

Broadband for Twitchen and Clunbury

Getting a decent Broadband service really counts: Broadband affects everything from health to house prices.

The initial meeting to discuss the outcomes of "Shropshire Connect's" strategy for bringing a superfast broadband service to Twitchen and Clunbury took place at the Clunbury Village hall on 19 December.

The meeting, chaired by Nigel Hartin, introduced Chris New, Secure Web Services (SWS) Managing Director who talked through his company's wireless broadband offering. Do please visit <http://www.securewebservices.co.uk/> for all the information on the packages and services that SWS offer. If you are interested and to enable the next planning stage to take place, it is important that you register your interest in the service via the Secure Web Services site or by telephone on 03337000227. There is no commitment at this stage.

Following the presentation there was a discussion regarding the quote by BT to provide a fast fibre-based Broadband service to Twitchen and parts of Clunbury (that are not served well by the current BT provision). That quote is due to be received by the end of February.

As outlined in the last Parish Post this quote only covers those properties that expressed an initial interest in exploring this option, although we expect that the required infrastructure would be of benefit to the wider community.

A second community meeting will be scheduled to talk over this Open Reach BT quote, and the progress made by Secure Web Services. Please look out for notice of the date, (hopefully in early March) and try to attend that meeting as it is likely that decisions will need to be made that will affect the community as a whole well into the future. For more information, contact Matthew Trustman 660129 or Nigel Holland 661192.

Matthew Trustman

Clunbury Parish Council 12/1/17

Following the last Parish Council meeting, when councillors expressed their wish to know more about the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Phil Holden, AONB Partnership Manager, came to give a presentation and answer any question that might arise.

The AONB was designated in 1958; it covers a quarter of Shropshire and is one of 46 AONBs in the UK. The main purpose of AONB designation is to conserve and enhance natural beauty, while also taking account of economic and social needs, promoting sustainable development and meeting the demand for recreation. The Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership co-ordinates this work, and is hosted by Shropshire Council and funded, in addition, by Defra, Telford & Wrekin Council and project funders. The AONB takes and coordinates action including the following:

- Managing the River Clun Recovery Project, including coppicing, fencing and planting by local contractors at 11 sites
- Promoting a Conservation Fund with grants made to 14 projects in 2015/16 totalling £25,300
- Managing the Lottery-funded Stiperstones and Corndon Hill Country Landscape Partnership Scheme
- Managing and promoting the Shropshire Hills Shuttle buses
- Maintaining the Sustainable Business Network
- Delivering the John Muir Award
- Running the Friends of the Shropshire Hills AONB
- Providing advice and commenting on planning applications
- Participating in a range of collaborative projects

The AONB Partnership and the two local authorities (Shropshire Council and

The Parish Post

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for Beambridge Clunbury Clunton Coston Cwm Kempton Little Brampton Obley Purslow The Llan & Twitchen

The Big Lunch for Refugees Soup and Pud in Clun Memorial Hall

Saturday 4 February
12.30-2pm

The Refugee crisis has not improved. Tens of thousands of refugees still wait in camps in need of medical care, clothing, food and shelter. All produce has been donated, so every penny raised will go to this charity. There will also be an unwanted gift stall and a cake stall.

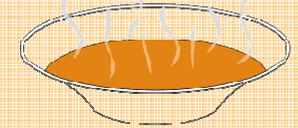
Donations to

Médecins sans Frontières

Please come to support this
important event

Further information from
Joan Kerry 640401

Clunbury Village Hall Soup and Pudding Lunch



Back by popular request
Thursday 23 February

12.30 - 2.00pm
Cost £5



Contact Eirllys Ellams 660625
Or ellams999@btinternet.com

Uncertain Future for the Parish Post

The Parish Post AGM took place on 18 January. Regrettably only one member of the public attended the meeting. The Chair, Sue Hill, was away but sent her report in which she expresses concerns that are shared by the rest of the Committee.

