

Dorney Parish News

February 2021



(with thanks to Sharon and Peter Bywater for these seasonal Dorney pictures)



As responsible publishers, we have sought advice from the local police regarding the distribution of the magazine during this lockdown.

We were delighted to be advised that we are permitted to distribute the magazine through our excellent, and willing, volunteers.

Our distributors have agreed to apply the government guidelines regarding hand cleanliness and social distancing.

Should you not wish to handle this printed copy, please dispose of it safely and email our Editor, Peter Bowman, on peter.bowman@talktalk.net or call him on 07889 912714 and ask him to email you a digital copy as a PDF file.



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EDITORIAL

'Resilience' – The New Normal

There are some very wise people around Dorney. Kind, as well. Many give advice on the progress of this magazine. One neighbour said to me that while the current times are as grim as any, they felt that the fear of the unknown we knew last Spring had been somewhat replaced by the determination to be safe while living as much of a normal life as possible. Another said that far from being 'locked down', there was Mrs X to keep an eye on and Mrs Y was to be ferried to her vaccination. Another friend had been interviewed on local radio about mentoring school children from her home, thus carrying on the good work normally done by volunteering in schools. So, we're not covering in our homes and networks of help and support are strengthening. All the time, I hasten to add, these activities are undertaken with meticulous social distancing.

In the week of a presidential inauguration in Washington, I thought of the words of my political hero, President Franklin Roosevelt, eighty years ago - 'the only thing we have to fear is fear itself'. Anything we write here may seem trivial compared to the real suffering I know some in the parish have been experiencing, but if we can put aside fear of the pandemic, I find myself giving far too much time to fretting about whether the central heating will fail, or the broadband or maybe the TV, or I'll step on the specs – everyone will have their own personal dread – and not only will we lose these things which preserve a veneer of civilisation, but *there will be no one available to fix them*.

Then we resolve that when there is next a break in the lock down, we'll prepare. Numbers will be saved on phones, annual services will be undertaken, spares will be secured. Could it be said that as a nation we're not awfully good at this? We 'muddle through'. But as another favourite president of mine said 'the time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining'.

Suddenly in January preparation for emergencies and resilience in dealing with them loomed large. An executive from Southern Electric briefed the Parish Council on their enormous investment in this area 'to strengthen the resilience of the network', resilience in the face of every challenge from bad weather to increased use of electric vehicles. He told me later that SSEN and other utilities regularly meet virtually with the splendidly named Local Resilience Forum (LRF).

The Thames Valley LRF was established under the 2004 Civil Contingencies Act, an act of parliament that sounds to me exactly what parliaments ought to be passing, and as we discuss elsewhere in this issue, they have been urging communities to prepare contingency plans for their neighbourhoods in the event of emergencies. These were always assumed to be floods, extreme weather, terrorism and what we innocently used to call 'influenza'.

When this came up at the Parish Council, someone queried whether another layer of bureaucracy was needed. Well, yes, bring it on say I, and anyway, which exactly is the layer of bureaucracy we already have?

Calling for contingency planning makes a change from advocating more communication. On that score, Dorney Parish Council joining our local social forum, Nextdoor, is really splendid news. Mind you, there should be much to communicate. The precept is increasing by 7.6%. The Orchard Herbs owners have applied for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of part of the site. Highways England are awaiting a design statement from Bucks CC before they can get on with the task of rewarding the village for its 'resilience' during the devastation of Dorney Reach by constructing the Court Lane roundabout. Parking outside Dorney Lake is again becoming an issue – last weekend it seemed to this resident as though visiting parked cars encroached into Harcourt Road.

You know what we might need to get through this little lot in 2021? Just a bit of 'resilience'.

Services in the Local Churches



St James the Less, Dorney

St. John the Baptist, Eton Wick
St. John the Evangelist, Eton

**Vicar: Revd. La Stacey, The Vicarage,
69a Eton Wick Road, Eton Wick, Windsor,
SL4 6NE**

Tel: 01753 852268 email: revlastacey@gmail.com

For information about our churches, activities and church history please see our parishes' web site:

www.stjohnstjamesed.org.uk

Methodist Church, Eton Wick Alma Road, Eton Wick, SL4 6JZ

Minister: Rev Margaret Dudley, 01753 867117

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, Burnham

Parish Priest: Fr. Joseph Udoh, M.S.P. 01628 605764

From Stephen J. Baker, Safeguarding Officer on behalf of the Rev. La Stacey.

I hope you all had a good, if not different type of Christmas and a Happy New Year.

For the church, Christmas is usually a time where we are packed to the rafters, but we found ourselves either running a booking system for limited attendance or purely streaming services online. For those who picked up their Christingle packs from the church and joined us online, thank you. We gave out over 50 bags for those children (and maybe a few adults) to participate with our online service.

I would also like to thank 'The Friends of Friendless Churches' for once again allowing us to hold a Carol service at Boveney. I regret that we could not open the service up to the public.

We took the decision to cancel all services at St. James the Less, Dorney for January and have again done so for February. Instead, we will be live streaming an 11 o'clock service from St. John the Baptist, Eton Wick each Sunday on our Facebook page ('Church Community of Eton with Eton Wick, Dorney and Boveney'). These are not open to the public to attend in person.

February is also a traditionally busy time for the church, with Shrove Tuesday, focusing on absolution and confession, falling on February 16th, immediately followed by Ash Wednesday and the 40 days of Lent up to Easter, where Christ withdrew to the wilderness, fasted and was tempted by Satan.

COVID-19 has impacted our lives for over a year now, with the first two cases being confirmed on 31st January 2020. It has taken a toll on the life of everyone in the UK and abroad and I ask that you remember those who we have lost and those who have been, or are, suffering. For anyone who is feeling isolated, please reach out to people. Whilst the church is not open for public worship, its doors are open on both a Sunday and Wednesday each week for private prayer. We ask you to use the hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the church, wear a mask, observe social distancing if anyone else is in there and to minimise contact with both soft and hard surfaces.

Keep safe.

Stephen J. Baker



A high proportion of our readers may well be on the books of Burnham Health Centre. Every Sunday, their Senior Partner, Dr Tanvir Jamil posts an update on the Burnham Village Facebook pages. Here is a short extract from Dr Jamil's post on January 24th.

I'm pleased to tell all our Burnham patients that we have been approved as a vaccination centre and will be starting to vaccinate from **Thursday 28th January** onwards. We will start calling patients on Monday morning (25th) for their appointments.

When will I be called for an appointment? We have to follow strict government guidelines, so we have to jab all our over 80 yr. olds first as well as care home residents, care home staff and health care staff. Then over 70s and so on down the list. Please don't call us – we will call you and will try several times. Don't worry – you will not miss out. We all just have to be patient and wait our turn.

What if I already have an appointment at another centre? Some of our older Patients have been offered appointments at the Salt Hill Centre in Slough. If you have an appointment – please keep it and attend there for your jab.

Which vaccine will I get? We will be getting both types of vaccine – the Pfizer and the Oxford-AstraZeneca. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer a choice of which one you can have. Most doctors and nurses are happy to have either one.

Do you need the Covid vaccine if you've already had Covid? Yes – all the experts agree you should have the vaccine – it's best to wait 4 weeks from when you had the Covid infection.

How long after the first vaccine will I be protected? It takes 2-3 weeks to build immunity. Even after that time you should not mix with other people as it may still be possible for you to carry the virus and pass it on.

Are there any side-effects? A few minor ones which include headache, soreness at the injection point, tiredness, general aches.

How will the vaccination centre be setup? A part of the Burnham Health Centre building will be for vaccinations only and we will use a separate entrance. There will be marshals, wheelchairs and a large infrastructure to help our patients through the process.

Please bear with us during this time while we try and run as near normal a service as possible. Please do call 111 and use our local pharmacists for advice also.

CHARLIE'S ANGELS ON DORNEY COMMON

As 2020 departed with a phut, and 2021 arrived locked down, so our winter of discontent continued. Disconnected with our families, disengaged with friends, never more has each household felt the confines and isolation brought to us by this surging pandemic. Many living alone suffering the brutal seclusion, sheltering in their homes to await the great hope that the mass vaccination promises.

Here, on the common, life remains quiet and gentle, with the silent passing of an unusually un-festive season, tinged with trepidation and uncertainty. At the Drama Guild, things had slid from bad to worse, with the Pantomime cancelled, our bank balance remained at a critical level. Several fundraising ideas on the table, I took on a charity sale of some vintage costume using the Ebay platform.

Consulting with the Wardrobe Mistress, I took some interesting and bizarre costume to freshen and facilitate any minor repairs like half a sleeve detached. Once home, I realised that each bag emitted a musty stink, an exotic aroma of the fragrance 'Eau de Humide', due to many years of cold storage. Many items were light years old, Victorian, Edwardian through the decades to the 60's, with many requiring a light hand wash, that annoyed my husband Dave as he dodged in and out of the hanging clothes that cluttered our kitchen.

