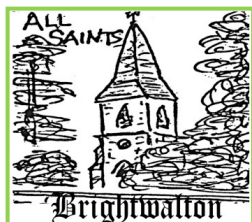




Brickleton News

Village Footpaths For all walkers in the village

Please can we remind all to pick up after their dogs. Once again we have received complaints of dog fouling across all the village footpaths, particularly on the paths off Ash Close. This is thoroughly unpleasant for other users. On the same note, crops are being damaged as the paths across farmland are being made wider and wider by walkers in the muddy weather, please be respectful and keep to the paths. PC.



Christmas was not quite the same as usual, and the Parish Council organised a wonderful tree with lights in the churchyard. On the Sunday before Christmas villagers enjoyed a socially-distanced carol service outside.



GREEN BINS

The garden and food waste collection service will be suspended from **Monday 18 January until Friday 29 January 2021.**

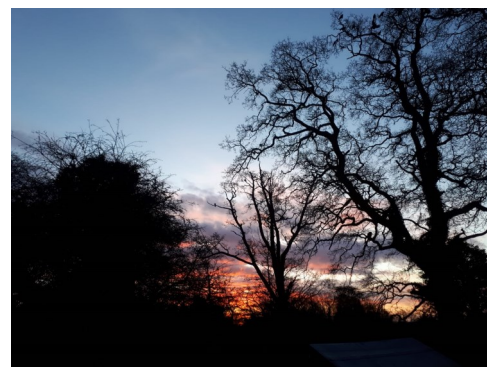
The Council are asking residents whose garden waste is due for collection during this time not to put their green bin out until the service can be resumed again. Extra bags will be allowed in February.

Black bins and recycling will be as usual.

Brickleton News is a bit of an antique in the fast-moving modern world. In the two months between editions, so much can happen, so it is hardly surprising that Facebook and the Internet have stepped in as the preferred medium. Several items a day appear on Facebook offering up to the minute news about missing cats, road condition, local bakery, takeaway food, items for sale, or sometimes appealing for information. Television News doesn't deal with very local updates about COVID-19 that we need to know about, so here the Internet is invaluable with daily updates about vaccination. The Downland Practice is right at the forefront. Information is at our fingertips—**but** you do need a computer, and the older generation often cannot cope. Some people have said that anyway they much prefer a piece of paper to read, than a computer screen. So we continue with Brickleton News and write what we hope is interesting or useful. If nothing else, the Parish Council minutes are a great source of information and keep us informed six times a year.

Village website. Your Council maintain an excellent Website. Find time to explore all the available menus and you will see just about every bit of information you will ever need, including who to contact further. Visit www.brightwalton.org.uk

Distractions from Covid. Walking for many has become the highlight of the day, when it wasn't raining. In April and May, that wasn't a problem, but then it became too hot. Earlier starts to avoid the sun moved forward, and became the norm. Autumn brought dawn later until walks became dawn walks, and a revelation of wonderful sunrises and discoveries. The resident white owl at Dunmore hunts in the twilight. The horses in their paddocks toss their heads in greeting. It is good exercise, and a focus for the day. Breakfast is eagerly awaited.



Well done Villagers for providing a lovely display of lights around the village this year over the festive season. We had a good reason to exercise our legs each evening after dark. Maybe more next year and perhaps a Christmas Party?



Notice of the Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 9 February
Everybody is welcome to ZOOM in
At 7.30 pm

ZOOM instructions will be sent out by email if you are on one of our lists. If not, please get in touch. (see last page for contact details).

SIR PHILIP WROUGHTON KCVO 19 April 1933 – 7 November 2020

Sir Philip Wroughton, who died peacefully at home on 7th November 2020, aged 87, was a proud family man, and a much loved friend of many, both young and old. Our thoughts are with his wife Catriona, their 2 daughters Kirsten and Carolyn, and his five grandchildren, and their extended family, all of whom he adored. The villagers of Fawley stood outside their houses, and lined the lane with all of the Woolley Shoot community, as a mark of respect to say farewell to Sir Philip, as the hearse passed slowly by on his final journey to St Mary's Church.

