

From the Chairman of the Parish Council

Well it's another year bringing with it many challenges for the Parish Council.

These include the Community and Neighbourhood Plans, both different, in the areas they cover, but equally important in terms of determining our aspirations for the future. The Neighbourhood Plan would be a legally binding document that would give us control over any future development in the village whilst the Community Plan will cover all aspects of the village including the environment, transport, community and social aspects, and local business. Our Village Plan which was published in 2009, and which many people in the village contributed to, has been an invaluable tool for guiding the Parish Council and many of the proposals from its action plan have come to fruition whilst the remainder are ongoing.

One of these was to 'Conduct a feasibility study of building a new village hall' and this is very much something which we would like to move forward with and we are currently investigating ways of securing finance to create a new village hall on the village green. As regards the village green itself we had a great response from our survey and details of this are in the current issue. If one considers this together with the 'war memorial' and 'residents issues' surveys it is clear that this Parish Council is striving to interact with the residents of Whitchurch on Thames to find out what their priorities are. So please do get in touch with your councillors if you have any issues in the future.

I must of course mention the Eastfield House appeal. Eastfield House is the 'jewel in the crown' of the conservation area of our village and as such should remain the elegant building it is at the moment, pleasing on the eye and a reminder of Whitchurch on Thames as it was. There is a more detailed response in this issue which I urge everyone to read and then go to our village web site and register your opinion which will be seen by the inspector and influence his decision on the matter.

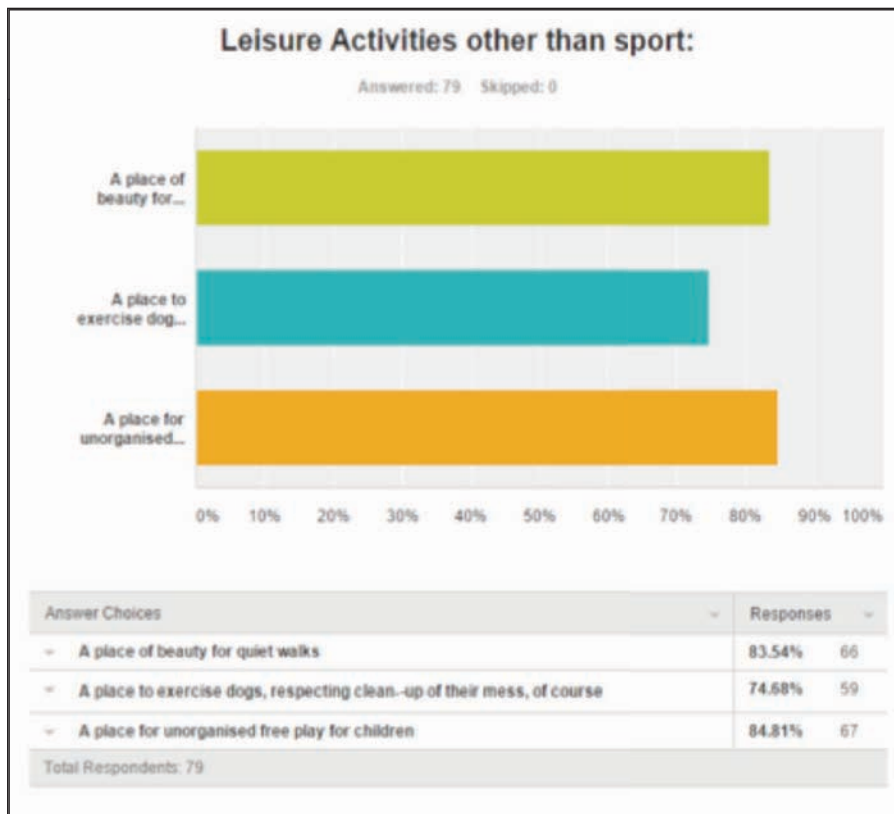
Lastly I must say thanks to all my councillors for all their hard work and welcome our new colleague Rachel Hatcher who has joined our ranks and we look forward to working with her.