'...How much longer can the Parish Post go on? As you know, David and I are spending an increasing amount of time away from Clunbury, and sometimes reconciling family (and our own) needs and the need to be around for the latter weeks of many months to produce the Parish Post is not easy, but I am conscious that this also applies to many of us in the Parish Team. I am not suggesting that I want to step down imminently but I wanted you to know that I don't see my involvement with the Parish Post continuing indefinitely and I expect I'm not the only one. As I have said at many other AGMs, we need new blood but finding it seems to elude us.'

This is an appeal to all parishioners: if you feel you can help in any way (compiling, editing, folding and distributing), please let us know. Training will be available if needed.

The Editing Team

Please send your contributions by the 20th of each month

Emeritus Church Warden

Before Christmas, Pat Harding and I went to visit Nick Matveieff at Stretton Hall Nursing Home. We found him with Maddy, taking part in a general knowledge quiz which was followed by a short Communion Service. Nick then asked to be wheeled outside for a stroll, and it was then that we presented him with a Certificate appointing him Church Warden Emeritus of Clunbury, an honorary post in recognition of his 35 years of service as Church Warden, and a picture by Noel Shepherdson, which he was very pleased to receive.

Christina Whitehead

News from South West Shropshire Gardening Club



Foliage and Stem Colour in the Garden

Paul Green
Wednesday 22 February,
7.30pm



Lydbury North Village Hall

Paul Green trained in nursery stock production at Pershore. He has worked in horticulture for 30 years: foliage houseplant production in Worcestershire; hardy nursery stock production in Herefordshire and a stint in Oregon on a specialist nursery.

Green's Leaves Nursery provides a wide selection of choice, rare and unusual plants from around the world. Many of these have been nurtured in the Gloucestershire nursery to ensure they are hardy for the UK climate. There will be a selection of plants to buy after the talk, which may help chase away those February blues... Enquiries: Sandy Burton 680454 or Carol Clarke 660753.

Angie Salmon

100 Club

£20 Tim Croxton; £15 Madeleine Watkins; £10 Bob Richards; £5 Maggie Vaughan-Morgan; £3 Tony Pugh.

St Mary's Church, Clunton



After many years of talking about it and rather a long wait for the permission to do the work, we finally have 2 hand rails to the chancel steps. They were made by Mark Hatt, a blacksmith from Clun and have fine oak hand rails with wrought iron supports. They will assist us all in going up and down the steps safely. Clunton raised the money for them at a coffee morning last summer.

Pat Harding

Film and Food at Clunbury

The sound of the air-raid siren welcomed diners to Clunbury Village Hall for a film and food evening on Saturday 14 January. Villagers enjoyed watching the recent "Dad's Army" film while feasting on sausages and mash, old fashioned puds and lots of chat. All agreed the event was a great success. Thank you to those who helped with the food, preparing and decorating the hall and washing up mountains of dishes.

Eirlys Ellams

The Meadows Medical Practice, Clun

Following the new arrangements in place from January at The Meadows, a meeting will be held in Clun Memorial Hall on 16 March at 7.30pm. This will include an update on the current and future situation at the practice and various issues related to the care of patients. All are welcome and there will be an opportunity for questions to the GPs and practice staff. Refreshments will be provided.

CONTACTS

Email: theparishpost@gmail.com
Website: www.theparishpost.org
Phone: Sheila Downes 660626
or Gisèle Wall 660561

Advance Notices

Wild Willy Barrett's French Connection

by popular request
return to Lydbury North Village Hall
Saturday 25 March 2017

The group has just finished their latest album with fabulous French singer Aurora Colson
Enjoy a wonderful evening of unique and fresh musical entertainment all overlaid with a large dose of wry humour



Bar and door open
from 7.30pm - Concert
at 8.00pm
Tickets £10.00, U/16 £5.00



Calling All Book Lovers!! The Charity Bookshop Craven Arms

We will be celebrating our first birthday in March. To thank our customers we will be holding a 3 for 2 sale throughout March (buy 3, cheapest book free)
We look forward to welcoming customers old and new.

