



# BRICKLETON NEWS

September 2019

Issue 225

*Autumn is often a time for new ventures—new school year, getting fit, starting new activities. This autumn we are hosting a table-tennis club at the village hall most Mondays. Why not try it?*

*The village hall has a wonderful shiny floor for the season which will be enjoyed by the pre-school nursery and Brickleton babes.*

*Soon the volunteer poppy ladies will be collecting for the Royal British Legion. Did you notice, we had our very own poppy field in early summer—see the picture below.*



Brightwalton is hosting the Benefice Armistice **Memorial service on 10th November at 11am**. We would really like to have a Trumpeter and/or Bagpipe player. Do you know one who could do it? Please contact John Draper.

## Sue Furnell—Stop Press

Sadly, we report that Sue is leaving Brightwalton. She has lived in the round house behind the rectory for several years and has always taken part in village activities enthusiastically. She organised some amazing musical events at her home. We wish her a happy future.



## Heads and Shoulders Knees and Toes, Knees and Toes

### Tai Chi

After years of abuse my shoulders had refused to work for years. I could not lift my arms above shoulder height or touch the back of my neck and I felt as if I had no armpits at all. Putting a 'bra on was a daily tussle.

I know this sounds like an ad, and I suppose in a way it is. I started to go to a fantastic osteopath in Newbury, but he could only get me so far in the movement department.

I then thought about perhaps a gym or Pilates, but, at my age, once on the ground they would have to employ someone to get me up again!

I finally hit on trying Tai Chi, and after a few months of this amazing Chinese thousand-year-old work out, I can touch the back of my neck again and my arms are beginning to lift higher and higher. The class is from 10a.m. - 12noon. The first hour is very gentle exercise which works every single part of the body. We then have a break for 30 mins to drink water and chat. There then follows the "Form", the familiar movements we see being done by ancient bodies all over China in public parks. I have managed to learn the first few movements of this and it is great fun.

The purpose of these few paragraphs is to recruit a few more pupils. It is a small private class, at present six of us, and costs £10 Per session. The instructor is the fabulous ex ballet dancer Alma Lopez-Tolman who has been instructing for over 20 years and has worked with the Master. Classes are held in the British Legion hall in Church Way, Hungerford. At the moment I am going on my own and have room in the car for 3/4 more. Alexandra (Sam) Pic-ton.

In aid of Brightwalton Primary School and ASPIRE

# THE BRIGHTWALTON WALK

**SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER**

Meet at Village Hall between 10.30 to 11.00  
Collect your map and set off.  
2 walks of 1.5 miles or 5 miles  
£5.00 per person, £15 a family, £4.00 concs.  
BBQ. Nature Trail for the children  
Dogs welcome but must be kept on a lead  
Please purchase your tickets in advance from  
Clare Draper: [Clare.draper@jadit.co.uk](mailto:Clare.draper@jadit.co.uk) Tel: 01488 639627  
Miranda Cooper: [mikeandmiranda@hotmail.com](mailto:mikeandmiranda@hotmail.com) Tel: 01488 638752

## From Clive Hooker, your District Councillor

### PC Andrew Harper

I am sure that everyone, like me, was shocked and saddened by the death of PC Harper when responding to a report of a burglary near to Sulhamstead earlier in the month. The matters are now part of a criminal investigation and I cannot add any additional comment.

West Berkshire Council along with many other organisations observed a minutes silence and the flag at our Market Street office was lowered to half-mast. There is a book of condolence in the Council reception area for anyone wishing to sign.

West Berkshire Council has a good working relationship with Thames Valley Police and this has continued through this difficult time.

### Planning permission granted to Newbury College

Plans to establish the University Centre at Newbury (UCN) took a significant step forward with the recent granting of planning permission for the multi-million pound development. The Centre will provide degrees and other higher level qualifications in the key sectors of digital technology, business and finance, engineering, health and social care and construction.