Keith Brooks

VILLAGE GREEN SURVEY RESULTS

During September and October, the Village Green Working Group, comprised of members from the School, Cricket Club, Football Club, WOTHabs, and Parish Council initiated a survey via a questionnaire for future use of the Village Green in the Bulletin and an on-line survey.

The full results are now available via the WOT web-site. An example of one of the questions is shown below. This shows that people were generally supportive of the three main uses of the Village Green for leisure activities other than for use by the sports clubs and school, however there are numerous detailed comments to be found in the questionnaire results.



We are pleased that we had 78 responses to the Survey, which approaches one third of households in the village. It is clear from the survey feedback that the residents of the village place a high value on the Village Green for a broad range of purposes. The numerous comments will provide invaluable feedback for planning its future use, including replacement of the pavilion. Some proposals such as adding a fitness trail and skateboard or bicycle ramps are clearly not desired, while others, such as adding a basketball net, should be considered in the future.

Regarding the issue of charging the Football and Cricket Clubs for use of the Village Green, a clear majority were in favour of the Parish Council's recommendation that all required maintenance can come out of the existing Parish Council budget as long as it stays within approximately 10% of the overall Council Budget. The Working Group also supports the separate agreements with the Football Club and Cricket Club, which define specific responsibilities of all parties to maintain agreed aspects of their respective playing fields (e.g. football goals and nets, cricket square). The Cricket Club and Football Club are happy to consider contributing to Village Green costs, on a case-by-case basis. The Cricket Club is also looking to make a fair contribution towards the cost of, and/or help with, fund raising for the new pavilion.

The Cricket Club, Football Club, WoTHabs, and School have all expressed an interest in supporting periodic working parties to maintain the Village Green, including repairs to fencing, the pavilion, and annual clearing. The next working party will be arranged for March.

At the January Parish Council meeting, the Parish Council voted to support the recommendation that charging the Cricket Club and Football Club for use of the Village Green is not required, in line with the survey results. The Parish Council had previously voted not to charge the School for using the Village Green during term time.

If you would like to be part of a growing email distribution list for future on-line surveys and consultations from the Parish Council, please send an email to Councillor James Polansky at polansky@boundaryoak.co.uk.

Jim Donahue,

Village Green WG Chairman

EASTFIELD CARE HOME: Appeal in respect of Proposal for the demolition of the pre-existing buildings other than the retained façade

(Planning AppNos: P15/S1632/FUL & P15/S1641/FUL)

Below is a summarised version of the Parish Council response to the Eastfield House appeal submitted on 23/12/2015. The original proposal by the appellants (Ross Healthcare) was to seek approval to demolish all but the façade of the House to maximise the capacity (number of rooms) that can be provided in the redeveloped property. This would be in addition to the increased capacity already approved by the Planning Dept for the rear of the property.

In June last year, there were some 33 objections from the Village to the proposal lodged on the SODC website. Both the Planning Inspector and the owners, together with their advisors, will monitor the volume of objections in order to gauge the reaction to the appeal. It's fair to say that "planning creep" as it is termed, is often triggered by the tendency for objectors to become tired of the process and Developers can feed off this. Accordingly, the Parish Council would encourage as many people as possible to register their objections to this appeal.



Eastfield House is a key feature of the village and the conservation area. The Conservation Area itself has been clearly defined so as to encompass Eastfield House and in fact the conservation area can be clearly seen so as to have Eastfield House as its boundary. This in itself should demonstrate the importance of this building within the Conservation Area. To demolish all but the Façade would completely alter the fabric of the building, which would be a huge loss to the conservation area and the village. Whilst the appeal states some elements of the interior have already been lost, the retention of the full structure of the building and the remaining interior should be retained.