Interested in Fairtrade?

Fairtrade stall at Clunbury Café

Thursday 2 March, 10am-12pm
Come and stock up



Pamper Evening... Clunbury Village Hall... Friday 24 March... In aid of School Funds

More on Mistletoe

Mistletoe featured in the December issue and led to some interesting feedback. John Clayfield found two plants growing on a willow by a ride on the Black Hill within 150 metres of the parish land. If you would like to find it let me know and I'll direct you. Interestingly, in Shropshire only about 2% of host trees are willows, but what makes the observation even more unusual is that this mistletoe grows at about 420 metres above sea level, some 100 metres higher up than the previous Shropshire record-holder which is at 323 metres on The Stiperstones. Lower down, Dave Simpson has recently spotted some growing on poplar, a common host tree. It is downstream of Clunbury Bridge, high up in a small plantation of hybrid black poplars between the sewer works and the River Clun.



Marjorie & mistletoe on the Ribston Pippin

Equally interesting are plants growing on named varieties of apple trees (Ribston Pippin, Lady Henniker and Dumelow's Seedling) in Kempton. Mistletoe berries were 'grafted' successfully onto these trees by Marjorie Davies - and 'unsuccessfully' onto a range of others! Her method was to hold back berries from some of her Christmas mistletoe, rather than take them inside where they would dry and shrivel, and then, in February, she inserted the berries into natural slits, or ones she made, in two or three year old wood. The best growth is on the Ribston Pippin. Marjorie's one disappointment is that none of her plants has yet borne any berries - are they too young, or are they male plants rather than the berry-bearing females? Nor are there any signs of berries on the mistletoes found by John and Dave.

Tom Wall (660561)



Mistletoe on the Black Hill

Telford & Wrekin Council) are proposing the formation of a fully independent Conservation Board for the AONB. The advantages would be:

A stronger body solely for the AONB, with a more independent voice and the ability to:

- take effective action, balancing local and national priorities
- involve and engage local people and businesses in a better way
- raise its own funds and manage itself more efficiently
- project a higher profile, and be more resilient and cheaper to run.

The request to establish a Conservation Board has been put to Defra, but its outcome and potential timescale are not certain. The AONB is looking for support for this initiative from organisations (such as Parish Councils) and individuals.

Meeting

Present: 6 Parish Councillors, the Clerk, Cllr Hartin, + 2 members of the public.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting: The footbridge repairs at Chapel House have not been done but hazard tape has been applied. The clerk is to contact the footpath officer (Richard Knight).

Cllr Harding to contact the police regarding a meeting which would take into account all the road problems of the parish.

Planning:

Hurst barn, Clunton: erection of 2 poultry sheds. The decision has been deferred to the February planning meeting.

Lower Coston Farm: to allow occupation of approved agricultural worker's dwelling by person(s) employed in an equestrian enterprise. No further news; Mr Beazley to be contacted.

SWS Shropshire LJC: Cllr Hartin highlighted the agenda of the next meeting, to take place on 9 February, in Clun Memorial Hall.

- Bus consultation regarding strategy, as 90% of the budget has been cut
- More presentations on broadband
- Reports on the Council's budget
- Future Fit situation

Some money is available for youth projects (£3,000 this year, £2,250 next year). Grants are available (max £500). It is suggested that parish councils contribute; 7 of them have responded. Applications for grants are encouraged

Future Fit: An independent review is in process. It will take 8 weeks to get reports; a decision might be made by the end of March. Consultation would take place after the elections. The future of rural maternity services is a concern.

350 people who were under the Knighton practice have registered with the Clun practice. However there are another 3000 that could register.

Roads

Clunton: One street light is not working. **B4385:** approval was given to asking for a tidy up of signage and for the road to be put on the list for inter-active signs.

Healthwatch is conducting a survey about the efficiency of Home Care Services in Shropshire. If you want to participate, phone 01743 237884 or email:

enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk

Finance: C/Ac: £1,320.18; Bus A/c: £1,316.87; Spt A/c: £3,580.68. Expenses to pay: £607.23.

The councillors discussed the possibility of buying the clerk a computer. No decision taken.

The clerk wishes to attend an election training course; approved.

Precept: After discussion, it was decided to increase the precept from £3,400 to £3,600. Cllr Hoskins requested that, in future, accounts should be presented well ahead of the meeting to achieve a more informed discussion.

Next meeting: 16 March, 8pm, Clunbury Village Hall.

Gisèle & Tom Wall

Events Diary for February 2017			
Wed 1		Tim's Travels—Buddy-640506	Wolverhampton
Wed 1		Quiz—proceeds to Midlands Air Ambulance	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Wed 1	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society—Mouchette	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Thu 2	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 2	7pm	NT Live—Amadeus-660493/660893	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Thu 2	7pm	NT Live—Amadeus- 630321/638038	SpArC
Fri 3	7.30pm	BC Railway Society—The Railway Through Ludlow	Methodist Hall, BC.
Sat 4	12.30-2pm	The Big Lunch for Refugees-640401	Clun Memorial Hall
Sat 4	7.30pm	Flicks-Bridget Jones's Baby—640254	Clun Memorial Hall
Sun 5	11.15am	Morning Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sun 5	6pm	Songs of Praise in four-part harmony. Tel 661171 for info.	Kempton Village Hall
Mon 6	9-11.30am	Parent & Toddler Group-every Mon in term time. Just turn up	Clunbury Village Hall
Tues 7	7.30pm	Flicks-Blazing Saddles—680302	Lydbury North Village Hall
Thu 9	7pm	Flicks-Bridget Jones's Baby—630321/638038	SpArC
Sat 11	10am-1pm	African Charities Tea Party-Tools for Self Reliance	Clun High Town Hall
Sun 12	11.15am	BCP Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Tue 14	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Wed 15	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society—Our Little Sister	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Thu 16	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 16	7pm	NT Live—St Joan-660493/660893	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Thu 16	7pm	NT Live—St Joan- 630321/638038	SpArC
Fri 17	8pm	Flicks—The Girl on the Train 660727/660781	Parish Hall, Clungunford
Sat 18	10am-1pm	Aston on Clun Craft and Collectables market	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sat 18	11am	Norwich Puppet Theatre-630321/638038	SpArC
Sun 19	6.30pm	United Evening Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 20–Fri 24	Clunbury School Half Term		
Mon 20	4.30pm	Kubo and the Two Strings-630321/638038	SpArC
Wed 22-Sun 26	Bishop's Castle Arts Festival		
Wed 22	7.30pm	SWS Gardening Club 'Foliage & Stem Colour in the Garden'	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 22	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society—Drunken Angel	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Thu 23	12.30-2pm	Soup & Pudding Lunch-660625	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 25	7.30pm	Flicks—Bridget Jones's Baby-660545	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sun 26	11.15am	United CW Holy Communion	St Mary's, Clunton
Mon 27	7.30pm	Live Acoustic Folk Music	The Crown Inn, Clunton
Tue 28	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		

Correspondence

I read with interest the summary of the Parish Council meeting in the Parish Post magazine in relation to the AONB designation. A Councillor commented that he "doubted the usefulness of the AONB". The primary purpose of AONB designation is:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape.
- To meet the need for quiet enjoyment of the countryside.
- To have regard for the interests of those who live and work there.

Surely this shows how extremely "useful" the AONB is in protecting our countryside, our wildlife, our environment and our way of life for future generations to enjoy. Were it not for the AONB status many beautiful, fragile and unique landscapes would be lost forever to development and people's self-interest.

Jill Harvey