

The White House
High Street
Southwick
PO17 6EB
Telephone: 02392 380 802

The Chaplain writes.....

Dear Friends

We have just celebrated Easter. The harrowing story and liturgy of Holy Week and Good Friday is a reminder to us of the worst that humanity can do and the worst we can do to one another. Jesus experienced denial, desertion and as an innocent man he was misunderstood, tried and condemned to a cruel death

Easter day on the other hand is witness to the fact that God doesn't agree with the world's verdict on Jesus. Easter is then a celebration of forgiveness over condemnation, of love over hate, of truth over lies and of life over death.

This victory of forgiveness, love, truth and life, far from being a remote religious phenomenon, is at the heart of everything our world needs and everything we as human beings need in order to move towards a state of being we all long for in which we know ourselves to be loved and to be entire, complete and perfect. It is a position we long to return to when, in our lives, we experience the loss of power, love and self expression.

We do well to take to heart the essence of the Easter story and all it can mean to us and for us in our lives – especially when like Jesus, our experience or the experience of others in our world feels more like Good Friday than Easter Day

Maybe he can't stand on his feet anymore and suffering has shaped his character but this speech by Pope Francis from a few days ago is simply amazing! It is a reminder to us of the presence of God in our lives, in our joys and also in our struggles and our suffering. And reading it makes good practical sense as we consider how we are co-conspirators with God in

helping to make our own lives and the lives of others all that they have the potential to be. Here it is:



“You can have flaws, be anxious and even be angry, but don't forget that your life is the greatest business in the world. Only you can stop it from failure. You are appreciated, admired and loved by many. Remember that being happy is not having a sky without storms, a road without accidents, a job without effort, relationships without disappointments.

“Being happy is to stop feeling a victim and become the author of your own destiny. It's going through deserts, but being able to find an oasis deep in your soul. It's to thank God every morning for the miracle of life. It's kissing your children, cuddling your parents, having poetic moments with your friends, even when they hurt us.

“To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us, free, joyful and simple. It's having maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes". Having the courage to say "I'm sorry". It's having a sensitivity to say "I need you". Is having the ability to say "I love you". May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness... that in spring I can be a lover of joy and in winter a lover of wisdom.

"And when you make a mistake, start over. Because only then will you fall in love with life. You will find that being happy doesn't mean having a perfect life. But she uses tears to irrigate tolerance. Use your defeats to train your patience.

"Use your mistakes with the serenity of the sculptor. Use pain to tune into pleasure. Use obstacles to open the windows of intelligence. Never give up ... Above all, never give up on the people that love you. Never give up on happiness, because life is an amazing show. "
POPE FRANCIS

Your affectionate friend and Chaplain, Simon

St James and St Nicholas Churches Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll is the Church's register of electors; it is the list of those qualified to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting where elections take place for:

- a. The Parish Church Committee
- b. The parish's representatives on the deanery synod

Any person entitled to attend the annual meeting may raise any question of parochial or general church interest

By enrolling you become a member of the Church of England and so help to ensure that the synods of the church are represented by its members.

To qualify to go onto the Church Electoral Roll the criteria are in declarations 1 and 2 on the form

Application forms are available on page 4 or from the chaplain, Rev Simon Brocklehurst,
e: revsimonb@btinternet.com t: 07905 318016

**APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT ON THE CHURCH
ELECTORAL ROLL OF THE PARISH OF:**

Full name _____

Full address _____

Postcode _____

I declare that

1 I am baptized and am aged 16 or over
(or, become 16* on _____)

2†

A I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and am resident in the parish.
or

B I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and, not being resident in the parish, I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

or

C I am a member in good standing of a Church (not in communion with the Church of England) which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and also declare myself to be a member of the Church of England and I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

I declare that the above answers are true and I apply for inclusion on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish.

Signed _____ Date _____

* Those who become 16 during the next 12 months may complete the form, and become eligible to be entered on the roll on their sixteenth birthday.

† Tick one only of boxes 2A, B or C.

New Book of Remembrance for Southwick Church

This new Book of Remembrance was dedicated on Easter Day and contains the names of departed loved ones.

To qualify for an entry in the book it is desirable that the deceased:

- i. *was a resident of the Southwick Estate,*
- ii. *had an historic or ongoing association with either of the two Estate Churches, or*
- iii. *are family members of either of the above.*

Should you wish to add a name to the book, please complete and return an inclusion form, available from the chaplain or the sidesmen's table, or use the copy printed in this edition of the magazine.

The book will be kept in a locked case, lovingly made for us by Raymond Hayward, a retired cabinet maker and worshipper at St Nicholas' Church. Pages will be turned monthly to reveal the names listed for each successive month. There is a draft copy of the book near the font which can be inspected at leisure

Southwick Estate Churches Book of Remembrance

To have a name entered in the Book of Remembrance, please complete this form and return it to Rev'd Simon Brocklehurst The White House, High Street, Southwick, Fareham, Hants PO17 6EB

There is no specific charge for an entry to be made in the book, but a voluntary donation (min £10) is requested in order to cover the cost of making the entry and maintaining the Book of Remembrance.