It is a huge concern that any attempts to demolish all but the façade may result in the façade collapsing. Whilst engineering reports may suggest that it is possible to demolish all but the façade there is a very real risk of the total collapse of the façade. With the building originating in 1880, it would seem unlikely that even with the best engineering expertise that a calculated risk free process of demolishing all but the façade would be possible. It is our opinion that there would always be an element of risk in this type of project.

In the appeal it is suggested that the District Council has not complied with The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 s.71(1) in respect of conducting appraisals. In terms of an appraisal there is no specific timeframe for this other than from time to time. Whitchurch on Thames and the Conservation area has changed very little in many years, as such it could be argued that there has not been a requirement to re appraise or enhance what is an outstanding village with lots of character. Any appraisal is likely to be a paperwork exercise reconfirming the extent of the current conservation area. To suggest that the Whitchurch on Thames Conservation Area is no longer a priority heritage asset is absurd beyond belief and s.5.9 of the appeal should be ignored.

Also it is noted that the building was not listed, however the application to English Heritage should demonstrate the appeal of the building. As such, irrespective of whether the granting of listed status was successful it is argued that the building is of such significance that any proposals to alter the building by way of demolishing all but the façade should be refused.

The appeal intimates that the Councils democratically elected planning committee were not able to make their own decisions and "*Bowed to the pressure of local residents*". Clearly any elected councillor on a committee such as this, acts lawfully with integrity and to discredit such a committee is disrespectful. Local residents are understandably upset at the risk of losing

what is considered to be a key feature of the village however the planning committee would have made their decision based on all evidence available.

Furthermore permission has already been granted for an extensive redevelopment of the site to increase the number of rooms significantly as well as update facilities for residents thus complying with The National Planning Policy section 8. The consent already provided in respect of rebuilding the main care home provides ample provision to provide extra rooms and facilities. The balance between losing a magnificent nineteenth century building to gain a few extra rooms seems totally unwarranted and permission should not be granted. It is also argued that should this appeal be granted it is quite possible that further plans may be submitted to revert to the original plan to totally demolish the building. Should the appellant feel that a total rebuild is the only way then perhaps a brown field site should be chosen for a complete new build facility?

The appellants already have permission to extensively redevelop the rear of the building, leaving the main 19th Century House intact. The appellants have also cited they can redevelop internally as permitted development thus leaving the question as to why a partial demolition is required. It seems totally unreasonable to partially demolish the house where the same floor area and presumably rooms would be equally available by internal modifications. Any attempts to partially demolish the rear may leave the façade vulnerable with the total collapse of the façade a very real possibility. To lose such a fine example of a 19th Century house, in a conservation area through a paperwork issue would arguably be seen as unreasonable.

The Parish Council



EASTFIELD HOUSE CARE HOME: VOLUNTEERING

The residents of Eastfield House Care Home would love to read books but most of them are not able to do it by themselves. If you would like to be a volunteer, and read a book out loud to them from time to time, or you have any other ideas about how could you help by sharing your time with the residents, please contact the manager of the Care Home on 0118 984 2586.

Sally Woolhouse

PANGBOURNE TRAIN SERVICE AFTER RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION

During 2017 we'll see the 25 year old diesel trains which currently serve Pangbourne being replaced by modern suburban electric trains. They will have better acceleration and a higher top speed, so journey times will improve. They will come as 4 car units with 2 + 2 seating, compared with the existing diesel trains which are 2 or 3 car units with 2 + 3 seating, so there'll be more seats and more space.

We'll keep our half-hourly service, but stopping patterns beyond Reading and Didcot will change between 2017 and 2019. When the local electric service starts up in 2017 down stopping trains will only run as far as Didcot, as electrification to Oxford will not be completed until 2018. A connecting diesel stopping service will run between Didcot and Oxford for about a year (Oxford will keep a fast service to Paddington using other trains). When our electric stopping trains can get to Oxford there has been a suggestion that they will in due course run through to Bicester, Milton Keynes and Bedford (the new East – West route), but I think this is unlikely.

