



**AT LAST!**

## It's Panto time once again - Hurrah!

The Cliddesden Players present

'A Knight on the Tiles ...

Recycled'

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>

December

We know that Christmas just wasn't the same last year without the Cliddesden Pantomime to set the festive season off to a fun-filled start!

But DON'T PANIC as it is back this year in all it's colourful, exciting, gasp-inducing glory in a very 21<sup>st</sup> century manner – it's recycled! Yes, our very own multi-talented, Mr C ~~can't be bothered to write~~ has had the very clever idea of revisiting a Panto from 2004. He says that if you can actually remember it then really you should get out more!

Join us on a journey of fun and laughter with talking chimney pots, roof-top acrobatics, pirates, villains, treasure and just a little magic.

The suspense will be gripping, the jokes and innuendoes will fly across the stage, the costumes and scenery will be amazing and, as always, all the ingredients for a traditional Pantomime will ensure a brilliant night of entertainment!

Evening shows at 8.00pm with Saturday matinee at 2.30pm.

Doors open 30 mins before start (Carols at 7.00pm on the Saturday, Doors 6.45pm).

Licensed CASH only Bars. Hot refreshments available at evening shows. Delicious Matinee treats from the Brownies.

**Tickets:** Adults £10 Children (2-16) £5

**Contact: Jo Capehorn on 07528856157 or email [thecapehorns@me.com](mailto:thecapehorns@me.com)**

Please note that no tickets can be reserved without payment. We have a paperless box office again so no actual tickets will be issued.

Names and contact details will be taken against seat reservations to comply with Test & Trace advice.

Information on how to pay - cheque, cash or via internet banking (preferred option) will be given when tickets are ordered.

Please advise if there are mobility difficulties or if a wheelchair user.

**Covid Measures:**

Enhanced cleaning is taking place, hand sanitiser is provided and we will aim to ventilate the Hall as much as possible. Audience numbers will also be slightly reduced this year but please be aware that social distancing will be extremely difficult to maintain so attendance is (as always) at your own risk.

Please note: Changes in Government advice or legislation regarding Covid and the wearing of face masks, social distancing or other measures could be implemented with little warning.

## POND CLEARING

Hampshire County Council's Operation Resilience work to clear the pond is expected to last for up to two weeks, and now due to start (at time of going to press) on Monday 8th November. Preparatory work to cut back overhanging vegetation is scheduled for Thursday 4th November. The parking area will be closed while the work is being carried out.

### METHOD OF WORK

HCC has advised that they will use a floating pontoon with excavator which will lift silt from the pond (as picture opposite by way of example).

It is to enable the excavator digging arm to work freely that overhanging foliage/branches will need to be cut back. The works will be carried out in localised areas and care will be taken to avoid ducks, moorhens etc.



**DIGGING ARM**

This attachment is made of high tensile steel which keeps the weight low without compromising on strength and has a maximum digging depth of 3m.

The silt will be loaded into a tank and as the tank fills, excess water will discharge back into the pond leaving wet silt, which the site tanker will empty and then transport to the disposal site. This method, says HCC, is used throughout the country in rivers and ponds.



**Your local Officer PCSO Andy Jones is always approachable by email or work mobile and always grateful for any information or happy to offer advice where appropriate.**

**Please continue to report crime through the 101 / 999 telephone nos or alternatively online if not requiring immediate deployment.**

<https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/>

**If you report a crime directly to me it keeps me in the office for longer, so giving me less time to be seen out and about.**

Andrew.jones.13301@hampshire.police.uk  
07775 542 021

### PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/02799/FUL (Validated 26 August)  
Myhaven, Woods Lane. Conversion and alteration of existing redundant barn to a four bedroom dwelling.

21/02780/ROC (Validated, 25 August)  
2 Coldharbour Cottages, Woods Lane. Variation of conditions 1 and 3 of Planning Permission 20/02450/HSE to amend the plan numbers and materials.

21/02545/LDEO (Pending, 02 August)  
Cliddesden Down House, Farleigh Road. Certificate for lawfulness for existing operation for single storey side extension.