Full Name of the Deceased (capital letters)

.....

Date of Birth

Date of Death

Please enter here your name, address and a contact telephone number

.....

.....

.....

Please note that **additions** to the book are made approximately every three months. **Criteria of qualification** of a name to be entered in the book are:

- i) Residence on the Southwick Estate,
- ii) Historic or ongoing association with either of the two Estate churches,
- iii) Family members of either of the above.



BEER AND SKITTLES EVENING

For St Nicolas' and St James' Churches and friends
In The Kings Head Skittle Alley, Wickham

7_{pm} Thursday 30th May

£5 per head

Sign up on the list at the back of Church
Bring a friend. Everyone welcome

SOUTHWICK AND WIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

9th January meeting

Members: Cllr J Watson (Chair) (P) Cllr A Hinton (P) Cllr N Cutler (P) Cllr P Stallard (P) Cllr J Houghton (P) Cllr T Parkinson (P) Rev Cllr S Brocklehurst (P) Cllr Hibberd (P) Cllr G Clark (P)

Also present, Mayor of WCC/D/Cllr Angela Clear, D/Cllr Chris Chamberlain and Karen Seear – clerk to the council.

The Chairman began the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes from the previous meeting on 12th December 2023 were received. It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes were a true record of the business that was transacted.

Public Matters:

C/Cllr Stallard had written a report (previously circulated), She had written to the Police regarding the drifting issue and also requested more input from the Police with possible attendance at council meetings or reports sent in. She requested that everyone records the number of times they make calls to the Police, as the Police only have it on record that drifting incidents have been reported 5 times. She suggested a log be kept as to when the call was made and the incident number kept. The Chairman who has knowledge of how incident reporting is dealt with by the Police stated that residents must keep on reporting the incidents, as often incidents will become downgraded, depending on what else is reported locally. It was reiterated that all incidents should be reported on the 999 emergency number. C/Cllr Stallard is still waiting for a response regarding reports and attendance at meetings and the Chairman is still waiting for correspondence back from Donna Jones the Police and Crime Commissioner. It was suggested that the issue be raised with the WCC community partnership, who may be able to offer help.

C/Cllr Stallard spoke about the number of people in Hampshire with dementia, currently there are 12,412 people suffering with the condition. This is expected to rise by 45% in years to come, with women more likely

to suffer than men in the 65+ years age group. Pharmacies are being encouraged to look at helping out as many health services are already over-stretched. Cllr Parkinson mentioned that the Gosport War memorial hospital is overwhelmed. The social care element of precept monies pays towards this care. Cllr Houghton asked whether the government could assist further?

C/Cllr Stallard mentioned that there are a high number of elderly residents living in Hampshire. The County Council work closely with Hampshire Hospitals and will assist where possible, for example like taking people from hospital and putting them in care homes, freeing up hospital beds.

The Chairman had a query regarding fly-tipping, the government have scrapped the charges for disposing of DIY waste, he asked C/Cllr Stallard whether she felt that this will improve the situation? It was mentioned that HCC are currently facing serious financial difficulties, one of the options they are looking at is closing some of the HWRC centres. There is an 8-week consultation going out, whereby cost cutting is being considered. The consultation will look at everything that is discretionary eg museums, adult care, buses etc. in attempts to save money. Thanks were given to C/Cllr Stallard for her report.

D/Cllr Clear gave a verbal report, speaking firstly in her capacity as Mayor of Winchester. She mentioned that nominations are welcome for the WCC community awards. The closing date for these is 7th March 2024. If anyone would like to nominate someone that has been of great service to the community it is now a chance to have their work recognised by nominating them.

D/Cllr Chamberlain spoke about the upcoming visit from a representative from Horizon Leisure, who will be attending the next council meeting in February. He will be talking about how residents can access their services as well as outreach services. Monies have been requested from WCC to help fund the regeneration of Havant Leisure Centre. Cllr Cutler gave a verbal report he also mentioned the consultation regarding cutting costs of discretionary services, it is now live. Action on homelessness is being considered by WCC. A few councils have become overwhelmed with homelessness. At present the number of people without homes is not at the same sort of level, but problems may arise further down the line. The

20mph speed limit is also being considered. This will be costly to implement however.

He went on to speak about fly-tipping figures being published by DEFRA. There had been a huge increase in the district. WCC figures have doubled. It is hoped that the changes in charging for DIY waste will improve the situation. WCC fly-tipping officer has been able to make some prosecutions due to the usefulness of CCTV cameras. Cllr Cutler stated that he has asked WCC to change the issue on the “Report-it” section of the WCC website, as currently there is confusion over whether reports are going through and received.

Community Safety: The local PCSO for the village has been named. It is hoped that Police surgeries may be held in the future.

Correspondence: Correspondence had been received from the council’s insurance company; quote previously circulated. It was thought that the renewal price seemed reasonable and the council should accept the quote. Correspondence from the play inspection team at Winchester City Council had been received, it was agreed that the council should go ahead and book the play inspections for the price of £58 per site.