The stopping pattern of Pangbourne trains between Paddington and Reading will be taken over by Crossrail in 2019, so it is possible that our existing through service to Paddington will cease and our trains will turn round at Reading. However, I think it is more likely that Pangbourne (along with Tilehurst, Goring and Cholsey) will be served by extending what will be a new GWR half-hourly semi-fast Paddington – Slough (maybe) – Maidenhead – Twyford - Reading service. This would be good for Pangbourne as it would offer a quicker through service to/from London, and should ensure we get new air-conditioned 110 mph Class 387/1 trains, which are the better of the two types of local electric train coming to the Thames Valley.

The overhead wires (25,000 volts AC) are now going up around Pangbourne and work is pushing on to complete the Reading – Didcot stretch as this will be used for testing the new Hitachi main line trains. We should see these passing through by the summer.

Finally, sometime in the future we will see our local stopping trains running as 8 or 12 cars to meet growing demand. This will require platform lengthening or the rolling out of a new automated selective door opening system. This puts the decision on which doors to open under the control of the train's computer: it'll know how long the train is and where it's stopping next, and having decided which doors to open it will announce this as the train approaches each station!

Geoff Weir

SILVER SURFERS INSPIRE 4 LIFE: “WINDOWS 10 HAS ARRIVED”

Are you experiencing difficulty in using Windows 10 or yet to make your mind up whether to install the new system which incidentally is free until June this year. At Silver Surfers Inspire 4 Life we have introduced a new course which will take you step by step through Windows 10 enabling you to get the maximum benefit from the new system. At the end of the 6 week course you can bring you own computer in and we will assist with the download so everything is there for you to move forward.

The next course is scheduled to run from the 18th February to 24th March application forms can be found on our web site together with the other courses that we run.

Silver Surfers Inspire 4 Life is a project run by volunteers and held on a Thursday morning at The Barn, Goosecroft Lane off Beech Rd Purley on Thames RG8 8DR, The added bonus is that there is ample free parking.

Contact can be made by email courses@inspire4life.me.uk or message can be left on our mobile 07743293165 we look forward to hearing from you

Geoff Chivers

Chair, Silver Surfers Inspire 4 life



WHITCHURCH SOCIETY WALKS

New Year's Day 2016

Conditions were rather muddy underfoot, with plenty of rain in the Christmas period, and overcast and mild as some 26 walkers (plus three dogs) completed the 4½ mile circular walk from the Greyhound PH on New Year's Day.

The route, which was a repeat of the very first Whitchurch Society walk on NYD 2008 organised by Eric Hartley, went up Whitchurch Hill, then across the Iron Age fort to Path Hill and onward to Bottom Wood before cutting back to the village along the Mapledurham path via Hardwick estate and Bozodown.

Spring 2016

The Spring walk will be on Sunday 20th March (Palm Sunday) with an 11am start outside the Art Gallery.

The route takes us up to Elvendon Priory via Coldharbour hamlet and the Great Chalk wood and returns to the village via Blackbird Bottom and Whitchurch Hill. The distance is about 6½ miles. All villagers are invited to join us together with family/friends. We anticipate that there will be a colourful display of daffodils on the approach to the Priory.

An alternative shorter walk starts and ends at Whitchurch Hill where you can park your vehicle near the Green and meet the walkers at around 11:20 on the footpath just north of Beech Farm. To find the alternative start, take the footpath heading west from the main road opposite St John's church. After about 300m you will intercept the south-north path where the main route runs.

Richard Williams



Elvendon Priory is the destination for the Spring Walk on Sunday, 20th March (courtesy of Mike Scott)

WHITCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

New pupils, new staff and a brand new classroom; Autumn 2015 saw many exciting changes to our school.

Of course one of the biggest changes this year has been the addition of our new classroom. With our school increasing in size over the coming years, the need for additional space was evident, and with the financial support of the Local Authority, and some great fundraising work from the Parent Association, we were able to open our new classroom to our Year 5/6 pupils in September. May I take this opportunity to thank all of those who made this possible from the many kind donations we received to furnish the classroom to the members of the community who made the installation hassle free?

