life in our villages. To that end, I am inviting you to attend the Parish Council meetings that are held every two months in alternating village halls (details on back page). These Council meetings are held to allow the councillors to discuss village matters – so please come along and ask us questions, raise issues that concern you or just simply to listen. *Kate Organ, Chairman*



From l-r; Sue Coutanche, Jane Cooper, Anthony de la Poer, Kate Organ (Chairman), Chris Birtwhistle, Liz Fray (Vice-Chairman), Angela Gillingham (Clerk)

Mobile Phone Reception in South Perrott

Are you, like me, fed up with a poor or non-existent mobile phone signal in South Perrott? At the recent village meeting I suggested that we undertake research to prove to the mobile service providers, and the County Council, how poor our signal is, and the need for a dedicated phone mast. To that end I will be asking people to provide information on the strength of their signal at home; data that I will then superimpose on a map of the village, to be sent to the providers and the County Council to support our case. To gather this evidence I would be grateful if you would email me at drlines@msn.com with the following information:

Your name (optional); address; mobile phone provider; the strength of the signal (in bars); its reliability; any other comments (e.g. having to hang out the bathroom window to get a reception).

I will also tour the village with a very simple questionnaire to collect information from those unable to email. Many thanks, *David Lines*

South Perrott Annual Village Clean-up – Sunday 7th June at 11:00

Once again Sue is calling all “Wombles” to help with the annual village clean-up. Please meet in the Pound at 11am. Hi-viz tabards and waste sacks will be supplied. Please wear thick gloves and suitable footwear.

Rallying Cry for Chedington

The village hall grass needs cutting regularly. So this is a call for any able bodied persons to join the mowing rota, the greater the number on the list the less that individuals have to do. Motorised equipment is provided. Contact Ivan on 891059 who is eagerly awaiting your call.

The Chedington Bluebells

The Bluebells put on a wonderful show and the weather behaved itself for the Chedington gardens open day. A large number of gardens were opened, all looking lovely, and all so different (weeds, what weeds?). Add a delicious tea, and a very successful day was made. Thank you to all the gardeners, non - gardeners and everyone who made such an effort. £492.65p was raised for the village hall funds.

Chedington and South Perrott Gardening Club

The Chedington Gardening club was formed in April 1985 and is now thirty years old. South Perrott joined in 1998 and so became The Chedington and South Perrott Gardening Club and has been going strongly ever since. Tip of the month - if you want to get rid of the St John's Wort in your garden – move house!

Annual Village Meetings

The annual village meetings are open meetings held once a year. There is no formal agenda and they are an opportunity for residents to raise matters of interest and concern.

SOUTH PERROTT – this was held on 5th May 2015 and 24 people attended. Matters discussed were:

Security - No oil thefts or burglaries have been reported this year. However, residents were warned to be on the alert for telephone fraudsters who were trying to obtain people's bank account details.

Millennium Green - A damaged pole has been removed from one piece of play equipment and it was suggested that the willow tunnel should be removed as it is not maintained. The annual ROSPA inspection is due this month and any recommendations will be enacted. The annual insurance of £480 is now due.

Junction of Lecher Lane and A3066 - Following a site meeting with DCC Highways officials, the Parish Council has now put in a formal request for a dedicated right-turn lane from the A3066 into Lecher Lane, to improve safety at this dangerous junction. Highways have agreed to prioritise this request against other requests for local transport plan funding.

South Perrott Village Clean Up - Sunday 7th June – *See item on the front page.*

A356 Road Scheme -The Chairman invited comments on A356 road issues and the following points were made -

- Highways have confirmed that the crossing outside Bakers Arms, which causes a noise nuisance, will be removed.
- Highways have also agreed to reinstate the white lines and cats eyes on the stretch of road between South Perrott and Winyards Gap.
- The road surface on the Hill Farm bend is breaking up.
- There is space for a speed gun near Sockety Farm to deter speeding vehicles on the eastern side of the village.

The Pound – Thanks go to Martyn Gillingham and Barry Chatfield for their help in laying paving slabs and to Jill Turner for planting up the planter. Kate Organ offered to re-varnish the notice board.

Village Breakfasts - It was agreed that the breakfast events had been successful and were a good opportunity for people to get together. One is planned for the autumn to raise funds for the Millennium Green. It is hoped that they will continue on a regular basis.

Land behind the Village Hall - The Village Hall was not able to take up the offer of the land behind it.

Mobile Phone Reception - There is a lack of a mobile phone reception in the village from most/all service providers. David Lines offered to carry out a survey to assess the extent of non-existent and inadequate signals. A potential site for a mast has been identified if the petition to the service providers is successful. *See item on front page.*

Superfast Broadband - South Perrott is not referred to specifically on the www.dorsetforyou.com, but is shown for 2015 on the coverage map. (*See Parish Council report below.*)

Proposal to remove Telephone Box - The Parish Council had objected to BT's proposal to remove the phone box and BT has confirmed that it will not be removed at the present time.

The Coach & Horses - will close on 1st September 2015 for a major refurbishment lasting until next Spring/Summer, when it will reopen as a hotel/pub. The owner has said that he is prepared to open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays for drinks only during the refurbishment period. There was general concern about the loss of this amenity.

Bell Tower Appeal - Peter Hinton advised that more than £9,000 had been raised in donations from fund-raising events and grants from various organisations. Work on the tower is due to start in August. He thanked everyone for their support and hard work at the 'Big Bells Breakfasts'.

