

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.

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Other useful numbers see pages 35-36 and 38-39

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



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dave Nicholls, Chairman

With any role it is important to feel that your efforts are achieving something. For the Parish Council some things are quite easy to achieve. For a requirement that is within our powers, if we have the money, and we can justify the cost we can usually put things in motion straight away. Where we have to deal with third parties, or persuade others to use their powers it can be much harder.

One example is the news reported elsewhere in the PPP that we are now in a position to replace the play equipment on the recreation ground. Following consultation with residents we tendered for new play equipment, chose a supplier, agreed a design, and got planning permission for the new equipment in 2013.

At that point everything ground to a halt because the Parish Council used the land under licence but did not own it. This had been the situation from the start but matters outside our control changed the status of the land and prevented us from continuing. We then sought to regularise things by buying the land, but that was also tied in to other matters. It has only been in the last couple of months that we have been able to purchase the land and move forward.

I would like to thank Councillors, and particularly the Clerk, for their efforts over the years. Our apologies to the young people who first saw the new designs in 2013 and may now be too old to enjoy them, but it is good to know that the the land is secured and the current generation will have new, exciting, equipment in the coming months. On other matters, we had a good response

to our recent call for volunteers for the Community Car Scheme and I would like to thank all those who have joined the scheme in the last few months. We are, however, still in need of further volunteers to drive local residents to and from medical appointments. You can find more details of the scheme here: <http://pitstone.co.uk/carscheme>. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer please contact Stephen, the Parish Assistant, on 01296 767116.

We also need more volunteers for the Youth Cafe, held at Brookmead School on Wednesday evenings during term time.

Safeguarding rules mean that we can't run the Cafe if we don't have enough volunteers

and we have come quite close to this in recent weeks. The Cafe is popular with many young people attending. If you are the parent or carer of a child that attends please try to volunteer, even if it is just once a term. We know that the young people prefer to have an evening with their friends without parents being around but, while we have non-parent volunteers who are very generous with their **time, it's not fair for them to carry the burden alone.**

As this is the last issue of PPP in 2019, I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.



PITSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Laurie Eagling, Parish Clerk

Welcome to your new parish councillor – Rob McCarthy. Rob joined us on 25 July 2019, fulfilling the vacancy following the departure of Gillian



Arney. Rob says **“I have been a parish councillor for 12 years in the neighbouring parish of Aldbury. I have lived at Tring Station for over 40 years and during my working life, I used to be a regular train**

commuter to London. For the last 4 years, I have attended Pitstone Parish Council meetings and have found that the issues facing Pitstone are very often the same problems as faced by the parish of Aldbury. I have always been a firm believer in co-operation between parish councils and am also vice chairman of the Hertfordshire Association of Parish & Town Councils (HAPTC). **“ We are sure that you will join us in extending a warm welcome to Rob. As a reminder, due to our expanding population, there will be an extra seat on the parish council from the next election in May 2020, bringing the number of seats up to 11. The terms of office for all existing parish councillors will cease at that election and the parish has an opportunity to elect 11 members who will form the new council for**

the forthcoming 4-year period. Existing members may choose to stand for re-election, or step down, and we welcome new members. If you have sufficient time and enthusiasm for your local parish and would like to join us, please contact the clerk for more information.

The Local Wildlife Site off Westfield Road

“Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) – also known as Sites of Biological Importance (SBI) or Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC) – are areas which are locally important for the conservation of wildlife. They are identified and selected for the significant habitats and species that they contain.”

In Pitstone, we are lucky enough to have a Local Wildlife Site off Westfield Road. There is a Right of Way diagonally across the centre. The land is owned by Taylor Wimpey and they have granted permissive access to the rest of the site, so you will find a number of foot-trodden tracks.

Our Local Wildlife Site is one of the most important sites in the country for the rare small blue butterfly and also home to a variety of species of orchid, as well as other wild flowers, butterflies, birds and insects. It is important that the site is respected and cared for. It is not an area of waste land. It is mown once per year as this is the optimum treatment to encourage growth of the wild flowers. Please ensure that you try to stick to the tracks and paths as this helps to prevent the flora and fauna from being disturbed. Please ensure

(Continued on page 6)

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you pick up and responsibly dispose of any dog fouling, as excessive fouling left in the field hinders the growth of certain wild flowers, which in turn affects the butterflies that would normally feed on them. A new dog bin has been provided by Taylor Wimpey near the maintenance gate off Westfield Road and the parish council has agreed to pay for its ongoing maintenance and emptying. You will also find parish council maintained dog bins by the entrance from Church Road, the entrance from Hever Close and the entrance from Westfield Road. We hope that you visit the site frequently to enjoy all wildlife, leaving behind only footprints and taking only photographs away with you.

Would you use a community bus? Pitstone, Marsworth, Ivinghoe and Cheddington parish councils know that for **many residents (especially those who don't drive)**, accessing social activities in neighbouring villages, going to the shops or even visiting loved ones in nursing homes, can be really difficult given that we have a limited public transport service. So we are gathering information about the types of activities and places that you feel you would like to be able to reach, to assess whether a community minibus service in the local villages would help to break down these barriers. It may be able to offer some services where it collects residents from their homes, or some set routes. The parish council hand delivered a survey to every home in Pitstone (other parishes have distributed to their residents and/or published in their magazines). The survey is also available online at: <http://pitstone.co.uk/cbsurvey>. We need as many people as possible to complete the survey so that we can investigate providing the most suitable service. If you have not already completed either the printed survey or the online survey, please do so before Friday 1 November 2019. Thank you.

Join the Car Share Scheme for Tring Station as there will soon be even less parking provision!