Playing Field Matters: The Chairman had chased the fencing company regarding the required maintenance work. Regarding usage of the field, the clerk had sourced the original play field deed document which had been circulated to everyone concerned. This had clarified some of the queries. The Chairman has liaised with Mr Thistlethwaite who had revised and amended some of the phrasing of the terms of use of the playing field. The terms state that if users wish use of the field for any other use other than what it is originally intended, that they apply to the Parish Council. The D-Day revival for example benefits the children of the village in that the event raises money and entertains children. The Chairman asked all to consider the document and if it is acceptable to let the hall committee know. The council wishes to support village establishments and the key element of the terms is that the council agree any change of use. It was suggested that hall users have use of the playing field to the left of the trees. It was also suggested that a £250 deposit is paid by users and if the terms of booking are abused, this deposit would be lost. It was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to accept the terms and conditions of the use of the playing field.

Street Lighting Matters: Cllr Cutler mentioned that all of the military lights had recently been out of action. The Chairman will pass on contact details of the maintenance contractors. Cllr Houghton stated that streetlight 29 and 1A were not working. Some of the other outstanding lights have now been fixed.

Roads and Highway Matters: It is not a good time of year for potholes. The potholes leading into the car park had recently been fixed, but due to bad weather, need work yet again. Cllr Hibberd had reported the 30mph street sign that had fallen into disrepair. This work is in hand with Hampshire Highways.

Planning Matters: Cllr Hinton gave a verbal update. He had been keeping an eye on planning applications and had not seen anything pertaining to the Parish Council. The current enforcements are still standing. A new enforcement officer is now working for WCC. The chairman will chase for an update on outstanding matters. Cllr Houghton noted that planning permission for the entrance to a local farm had been granted.

Members Business: Cllr Clark wished to mention that he had seen some concerns regarding overhanging trees shadowing resident's properties in Norton Close. People had been losing their satellite TV signals etc. The Chairman will write to the estate to request a lop of these trees. The trees were originally a hedge but have now grown very tall.

Orders for Payment:

It was unanimously agreed that the Orders were approved and the Parish Council should pay its bills in the sum of £3,962.00. A transfer of reserves is required to cover this amount.

13th February meeting

Members: Cllr J Watson (Chair) (P) Cllr A Hinton (P) Cllr N Cutler (P) Cllr P Stallard (P) Cllr J Houghton (P) Cllr T Parkinson (P) Rev Cllr S Brocklehurst (P) Cllr Hibberd (P) Cllr G Clark (P)

Also present, D/Cllr Chris Chamberlain, two representatives from Horizon Leisure and Karen Seear – clerk to the council.

The Chairman began the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes from the previous meeting on 9th January 2024 were received. It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes were a true record of the business that was transacted.

24.017 Public Matters:

C/Cllr Stallard in her capacity as County Councillor had written a report (previously circulated). She stated that the 20mph speed limit report had been accepted by HCC. If a district/borough/parish wish to implement 20 mph speed zones they will need to self-fund and regulate/monitor it. The Chairman mentioned that in Fareham the drifting problem had been solved as seen in a recent article publicized by the Police. Money had been invested into measures which have meant incidents of drifting had ceased. This was upsetting for the parish council. The village is desperate to see something similar happen. Cllr Cutler stated that the Police had promised to tackle the problem, and set up a special operation program, but these promises had not been kept or acted upon.

D/Cllr Chamberlain gave a verbal report. He spoke about the health facilities to be provided for the new Welbourne development. The first 1,700 residents of the development will be allocated a doctor from Wickham surgery. The surgery at Wickham is a good facility but it is felt that there is currently no room for expansion. This will impact the residents of the village.

The Chairman asked who is responsible for making these decisions? Details are to be provided. The Chairman will contact the relevant authority stating this. The development will be larger than Petersfield once complete and more consideration is required as to where the new residents will go to find health care.

Cllr Cutler provided a verbal report, he spoke about Winchester City Council's current financial situation. The budget is due. He was pleased to

say that the council is in a relatively comfortable position, the budget is balanced. Savings and environmental/ecological improvements are being made where possible. Waste vehicles will be powered by vegetable oil. Food waste vehicles are due to be ordered for the forth-coming food waste collections. It is hoped all waste vehicles will be powered by electric in the future. The city council is able to continue offering the council tax reduction scheme and hardship scheme to residents. It is hoped that the increase to council tax will be 2.6%, (5.5% is the average). He went on to mention that there had been a fall in the number of fly-tipping cases. CCTV cameras being used by Parish Councils are proving successful. 3 successful prosecutions had taken place.

Presentation from Horizon Leisure: The Chairman started the presentation by giving the representatives an overview of the village, the residents and how he believes they currently access leisure facilities. D/Cllr Chamberlain spoke about the request which had been received from Horizon Leisure for £200k. They are looking to secure this from a variety of ways including asking Winchester City Council for a contribution. It is therefore of interest to the Parish that these facilities will provide something in return for residents.