Amongst the costumes there was a royal purple silk velvet Harrods gown, which I believe dated back to around the 40's, an incredible item which went for an astonishing price to head off to Germany. Another was a Dame's long dress, a voluminous affair, with more glitter than a Christmas tree, seeming to be made from bright red oven foil, which also sold for a fair sum! From the 60's, three ultra-frilly, super short, cheeky nighties, all bought by men... for their wives?

The supportive enquiries received were as interesting as the prices fetched or not as was the case! In one instance a lady bought a stunning art deco sequin top, but the winning bid was merely £3. On receipt of her parcel, she sent me a note to say she had felt sorrowful about that outcome as the garment was so beautiful and sent another £15 in addition! In the end it was so well worth the effort, and made a great contribution to our coffers, as did the sale of our antique metal theatre lights by our tech man, which generated an amazing flurry of keen interest. Happy days.

Just as the auction was concluding, a few weeks before Christmas, I sat reflecting on our world catastrophe, and thought maybe I could lend a hand. A long and forgotten time ago my uniform was made from dark blue crisp cotton, included a starched white apron, a frilly lace hat, and a silver filigree buckle on a dark blue belt, all as seen in the 'Carry On' series.



My time as a Staff Nurse at St Charles Hospital in Ladbroke Grove seemed so long ago, but surely the process of administering an intramuscular injection has not changed much?

In a remote drawer lay my SRN General Nursing Council badge, along with my Hospital badge, RCN badge and fob watch. The Hospital badge (internal exams) was the envy of the group, (St Mary's, Praed Street), being quite large, charming, and intricate, and once gained, one became affectionately known as one of the 'Charlie's Angels'. I was looking for the watch, sadly it no longer worked, but the memories did, flooding back images of the eclectic hodgepodge of characters passing through or passing away, as

the hospital sat sandwiched between millionaires' row one end and squats the other. Portobello market was across the road, and in those days a stroll through the shops and stalls filled one's senses with the heady scent of joss sticks and other exotic aromas such as alternative cigarettes. Once a year a colourful vibrancy would take over the area, bringing ska beats, reggae thuds, calypso dance and all other hip thrusting Caribbean rhythms to the annual August Bank Holiday Carnival. A&E on red alert with a parade of minor and major medical notes.

Feeling apprehensive, well it has only been 40 years, I sent off the application to St John's Ambulance to apply for a Volunteer Vaccinator position. Within a week, just before Christmas Eve, I had the interview, and went on to study the modules. This consisted of five basic Health & Safety certificate gains, including qualifying as a Fire Marshall! The next series of e-learning was through the NHS portal, and an introduction to the Green Book (NHS Bible) - in my day communication was housed in a handwritten Kardex followed by a series of vaccine related subjects that resulted in yet more certificate gains! Now a total of 11 certificates in my file, and on to the next stage which was the face-to-face assessment.

Within days an email notified me that training was being expedited, so could I go to Stevenage Football Club on Saturday. My husband Dave kindly offered to drive me there as the weather had turned a bit iffy. We set off very early the next morning to flurries of snow and minus temperatures. Having dropped me off, it then became apparent that due to Covid restrictions, all candidates had to line up outside to register, taking in a 45-minute queue to go through the registration process in snowman conditions. I really wished I had worn my Uggs!

Once inside the football club, the class took place in a large unheated foyer, (not sounding too good is it?) where the automatic sliding doors opened each time someone walked past. Taking notes through the day, my hands shook from a hypothermic reaction. However, all was well, as our group of candidates all passed to gain yet another certificate, the main one, entitling entry to the Jabs Army. Feeling delighted and having had a very good day (apart from blue skin and numb feet) left to see a very welcome sight, thank goodness - Dave waiting outside in his warm vehicle, ready to collect me and my eleventy-eight certificates.

Not everyone believes that the vaccine is the answer, but have hope, it will be the very thing that gives us back some element of freedom. As the virus mutates it will be tweaked, kept current, to give us back some freedom, and the ability to socialise as we all very much want to do. This time has made most of us evaluate the important things in life, and these are family and friends, hugs and humility, and above all the appreciation of health. Our children and grandchildren have possibly a different life ahead, but in the end, you cannot prepare the road for them, you should just prepare them for the road.

'Here's the thing about life, there's no accounting for what fate will deal you. Some days you need a hand, there are other days when you're called to lend a hand. That's how it has to be, that's what we do for one another'

Joe Biden: President of the USA

Kristina Perkins



News from Dorney School

What a year it has been already! How could any of us have known that when we wished each other a Happy New Year on 1st of January full of optimism and hope that 2021 would be better, healthier and safer, that all of us would be in lockdown mode yet again! It came as a surprise to all primary schools who were told to keep their buildings open, only to be informed the night before, to shut them immediately. Let us also think about our colleagues in secondary schools who were recruiting, organising and training staff over Christmas to start mass testing all pupils and staff daily at school, only to be told they would be shut too.

Let us also consider our secondary children, who must feel so let down by a system that has been telling them to prepare for national examinations and now to be told these will be cancelled; and to await further guidance.

Let us consider families in distress, through all the challenges they have been faced with so far; and now being faced with home schooling their children. Some with multiple children in different years, some with little internet connection and/or devices and others facing a myriad of traumatic experiences.

And let us not forget the school staff that are supporting increasing numbers of key worker children at school whilst providing teaching and learning for all pupils, whether in school or at home. They are working to provide support daily, some outside of reasonable working hours, juggling their own families and facing risks of infection as they work in busy classrooms. All schools have tried their best to provide the remote platforms that would enable access to learning. The issue is, as with many services in our country, the lack of national planning and support, the lack of resources and the disparity between the social classes. Of course, there are schools serving economically stable communities, that are better prepared for this crisis and others who are trying to ensure families have the resources they require just to be safe or to have enough food for the family.

“I have a dream!” said Martin Luther King Junior in his iconic speech on social and racial equality on August 28 1963. It is personally significant that I write this on Monday 18th January, which is Martin Luther King Day. I ponder on his dream as he said, “We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. And so we’ve come to cash this check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, **that all men are created equal.**”

Where the virus is concerned, we have been created equal as the disease does not discriminate on who we are, where we live, whether we are wealthy, working class or impoverished. However, what the pandemic has demonstrated is the inequality of access to education and educational resources. This is not the only set of social inequalities but, if

education is not set out to benefit everyone equally, we will only be creating a larger future divide between our citizens rather than a bridge that would enable everyone to cross and get to that 'greener other side'.

I am still optimistic that we will come out of lockdown safer, with the planned national mass vaccination programme and I am optimistic that normal teaching and learning will resume again. School buildings may have been closed to sections of our pupil population during lockdown, but education has always, and will always, remain open as teachers work tirelessly to support all pupils and their families throughout this crisis.

I wish you and your family well in these difficult times and leave you with some wonderful samples of our pupils' work:

Warmest wishes,
Mrs Sharifah Lee
Acting Headteacher

Dorney School,
Harcourt Close,
Maidenhead
SL6 0DY

Boris Johnson
10 Downing Street,
Westminster,
SW1A 2AA

23rd November 2020

Dear Prime Minister,

I'm writing to address the recent issues of the COVID-19 pandemic. This pandemic has been a truly tragic time for everyone. I know this is something that nobody expected to happen, but I think you have done the best you could for the country. However, I do feel there was so much more that could have been done to help this awful situation.

The first lockdown, in my opinion, was dealt with better than the second. The second lockdown was too relaxed and the figures, which I see on the news are very scary to me, as they are rising more and more every day.

I understand that your decisions are made by speaking to a lot of senior professionals, but as the Prime Minister I think you should have addressed the public for their views on the situation, as it is affecting us all and listened to what they had to say and make a decision based on how we could all be helping to make things better.

During this pandemic, children have also suffered due to the lack of education. The teachers have done an amazing job teaching us during lockdown and making it fun for us to learn, while we have been at home. It's not been the same as being at school, but they have done the best they could and I am grateful for having such wonderful teachers. Having this in mind, I feel teachers and other front line key workers should all be rewarded an annual pay

increase and recognised for their selfless acts of kindness. Without teachers and key workers, this pandemic would be far worse and they are making our future safe.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter, I know you are extremely busy.

Yours sincerely,

Sienna

Acrostic poem about Courage in Lockdown

Creative thinking

Open minded

Understand your mistake

Remember to try again

Always be grateful of your standard

Give it all you can

Every day, show courage

By Richa

Year 6

Dorney School



What Courage looks like to me

by Belle Year 1



Please feed our swans! Wendy from Swan Support (www.swansupport.org.uk) has been spreading the word that it's OK to feed bread to our swans.... and lots of other food too.

Our swan numbers are down as sadly some have flown elsewhere and permanently moved, searching for food.

Swans, ducks and geese need a variety of foods to keep them fit and healthy.