21/01823/ROC Pending, 17 August)  
Greenlands Nursery, 3A Hackwood Lane. Variation of condition 1 of 20/01168/FUL (erection of 3 detached dwellings) to allow alterations to Plot 1 to include accommodation in roof space.

21/02118/FUL (Pending, 23 June) Land adjacent to Millars Cottages, Station Road. Detached 1.5 storey dwelling.

21/02056/FUL (Pending, 17 June)  
7 Woods Lane. Erection of two bedroom bungalow with associated car parking.

21/01646/HSE (Pending, 12 May)

Swallick Cottage, Alton Road. Part single storey, part two story rear extension, new front porch, bay window, detached garage with living accommodation above.

21/01591/PIP (Granted 12 October)  
Little Acre, Woods Lane. Permission in Principle for the a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 4 dwellings.

21/01321/RET (Pending, 14th April)  
Faerie Meadows, 14 Hackwood Lane. Change of use to residential garden land.

21/00931/FUL (Granted 27 September)  
Newland Lodge, Woods Lane.

Demolition of bungalow and erection of one four-bed dwelling. (Replacement for approved application 18/00116/FUL.)

### PARISH TREE APPLICATION

T/00551/21/TCA (Validated 27 Oct 2021) 21 Southlea. Lime tree (T1): Reshape/crown reduction to reduce uneven windloading on canopy, as well as clearing numerous phone lines and keeping tree at a manageable size. Approximate final shape illustrated.

### DUMMER J7 WAREHOUSING

**APPLICATION** refused by Development Control Committee – see page 7.

### NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 2nd November, 7.30pm  
Cliddesden Village Hall  
Everyone is very welcome.



# NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Hampshire Constabulary's first 'Barn Meet' was held on Wednesday 6th October at the Candover Valley Club. It was organised by CountryWatch, for Basingstoke Rural South area, to include all policing interests – from District Commander, CountryWatch, Neighbourhood Policing to Firearms licensing and Counter Terrorism (re ammonium nitrite).

The meet was for everyone with interest in local policing – landowners and employees, residents, Neighbourhood Watch, local Councils.

Much discussion centred on reporting and communication. A Hants 'Disc' community reporting system' is to be introduced (Police & Security Community Network Disc system).

Everything comes back to reporting and building intelligence – any sights of suspicious vehicles, licence plate numbers, a quad bike where it shouldn't be... The Police know in many cases who the main perpetrators are, catching them in the act is very difficult. But otherwise providing courts with proof beyond reasonable doubt is also very difficult.

There was unanimous agreement that the event was useful and for similar events to be held on a regular basis.

## From the Neighbourhood Policing Team...

Thank you so much to everyone who was able to attend our inaugural barn meet on 6th October. It was a fantastic turnout and the glorious sunshine helped to showcase rural Hampshire at its very best. For those who were unable to attend, and as a reminder for those who did, here are the key points:

Chief Inspector Matthew Reeves  
(District Commander for Basingstoke



& Deane) outlined the challenges of policing a borough with such significant and diverse issues in both urban and rural areas, and introduced members of the rural Neighbourhood Policing Team and Countrywatch.

Firearms Licensing Officer Tony Hill gave an update on firearms licensing and emphasised the need to take security seriously to stop guns getting in to the hands of criminals.

Counter Terrorism Security Adviser James Booty spoke about the need to be vigilant and secure fertiliser to help in the fight against terrorism.

Sergeant Stuart Ross from our Countrywatch Team gave an overview of ongoing rural policing operations:

**Please see following Operation names which are ongoing: if you believe that one of these offences are taking place, call 999 and refer to the Operation name.** Citing the Operation name will activate a trigger plan. [For offences and incidents not currently taking place, report online or to 101.]

- Operation Galileo – hare coursing and poaching offences
- Operation Slid – theft of ATVs, quad bikes and similar.
- Operation Rebate – Other rural thefts and burglary from outbuildings

Also...

- Op Liberal is rogue trader awareness to support the vulnerable who are taken advantage of financially
- Op Signature is to identify and support vulnerable victims of fraud eg online or phone call scams

We are so pleased that there was such strong support for holding more barn meets in the future and we look forward to meeting you again soon.