Thank you to everyone who completed the West Midlands Trains survey at Tring Station about usage of the station and how you access the service. WMT were impressed with the level of response they received and are using the information obtained to help formulate effective longer-term strategies for the station.

There will be a short-term reduction in parking at the station due to engineering works. West Midlands Trains are therefore introducing a Car Share Scheme for the site, to help reduce the number of single occupant vehicles requiring parking. Car Sharing should be a viable option as there are lots of commuters travelling independently, lots of departures are clustered around a few key train times, and our village is relatively compact so picking up another passenger **on-route to the station doesn't take very long**. Hopefully you will all save money, make new friends, and enjoy the experience so much **that you'll continue to car share once the parking provision is re-introduced!** For more information about the Car Share Scheme and how to sign up, see page 6.

Funding success for pavilion enhancements

The parish council is delighted to announce that it has secured two further sources of grant funding towards the redevelopment of the pavilion site. We are very grateful that this project has received £10,000 funding from the Thriving Communities Fund, a grants scheme for community projects run by Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust. If you would like more information about the grants available, please call the Grants Officer, on 01296 732600. We are also delighted that Aylesbury Vale District Council has approved awarding £540,000 towards this project from the Section 106 Sports and Leisure Contributions. Alongside

the previous award of £370,000 from **Aylesbury Vale District Council's New Homes Bonus** and financial contributions from both the football clubs and the parish council, we now hope to have enough funding pledged to offer security to potential contractors and will commence procurement



**Vale of
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Housing**

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procedures - we will keep residents advised of progress. The council will continue to apply for further grant funding until the final costs for all elements are known and works are completed.

Excellent news for leisure development by the Recreation Ground

We are delighted that the local charity who owned the land at the end of the Recreation Ground which has historically been used for the play area and half the football pitch is finally in a legal position which enables them to dispose of this parcel of land to the Parish Council. The council is most grateful to Aylesbury Vale District Council for their support with this initiative and a release of Section 106 funding to facilitate the purchase of the land.

Now that the land is within the council's ownership, we can progress with the removal of the old play equipment and installation of the new, challenging play space. At the point of writing, we are finalising details with the supplier and waiting for them to confirm an installation date. This is likely to be early in 2020 once the worst of the weather is behind us. We will keep residents advised of progress.

Once the play space details have been confirmed, the council will be able to

commence procurement of the long-awaited concrete skate park. Look out for more updates in due course.

Who is your local hero?

Is there someone who goes the extra mile and volunteers to help residents of Pitstone? Maybe they regularly help their neighbours by collecting their shopping or taking them to their appointments? Maybe they help run one of the local clubs? Remember to send a message to the parish council (parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk or 9 Warwick Road, Pitstone) by the end of January 2020 with a description of who you would like to nominate for our volunteer of the year and why you think they are so wonderful. The winner receives £50 and a framed certificate, as a thank you from us to them.

Design a Sign Competition

If you have a child that attends Brookmead School, one of the local clubs or uses the library, you will be aware that the Parish Council has been encouraging children to submit original artwork to help reduce speeding and improve good driving habits through our village. A selection of winning designs will be converted into temporary signs and erected along our through-roads. The winners will be presented with an A2 copy of their design converted into a sign. Look out for the signs going up around the village and an update in the next edition of PPP.

Audit

Parish councils go through 3 layers of audit – 1 carried out by members, 1 carried out by a firm appointed by the parish council and the final audit undertaken by an auditor appointed to us. We are pleased to advise that all 3 audits have now been completed with no issues arising. Full details are available on the website.

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Who can use Station LiftShare?

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When can I get onboard with Station LiftShare?

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If you have any questions, please contact accessibility@wmtrains.co.uk or call 07970 447 880





LORD GARDINER VISITS BEACON VILLAGES COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Government minister Lord Gardiner of Kimble was in Ivinghoe on Friday 11th October to visit the Beacon Villages Community Library (BVCL), as part of **Buckinghamshire's Libraries Week**. Lord Gardiner is a minister in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. He serves as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity. BVCL, in the medieval Ivinghoe Town Hall, was singled out for the visit as "a great example of how a library can provide a valuable community resource in a rural setting."

The Community Library, run by a committee of local people, shares space in the town hall with the village post office. The minister met a dozen library volunteers, library committee members, County Councillor Ann Wight, and parish councillors from the Beacon villages. He showed real interest in the benefits of the library to the rural communities it serves. The Beacon villages library offers traditional book borrowing and many other services. You can use it to get online, to print and photocopy and use your library membership to access a host of digital services such as e-magazines and e-newspapers.

Beacon Villages Library is one of a cluster of community buildings and facilities in Ivinghoe which include a pharmacy, post office, a hairdresser and a playground as well The Hub, another community-run building with a coffee shop and shared office space.

Avril Davies, who chairs the committee that runs Beacon Villages Community Library, said: **"We were delighted to be chosen to**

host Lord Gardiner, and show him how our thriving Community Library works. BVCL is an extremely important asset at the heart of our village offering many services and facilities to people in this part of the county **and we've been able to show that."**

Lord Gardiner said: **"I am delighted to be** here at Beacon Villages Community Library, which is a perfect illustration of how public institutions can bring people together in rural areas." **Libraries play a key role for vibrant** communities across England, inspiring people of all ages, building digital skills, fostering health and wellbeing and supporting local **business."**



GROUP:

Lord Gardiner at Beacon Villages Community Library with Avril Davies (L) who chairs the library committee, local County Councillor Anne Wight, Cabinet Member Gareth Williams and his Deputy, Noel Brown, library volunteers and parish councillors



COUNTY NEWS

Anne Wight, County Councillor, Ivinghoe Division

Welcome to the autumn edition of the **Ivinghoe Division newsletter**. It's hard to believe that we are only a few months away from having the new Buckinghamshire Council up and running, but from 1 April, 2020 that will indeed be the case. Services in the meantime will continue as normal, and on 7th May 2020, we will have elections for the three new Buckinghamshire Council councillors who will be representing Ivinghoe ward. This is a very exciting change which will hopefully provide everyone with better, more accessible services.