### Updated Local List of Heritage Assets

Following a six-week public consultation period, which ended on 22 August 2019, a further six heritage assets were added to the Local List of Heritage Assets. Detailed information can be found on the link <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/localist>

### West Berkshire Climate Conference

The West Berkshire Climate Conference will explore different ways residents, businesses, local organisations and the Council in West Berkshire can help tackle the climate crisis. The free conference will be held on Monday 28 October at Newbury College. Tickets will go on release on 16 September via the Council's website. More information about the conference will be published in the coming weeks on our website, on [our Facebook page](#) and [our Twitter page](#).

### Thames Valley Berkshire Smart City Cluster project funding

WBC has awarded Berkshire-based company Thingitude a grant of £100k from the Thames Valley Berkshire Smart City Cluster project (funded by Thames Valley Berkshire LEP) to deliver an innovative real world trial until next February, to address the issues and impacts that slips, trips and falls have on the elderly, help them to look after themselves better and provide valuable information to help with care planning.

The award is one of four to be made in the first round of competitive calls and gives WBC the opportunity and innovation to work directly with local businesses to improve services for our residents - preventing falls among our most vulnerable residents and, more widely, providing excellent adult social care are among our top priorities as a council and this ground-breaking project is enabling us to do that.

### New train timetable

West Berkshire Council welcomes the announcement by [Great Western Railway \(GWR\)](#) that there will be a new timetable serving the Thames Valley from December 2019.

On the popular Reading to Newbury route, passengers will benefit from an increase to three trains an hour, journey time improvements of around five minutes, and a more consistent service throughout the day with up to two fast services an hour running through to London Paddington. There will also be a third train each hour during peak periods on the Reading to Basingstoke line improving links to Mortimer Station. With improved links, more seats and faster and more frequent journeys from West Berkshire stations to popular destinations like Reading and London, residents and businesses can celebrate these upcoming changes..

[See more on the website](#)

## Annual Working Party – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 10am at the Village Hall

We are keen to see some new faces along with the regular supporters for the Annual Village Working Party on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October from 10am.

Even if you can only spare an hour, please join us and take pride in the village in which we share. It is a family occasion where all help is welcome, with refreshments, cake and hot dogs for all the workers.

Tasks include hedge cutting, weeding, sweeping and general tidying at the War Memorial, Dunmore Pond and Playground.

Please bring what tools you have available. Tasks can be found for all abilities!

We look forward to seeing you there – thank you

**Brightwalton Parish Council**

### Friday 20 September Popup Pub



### Popup Pub

How do you meet villagers? We haven't got a pub. True, but we do have an occasional Popup Pub at people's houses around the village. How do you know when there is one? Just sign up to be on the email list (see contacts at the bottom of page 4) and you will get a notification.

## **TREASURE AT MANOR FARM**

Metal detectorists always hope to unearth treasure from times gone by, and when the 'Let's Go Digging' club visited the field known as Wards Ground at Manor Farm Brightwalton it was a lucky day for club member Leonard Barnett. Leonard found a gold finger-ring in the form of a belt looped through a buckle. Inscribed on the inside of the ring were the Italian words 'Altro Non Chiedo', which roughly translates as 'I don't ask for anything else'. It was a love token.



As required by the Treasure Act 1996, the find was reported to the local Coroner, who has declared that rings of this general design are known as early as the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The ring has been confirmed as meeting the criteria for Treasure under the terms of the Act, and the British Museum has agreed with Landowner Dan Whidbourne to buy it for £8,000. It is expected that the ring will be displayed for a time in the West Berkshire Museum in Newbury.

A landowner shares the value of treasure with a finder. Dan has told the Chairman of the Aspire project for All Saints Church that he would like to make a donation to the project from his share. Dan says he feels that in all likelihood the ring was owned at some time by a Brightwalton villager, so it seems right that this turn of fortune should benefit the church, and particularly the village school whose increased use of All Saints is an aim of the project.



### **Reporting Speeding Traffic**

The Parish Council has been made aware of this link on the West Berkshire Council website where anyone can report speeding vehicles. West Berkshire Council do not have the powers to enforce speed, so all incidents involving excess speed should be reported to the Police as normal too, but this does record the frequency and provide the evidence needed to engage the District Council and Thames Valley Police for problematic areas. The web address is: [www.westberks.gov.uk/speedingtraffic](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/speedingtraffic)

### **Brickleton Babes**

Every Tuesday morning between 9 and 10 Mums and toddlers meet up for informal play and chat at the village hall. If you are a Mum (or Dad) or even a toddler, why not come and join in. The group are looking for volunteers to help run this group, so if you are interested, or just want more information, please contact Cate

## **BRIGHTWALTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**General Meeting Held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall**

*See the Brightwalton website for a full copy of the minutes, plus other news and events – [www.brightwalton.org.uk](http://www.brightwalton.org.uk)*

The meetings of the July meetings were agreed and signed as an accurate record. There were no declarations of interest.

