



# GREAT MILTON BULLETIN

February 2022

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## **Freedom of Information Act – Parish Council Publication Scheme**

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides rights of public access to information held by Public Authorities. The Parish Council adopted a new publication scheme in November 2019: details can be found on the Parish Council Website at <https://www.great-milton.co.uk/freedom-of-information/>. Residents can see records of the policies and practices of the Parish Council including minutes, financial information and responses to planning consultations, on request from the Parish Clerk or via the website.

## **Great Milton Parish Council**

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Stephen Harrod</b>	<b>01844 278068</b>
Ward:	Church Road to Monckery Farm/The Priory	
<b>Vice Chairman:</b>	<b>Bill Fox</b>	<b>01844 279716</b>
Ward:	Thame Road, inc Fullers Field and Green Hitchings	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>David Harms</b>	
Ward:	The Green from Priory Bank to Tara/Applewood	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Clyde Deacon</b>	<b>01844 279242</b>
Ward:	High Street from North End Cottage to The Old Garage	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>George Bennett</b>	<b>07482 339905</b>
Ward:	Thame Road from Green Hitchings to A329	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Malcolm Horsley</b>	<b>07970 924194</b>
Ward:	Kings Head House/Red Roofs to Wheatley Boundary	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Peter Allen</b>	<b>01844 278334</b>
Ward:	Milton Common	

**Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Tim Darch – 01844 278347**  
**[contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk](mailto:contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk)**

## **Parish Council Representatives**

Rec Ground Committee:	James Cunningham, Michele Block
Old Field Charity:	Adrian Buckmaster, David Mackrory
Hard Surface Play Area:	Susan Read, Jon Devitt
Neighbourhood Watch:	Jola Miziniak
Kent & Couling Charity:	Tricia Treanor, Simon Cronk
Sheppard Trust:	Ann Price, Pat Cox

**Cover:** Part of a watercolour of St. Mary's Church by Teddy Hoare. See article page 9.

## Key Contacts:

### Local Governance

Oxfordshire County Council	01865 792422	Oxfordshire.gov.uk
South Oxfordshire District Council	01235 422422	Southoxon.gov.uk
County Councillor: Freddie Van Mierlo	07944 492438	freddie.vanmierlo@oxfordshire.gov.uk
District Councillor: Caroline Newton	07951 477144	caroline.newton@southoxon.gov.uk
Great Milton Parish Council		
Stephen Harrod (Chair)	01844 278068	
Tim Darch (Clerk)	01844 278347	contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk
Report potholes, fly-tipping, vandalism, broken paving		Fixmystreet.com
OCC Family Information Service	08452 262636	fis.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
OCC Highways	0845 310 1111	highway.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Missed Bin Collection	03000 610610	admin.southoxford@biffa.co.uk
Bulky Household Waste Collection	01235 422406	waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Housing	01235 422422	housing@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Planning Applications	01235 422600	planning@southoxon.gov.uk

### Services

Emergency - Police, Fire, Ambulance	999	
Police non-emergency	101	thamesvalley.police.uk
GP Surgery, Morland House	01865 872448	morland-house.co.uk
NHS non-emergency	111	nhs.uk
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999	nationalgrid.com/uk/safety/
Electricity Outage	0800 072 7282	sse.co.uk
Burst pipe or leak	0800 714 614	thameswater.co.uk
Floodline	0345 988 1188	gov.uk/check-flood-risk

### Local information

St. Mary's Church: Rev. Simon Cronk		simon.cronk@btinternet.com
Methodist Church: Rev. Stephen Spain	01865 763676	
Neighbourhood Watch: Jola Miziniak	07917 676463	jolamiziniak7@gmail.com
Citizens Advice Oxfordshire	03444 111 444	caox.org.uk
The Maple Tree Children's Centre	01865 873916	mapletreecc@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Great Milton Neighbours Hall	01844 278415	
Great Milton Pavilion & Recreation Ground	01844 278116	
Great Milton Website		contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk http://www.greatmilton.co.uk
Great Milton Bulletin	01844 278347	contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk
Great Milton Primary School	01844 279388	gmilton.org
Wheatley Park School	01865 872441	www.wheatleypark.org

### Transport

Comet - for people without access to suitable public transport	01865 323201	oxfordshire.gov.uk/comet
Arriva (280) Bus	0344 800 4411	arrivabus.co.uk
Oxford Tube (Buses to London)	01865 772250	oxfordtube.com
Park & Ride		oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/parkandride
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	nationalrail.co.uk

## **Draft Parish Notes – January 2022**

Meeting of Great Milton Parish Council, held at the Pavilion on Monday 17th January 2022 at 7.30pm.