We are also in the process of setting up the Community Boards, which will replace the current Local Area Forums. The results from the recent consultation will be analysed to ensure resident input while the format of the Community Boards is finalised, so thank you very much if you were able to help us out with that consultation.

For those who may not know, the Community Boards are a way of bringing together Buckinghamshire Council councillors with local communities to help solve local issues and to provide a vital link between the council, elected councillors and communities. These local issues could include improving facilities for young people, tackling social isolation of older people or helping to set up a community bus. It is hoped that they will enable Buckinghamshire Council councillors to take decisions on local issues, alongside key

partners including other community representatives, and allow Buckinghamshire Council councillors to work with communities to influence service design and delivery on local issues.

We want Community Boards to involve everyone in the local area who want to make a difference and work with the new council to **do this**. **We're proposing that**

Buckinghamshire Council councillors from the local area would sit on their local board. To be effective, Community Boards would also need to include people and organisations from the local community such as fire services, police and health, residents, parish and town councils and young people.

Hopefully, Community Boards will give residents greater influence on how services are run locally as well as contact with elected members and key stakeholders. All Local Area Forum members will be notified of the outcome of this decision and the next steps in setting up Community Boards.

The Freight Strategy Update

I am still actively working on the Freight Strategy with our officers. The Freight Strategy seeks to ensure that we make use of optimal HGV routes throughout our local area to ensure businesses continue to thrive while preserving our environment and the amenity of our residential areas. Canals and River Trust evaluations of the Brownlow Bridge in Ivinghoe along with several other



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canal bridges in our area have resulted in some weight restrictions and some local fluctuations in HGV alternative routings, driving an urgent need to find the best approach moving forward. We are currently looking at options for the bridges and the local communities in the context of the Freight Strategy in order to plan optimal freight routing.

I know many of you have written to me with concerns about lorry traffic through our villages. To address your concerns, our Freight Strategy officer has come up with several options which are presently going through County Council strategy and budgetary approvals with a view to moving to public consultation at the earliest opportunity. I would encourage all residents to participate in the consultation process, since this is your chance to have a say in the future of freight traffic routes through our local area.

In the meantime, if you feel strongly on this issue and want your views heard, you can write to the Freight Strategy officer and his team at the email address below.

freight@buckscc.gov.uk

Luton Airport Expansion Consultation
I have been continuing my work on both the London Luton Airport Consultation

Committee, as well as on the Noise and Track Sub Committee, and I would like to

draw everyone's attention to Luton Airport's Statutory consultation for the proposed expansion from 18 to 32 million passengers per year, which will start on Wednesday

16th October and run until Wednesday 11th December. Residents may want to review

Luton Airport's airspace proposals when these are published on the CAA's

Consultation Portal.

We have also arranged for hard copies of the consultation to be held at the Beacons Villages Community Library in Ivinghoe, and we are trying to arrange a local consultation event in Pitstone. More details on that will

be forthcoming and will be sent to the parish councils.

<https://airspacechange.caa.co.uk/PublicProposalArea?PID=51>

Buckinghamshire County Council improves CO2 emissions

At BCC we are very aware of the need to reduce our carbon dioxide levels to protect **the environment. I'm delighted to say that** successful carbon reduction projects across Buckinghamshire County Council's services and infrastructure have resulted in an impressive 41% reduction in the amount of carbon dioxide produced in 2018/19 compared with the baseline set in 2009/10. This is a significantly better outcome than the 30% national voluntary reduction target set by the UK Government in its Clean Growth Strategy, and actually exceeds the County Council's own more ambitious target of 40%. Some of the biggest successes have seen the successful implementation of carbon reduction initiatives across corporate buildings and in street lighting. Since 2011, £4 million has been invested in roof-mounted solar panels, LED lights, boiler replacement and other measures. These projects have successfully led to cost savings of over £530K and saving over 2,700 tonnes CO2 per annum.

While this is very encouraging, we still have a long way to go. If you want to read the full report, it is available via the link below.

www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/sustainability/corporate-performance-reporting

Transport for Bucks Update

I am happy to report that the recent TFB weed spraying programme is proving to be a success, with clear signs of die back. They have a few more applications ahead, but overall the treatment seems to be working. Great Gap in Ivinghoe is now on the urban grass mapping and will be cut by our contractor four times a year going forward. The team also executed an excellent repair

to the speed cushion outside the Kings Head which was further inspected by the BCC auditor.

We have completed the capital maintenance road resurfacing from Cheddington High Street to the Cooks Wharf bridge, and that surface is now exceptionally smooth.

Additionally, all of the £4.5m plane & patch programme was completed by the revenue team ahead of schedule and within budget.

This has proven to be of great benefit to our roadworks teams in reducing the number of repeat visits to known problem areas and we are getting feedback from the public as to the positive impact it is having for their daily commute.

Thames Valley Police

I was very pleased to see the announcement in the national news that there will be a national campaign to recruit 20,000 new police officers. I know that burglary and rural crime are issues of great importance to all of my residents, and I share their concerns about the number of rising van and vehicle thefts over the past few months. As part of the effort to combat crime locally, Thames Valley Police are promoting their “Be a Force For All” campaign, which follows the funding announcement by the Chancellor to support the recruitment of a first wave of up to 6,000 officers, who will be shared among the 43 territorial forces in England and Wales. This includes £750 million for 2020 to 2021 and an immediate £45 million to kick-start recruitment.

The ‘Be a force for all’ campaign features

serving police officers, and a website has been created to direct potential recruits to the recruitment pages of local police forces. In August, Thames Valley Police launched its new careers website and hosted a Facebook Live event focused on recruitment.

Thames Valley Police is expecting to benefit from the uplift in policing numbers announced in August.

While this is very encouraging news

regarding police numbers, there are many things we residents can do to keep ourselves a bit safer. Many burglaries are the result of opportunistic theft, and so if you have been burgled recently or had a vehicle stolen, the Thames Valley Police website has many tips for how to improve home security, a few of which I explain below.

Check for weak spots where a burglar could get into your garden, for example a low or sagging fence, or a back gate with a weak or no lock. A thorny hedge along the boundary of your property can put burglars off but make sure that passers-by can still see the front of your home so that burglars can be seen.

Burglars also don’t like gravel as it’s noisy to walk on, so this is good to lay on paths and underneath ground floor windows. Avoid building pergolas or gazebos too near your home as they can help thieves reach upper windows.

Using anti-climb paint or fixing trellising to the top of solid fences and walls can make it more difficult for a burglar to climb over. Do not use barbed or razor wire as you could be held legally responsible for any injuries caused.

As I sometimes get resident queries about the possible installation of CCTV, that would be well worth considering if you have been the victim of a crime or simply wish to deter burglars. Residents can now buy indoor and outdoor cameras that connect to an app on your smartphone, although since CCTV will not prevent your home being burgled on its own, it should be used in addition to other deterrents including good quality locks, a burglar alarm and security lighting.

Cameras should be positioned for easy **maintenance but high enough so they can’t be tampered with**. If your camera is outside, you must comply with data protection and **privacy laws and make sure it isn’t pointing at public spaces or other people’s houses or gardens**.

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Chat about the selected pictures on show.

Also, remember that many burglars will avoid breaking into a property that has an alarm. There are many alarm systems on the market ranging in price.

Audible-only alarms set off a siren or bell and are usually a cheaper option. Due to the number of false alarms, police will only respond if there is confirmation of suspicious activity such as a neighbour reporting they saw someone or heard glass being broken.

Monitored alarms are connected to a central **'listening' service. The monitoring company** will check for false alarms and call the police if necessary. Monitored systems are particularly important for isolated properties. For more information on these and other tips to deter burglars, please see the Thames Valley Police website

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/police-forces/thames-valley-police/areas/advice/home-security-guide/>

Drinking Sensibly in Bucks

While I know the Christmas season is only a few weeks away, and many of us enjoy a nice glass of mulled wine or other seasonal drinks, Buckinghamshire County Council is encouraging residents to think about their habits around alcohol and increase their understanding of safer drinking levels.

While many of us in Buckinghamshire enjoy drinking alcohol – to celebrate, relax or just through habit, too much of a good thing can have adverse health impacts.

This is really just a seasonal reminder to keep the health risks of alcohol to a low level, the Chief Medical Officer recommends it is safest not to drink more than 14 units of alcohol per week. This should be spread over several days with some alcohol free days in between. The Chief Medical Officer also recommends that children should have an alcohol free childhood.

Whether you like the occasional drink, have a couple of glasses of wine with dinner most nights, regularly go out drinking with friends or drink at home, you can lower your risk of

conditions such as heart disease, strokes, cancer and dementia by taking simple steps to reduce your alcohol intake.

There are lots of apps that can help you keep track of how much you are drinking, give you tips to help cut down and point you in the right direction if you need one to one support. The Bucks Drink Checker website has a really good app – check it out for yourself at [https://](https://buckscc.drinkchecker.org.uk)

buckscc.drinkchecker.org.uk

However, if you're regularly drinking more than the recommended amount or you feel you can't manage without drinking alcohol, you may be experiencing signs of alcohol dependence. Please seek the advice of your GP or a local support service such as One Recovery Bucks (<https://onerecoverybucks.org/>) to help you safely **cut down on the amount of alcohol you're** drinking.

More than 1 in 4 adults in the county (that's over 100,000 people) drink at levels above recommended guidelines. Unfortunately, due to different size measures and strengths it can be difficult to know how much alcohol is actually being consumed, and some people may be harming their health because they **don't realise they are drinking too much.**

Apparently, drinking more than 14 units a week is highest in older age groups in Bucks.

Drinking above the Chief Medical Officer's recommended level is also more common among more affluent people and men. Although fewer young people are drinking more than previously it is important to think about the messages we give our children about alcohol by what we say and equally importantly what we do as parental **influences play a key role in young people's** drinking habits.

To read the full Buckinghamshire Director of Public Health Annual Report visit <http://www.healthandwellbeingbucks.org/jsna-dphar> With that in mind, I hope everyone has a safe and happy run up to Christmas!

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Advance Notice... The Scout Christmas Post is back for 2019

This Christmas why not support your local Scouts and save yourself some time posting Christmas cards around the Villages by using the Scout Christmas post instead?

You can buy our special Scout stamps at St Mary's Church Christmas Market on 16th November and then from our local retailers.

Stick them on your cards and post them in one of our many special post boxes dotted around the villages.

We will ensure that all cards posted by the 'last post' will be delivered before Christmas

Look out for our posters, and check the Village facebook pages and web sites early November for more information and details of retailers.



PITSTONE CHURCH

Gillian Arney

We would like to thank everyone who has visited Pitstone Church, whether for a special event or on a Summer Sunday afternoon. The people who come to the church make it an important part of village life even though we have no regular services. Our last event of the year will be The Memory Tree on the 7th and 8th December

between 12 noon and 4 pm. The church will be decorated and there will be refreshments. The Beacon Community Choir will be singing carols on Sunday at 3 pm. Come and remember your loved ones at Christmas.

Send Us Your Stories!

Your PPP is looking for local news stories from the residents of Pitstone. We want to include articles about YOU and everything that makes Pitstone a great place to live. We want to hear about:

- Do you or your family have an interesting talent?
 - Is your pet the best?
 - Have there been some strange goings-on?
 - Are you tenth generation Pitstonion?
 - Have you had some impressive achievements?
 - What's been dug up in your garden?
-

You don't need to be able to write as local councillor Louise Stoddart will come to you and write the article for you and take a picture to feature in the magazine.

**For more details, please contact:
louise.stoddart@pitstonepc.org**

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J.M. Barrie

by Ian Gower
& Nick Russon

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ASHRIDGE RAMBLINGS - SEEING THE WOOD FOR THE TREES

Rikki Harrington

I find it hard enough looking after my small back garden. Imagine having to care for 5000 acres of our most precious and beautiful countryside. How do you balance the needs of visitors and wildlife? How do you prioritise the huge number of tasks? Careful planning and expert knowledge – **that's how.**

Ashridge's ten-year Woodland Management Plan was two years in the making and has just been approved by the Forestry Commission. The Ashridge team consulted extensively with Parish Council representatives, visitors, other local stakeholders, Natural England, Historic England and the Gardens Trust.

The resulting key objectives include:

- removal of conifers from the ancient woodlands within the Estate (leaving key specimens in the designed landscape as well as sufficient habitat for the specially-protected firecrest bird) and replacing them with native broadleaved trees of higher ecological value;
- widening some of the rides, establishing more glades on the common land and creating scrubby edge habitats for the benefit of wildlife, particularly birds and butterflies;
- enhancing the status as an internationally important habitat for dead-wood invertebrates;
- caring for the many trees that are ancient (remarkably old for their species), veteran (younger but with some features of

ancient specimens such as missing branches and hollow trunks) and notable (particularly fine specimens) through halo-thinning, which involves removal of vegetation from their immediate proximity to reduce competition for light and nutrients; and

- improving access for visitors and creating more viewpoints from the scarp slope along Aldbury Terrace and Duncombe Terrace (the main track from the Visitor Centre towards Ivinghoe Beacon).

Some funding is likely through a grant from the HS2 budget. This will be used for the ancient woodland restoration work in, appropriately, Rail Copse as well as Little Frithsden Copse. Conifer plantations will be replaced by hornbeams to restore the coppice that was felled in the 1960s and 1970s. Volunteers to help with the replanting of these historic woodlands would be very much welcomed. The grant will also cover removal of some of the laurel that is spreading through the ancient woodlands. If you can help, please contact helping.ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk.



WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE HUB?

Carol T

Thank you for your support for the Annual Ivinghoe, Ivinghoe Aston and Pitstone Fruit and Veg Show! So with that and the Hub **AGM behind us, it's that time of year again**, when the Hub trustees will be approaching local businesses for raffle prizes, for our annual WIntry Market!

The market will be on Friday 22nd November from 6pm-10pm with its indoor and outdoor twinkly stalls selling Christmas presents, **crafts and seasonal cheer**. We're hoping the day will include a petting zoo, fairground ride, barbeque and lots of other fun activities! In 2020 we hope to see many people enjoying visits to the CuriosiTEA Rooms, who have a new, fuller menu. The café has renewed its 3-year lease, with Haley and Sven as joint leaseholders.

Events for next year include:

- Pancake Races and eating on Shrove Tuesday 25th February
- Spring Market – 18th April (Easter Saturday), which includes an Easter Egg Hunt and stalls
- Village Clean – Up – May
- Second Saturday Table Top Sales will continue and tables are available to hire at £10 each. Sell crafts, second hand possessions and homegrown or baked produce.

We were very pleased to have worked with the Parish Council and the WI to have the installation of the Defibrillator on the wall facing the front playground; we were then very pleased to have been generously given £471 specifically for the support of the Defibrillator – given by David Wilton on behalf of his father in law, the deceased Albert Blackwell.

From paved surroundings and garden

furniture, spread amongst all year round flowering planters, to a full PA system in the Hall space with cinema style projection, we have improved our provision without raising the booking charges, somehow.

So on paper the year was a fulsome and satisfying one. In truth we have had our sustainability concerns and as three more trustees have resigned due to age, health and other commitments, so we give thanks to them and are quickly on the scout for two to **three more! As always, we're also looking for** volunteers to help with events and other **'jolly jobs'**.

The Café team and regular Voluntary Hub Trustees (back-room-crew) must be commended for bending over backwards for all and sundry Hub users to fulfil a staggering variety of strange requests and individual fulfilled needs, all as just part of the daily welcome.

The voluntary project has worked and the Hub bookings are best ever. The Café is often full but then suddenly empty for too long? We plan to expand our volunteer support dramatically somehow, and then set about expanding our sustainable pleasure dome in myriad ways yet to be thought of!

So we invite you all to join in our first **2hour 'Jolly-Job' which kicks off** decorating the Hub by erecting several Christmas trees and decorating them for winter fun - followed by cake and tea.

Jolly Job volunteers please email Carol at ivinghoeoldschoolcommunityhub@btconnect.com; or phone 01296 661666 and leave a message.

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Tickets £10 (children free) from Lindsay Hewlett
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or at www.beaconcommunitychoir.co.uk or on the door



PITSTONE & IVINGHOE JFC U16S ACHIEVED THE TREBLE!

Pitstone & Ivinghoe JFC U16s enjoyed a fantastic 2018-19 season, winning three separate competitions. Playing in the Wycombe & South Bucks League against teams spread around the home counties, including Bourne End, Risborough and Berkhamsted, they were crowned Division Champions, winning 14 out of the 16 league games. They also won the U16 Subsidiary Cup as well as the Aylesbury JFC 6-aside tournament, sweeping Hemel Hempstead aside in the semi-final, and winning the final on penalties against Ruislip Rangers. Playing their home matches at Pitstone Pavilion, over the course of the season they won 18 matches, losing 3, scored 100 goals and conceded just 23. A fantastic achievement for the 19 strong squad, some of which

have played for their local Club since U6s, some 11 years ago. The group are playing in SBYL at U18 level this 2019-20 season. Come and watch at the Pavilion on Sundays!



Save The Date!

College Lake Artists are busy throwing clay, painting canvases, printmaking, fusing glass and soldering silver and jewels all in preparation for our end of year Festive Fair. As always we would be delighted to see you so please save the dates in your diary and come on over.

**Thursday 29th November
until
Sunday 2nd December**

College Lake Nature Reserve, Tring,
HP23 5QG



SOMEWHERE OR ANYWHERE?

Rev Adrian Manning, Vicar of St Mary's
Ivinghoe with Pitstone

If I were to talk of 'Haves' and 'Have-nots' and then point you to the Parable of the Good Samaritan you would think I was doing my job as Vicar in the run up to Christmas in encouraging you to treat your neighbour with care and compassion at this time of those in need.

Any attempt to divide the world into two groups such as Haves and Have-nots is inevitably a huge simplification but it still serves a useful purpose in shaping our response to it. Our understanding guides our behaviour. What, though, if I were to talk of 'Somewheres' and 'Anywheres'?

One writer has recently split the people around us into these two tribes. It is a simplification but may be a useful distinction. There are those who come from Somewhere who feel rooted in a specific place or community such as one of the villages that we live in, Ivinghoe, Pitstone or Marsworth. And there are those who come from Anywhere. They are typically urban folk whose educational and professional working lives have taken them on journeys around the country or world living in different places as they travelled on.

It is estimated that half the population are Somewheres and a quarter are Anywheres. The majority of Somewheres feel uneasy with aspects of the modern world.

Anywheres however predominate in the so-called 'elite' who dominate our national life.

There is a strong correspondence between the Somewhere/Anywhere divide and the leave/remain split in this country.

By the time this piece is read the Prime

minister's do-or-die deadline of 31st October will have passed; there will be winners and losers in the national argument. There will be hurt and anger. The debate has fractured us bringing to the surface deep feelings of who we are and where we belong.

Recognising hurts in others brings me back to the Good Samaritan who reached out across a tribal divide to bring healing to an injured traveller. He chose not to pass by on the other side but reached out to one whom he saw as a neighbour in need of care and compassion.



Sometimes it can be difficult to cope with the challenges that life throws at us so talking to a counsellor may be helpful.

From my counselling practice near Wendover, I offer a warm, friendly and confidential space for you to talk through any problems you may be facing such as anxiety, stress, sadness, low self-esteem, anger and relationship difficulties.

For further information on how I may be able to help or to book an initial appointment, please contact me:

Natalie McGourty MBACP, BA (Hons) Psychology

Tel: 07976 968166

Email: natalie@nmcounselling.co.uk

Website: www.nmcounselling.co.uk



**PITSTONE TOWN
LANDS CHARITY**

*Supporting
People in Need
in Pitstone*

The Pitstone Town Lands Charity aims to support people living in the parish of Pitstone who are in need, hardship or distress.

The Charity makes discretionary payments to Pitstone residents, especially those of pensionable age and to organisations supporting the people of the parish. The charity also owns 4 flats and provides local, affordable accommodation.

If you or someone you know is in need of help. Please contact Gill Lowe, Chair of PTLC Trustees

tel: 01296 668809,

email: Gill.lowe@pitstone.email

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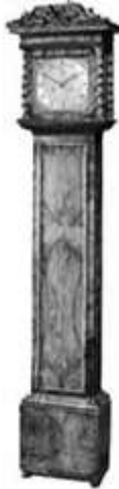
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To cover volunteers' expenses, we make a charge of 45p + 45p per mile
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Yardley Avenue Surgery, Pitstone £1.00
Rothschild House Surgery, Tring £4.50

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Dates for 2019

~~19th May - Who is Jesus?~~

~~21st July - Outdoor Messy Church~~

~~15th September - Messy Harvest~~

8th December - Messy Christmas

From 2.30-4pm at St. Mary's
Ivinghoe

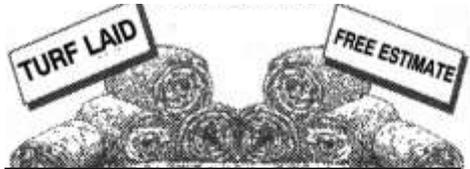
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	7.00pm	Cheddington Village Hall	Dance Mixx
Tuesday	9.30am	Cheddington Village Hall	Dance Mixx
	6.00pm	Wilstone Village Hall	Lo
Wednesday	9.30am	Wilstone Village Hall	Strength45
	11.30am	Nora Grace Hall, Tring	Lo
	7.30pm	Pitstone Memorial Hall	Express
Thursday	8.00pm	Pitstone Memorial Hall	Strength45
	9.45am	Wilstone Village Hall	Lo
Friday	9.45am	Wilstone Village Hall	Dance Mixx
Saturday	9.30am	Wilstone Village Hall	Dance Mixx





There are a few gaps in the LOCAL INFORMATION pages. If you notice your organisation is missing or has the entry 'To be advised' then do send us your wording to make sure that residents are informed about the services available to

LOCAL INFORMATION

LOCAL VENUES

Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub: two former classrooms for hire either separately or as one large room. Separate IT for hire suite fully equipped with PCs and other office technology Book per PC or the whole suite.

Contact: www.ivinghoeoldschool.com, ivinghoeoldschool@btconnect.com, 01296 661666 Facebook: Ivinghoe Old School Hub

Ivinghoe Town Hall: Historic and user friendly hall in the village centre, with awards for best managed small hall in the country. Modern facilities for local events. Equipped kitchen, stage, chair lift.

Contact: Stephen Swinbank 01296 660680, spswinbank@gmail.com

Pitstone Memorial Hall: 3 various sized event rooms including large hall with integrated cinema screen and raised stage. 2 kitchens, modern refurbished bar, WIFI, disabled access throughout, ample car parking.

Contact: pmhbooking@gmail.com 01296 661271

LOCAL CLUBS

Beavers: (aged 5¼ - 8): Watermill Lodge, 6-7pm, Monday Leader: Tom. Tuesday Leader: Jakki

Contact: Andrew Woods (Group Scout Leader) by email: ivinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com

Cubs: (aged 8 - 10½): Windmill Pack, 6:30 - 8:00pm, Wednesday leader: Dan Lee (Akela), Thursday leader: Rob Mercel (Shere Khan)

Contact: Andrew Woods (Group Scout Leader) by email:

lvinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com

Scouts: 7-8:30pm, Friday, Leader: Andrew Woods

Contact: Andrew Woods (Group Scout Leader) by email:

lvinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com

Guides: Tuesday 7 - 8:30pm The Hub, Ivinghoe, Leader Rebecca Capron.

Contact: 07545 347787

Brownies: Monday 5:45 - 7:15pm, Pitstone Memorial Hall, Guider Elaine Thorogood

Contact: 01296 661540

Rainbows: Monday 4:30 - 5:30pm, Pitstone Memorial Hall, Guider Elaine Thorogood

Contact: 01296 661540

Pitstone Youth Café: Ages 11-18yrs/school years 7-13 Wednesday 6:30pm to 8pm

(term time) Brookmead School hall <http://pitstone.co.uk/ppcinfo/youth-cafe/>

Women's Institute: Monthly meetings held in Ivinghoe Town Hall. Other entertaining activities.

Contact: Sue Eyres on 01296 709281

Beacon Villages Community Library: 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: Tues 2pm - 5pm Wed 10am - 12noon Thur 2pm - 5pm Fri 2pm - 7pm Sat 10am - 1pm

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Royal British Legion: Chair, Margaret Johnson

01296 661280 margo.j@btinternet.com

Beacon Community Choir: A choir which sings a wide variety of repertoire, and

where all are welcome.. Rehearsals Thursdays (term time) at 8.15 in St. Mary's

Church Ivinghoe. Leader Judith Sheridan. Contact Lindsay Hewlett 01296 660670

lhewlett@btinternet.com

EDUCATION

Pitstone and Ivinghoe Baby and Toddler Group: Thursdays (during term time)

9 - 11am. Warm welcome and a cup of coffee, and for the little ones. Variety of activities: Music Sessions, arts and crafts, toys and games, story time. No need to book, just turn up. Contact: www.pitstoneandivinghoetoddlers.btck.co.uk Facebook:

Pitstone and Ivinghoe baby and toddler group

Brookmead School: (est. 1967): Head Teacher Katherine Douglas, Foundation

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Contact: Brookmead School, High Street, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EX,

www.brookmead.bucks.sch.uk, 01296 668543, office@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk

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Marsworth Road, Pitstone, LU7 9AP

bins at Colbree Engineering, Pitstone Green Business Park to help raise funds for the school

Windmill Pre-school: (children aged 2 - 5 from Pitstone, Ivinghoe and surrounding areas): One of the top pre-schools nationally and highest rated locally. Purpose built premises behind Brookmead School, open 5 full days per week. Mornings 9am - 12pm, Afternoons 12pm - 3 pm (Includes Lunch Club), Lunch Club 12 - 1pm (subject to availability)

Contact: admin@windmillpreschool.co.uk, 01296 661031 (during sessions)

SPORT

Pitstone and Ivinghoe Junior Girls Football: Under 12s and Under 14s (school years 6, 7, 8 & 9) If you are interested in playing football, having fun and making new friends, get in touch, no experience needed. All our coaches are FA Level1 qualified.

Email: chairman@pandifootball.net www.pandifootball.net.

Cheddington Bowls Club: The Recreation Ground, High St. LU7 9AA one of the best bowling greens in the area. Tuesdays at 2pm or Friday at 6 pm, May to Sept.

www.cheddingtonbowls.org.uk Contact: Jo Tchertoff 01296 668624

RELIGION

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel Fellowship:

Sunday Services on third Sunday of each month, 12 Church Rd, 10:30. Family film on first Thursday of each month, Millennium Room of Memorial Hall, 2pm. Over 60s

Club on third Thursday of each month, Yardley Centre, 2-4pm, join us for varied programmes of speakers, quizzes and entertainment.

Contact: 01296 668005

First Thursday Friends: Family film on 1st Thursday of each month, 2 - approx. 4:15pm Millennium Room Pitstone Memorial Hall

Contact: Margaret Cole 01296 668005

St Mary's Redundant Church Conservation: Awaiting details

St Mary's Ivinghoe: Awaiting details

Contact: Reverend Adrian Manning

Tring and Berkhamsted SGI Buddhists: A lay humanist organisation. The SGI is a global movement of people connected by Buddhism and the shared commitment to **realise a future where life's inherent dignity blooms.**

Contact: Sue Nicholls 07788 662349 or check out <https://sgi-uk.org/>

HEALTH

Village Health Centre: Yardley Avenue, Pitstone. LU7 9BE Opening hours 9am - 12pm and 2pm - 6pm except Wednesdays 8 - 12pm and closed pm and Fridays, 9am - 12pm and 2 - 5pm

Contact: www.pitstonesurgery.co.uk and 01525 223211

Little Rothschild Surgery: 71 Marsworth Road, Pitstone LU7 9AX Opening hours: Monday - Thursday 8am - 1pm and 2 - 4:30pm Friday 8am - 1pm closed in the afternoon

Contact: www.rothschildhousesurgery.co.uk, 01296 662800

Nifty Fifties: Keep fit for older folk followed by optional gentle sport. Not for profit. Cheddington Village Hall. Thursdays 10 - midday.

Contact: Sue Povey, 01296 668321 Chris Hall, 01442 824350

PLACES TO VISIT

Ford End Watermill: The only working watermill to survive intact, in the county. Restored and run by Ford End Watermill Society. Open Easter and bank holidays.

Adults £3, children £1. For further details go to www.fordendwatermill.co.uk

Contact millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk or tel. 01442 825421

Ashridge House: Set in 190 acres of gardens, Ashridge House is majestically nestled in National Trust woodland in the rolling Chiltern Hills in Hertfordshire. Tours available. Find out more at <http://www.ashridgehouse.org.uk/about-ashridge-house/>

USEFUL NUMBERS

Report a Right of Way Issue: <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/public-rights-of-way/report-a-rights-of-way-issue/>

Street light problems: Castlemead lights – email:

CCSouthMid@taylorwimpey.com

Marsworth Road lights – Bucks County Council online: [http://](http://www.transportforbucks.net/report-it-street-lighting.aspx)

www.transportforbucks.net/report-it-street-lighting.aspx

Other Pitstone lights - email: parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk

Report a pot hole, blocked drain or other highway problem: Bucks County Council online:

<http://www.transportforbucks.net/Report-it-pothole.aspx>

Castlemead highway issue? Email: CCSouthMid@taylorwimpey.com

Missed bin collection or to find out about recycling: Aylesbury Vale District Council online:

<https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/section/recycling-and-waste>

Dispute with your neighbours about their high hedge: Aylesbury Vale District Council offer more information and a complaint service. For more information go to:

<https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/high-hedges>

Other nuisances causing problems e.g. smoke, air pollution etc: Visit

Aylesbury Vale District Council website: <https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/section/nuisance> or <https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/section/environmental-problems>

Bothered by aircraft noise: Email Luton Airport noise@ltn.aero

Need details of a planning application: Details of all local applications are published online by Aylesbury Vale District Council: [https://](https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/search-planning-licensing-applications)

www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/search-planning-licensing-applications

Want to know if you need planning permission? Visit: [https://](https://www.planningportal.co.uk/)

www.planningportal.co.uk/

Illegally parked: Report problem vehicles to Thames Valley Police on telephone: 101

Faulty electronic bus stop signs: passtrans@buckscc.gov.uk

PITSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

<p>Chairman, Cllr Dave Nicholls</p>  <p>T: 661910 E: dave.nicholls@pitstonepc.org Chair of Parish Council, Chair of Pitstone Parish Charity Committee, Staffing, Planning, Youth Cafe and Village Web Site.</p>	<p>Vice Chairman, Cllr Bob Saintry</p>  <p>T: 668633 E: bob.saintry@pitstonepc.org Chair of Sports & Leisure, Staffing, PDA, Highways & Footpaths, Youth Cafe, AVALC, Local Area Forum, Pitstone Hill & Trees and Local Council Planning Liaison Group.</p>
<p>Cllr Margaret Crutchfield</p>  <p>E: margaret.crutchfield@pitstonepc.org Chair of Planning Committee, Allotment Officer, Sports & Leisure, Youth Cafe, Pitstone Memorial Hall Charity, Community Self Help Plan, Pitstone Parish Charity and</p> <p>Local Area Forum.</p>	<p>Cllr Ben Blunt</p>  <p>T: 660702 E: ben.blunt@pitstonepc.org Chair of Staffing Committee, Planning, PDA, Minerals & Waste and Local Area Forum.</p>
<p>Cllr Louise Stoddart</p>  <p>T: 07970 767097 E: louisa.stoddart@pitstonepc.org Highways & paths, PPP articles</p>	<p>Cllr Rob McCarthy</p>  <p>E: rob.mccarthy@pitstonepc.org Strategic planning, Tring station</p>
<p>Cllr Dr Dave Frearson</p>  <p>T: 07946 067808 E: dave.frearson@pitstonepc.org Sports & Leisure, Street Lighting, Ecology/Chiltern Conservation Board, Community Transport and Local Area Forum.</p>	<p>Cllr Kris Weber</p>  <p>T: 07710088624 E: kris.weber@pitstonepc.org Sports & Leisure, PDA, Local Council Planning Liaison Group and Highways & Footpaths.</p>
<p>Cllr Anil Mitra</p>  <p>T: 01296 293827 E: anil.mitra@pitstonepc.org Highways & Paths, Youth Cafe</p>	<p>Cllr Jack Hawkins</p>  <p>T: 07713590490 E: jack.hawkins@pitstonepc.org Planning</p>
<p>County Councillor: Anne Wight</p>  <p>T: 01296 682933 E: awight@buckscc.gov.uk</p>	<p>Correspondence Enquiries, the Clerk: Laurie Esling</p>  <p>9 Warwick Road, LU7 9FE T: 767261 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</p>  <p>38 Mentmore Road, Cheddington, LU7 0SD T: 668387 E: sjenkins@aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk</p>	<p>District Councillor: Derek Town</p>  <p>4 The Slips, Cheddington, LU7 0RH T: 661637 E: dztown@aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk</p>

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