We have continued to work with our link school, Garrison Junior Academy in Pakistan, over the last term and enjoyed seeing how each other celebrated cultures events including Eid and Christmas. Additionally, we joined our international friends in celebrating World Peace Day.

Despite only being a third of the way through the school year the pupils have enjoyed many exciting activities, from trips and visits to success on the sports field, to taking part in Peter Jones Enterprise Project which saw our Year 5/6 pupils make a profit of over £200 as they designed, produced and sold personalised hand-made Christmas Crackers. Moreover, we were delighted to finish as runners up in the Oxfordshire Sports Awards Sporting School of the Year Award out of all the schools in Oxfordshire.

The pupils have also taken part in activities in the community including singing at the Village Carol Concert to help raise funds for the school and for St Mary's church, as well visiting the residents of Eastfield House before Christmas to treat them to a range of Christmas carols and to wish them the very best for their Christmas celebrations.

As we begin 2016 we look forward to many more exciting activities as the pupils embark on their new Class topics of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole, Volcanoes and Ancient Greece.

Fiona Acworth



WHITCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT ASSOCIATION

The Whitchurch Primary School Parent Association would like to thank all those residents and sponsors (Warminghams, The Ferryboat and Greyhound) that attended and supported our Christmas fayre at the school on Sunday 6 December. Not only was the fayre a fun afternoon out with lots of varied local stallholders (Hen House Brewery, Denny Baxter-Hall and Silver by Scarlet), refreshments and Father Christmas; but it also raised a substantial amount of money which will go towards updating the school corridor to create a state of the art library for the children.

We would also like to thank The Ferryboat for their generous contribution to school funds raised through the Church carols evening in early December. This term the Parent Association is organising a quiz night with homemade curry on Friday 26 February. The evening will be compered by local quiz master Mike Holland. Tickets are £12.50 each and the evening will start at 19:30. Please contact fiona.acworth@gmail.com if you would like to buy tickets.

Fiona Acworth



WHITCHURCH & GORING HEATH HISTORY SOCIETY

Meetings in Whitchurch Village Hall

All meetings (below) start at 8pm, with coffee served from 7.30. Non-members are welcome, for a fee which includes coffee. This is £2 Jan/Feb and £3 thereafter.

Feb 18th Our Annual General Meeting is followed by an intriguing illustrated talk by Tony Hadland on William Gill – explorer and spy.

Mar 17th We examine Saints and Sinners, when Simon Wenham talks about religion in Oxfordshire in Victorian and Edwardian times.

Apr 21st Catherine Sampson introduces us to unusual, sometimes curious churches in and around Berkshire and people associated with them.

On May 19th we move up to Goring Heath Parish Hall for Katherine Bradley's history of Votes for Women in Oxfordshire, and then we will go on outings on June 16th and July 21st.

Vicky Jordan

WHITCHURCH PRE-SCHOOL



We're now over the excitement of a certain man in a red suit with some reindeer visiting, and the children had a very busy and exciting Christmas period. The annual nativity play was embraced by most children, with the chorus of angels singing loudly and sweetly, the Christmas party was lots of fun with an entertainer and a visit from Father Christmas himself and some of our very talented parents brought their skills to the children out of the

kindness of their hearts. Rita led a Spanish lesson, Mina read a story in Greek, and Anna ran a music session – how diverse for such a small village!