The meeting was attended by Cllrs S Harrod (Chair), W Fox (Vice-Chair), P Allen, G Bennet, C Deacon, D Harms and M Horsley. Apologies were received in advance from Cllrs Caroline Newton (SODC) and Freddie Van Mierlo (OCC). Tim Darch (Clerk) was in attendance. No interests were declared, and business was conducted as prescribed by the agenda.

### **Matters to Report**

Monthly reports were received from Cllr Freddie van Mierlo (County Councillor, Chalgrove division) and Cllr Caroline Newton (District Councillor, Haseley Brook ward). Both are available on the Parish Council website.

### **Correspondence and public discussion**

An e-mail has been received from a resident suggesting that the Neighbours Hall could be sold to Le Manoir, and any funds put into enhancing the potential of the Pavilion as a community facility, with access improvements which may then allow the Recreation Ground to be used safely for school parking. After discussion it was agreed that although some felt the idea had some merit, issues over ownership and the destination of sale proceeds were likely to mean that the suggestion was unlikely to be practical.

### **Planning Applications**

The following planning applications received from SODC were considered:

P21/S5155/FUL (LASSCO, London Road, Milton Common). Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) in application P11/W1939 Demolition of existing rear part of main building. Extensions to existing main building to provide improved accommodation and function room and letting room accommodation.

For reference only: site is in Tiddington PC area and Great Milton residents are some distance away on London Road, east of the A329.

P21/S5363/LB (The Old Stores The Green Great Milton OX44 7NT). Removal of mid/late C19 sash windows with plate glass to be replaced with new sash windows with original details and heritage slimline glazing to the front façade.

After brief consideration, it was AGREED that the Parish Council had no concerns regarding the proposed application and that it was supported.

B The following planning decisions received and any outstanding planning matters were reviewed:

P21/S4437/HH (Hampden House, Church Road, Great Milton OX44 7PB).

Numerous external and internal renovations and amendments. Planning permission is GRANTED for this development proposal.

P21/S4645/HH (The Penn Thame Road Great Milton OX44 7HX). Extension and conversion of roof to create habitable room within roof void. Application withdrawn

The minutes of the December meeting of the Parish Council, held on Monday 13th December 2021, were reviewed, approved and signed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

### **Financial Resolutions**

Tim Darch. Salary, Tax and Expenses. £514.85

Jonathan Dudley. Bulletin production January. £216.20

Website hosting January (reimbursement to Clerk). £19.99

Shield Solutions. Dog bin emptying December. £62.40

Christmas tree purchase. £85.

The latest monthly bank reconciliation, accounts and bank statement were received, reviewed and approved. The reconciled bank balance as at 7 January was £46,971.69.

### **Parish clerk and councillors' update of matters in hand**

- The annual inspection of trees on parish council land is in the process of being arranged.
- Issues with blocked gullies close to the school entrance are now on OCC's programme and will be fully investigated and remedied in due course. The Parish Council will continue to pressure the County Council via Cllr Freddie Van Mierlo to ensure that the matter is resolved.
- Many residents will have received a letter from Airband advising that full fibre broadband is coming to Great Milton. The parish council is investigating the detail of this offer, which has arrived somewhat unexpectedly, and the extent of potential coverage.
- A resident has once again raised the issue of exterior lighting remaining on when not necessary at the new school classroom, close to the allotments. The light pollution and wasted energy is a concern for the parish council, and it is hoped that the issue will be resolved shortly. The parish clerk will once again make contact with the school in the hope that a permanent solution can be found.

### **COVID-19: update on village response/impacts**

No significant local developments were raised with regard to the current pandemic, other than those which are receiving widespread national publicity.

### **20mph zone**

The application for a 20mph in the centre of Great Milton village has been submitted to OCC: further developments are awaited. The residents' survey on the

subject indicated that approximately 80% of respondents supported the proposal.