It was explained that Horizon Leisure is a registered charity. Any funds made go back into the community. It was 2015 that the Horizon Leisure centre in Waterlooville had received any investment. An overview of what the centre has planned was explained. They hope to expand the current gym, offer more outdoor facilities (a 7 a-side football pitch and paddle courts) and encourage family activities, getting children involved in fitness as young as possible. They also want to provide a new creche facility, a full café re-fit, a soft play area, new changing rooms and new spa facilities (currently these have not been available). There are hopes for a terrace outside which will become a unique place for fitness. Health providers will be able to offer services here as well as catering for exercise referral programs. Health check-ups were mentioned. It is hoped the leisure centre can target people that currently aren't using the facilities too. The representatives mentioned that there currently is a Horizon Leisure shop in the Meridian shopping centre which works in partnership with Southern Health offering health checks, blood pressure, cholesterol etc. There is a growing interest in this area and lots of opportunity to work together with

outside health and wellness providers. Horizon leisure feel confident that they will provide something of value. With regards to residents in the village, how could Horizon leisure support them? With little to no public transport in the area the idea of Horizon providing transport had been mentioned. Cllr Cutler stated that Waterloo Leisure centre is the most practical facility for residents in the area. The Chairman stated that 60% of residents are over the age of 60, he feels that the desire and need to improve health and well-being as well as the opportunity to become involved is lacking. Could a shuttle mini-bus be provided? D/Cllr Chamberlain suggested running outreach sessions in the D-Day Hall. Cllr Hinton thought if these were to be held, it may have the knock-on effect and trigger more users at the leisure centres. Many users to leisure centres visit on GP referrals. Currently this number is around 400 and is set to increase. The leisure centre would like to encourage as many people to use the facilities, including making it accessible for people on means tested benefits. Holding regular tea dance sessions was a suggestion. Strength based chair workout sessions was another suggestion. There is a wide spectrum and any sessions can be tailored appropriately.

Cllr Stallard mentioned that the current cost of living crisis will mean that the leisure centre competes with places such as the Wickham Pantry as many are struggling financially. Any sessions etc which are provided will have to offer value for money. The Chairman mentioned the married military quarters close by and the families with children. It would be nice to offer them something too.

Cllr Cutler thought that a service similar to that of the Horizon shop would be of benefit to residents, perhaps one day every month with health checks, advice etc. It was thought that GPs in the area may be useful as a point of contact to connect these services. The Chairman asked Cllr Stallard if any funding potentially of capital money may be available for a mini-bus? The Revival could be approached. Enquiries will be made. It was thought this would be of use to residents wishing to not only use the leisure centre but the other amenities in Waterloo.

The presentation was summed up, the representatives explained the next steps that they will be taking working alongside Havant Borough Council and gathering responses to the online survey. A cabinet meeting is due 8th

March 2024 to discuss the project. If the funding is agreed the project will then go out to tender and pre-planning application submitted. The current car park may not be adequate for the number of visitors, so consideration will be given to this. A tree survey will also be carried out. The timescale for the tender of the project is expected to be late Spring/Early Summer. The Chairman went on to suggest to Horizon that while the leisure centre is closed for the work, staff could potentially be re-employed with outreach work including sessions at the village. Thanks were given to Horizon for their time and presentation.

Community Safety: The Chairman was astounded at the Facebook post regarding the drifting incidents in Fareham and that the Police have responded in this way, but continue to do nothing towards solving the problem in the village, not showing up when incidents are reported etc. The Chairman thought that a WhatsApp group maybe useful, residents can communicate concerns. Incidents are still happening on a regular basis. The Police have been asked for reports which could be available at council meetings. They have told Cllr Stallard that these cannot happen, due to resources etc. D/Cllr Chamberlain will reach out to both Fareham and WCC Police on behalf of the Parish Council and report back with any further information etc.

Correspondence: Correspondence had been received from Citizens Advice, they have asked for a grant again this year and gave information about the number of residents in the village that they have assisted. The clerk reported that the grant the council had made on previous occasions is usually around £150. It was unanimously resolved to pay the grant.

Playing Field Matters: The broken fencing had been fixed with no charge to the council. The playing fields policy had been finalized with one amendment. Once this had been agreed the policy will come back to the parish council for a decision.

Works to trees has been chased. The hedges next to the area will be cut.

Street Lighting Matters: The lights to the military areas were recently reported as not working, these have now been fixed. Lamppost 29 has had a new lamp fitted. There is no fault with 11A.

Roads and Highway Matters: Many potholes keep appearing in roads in the village, the bad weather is not helping cases of these and also hinders the repair process. All are encouraged to keep reporting them

Planning Matters: An enforcement case was mentioned, the Chair will chase for an update.

Website Matters: The clerk reported that she was having trouble using the version of WordPress that the website providers use. She will ask for training/guidance on how to make the required updates to the website.