We said a sad farewell for Shenel, who we're happy to say had a little boy called Jensen, and welcomed Liz to the team who all the kids love! And as for the finances, these are also looking really positive. This is in part due to a rise in children in 2016 (there has been lots of positive feedback on the atmosphere and activities at the pre-school thanks to Kathleen and her staff) but also due to some hard work by the committee to reduce costs and fundraise, and contributions from the local villagers like you. From donating children's toys, which has helped save money on purchases, to contributing unwanted items for our online sale to raise funds, to contributions of necessary items for the pre-school, people have been very generous. We'd like to say a special thank you to Sarah McGlynn, Nlc and Nathan Robinson, Geoff Weir, Mary Pearce, Nelleke Silver, Leslie Prater, Allan Scriven, and Leslie Prater for all their donations. So far the proceeds of the online sale are totalling around £250 for the pre-school which is great and all helps us reach our targets.

The topic for term 3 is Winter and in addition to the French lessons, PE lessons, Cooking, music classes, outdoor walks, sensory classes and rising 5's there's plenty of activities organised by Kathleen and her team. There are still spaces at the pre-school for children over 2.5 years so please contact Kathleen if you'd like to pop in and visit.

Beth Baxter

(email: whitchurchpreschool@me.com or call 0118 984 4516)

A poem from the poet Jon Steward

Whitchurch the place my heart dreams of on a sunny summers day,
the breeze in the trees the twitter of chicks in spring, the long winding
river brings me to my knees.

History just drips from every roof top as the rain waters our green land,
my interest is high my heart beats fast as the beech trees swish two
and fro.

Long winding roads flow freely through the smooth rounded Chilterns,
Outstanding beauty fills my vision, my eyes fill with tears of happiness
this beauty has no rival.

Bulbs push mistakenly through the soft earth and shrubs sprout
shoots and leaves, mother nature is fooled or so we believe, spring is
not here for Winter is near in this mild mild land, Whitchurch blooms
early, a mistake I am certain time will correct, the anomaly of seasons
confuses the masses.

Time ticks and the wind doth blow some would believe we would have
Snow, sad is the truth of our seasons of joy sleet is what happens
whilst the wind does blow, waiting for summer is what we do now my
heart beats slowly until summer is near and races when the cuckoo is
here, swifts swoop and joy is here the muntjac dances and barks for
all to hear the bee is buzzing most important of all the warm breeze
blows for summer is here.

AFC WHITCHURCH FOOTBALL CLUB

Happy New Year to everyone! It's mid-season now and things are going really well.

Academy report by Mark Ireland. The U5 & U6 Academy have been enjoying some great football on Saturday mornings on the Village Green. The bad weather has intervened recently but hopefully it will just be muddy rather than a mudbath from now on! Please visit <http://tinyurl.com/oyteqt3> if you'd like to join in.

U7s report by Matt Lorrimore. First season nerves.... The U7's began their first season of competitive football a bit nervous of the whole experience, but Cormac & I have seen a marked improvement in the performances already in the first half of the season as they get to grips with playing football against someone they don't know! We've had every type of result going so far, but the kids are definitely enjoying it and the skills are developing fast. All round a great experience for new coaches and a new team!

U10s report by Ren Bottini. It's been a solid start to the season for the Whitchurch U10s – we continue to build on our solid foundations and play a good blend of passing / pressing football resulting in us winning as many as we have lost – the team is always brave and competitive despite being a 50:50 mix of U9 & U10 players which we know at this age can be a significant difference....a real credit to the players.

U12s report by Gary Stovell. After last season's success and promotion into a much tougher league, the signs looked grim when the Under 12's lost the first two matches conceding 13 goals. Since then, we've adapted to the challenges, rising to 6th place and losing on penalties in the cup quarter final so now looking forward to the remainder of the season.

U16s report by Alastair Aitchison. From an under 16s perspective we are currently lying 4th out of 12 in the East Berkshire League Div 2 despite losing our goalkeeper for the last 6 weeks through a knee injury. Training is going well at Langtree new AstroTurf.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for news and photos – [facebook.com/afcwh](https://www.facebook.com/afcwh)

Jane Ireland

Club Secretary

THE 2015 WHITCHURCH ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION

This annual event was held in Whitchurch Village Hall on Saturday 14th November and, as always, it was an enjoyable and sociable occasion. There was a wonderful variety of artwork, craftwork and photographs from young and old, showing a very high standard and mix of skills from the local community. The Whitchurch Cup (winner of the Craft category) was awarded to Yvonne Kerevan for her superb Windsor Chair, which was without doubt the star of the show this year. Colourful displays of work by children at the Pre-School, the Primary School and the Oratory Prep School were very eye-catching and added to the show. Visitors enjoyed refreshments all day and meeting up with friends and neighbours before the prize-giving ceremony at 5pm.