### **Issues with mail deliveries**

It is understood that there has been a regional reorganisation of rounds based on a drop in the volume of postal traffic, with some rounds doubling in size. The Great Milton and Little Milton rounds appear to have been merged, which with larger volumes of post at Christmas plus issues with Covid has placed increasing pressure on Chris to get deliveries done, with him sometimes even needing to work on Sundays to get the mail delivered. Following discussion, it was agreed to monitor the issue for a further month to see whether the issue settles down, then revisit it if necessary.

### **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

The Jubilee celebrations scheduled for Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June were discussed. After brief discussion it was agreed to speak to a member of the PCC to see if there are any plans to advance the Church Fete by a week or so in accordance with the event, and also to the Headteacher at the school to see if the school has any plans to mark the occasion with an event.

The meeting closed at 8pm.

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 21st February 2022 at the Pavilion, starting at 7.30pm.

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## **Benefice Services February 2022**

	<b>St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton</b>	<b>St. James's Little Milton</b>	<b>St. Peter's Great Haseley</b>
Sunday 6th		Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am
Sunday 13th	Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am	
Sunday 20th	Family Worship 10:30am		Holy Communion 9:00am
Sunday 27th		Family Gathering 4:00pm	Benefice Holy Communion 10:30am



## Notes from Near the Rectory By Tony Jefferis

For many the end of January and the beginning of February are the gloomiest days of the year. The nights are long, the days are short, it is cold and wet, and this year is the third year of Covid restrictions, with some limits to our freedom continuing.

And yet there are signs of hope: in our gardens the snowdrops are beginning to show. The common snowdrop's botanical name is *galanthus nivalis*, a Greco-Roman mixture: *gala* means 'milk' in Greek, and *anthos* means 'flower'. *Nivalis* comes from the Latin, meaning 'of the snow'. The 'milk-flower of the snow' is not native to the UK, coming here in Roman times from Eastern Europe.

Snowdrops have a wide and varied place in European folklore: for example, in Germany, the story goes that when God created the earth, the flowers were asked to give some of their colour to the snow. All refused, apart from the snowdrop which, as a reward, was allowed to bloom each year before all other flowers. In another account, Eve was weeping in her barren garden after the 'Fall of Man' when an angel comforted her by blowing on to a snowflake and turning it into a snowdrop. A flower bloomed, and hope was born. Whilst some of the folk tales are darker, the flower has long been viewed as a symbol of hope for better times ahead.

In the Church it is associated with Candlemas when the church remembers the presentation of the boy Jesus in the Temple, and as a result, snowdrops were sometimes known as Candlemas Bells.

The snowdrop is a pretty bell-shaped flower, composed of six white flower segments or sepals. It is beautiful as an individual bloom, and different varieties are much sought after by *galanthophiles*, snowdrop enthusiasts. The flowers are also beautiful in a group, as can be seen in many of our local churchyards. St Peter's usually has an impressive cluster, but this year they are obscured by the building work on the tower, and at St Mary's we hope there will be an emerging display this year, after several people from the village planted fifty or sixty clumps round the beech tree. We wait expectantly!

It is this combination of beauty as an individual flower and beauty in a group that I would like to highlight. This is one of the central messages of Christianity: anyone, any individual, is welcome, whatever their origin, whatever they do. Equally, all are called to be in community to love each other, to be a body which respects and values others who are differently gifted.

So, can I commend visiting a churchyard with great snowdrops (Swyncombe is particularly good) and perhaps even giving church a try. You will be welcomed as an individual, and whatever your inclination, you will enrich our community.

*The Rector, Simon Cronk, is away*

## Great Milton Methodist Church Services

For further info. please contact Rev Stephen Spain on 01865 763676

February 2022				
Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Comments
6th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Revd Stephen Spain	Holy Communion
13th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Local Arrangement	
20th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Liz Spain	Communion Service
27th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Paul Spray	

## Great Milton Chapel Coffee Morning

The coffee morning is now up & running & takes place every 2nd WEDNESDAY each month. The next get together is Wednesday 9th February at 10am – Midday. Everyone most welcome.

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## Church Development Update

As promised, here is another update on our plans for conserving and moving the Dormer Monument, which will then make room for a WC and kitchen at the back of the church.

We plan to accept a proposal that we received recently for a writer to put together bids for grants for both the conservation and relocation of the Dormer Monument. We would like to commission this in 2 phases so we can apply for smaller grants in phase 1 and when we have sufficient funds, we can start phase 2 applying for larger amounts which will probably require match funding (secured in phase 1).