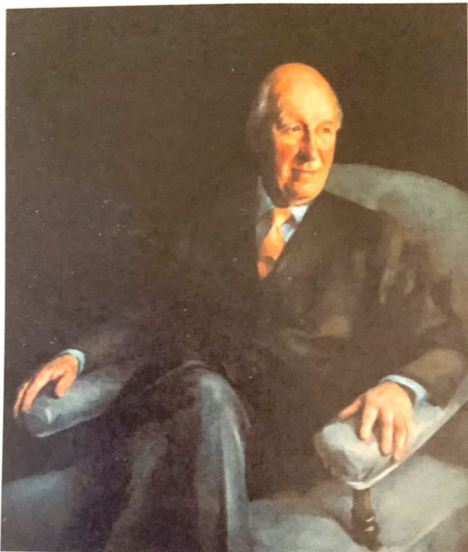
The following information is extracted from Sir Philip's obituaries in the Daily Telegraph, and Newbury News:

"Sir Philip Wroughton was born on 19th April 1933 in London, and was named after his great uncle, Philip Wroughton, who was killed in 1917. His father, Michael Lavallin Wroughton was born a Puxley, but changed his surname to Wroughton in 1931, in accordance with the Will of his late uncle. Woolley Park had passed by descent for 450 years, coming to the Wroughton family in the early 1800s through the female line. During the Second World War Woolley was requisitioned by the Navy, so the family moved to Woodlands St Mary, returning to Woolley in 1946, when a young Philip was sent to Eton. He then did his National Service with the King's Royal Rifle Corps.

He moved to London, in 1954, to work for Price Forbes, a firm of Lloyds brokers. He then joined C T Bowring in 1961, which was subsequently taken over by the American firm Marsh & McLennan – he became responsible for all their broking business worldwide outside N America. In 1994 he was made deputy chairman of Marsh worldwide.

In 1972, on the death of his father, Philip and Catriona (nee McLeod, whom he married in 1957) took on Woolley Park, and restored it. Beyond the Woolley estate Philip became High Sheriff of Berkshire in 1977. In 1985 he was president of the Newbury and District Agricultural Society. He won many cups in the society's growing crop competitions. He made many improvements to the farm buildings and won a Country Land and Business Association Prize for the best conversion of redundant farm buildings into modern-day offices.

In 1995 he was appointed as The Queens Representative, The Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire. He was involved in nearly 200 royal visits. He retired from the role in 2008 having been bestowed the honour, by the Queen, of Knight Commander of the Victorian Order (KCVO). He was a Governor of St Mary's School, Wantage. He founded the Mary Hare Foundation, raising £8m for the school for the deaf. He was Trustee of the Berkshire Community Foundation. He was also involved with the Princess Royal Trust for Carers and the Prince Philip Trust. He hugely enjoyed shooting and racing, co-owning several horses with Ian Cameron and John Dunlop – one of which, Emerging Market, won the Wokingham Stakes at Royal Ascot in 1996 at 33-1. "



Philip took his countless responsibilities seriously, with authority, but always with a twinkle in his eye. He captivated everyone he met with his quiet and kind nature; he was inquisitive and always interested in whatever they had to say. He loved all things Berkshire, and was very put out when the County boundaries were re-drawn, as Woolley's postcode was subsequently changed and the Estate became listed as Oxfordshire! Another sadness for Sir Philip was the closure of Brightwalton Cricket Club; he was a competitive Chairman, who delighted in a fiercely contended annual Chairman's XI v Brightwalton Cricket Club match.

Philip was a Patron of the West Downland Benefice, with the Bishop of Oxford and the Dean of Westminster. The Patron's primary role is the selection of the Incumbent. Our present Incumbent, Reverend Miriam Keen said "It was a real privilege for me to work with Philip as he felt that his responsibility to the parishes extended far beyond the appointment of the Rector. I certainly appreciated his wealth of local knowledge, his grasp of local politics and his concern for our communities."

He transferred ownership of Dunmore Pond to Brightwalton Village to mark the new Millennium. As a memorial to Sir Philip, the Parish Council is looking at the possibility of planting an avenue of trees down the length of Brightwalton Hill.



We have three table-tennis tables at the village Hall, but no club. This surplus folding table is now going to anyone who wants it. It is in good condition and could be the answer to activity during lockdown.

Please get in touch!



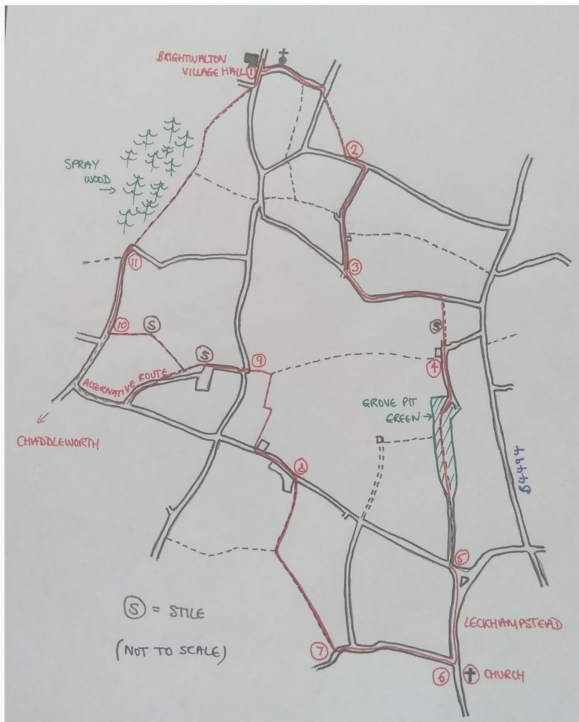
Farming report January 2021

Happy New Year to you all and let's hope this year is better and we can all get together again.

Since my last report we are into the winter routine. All the cattle have now come into the cattle yards and have to be fed twice and bedded up once each day. Because we are little short of silage this year we fed them straw to start with but have now started on the silage camp. The bedding up and the feeding are both done by machine. The silage is fed from what they call a feeder wagon, the silage is loaded in the back and is fed out of the side into the mangers. The bedding up machine works on a similar principal. The big bale of straw is placed in the back of the machine and it is blown into the yard. Very different from years ago when they would have done all this by hand. You may be wondering what is silage well basically it is pickled grass. It is cut in June stored in what we call a clamp which is covered with a plastic sheet and when we need it we remove the sheet and cut it like a cake. Here are some photographs of the silage clamp, the feeder wagon and the bedding up machine (sorry the photographer is not that good!)



We have also just done our yearly TB test which is when all the cattle on the farm are tested, all was well thank goodness, although we did have one exciting moment when one of the young stock decided to jump out over the gate, perhaps we should put a saddle and bridle on him! The arable side of the farm is quiet but you may have noticed that Dunmore field is looking very green and lush. It was planted with a cover crop in the autumn, whose job is to stop the nitrogen leaching away, come the spring we will spray it off and direct drill into it so the dead matter encourages the worm activity in the soil.



Walkies!

Jane and Steve Terepin have walked a few extra miles in the last few months and have worked out an excellent route for you to follow, plus a plan. Find it on the village website where you can download full route instructions.

BRIGHTWALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Held on Monday 11th January 2021 at 8.00pm via Video Conference

See the Brightwalton website for a full copy of the minutes, plus other news and events – www.brightwalton.org.uk

Minutes: The November PC and Millennium Green Trust meeting minutes were agreed and signed as an accurate record. There were no declarations of interest.

PCC Update: It has been agreed that no fundraising can take place in the current climate. The project is currently £13,000 short from being able to commence the Phase 1 work. Clerk agreed to look at grant opportunities.

ASPIRE Update: It was agreed by all that the village Christmas Tree and Carol Service had been a great success and very welcome in the run up to Christmas with all the Covid restrictions. It was agreed that the tree should continue year after year. Clerk to double check money owing to neighbour for providing electricity.

Matters Arising:

Laura Farris, MP for Newbury: Laura joined the meeting from 8 until 8.30pm. Laura was pleased to report that the vaccination centre had gone live at Newbury Racecourse today, this has been a link up between 10 GPs in the area. 5,000 vaccinations are expected to arrive in the next 10 days and these will be distributed equally amongst the GPs taking part in the link up. It is expected for this to just be a starting point and going forward vaccinations will be able to take place more locally in surgeries and pharmacies. West Berkshire has been slightly slower

than some, but both Wantage and Didcot were part of the trial scheme hence why they started earlier. All the local GP's were hesitant about making the programme work which is why the Racecourse centre has been a joint operation. The Oxford /AstraZeneca vaccination is on its way out to the care homes in the district. Questions were asked about how older patients were expected to travel to the Racecourse from the rural villages, it was expected that the WBC hub and surgeries would be sending more details on this over the coming days. Also questions regarding how the government scrutinises statistics, Laura confirmed that death rates were 24-72 hours after the event which does cause the mid-week rises, but the 30,000 stated as currently in hospital was a true representation, with the situation on hospital capacity in London at a critical level. Laura agreed to write a small update for the Brickleton News.

WBC Report: Councillors thanked Cllr. Hooker for the December report. It was noted that the opportunity to bid for some of the £500,000 CIL money had now passed and the PC expressed disappointment that this had not been publicised better in December, especially as it may have been useful for the ASPIRE project. Cllr Hooker to feedback. Cllr Hooker reiterated the concerns that many have had with the delays to the vaccination programme locally and the frustration WBC have had with this. It has been led directly by the Government and the GP's and it was reassuring to hear that the Downland practice were one of ten in the district working jointly to put this in place at the Racecourse.

Diocese of Oxford lease for playing field: The new 20 year lease was agreed and a cheque for the additional June 2020-June 2021 of £71 plus VAT was signed. Clerk to formally sign and return lease to Diocese of Oxford solicitors. Clerk reported that the lease would need to be registered with the Land Registry at the cost of £70-£100. Clerk to organise.

Review budget and agree precept for 2021/22: Despite some unexpected costs for the renewal of the playing field lease and the addition of the village Christmas tree, savings elsewhere had left spending in line with income at £7,340. Costs for 2021/22 were forecasted at £7,100, a small 3% increase in precept was agreed to keep spending in line with income taking the precept to £7,100, equating to a £40.36 contribution from D band house in the village (previous year £40.11).

Latest Covid-19 Lockdown: The Downland pharmacy are in the process of setting up deliveries through village volunteers for those identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable who have been told to self-isolate and are not able to ask family or friends to collect for them. Other patients have been asked to collect medication as they normally would. Further details to follow. Reminder posted on Facebook and website of contact details for help if required just before Christmas.

Memorial to Sir Philip Wroughton: Councillors agreed that an avenue of trees down from Keepers Cottage junction to Woolley would be a fitting memorial. The family were in agreement and stated that Sir Philip had already discussed replacing the trees on this roadside before his passing. Cllr Cooper to discuss with the local farmers. Cllr Cooper & Cllr Orpen to walk the route and agreed spacing and number of trees required. Cllr Hooker informed that WBC had been offering some trees for planting previously – Clerk to investigate. Clerk to check location of Gigaclear cables on the verge and also double check required distance from roadside with Highways. A discussion was held on naming the road after Sir Philip as it was believed that this was currently unnamed, however it was reported that the road was already known locally as Brightwalton Hill, so therefore it would be inappropriate to lose the historic name.

Cycling Proficiency: Following the conversation at the November meeting in reference to the School Cycling Proficiency, the PC concerns were raised with the school. The school stated that they had dealt with the matter directly following the parent's complaint and believed that a satisfactory response had been received from the provider and copied to the parent. The Parish Councillors still felt strongly that the route was inappropriate but agreed it was a school matter and not for the PC to be involved further in.

Playground Maintenance: Councillors thanked Simon Mirams and Dave Judge for replacing the broken gatepost. Conversations with WBC and the VH had not solved the bin emptying issue, Clerk reported that without setting up a new contract with an external supplier at excessive cost, the bin would need to continue to be emptied by volunteers. Temporary bin lid in place to try and stop the bags filling with rainwater. Councillors thanked Stuart and Michael Breadmore for continuing to mow the playground, Clerk to organise letter and thank you gift.

Brickleton News Articles: Memorial to Sir Philip Wroughton. Article from Laura Farris, MP (for March edition)

Planning: It was stated for the record the status of 20/02395/HOUSE The Paddock – One and a half storey extension and addition of dormers to existing dwelling. Amended plans had been granted by WBC.

Finance: Invoices and Receipts: Balance of the Current Account as of 11/01 is £4,474.67, savings account £7,865.12

Transactions since the November meeting: Chq 200087 04/12 Wel Medical Defib battery and pads £283.02 (inc £47.17 VAT); Chq 200088 04/12 S Youldon Christmas Tree Expenses – Lights £265.97, Electrical bits £65.38 (inc £55.22 VAT); Chq 200089 04/12 S Orpen Christmas Tree purchase £65.00; Chq 200090 04/12 S Youldon – Weebly 24 months hosting £151.20 (had to be paid online); S/O 04/01 S Youldon Oct – December wages £419.04; S/O 04/01 HMRC PAYE Q3 £104.60.

Received £165 Members Bid for Christmas tree. VAT return submitted for 2020 totalling £634.83

The following cheques were signed: Chq 200091 Diocese of Oxford £85.20 (inc £14.20 VAT); Chq 200092 Imprint Colour Brickleton News January printing £65.00

Clerk reported that the Millennium Green Trust Charity Commission annual return for the period 30/03/19 to 01/04/20 completed and submitted 23/12. Zero spend / income.

Any Other Business:

Memorial Bench for John Hall-Craggs: Permission to replace the bench in the Churchyard had now been agreed and contributions from villagers had been pledged to around £400. Cllr. Orpen to discuss contribution from the VHC, PC agreed to make up the difference, up to a total of £200.00.

Broken Drain Cover: Cllr. Wyatt reported a broken drain cover on Pudding Lane, he agreed to post the details on the WBC Report a Problem site.

Footpaths: Since lockdown the dog fouling on footpaths had become particularly bad again. Clerk to supply additional reminder signage. It was also noted that with the bad weather the footpaths across farmland were becoming wider and wider and therefore crops were being trampled. Reminder to respect footpaths to be posted in Brickleton News.

Website: It was noted that the MP and churchwarden details were out of date on the village website. Clerk to correct.

Meeting closed at 10.00pm.

The 2021 Meetings will be held: 8th March, 10th May, 12th July, 13th September and 8th November