### **Matters Arising:**

**Book on the Reliance Motor Services & Brightwalton:** This book written by Barrie Hedges should be published in April next year. Mr Hedges had approached to the Parish Council wanting to give something back to the Parish and offered to donate money from book sales to benefit the future of Brightwalton. He had suggested the ASPIRE project, the PC were delighted with the offer and agreed that the ASPIRE project would be a good cause. S Orpen to provide further details on the project to Mr Hedges.

**Facebook:** Following a complaint regarding inappropriate postings, Councillors agreed an updated version of the User Agreement, clarifying that the page is a community page set up by the PC and it was not the responsibility of the PC to monitor and moderate posts. S Youldon to post the updated agreement. S Youldon presented a Complaint Procedure document, Councillors agreed adoption and posting on the village website. It was agreed that the Facebook Administrators would be updated with J Boxall being removed and S Youldon added.

**Highways – Road Signs:** Clerk was pleased to report that the Village Signs had now been fixed and replaced, along with the Chevron on the bend at Lilley.

**Highways – Speed on B4494:** Several residents attended the SID training as suggested by WBC only to find that it could not be used on roads over 30mph. They were however asked to share a link to the WBC website where speeding vehicles can be reported - [www.westberks.gov.uk/speedingtraffic](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/speedingtraffic) - although the Council cannot enforce the speed limit it does help to gather data for problem areas. Link to be published in the Brickleton News. S Youldon reported that efforts are still ongoing in getting a data recorder installed again so evidence obtained from this can help get a police presence on the road and move The Holt VAS request forward.



**Playground:** PC had received a report of an incident on the smaller climbing frame rope. S Orpen & Scott Youldon to investigate and rectify over the next 24 hours. It was also noted that weeds keep coming through the rubber chippings and was agreed that they should be sprayed at the October working party.

**Playing Field Benches & Goals:** M Ananin had reported that the benches outside the front of the hall were in need of replacement/refurbishment. Councillors to look in daylight and consider options. Suggested that this could be replaced as well as the goal post with the assistance of the VHC and a grant. Also there could be an opportunity for donation of a memorial bench. S Youldon to investigate options, speak with VHC and look at costs for a combination rugby / football goal.

**Remembrance Sunday:** Councillors agreed the £30 donation towards a Poppy Wreath, decision on who will lay the wreath on behalf of the PC to be made nearer the time.

**Dog Fouling:** Much discussion was had on this subject, with reports that the new signage improved the situation on those particular paths for only a few weeks. Several Councillors also reported on pick up after others recently too, and a suggestion from a parishioner of adding more dog bins had been received by the PC. In line with the recently updated Parish Plan, Councillors unanimously voted against increasing street furniture with more dog bins. Having expressly stated in the Parish Plan its aim to limit any increase in street furniture such as this, on the basis that one of the major objectives is to protect the rural nature of the environment in which we live. Discussion went on to the other two challenges that more bins create - limited evidence that this will eradicate the problem along with the cost. The current bin by the playing field is emptied by WBC for minimal cost, S Youldon reported that WBC were not able to add further bins to their rota and a private company would have to be contracted for these at a cost of £200 - £250 per year, per bin. It was also noted that once we start introducing bins, several would be required and where would you stop, escalating annual costs significantly. The PC agreed that the focus should be on education and reminding dog owners that fouling public footpaths and mown grass areas is not acceptable and for the most part it feels this works reasonably well with only a small minority of dog owners not taking this on board. S Orpen to respond accordingly to parishioner, reminder notices to be placed in the Brickleton News.