- Bread
- Wheat
- Leafy Greens
- Dried Grass
- Grains and Cereals
- Swan food or pellets

Swan Feeding Tips

- Feed small amounts at a time, making sure all food has been eaten before giving more.
- Always feed on water.
- Never feed them anything that has gone mouldy.
- Please remember to feed responsibly and follow any guidelines in your area

Let There Be Light – A Report From SSEN

At the January meeting of Dorney Parish Council there was a briefing by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) on two aspects of electricity supply in Dorney. Bryan Puszkar, SSEN's Customer Relationship Manager firstly updated the meeting on a very large programme of improvements centred on Maidenhead and then went on to describe SSEN's priority services which could benefit a large number of local residents who may be in one way or another categorised as 'high risk'.

After the meeting, Bryan further briefed 'Dorney Parish News'.

Last Autumn SSEN announced that a £150,000 package of maintenance and improvement work would be carried out across a section of Maidenhead's electricity infrastructure from September 2020. The work would benefit 62,000 homes and businesses in the area, and Dorney homes are included in that area.

Bryan said that since last Autumn, Dorney residents may well have seen more activity around this parish by SSEN teams and their vans. This programme of works was now nearing completion. At the meeting, among the refurbishments he particularly highlighted was the repair and renewal of overhead lines.

Dorney residents may purchase their electricity from one of the well-known competitive suppliers, but there is only one electricity network supplier in a wide area of the South East – SSEN. DPN said to Bryan that it might be perceived that recent years had seen a slight increase in power cuts in this neighbourhood and indeed, this project is intended to improve and strengthen the resilience of the electricity network serving us ahead of the winter months and for years to come. This was an attempt to future proof local infrastructure in the light of customers' changing demands.

An earlier statement from SSEN has said 'While these works are part of our commitment to investing in our infrastructure to boost its resilience during adverse weather and winter months, they will also contribute to helping Berkshire achieve its net-zero ambitions, so that as more of our customers turn to using electric vehicles, they have the supply and infrastructure that's fit for purpose.'

Projects like this can generate power cuts and customers can be warned in advance of Planned Service Interruptions (PSI). It seems that Dorney has been largely unaffected by these during the project. But there is anxiety among customers about power cuts in general. SSEN are keen that Dorney residents sign up for additional support when electrical supply is at risk via the PSR – the Priority Services Register. This has been extended to those categorised as 'high risk' and 'extremely high risk' of severe illness arising from Covid-19.

Customers are also eligible if they are deaf or hard of hearing, have a disability, live with children under five, are blind or partially sighted, have a chronic illness, use medical equipment/aids reliant on electricity, are over 60, or would benefit from PSR services for any other reason, even if temporarily. As well as extra support this winter, PSR can help residents find out more about energy efficiency and money saving measures.

Bryan advised that we save the emergency power cut number (105) to our phones, so that cuts can be reported, download SSEN's Power Track app, go to SSEN's website where live chat is possible with one of SSEN's advisers and follow Facebook and Twitter for regular updates.

To find out more, go to the Priority Services Register on www.ssen.co.uk/psr

The Dorney Lake Schools Rowing Programme and Dorney Boat Club

Many local residents will enjoy a visit to Dorney Lake, and many assume that only Eton College boys use it regularly. Let me take this opportunity to introduce you to the Dorney Lake Schools Rowing Programme and Dorney Boat Club.

The Dorney Lake Schools Rowing Programme originally started as the Junior Rowing Initiative working to bring local schools and groups to the lake in 2002. At this time, the lake was not complete, and youngsters were out in boats when only 1000m of the main lake had been dug out. Initially using Eton College's fleet, it became apparent from its success it would need its own fleet of boats. The project progressed with support from British Rowing's Project Oarsome and continues to thrive as part of Eton College's Outreach and Partnership work.

The aim of the programme is to give young people an opportunity to try rowing which may be a sport they have never seen and may well be talented at. With the help of the Slough Schools Sport Network, a number of local schools have used the opportunity to bring classes of GCSE students to complete the practical sport element of the subject. In a busy summer week we have had over 250 local school children using the lake – many of those ending up in it!

Dorney Boat Club provides another opportunity to row, the primary aim of the club is to introduce young people to the sport of rowing in a friendly welcoming environment. The club does not promote itself as a competitive racing club as there are several in the local area. The club prides itself on developing young people through positive youth development. Weekly sessions are run by a team of coaches who ensure the members row in a variety of boats and are ultimately challenged and having fun.



Club members supporting the Alzheimer's Dementia Support Santa Run Row

During the summer a typical session will start with registration and allocating everyone into boats - in good weather this is ideally singles. Over the winter months we are fortunate to be able to use Eton College's High Performance Centre and work on fitness and technique on the rowing machine. The on-water sessions are normally in crew boats to avoid capsizes in the cold water. Over the past few years we have been helped by a number of Eton boys who have volunteered as part of Eton College's Community Engagement programme. The boys help with coaching the crews and share their experiences of rowing and life at Eton.

Eton Rowing Courses

If attending the weekly club sessions isn't convenient, but you still want to experience rowing there are the Eton Rowing Courses. Originally started in 1989, the Eton Rowing Courses historically were residential but have now changed to non-residential, and there are several fully funded (free) places available to young people. No experience is necessary and there are two 5-day courses in the summer holidays, please see <https://www.etonrowingcourses.co.uk/> for further information.

Dorney Boat Club is open to those aged 12 – 18. We ask all our potential members to attend a taster session so they can try before they feel they have to commit. We have a range of boats and can adapt equipment to provide opportunities for youngsters who have disabilities, and these are best discussed prior to attending. Normally the club runs on Wednesday evenings 6pm – 8pm and on Sundays 2pm – 4pm. The monthly cost is £20 per person. There will be occasions when sessions will not be able to run due to sporting events taking place, however, we try to use these as opportunities to volunteer at these events as valuable work experience. With the pandemic and current lockdown there are changes and these updates are posted through our Facebook and Instagram page – Dorney Boat Club. For any families that would like to join but are worried about the monthly cost we run a 'Pay it Forward Scheme'. This allows members who can't pay towards the membership of another child if their family is struggling financially. This is fully confidential and can be discussed as needed.

If you would like further information please contact Hannah Vines – h.vines@dorneylake.co.uk and once we know it is safe to do so we will invite you to a taster session.

Hannah Vines
Rowing Manager, Dorney Lake

Covid-19 Poem

Lockdown is here, everything is not fine
As some of you broke rules at Christmas time
Not just for you, but all the rest
Play by the rules and do your best

Look out for each other, give oldies a call
Together we can beat this if we all play ball
The vaccine is coming, a ray of hope is here
There's light in the tunnel, more hope than fear

Local resident

DEFLATED IN DORNEY

Imagine if you can, a harassed Mum who keeps in shape by running, taking her twin toddlers and a three-year-old with her in a three wheeled buggy made for the purpose. The buggy has a puncture, and Papa (me!) is called to the rescue.

Later, and generous to a fault, I splash out on a Merry Christmas repair outfit from Evans, and for a little light relief, concocted the following which I hope will amuse you as much as it did me writing it.

Happy New Year to my regular reader and his dog, and welcome to 2021.

My resolution for the New Year; don't laugh at your own jokes!

Beginner's Guide for the Redemption of Deflated Buggies

Christmas: Year of our Lord 2020

Change into running kit whilst trying to prevent a minor riot.

Load the toddler twins into the buggy and place the big girl (3) in the area provided.

Ensure the front door is locked and proceed slightly too fast towards the playground.

Slow down slightly to preserve breath and self-respect, as the author can testify, leaning on something breathing heavily with or without dribble, the facial colour of cooked lobster is not an edifying spectacle.

Arrive at the playground and place children in the dangerous equipment provided and enjoy the brief lull.

Resume the mini riot as they are returned to the buggy and start running as before.

Note that the buggy is harder to push and that the steering seems to have a mind of its own.

Stop and investigate and note that the front tyre has deflated.

"!!**** !!! **** the !!!!! tyre!"

Return the buggy and contents home if possible.

Put the aforementioned toddlers to bed and Peppa Pig on the TV.

Remove the offending wheel and clean off the aforementioned ****.

Open the puncture repair kit ONLY IF PAPA IS NOT AVAILABLE!

Remove the two or three black plastic tyre levers; (metal are better but have been withdrawn due to Covid along with public toilets, the lovely coffee van in the Lake car park, pubs and most other pleasurable activities).

Remove the dust cap from the valve and press the little button in the centre of the valve down to ensure the tyre is completely flat.

Place the spade end of the tyre lever between the rim of the wheel and the tyre and try to lever the tyre over the rim.

This can't be done with one plastic tyre lever as it bends so repeat the operation with a second lever about 1"- 2" from the first.

Break a fingernail or two.

"***** "

Slide one of the levers around the entire circumference of the wheel and note that the tyre has come away from one side of the wheel, (if not go back 5 places).