CHEDINGTON - this was held on 22nd April 2015 and 10 residents attended. Matters discussed were:

Elections - residents were being encouraged to consider being co-opted to fill the two vacancies on the Parish Council. (*See item Welcome to New Parish Councillors.*)

Dog dirt bags - were being left on walls in the village.

Penny's Hill - there was concern about the site where enforcement notices had been issued.

Highways - the deteriorating state of the road near Sandy Knapp and also Chedington Lane between Sandy Knapp Hill and Mosterton was highlighted. The broken drain cover outside Chedington Court has been repaired. Hedges at Chedington Court and at Court Farm could soon become an obstruction.

All items from both meetings were taken forward to the next Parish Council meeting.

PARRETT & AXE PARISH COUNCIL

Below is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the Annual General and Ordinary meetings of the Parish Council held on Thursday 14th May 2015. A full set of the agreed minutes from both meetings will be available on the Parish website (www.parrettandaxe.org.uk) or from the clerk when accepted at the next meeting/s. Also in attendance were District Cllrs Tony Alford and Peter Barrowcliff, County Cllr Rebecca Knox, Footpaths Officer Dominie de la Poer and River Warden Martyn Gillingham.

Annual General Meeting -

- ❖ Election of Officers (*See also front page article*) – Kate Organ was elected as Chairman and Liz Fray as Vice Chairman.
- ❖ Vacancies on Parish Council - two Chedington residents were co-opted, Jane Cooper and Chris Birtwhistle.
- ❖ Welcome was given to our newly elected District Councillors Tony Alford and Peter Barrowcliff.
- ❖ Finance - the clerk reported that at the start of this financial year the account was £4218.48 in credit.

- ❖ Footpath's Officer's report - There are 10 footpaths and 3 bridleways in South Perrott. In Langmoor Lane sections of the bank at the start of the bridleway are still badly eroded and are on schedule for repair. Roger Legg from Picket Farm is currently in discussions with DCC Rights of Way to create a new hard surfaced bridleway between Langmoor Lane and Picket Lane. This will provide another local amenity.
- ❖ River Warden's Report - This had been a quiet year compared with 2013/14. The only outstanding issue is the sand bags still in the river, by a property in Picket Lane, which needs to be resolved before this winter. Martyn had reported a blocked gully in Picket Lane on www.dorsetforyou.com, which DCC Highways had then promptly cleared. He urged all residents to do likewise if they notice any obstacles to water drainage i.e. blocked gullies and drains.

Ordinary Meeting -

❖ REPORTS FROM THE COUNCILS:

Dorset County Council

Superfast Broadband - Cllr Rebecca Knox re-affirmed that Superfast Broadband will be coming to South Perrott from the Corscombe Exchange later this year.

Road Traffic Accidents - Rebecca is encouraging highways to tell Parish Councils when an accident is caused by a technical fault on the road, as opposed to driver error.

Dorset Fire Service - is merging with Wiltshire which should result in cost savings.

West Dorset District Council

Superfast Broadband - WDDC has invested over £1million in Superfast Broadband and therefore has a serious interest in this project.

- ❖ **Public Session** - the Parish Council agreed that this will now remain at the start of each meeting.
- ❖ **Mobile Phones** – the Parish Council took up David Lines' offer to carry out a survey on their behalf (*See article on front page*).
- ❖ **Annual Village Meetings** - *Full reports from South Perrott and Chedington are included above.*
- ❖ **Phone Box in South Perrott** - following the Parish Council's robust arguments in favour of retaining a functioning telephone box in South Perrott, BT have advised that the phone box will not be removed.
- ❖ **South Perrott and Chedington Neighbourhood Car Scheme** - the Country Cars scheme has been replaced by the Neighbour Car scheme, which is run by local communities. Angela Gillingham has taken over from Joyce Osborne as organiser with Joyce and Wendy Hutton remaining as the drivers. An additional driver is needed. The Parish Council's insurers have taken on public liability for the scheme at no additional cost.
- ❖ **Planning Applications** -
WD/D/15/000073 Pea Mead, Chedington - to erect a new general storage building. It was noted that a public footpath runs alongside the site.
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	cilra.alford@westdorset-dc.gov.uk
Peter Barrowcliff	01935 891525	member@hand-n-head.freeseve.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 9th July - Chedington
- Thursday 10th September - South Perrott
- Thursday 12th November - Chedington

What's On in South Perrott and Chedington?

June 2015		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Saturday	6 th	11:00	Coffee Morning	Chedington Village Hall	Susan - 891035
Sunday	7 th	11:00	South Perrott Village Clean-up	The Pound, SP	Sue - 891019
		19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	14 th	19:30	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270

July 2015		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Saturday	4 th	11:00	Coffee Morning	Chedington Village Hall	Susan - 891035
Sunday	5 th	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Thursday	9 th	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedington Village Hall	Angela - 891931
Saturday	11 th	16:00	Teddy Bear's Picnic	Millennium Green	Martyn - 891931
Sunday	12 th	19:30	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Saturday	25 th	12:00	Chedington Street Fair	Chedington	Henry - 891567

Regular Events – Summer 2015

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Every Monday	14:00	Art Classes	SP Village Hall	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	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224
	18:15	Pilates	SP Village Hall	Ali - 01460 74546/ 07753533727
Every Friday	10:00	Upholstery	SP Village Hall	Helen 01460 626211

Teddy Bear's Picnic - Saturday 11th July from 4pm on the Millennium Green

This event is open to everyone of all ages. Fingers crossed for fine weather! For more details please contact Martyn on 891931.

Future Events:

South Perrott Open Day - Sunday 9th August 2015. Helpers needed - all welcome however little or much time you can spare! Contact Ann on 891224.

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