Included in the exhibition this year for the first time, was an impressive display of artwork created by residents of Eastfield House. Volunteer artists have started this initiative which provides a new interest and stimulation for the residents and to which they have responded with great enthusiasm.

Congratulations to all the prize winners; a full list of these can be found on the Whitchurch Village website, on the link to Village Groups/Annual Art & Craft Exhibition.

Very many thanks to all exhibitors and also to everyone who helped with the setting up and running of the show, including serving the refreshments all day and making delicious cakes. Finally, my special thanks to Chris Martin and Sarah Dixon who joined me on the planning committee and to the Whitchurch Society members who supported us.

Sally Woolhouse (sally@wotarts.co.uk)

PANGBOURNE & WHITCHURCH SUSTAINABILITY (PAWS)

Junior Climate Workshop

On the day after the climate march the PAWS education team were back in action with another of their great schools' climate events. Thank you to them and to the teachers, children and climate specialists Brian Hoskins and Nigel Arnell for all their hard work.

I am delighted to report that PAWS Education Sub-group held a very successful debate for the primary schools in the area. Over the last few years we have held debates with the Secondary Schools in the area that have had a very positive reaction. Whitchurch Primary has always sent a delegation and they have participated with determination, confidence and knowledge. Following our last Secondary UN-style debate in March, the PAWS Education Sub-group wondered if it would be possible to hold a similar, separate meeting for all the junior schools in the area. We put this idea to Geraldine Ross from Whitchurch Primary who responded with great enthusiasm. So with her help we went ahead. Whitchurch Primary very kindly offered to host the proceedings in their hall, and we invited all the primary schools in the area to send a delegation to a UN-style COP 21 meeting to be held on the opening day of the Paris meeting, 30 November 2015.

We were delighted that six primary schools elected to join in the debate; Whitchurch-on-Thames, Englefield, Basildon, Stoke Row, Nettlebed and Checkendon. The children suggested that they would like to have a winning team, and we asked Pangbourne's two eminent Meteorologists, Professor Sir Brian Hoskins and Professor Nigel Arnell, to make up our panel of judges.

As preparation for the meeting the delegates were asked to imagine that they were the representatives of a particular country and that they were going to attend the COP21 meeting in Paris to speak on behalf of the needs of that country and what they could offer as a contribution to the global reduction in greenhouse gas emissions required to limit climate change to a manageable level. The children took this remit very seriously and were ready on the day to argue their case with knowledge and determination.

On the day the negotiations were well considered and argued. The discussions went back and forth as the delegations tried to get the best bargains for their countries. Professor Arnell, who has attended a number of UN COP meetings, said that the children were very realistic in their bargaining.



Finding a winner was very difficult for the judges. Each school was praised for their informed statements, and suggestions were made to help them with their involvement in any future climate change discussions. The judges selected Stoke Row Primary School as the winning team and they were presented with a book about Weather and Climate for their school library. The judges presented all the children with their certificates, either winners or highly commended, and they really deserved them!

Jim Donahue



WHITCHURCH HILL CAMERA CLUB

Did you know that Whitchurch Hill has a much respected camera club in its midst. Formed over 30 years ago, the club has a varied programme featuring visiting speakers, travelogues, competitions, exhibitions and our annual dinner.

To give you an idea in the next few weeks we host the following events at the Village Hall (WOT):

27th Jan. 'Cash in on your Passion' Peter Walmsley LRPS talks you through marketing your work.