Push the valve through the hole from the rim side.

Remove the inner tube from the tyre and partially inflate.

**Submerge the tube in water and look for bubbles.

OR

Place the tube close to an open eye and feel the leaking air making you blink, then confirm with saliva (NOT COVID SAFE) and watch for bubbles. Note the puncture hole.

Using the sandpaper in the kit, roughen up the edges around the hole.

Select a suitable patch from the kit.

Remove the tube of solution from the kit, remove cap and see that the top of the tube is sealed with metal foil under the cap.

Take a firm grip on the tube and push a sharp object through the foil. Note that the foil is stronger than one would expect, and squirt most of the solution over one's fingers.

Note that the solution will not wash off. (The good news is that hours of fun can be had later picking the dry bits off with one's teeth, although this should really be done in private.) Surround the small hole with a thin film of the remaining solution and allow to become dry and tacky.

Remove the metal backing sheet from the patch. Do not touch either the clean side of the patch or the dried solution.

Remove the backing sheet from a second patch as you've just read the last and remembered that you touched the patch.

Place the patch over the hole and press the two together firmly for about a minute.

Inflate the tube slightly, submerge the patch in water and note the bubbles, indicating that you have missed the hole and patched a perfectly sound part of the tube.

Return to **.

On finding the hole, note that you have not prepared a sufficient area of solution and try to squeeze some more between the loose part of the patch and the tube.

Cover the entire area in talcum powder to prevent the tube sticking to the tyre.

Go back 4 places.

If the patch leaks, remove the patch and clean up everything.

OR

Chuck it all in the bin

OR

See if Amazon sell tubes or Evans are online.

OR

Call Papa

If all's well, examine the outside of the tyre for things embedded in the tread face. If the culprit is found, pull it out with pliers.

If not, carefully run fingertips around the inside of the tyre. If a sharp object is found to have caused the puncture, a small cut will similarly have been caused to the finger, which will have to be washed and dried, with a suitable plaster placed thereon.

Remove the offending article as before.

If nothing is found the cause of the dilemma will have pierced the tread and withdrawn, as in Brexit, so the last three items may be ignored.

Once the tube is fully returned push the tyre back onto the rim.

One may find this can't be done but try again and again.

OR

Call Papa.

Inflate the tyre to a pressure indicated on the tyre wall using the pump provided.

Depending on the nature of the tyre this is anywhere from 20psi for wheelbarrows to 35 psi for buggies to 90psi for racing bike road tyres.

Return the wheel to the buggy.

Acquire another tube of solution for all the patches that are left.

Please note: Following Brexit, all measures referred to are proper Sovereign measures and not that inferior European nonsense.

Mike Quincey

Should Dorney Have an Emergency Plan?

Emergency Plan

An emergency plan is a good action plan to mitigate plan for and coordinate all mitigate the effects of dis emergency planning sh the emerg

On the Buckinghamshire Council website is a page headed 'Emergency Planning'. *'The chances of being caught up in an emergency or an extreme situation are low'* it says. After 2020, we might all think this judgement to be a little premature. But *'a little preparation can make a big difference'* it says. Should our parish be 'preparing'?

An 'emergency plan' has been on our Parish Council meeting agendas recently. What does such a Plan involve?

There is an important body known as the Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum. Southern Electricity (see article elsewhere in this issue) tell us that they and other utilities meet with the LRF regularly during the current lockdown crisis. The LRF urges readiness to face emergencies at all levels, be it the household, businesses and local government bodies. Before we consider any response at parish level, this magazine recommends to our readers that you download a 28-page LRF document *'Are You Ready?'* from the Bucks site. Aimed at families, this has much practical advice on matters like preparing an 'emergency pack', keeping your ICE contacts ('in case of emergency') handy and usable and locating and switching off your utility supplies.

Bucks CC and the LRF have said that 'communities are encouraged to have a local plan to help them support their own community during an emergency' and a template has been issued to help parish and town councils work with local volunteers to create an emergency plan.

This points out that local preparation can ease the work of national emergency services if they can access us (think of a major flood or an M4 or Heathrow linked accident) or stand in to an extent if they can't. A community could carry out a risk assessment of hazardous sites in the parish, and even encourage improvements before any disaster. At the core of the project, and an ideal task for local volunteers, would be the identification of more vulnerable residents. Linked to that would be the assessment of local skills available such as retired doctors, tree surgeons, plumbers and the resources the community can muster like generators, pumps, farm equipment, 4X4s and even, should modern digital communications be cut, amateur two-way radios (those who remember Civil Defence and the Cold War may feel quite nostalgic!). Available Community Rest Centres (schools, village halls, pubs) would be identified and the co-operation of those who manage such sites secured. Some communities have seen the need to make provision for pets and domestic animals.

Once the Plan's objectives have been agreed, the Parish Council can nominate an EMT ('Emergency Management Team') who may well be 'natural leaders of the community' and able to respond rapidly and liaise with each other. The 'ownership' of the Plan needs to be established – after all, information on vulnerable people and village resources can hardly be displayed on websites and notice boards. Contact lists need setting up and 'telephone trees' established. Testing the viability of the Plan and the business of keeping all residents informed before and after an incident need to be worked out.

Many communities across Bucks have created plans or are working them up. In late 2020, Weston Turville PC appealed on their website for local help in the process just outlined and Winslow Town Council likewise is asking for volunteers. Stoke Mandeville PC's website describes the current building of a team of 'Parish Responders'. Hazelmere which has had a Plan since 2017 intend to enhance it because 2020 taught the Parish Council there that they could not count on the 'authorities' to have any plans to hand. Bourne End have had an elaborate plan for a decade – their website carries an extensive list of potential refuges in the event of evacuation.

Some of the communities listed here are somewhat larger than Dorney. It is true that several of our neighbouring communities such as Taplow, Burnham or Eton do not set out details of an Emergency Plan on their website, although they do seem generally well set up to deal with requests from vulnerable residents affected by the current pandemic. But surely only advantages would flow if our Parish Council, as they have been discussing, should work with volunteers (and several have come forward already) with the County Council template as a basis. A full-scale Emergency Plan might not emerge, but surely much useful information would – and that could serve Dorney well should the pandemic return after any longed-for retreat.

Dorney Lake Fish Populations

On the railings of the Start Tower at the Lake is a most interesting sign that explains in great detail the estimate of the number of fish in Dorney Lake. The information on the sign is below. We thank Dorney Lake for the information and their approval for us to publish it. **Please be aware that fishing is not permitted in the Lake.**

In most healthy aquatic systems there will be a population of fish present in landlocked lakes. This is often restricted to species intentionally stocked. As a relatively new lake that has never been stocked it was interesting to discover the quantity and variety of species in the Lake when we carried out a water quality survey in 2017. Based on the survey it is possible to make a reasonable estimate of the population of each species in Dorney Lake. This was based on the quantity and composition of fish caught during the survey and by using data collected from over 100 other lakes in the UK.



Northern Pike (*Esax Lucius*). The Pike are common species and easily recognisable with a long slender body and impressive teeth. It is thought that the population at Dorney appeared to be reasonably new and stocked from the River Thames flooding. These fish sizes range from 2.5 kg to 10 kg in shoals of up to 1,500. It is estimated that there are 9,000 Pike in the lake.

European Eel (*Anguilla Anguilla*). Eels are well represented in the lake and vary in size from 20 cm to 3 kg. It is estimated that there are 1,000 eels in the lake.



European Perch (*Perca fluviatilis*). One of the dominant species of the lake found in all areas of the lake and in the deeper areas in shoals of up to 2,000 fish. It is estimated that there are 60,000 perch in the lake.

Green Tench (*Tinca tinca*). The lake has a mature population with fish found in a range of sizes from 6 cm to 3.5 kg in shoals of up to 2,000 fish. It is estimated that there are 72,000 tench in the lake.



Common Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*). The carp in the lake range from 12.5 kg to 18.5 kg. It is estimated that there are 85 carp in the lake.

Barbel (*Barbus barbus*). Common barbels inhabit freshwater locations such as rivers and lakes, and they are generally found in the water close to the stony ground.



Lake Leeches (*Hirudo medicinalis*). Leeches are a type of worm. Their closest relatives are earthworms. There are over 650 species of leeches. They differ in size, type of diet and habitat. Leeches usually inhabit marshes, rivers and ponds.

Grass snakes (*Natrix natrix*). Common grass snakes are sometimes called water snakes as they are often found near the water and feed on amphibians, usually toads and frogs. These non-venomous snakes have a brown or dark green colour with a distinctive yellow colour behind its head. Some can also have a grey or black colour. They can grow up to more than 100 cm and weigh up to 240 grammes.



