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Where is this?

Pitstone Parish Post

PPP is produced on behalf of Pitstone Parish Council and distributed quarterly, free to every household, PPP aims to keep members of the local community informed about events and news that may affect them.

We are very grateful to the following distributors, who deliver the magazine to your door every quarter:

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WELCOME

Bob Saintey, Chairman, Pitstone Parish Council

A belated Happy New Year to one and all!

Although this seems a long time ago I must mention the Christmas Lights in the tree outside the Memorial Hall. Its position was a vast improvement on previous years and widely enjoyed throughout the Community. Talking of lights, we should thank and congratulate the residents of Church Road and Meadow Lane for their stunning displays in aid of 'A Cure for Frankie'. We must also thank all of you who decorated your houses over the Festive period.

Further on in this new issue of PPP you will read an article about the possible requirement for more affordable rural housing. If you know of anybody who is now, or likely to be in the future, looking for affordable housing in this area please

engage with this procedure so that we have some knowledge of the requirement.

It was good to see the new venture of "Theatre in the Villages" well supported on the two occasions that they occurred. Let's hope it continues and doesn't suffer from local Government cuts.

As we progress through Winter please be ever vigilant and mindful of elderly neighbours who might just need a contact.

Last, but by no means least, The Clerk to the Parish Council has completed 10 Years dedicated and loyal service to the parish of Pitstone. Councillors will mark this event in the very near future. I would like to thank Laurie Eagling on your behalf.

In the meantime, stay warm, stay safe and look out for Spring!

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COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

Avril Davies County Councillor, Ivinghoe Division

Planning for school places has been given a high priority, joint working between planners and education has started and local head teachers have had a positive meeting with county officers.

At the annual Transport for Bucks conference, a promise was made to begin work on an HGV strategy, and I put my name forward for the working group, which kicks off in February.

The local area forum has sent the proposed letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner on the enforcement of speed limits in rural areas, where significant breaches have been recorder by volunteers.

The Chief Constable has responded in writing, which will be put before the next LAF (Local Area Forum) meeting in early February.

The proposals to change home to school transport policies for secondary school pupils have been abandoned, which is good news for my Division

The joint bid from Pitstone and Marsworth Parish Councils to the New Homes Bonus fund has been successful and work is beginning on designing and building the footway to make walking between the two villages a much safer enterprise.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

A new 'Active Bucks', County Council walk has been launched from College Lake, every Wednesday at 10.15am. Participation is free, much like the Monday walk from Ivinghoe Lawn, which is such a success that it will feature in a County Council video.

I visited the Greatmoor Energy from Waste, For more information on the plant, see page 28.

I continue to be impressed by the good work the Aylesbury cluster of children centres are doing in Wing and Ivinghoe. Where they have to share sessions between centres, they hope to facilitate more informal sessions on a voluntary basis, however £500K of cuts for children's centres is proposed in the current budget. The County is yet again looking to reduce its spending by £46M in the next four years, 75% by 'efficiencies' and only 6% by cuts, but where efficiencies are not achievable, cuts are the result. The County's total budget is about £340M, of which £58M is in ring fenced grants. The £23M general support grant will only continue for the next two years, and although due to be

replaced by a share of the business rate going to central government council tax will inevitably increase as the £46M of savings still needs to be found.

It is going to be very difficult to deliver public services at a local government level in the foreseeable future. The chance for Parish Councils to take more responsibility for their own locality has had a mixed response. The future hangs on the Secretary of State and council, and the impact of a local plan on the environment, our quality of life, roads, schools and other services in our communities.

Finally, may I add a personal thank you to everyone who has been so kind and supportive and said such lovely things about my father, who passed away in his sleep on January 4th, one month short of his 97th birthday. 'B' was a well known figure in Ivinghoe until he moved to sheltered accommodation 18 months ago. Someone was kind enough to say to me 'He gave a lot to the village in his paintings and drawings, that meant a lot to people'. He had a great life here after my mother died, and thank you to everyone who made that happen for him.

LAND AT MARSWORTH ROAD AND VICARAGE ROAD, PITSTONE

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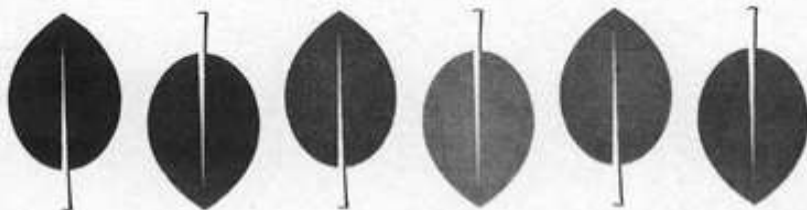
An exhibition to provide information and an opportunity for discussion and comment, on the proposals for the above site. All those interested, are invited to attend on:

Thursday 23rd February 2017

3.00pm - 7.15pm

in The Pitstone Memorial Hall

Representatives of the project team will be available at the event and there will be an opportunity to view the plans and make comments.



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DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

**Sandra Jenkins & Derek Town, District Councillors,
Pitstone & Cheddington Ward**

Vale Aylesbury local Plan

AVDC Officers have sought to reduce the unmet need from Wycombe, Chiltern and South Bucks District Councils through the continuing Duty to Co-operate. Both Wycombe and Chiltern/South Bucks had been able to find capacity for more houses than originally declared. This means that AVDC will now be working to a figure of 26,800 homes and the Strategy will need re-writing, so the timetable for submission of the VALP has been pushed back by 8 weeks.

HS2 Information

As parishes will be aware the Bill

is at the stage of examination by the House of Lords Select Committee with the aim of HS2 for the Bill achieving Royal Assent at some point in 2017.

AVDC continues to oppose plans for HS2, and has secured a number of assurances from HS2 through the petitioning process and has continued to petition on a number of issues in the House of Lords Select Committee stage. However if the Bill is successful AVDC will continue to seek the best mitigation for those communities directly and indirectly affected through the planning process

(Continued on page 11)

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as well as to look for benefits and opportunities for the vale.

In anticipation of receiving Royal Assent, HS2 are carrying out some preparatory 'enabling' work, which includes ground investigations, surveys and other gathering of information as part of their preliminary works, including:

- Surveys (ecology, arboriculture, topographic, structural, demolition)
- Watercourse works including modelling
- Archaeology
- Advance planting & landscaping
- Habitat creation and species translocation
- Site clearance and compound creation
- Utility diversions
- Highway capacity and safety reviews, upgrades & diversions where needed

This is likely to increase in early 2017.