Election 2024: The clerk had circulated some information about the elections which are due this year in May. Cllr Hinton and Cllr Stallard both report that they will be leaving the council, although Cllr Stallard will attend meetings as County Councillor. The clerk will circulate the required electoral forms to councillors when available as well as any other information required. There will be councillor vacancies this year.
NOTED.

Members Business: Rev Cllr Brocklehurst reported that the youth club sessions were now taking place and are proving worthwhile.

Orders for Payment:

It was unanimously agreed that the Orders were approved and the Parish Council should pay its bills in the sum of £2,219.00.

The meeting closed at 8:50pm

Date of next meeting - 19th March 2024 at 7:30pm (rescheduled from 12th March 2024)

The Wickham Pantry - a helping hand, not a hand out...

- free membership
- only come when you need to
- choose your own groceries
- free fresh fruit and veg
- pay a £5 donation and receive three times that in groceries
- no referrals or qualifying benefits required
- if you need us, we are here for you
- membership is not postcode restricted

How does it work?

- pop along on a Tuesday when the pantry is open to sign up for your membership - you'll be shown the ropes by one of our fabulous volunteers
- Come and shop on Tuesdays - you pay £5, and choose two blue items (meat, high value items) and eight red ones (staples)
- collect some free fruit and veg, and sanitary protection if needed
- bring your basket to the bagging area to bag up - and that's it!



**OPENING
TIMES:
TUESDAYS**

1PM - 3PM

6PM - 9PM



**For more information, go to Facebook: @thewickhampantry or email
Kate at: wickhampantry@gmail.com**

www.wickhamcommunitycentre.org.uk

Tel: 01329 833688

Email: contact@wickhamcentre.co.uk

Charitable Giving to the Church and Community

The generous giving of Church members and visitors to our churches enables the day to day running of our two ancient churches, St James', Southwick and St Nicholas', Boarhunt. Southwick and Boarhunt Churches have also determined to look beyond our own needs to needs of the wider global, national and local communities.

Our giving to charities in these communities is matched, pound for pound, by the Southwick Estate's *Church and Community Trust*, (generously set up by the late Robin Thistlethwayte) thus doubling the amount we are able to give to our carefully chosen charities

Charities supported this year include:

Southern Domestic Abuse Service

Helping and supporting victims and rehabilitating perpetrators of domestic abuse

The Elizabeth Foundation

A national charity supporting young children with all degrees of deafness

Wessex Children's Hospice Trust (Naomi House and Jacks Place)

Providing respite, end of life and bereavement support for seriously ill children, and their families

Music Fusion

A Havant based music charity working with young people experiencing challenging life circumstances

Mind

Supporting people with mental health issues

Hope into Action Portsmouth

Helping young people move on Independently from homelessness. Giving homeless young people a future

Tear Fund

Working globally to bring an end to extreme poverty and injustice

Church Mission Society

Helping people in Ukraine and other troubled regions to overcome fear with love through practical service

Rowans Hospice

The Rowans provides palliative and end of life care to the highest quality for those living with a life-limiting illness. The Rowans is our main charitable giving recipient

Life Words

Working to make the Good news of the Bible accessible to everyone

The Royal British Legion

Providing a lifeline for thousands of serving and ex-serving personnel and their families.

THE DOMESTIC ABUSE CHARTER

Current Safeguarding legislation expects all Churches to have policies for the protection of children and vulnerable adults. Accordingly our two churches have published their policies for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults on our website and have adopted the following policy for responding to allegations of domestic abuse:

This Church

2. Understands domestic abuse to be the abuse of a person physically, sexually, psychologically, spiritually, emotionally, socially or financially within an intimate or family-type relationship, which forms a pattern of coercive and controlling behaviour. This can include forced marriage and so-called 'honour crimes'.
3. Holds that domestic abuse in all forms is unacceptable and irreconcilable with the Christian faith and a Christian way of living.
4. Accepts that domestic abuse is a serious problem, which occurs in church families as well as in wider society.
5. Undertakes to listen to, support and care for those affected by domestic abuse.
6. Will always place the safety of men, women and children affected by domestic abuse as the highest priority.

7. Will work with domestic abuse support agencies, will learn from them and support them in appropriate ways, and will publicise their work.
8. Believes in a God of love, justice, mercy and forgiveness.
9. Will teach what it means to be male and female, equally made in God's image.
10. Will play its part in teaching that domestic abuse is a sin.
11. Will seek to appoint advisors to encourage the use of good practice guidelines and to keep the church informed about the implementation and development of these guidelines.

If this article has raised any concerns for you then the following are here to help:

- Stop Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0330 016 5112
- Southwick and Boarhunt
Safeguarding Officer
Elizabeth Flegg 02392 374 660
- Rev'd Simon Brocklehurst 07905 318016
- If it is an emergency call 999

RAINFALL FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2024



January	85.3mm
February	172.1mm

February rainfall was by far the highest figure ‘since records began’ at Offwell (1988). And virtually frost free.

By contrast February 2023 was the driest with only 5.6mm

Boarhunt Parish Hall Update

In December 2022 all houses in the Boarhunt Parish were provided with a questionnaire regarding the Parish Hall. The feedback we received was overwhelming in that most people thought the hall needed updating. As a result, the Parish Council then engaged with an independent building surveyor to review the Parish Hall.

