BRIGHTWALTON VILLAGE

Brickleton News

Issue 242

July 2022

Raising funds for **Ukraine**

Donating via the Disasters Emergency Committee

A CONCERT IN BRIGHTWALTON CHURCH

A mix of light classical and Eastern European music Featuring: -

Piotr Jordan, a professional freelance violinist originally from Lodz, Poland. Piotr performs Eastern European music in addition to his classical repertoire

Chris Terepin, a professional freelance cellist, whose family home is in Brightwalton

Both are donating their time to come and play in support of the people of Ukraine

Sunday, 31st July 2022

7pm

There will be a request for donations on the night for the DEC Ukraine Appeal

Refreshments will be available to purchase



Maintenance at Cherry Tree Avenue



The village **prescription service** is being run by Richard and Leone at 14 Ash Close. They receive ordered prescriptions from the Downland Practice Pharmacy on Tuesday mornings. These will be available to collect from Wednesday to Friday between 9am and 5pm. **Many Thanks to Rik and Leone** for reviving this valuable service, and saving villagers many car-miles as well as time.

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday September 10th.



WHY? It's the annual Ride & Stride event!

This national event happens every year in every county.

In 2021 Berkshire raised nearly £25,000 which was terrific and this year we want to do even better. Any mode of transport is fine – you could walk, cycle, ride - simply choose a route and find lots of sponsorship from all your friends and family.

You can go by yourself or in a group, any time between 10am and 6pm. There are so many wonderful and interesting churches to visit, many will be open and offering refreshments too.

Your nominated church will benefit hugely as they will receive half of your sponsorship. The remaining 50% goes to Berkshire Historic Churches Trust which in turn makes generous grants to churches in need.

More details will be provided closer to the event from your local co-ordinator (Gill Judge at dgmsjudge@gmail.com) or from the BHCT Ride & Stride website http://www.berkschurchestrust.org.uk/ride-and-stride. Prue Matchwick, Berkshire Ride & Stride Co-ordinator

The Weather—David Gardner

With 41mm of rain in the month, June was yet another relatively dry month. It was much less than June 2021 (86mm) and significantly less than the previous 20-year average for June (51.7mm). The Moving Annual Total has continued its downward fall from its most recent peak of 897mm in July 2021, and is now down to 538mm. The present dry weather looks set to continue. Whether the MAT falls below the lowest level since I started keeping records in 2002, which was 500mm in February 2012, remains to be seen. I make no forecasts!

Broadband

In the last Brickleton News we talked about a plan to ensure that our village's broadband infrastructure was updated to take it well into the 21st Century. We had proposed that we would use the OFCOM's voucher scheme to upgrade the broadband infrastructure around The Green, Honesty Bottom, Pudding Lane, and Southend to full fibre to the premises in line with the rest of the village covered by Gigaclear.

Well, time has moved on, and our village has been put on pause for the voucher scheme as it will hopefully be included in the next round of Project Gigabit rollouts. So, we're waiting to find out what this will entail and how long it may be, but from an initial look supplier selection will be concluded by April 2023 with rollouts commencing in the 2023/2024 financial year. The Parish Council will keep in touch with West Berkshire Council on the progress and keep you up-to-date on what is happening.

Would JUBILEEve it? Brightwalton celebrated the Queen's Jubilee in style.



The rain held off, so some picnicked outside.



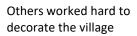




While others fed inside.



And the children had somewhere to play.





£66 was raise through the bar and donated to the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

The Parish Council is pleased to confirm that the Cricket Practice Nets were completed in July, ready for lots of use over the summer. The new framework and heavy duty nets look great and come complete with an extra section at ground level to stop hedgehogs and alike getting caught in them.

We know the school were very excited about the installation so we hope they will prove invaluable to them too.

The Parish Council wishes to thank the Brightwalton School House Trust and West Berkshire Council Parish Grant scheme for their financial contributions. The remaining money came from the Community Infrastructure Levy funds that the parish received from West Berkshire Council. Thank you also to West Ilsley Cricket Club that donated their old framework which has been used to help construct these.

We look forward to seeing them get lots of use.



Brightwalton Parish Council



Home Farm News—Evelyn Bracey

I hope you are all enjoying the sun. As you can imagine things on the farm have been busy. We took silage off the field down by the cross roads not once but twice. The first cut filled the silage clamp to about halfway. We were then lucky to get some rain at the right time and so we were able to take a second cut from that field plus one of the park fields so the clamp is now full ready for the cattle in the winter. Now onto haymaking, we cut one of the park fields last Monday and we are now baling. We do get a contactor to bale the hay as a baler is a considerable amount of money and for the amount we do it would



not be sensible. We do have more hay to cut but the week ahead is looking hot so we should make it without any rain on it. Interesting two ways of preserving grass drying it and pickling it ready for the winter.

The rape has been sprayed off and should be ready for combining either at the end of this week or the beginning of next so yes it may be that we are doing two jobs at once but with the modern equipment this is now possible. The other crops wheat and barley are looking good so hopeful of a good harvest. As we all know things in the Ukraine are still the same so it is important that our home harvest is a good one.

So what of the cattle? Well they are out in the top park and I have to say we are having to feed hay as the grass is looking a little brown so if it could rain on that field it would be perfect! Hopefully the bulls have done their best and the cows will all be in calf.

I just would recommend that if you can access it there was a very interesting programme on Radio4 on the 13th June at 11.30 called The Price of Bread. Well worth a listen. Hopefully in my next report we will be almost finished harvest.



Leckhampstead WI News

After our very successful July garden party, with wonderful weather and good company, we are now getting ready for our August 10th meeting at Leckhampstead Village Hall at 2.30. Rachel Brown will be coming to talk to us on "Surface Pattern Design". Many of you may have already seen Rachel's lovely greeting cards and textiles.

If you would like to join us please contact Mary-Ann Brown (0796 6361648)







Providing Community Transport Services To The Downland Villages Of West Berkshire

Volunteer drivers required! Are you a car driver and able to spare a couple of hours a week or even a month? Then we need you!!

The Downland Volunteer Group (DVG) is a registered charity providing transport to medical appointments for patients within the Downland Practice area. We need new volunteers to join our friendly team so if you have transport and a few hours to spare please do get in touch.

Tel: 01635 578394
Email: dvg_office@btinternet.com
https://www.downlandvolgroup.org

ISSUE 242

BRIGHTWALTON PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES FOR APPROVAL AT THE MAY EETING

Meeting Held on Monday 11th July 2022 7.30pm in Brightwalton Village Hall

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

Minutes: The minutes of the May meeting were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

Declaration of Interests: None

Open Session: Nothing raised. Cllr Hooker's June summary had been forwarded on email.

Committee Updates

Village Hall Committee: A Agnew agreed to assist on the update of the VHC and PC usage documents with ABG, EM and SY.

ASPIRE: Clerk to set up meeting with steering committee to agree advertising strategy now funds are in place.

Matters Arising

Superfast Broadband coverage: Since publishing article in the May Brickleton News, the government website has been updated to say that the Brightwalton postcodes are no longer eligible for the gigabit voucher scheme as they will be included in the Gigabit Project roll out. T Wyatt to make enquiries with WBC to see when this may become active and write short update for Brickleton News.

Playground Mowing: The Councillors thanked S Breadmore for mowing the playground voluntarily for the last few years. Contract agreed with P Hiscock for the remainder of the year. Agreed this would be reviewed again in January.

Playground Repair Works: Councillors approved quote of £429 to replace the swing bridge chains and shorten bridge to reduce the steepness a little. Funds to be re-allocated from other projects to make up the additional £129 required. Clerk to investigate grants for the lower priority replacement of ladder and climbing grips on the square climber at £655. Councillors considered offer from Chieveley PC for their current metal climber, agreed costs of installation and refurbishments would be more than the refurbishment of the existing. S Orpen to go back.

Request to Refurbish Phone Box: Following request from parishioner, initial quote received to sand down and repaint the telephone box exterior. Clerk to obtain 2 further quotes and report back. Not accounted for in this year's budget, Clerk re-visiting budget with recent changes and will update Councillors when quotes received.

Information Boards: Agreed that the board for the Old Churchyard will be reconsidered at a later date and budget would be re-assigned. Councillors agreed that the best way to acknowledge the tree avenue dedicated to Sir Philip Wroughton was to update the existing board at Dunmore Pond. T Wyatt to revisit the artwork. Clerk to obtain new graphic quote.

Vice Chair Appointment: T Wyatt and S Orpen to discuss the role.

Cricket Net Installation: Clerk reported that the new nets were now complete. ROSPA had advised that a No Climb sign should be installed – done. M Cooper to look at how we can dispose of the unused poles with the concrete bases on.

Brickleton News Articles: Clerk to check if Mike is writing up jubilee and share the amount donated to DEC. T Wyatt to write paragraph on broadband. Clerk to write piece on Cricket Nets.

Finance

2021/22 Accounts: PJK Littlejohn auditors confirmed acceptance of exemption on the 20th June. Public notice inspection rights notices are currently in place and runs until the 22nd July.

Account balances, income and expenditure since the May meeting

Current account balance as of 11/07 £3,043.46; savings account £7,591.98

Half year VAT return submitted 2nd July totalling £1,404.69

The following payments had been made since the May meeting:

16/05 DD ICO Data protection annual fee £35.00; 23/05 BACS G Judge Bar Licence for jubilee £21.00; 23/05 BACS S Sayers Refund from Chair Allowance £40.00 (inc £6.67 VAT); 26/05 CHQ 200103 S Youldon Expenses for Operation London Bridge £29.95; 13/06 BACS Scofell May Mowing £260.05 (inc £43.34 VAT); 13/06 BACS Imprint Special Edition Brickleton News £116.00; 13/06 BACS S Youldon Glasses for Jubilee £59.99 (inc £9.98 VAT); 13/06 BACS Arkells Jubilee Bar £121.54 (inc £20.26 VAT); 28/06 BACS Clerk Wages Q1 £514.90; 28/06 BACS HMRC PAYE Q1 £128.60; 28/06 BACS Zurich Insurance (5 year as agreed) £366.96; 28/06 BACS Oxford Diocese Field & Hall Rent £694.80 (inc £115.80 VAT); 28/06 BACS CJM Services Cricket Net Installation £6213.62 (inc £1036.60 VAT); 28/06 BACS P Hiscock Services Playground Mowing £120 (inc £20 VAT).

The following payments have been received:

£167.63 Jubilee Bar; £1222 Grant from School House Trust for Cricket Nets

It was noted that with the additional playground mowing the PC would spend over the original forecast, Clerk updating budget for September meeting.

The following payments will be set up:

Scofell June Mowing £260.05 (inc 43.34 VAT)

Profits from the Jubilee Bar to be transferred to the DEC Funds for Ukraine £66.35

Transfer of £100 to Millennium Green Trust account to keep account in place and pay for new graphic panel at Dunmore Pond.

Clerk Reports & Any Other Business:

Tree Avenue: Agreed new trees should be watered this week, Clerk to co-ordinate on email.

Highways: Clerk shared info from WBC on the winter service plan consultation, this stated that there were no changes to the gritting routes. Agreed that the village salt bins should be topped up before winter and parishioners encouraged to use them. Clerk agreed to report the verges for cutting back and speak to highways again on the resurfacing of the road towards Brightwalton Common.

Stonewater Housing Association: Had been contacted about the fly tipping on the land adjoining the Village Hall. Clerk to follow up as required.

Defibrillator & First Aid Training: Options and quotes had been circulated on email. M Cooper to forward on alternative contact details.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

The remaining 2022 Meetings will be held: 12th September and 14th November at **7.30pm**

bricnews@gmail.com

Next Edition Deadline— Wednesday 14 September 2022

Enquiries : Mike A 07867614480

Find Brickleton News and other Village affairs on the Village website www.brightwalton.org.uk

Brightwalton Parish Council pays for the Brickleton News printing but is not responsible for the editing or content It is delivered to your door every two months