The majority of this work will

not require planning permission, and the responsibility for it lies with HS2. Whilst we appreciate that this creates concern and anxiety for local residents and can be seen as HS2 jumping the gun, we do not have the powers to stop such work. If there are any concerns over this work HS2 have a dedicated web site <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/high-speed-two-limited> or contact HS2 directly on 020 7944 4908 or email to HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

However there may be some development such as compounds related to that work that will require planning permission in the normal way ahead of the Bill becoming an Act of Parliament. There may also be some applications coming forward as a result of landowner discussions with HS2 for some changes which affects land outside Bill or "build limits (the land identified in the Bill as affected). These will be considered under the usual planning regime.



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New development commences in Aylesbury Town Centre Exchange Street car park

The construction work for Aylesbury Vale District Council's exciting new development in the Exchange Street car park will commenced on Monday, 9 January, with AVDC's chosen development partner for the scheme, Durkan Ltd.

The new development will provide Aylesbury town centre with its first purpose-built mixed restaurant and residential development, reflecting how modern town centres are changing to meet a demand for more town centre homes and leisure dining.

The development will take place at the top end of the Exchange Street car park, opposite the cinema. It will create four new restaurants with 47 one and two bedroom apartments above them and a stunning new public square funded by a grant from the South East Midlands Local Enterprise.

The development means that the Exchange Street car park has lost around 120 parking spaces. However, most of these have already been offset by the new car

park adjacent to the site which was opened last year by Bucks County Council. All the existing disabled bays from the Exchange Street car park will be relocated within the development and a number of 30 minute short stay and market trader van bays will be relocated too.

During the construction period, approximately 30 additional parking spaces will be temporarily lost to allow the construction traffic access around bottom and cinema side, ensuring safety for car park users.

Cllr. Neil Blake, Leader of Aylesbury Vale District Council, said: "This new development is an important stage within Aylesbury Town Centre's regeneration and it is with great anticipation that we see the development start. The Exchange will help provide Aylesbury with the facilities required in a modern town centre, giving both residents and visitors more reason to come into the town."

Introducing Aylesbury Garden Town

Aylesbury has been chosen by the government to become one of three new Garden Towns, which will see it receive more than half a million pounds initially to help improve the long-term plans for the town and

develop infrastructure proposals. In telling AVDC that they were successful in their bid for an initial £540,000, Gavin Barwell MP, Minister of State for Housing and Planning, said: "I am impressed by the strength of local leadership and commitment to transformational change that your expression of interest shows."

AVDC submitted an application in October explaining why Aylesbury is the perfect place to become part of the Garden Town programme due to its central location within the 'brain belt' between Oxford and Cambridge, and its critical role in delivering growth for the district and the wider area. Aylesbury Vale is set to have 27,000 new homes built in the next 15 years, with Aylesbury itself expected to accommodate around 15,000 of them. Getting Garden Town status gives AVDC the opportunity to develop Aylesbury and the surrounding area in a truly visionary and sustainable way, supporting its development as a settlement that offers the best of town and country living. The money will be spent in a number of areas such as developing the longer term masterplan for the town, which will look at improving transport links and

green infrastructure, which could include new parks and cycle routes. The funding and support that comes hand-in-hand with being a Garden Town will help the whole Vale become a greener, more connected and more vibrant place to live, work and visit.



Councillor Neil Blake, Leader of the Aylesbury Vale District Council said: "I am tremendously pleased that our hard work to make Aylesbury Vale the best possible place to live and work has been recognised by government. People right across the Vale and beyond will benefit from Aylesbury becoming a Garden Town, and it will truly help unlock the town's full potential. It's an exciting opportunity to help make Aylesbury a more inclusive, innovative and

forward looking town that meets the needs and aspirations of people who live in the area, as well as businesses and visitors.” AVDC will work closely with a range of partners to deliver the garden towns programme including central government agencies, Buckinghamshire County Council, the two Local Enterprise Partnerships, developers and town and parish councils.

UNITARY - Could five Councils become two?

On 16th January, District Councillors across Bucks voted in favour of submitting to Government, the business case for having two new councils for Buckinghamshire. The proposal is to abolish the county and the four district authorities and replace them with two new unitary councils, one in the north alongside the existing unitary of Milton Keynes and one in the south to cover the area of the three southern district councils. This will save tax payers almost £58million over a five-year period. Under the new proposals each unitary council would be responsible for the delivery of all council services.

Late last year, the district councils engaged with 146 key stakeholder

organisations across Bucks (this included Parish Councils). 41% favoured a two-unitary model, 32% favoured a three-unitary model whilst only 27% said they would prefer a single unitary authority (as proposed by Bucks County Council). This information has been used to help form a proposal for innovative change that will not only improve the outcomes for the people of Bucks, but will also provide a solid foundation for service provision and future challenges.

AVDC together with Wycombe, Chiltern and South Bucks District Councils, have commissioned Deloitte to undertake an open and independent review to find the best option for the future of local government in Buckinghamshire.

Our proposal is to abolish all five county and district authorities and replace them with two new unitary councils, one in the north (current AVDC) alongside the existing unitary of Milton Keynes and one in the south to cover the area of the three southern district councils, saving tax payers almost £58million over a five-year period. Under the new proposals each unitary council would be responsible for the delivery of all

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council services.

The four district councils have now drawn up a proposal for two new unitary councils in Bucks. This was presented to members of the council at each of the four districts on Monday 16 January. They are in agreement that we will be submitting our proposal to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. The four District Leaders met with the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Sajid Javid, on Thursday 19 January to discuss the districts' proposal. He has already stated that he will make a decision early this year. If a proposal is adopted, it is

unlikely that changes would be implemented until spring 2019.

As part of the work to draft the business case Deloitte considered evidence about the current performance of services and the geography, topography, economies and communities which make up this diverse County. We have looked at models of delivery across the Country and abroad and have looked at the challenges which local government is likely to face in the future.

A copy of the executive summary and the full report can be accessed from the AVDC website.