4th Feb. A practical photography evening where the technicalities of photography are explained, discussed and questions answered.

17th Feb. A digital competition 'Reflections'

If you are Interested, we meet every Wednesday (8-10pm) September through to the end of June, in the summer months we go walkabouts – small group photography taking advantage of the light evenings, finishing with a walk in the local. Find us on www.whitchurchhillcameraclub.co.uk to view our gallery, check out the club fees. If you prefer to speak to a member (see below) or you could just pop in on a Wednesday, we would like to meet you.

Ian Lewis 0118 9844178

Editor's Notes

At its December meeting, the Parish Council agreed to change the frequency of the Bulletin from six to four a year (quarterly), effective from this Bulletin. Annual Bulletins will in future be issued in Jan, April, July & October. The move saved a great deal of admin from volunteers including contributors, distributors and editing.

The Parish Council also gained improved terms from our current printer. Overall, we will be saving about £1,200pa in the Parish Council budget that can now be allocated to worthwhile projects in the Village like the recent Bulb planting.

Please note the following timetable for production of the April Village Bulletin:

**Deadline for Contributions/Articles
Bulletin Distribution**

**Sun, 10th April
w/e 23/24th April**

At present, I have been working on a list of contributors I inherited from the previous Editor(s). Please contact me on email richardwill444@onetel.com if you wish to be included for requests for articles in future Bulletins. It would be good to get a wider array of articles about the Village from some residents.

We are also in urgent need for volunteers to distribute the Bulletins in Eastfield Lane and the Hardwick estate. Please contact me if you wish to undertake either of these.

Richard Williams



OWL (Our Woodcote Library)

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 29th February at 6pm in the library.

We're very grateful for the money donated by Woodcote rally, which will help to keep the library up to date, provide volunteer comforts and pay expenses of events. Volunteers have now been helping in the library for a year – we shall celebrate with a cup of tea!

Vicky Jordan

SCHEDULE OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(Please visit Village web-site (whitchurchonthames.com) for up-to-date and more extensive range of events in the Village).

Date	Event	Details
27th Jan	Deadline for responses to Eastfield House Care Home appeal dated 23rd December 2015	
3rd Feb	Whitchurch & Goring Heath Twinning Assoc AGM	7:30pm Old Rectory Stables
13th Feb	Whitchurch & Goring Heath Twinning Assoc Displays of previous visits	9:30am to 12:30pm Old Rectory Stables
18th Feb	Whitchurch & Goring History Society AGM	8pm Whitchurch VH
26th Feb	Whitchurch Primary school Parent Assoc Quiz Night & Curry	7:30pm Whitchurch Primary School
29th Feb	OWL AGM	6pm Woodcote Library
17th Mar	Whitchurch & Goring History Society talk	8pm Whitchurch VH
20th Mar	Whitchurch Society Spring Walk	11am Outside Art Gallery
9th April	Spring Show	2:30-4pm Goring Hth Parish Hall
21st April	Whitchurch & Goring History Society AGM	8pm Whitchurch VH



WHITCHURCH & GORING HEATH TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Photographers, gourmets, francophiles, artists, explorers

Come and join us on our visit to La Bouille, near Rouen, this Spring. We go from Whitchurch by coach on **Friday April 29th** and return on **Monday 2nd May**.

The long weekend promises great hospitality in a delightful village by the Seine. An added attraction is Nick Brazil's exhibition of photographs at the village gallery.

Our full day excursion will be to Honfleur with its beautiful harbour, art galleries, Eric Satie museum and waterside cafes and gardens.

Four days for £200

Comfortable executive coach

Contact Vicky and Martyn Jordan 01189 843260

Vickyjordan5@hotmail.com

Find out more

- **At our AGM (all residents welcome) on Wednesday February 3rd at 7.30pm**
- **At the Art Coffee Shop on Saturday 13th February 9:30 – 12:30, where there will be displays of previous visits**

Both are at the Old Rectory Stables