The surveyor advised that due to the poor condition of the building it needs to be updated as it currently has high maintenance and heating costs. The Parish Council were quoted £200,000 - £250,000 to bring the hall up to modern standards such as insulating the walls & roof, replacing doors and windows along with replacing the existing boiler.

To build a modern/efficient community centre would cost approximately £500,000-£600,000.

The surveyor's conclusion was to recommend the village commence a replacement building as soon as possible.

The Parish Council held two public meetings in 2023 (April and September) showing the results of the survey and asked for volunteers to work on a strategy for moving forward.

The current site is free of charge in perpetuity from Southwick Estate if it is being used for the benefit of the community. So, at all costs we must retain this whether it be on the current location or if the Southwick Estate were to agree we could potentially relocate to a more suitable plot of land with the same criteria.

The volunteers drew up a list of five potential options and a rough sketch of how a new community centre could look. Each option has their own positive and negative issues. We have an approximate cost based on a local builder's pricing for the potential building which falls into line with what the surveyor suggested.

We intend to take these options to the Southwick Estate to present all the alternative options and hopefully receive their support. If we have their

approval, we will then consult with the village to show the feedback and look to start working on a final building plan and location before applying for grants.

The team have been looking at other village halls around the local area to try and ensure that we get the best possible design that we can afford. We have also, been looking at all opportunities for grants that we could apply for using experience from other Parish Councils who have recently had new halls built.

The main criteria for the new hall is to make it a ‘village hub’, allowing people to gather in small or larger groups in comfort, enjoy coffee mornings, use if for yoga/pilates etc., mother and toddler groups, host film nights, a meeting place for local clubs and village events etc. It should be a place to bring everyone together.

LOCAL EVENTS

Wickham – A market is held at the Square Cow every last Sunday of the month 10.00am – 2.00pm

Wickham Church Fete – Saturday June 8th from 12.30 – 3.30pm at Southwick Road Wickham, PO17 6HR

Swanmore Amateur Dramatics will be holding their Spring play version of “Murder with Ghosts” on April 25th, 26th & 27th at Swanmore village hall.

The Meon Voices community choir will hold its popular Spring Concert at St Peter’s Church Bishop’s Waltham on Saturday 27th April 2024 from 7.30 p.m. It promises to be an uplifting performance, with music from Gershwin, John Rutter, Vaughan Williams, Cabaret, Adele, and many springtime favourites.

Residents are advised that the annual Wickham Horse Fair will take place on Monday 20 May 2024. Road closures will be in place in Wickham on the day itself and The Square will be closed on the afternoon before and

morning after the date. More detailed updates will be available nearer the time from sources including local police and council websites / social media channels.

Hampshire is renowned for its potholes, and we have our share along our lanes and in our village streets. Please report any to Hampshire County Council at [Report a pothole | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk)

Summer Barn Dance

We are hoping to organise a summer barn dance in the car park at the Memorial Hall with a BBQ. Date is yet to be confirmed as it depends on the ‘Caller’s’ availability but hoped July or August. Please check the Boarhunt Facebook page and the Parish website for more details as they will be updated as we get more information.

This will be open to everyone, and tickets will be on sale nearer the time. **WATCH THIS SPACE!**

Boarhunt Parish Council

MINUTES of the Full Council Meeting held at the Parish Hall 7.30 pm on Wednesday 6th March 2024

PRESENT:

Parish Councillors, Tiggy Ayoub, presiding, Darryl Pynigar & Eddie Schofield

District Councillors: Patricia Stallard

Clerk/RFO: Erin Taylor

Members of public: 6

Apologies – Angela Clear, Chris Chamberlain, Neil Cutler, Carolyne Trew, Wayne Johnson

Casual Vacancies x 1 – Rebecca Aquilina applied and was approved by the Parish Council.

Public Participation and Reports from District Council, County Council and Parish Chair of Hampshire – Patricia Stallard explained the financial details of the recently agreed budget for Hampshire County Council.

The total budget was set at £2.6bn, with an increase in council tax of 4.99% (£1.40 per household per week increase) of which 2.00% is allocated to mandatory services (Adult Social care and supporting older people with complex needs). The increase will generate an additional £39m, Hampshire has one of the lowest council tax precepts of any county in England. Hampshire also receives the third lowest contributions from Westminster.

Hampshire has a population of 1.4m residents and has a better than UK average for life expectancy. For men it is 81.1yrs (UK – 79.5) and women 84.3 (UK – 83.1), this means Hampshire has an aging population that needs caring for.

Mayor of Winchester report – Angela’s report highlighted Winchester had set their budgets with an increase for City council services at 2.60% (£4.07 per year for Band D). Through careful management the Council presented a balanced and stable budget until 2027, when an estimated £3m gap in funding will occur.