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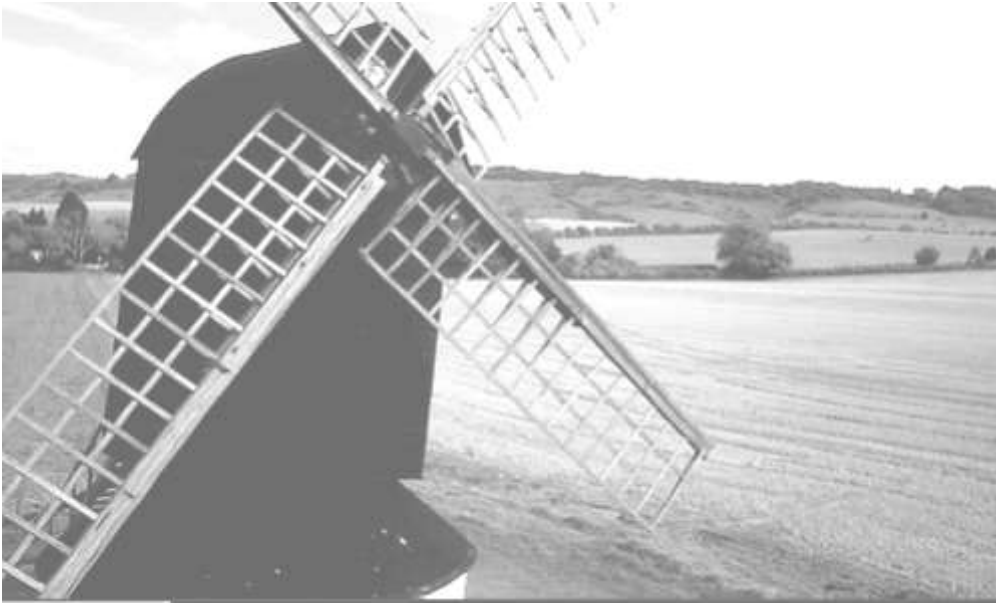
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PITSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Laurie Eagling, Parish Clerk

We'd like to welcome Dr Dave Frearson, your new parish councillor

As you may know, Councilor Joanne Groom resigned from the parish council in the autumn. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank her for her contribution to the parish since joining in May 2015. We are delighted to introduce you

to Councillor Dr Dave Frearson who has recently joined the parish council to fill this vacancy.

Dr. Frearson moved to Pitstone with his family in 2007 and currently lives in Yardley Avenue. He has two children, both of whom attend Brookmead School. Dr. Frearson is a member of the local Beacon Community Choir and has been

involved with the Development of the Pitstone Community Plan. He works for a Water Hygiene Consultancy in Aylesbury and has back-ground in Environmental Science, Agricultural Research and Health & Safety.



Dr. Dave Frearson

Do you have a local housing need?

Pitstone Parish Council would like to find out whether there is any need for more "low cost housing" in our community to help local people who are struggling to stay in the parish due to the high cost of housing.

These may include people who need to be near close relatives to care for them, or need the care of someone living in the parish. We are also aware that young people may be finding it increasingly difficult to access homes of their own, and older people finding it hard to find suitable homes to 'downsize' into. To gauge the extent of local need for "low cost housing", and any particular types of need, we would like all interested Pitstone residents to complete a short survey and tell us their stories. The results will help the parish council to understand what needs exist and to investigate possible solutions. Enclosed in this edition of PPP you will find a survey to complete, or you can complete it online at <http://pitstone.co.uk/housing-survey-2017/> . Deadline Sunday, 5 March, 2017.

Footpath between Pitstone and Marsworth receives important grant funding

We are delighted to confirm that a footpath along the B489 between Pitstone and Marsworth is now looking viable following our successful grant application (by Pitstone and Marsworth Parish

Councils) for up to £200,000 from Aylesbury Vale District Council's New Homes Bonus Scheme.

As you know, the B489 between Marsworth and Pitstone is a 1.3km, derestricted road carrying approximately 1 million vehicles per year, of all sizes,

in both directions.

There is no pedestrian footway and the road travels over a blind summit making it dangerous for pedestrians, wheelchair and pushchair users, and other slow moving unprotected traffic. As a consequence

many potential users are deterred from walking along the route and denied access to facilities at the other end. The new path will provide Pitstone residents with safe walkway to the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the reservoirs and

canal around Marsworth, the College Lake wildlife centre (via the bridleway), two public houses, Marsworth primary and pre-schools and Marsworth church.

Marsworth residents will benefit from access to 2 shops, 2 doctors surgeries, the pharmacy, the Beacon Villages Community Library, the post office, the number 61 bus service, the sports and recreation facilities in Pitstone and Ivinghoe, 2 restaurants plus a take-away, both primary and pre-school facilities and employment opportunities at Pitstone Business



Park.

Both Pitstone Parish Council and Marsworth Parish Council have been working on proposals for this scheme for a number of years in conjunction with Bucks County Council Local Area Forum. The first

stage Road Safety Audit has been undertaken, and the subsequent Feasibility Study and Biodiversity Assessment. Now that sufficient funding has been secured, the full Engineering Report has been commissioned. Next, Transport for Bucks will enter into a tender procurement phase for the works. We hope that actual construction may commence in September 2017 (post the closed season for hedgerow works to preserve biodiversity) and be completed by December 2017.

Both parish councils, the Bucks County Council Local Area Forum and County Councillor Avril Davies' Community Leaders Grant are also contributing financially to the scheme. Our sincere thanks to all those bodies involved with bringing this project to fruition. This project received a grant from Aylesbury Vale District Council's New Homes Bonus Funding Scheme. If you would like more information about the grants available, please call the Grants Officer, Jan Roffe, on 01296 585186 or email

jroffe@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

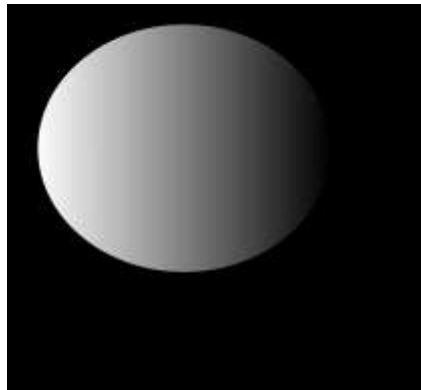
A quick update on other highway matters

Herts County Council continue

to investigate a cycle path along Northfield Road to Tring station. At the time of writing, we are waiting for the results of the Road Safety Audit relating to the Ben Hamilton-Baillie highway proposals, and for a quotation from Transport for Bucks towards the associated Feasibility Study.

Sports Update

The council is actively progressing Phase I of a redevelopment program for the Sports Pavilion off Marsworth Road and hoping to install some ball stop netting,



relocate and extend the senior pitch and replace a section of wooden fencing during the summer renovation period in 2017. We are also seeking an architect to develop Phase II plans for a re-vamped building and grounds that will bring

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Beacon communitychoir

THE BEACON COMMUNITY CHOIR

Conducted by Judith Sheridan, and with organ accompaniment,

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Please save this date for your diaries, and look out for further details closer to the event

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it up to the standard required by the football league and expand the use of the site.