**Basingstoke Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team** PCSO Andy Jones and PC Ross Holdsworth  
[Basingstoke.Rural.Police@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:Basingstoke.Rural.Police@hampshire.police.uk)

**Hampshire Countrywatch Team**  
PS Stuart Ross, PC Will Butcher,  
PC Lee Stanbrook.  
[countrywatch@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:countrywatch@hampshire.police.uk)

For more information see: [www.hampshirecountrywatch.co.uk](http://www.hampshirecountrywatch.co.uk)

Also see *Rural Times*, for the latest issue search [rural-times-october-2021.pdf](#)



## POLICE FOCUS ON COUNTY LINES

National County Lines Intensification Week, which targets drug traffickers who often recruit children and vulnerable adults to supply drugs across the country, ran from Monday 11th to Sunday 17th October.

Hampshire Constabulary alongside other forces in England and Wales engaged in operations to crackdown on county lines.

Some good news in relation to our Operation Fortress team. While a lot of this might be related to the Town, so much of it is connected to crimes within the rural community.

'Cuckoo' addresses for example play a big part within the rural community and the money used to buy the drugs often comes from crime, including burglaries and other thefts.

Cuckooing is when a drug dealer or a

gang takes over a vulnerable adult's address for criminal purposes, usually as a base to supply, store or produce drugs. Gangs will exploit an individual's vulnerabilities for profit and to avoid police detection.

The Police can only achieve these figures with your help in feeding information back to the Police or Crimestoppers.

**PCSO Andy Jones**



# Christmas Fayre

RAISING MONEY FOR  
CLIDDESSEN MILLENNIUM HALL &  
LORDSFIELD SWIMMING CLUB



refreshments  
christmas raffle  
fun for all the family



CLIDDESSEN MILLENNIUM HALL  
SUNDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2021  
11AM-2PM

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A STALL, PLEASE  
CONTACT ALISON HOOD ON  
07919 418551



## Farleigh Parish Playgroup



Cliddesden Millennium Village Hall  
0 - 4 year olds and their grown-ups.  
WE ARE BACK! Friday Mornings 11-12 Term Time  
5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> November  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> December (with a visit from FC.)  
Due to Covid-19 we are following government guidelines. If we cannot meet in the Hall, we will have a country walk. Please FB or phone for more info.

A warm welcome awaits you - we look forward to you joining us.

Cost: £2 donation per family



Contact:  
Melanie Previous Pre-school Head (07833-528040)  
Claire Qualified teacher (01256-477197)

### Adult volunteers needed for Farleigh Parish Playgroup, please!



We are a fun and happy playgroup meeting on Friday mornings, 11am - 12 noon during term time at Cliddesden Village Hall

We are in need of more volunteers to help us set up or join in children's play and chat to their parents or help with snack or tidying away. If you are a friendly person who is happy to help out and you have some spare time, just an hour or two, we would love to hear from you. Any help is gratefully received.

Please call Melanie 07833-528040 or Claire 07757 498653




### St Leonard's Services for November

Church Services for November 2021 at St. Leonard's (unless stated otherwise).

Sunday 7th November, 9.45am: Morning Prayer  
Sunday 14th November, 10.30am: Family Service of Remembrance

Sunday 21st November, 11.15am: Family Service  
Saturday 27th November, 6.00pm: Holy Communion (BCP)  
Sunday 5th December, 9.45am: Morning Prayer

On 2<sup>nd</sup> November will be having another Crafty Lunchers day where we will spend the morning making Christmas cards followed by lunch. These days are open to non-members so if anybody is interested in coming along please could they contact me. The cost is £15.

**Next meeting** **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am**  
**A Morning at the Movies**  
**'Goodbye Mr Tom'**

We will be having a book sales table as well so bring along any unwanted books and, of course, your purses to buy some more!

We look forward to seeing you all and visitors are always welcome.