Please be aware that fishing is not permitted in the Lake.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT – Introduction

Prior to September 1993, the enforcement of prohibited parking was carried out by police traffic wardens. Permitted parking was enforced under criminal legislation and non-payment pursued through Magistrates Courts. London local authorities in particular lobbied the government to allow them to take on the necessary powers as the local authorities already were accountable for the transport policy and traffic regulations, but were unable to enforce the regulations effectively.

Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) is a regime, which enables a local authority to administer its own parking penalties, including the issuing of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) to vehicles. In areas with DPE, stationary traffic offences cease to be criminal offences enforced by the police and instead become civil penalties enforced by the local authority.

PARKING ISSUE TO REPORT?

Local Authority (Transport for Bucks) – issues relating to parking offences on Marked or signed restrictions come under their remit for example double yellow lines, clearways, suspensions.

Where restrictions are in place we are able to enforce the full extent of the highway, this would include any footpaths or verges. With or without any marked restrictions we are able to enforce dropped or raised driveways but only with owners consent.

Please call to report Parking Offences on 0343 2085544

~*~

Police (Thames Valley Police, Chiltern & South Bucks) – offences of unnecessary and willful obstruction of the Highway sit in the Police domain. **Highway can refer to carriageway, footpath, footway or bridleway.*

E.g. parking on pavements in such a manner that anybody wishing to pass the vehicle would have to enter the road, particularly those in wheelchairs or with pushchairs; or parking so close to a junction that it becomes unsafe for other road users.

N.b. For enforcement action to be warranted, case law has established that an actual person needs to have been genuinely and substantially obstructed for using the route.

Please only report Matters of Obstruction when there is an immediate and genuine need for Police intervention on 101, or in an Emergency situation report on 999
(where there is danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened)

Dorney Village Hall

www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk



Coronavirus – COVID19

Unfortunately, we are closed until further notice.

Please contact us by email: enquiries@dorneyvillagehall.com if you need any further information
Dorney Village Hall Management Committee

Dorney Village Hall has a large main area with stage, a smaller annexed room, and kitchen.

It is served by a large private car park and adjacent there is a tennis court, a multi activity games area (MUGA), playground and a playing field.

It is used by residents for a multitude of activities such as dancing classes, keep fit, yoga, badminton, horticultural and hired out for parties, dances and weddings.

The management committee welcomes non-residents, organisations, clubs, businesses, and societies to hire the halls.

Main hall: 15 x 7.4m, ceiling height 7m

Fixed stage with curtains: 4.5 x 6m

Annexe: 9.8 x 3.5m, ceiling height 2m

Licensed to seat 100 people

Children's tables and chairs available

Beechwood suspended dance floor

75 space free car park

From £13 per hour (minimum of 3 hours) for Dorney Parish Residents

Email: enquiries@dorneyvillagehall.com

Online on www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk

**Planning Applications (Validated, Decided & Updated) during
December 2020 & January 2021**

Dorney Parish

From South Bucks Area Planning website:
pa.chilternandsouthbucks.gov.uk/online-applications/

Ref. No. PL/20/3997/KA | Status: Decided.

T1, T2, T3 Silver Birch - crown thinning with drop crotching by up to 1m in length of overhanging branches/clearance from neighbouring property. T4 Maple - 25% crown thinning. (Dorney Conservation Area).

Old Dimmings Village Road Dorney Buckinghamshire SL4 6QW

Ref. No: PL/20/3554/SA | Validated: Thu 05 Nov 2020 | Status: Decided

Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed: Vehicular access

54 Meadow Way Dorney Reach Buckinghamshire SL6 0DS

Ref. No: PL/21/0258/KA | Validated: Mon 25 Jan 2021 | Status: Registered

T1- Maple: Fell. T2- Walnut: Fell. T3- Spruce: Fell. T4- Spruce: Fell. T5- Holly: Fell. T6- Apple: Fell - Boveney Conservation Area.

1 New Boveney Court Farm Cottages Boveney Road Dorney Buckinghamshire SL4 6QF

Ref. No: PL/21/0028/KA | Validated: Mon 04 Jan 2021 | Status: Registered

T1 Sycamore - Fell (Dorney Conservation Area)

The Old Cottage Village Road Dorney Buckinghamshire SL4 6QJ

Ref. No: PL/20/3718/FA | Validated: Thu 19 Nov 2020 | Status: Decided

Erection of new pedestrian access with black painted cast iron gate and railings adjacent to existing entrance gates

New Dimmings Village Road Dorney Buckinghamshire SL4 6QW

Ref. No: PL/20/3505/FA | Validated: Tue 10 Nov 2020 | Status: Decided

Rear first floor extension and amendment to roof of the single storey section remaining

6 Harcourt Close Dorney Reach Buckinghamshire SL6 0DY

Ref. No: PL/20/3014/FA | Validated: Thu 10 Sep 2020 | Status: Decided

Change of use of the site from Mixed C2/Sui Generis use to a use solely within use class F1(a) for use as a specialist school

**Eton Dorney Independent Therapeutic School Lake End Road Dorney
Buckinghamshire SL4 6QS**

Burnham Parish

Ref. No: PL/20/3452/EU | Validated: Mon 21 Dec 2020 | Status: Registered

Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use as a builders yard and storage of commercial vehicles, equipment and building materials. Open for comment icon

Orchard Herbs Lake End Road Dorney Buckinghamshire SL4 6QS

Details and Comments available on South Bucks Area Planning website

Dorney Parish Council

We very much regret that we are unable to publish Dorney Parish Council's Budget for 2021/22 to be read alongside the November 2020 Finance Committee Minutes. We requested a copy from the Clerk but did not receive it before our final copy date. We hope to include it in the March 2021 edition.

We also hoped to provide details regarding the links to the following video-recordings of the Dorney Parish Council meetings, which the Parish Council have recorded:

October 2020

November 2020

December 2020

January 2021

Unfortunately, we have no knowledge as to where these video-recordings have been published.



The advertisement for Eton End school features two children in school uniforms. The boy on the left is wearing a blue and white shirt, a tie, and shorts, holding a yellow and blue soccer ball. The girl on the right is wearing a blue and white shirt, a blue skirt, and white socks, holding a book. In the top right corner, there is a logo with a dove and the text 'I am • I can • I ought • I will'. The main text reads 'I am Eton End' in a large, stylized font. Below this, it says 'Co-educational Preparatory Day School for children aged rising 3 to 11'. Further down, it states 'Personal tours are always welcome. For more information, or to arrange a visit, please contact our Registrar to make an appointment.' At the bottom, the contact information is provided: '35 Eton Road Datchet Berkshire SL3 9AX 01753 541075 • admin@etonend.org' and the website 'www.etonend.org' with the hashtag '#WeAreEtonEnd'.

Dorney Parish Council



Sue Moffat
Parish Clerk
Tel: 07443 588361
Email: clerk@dorney.org.uk

20 Benchmanor Crescent
Chalfont St Peter
Bucks
SL9 9HL

Minutes of the VIRTUAL meeting of Dorney Parish Council Finance Committee held on Tuesday 10th November 2020 at 9.40pm.

Present: Cllrs R Ormond (Chairman), K Harris, A Foxley, A Purdie, P Smith, J Dax and C Stoughton.
In attendance: S Moffat (Clerk).

Part I

1. **Apologies for absence** - None.
2. **Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda**- Cllr Foxley declared an interest in matters pertaining to Dorney Village Hall being a member of the DVH Management Committee.
3. **Budget 2020/2021** – to monitor, review and approve figures to 10th November 2020 (as circulated) – Cllr Ormond reported that as at the 30th October there was £40,664 in the bank. This will reduce to £26,610.16 by the end of the financial year if the remainder of expenditure is in line with the forecasted budget.
4. **Budget 2021/2022**– to review the draft budget and to resolve any amendments/additions.
The proposed budget was discussed and it was agreed that £1000 additional expenditure was needed for IT support and an additional £300 for a new laptop for the Clerk. It was noted that election expenses of £933 have been included for elections next May and there is no longer any income from Dorney Village Hall Committee’s contribution towards Village upkeep costs.
5. **Precept- Resolved** to recommend a precept of £25,000 to be agreed at the Council meeting in December 2020. This is a 7.6% increase from this year’s precept of £23,222.
6. **Internal Auditor for 2020/2021 – Resolved** that the present internal auditor, Euan MacClenan, can no longer act independently for the Parish Council as he has a conflict of interest being a member of Dorney Village Hall Committee.
7. **Risk Assessment – Resolved** to approve the risk assessment.
8. **Insurance –** to review the level of insurance and ensure that the Council is adequately covered (as circulated with the agenda). **Resolved** that there is adequate insurance for the Council.
9. **Asset Register – Resolved** to approve the asset register with both defibrillators belonging to Dorney Parish Council.
10. **Standing Orders – Resolved to** adopt the amended Standing Orders as updated to reflect the Model Standing Orders 2019 as recommended by NALC.
11. **Financial Regulations – Resolved** to approve the Council’s financial regulations and that they are adequate for the Council’s current needs.
12. **Defibrillator Fridge Magnets –** Agreed to spend £250 out of general funds.
13. **Insurance Claim** for Solar Panelled VAS by cattle grid which was destroyed by vehicle accident.