Street light improvement program

As you will be aware, the government are phasing out all SOX and SON bulbs, so all the street lights will be converted to LED, which is more energy efficient, better for the environment, requires less maintenance and offers improved illumination. New lanterns are costly, so the parish council is developing a rolling program over the next few years. You will already see these lanterns in many other communities and around the village including Glebe Close, The Pightle, Chequers Close and some in Cheddington Road and Church Road. As well as having a structured roll-out program, lanterns will also be converted as and when they reach the end of their useful life. The council is also currently investigating options for mitigating measures, where necessary. More information can be found in the street light policy on our website.

Price Freeze on Pitstone Allotments

The Parish Council and the Allotment Association are pleased to

announce a price freeze for allotment plots for a further year. All plots are currently full, but if you would like to add your name to the waiting list, please contact:

pitstoneallotmentassociation@gmail.com

Keeping up to date with Parish Council news

Remember that the most efficient and timely way to keep up to date with news from the parish council is to like our new Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pitstoneparishcouncil/> follow us on Twitter @pitstone_pc or watch our website <http://pitstone.co.uk/pitstone-parish-council/> which has copies of all our minutes and policies.

Thank you for supporting the Christmas activities in the parish

A big thank you to everyone who supported any of the Christmas activities held in the village, many of which were raising funds for various charities. Rennie Grove advised that their Santa float raised nearly £5k this year (across all the towns, not just Pitstone!) raising vital



funds to support their nurses and help some families spend a memorable last Christmas together. The Church Road residents created an amazing light display and raised enough to provide Frankie, a local girl with Retts Syndrome, with a hoist to enable her to enjoy hydrotherapy to help maintain her mobility. Pitstone Church opened for the first time this Christmas and raised over £200 with their memory tree. The Scouts operated their Christmas post again, St Marys Church and Ivinghoe Hub both held Christmas Markets, there was a Charity Shopping & Pamper Evening for Macmillan Cancer Care, Friends of Brookmead hosted a Christmas Craft evening, Ivinghoe & Pitstone United Cricket Club arranged Christmas Bingo and the Pitstone Social Club put on a Christmas Eve event. We'd also like to thank those involved with the United Benefice Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch.

Update on Luton airport

We are advised that: The airport is now up to 14 million passengers per annum, growth fuelled by the comparatively strong economy, business from Eastern Europe and

attractive deals. Construction work to cope with increased numbers (up to 18mppa) is in its comparatively early stages. A revised flightpath was introduced in 2015 for some departures in westerly winds and does not affect Bucks. A combination of reducing the planes' speeds and advances in new technology means changes could be made so that now the vast majority of the flights fly within 500m of the official centre line, which would be good news for many communities.

LADACAN – a community action group – explained that as well as significantly more flights, the fleet mix has altered and there are fewer quieter planes now at Luton. The planes are carrying more passengers and perhaps freight, so they are heavier and therefore noisier. Luton's planes arrive and depart in bunches,



and such bunches are lasting longer, and the planes are flying closer together. Remember that if you are

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Pitstone
LU7 9GY*

disturbed by aircraft noise, you should report it to the airport via the following email address: noise@ltn.aero

What would help most communities (apart from those who really are at the ends of the runway) would be if the planes could fly higher for longer. However, interaction with other flightpaths for other airports and holding positions (stacks) make this impossible most of the time. Eventually they want to move the stacks further out and higher up, which would make a huge difference. Heathrow is trialling a later deployment of the undercarriage and we understand that Luton are going to meet with Heathrow with a view to reducing their own deployment. Some plane engines are being retro-fitted to reduce a whining/whistling noise.

Luton Borough Council are currently consulting on a Mass Passenger Transit System to move passengers to and from Luton Airport Parkway railway station and the airport terminal. It is anticipated

that they will submit a planning application in 2017. The airport has asked Arriva to review its bus service from Aylesbury to the airport (which currently requires several changes of bus service).

Completion of road improvements



Our thanks to Transport for Bucks/Bucks County Council for now completing patching works on Yardley Avenue, The Crescent and Church Road. Remember that you can report potholes and other highway problems to Transport for Bucks using the following link: <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport/tell-tfb/>

If you are a Pitstone resident aged 65+ you are entitled to receive a cheque from the *Williamson Trust*, however recently you moved here. Our annual grants are awarded in April and are not means tested. To join our list call Gill on 01296 668809 or email williamsontrust@pitstone.co.uk.



Save Money on Energy Bills but be Quick!


This December, Bucks CC. again invited residents to see if they could make savings on their energy bills through the **Government's Collective Switching Scheme**, a national scheme, that joins local people with others around the country then invite energy suppliers to bid in an auction to provide energy to this pool of people at a preferential rate. Once a supplier has been found they will write to everyone with a personalised quote. There is no obligation to



switch.



In the last round of Auction: 41% of people who registered in Bucks were able to make a saving of, on average, around **£280** per year.



Read more at www.buckscc.gov.uk/switchedon and register your interest.



The deadline for registration is **13rd February 2017** and the auction for suppliers will take place on **14th February**. Please note that you will need your existing energy bill(s) to complete your registration.







 **Personal thanks from Jean and Kurt Uyan** 



 Who says good neighbours do not exist any more? I have been 



 very lucky to have such wonderful neighbours, who rallied round 


 to help me so much, and support Kurt in our darkest hours. 

 A huge thank-you to you all: Nick and Paolo, Claire and Ian, Roy 

 and Linda and Christian and Anita. 

 We are so grateful to you all for your good wishes and prayers. 



ENERGY FROM OUR WASTE SAVES US MONEY

Do you ever wonder what happens to the things you put in your waste bin?

All of the residual (non-recyclable) household waste generated in Buckinghamshire is now processed at the Greatmoor Energy from Waste facility, at Woodham, near Aylesbury. Greatmoor is operated by FCC Environment, in partnership with Buckinghamshire County Council.

Greatmoor has the capacity to treat up to 300,000 tonnes of waste a year (approximately 900 tonnes a day), waste which would otherwise have gone to landfill. As a result, it generates a minimum of 22 megawatts of electricity to the national grid, meeting the energy needs of around 36,000 homes.

This alternative treatment of waste will result in a saving to Buckinghamshire County Council of approximately £150 million over the life of the contract.

Greatmoor has a visitor centre, and offers free guided tours by prior agreement. Tours are open to local organisations, clubs, schools (Key

Stage 2 and above), colleges and universities. If you are not a member of a local group but would like a tour, why not organise a group of your friends for a visit, or come to one of our open days?



A group of Pitstone Parish Councillors (above) visited Greatmoor, recently. Their tour included the control room (where the cranes load the waste), a visit to the viewing hatch providing an exciting view into the heart of the fire, and the turbine hall and condenser fans.

www.greatmoor.co.uk

For visits please contact:

jez.elkin@fccenvironment.co.uk

01296 323633

SAYING THANK YOU

Revd Adrian Manning

By now if you are ever going to you will have sent thank you letters to those who sent Christmas presents to you or the children. It can be a chore but it is important to say thank you to those who have been kind, generous, supportive or helpful to recognise what they have done.