Recognising the ongoing cost of living pressure for residents, budget has been set aside for a council support fund and the extension of the exceptional hardship fund. Investment in the Council Plan priority of Homes for All, providing additional support for the council’s homelessness prevention strategy and reducing time after which an empty home will be liable to 100% tax.

This Thursday evening (07/03/2024) is the Mayors Community Awards and I am pleased to see individuals and organisations honoured in our ward. Boarhunt’s very own Ruth Proost will receive an award accompanied by Councillor Carolyne Trew.

Resident – a question was asked about the enforcement at 3 Birchhill Cottages, the Clerk explained that a new planning application is due to be submitted.

Planning Applications

- i. No new applications have been received.

Enforcements

- i. Firgrove Lane has been provided with a three month extension and a new planning application is due to be received.
- ii. 24/00040/COU – Land North of Southwick Road is a new enforcement. Upon further investigation this is for the Dubs South Campout festival at Strawberry Barn.

Boarhunt Environment

- i. **Blackhouse Lane** – The Clerk has surveyed the area to understand the various issues and has requested the Lengthsman to clear the growth from the stream to improve its flow to reduce flooding. Work to start on 07/03/2024.
- ii. **Wickham Court** – The Clerk met with Regency Living to understand more of their plans for the site, the news provided sounded positive. The sewer treatment issue is progressing albeit slowly, with the road closure date still not set. The issue at The Glade is being closely monitored by the resident and the Clerk to provide evidence to Regency Living to resolve the flooding and subsiding driveway problems. No progress has been made on the flooding issues at the back of the site. The flooding issues at The Glade are a priority for Regency Living. A new issue regarding cladding and insulation has been received by the Parish Council with investigations ongoing. The Clerk suggested a face-to-face meeting with the residents involved. The issue of poor lighting at the site has been raised, with one resident highlighting there are three areas with poor lighting. Councillors Ayoub also explained that lighting from the site was shining into residents' homes in Southwick Road.
- iii. **Springfield House** – The site has been surveyed and contractors assigned to complete the work, but no date has been set. A lack of communication from Hampshire has been raised to the Chair of Hampshire County Council.
- iv. **General Flooding** – No new incidents reported since last month. The Clerk needs to know the date, time and location along with pictures to collate the information.
- v. **South Boarhunt** – The Environmental Agency visited South Boarhunt to review the recent flooding, but no response has been

received yet. Photographic evidence of the litter issue in South Boarhunt is required to progress any claim. Clerk to visit site and gather evidence. Traffic volumes issues were raised due to the traffic lights on the A32. Clerk to monitor traffic issues via Google maps at certain times of the day.

- vi. **Village Maintenance** – The playground inspections have highlighted several minor issues which need fixing. Work is scheduled to take place in March when the weather improves. The current estimate is the end of March. Volunteers from Wickham Court have offered to help.

Boarhunt Community

- i. **Easter event** – An Easter egg hunt for the villages children/grandchildren has been organised for the afternoon of Good Friday (29/03/2024). 54 Easter eggs have been purchased and a special guest appearance from the Easter Bunny booked.
- ii. **Summer event** – Planning to start after the Easter event.
- iii. **Village Design Statement/Neighbourhood plan** – currently on hold
- iv. **Speedwatch** – Due to the weather it has not been possible to complete many sessions in the past month.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm
Next meeting of the Full Council – 3rd April 2024

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

First Preference Secondary School in Hampshire

More than 98 per cent of parents in Hampshire (14,312) have been offered a place for their child at one of their three preferences for a secondary school in September 2024.

Of those who applied for a Year 7 place for September 2024 by the application deadline, 90.71 per cent (13,232) have been offered a place at their first preference school. The County Council received 14,587 on-time applications this year – a decrease of 306 on-time applications compared with the number received for places in September 2023 (14,893).

For those parents and carers who have not secured a place at one of their preferred secondary schools this year, I would urge them to please visit our website for advice and guidance on their options -
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

Pupils who did not secure a place at one of their preferences have been allocated a place at their catchment school or the next nearest school with a place available. Parents have the right to appeal against any refusal in these situations and their child's name will be added to the waiting list for their preferred schools. Places can become available via the waiting list for various reasons including parents changing their mind, or families moving home.

Parents who applied online have been notified of their offers by email. They can also view their offer by logging into the secure, online portal using the same log-in details provided when making their online application. Those parents who applied on paper have been notified by email if an email address was provided in their application form or by post where no email address was provided and should receive their letters in two to three days.

A set of Frequently Asked Questions to help with parents' queries has been published on the Admissions webpage -
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/year-seven-offer-day-faqs> This includes information on school transport assistance

which may be available in certain circumstances, where the national eligibility criteria are met (application deadline 31 May).

The Admissions Team is now busy processing main round infant, junior and primary school applications with school place offers due to go out to parents on 16th April 2024.