This will help us get to a position of starting the works as we have to move the Dormer Monument before we can build our new kitchen and WC. The external tower repair is another strand.

Alongside this, we continue to research fundraising activities

If anyone has fundraising or project management skills and would like to join us, we would be delighted to hear from you.

If you would like to contribute financially, we would also be delighted. This can be done by bank transfer Great Milton PCC, Acc no: 63085703 sort code: 09-01-55 or in the church box in an envelope marked Church Development Fund.

*St Mary's Church Fundraising Group*



## Neighbours' Hall AGM

Meeting will take place at the hall on Thursday 17th February at 6:30pm.  
All welcome.

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## Watercolour of St Mary's Church, Great Milton

Toddy Hoare has officiated in some 40 churches in these parts. He has set himself the task of painting them. He has painted St Mary's and is offering the original for sale £120-00, unframed, of which £50 would go to our church. Prints are available also; limited, numbered signed on good art paper unframed from Toddy Hoare @12ins X 16ins at £30-00 each of which £15-00 would go to church funds.

If you wish to purchase this lovely painting or a print and help our church funds at the same time, please contact Toddy Hoare [toddy100@btinternet.com](mailto:toddy100@btinternet.com)



## Neighbours' Hall Book Library

Lovely to see a few regulars at the January open session. All are welcome to make use of the book and jigsaw puzzle library at any time you are visiting the Neighbours' Hall – just good to see people make use of this community facility. You can donate, borrow or take a book or puzzle at any time.

Our next open session will be Friday 18th February from 11am to 12.30pm. We will be serving tea, coffee and cakes for you to enjoy whilst you browse and chat.

*Barbara and Hazel*

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## Great Milton History

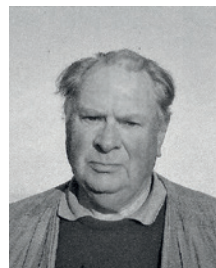


Sue Denham has donated this wonderful picture of the local Home Guard. Can anyone identify any of the men here? For a closer look, why not come to the History Room on Saturday 5th and Saturday 19th of February?



## View from Views

That's the first month of 2022 gone and it only seems yesterday that we were looking forward to Christmas. Now everything is back to as normal as we can expect under the present circumstances. I can't understand why this year after such a mild period that crops seem to have not grown as I would have expected, some of it due, I guess, to the fact we are tending to plant just that little bit later to beat the scourge of one of our biggest enemies, "Black Grass", now that we have limited access to the chemicals to control it, plus their expense. Having said that everything is looking healthy which, by not being too forward, are not so vulnerable to disease. The spinoff of this weather is that the countryside has a wonderful green hue at the moment; never remember a time like it. Wildlife here still seems to be flourishing, lots of flocks of finches, including many Yellow Hammers. Many Hares still evident, which means if they all breed we should have a good increase in numbers next spring (plenty of fodder for the Kites), good flocks of Starlings still apparent and a few Greenfinches starting to appear, with many other birds as I will mention later.



Well here we go again after a long period of relatively dry weather; 15mm rain on Christmas Eve and, low and behold, the Thame was in flood on Christmas day, staying in flood until 8th January. The plus side of this was that we were visited by about 15 Shoveler Ducks. Looking them up in a book we noticed that they were uncommon, which was quite fun. They stayed about 3 days, being accompanied by Grey Lag Geese and some other smaller unidentified Ducks, also slightly uncommon at Views Farm. During this period, being curious, I could see a heron standing on sentry duty, as they do, but in exactly the same position every day for the 3 days I visited the site. Whilst on the subject of the River, as you know something close to my heart, it is good to see the issue of the pollution that is allowed getting a lot more publicity latterly which hopefully will have some effect. Also good to hear on BBC's "Farming Today" that Farmers Environmentalists, Water Authorities, Super Markets and Councils, with the Environmental Agency (EA), have got together to discuss the problem that I wrote about concerning the Wye Valley. This has to be a good deal better than a similar organisation in this area which I understand just broke up in disarray; a very disturbing outcome over a very important issue. We just must talk and find a way around these problems. We now learn that, due to a lack of funding, the EA will not be able monitor all issues that they should

I get the impression that gradually some authorities are beginning to realise that we are in danger of over-populating this little Island of ours. Recently the



New Forest Council has asked for an embargo on any future development, for this very reason. Is it not time that all planners took this view and not be contradicted by Government dictat. It is this over-population that is behind most of the pollution problems we are facing; the waste facilities that we have, whether it be sewage, concentration of animals producing food for this population, or rubbish disposal, we just cannot deal with it (as I have said many times before).

It will not have escaped anyone's notice that our Minister has announced another part of our new payment scheme all of which sounds great. It will be, as long as it is introduced sensibly. It is though in danger of being high-jacked by big money from the City or, worse still, by foreign money that can just buy land to produce carbon sequestration and not food, which has already escalated the price of land and will severely reduce ability to produce our own food. In his announcement he states we are at 70% self-sufficiency; not sure where he gets his figures from. As an example, a prominent British pop star has said that he had enough money to buy land to plant trees so that he could continue to fly around the world and offset the carbon produced. This cannot be right; just carry on doing what you like and plant a few trees to placate the pollution you leave behind. Not good enough – the land has to produce food as well.

When it comes to land use, or should I say taking land out of production to produce so called Eco Energy, I think we have got it all wrong. I gather there is a running battle between the City of London and a Dorset Council, or a Dorset organisation, where the City wants land to erect a large enough Solar array to supply it with electricity. Not sure how this is achieved; will they then run cables directly from Dorset to the City or how does this work? Surely before we go this far, we should consider covering more roofs with panels that are already connected to the grid. This whole situation must be discussed with all interested parties involved right from Farmers and authorities, right down to the man in the street. We all need to understand where we are coming from and compromises made. It seems a little unfair when we in Agriculture are putting as much of our own resources as we can into saving the environment when now, as it looks as if Covid restrictions are being lifted, all talk is about booking flights for holidays. It makes me think, why do we bother? Let's all fly and spread carbon over everything we can and blame the farmers who are only trying to feed us.

Have a good holiday.

*Charles Peers*

## Little Milton WI

In January, we treated ourselves to a takeaway from the Crown in Stadhampton, followed by wonderful puddings (thanks to Jane). It was a great night with delicious food, wine and conversation.

At our next meeting on Thursday 10th February at 7.30pm we will be making paper flower bouquets for Valentines. Everyone welcome.

Visitors £5, or join up for only £11 (for membership to end March 2022).

Do you live in Little Milton, Great Milton or The Haseleys, new to the area, want to meet new people, make new friends? Then join Little Milton WI and meet like-minded, local women of all ages in an informal, friendly group. Please email us if you fancy joining WI or need a lift.

We meet every 2nd Thursday of the month at 730pm in The Pine Lodge, Little Milton OX44 7PZ

Too shy to come by yourself? Contact us & we'll find you a WI buddy.

Like us at [www.facebook.com/Impinelodge](http://www.facebook.com/Impinelodge)

Details & news on the Pine Lodge page at [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk)

Kath Stacey 279438 or email [littlemiltonwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:littlemiltonwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)

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## Great Haseley and District Horticultural Society

What a difference a year makes. This time last year we were locked down. This year we are able to see friends and family, although we are still very careful and will continue to be so.

There has been a high pressure sitting over us for sometime now which has brought a lot of sun, but also a lot of fog. There have been days when the garden has stayed frozen all day which is mood lowering. Nevertheless, the sunny days have been wonderful and my garden cut back continues on those days.

Yesterday there was a loud thud on the kitchen window and I turned to see what I thought was a magpie flying into the Cercis. Much to my surprise it was a great spotted woodpecker which is a very rare bird in our garden and I have never seen one at such close range before. It pecked around for a while and then flew off, seemingly none the worse for its collision. It is, according to wildlife website I consulted, our most common woodpecker; we have visits from green woodpeckers on most days which are always a pleasure.

Also yesterday, I picked some early snow drops and sprigs of winter box for the



table. The pleasure this arrangement brings far exceeds its diminutive size. It is pretty and the combined scents are wonderful.

By the end of November ordinary snowdrops were through the ground and showing some white on the buds. For the next month they made no progress, but now some are developing quickly. It really is starting to feel like spring! The sun does not set until 4.30 allowing longer days in the garden and providing some lovely sunsets.

Every year I say I'm going to have fewer pots outside my front door and every year they just multiply out of control. I feel bad about throwing away any plants even if I don't like them very much. I started to get better with it a few years ago, but I have failed to keep it up. One good decision has been keeping two large white Marguerites outside the front door right against the house wall. I'm amazed that they are not only still alive, but still in flower although I'm sure my grandchildren will sort that out at the weekend. They like to make 'terrariums' in plastic butter boxes which can contain a wide variety of plants, stones and insects; they usually have flowers on the top layer.

I badly need to keep on top of the weeding which, of course, is now made difficult by bulb shoots so hoeing is not an option. Every year the weeding gets away from me and I can already see that this year will be no different.

Enjoy watching your spring garden develop and look at a few seed catalogues to gain inspiration for the new year.

*Elizabeth Moses*

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## **Wheatley Library**

It is free to join the library!

To apply you will need the following:

- The name of your local library
- A memorable four-digit PIN (not starting with zero)
- An email address.

Access <https://libcat.oxfordshire.gov.uk/web/arena/join> to complete your form.

After applying online, please visit the library to collect your library card. You will need to provide some personal identification such as a driver's licence, passport, or bank card.

Please wait until you have collected your library card and permanent borrower number before using eBooks or Reference Online facilities.

If you are housebound or have a reading impairment, please ask library staff for options that could help provide a better service for you.



Anyone who lives in the United Kingdom is eligible to join Oxfordshire Libraries. It is free to join. If you are under 16 we will need the name and address of a parent, guardian or carer, and you must obtain your parent or guardian's permission to provide us with your details. By completing the form, you confirm that they have consented to us holding your details in accordance with the data policies below.

Your card number gives you access to our whole range of digital resources, including:

- eBooks
- eAudio
- eMagazines.

If you forget your PIN, you can reset it online and receive an automated reset link via email.

Best wishes

*Wendy Stanton (Wheatley library manager)*

01865 875267

The library is located on the upper level of the Merry Bells Village Hall in Wheatley High Street.

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## **Campaign to Protect Rural England – Oxfordshire**

### **Trustees Wanted**

Do you care about your local countryside? Want to make a difference?

CPRE Oxfordshire is the voice of the countryside in Oxfordshire. Due to retirement of current members, we are looking for new trustees to join our team.

This is an excellent opportunity to play an influential role in a respected and long-standing environmental charity, applying your experience to make a real difference and to be part of a friendly group that is passionate about the Oxfordshire countryside.

Application deadline is 31 March 2022 in the first instance, but we are happy to receive expressions of interest on an ongoing basis.

For further info, please contact our Branch Secretary Dorian Grier.

E: [dorian.cpre@gmail.com](mailto:dorian.cpre@gmail.com)

T: 01491 612079

See our website for more information: [www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk)

## **Morland House Surgery – 14 Jan 2022**

### **Omicron/COVID-19 and Flu Vaccination Programme Update**

The NHS in Oxfordshire and across the country is continuing to vaccinate against COVID-19.

We are vaccinating as follows:

- 1st and 2nd doses for people aged 12 years and over
- 3rd doses for people with a severely weakened immune system aged 18 years and over
- Boosters for people aged 18 years and over
- Boosters for people aged 16 and 17 years who are at high risk from COVID-19 or frontline health and social care workers

Please contact the reception team on 01865 872448 to book an appointment. You may also book a vaccine at a mass vaccination centre via the NHS National Booking System <https://cutt.ly/HluGvBo>

There is a growing problem of no shows or very late cancellations for vaccine appointments. This leads either to vaccines having to be destroyed (at £20 each) or involves additional planning to minimise wastage – time which could be spent on other patient care roles.

### **Flu Vaccine**

If you are aged 65 or over and you have not yet had your flu vaccine, you may still have yours at Wheatley Pharmacy. Contact them on 01865 874047 to book yours.

### **Self-Referral for Age Related Hearing Loss Services**

Patients aged 55 or over are now able to refer themselves to the age-related hearing loss service without the need for a GP referral. If you are aged 55 or over and are experiencing hearing and communication difficulties and feel you might benefit from a hearing assessment and rehabilitation including the option of trying hearing aids. Please ask our reception team for an audiology self-referral form or visit our website where you can download the form yourself. Details of the providers available are included within the form.

### **Visit Morland House Website**

For up-to-date information about our services including opening hours, please visit [www.morland-house.co.uk](http://www.morland-house.co.uk)

# Maple Tree Nursery

## A great place to grow

Hello from The Maple Tree!

If you have recently had a baby or have young children at home, we have a place for your children to play and learn and for parents to meet new friends! Did you know that we are open every weekday?

Monday: Messy Mondays at 10:00-11:30am (drop in)

Tuesday: Story and Rhyme Time at 10:00-11:30am and Maple Babies at 1:00-2:00pm

Wednesday: Cruisers and Crawlers at 10:30-11:30am and Maple Babies at 1:00-2:00pm

Thursday: Little Explorers at 10:00-11:30am and Twinnies at 2:00-3:30pm

Social Butterflies at 10:00-11:30am (drop in)

Family Fun at 10:00-11:30am 3rd Saturday in month

Village Outreach: The Maple Tree at Forest Hill Village Hall on Thursdays from 11:00am-12:00pm (drop in)

Our sessions are bookable through Eventbrite; [bit.ly/mapletreeeb](https://bit.ly/mapletreeeb). There is a suggested donation of £2.50 per family per session.

Ways to volunteer; would you like to enrich your own life by helping young families?

We are in desperate need of volunteers during our sessions; DBS and training provided. All you need is a pair of hands, a willingness to get a bit messy, a couple of spare hours a week and a friendly smile!

Or become a trustee – do you have extra time and experience in grant-writing, accountancy, maintenance, fundraising, teaching or early years? We would love some extra help and have something for people with all sorts of life experience.

Check out our Website and Facebook pages for our special events, our popular First Aid classes and helpful information!

We are here to help young families, if you need advice or support: 01865 236700 or 07849 466249

Email: [info@mapletree.org.uk](mailto:info@mapletree.org.uk)

Website: [www.mapletree.org.uk](http://www.mapletree.org.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley](https://www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley)

*Laura Spencer*

*The Maple Tree Centre Manager*

## John Howell MP writes...

A new year, but many of the same issues roll around. My inbox continues to be dominated with issues around COVID 19 and, as always, some opposing views on how we continue to deal with the situation. As schools have returned some have expressed concern at the risk of greater exposure and there is concern too over health issues other than COVID where people are seeking, often long awaited, treatment. However the balance of views being expressed is increasingly towards a sense that we need to learn to live with the COVID virus and move from pandemic to endemic. This is my view too. The Coronavirus Act 2020, which came into effect on 25th March 2020, has a two-year time limit. This can be extended by Parliament but, as it stands at the moment, I think it unlikely that the Government will seek the support of Parliament to do so.

Looking to the year that lies ahead I hope that the plans to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be able to go ahead as planned for the central weekend of celebration in June. It would be good to be able to have this national celebration as a time for communities to come together once again. Details of the programme, which is a year long celebration are available online at <https://www.royal.uk/platinumjubilee>. I would be interested to know what plans communities across the constituency have.

Thinking about communities I am pleased that the Charities Bill has now been introduced to the Commons. It has long been acknowledged that charity legislation can be complicated and unduly burdensome which can hinder charitable activities in some respects. I know that this has been a concern for many in this constituency and beyond. In response to a report from the Law Commission, which has been supported in the charity sector, this Bill was introduced in the Lords and has been through the full process in that House. It was introduced to the Commons on 11th January and will receive its second reading later this month.

Another important piece of work launched at the start of this year is a consultation on proposals to help developments achieve Biodiversity Net Gain. This would put protecting and enhancing the environment at the heart of housing and infrastructure developments. I know that many in the constituency will be interested in this. £4million has also been earmarked to help Local Planning Authorities prepare for Biodiversity Net Gains by helping to restore wildlife, plants and landscapes after building work has taken place. The consultation which is asking interested parties on the details of how biodiversity net gain should be delivered can be found online at the Government Consultation webpage. [www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-biodiversity-net-gain-regulations-and-implementation](http://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-biodiversity-net-gain-regulations-and-implementation)

Whilst on the subject of the environment I would like to assure those who question that I did not vote to allow water companies to pump sewage into our rivers. I actually voted in favour of a package of measures to reduce harms from storm overflows. Please see my website for further comment.

As the year progresses there will continue to be challenging issues to debate with strongly felt views on all sides. I am always interested to know the views of constituents even if we agree to differ. If there is an issue that concerns you please do share your thoughts. Email is the easiest way in you have access to that. My email address is [HYPERLINK "mailto:howelljm@parliament.uk"](mailto:howelljm@parliament.uk) howelljm@parliament.uk. Alternatively you can write to at the House of Commons (House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA) or my constituency office (PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD).

If you would like to know more about my work on behalf of the Government and the Constituency please do look at my website which is regularly updated. The address is [www.johnhowellmp.com](http://www.johnhowellmp.com). Further details of the work of Parliament is available on the parliament website at [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk).

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If you would like to apply for this post, please send a brief resumé by email to [clerk@tetsworthparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@tetsworthparishcouncil.co.uk) by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. If you would like more information first or have any questions, contact Paul Carr at [paul.tetsworthpc@gmail.com](mailto:paul.tetsworthpc@gmail.com) or on 07523 907741 or 07545 323317



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**Janet Smith 01844 278415 for further details**

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Have you seen the website?

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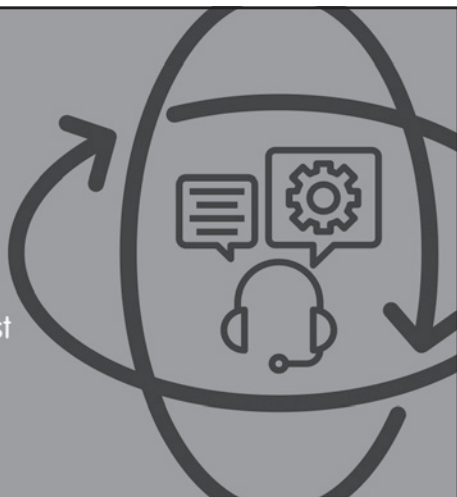


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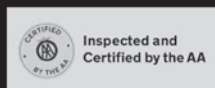


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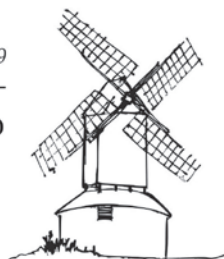
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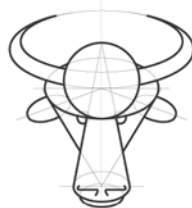
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# Diary

- Monday Spark Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am  
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 Arts & Crafts Club – The Pavilion. 1st Monday of each month. 6:30 – 9:00pm  
*contact carina.martin@gmail.com*
- Tuesday Athletics Club. Year 8+. 6:00–7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground.  
*enquiries.gmac@gmail.com*  
 Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm *contact Ann Price – 01844 279474*
- Wednesday 2nd Wed: Coffee Morning at The Methodist Chapel. 10:00am – Midday  
 Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 6:00pm – 7:15pm
- Thursday The Neighbours Club. Alternate Thursdays. *contact Janet Earl – 01844 279432*  
 Sandy Lane Farm Market. 2:00pm – 6:30pm.  
*contact Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269 www.sandylanefarm.net*  
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 Bellringers – St. Mary's Church Tower. 7:30pm – 9:00pm  
*contact Pat Cox – 01844 279300. www.gm-bellringers.freeuk.com*
- Friday Vinyasa Flow Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am  
*contact Claire – sparkyoga1111@gmail.com to book or for more details*  
 Toddler & Baby Group – The Pavilion. 9:30am – 11:30am  
*For more information contact Chrissie Wyatt – 07759 283490*
- Saturday Old Field: 2nd Saturday of each month. 10:15am – 12:00pm.  
*Contact Alex Kirkman – 01844 278090*  
 GM History Archive, The Community Room, The Bull. 11:00am – 1:00pm  
*or by appointment*  
 Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm *contact David Spiers – 01844 281345*

## February

- |            |  |         |
|------------|--|---------|
| 5th Sat    | History Room open at The Bull          | 11:00am |
|            | Quiz Night at The Bull                 | 7:30pm  |
| 9th Wed    | Coffee Morning at the Methodist Church | 10:00am |
| 17th Thurs | Neighbours' Hall A.G.M.                | 6:30pm  |
| 18th Fri   | Book Library at The Neighbours' Hall   | 11:00am |
|            | Quiz Night at The Pavilion             | 7:30pm  |
| 19th Sat   | History Room open at The Bull          | 11:00am |
| 21st Mon   | Parish Council Meeting at The Pavilion | 7:30pm  |

All copy (except adverts) to **gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk** by **20th February 2022**.

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