However are you ever grateful for text messages? And if so to whom? Most of us take them so much for granted that we can't imagine a world without them. But the Finnish engineer who first suggested SMS messaging couldn't see any use for them so he didn't pursue the idea or patent it. What an opportunity he missed. The first text was sent 25 years ago in 1992 but from an office in Berkshire.

in February 1992, exactly 25 years ago John Major with the eleven other national leaders of the EC signed the Maastricht treaty that formed the EU providing freedom of movement between member states along with other benefits and costs to us. I wonder if a failure to appreciate all we gain from the treaty and taking for granted the benefits skewed our decision to leave in the referendum



last year.

Being grateful for the good things we enjoy in life is at the heart of faith. The Christian service of Holy Communion is often called the 'Eucharist', which means 'thank you'. Being thankful makes all the difference to life.

Pitstone & Ivinghoe Entertainment Presents...

'Posh Frocks and Sharp Suits'

Friday, 23rd June

Three Course Dinner

**Cocktail / Prosecco / Vodka Bar
Band**

7pm until 1am

Tickets £50

On sale from 4th March

10-12 @ Pitstone Memorial Hall

First 50 tickets sold at £45



'Groovestone'

Remixed Club Classics

Saturday, 24th June

Ibiza Club DJ

Prosecco / Vodka Bar

7pm until 1am

Tickets £15

Over 18's only



**Pitstone Recreational Grounds
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Pitstone Allotment Association

Visit the website for application forms and club secretary contact details, or email:
pitstoneallotmentassociation@gmail.com

www.Pitstoneallotmentassociation.org.uk

(Note: Plots only available to Pitstone residents)





GUIDES RECEIVE HIGHEST AWARD

Yvonne Ashton

Four girls have received their Baden-Powell Challenge in Nov 2016, the highest award that can be gained in the Guide section. Over the past year aKitty Forssling, Hannah Isdale, Emily Humble and Amelia Shults have planned and carried out various activities for the other girls, including an International Evening and Disability Awareness activities. They also did their own activities including building a shelter and sleeping in it overnight. Their final challenge was a residential

weekend in London at Icando centre at UK Guide Headquarters, where they had to travel around London doing a treasure hunt with other girls from the region. They received their award at Pitstone Millenium Room along with the rest of the Guides, leaders and families.

Guides is for girls aged 10 – 14. If you would like to give it a try visit www.girlguiding.uk, to register your interest.

IN BRIEF

Apologies for the summarising of this news. There's been too much happening this quarter!

Pitstone Church thanks everyone who wrote messages on the memory tree. They raised £209 for the Churches Conservation Trust. **Upcoming events:** Festival of Art, Craft and Flowers Holiday 27th – 29th May.

Concert by the Icknield Sixteen 15th July in the Church.

Church open as usual, Sunday afternoons and Bank Holidays between May and September from 2.30 – 5.30 pm .

W.I. 100 years old this year. Upcoming events: Sunday 12th February, Valentine's Lunch. Cost £12.00 – Two course hot meal, Town Hall, Ivinghoe, 12 noon for 12.30pm, Tickets: Lynn Martin, 668072, Helen McCashey 668888.

Monday 3rd April: Talk, 'Tears of the Dragon' by Frances Benton, about pearls – some jewellery on sale. Cost £7.00 – to include a glass of wine. Cheddington Hall, 7.30pm, Tickets Lynn Martin 668072.

Chiltern Society Woodland Appeal

The Chiltern Woodlands Project is working with the Chiltern Society to manage a number of sites including Bottom Wood, Marlow Common, Brush Hill & Whiteleaf Hill, Captains Wood, Cobblers Pits, Cholesbury Camp hillfort and Penn Jubilee Wood. The Chiltern Society is appealing for funds to support these sites *and* the work of the Chiltern Woodlands Project, a charity they set up in 1989. Due to uncertainty and recent deficits, the Chiltern Woodlands Project needs to build up its reserves if it is to continue.

- **Bucks County Council's household waste permits:** Now obtained digitally for: vans or other commercial vehicles, vehicles towing a twin-axle or larger single-axle trailer, asbestos disposal, anyone arriving at the centre on foot. Further information <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/wastepermit>



New to the area with young children at home? Recently had a baby and want to meet other parents in the village? Why not come along to Pitstone Memorial Hall on Thursdays (during term time) from 9 am to 11 am. You can be sure of a warm welcome and a cup of coffee, and for the little ones we offer a variety of activities Music Sessions, arts and crafts, toys and games, story time No need to book, just turn up on the day For more information please visit www.pitstoneandivinghoetoddlers.btck.co.uk Facebook: Pitstone and Ivinghoe baby and toddler group



Rainbows: Monday 4.30 - 5.30 p.m.
Pitstone Memorial Hall
Glider Elaine Thorogood
01296 661540

Brownies: Monday 5.45 - 7.15 p.m.
Pitstone Memorial Hall
Glider Elaine Thorogood
01296 661540

Guides: Tuesday 7.00 - 8.30 p.m.
Millennium Room,
Pitstone Memorial Hall
Glider Yvonne Ashton

To join us, please visit our website at Girlguiding.org.uk



Ivinghoe & Pitstone Chapel Fellowship
We are a small and friendly group of local Christians who meet to worship God in a fairly informal way, in song, in prayer and with messages brought by a variety of local preachers.

We meet on Sunday mornings at 10.30 in the Millennium Room at Pitstone Memorial Hall for services that last about an hour, followed by social chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

All are welcome
why not come and join us?
Want more information?
01296 668005

FIRST THURSDAY FRIENDS
Friendly chat, board games for those who wish and a choice of cake with endless tea or coffee at just £2.

ALL WELCOME
On the first Thursday of each month at 2.30 p.m. in the Millennium Room at Pitstone Memorial Hall

We plan to introduce film shows on alternate months as soon as possible.
Want more information?
01296 668005



Do you have a daughter aged 5 or under?

We currently have places available for girls at Rainbows! Rainbows is for the youngest members of the Girlguiding family - girls aged 5 to 7 years.

The sessions are held on Mondays (during term time) at Pitstone Memorial Hall from 4.30 to 5.30 p.m.

If you would like to join us, please register your interest on our website at www.girlguiding.org.uk.

We hope to see you soon!