**Working Party:** Provisional date for autumn working party – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Councillors to confirm availability on email, S Youldon to write notice for Brickleton News. Task list currently includes Dunmore Pond: Pull logs out from pond, remove remaining logs, strimming of pathway. Playground: Spray / removal of weeds in safety surface. War Memorial: Weeding, hedge cutting, removal of faded wreaths, sweeping. Playing field: M Cooper to cut hedge around playing field. The Holt: Cutting back around signs and white gates. The Councillors agreed that more engagement is needed from parishioners for the annual working party as it's often the same hard workers year after year. Agreed that more notices should be put up around the village and more postings for the event should be put on Facebook.

**Brickleton News Articles:** Link to report on speeding vehicles, reminder on dog fouling, notice on Working Party, and Catmore Christmas Eve Service.

**Planning: 19/01205/FUL Brentani, Brightwalton** – Proposed construction of a stable and associated storage area and fenced hardstanding to front – WBC granted this application, copy circulated to Councillors

**19/02102/HOUSE Hope Cottage, Brightwalton** – Proposed construction of a detached oak framed garage with space for two vehicles. PC reviewed plans and objection letter from parishioner. Councillors expressed concerns that the garage may sit higher and dominate Hope Cottage as no plan showing finished roof heights had been provided, plus the block plan submitted did not appear to show the boundary correctly which was thought may have an impact on the accessibility of the garage. S Youldon to raise concerns with WBC and request further drawings for clarification.

**Finance:** Current account balance as of the 16/09 £4,708.36 Business savings account balance £5,356.34. This includes the following transactions: Chq 200038 30/07 Imprint July Brickleton News £65.00; Chq 200039 02/08 Scofell July Mowing £223.70 (inc £37.28 VAT); Chq 200040 02/08 Active Toy Co. Balance of Playground Works £2,857.48 (inc £476.25 VAT); The following cheques were signed at the meeting: Chq 200041 16/09 Scofell August Mowing £223.70 (inc £37.28 VAT); Chq 200042 16/09 S Youldon Mar to October Expenses (postage) £12.20.

Clerk submitted VAT return for £1,652.72 for the period 01/01 to 31/08 on the 01/09/19.

Clerk confirmed submission of final documents to WBC for the completion the playground project in line with the terms of the Parish Plan grant.

**ASPIRE Update:** The ASPIRE team were disappointed to report that DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee) had finally come back on the plans and did not support the construction of the gallery and room behind. This removes the separate heated space that they hoped to create, but it was agreed that given the time and effort it had taken to get to this stage the plans would be redrawn and submitted removing the gallery. This is expected to reduce the money required for the work by £80,000, making the total around £320,000. Once the new plans have been signed off the team will then be able to apply for the larger grants. Next fundraising event is the Brightwalton Walk taking place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October in aid of the ASPIRE project and Brightwalton Primary School.

**PCC Update:** J Draper reported that the Bishop of Oxford will holding a service in the Benefice on the 24<sup>th</sup> November. It was also reported that due to the popularity and Health & Safety concerns with numbers, combined with only the one exit, a decision had been made to hold two Candlelit Christmas Eve Services at Catmore Church, one at 2pm and the second at 3.30pm. They will be by ticket only, with a maximum of 80 tickets per service sold. Details will be published in the Brickleton News.

It was noted that the PCC are still looking for more volunteers and a new Church Warden.

**Any Other Business:**

**Fly Tipping:** There are currently two instances of fly tipping in the Parish. P Swann to report online to WBC.

**WBC Events:** Date for District Parish Council Conference is 22<sup>nd</sup> October. WBC are also holding a Climate Conference on the 28<sup>th</sup> October – this is open to all, S Youldon to post details on the website.

**November Meeting:** Apologies received from S Orpen and A Agnew for the 11<sup>th</sup> November meeting.

**The remaining 2019 meeting will be held 11<sup>th</sup> November**

Please e-mail contributions to me at [bricnews@gmail.com](mailto:bricnews@gmail.com) or, if handwritten, deliver in good time.

**Next Edition Deadline— Wednesday 13 November 2019**

Find Brickleton News and other Village affairs on the Village website [www.brightwalton.org.uk](http://www.brightwalton.org.uk)

Brickleton News is delivered to your door by volunteers