*Diane Rampton* Tel 01256 467533

Email: [dianerampton@gmail.com](mailto:dianerampton@gmail.com)

## 100 Club



The draw for September was called at the Coffee Morning held at the Village Hall on 11th October 2021. Here are the lucky winners:

1st	442	Julie James
2nd	100	Simon Jones
3rd	228	Dawn Mansbridge

Congratulations. Next Coffee Morning 8th November - come along for good cakes and company in our light, airy and well ventilated hall.

*Rose Beevers* Tel: 475944 (100club@cliddesdenhall.org.uk).

## Cliddesden Primary School

### KS2 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

The first inter school 5-a-side football tournament in nearly 2 years took place at Brighton Hill Power league on Monday 27th September. Pupils from Year 4 and 5 were selected for the squad.

We started our campaign strongly, beating Tadley 2-0 with Hugo scoring both goals. However, we were then beaten by St Mary's and St Bede's and failed to qualify in our group.

This meant we entered the 'Plate' knock-out stages. Sadly, we had no team to play in the first

knock out stage and were given a 'bye'. In the semi-final we were beaten by Park View.

We tried hard and given that we did not have time to train, we did well.

To find out more about our school, take a look at our website: [Cliddesden.hants.sch.uk](http://Cliddesden.hants.sch.uk)

*Paula Lavender*





**Do you have a child due to start school in September 2022?**



**We hope you consider Cliddesden Primary School.**



Cliddesden primary is an inclusive school with a dedicated staff and a supportive community, committed to providing high standards in education.

We maintain an effective partnership between home and school and develop a shared responsibility for your child's education.

**We provide a learning environment that is nurturing, promotes excellence and enjoyment, and enriches personal development and provides opportunities for our children to grow into confident learners.**



Our school is situated within the beautiful countryside of the Hampshire Downs and although located only 3 miles from central Basingstoke, the locality is in contrast to the town's urban environment.



We will be able to give you a guided tour of the school where you will meet the Headteacher and children. We do not have an open day or evening but have appointments from 27<sup>th</sup> September through to the December. Please call the school office on 01256 321571 or email [adminoffice@cliddesden.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@cliddesden.hants.sch.uk) to book an appointment.

**For more details please visit our website [www.cliddesden.hants.sch.uk](http://www.cliddesden.hants.sch.uk)**

## Harvest Festival Family Service at St Leonard's, Cliddesden

A huge thank you to all those who donated food at the Harvest Festival. A total of 6.6kg of food was donated at the service and through the month of September for the Basingstoke Food Bank, a fantastic result. The box remains in the porch of St Leonard's church for donations.

All are welcome to join the fun at the next family service on November 21st. Look for details on the poster in this edition of the Hill & Dale.



## News from St Leonard's

We are pleased that St Leonard's is now open every day for you to visit, and is also back to capacity. There are some exciting services coming soon as we adapt to provide more friendly and inclusive ideas.

Here are some of the plans:

**14<sup>th</sup> November:** we are holding a **Service of Remembrance for the whole family**. While this is to remember those who have served, it will be less formal and is for the whole family to pay their respects.

**17<sup>th</sup> December:** our service of **9 lessons and carols**, based on the more traditional form of the service. More of this to follow.

**19<sup>th</sup> December:** Come and meet the **Bishop of Basingstoke (11:15)**. Many of you may have been confirmed by the Bishop. Come and meet him again in his visit to St Leonard's. We will be providing light snacks after the service as an opportunity for informal chats.



**Christingle:** our plan is to hold this on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**, from 3:15 with church open for drinks, and from 4pm as a drop-in session to make your Christingle and learn about what it means.

A **crib service** will also be planned - look out for further information.



## POLICING PAST

Dear Residents

Some further reports of past policing in the Cliddesden area.

At Basingstoke  
Divisional Petty

Sessions on February 11th 1863, Mary Nickless, Clara Goodall and Frank Goodall, all of Cliddesden, were charged with damaging, with intent to steal, a quantity of swede greens, the property of Mr GR Budd, and fined 12s (£35.48) including costs, to be paid in a fortnight, or in default to be committed to Winchester Gaol for seven days.