1st Ivinghoe & Pitstone Scouts Group

(Group Scout Leader: Keith Steers)

Contact: Email - Ksteers@aol.com Tel—07899 696 722



Scouting Sections

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Watermill Beavers	Windmill Beavers	Windmill Cubs	Watermill Cubs	Scouts
6pm—7pm	6pm—7pm	6.30pm—8pm	6.30pm—8pm	7.30pm-9pm
Leader: Andrew Broad	Leader: Keith Steers	Leader: Rob Haddock	Leader: Rob Mercel	Leader: Andrew Woods



Cheddington Pre-School

Cheddington Pre-School is in the grounds of Cheddington Combined School. We have a purpose built building and our own well-equipped outdoor learning environment with vegetable patch and mud kitchen, plus access to some of the primary school's facilities. We offer a great variety of activities each week including PE, library time, Forest School visits, as well as visits to reception in the summer term for those who will be joining school in the September.

Cheddington Pre-School prides itself in delivering a high quality of pre-school education.

We have very healthy registers at Pre-School so please remember to register your child from 18 months old. We take children from 2 years up until they start school.

For further information or to register your child with us please contact Michelle Andrews, Manager. Tel. 01296 662292 or

info@cheddingtonps.demon.co.uk or visit
www.cheddingtonpreschool.co.uk



WHERE LEARNING & GROWING ARE FUN!

Marsworth Preschool, held at Marsworth Millennium Hall, is a wonderfully caring, fun & nurturing environment for children aged 2 to 5.

Our dedicated and experienced team provide a warm, educational & stimulating place for children to develop & learn through play. Ofsted rated 'Good' at our last inspection (December 2014).


Opening hours are:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Morning 9.00 to 11.30am / Lunch Club 11.30 to 12.30pm / Afternoon 12.30 to 3pm

For more information, session availability or to arrange a visit,
please call **07506 179658** during pre-school hours
or see our website

www.marsworthpreschool.org.uk



Brookmead School
Headteacher: Katherine Douglas

Bringing Learning to Life and Life to Learning

Our school is located in the beautiful Chiltern hills, which is something to be celebrated and shared. Established in 1967, Brookmead School provides a happy and stimulating environment that promotes an enjoyment and love of learning. We aim to enable all our children to reach their full potential, both as learners and as valuable members of our school and wider community.

Brookmead School is a Foundation Primary School for children aged 4 - 11 and serves the communities of Ivinghoe, Pitstone (including Castlemead) and Marsworth.

For further information or to arrange a visit please contact Mrs Kerr on 01296 668543 or email office@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk.

Brookmead School, High Street, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EX
www.brookmead.bucks.sch.uk



Friends At Brookmead (PTA)
Charity number 104137

Friends At Brookmead raise funds by running a recycling textiles project. Items that are no longer required such as adults' and children's clothing, shoes, hats, belts, handbags, ties and soft toys can all be turned into money, which assists us in purchasing additional resources to enhance the children's learning at Brookmead School.

Rob Clarke of Colbree Engineering has kindly agreed to use their village based engineering site at Pitstone Green Business Park to store additional textile collections on our behalf. Donations should be placed into plastic sacks and dropped off at the signed collection point at the rear gates at Colbree Engineering on Quarry Road. Friends At Brookmead would like to thank Colbree Engineering for their support in enabling us to extend this project out to the wider community.

So next time you are sorting out your wardrobes, don't take it to the tip...take it to Colbree

FriendsAtBrookmead@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk



POPPY APPEAL A BLOOMING SUCCESS.

Joe Marling, ex Middlesex Regiment (DCO TA)

Yet another year over, collecting for the Royal British Legion. The challenge I take on every year was, yet again, a great success, raising just over £2,565.

It was hard this year, as my wife, Shirley, is really poorly now. She insisted that I did it and after collecting for 6 years, I have been told that I have raised over £10,000 outside our local shop.

Still undecided, I saw a Facebook

post from a local young lady, asking if the Poppy Man would be outside Mason's Store. The first comment said 'Yes, he will be there, rain or shine.' The lady who enquired, had crocheted some poppies as part of her donation. How could I refuse. The challenge was on!

Tong, of the New May Fu, one again brought out meals, and a young woman who did not wish to

(Continued on page 39)

be named, kept me going with bacon rolls on two occasions.

The challenge was made possible by locals, who looked after my jeep at lunch time so that I could go home and care for Shirley. Without our lunch-time crew it would have been impossible, so heartfelt thanks



to Jane, Les, Paul, Mary, Barry, Dave

and Katherine, also to Richard and the girls for their cups of tea.

Believe it or not, the young lady who supplied the poppies, is already preparing for November 2017.

For the third year I have had a donation from an old friend, who travels some distance to help the cause.

Another guy was working away in Germany, when he saw the picture (left) of Fiona Harrison and I on Facebook. He came round to see me when he got back. Another picture was seen in Australia.

So a final thanks to everyone who makes the Poppy Appeal outside Mason's Stores, such a success.

Dumping Garden Waste

Following the request in the last PPP that people do not dispose of their garden waste thoughtlessly, it appears that some are still carrying out the practice.

Even if you live near woodland, or have a convenient verge or footpath on the other side of your fence, dumping clippings and grass cuttings is considered fly-tipping and can incur a fine and costs.

If you see garden waste being disposed of in this way, it is very easy to report it here: <http://old.buckscc.gov.uk/environment/waste,-recycling-and-treatment/fly-tipping/report-fly-tipping/>



NEWS FROM IVINGHOE HUB

Happy New Year 2017 to all our Community.

It was through the Beacon Magazine, now celebrating its 100th edition, that we were all first alerted in 2010 to the perilous future of the Old School Ivinghoe. After a flier to each home, in May 2011 a team of villagers followed up our agreed plan to save and restore the building for this community to continue its use within the village for everyone's enhanced wellbeing. We achieved our goal in summer 2013 and opened the Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub for the next 25 years! This year in our fourth year! We have paved the outside space, and planted out our tubs and bought in more tables to sit at outside and watch our bit of the world go by! Jane Elliott's bench should arrive this year to enhance that activity also!

Christmas parties and lunches and one of **CuriosiTEA Rooms special Christmas Pop up Restaurants** have been a very tasty and entertaining feature of our

seasonably decorated Hub venue. This included the very **new Simply Walks** group who set off walking locally from the Hub every Monday at 10am for just over an hour and finish it all off with a CuriosiTEA Rooms coffee by 11.30am!

Our **new trustees** have given their time generously shared their skills to support the running of our Old School Hub venue. Bob continues to be a very busy secretary, and it is through him that **you can hire space and time for your activities**. Our tenant Hayley continues to keep the booking diary on the counter of her cosy Hub Café CuriosiTEA Rooms.