Budget

£2.6 billion of public spending on the ongoing delivery of important local services to Hampshire's 1.4 million residents in 2024/25 has been approved by Hampshire County Council. From 1st April 2024, Hampshire County Council's portion of council tax increased by a total of 4.99%, of which 2% will go specifically towards adults' social care and supporting the County's higher numbers of older people and adults with complex needs and disabilities - in line with Government policy. This equates to an annual charge of £1,533.24 for a Band D property – an increase of £72.99 per year or approximately £1.40 a week. The increase will generate an extra £39 million of vital income towards the delivery of crucial services to the people of Hampshire in 2024/25.

Alongside revenue budget plans, which relate to the day-to-day delivery of local services to Hampshire residents, the County Council has also approved new capital spending of £880.6 million over the next three years. The three-year programme includes:

£173 million to safeguard the long-term viability of the Older Adult care estate.

£192 million investment in new and extended school buildings to provide school places for children in Hampshire - delivering a further 5,312 school places and giving a total of 19,989 new school places by September 2027.

£163 million for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges.

£73 million of Integrated Transport Plan schemes including £43 million of schemes focused around walking and/or cycling improvements.

£76 million to address condition-based enhancements to schools.

Funding Approved to expand Childcare Before and After School

Hampshire County Council has approved funding of £5.9 million to help more parents access childcare before and after school. The funding has been granted by the Department for Education to support schools and Local Authorities to set up or expand the provision of childcare which ‘wraps around’ the school day, enabling parents and carers of primary school-aged children to access and pay for term time childcare from 8.00am – 6.00pm.

The funding will be allocated from September 2024 over two academic years until April 2026. The expectation is that after this point, settings will be able to run successfully on income from parental fees, without the need for further financial assistance.

Volunteers Plant 950 trees to create Mini-Forest

A new woodland has been created in Havant thanks to local volunteers who have planted 950 trees in Havant Rugby Ground - helping to boost wildlife and biodiversity. A team of around 30 people planted a mixture of species including oak, beech, field maple, hawthorn, blackthorn, wild cherry, and hazel. The project was organised by Hampshire County Council’s Hampshire Forest Partnership.

Groups or communities interested in planting a mini forest or orchard can contact the Hampshire Forest Partnership via its website. The Forest Partnership’s Coronation fund is open for projects that can be planted by March 2025. see -

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/hampshireforestpartnership/get-involved/people-communities>

Silver Line

The Silver Line Helpline, run by Age UK, is a free confidential helpline for older people which is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call free on Phone 0800 470 8090.

Successful Prosecution of Fraudulent Trader

Hampshire County Council has welcomed the successful prosecution of a rogue trader who has been sentenced for roofing fraud to the value of £642,850.32 involving 29 properties across Hampshire, West Sussex and

the Isle of Wight. The prosecution was brought by Hampshire County Council Trading Standards.

Rights of Way

To report a problem on a footpath [not pavement] or right of way contact <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

Eligible for Free School Meals?

To find out if your child[ren] are eligible for free school meals visit - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary>. Please note, Hampshire County Council is unable to provide money to help with school uniforms.

Consumer Rights

If you want to find out your Consumer Rights visit - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/business/tradingstandards>

Potholes

To report a pothole visit - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes>

Patricia Stallard

Directory

Club/Organisation/Facility	Contact Name	Telephone No
Age Concern Village Agent Boarhunt	David Roger-Jones or Head Office	01329 833 165 0800 3287 154
Boarhunt Parish Council clerk@boarhuntparishcouncil.gov.uk	Erin Taylor	07955 725 144
Boarhunt Sunshine Hour Club	Joan Brameld	023 92 421 371
Church Warden, St James	Joan Dickson	01329 220 091
Church Warden, St Nicholas	Edwina Johnson	01329 239 073
D-Day Memorial Hall (bookings) paulinelbailey@hotmail.co.uk	Pauline Bailey	023 93785 298
North Boarhunt Social Club	Mike Fortun	01329 832 470
South East Hants Young Farmers Club	David Norrish	07759 713 070
Parent & Toddler Group	Coral Moule	07521 923 581
Priory Club	Liv George	023 92388 924
Southwick Luncheon Club	Carol Watson	023 92384 069
Southwick & Widley Parish Council	Karen Seear	07504 516 902
Southwick Social & Sports Association	Tony Adams Doug Hunt	023 93 787 065 023 92 321 291

Spare Part Players Pauline Bailey 023 93785 298

Rowans Hospice Eileen Jayne-Wood MBE 023 92324 085

Wickham Surgery Receptionist 01329 833 121

Winchester City Council , Southwick & Wickham ward members:

Cllr Neil Cutler ncutler@winchester.gov.uk 07814015128

Cllr Angela Clear angela.clear@tiscali.co.uk 01329 832923

Cllr Chris Chamberlain cchamberlain@winchester.gov.uk 97727 232253

If your organisation is not listed here, or details have changed, please contact the editor or your co-ordinator with information for inclusion in future issues

The magazine is distributed in February, April, June, August, October and December. Please send items for inclusion by 15th January, 15th March, 15th May, 15th July, 15th September or 15th November to the co-ordinators:

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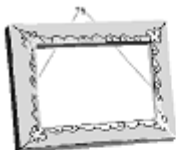
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