Captn Philip Mack was summoned for having, on September 22nd 1909, at Cliddesden, kept a carriage without a licence. He was also charged with a similar offence in respect to a male servant. PC Jones said that on the day in question he saw a two-wheeled trap belonging to the defendant being used, and the next day he saw the defendant and asked if he had a licence for his trap. Captn Mack replied: 'No I haven't received any notice, or I would have sent the cheque as usual.' He made a similar statement with regard to the licence for his gardener. He was fined 24s (£93.80) in total for the two offences.

Bert Jacobs, a young man living in Soper's Grove, who said he was working on the new well at Cliddesden, pleaded guilty to having been drunk and disorderly in Cliddesden on the 2nd of September 1903. PC Wallace said that at 10 o'clock on Monday night he found the defendant lying asleep by the side of the road near the railway bridge at Cliddesden. He was unable to raise him and when he did wake he was very violent towards the Constable and refused to walk. The Constable asked a passing cyclist to go to Basingstoke Police Station and ask that assistance might be sent to him.

Jacobs then walked to the Police Station. He had a previous conviction and so was fined 10s including costs.

George Hedger, a thatcher of Nutley, was summoned for having ridden a bicycle without a light on the highway leading from Farleigh Wallop to Cliddesden, at 11.20pm on May 16th 1903 when he was stopped by PC Quibell. He said that his light had just gone out and he didn't have matches to re-light it. A friend riding about three yards in front came back and lit the lamp. At Basingstoke Divisional Petty Sessions Mr Hedger said he did not have any 'Lucifers' (matches) and could not make his friend hear. He was fined 1s and 7s costs.

Best wishes as always

Andrew

## Travels with my sketchbook



David Charsley

An illustrated compilation of material spread over 50 years capturing scenes and events using a variety of medium including pencil, fibre pens, felt tips and water colours.

Subjects range from holidays and work to Christmas scenes and more.

This 70 page book is available from Amazon priced £15.99.

All proceeds are to St Michael's Hospice



A delightful journey **HAMPSHIRE LIFE**

## J7 WAREHOUSING APPLICATION REFUSED BY DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE BDBC

On 27th October, Development Control Committee Councillors voted 9 to two with one abstention to Refuse the planning proposal for what would be one of the UK's largest warehouses and distribution centres near M3J7. This at the application's second hearing and following previous decision and officer recommendation for approval.

20/02586/FUL Land At Oakdown Farm, Winchester Road, Dummer.

This time environmental and ecological concerns were given more weight. The declared ecological emergency coupled with the climate emergency played a huge part in Councillors' decisions to refuse this application



The felling of ancient Oak trees, air and light and noise pollution, were issues raised during the debate.

The application has been opposed by Dummer Parish Council, Ward Councillors, the action group CAGE (clean air green environment) and the Change.org petition to 'Stop the destruction of 67 Oak and 3 Beech trees on Oakdown Farm'. It is likely the developers will appeal.

# Cliddesden, Farleigh Wallop & Ellisfield Horticultural Society

## The three villages Gardening Club

***\*If you have not yet paid this years subscriptions, please could you do so either in cash to myself or any committee member, or if you prefer online, please contact me on 07748532798/01256381504 for the bank details. Thank-you\****

Is it me, or are the mornings distinctly darker and chillier now?  
Must mean that Halloween is here, the clocks have gone back, and the fire has been lit.

It also means that it's firework night - stay safe, don't have your fire or fireworks too close to the trees - they get hurt too!



**What has happened?**

30<sup>th</sup> September -  
Cliddesden Millennium Hall - 7.45pm  
Steve Oakes - 'Fish for Tea'  
Who would have thought it!

Owls eating fish, 'pirate' seabirds, and changes of plumage between seasons that would make you think you were looking at 2 different species!

Thank-you to everyone who came along to our first face-to-face meeting since January 2020!

**What's coming up?**

**Last meeting of the year**

AGM - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 745pm  
Cliddesden Millennium Hall  
Members only.

Join us for a run down of all the years activities (and non-activities), food, wine and a long overdue catch up.  
Probably the quiz too - I'll have to let you know on that one!

Apologies for the very short newsletter this month - I promise to find something weird and wonderful to add to the next one!

Happy gardening!

*Claire*

**Social and Entertainment Club**  
Cliddesden Millennium Village Hall  
*"You'll be sure of a warm welcome and a great evening!"*

The bar opens at 7.30pm and we start at 8pm. There is an intermission half way through during which ice creams and the bar are available. Admission is only £2 per person.



**Thursday 4 November "Every which way but loose" 1978, 114 mins, Cert PG**

An [action comedy film](#) produced by [Robert Daley](#) and directed by [James Fargo](#). It stars [Clint Eastwood](#) in an uncharacteristic and offbeat comedy role as a trucker and brawler roaming the [American West](#) in search of a lost love while accompanied by his brother/manager, Orville, and his pet [orangutan](#), [Clyde](#). In the process, he manages to cross a motley assortment of characters, including a pair of police officers and an entire [motorcycle gang](#) (the Black Widows of Pacoima), who end up pursuing him for revenge.

Eastwood's appearance in the film, after his string of [Spaghetti Western](#) and [Dirty Harry](#) roles, somewhat startled the film industry and he was reportedly advised against making it. Although it was very poorly reviewed by critics, the film went on to become an enormous success and became, along with its 1980 sequel [Any Which Way You Can](#), two of the highest grossing Eastwood films. When adjusted for inflation, it ranks as one of the top 250 highest-grossing films of all time. Which just goes to show what critics know.



Thursday 2 December "Miss Potter", 2006, 93 mins, Cert PG



A [biographical drama film](#) directed by [Chris Noonan](#). It is based on the life of [Beatrix Potter](#), and combines stories from her own life with beautiful animated sequences featuring characters from her stories, such as [Peter Rabbit](#). Scripted by Richard Maltby Jr., the film stars [Renée Zellweger](#) in the title role, [Ewan McGregor](#) as her

publisher and fiancé, [Norman Warne](#), and [Lloyd Owen](#) as solicitor William Heelis. [Emily Watson](#) stars as Warne's sister, Millie. [Lucy Boynton](#) also stars as the young Beatrix Potter and [Justin McDonald](#) appears as the young William Heelis. *Copied from Wikipedia.*  
In my opinion the film is an absolute delight.

All our films are suggested by members, so please suggest your own favourites and do come along, you'll have a good evening at the cinema amongst friends.  
Films start at 8pm, bar opens at 7:30.



### Advent course

4 Weeks to prepare for Christmas,  
Bible study and reflections, over coffee.  
**Thursdays 4/11, 11/11, 18/11, 25/11**  
Location TBC Ellisfield or Preston Candover  
Time; 9.30-11.00

Bible based study -based on the Carol  
**"Angels from the realms of glory"**

Or Wednesday evening also possible if popular

Please reply to either; Sylvia Raine  
[sylviaraine@btinternet.com](mailto:sylviaraine@btinternet.com)  
or Ruth Chattell  
[ruthchattell@btinternet.com](mailto:ruthchattell@btinternet.com)  
to register interest or find out more.

The Cliddesden Players present...

# A Knight on the Tiles

**RECYCLED**

Friday 10th & Saturday 11th December  
Cliddesden Village Hall

<p>Friday 10th - 8.00pm (Doors 7.30pm) Saturday 11th Matinee - 2.30pm (Doors 2.00pm) Evening 11th Carole at 7.00pm (Doors 6.45pm) Show 8.00pm</p>	<p>Tickets: Adults £10 Children 2-16 £5 Contact: Jo Capehorn on 07528656157 or email <a href="mailto:thecapehorn@me.com">thecapehorn@me.com</a></p>
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Licensed CASH only Bars. Hot refreshments available at evening shows

YOU'RE INVITED!

## FAMILY SERVICE

St. Leonard's Churchyard, Cliddesden  
*(the service will be outside if possible, wet weather plan inside)*  
Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, 11.15am – midday

*Fun, fellowship and discovery*



St Leonard's Church , Cliddesden  
Family Remembrance Service  
14<sup>th</sup> November  
10.30 am start

45-minute service to include a children's activity and a silence; an introduction for small people and families into Remembrance Traditions, with 1<sup>st</sup> Cliddesden Brownies.

All welcome.

## TOWN CENTRE FUTURE

Earlier this year BDBC consulted on what residents, groups and businesses would like to see in the town centre in the future. From feedback received, consultants have created 'Early Vision and Masterplan' principles. These include:

- Opening up the town centre to make it more accessible; creating opportunities for more community and cultural activities and more green spaces.
- New high quality and low carbon urban communities for those wanting to live, work and play in a central area, with facilities and activities on the doorstep, including shops, parks, community space and transport links.
- Reimagining the existing Malls building to open up the area, creating opportunities for uses in addition to retail – for community and cultural use, space for entrepreneurs and education. Modernising shopfronts at the Top of the Town while celebrating the borough's rich heritage.
- Making the town centre more walkable and cycle-friendly by introducing new traffic zones, two-way traffic on New Road, creating a new bus interchange at Churchill Way and a new multi-storey car park in New Road.

The Vision is to create a 'greener' feel through new open spaces in Church Street and in the Top of the Town as well as new planting to improve the area's biodiversity.

You can view the results of the public consultation as well as the suggestions for the future of the town centre at [www.talkbasingstoketowncentre.co.uk](http://www.talkbasingstoketowncentre.co.uk)

**We are encouraging residents, visitors, community groups and organisations and businesses to share their views on the ideas being put forward through a survey which is available until Friday 12 November.**

Your feedback will be key to the success of this project



**Your chance to shape the future of the town centre.**

**As part of our work to develop a long-term strategy for the town centre, we want to hear your views on ambitious ideas put forward.**

**Share your views online at [www.talkbasingstoketowncentre.co.uk](http://www.talkbasingstoketowncentre.co.uk)**

**by Friday 12 November**



and will be used to create our Draft Vision & Masterplan to help shape our work with partners.

Thank you for your support.

## BDBC DECLARES ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY

At full Council meeting of 14th October, a motion to declare an Ecological Emergency was proposed by Cllr Konieczko, seconded by Cllr Harvey and agreed unanimously.

*From the Notice of Motion:*  
Council notes...

1. The recent *Dasgupta Review* on the Economics of Biodiversity confirms that our societies and economies are embedded within nature, not external to it.
2. Humanity and the economy depend on the services that nature provides... People also derive a sense of wellbeing from a healthy natural environment.
3. *The State of Nature 2019* highlighted the critical decline in UK biodiversity.
4. The Environment Bill will require the introduction of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy and Nature Recovery Networks as an aid to planning.

### Council resolves to:

1. Declare an Ecological Emergency.
  2. Maximise co-benefits from addressing Climate and Ecological Emergencies.
  3. Add ecological implications alongside those for climate and sustainability in Committee and Council reports, and embed ecological initiatives within all council work areas, including COVID recovery projects and programmes.
  4. Work with local communities, county, regional and national partners to promote landscape and habitat protection, restoration, expansion and connectivity, while devolving greater responsibility to genuinely-empowered community groups.
  5. Work with stakeholders to provide everyone, and especially children, with opportunities to learning about and reconnect with nature.
  6. Ensure the Ecological (and Climate) Emergencies are strategic priorities for land use planning, planning policies and design guides, and protecting areas for habitat restoration and biodiversity gain. Seek to incorporate biodiversity, nature recovery networks, green and blue infrastructure and ecosystems services into the Local Plan, Neighbourhood Plans and other initiatives.
  7. Create a register of natural assets and estimate the ecosystem services derived from those assets.
  8. Recommend to Cabinet that funding is provided for an Ecological Emergency Strategy and Action Plan...
- Cllr Mark Ruffell, Cabinet member for Environment, spoke in support: 'Restoring nature is vital to tackling climate change.' Labour group leader Cllr Andy McCormick said: 'I hope... it will crystallize our thoughts. Do not pave gardens, guard the undergrowth, join and support conservation groups.'

# VILLAGE DIRECTORY

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