Our Christmas Market was a sparkly success, a quieter affair than its previous three, but very enjoyable for that, as everyone was more able to move around the stalls, café and outside and chestnut roasting, to enjoy the melodic and very skilled school choir singing their several carols to us, or hop on the lovely Children's old fashioned

Carousel, more easily with no queue. We made a small profit of £500 to spend on the upgrading of the Hub. **Thank you all comers!**

We are very keen as trustees to find the time and courage in 2017 to face all the paperwork entailed, to **reward voluntary help at the**



Hub through Time Credits. For those who missed previous articles, these are vouchers you can use for free tickets at the Waterside Theatre and other local theatres, swimming time at Aylesbury Aqua Vale, tickets to Lords Cricket Ground; Amersham Museum; Adult Learning Centres across Bucks; Marlow Museum; British Museum; Museum of London; Tower of London; Tower Bridge Exhibition; St Paul's Cathedral; Keats House, London; and the Thames Clippers London for a start, plus many other

rewarding activities at other venues.

Everyone's hour is worth the same and everyone gets thanked. There is no limit to how many credits you can earn, and you can save them yourself, or share them with friends.

We still want to offer a session a week of **'Movers and Shakers Club' eventually!** This is a three hour session centred around a lunch club bracketed by, a health promoting, moving-to-music hour and a social third hour of film, a speaker's talk or a card game, etc., We will be calling for volunteers to assist anyone who needs mobility help. If you would like to help, volunteering will earn you Time Credits. Do get in touch to help or attend.

Our Spring Market will be back on Easter Saturday. Do drop in, (to be kept in the loop **join our database**) and become part of this cosy village Hub experience!

For information about hiring the Hub see page 46

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- Monday 10.30 @ Pitstone
- Tuesday - 10.00 @ Cheddington
- Wednesday - 13.30 @ Pitstone
- Thursday - 10.00 @ Pitstone

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to reserve a place

0-5 year olds £4

siblings 0-2 free

siblings over 2 are £2

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www.facebook.com/singing.helen

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Cheddington Village Hall

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Pitstone Memorial Hall

Wednesday 7.30pm

Wilstone Village Hall

Mon & Wed 9.30am
Tue 6pm Low Impact
Thu (Lo) & Fri 9.45am
Sat 9.30am

Goldfield Infants School

Tring
Tue & Thu 7.30pm

Nora Grace Hall, Tring

Wed 11.30am Lite class

Keri Donnellan - 07930 987230 Email: jazzercise@btinternet.com
www.facebook.com/jazzercisebucks&w=1147167

WHAT'S GOING ON AT COLLEGE LAKE?

Leo Keedy, College Lake Warden

Even in the midst of winter, there are signs of spring, out on the reserve. Early flowering plants such as spurge laurel and stinking hellebore are about to come into flower and snowdrops shoots, to appear. One of our most striking summer flowers, the bee orchid, is also very much in evidence. Bee orchids do most of their photosynthesis over winter so we have leaf rosettes appearing all over the reserve. Another exciting record for us is the hind footprint of an otter, found on a clay pad, used to monitor mammal activity.

We are currently carrying out one of my favourite winter jobs here at College Lake - hedge laying. This traditional management method was originally developed as a way to maintain field boundaries using hand tools. There are numerous local styles around the country, with our local one being the Midland style, also known as the Midland Bullock as it was used as a cattle proof barrier. A hedge is laid by cutting through the stem leaving a small strip uncut to

allow the movement of water and nutrients from the roots to the rest of the plant. The stem (known as a pleacher as well as many other local names) is then laid at an angle with stakes and binders used to create a sturdy hedge. The pleachers will carry on sprouting and this, along with the new growth from the cut stem, will produce a thick bushy hedge.

In January we began hosting Simply Walk health walks run by Bucks County Council. If you would like to come along the walks take place every Wednesday mornings at 10.30. For more details pick up a leaflet at College Lake, see the Bucks CC website at www.buckscc.gov.uk/simplywalk or just pop along on a Wednesday morning around 10.15 and join us.

Later in the spring we will be holding an official opening weekend with guided walks and activities for children, focusing on the distant past which very much shapes the College Lake of today.

website www.bbowt.org.uk.

Pitstone Community Car Scheme
 Servicing Healthcare Appointments

DESTINATION	Cost £.p
AMERSHAM	8.50
CHESHAM	6.50
CHURCHILL (OXFORD)	17.50
HIGH WYCOMBE	14.00
LUTON & DUNSTABLE	7.00
NUFFIELD (OXFORD)	17.50
RADCLIFFE (OXFORD)	17.50
STOKE MANDEVILLE	7.00
TRING	3.00

Volunteer drivers always needed

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Mobile: 07720 265645

plumbital1@gmail.com

The Village Health Centre Pitstone

Yardley Avenue LU7 9BE

Opening Hours: 9 - 12am and 2 - 6pm
except Wednesday: 8 - 12am closed in the afternoon
and Friday: 9 - 12am and 2 - 5pm

PHONE: 01525 223211

www.pitstone.surgery.co.uk

Little Rothschild Surgery

71 Marsworth Road LU7 9AX

Opening Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8.30 - 1.00pm and 2.00 - 4.30pm

Friday: 8.30 - 1.00pm closed in the afternoon

PHONE: 01296 662800

www.rothschildhousesurgery.co.uk

Community space for hire - of great Victorian character, recently refurbished by our Community, for this Community's use.

Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub

www.ivinghoeoldschool.com 01296- 661666

Email : ivinghoeoldschool@btconnect.com

Facebook: Ivinghoe Old School Hub



Venue run with financial transparency by our 'not for private profit' local voluntary trustees for Community Benefit and increased Community Wellbeing.

Space is at ground level for easy access, is warm, and with restored Victorian varnished floorboards, and new comfy modern padded stackable chairs, fold away tables and ambient new lighting - can swiftly adapt to all activities for all generations.

£9 for first hour in 37.65 sq.m room with piano or 31.61 sq.m room with sink and **£7** per hour thereafter.

69.26 sq.m room with retractable screen midway. **£12** for first hour and **£10** thereafter per hour.

Contact us or come in for a booking form and our support for your plan.

CuriosiTEA Rooms is our pivotally important permanent tenant within our building and serves home-made affordable refreshments and hot meals seven days a week. Special arrangements for space hirers who do not wish to self-cater for their own events can be arranged with Hayley Wesley on – 07775-831153
Facebook CuriosiTEA Rooms, or email hayleywesley79@gmail.com

IT Suite

Software includes Microsoft Office 2013 Suite; Photoshop C6; Skype with webcam and microphone;

£2 per PC....one with 40" wall mounted monitor and speakers.

10p A4 b/w photocopy; 50p A4 colour scan and print; 50p A4 lamination

Booking whole space for small conference or meetings etc. £10 an hour.