Meeting Closed at 10.20pm.

**Minutes of the Dorney Parish VIRTUAL Meeting of the Council
on Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 8 pm**

Present:- Councillors K Harris (Chairman), A Purdie, A Foxley, J Dax, R Ormond and C Stoughton.

In Attendance:- Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs Dev Dhillon, D Pepler and G Sandy, Matt Orchard (Balfour Beatty), Mr Bowman (Dorney Village Pump), 17 Members of the Public and Sue Moffat (Clerk).

109 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Dev Dhillon reported:- (i) Regards Item 12 on the agenda, good news, thank to Highways England (HE) the new roundabout is going ahead and HE have offered to pay for heritage columns. Hope to start the work in February and the Local Co-ordinator will keep us updated. Cllr Dhillon will arrange for the Highways officer to send the design of the roundabout so it can be put on the web site; (ii) Cllr Dev Dhillon is chairing the Youth sub-group of Beeches Community Board this coming Thursday and would encourage anyone interested to attend; (iii) Cllr Dev Dhillon is attending a meeting with the head of Police, the local MP and local traders to discuss concerns about harassment from anti-social Behaviour. If anyone from Dorney PC wish to attend they would be welcomed; (iv) If anyone knows of any families struggling over Christmas, please let him know and he can arrange food parcels. Cllr Dax will contact Revd La Stacey about this; (v) Orchard Herb Farm planning application for a hotel – Cllr Dev Dhillon is strongly objecting to this. Cllr Sandy added that the planning officers have refused it but there is a codicil that the applicant is at liberty to go for pre-application advice. He has also asked that no planning decision can be made until the enforcement notices on this site have been rectified.

Cllr Sandy reported:- (i) Challons Chicken Farm off Marsh Lane, which is in Green Belt, has recently had the planning application refused for more chicken sheds and this has now gone to appeal. There is another application for a 3-bedroom house, the more people who object the better; (ii) On the road to Dorney, the Firework Firm Ltd applied for a licence for a week-long display of fireworks for Diwali and Guy Fawkes night for up to 1500-2000 people. Cllr Pepler and himself strongly objected and the licence was refused.

Cllr Pepler reported:- (i) Together with Cllr Sandy, he will be attending a Town and Parish Council Surgery with Bucks Council officers which is planned to take place on a monthly basis. If there are any problems at Dorney you wish to bring to this meeting, please let him know. This can include any hot spots for flooding; (ii) It is budget setting time at Bucks Council and there might be a referendum this year. Cllr Foxley asked about the savings made when all the councils combined to a unitary council? Cllr Dhillon responded that there has been extra expenditure this year caused by Covid 19. Cllr Sandy said the budget will be reported in the quarterly newsletter from Beeches Community Board.

M4 Smartmotorway - Matt Orchard – (i) He apologised to the Village Hall committee as the ramps have not yet been installed but will chase this up; (ii) Big news is the installation of the new roundabout; (iii) Access to the M4 from Marsh Lane Marsh lane, as mentioned last month, will be removed when all works are finished in this area and will then the field will be tidied up and construction works withdrawn by summer time; (iii) Big reduction in works over the Christmas holidays from 18th December to 4th January; (iv) Cllr Harris asked that Lake End Road, up to Sainsburys, has a good clear up including the gulleys. Matt will look into this; (v) Cllr Ormond complained that there was no notice that junction 7 on the M4 was shut for 2 weeks plus roadworks on junction 5 meant no one could come through Datchet. Matt apologised and said it was a mistake on their part but wasn't expecting the works to last 2 weeks; (vi) Regards potholes in Marsh Lane, Matt will repair any defects caused by the construction work but not those caused by normal wear and tear; (vii) Cllr Purdie enquired why there are temporary traffic lights on Marsh Lane bridge for resurfacing works but no resurfacing has been done. Matt believes this could be due to lack of resources but will find out; (vii) Cllr Harris asked about the timescale for installing the sound barriers. Matt responded that these cannot be erected until the work is completed but on the schedule of work to do.

8.31pm Matt Orchard and Cllr Sandy and Cllr Dev Dhillon left the meeting.

110 Apologies- Apologies were received from Cllr P Smith.

111 Disclosure of interests – Cllr Foxley declared an interest in Dorney Village Hall being a member of the Committee.

112 Clerks Report – None.

113 Chairman's Report – None.

114 Resolved the budget for 2021/2022 as recommended by the Finance Committee on 10th November 2020. Cllr Ormond had re-issued the amended budget agreed at the Finance meeting. Cllr Foxley reported that an additional £1000 has been included in the budget for IT support. Cllr Foxley has discussed with the Web Site Designer, Vatu, the changes required to Dorney PC's web site due to the new accessibility rules that need to be made. Vatu achieved this for GX Town Council by writing a programme using Wordpress as the basis, which

is a popular, easy to use web site programme, and then migrating the new version across. It would cost about £2k and a support package is available at a cost of approximately £100 per month. It was agreed for Cllr Foxley to continue managing Dorney PC's web site for another few months and apply for the additional works to be installed in the new financial year. It would cost at least £5k if looking at alternative ways of achieving this. Cllr Dax thanked Cllr Foxley for her excellent work which was agreed by all councillors.

115 To Resolve to set the precept Cllr Ormond was recommending a precept of £25,000 which would be a 7.6% increase, and this included £933 for election expenses which would not be used if the election in May 2021 was uncontested. A £25k precept was agreed.

116 To receive the report from the External Auditor- The External Auditor had no matters to bring to the attention of the Council.

117 To appoint an Internal Auditor for 2020-21 who can carry out the duties independently of the affairs of Dorney Parish Council. The Clerk will investigate.

118 To agree the meeting dates for 2021 Noted and will continue with Zoom meetings until told otherwise and then will have to seek suitable accommodation.

119 Updates on the new Roundabout at Lake End Road - The cost will be £33,600 with £5k being funded by Dorney PC. The £5k is community money received from Eton College who are happy for it to be spent on the roundabout. The Design and Safety audit for the roundabout has been completed and Highways England have confirmed they will pay for the heritage columns for the lighting.

120 Update on Roundmoor Ditch from Cllr Dax. Cllr Dax has been advised by the Environment Agency that there is some scoping currently taking place around an investigation into the causes of the elevated water levels in the area. The scoping is expected to be completed relatively quickly and then a decision can be made on funding it.

121 Updates on the Emergency Plan - Deferred until Cllr Smith is in attendance.

122 To respond to the Refurbishment work by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) – Planned power cut at Dorney PC. A representative from SSEN was unable to attend this meeting but will hopefully be at the next Council meeting.

123 Planning

(i) To note planning issues, decisions and appeals recently notified by South Bucks District Council)- (as circulated).

(ii) To consider and comment upon applications – (as circulated).

124 Finance

a) Resolved to authorise payment of Accounts for December 2020 (as circulated).

b) Receive list of income for December 2020 (as circulated).

c) Received recent bank statements and Chairman to sign reconciliations.

d) Received the budget for 2020/21. Cllr Ormond pointed out that recently Dorney Parish Council has been compared to Taplow Parish Council, but Taplow Parish Council has 6000 residents compared to Dorney which has 600, so the income from the precept is much higher and consequently so is the expenditure on parish council's works. Cllr Ormond went on to report that still waiting to hear from Dorney Village Hall Committee to claim back their costs. He believes it is ridiculous that the Village Hall is not for the benefit of all the residents of Dorney but just those that hire out the hall. Cllr Foxley, declared an interest being a member of Dorney Village Hall committee, and did add that there is a different pricing for residents. After much discussion about the management of the Village Hall, it was noted out that at the time Dorney PC increased the precept to provide funding for the refurbishment of the Village Hall, Dorney PC did not want to take ownership of the building and Cllr Harris pointed out, there was a gentleman's agreement with the late Graham Easton, that the Village Hall Committee would contribute towards the grounds maintenance but this has now been defaulted on.

125 Member's Reports

126 Correspondence:- (i) Agenda of the Beeches Community Board meeting 18th November 2020; (ii) Black Potts weir on the Jubilee River; (iii) Director of Summer School Administration Summer School & Facilities Lettings, Eton College asking when the Court Road / Village Road junction will revert back to normal; (iv) BALC AGM on 20th November 2020; (v) M4 J3 to 12 Motorway Upgrade – November 2020 project news bulletin.

127 Resolve any complaints/comments received from residents :- (i) Kids Club taking over the use of the Muga during October half term; (ii) Cllr Harris had received an email from Jill and James Palmer who were objecting to the new roundabout but unfortunately it was too late as a decision had been made. However there has been an overwhelming response from the Community in favour of a roundabout; (iii) 30 mph signs are needed along Lake End Road - one by bridge by Jubilee River and a second one by the Pineapple PH. Cllr Harris will pursue this once the bridge works have been completed.

128 Grounds Maintenance and Highway employee/work.

Date of next meeting – Council meeting at 8pm on Tuesday 12th January, 2021 to be conducted remotely.

**Minutes of the Dorney Parish VIRTUAL Meeting of the Council
on Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 8 pm**

Present:- Councillors K Harris (Chairman), A Purdie, A Foxley, P Smith, J Dax, R Ormond and C Stoughton.

In Attendance:- Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs Dev Dhillon, D Pepler and G Sandy, Matt Orchard (Balfour Beatty), Jim Stacey (Highways England), Mitchel Pugh (Enforcement Officer from Buckinghamshire Council), Bryan Pusker (SSE), Mr Bowman (Dorney Village Pump), 8 Members of the Public and Sue Moffat (Clerk).

130 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Orchard Herbs, Lake End Road- Mitchel Pugh, Enforcement Officer from Buckinghamshire Council, gave the following presentation. Current enforcement position: Officers have determined that the current use of the land is contrary to an extant enforcement notice issued by the SBDC in June 2007 and upheld by a planning inspector at a re-determined appeal in April 2010. Officers served letters of notice to quit the site on the owners providing them with 28 days to cease the current use. This deadline expires on 01 Feb 2021, a site visit will be conducted shortly after this date. Owners have been advised that failure to comply with this request will result in the Council taking further legal action (breach of an enforcement notice is an offence). Any concerns/comments regarding the planning enforcement position should be sent planning.enforcement.csb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk (email for the South and East Area Team) There has recently been a Certificate of Lawfulness application, Reference: PL/20/3452/EU. Please submit any information which either supports or counters the applicant's claim regarding the use of the land. This is not a planning application for a proposed change of use and we are not assessing this relative to planning policy. It is a legal judgement as to whether, on the balance of probability, their claimed use has been occurring for 10 years based on the evidence submitted. Comments should ideally be made online via public access but comments can also be made by email to planning.comments.csb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk. Third party comments are due by 25/01/2021 but this period will be extended by reason the site notice still needs to be posted. Site notice to be posted by end of this week. Burning of waste on site - Concerns recently received were forwarded to the Council's Environmental Health Team. In the event of further occurrences, please report this in the first instance to the Council's Environmental Health team at envhealth.csb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk can also copy the Planning Enforcement Team in at planning.enforcement.csb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk Cllr Smith reported that the problems at Orchard Herb Farm have been going on for 16 years and would ask Buckinghamshire Council to be as robust as possible and can the Environmental Agency be involved.

8.45pm Cllr Sandy and Mr Pugh left the meeting.

Cllr Dev Dhillon reported:- (i) Covid vaccinations have started and residents in Buckinghamshire who are over 80 should receive a letter inviting them to receive the vaccination by the end of February, if not sooner. If you know of anyone needing social care, please let him know; (ii) Cllr Foxley asked when the 20mph speed review will be carried out? Cllr Dev Dhillon responded that this has been delayed due to staff dealing with the Covid crisis, staff sickness levels and the need for staff to self-isolate.

Cllr Pepler reported:- (i) The latest Orchard Herb Farm planning application goes before Burnham Parish Council next Monday and hopefully the Parish Council will oppose it so grateful for the information about it at tonight's meeting; (ii) Covid vaccination will be available at the Burnham Medical Surgery in 2 weeks.

M4 Smartmotorway – Jim Stacey reported:- (i) Now that Marsh Lane bridge is opened, work will start on the side roads and should be completed by early April; (ii) Should have the wording for the Design Statement of the new roundabout from Bucks Council by end of January but they are now saying second week in February. Once we have this, we will get the work priced up; (iii) Matt Orchard responded to the question asking when the sound barrier will be put up on the north side of Lake End Road that he does not have a date yet. Also, he has not forgotten about installing the retaining wall by the Village Hall track which should happen by the end of March; (iv) A query raised about reinstating the patch of grass in Oak Stubbs Road which has become a mud patch due to constructions lorries parked there and mounting the verge to pass one another. Matt Orchard assured the meeting that this would be repaired when work is completed. The Chairman, Cllr Harris, changed the order of the agenda to allow the agenda item 11 to follow next:-

131 To respond to the Refurbishment work by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) – Planned power cut at Dorney PC. A representative from SSEN, Bryan Puskar, gave a presentation. SSEN has done a survey of the high voltage electricity network feeding Dorney parish and have identified refurbishment works needed to improve the electricity network and reduce the risk of power cuts in the future. These works represent an investment of £ 130,485.00 in the local infrastructure.

In order to safely complete these works it may be necessary to organise some Planned Power Cuts. If this is the case, SSEN will notify affected customers and businesses in advance. The work will involve Tree Cutting and Network Improvements, as appropriate, which will help to improve the reliability of the electricity supply to you for the future. Once completed SSEN will provide a priority service if there is a power cut which is a free service for the vulnerable and would like to promote this free service in Dorney. It was agreed to communicate this service to the community via Dorney Newsletter and Peter Bowman was happy to do this.

132 Apologies- None.

133 Disclosure of interests – None.

134 Resolved to receive and approve the minutes of the previous Council meeting held on the 8th December 2020.

135 Clerks Report – None.

136 Chairman's Report – None.

137 Updates on the new Roundabout at Lake End Road – The Clerk reported that confirmation has been sent to Beeches Community Board that Dorney PC will be contributing £5k towards this project. There have been problems again over the Christmas period with parking around the entrance to Eton Dorney Lake. This is becoming a complex situation now that the area has become popular for walking during the Covid lockdown. This problem mainly occurs Saturdays and Sundays and it does not help that the double yellow lines cannot be seen because of mud and leaves. Cllr Dev Dhillon will ask the Highways Officer to have the lines cleared, remarked and enforced. Cllr Harris will arrange a Zoom meeting with Eton Rowing Lake next week and all councillors will be invited to attend. Cllr Foxley will put more information on the web site.

138 Update on Roundmoor Ditch from Cllr Dax. Cllr Dax reported on Roundmoor Ditch:- The Ditch has been partially cleared and this has resulted in a significant drop in the water level at Lake End. Further clearance is required by the areas that EA and TW are responsible for leading up to the Roundmoor Pumping station.

139 Updates on the Emergency Plan - Cllr Smith will try and set up a meeting but difficult during the Covid crisis.

140 To respond to the Refurbishment work by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) – Planned power cut at Dorney PC. As discussed above.

141 To appoint an Internal Auditor for 2020-21 who can carry out the duties independently of the affairs of Dorney Parish Council. The Clerk proposed Barrie Dancer who was recommended by the Clerk at Taplow Parish Council. Mr Dancer has a vast experience as an auditor for large and small councils and carries out a robust internal audit. It was agreed to appoint Mr Dancer.

142 Planning

- (i) Resolved to note planning issues, decisions and appeals recently notified by South Bucks Planning
- (ii) Orchard herbs Farm - Dorney Parish Council object to this application for the following reasons:
 - (a) The application area is the surface of the new road constructed by Highways England along Lake End Road.
 - (b) The statement appears to be for a claim for Adverse Possession, rather than evidence submitted to support the application.
 - (c) The application form states that Chris Ball is the owner, which he cannot be as he is applying to be the owner (Possessory Title).
 - (d) The site plan (note that the plan is for the hotel development) does not accord to page 1 of the statement exhibit.
 - (e) The evidence cannot be correct because the land was originally an embankment at 45 degrees, so no vehicle could drive or park there. The only way that land could be used would be when the imported spoil was so high that the ground would be level. Even then, the vehicles etc would need to drive up to the level of the road. No evidence has been submitted to show where vehicles were parked. No photographs, or annotated plans.
 - (f) Considering point (e) above, the use of the land would have to be the long-term storage of materials (earth, waste etc) for the entire period of 10 years, so the use cannot be as described.
 - (g) The appeal decision plan (page 6) omits the embankment (the area including the subject of this application). This shows that the embankment as at April 2010 was not used for those activities described in the appeal decision (“storage of non-agricultural plant, equipment, vehicles and materials”).

143 Finance

- a) Resolved to authorise payment of Accounts for January 2021 (as circulated).
- b) Receive list of income for January 2021 (as circulated).
- c) Received recent bank statements and Chairman to sign reconciliations.
- d) Received the budget for 2020/21. Cllr Ormond reported that the budget is as anticipated and there will be an overspend by the end of the financial year. He asked if there were any updates from Dorney Village Hall

regards reclaiming the maintenance charge and is there a time frame regards feedback? Cllr Foxley responded that there are some difficulties within the trusteeship but plan to report back as soon as possible.

- 144 Member's Reports** - Agreed to ask Cllr Dev Dhillon to agree a location where we can move the MVAS sign nearer to the Pineapple PH.
- 145 Correspondence:-** (i) December update on the Jubilee River works; (ii) M4 J3 to 12 Motorway Upgrade – December 2020 project news bulletin; (iii) TTRO Lock Path, Dorney; (iv) Jubilee River Storm Bella update 26Dec2020; (v) The Buckinghamshire Council (Public Footpaths Nos. 22 and 23, Dorney) (Temporary Footpath Closure) Order 2021 for approx.. 3.5 months.
- 146 Resolve any complaints/comments received from resident** :- (i) Kids Club taking over the use of the Muga during October half term. Cllr Foxley is still waiting to hear from the person using it; (ii) Letter receive from Jill and James Palmer with concerns about the round about Lake Road/ Court Lane which have been noted.
- 147 Grounds Maintenance and Highway employee/work.** Unfortunately, the groundsman is off sick at the present time. All councillors wish him a speedy recovery.

Date of next meeting – Council meeting at 8pm on Tuesday 9th February, 2021 to be conducted remotely.

The Dorney Reach defibrillator – don't forget the keycode!



The Community Access Defibrillator is installed on the side of the Village Hall near the Playground Tuck Shop.

Should you need to use it, the defibrillator will lead you through the necessary steps.

The defibrillator case is locked. The keycode is **C123X**.

The information has been added to the Local Issues page on the Parish Council website so that it is always available.

Dorney Parish News will continue to provide Keycode details.

The Defibrillator in the old phone box on Village Road does not require a Keycode.

Dorney Parish Council Website

The Dorney Parish Council website address is:

www.dorney.org.uk

and the Twitter account is @DorneyPC

Find minutes, planning, tweets, links to SBDC articles etc.



Beeches Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Beeches Community Board held on Wednesday 18 November 2020 via Microsoft Teams, commencing at 2.00 pm and concluding at 3.32 pm.

Committee members present

D Anthony (Chairman), R Bagge, M Bezzant, D Dhillon, T Egleton, B Gibbs, L Hazell, M Lewis, N Naylor, D Pepler and G Sandy, J Carey (Burnham Parish Council), S Moffat (Dorney Parish Council (Clerk)), A Purdie (Dorney Parish Council), M Rolfe (Farnham Royal Parish Council), P Prince, V Nicholas, R Worthington (Taplow Parish Council), C Owen, M Gallagher, J Hall (Farnham Royal Parish Council (Clerk))

Officers in attendance

Emma Denley (Localism Manager), Tom Fowler (Democratic Services Officer), Debbie Hulme (Community Coordinator) and Jack Pearce (Community Board Coordinator for Beeches) S James (Service Director – Education)

Apologies

P Kelly

Agenda Item

1 Welcome and Introductions

The chairman welcomed the members and guests to the Beeches Community Board meeting.

2 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillor Paul Kelly.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2020 were agreed as an accurate record.

5 Support Hubs presentation

Emma Denley, Localism Manager, gave a presentation on the work of the Support Hubs.

- Advice had been given to the shielded group to follow similar guidance to the last lockdown, with the notable inclusion of allowing support bubble contact.
- Calls were being made to those who were classified as vulnerable to check on their wellbeing.
- Charities such as Carers Bucks were being enabled by the Council to provide support for care workers.

6 Sub-group Updates

The sub-group chairs gave their updates to the Community Board.

- Councillor Ralph Bagge gave an update of the Infrastructure & Highways sub-group. The Burnham & Taplow parking scheme would possibly go to the Community board at a future date, pending discussions with the Parish Councils. Flooding hotspots for the area were being compiled and Jack was to work with TFB on this issue. Potential transport schemes were being catalogued for potential funding in the future.
- Councillor Trevor Egleton gave an update of the Supporting Older & Vulnerable people sub-group. Street associations had been discussed, which would enable the welfare of vulnerable elderly residents to be monitored. Neighbourhood Watch had attended the subgroup and were also looking to work with existing Covid response groups in a similar way to Street Associations. The Clare Foundation were piloting a scheme to help elderly residents get online and communicate. A Christmas card plan for a local resident was raised and details were to be circulated.
- Councillor Dev Dhillon gave an update of the Young Peoples sub-group. It was reported there were at least 10 young people interested in joining a youth parliament in the area. There was also a school council being setup at Bourne End Academy which could then link in with a potential youth council for Beeches. Mental health of young people was a primary concern due to lockdown and employment concerns.

Actions:

- **Jack to work with TFB to compile flooding hotspots for the Community Board area and develop an action plan.**
- **Jack to enquire with the Parking Manager on arrangements to present Burnham & Taplow scheme to the Parish Councils.**
- **Jack to liaise with Paula Prince on funding routes available for Community Board applications.**

7 Covid-19 Response

The Covid-19 response for Community Boards was laid out.

- Crisis funding has been made available and members of the board were encouraged to contact Jack for this.
- Feedback was being collated from groups that had received previous funding, a breakdown was included with the Budget Update.

8 Proposed Roundabout on Lake End Road, Dorney

The application for the proposed Roundabout on Lake End, Dorney was approved for

funding.

9 Community Matters

There were no questions submitted.

10 Community Board Funding Applications for Approval

The application from the Dorney Playground Management Group was approved for funding.

11 Slough Multifuel Construction Project Liaison Group

No update available.

12 Engagement Update

Jack updated the Community Board on engagement.

- The Facebook page for the board was up and running, members were encouraged to like and share it to raise visibility.
- A newsletter was confirmed to be in the pipeline and a platform for this was to be arranged through the communications team. It was expected that the newsletter would be produced quarterly.

13 Budget Update

A budget update was provided to the Community Board.

- It was confirmed funds would need to be allocated to priorities by 31st March 2021.
- The Community Board had allocated £20,000 to the Crisis fund. The £17,000 from the Health and Wellbeing Fund would be used first for this Crisis Fund.

Actions:

- **Councillor Trevor Egleton and Councillor George Sandy to investigate Kissing Gate options and funding routes.**

14 Community Board Action Plan

The Community Board Action Plan was noted.

15 Ongoing Buckinghamshire Council Consultations

The Ongoing Buckinghamshire Council Consultations were noted.

Beeches Community Board Funding Report - 2020/21 Date of Decision 18/11/20

Organisation Name	Dorney Parish Council
Project Name	Lake End Road/Village Road/Court Lane Roundabout
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities
Total Cost of project	c£33,600
Amount of Match Funding	£5,000 from Dorney PC and a proposed £15,000 from BC Highways
Amount being applied for	£13,600
Amount suggested	£13,600

Project Summary

To improve road safety at the junction of Lake End Road, Village Road and Court Lane in Dorney, by replacing the staggered junction with a roundabout.

A proposed roundabout at this location has been discussed since a temporary roundabout was installed for the 2012 Olympics when Eton Rowing Lake was used as a venue. The roundabout proved to be successful but was only temporary. Since 2019, Highways England have been carrying out M4 junction 3 to 12 Smart motorway works which have caused much disruption to the residents of Dorney, with the replacement of 2 bridges across the Thames within the boundary of Dorney. Highways England have offered to install the roundabout as a gesture of goodwill while they have contractors working in the area. However, a Design and Safety Audit first needs to be carried out by Transport for Buckinghamshire at a cost of £18,600.

The roundabout also requires the installation of lighting columns at a cost of around £15,000. This cost would be for non-heritage style lighting columns, rather than heritage style columns which would cost roughly double this amount. The Buckinghamshire Council Highways team have indicated that they may be able to provide the c£15,000 to fund the installation of these lighting columns, if this scheme is seen as a priority by the Community Board.

How does the project address local priorities?

Infrastructure & Highways: This project would improve road safety in this location, which would align with the Community Board’s priority for Infrastructure & Highways. Dorney Parish Council has provided a petition along with their application which shows that the installation of a roundabout has significant support with over 500 signatories.

How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

Strengthening Our Communities and Protecting the Vulnerable: This project would make the junction safer for all road users. This is a main junction in the centre of Dorney used by local residents, churchgoers

from St James the Less Church, organisations using Dorney Village Hall, schoolchildren travelling to Dorney School, and users of Eton Rowing Lake.

How does the project achieve value for money?

This project achieves excellent value for money as the proposed works to construct the roundabout would be undertaken by Highways England at no cost to the Council. Additionally, Dorney Parish Council have agreed to commit £5,000 of match funding towards the design and safety audit costs. Discussions have also taken place with the Buckinghamshire Council Highways team, who have indicated they could contribute £15,000 to cover the installation of lighting columns, if this project is seen as a key local priority.

Community Board Coordinator comments

This project represents an excellent opportunity to secure a significant road safety improvement at a relatively low cost to the Community Board.

It is recommended that any agreement from the Community Board to fund the design and safety audits for this project should be contingent on securing funding from the BC Highways team for the installation of lighting columns.

The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.



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Dorney Parish News

Published monthly (except January and August)

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RATE OF SUBSCRIPTION: £5 per annum for 10 issues

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