Personal tuition starting soon!

CuriosiTEA  Rooms



Registered Charity
Number 1165850

United Benefice of Ivinghoe with Pitstone,
Slapton and Marsworth

Souper Lent Lunch

with a selection of homemade soups,
bread, cheese & fruit

Pitstone Memorial Hall

Friday 31st March 12.00 ≈ 2.00

Tickets – Adults £6 Children £3 available from:

Alex – 01296 668336

Margaret – 01296 668005

Norma – 01296 661093

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Beacon Villages Community Library

New for 2017.

We will be doing knitting and crochet in the library on the first Saturday of every month from 10:30 to 12.30. You are welcome to come along with your own project or to make a blanket square.

We need lots of 6" squares to make up into blankets for refugees, so if you can't come along but still want to help, you can collect yarn from us and borrow needles to make a square. Feel free to let your imagination run wild and use different stitches to add interest to your design. Plain squares equally

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welcome, and they do grow quickly!

If you would like to use the library for small group meetings when we are closed, please talk to Shelle about hiring the space. Cost is just £10 per hour.

Run by the community, for the community

www.bvcl.org.uk

General enquiries: info@bvcl.org.uk 01296 387890

Committee enquiries: secretary@bvcl.org.uk

Opening times:

Tuesday 2pm - 5pm

Wednesday 10am - 12noon

Thursday 2pm - 5pm

Friday 2pm - 7pm

Saturday 10am - 1pm



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Booking Clerk; **Mrs. S Gregory 01296 661609**

New hall website: pitstone.co.uk/localinfo/pitstone-memorial-hall



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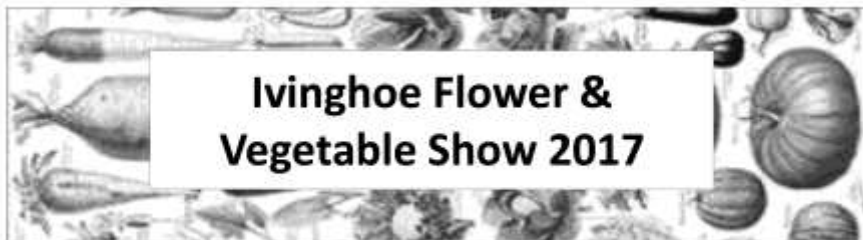
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OPENING TIMES 2016

Afternoons 2.00–5.00pm. 28th March – Easter Monday, 2nd May – Early May BH Monday, 15th May – National Mills W/end, 30th May – Spring BH Monday, 19th June – Sunday, 10th July – Sunday, 7th August – Sunday, 29th August – BH Monday, 13th September – Sunday, 16th October – Sunday As part of Tring Apple Fayre.

MILLING DEMONSTRATIONS (water level permitting)
between 2.30pm–4.30pm approx

Last admission 4.30pm. Admission: Adults: £3 children (5–15) £1
Ample car parking – no toilet facilities. Restricted disability access
School and other parties welcome by arrangement.

Contact: Mill Manager - Chris Tugby, millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk
or Telephone: 01442 825421. www.fordendwatermill.co.uk



LOCATION

Station Rd, Ivinghoe, Bucks LU7 9EA
600 metres from the church along
Station Road.
The B488 to Leighton Buzzard.



PITSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

<p>Chairman, Cllr Robert Saintey  2 Albion Road, LU7 9AY T: 668633 E: sainteypitstone@btinternet.com Chair of Sports & Leisure, Staffing, Housing, PDA, Youth Cafe and Local Area Forum.</p>	<p>Vice Chairman, Cllr Dave Nicholls  64 Marsworth Road, LU7 9AS T: 661910 E: Dave@djnsolutions.co.uk Chair of Pitstone Parish Charity, Planning, Youth Cafe and Village Web Site.</p>
<p>Cllr Margaret Crutchfield  12 Yardley Avenue, LU7 9AL T: 291389 E: hunchlineuk@yahoo.co.uk Chair of Planning Committee, Allotment Officer, Sports & Leisure and Local Area Forum.</p>	<p>Cllr Ben Blunt  The Laurels, Old Farm, LU7 9RD T: 660702 E: ben@strategyhr.co.uk Chair of Staffing Committee, Sports & Leisure, Planning, PDA, Youth Cafe, Minerals & Waste and Local Area Forum.</p>
<p>Cllr Steve Matthey  Fern Cottage, 13 Queen Street, LU7 9AU T: 662691 E: mattheypitstone@gmail.com Chair of Recreation Ground Charity, Pitstone Parish Charity and Memorial Hall Charity</p>	<p>Cllr Gillian Arney  63 Cheddington Road, LU7 9AQ T: 668123 E: gill.arney@tiscali.co.uk Pitstone Parish Charity, Pitstone Hill & Trees, Ecology/Chiltern Conservation Board, Footpaths & Highways, Public Transport and Notice-Board Manager.</p>
<p>Cllr Dr Dave Frearson  93 Yardley Avenue, LU7 9BD T: 07946 067808 E: djtfrearson@gmail.com</p>	<p>Cllr Annie Stack  73 Old Farm, LU7 9RD T: 668020 E: annie.stack12@gmail.com Recreation Ground Charity, Pitstone Hill & Trees, Local Area Forum, Allotment Officer, Pitstone Church Committee & Community Self Help Plan.</p>
<p>Cllr Colin Starling  The Ship, 74 Vicarage Road, LU7 9EY T: 663856 E: colin.starling@btinternet.com Planning, Staffing and Recreation Ground Charity</p>	<p>Cllr Kris Weber  The Willows, 61 Cheddington Road LU7 9AQ T: 07710088624 E: krisweber2@hotmail.com Sports & Leisure, PDA, Highways & Footpaths, Housing and Ecology/Chiltern Conservation Board.</p>
<p>County Councillor: Avril Davies  The Old Bakehouse, Chequers Lane, LU7 9AG T: 668152 E: acdavies@bucksec.gov.uk</p>	<p>Correspondence/Enquiries, the Clerk: Laurie Eagling  9 Warwick Road, LU7 9FE T: 660791 Twitter: @pitstone_pc E: parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk Website: www.pitstone.co.uk Facebook: Pitstone Parish Council and Pitstone Youth</p>
<p>District Councillor: Sandra Jenkins  38 Mentmore Road, Cheddington, LU7 0SD T: 668587 E: sjenkins@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk</p>	<p>District Councillor: Derek Town  4 The Slips, Cheddington, LU7 0RH T: 661637 E: dtown@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk</p>

If you wish to view the plans for any planning application currently under consultation by AVDC, please visit www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk