

**Bevirs Solicitors
are pleased to sponsor
Tockenham Parish Magazine**



Authorised
and regulated
by the
Solicitors
Regulation
Authority

Swindon office Solicitors Regulation
Authority number 00063410
Royal Wootton Bassett office Solicitors
Regulation Authority number 00063411
Calne office Solicitors Regulation
Authority number 00063413



..clients for life

Offices in
**Swindon,
Royal Wootton Bassett
& Calne**

Tel: 01793 848900
www.bevirs.co.uk

BEVIRS

SOLICITORS

Tockenham *parish magazine*



April 2017

On amphibians and conservation.

Like the frogs at this time of year I'd rather be bouncing around in the garden. The new pond that Steven made in the autumn seems to be proving itself a valuable addition to the ecological niche of the garden. It is already full of daphnia and other water mini-beasts. The garden provides living quarters for toads, newts, frogs and bats as well as various bird species. The pond holds frog spawn as I write this, but I don't yet know if the toads and newts have been as successful. Several of our visitors are not as interested in newts and toads as my husband and I are. In fact the Benefice Administrator admits to feeling slightly squeamish about squirmy amphibians. I also know that they are endangered.

My garden and occasionally the house thanks to Mittens the Cat is also the home to a yellow-necked mouse – something we discovered when the Wiltshire Bat Conservation group were inspecting here last summer.

I'll readily admit that I feel no desire to conserve mice, even unusual yellow-necked ones. Instead I consult my favourite local pest control expert.

What makes one species make my flesh crawl and another make me ooh with excitement, conserving even the nasties of the animal world will no doubt prove important in ways I may not yet have realised. In the meantime as I inspect mouse traps I'm reminded to have sympathy for those who dislike frogs and toads and to contemplate the challenge of worshipping a God who said of everything he made, even the squirmy, scary creatures that they were good.

The Reverend Rachma Abbott
Priest in Charge Woodhill Benefice

01793 731134



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Neighbourhood Plans were created as part of the Localism Act to give local communities the opportunity to control development within their own area. The idea is that they sit alongside the county's Planning Strategy in order to control future planning applications. Much consultation is done in order to assess the requirements/wishes of the community.

As many of you know, Tockenham have been working on a Wiltshire Council pilot scheme to create a Neighbourhood Plan with other parishes within our Area Board. The scheme was called NEW-V - North-East Wiltshire Villages Neighbourhood Plan and a lot of consultation has already taken place - including, in Tockenham, a Housing Survey in early 2016.

Over the last 5+ years, the original 9 parishes reduced to just 3 - Tockenham, Clyffe and Broad Town. Then, after much friction with their Community-Led Planning Group, all but one of the Broad Town Parish Councillors resigned at their last meeting, leaving no authoritative body. Unfortunately, due to the complexities of Neighbourhood Plans, without such a body, they cannot apply for their own Neighbourhood Area - and therefore cannot leave the New-V process!

So, it beholds Tockenham and Clyffe to leave and create their own Plans. At the Parish Council meeting of 7th March, it was resolved that Tockenham should go alone and request designation for its own Neighbourhood Area. We will be holding a "Launch Meeting" in the near future to explain how having our own Neighbourhood Plan could benefit our community. Please look out for further details in the usual communication points.

Diana Kirby Chair of Tockenham Parish Council

Mobile library

Thursday once a month ,

Thursday 13th April

1145 to 1220 outside the church

forward your Parish Magazine entries

by the 13th of each month to:

Email: dpsstill@aol.com

Church key holder:

Mandy Cook ,Ken Arnold

Monday 1 May

Bushton and Clyffe Pypard plant fair – a great day out in aid of Clyffe Pypard church funds.

The highly successful Bushton Plant Fair to be held on Bank Holiday Monday May 1st, will celebrate its 10th anniversary by highlighting Garden Art in a dedicated display within the Fair.

This new and exciting area of Garden decoration will include sculpture,

painting, demonstrations and country style products.

The Fair is held within the beautiful grounds of the 18th century Bushton

Manor. About 30 stalls scattered around the open garden; refreshments including barbecue– garden open – all at Bushton Manor (almost opposite Bushton village hall). Small charge for admission (£3). 11am to 3pm.

This year's WI craft and produce show will be held on Saturday 9 September rather than the first Saturday in September. The schedules of the different classes will be coming out soon so please ask Pauline Arnold 01793 854157 if you are interested.

Calligraphy

There is a group of people in Clyffe Pypard who would like to start a calligraphy group in the Village Hall there on a week day morning. We are looking towards arranging both "tutor-led" days and practice sessions. If you think that you might be interested in joining us, do let me know and I can let you have more details as they are available. Please contact Jan (jan_hargrave@yahoo.co.uk).

Welcome to :- Jack Mutlow and Andrea Ward, 2, West Tockenham.

and :- Emily Sherborne and Matthew Dawkins, 24, Primrose Hill.

We hope you will be happy in Tockenham

Benefice of Woodhill Worship for April 2017 Tockenham in Bold



Sunday 2 April; Passion Sunday

8am Broad Town Communion

9am Tockenham Family Communion

10am Clyffe Pypard Communion

6pm Hilmarton Evening Worship

Sunday 9 April Palm Sunday

9am Clyffe Pypard Liturgy of the Palms

10am Tockenham Passion Gospel with Communion

11am Hilmarton Word and Worship

Thursday 13 April Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Communion with stripping of the altar

Friday 14 April Good Friday

10am Hilmarton Family workshop and worship

2pm Hilmarton Music and Meditation

Sunday 16 April Easter Day

9am Clyffe Pypard Said Communion

10am Tockenham Communion

10am Hilmarton Communion

11am Broad Town Communion

Sunday 23 April St George

8am Clyffe Pypard Said Communion

10am Broad Town Word and Worship

11am Hilmarton Communion

6pm Tockenham Evensong

Sunday 30 April

10am Tockenham Communion for the whole Benefice

News from St Giles' Church

You may recall we said there was a pattern to our monthly services with three per month. However April is the exception! We will be having a service every Sunday – see the list – as not only is it Easter, it is a 5-Sunday month and it is our turn to host the service on the 5th Sunday where we get together with the other churches in our group (called a benefice). We look forward to seeing you at any of these. You will also spot that there are several additional services in the benefice, as we mark the journey to the Crucifixion – Holy Week brings Maundy Thursday and Good Friday before the joy of Easter Day

If you find it hard to work out when our services are, do look on the notice boards at church and around the village, or check the village calendar on the Tockenham website.

As part of our Easter celebration will hope to do some cleaning in church on Saturday 15 April in the morning, any time from 10am. Coffee and a welcome for all! The flower ladies will also be working to decorate the church - a big thank you to all of you who undertake this for our festivals and month by month.

The series of 2 different discussion groups for Lent continues until the first week of April. The series on issues arising from the film 'The King's Speech' is at 48 Poynder Place on Thursday 6 April, 7.30 to 9pm (please ring Elaine Leighton on 01249 760537 for more details), and the series on 'Amazing Love' is at the Vicarage, Wood Street, Clyffe Pypard on Monday 3 April from 4.30 to 6pm: please contact the Vicar for more details on 01793 731134.

After Easter comes the Annual Parochial Church meeting on Monday 24 April at 7pm in the church, where all people living in the village may elect our church wardens, and everyone on the church electoral roll may elect the members of the parochial church council (PCC) and contribute to the meeting. If you are already on the roll, you don't need to renew this – your membership will carry over to the next year. If you are not on the roll and would like to be (or can't remember if you are or not!) please talk to Pauline Arnold, 01793 854157) to find out more about it. The deadline for joining the roll is 2 weeks ahead of the meeting ie Monday 10 April.

In previous years we have produced calendars and Christmas cards to raise funds for the church and to give a spirit of place and identity to our village in pictures. An idea for our next project is that we might produce some kind of small book, to include photos of the village then and now, reminiscences from people who have lived here for a number of years, and recipes from anyone living in Tockenham. This might be quite a big project but we'd like to hear from you as to whether you think it would be possible. We would need your ideas and your photos so without you we can't make a start. If it goes ahead we'd like to have it ready by about this time next year. Please let us know your thoughts by ringing Ken and Pauline Arnold on 01793 854157, or emailing us on pkarnold@btinternet.com .

TOCKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

Don't miss these upcoming events in the village hall.

QUIZ NIGHT - SATURDAY APRIL 29th at 7.30pm.

£1 per adult. There will also be a quiz for children free to under 14's.

The last quiz night was very successful so well worth coming along. It would be very helpful to have an idea of numbers so please contact Kris Dickens at krisdickins.67@gmail.com or 01793 956565.

PUDDING NIGHT - SATURDAY JUNE 17th at 8pm.

Back by popular demand, come to the hall for a selection of wonderful puddings.

Keep this date free, more details and costs will be available soon. If you would like to reserve places for this please contact Geoff Hedges at hedges.tockenham@btinternet.com or 01793 854673

“TIME FOR A CUPPA”

supporting Dementia UK

SUNDAY, 9TH APRIL

PLEASE JOIN US FOR TEA AND CAKES

The Old Rectory, Orchard Lane, Tockenham, SN4 7PJ
2.00-4.00pm

Raising funds to train Admiral Nurses in Wiltshire

www.dementiauk.org

For further information, please contact Sara Cutler – 07789 842330 -
Rosie Carpenter and Jane Moore

PLANT SALE

SUNDAY, 7TH MAY

11.00 – 3.00

A wide variety of perennial plants will be available for sale in the village hall.

Any contributions of plants, vegetables and herbs are most welcome.

Please contact Sara Cutler for further information
07789 842330

7/17 Highway matters

Continued flooding on the A3102 by the War Memorial
This on-going issue to be photographed by Cllr. Cowling during a flood and then to be sent to WCC for comment and remedy

Surface dressing through village

This to be rescheduled for end April 2017

Sink Hole by telephone kiosk.

Although the Highways authority acted swiftly to get barriers around this hole straight after it was reported on New Year's Eve, no further work has taken place. Councillor Bucknell to contact Highways to chase.

Letter from Cllr Whitehead of Highways was forwarded after the meeting by Cllr Bucknell. It details the Parish Steward programme of works for the year. An update meeting to be held in Chippenham on 17th May. We need to ensure that Priority Sheets are completed for any works required in the parish. 8/17

Neighbourhood Plan.

Broad Town Parish Council have finally come to an impasse with their local Community-Led Plan Group and, as a result, all but one person on the P.C. has resigned. Due to the complexities of the rules of Neighbourhood Area Plans, they cannot leave the program as they have no authoritative body who can agree to do so. Therefore, it beholds the remaining entities, Tockenham and Clyffe Pypard to leave the New-V process if they wish to continue with a Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Kirby recommended TPC to take this route and go it alone. All Councillors agreed to this recommendation.
Cllr Kirby to organise a formal application for designation of a Neighbourhood Area for Tockenham.

9/17 Play Area

The fence replacement and general update of the play area is going well.
Councillor Marmoy is to take over from Councillor Knight in "managing" the grass cutting program.

10/17 Councillors Reports and Items for Next Meeting,

Tockenham "Rights Of Way" Champions

Cllr Bucknell advised that there are funds available from Area Board for groups involved in keeping the Rights Of Way open – for items such as cutting equipment etc. It was suggested that the local "Dog Walkers" be approached for their interest.

Standing Orders

These to be investigated to improve and tighten up our system of working.

Next meeting to be The Annual Parish Meeting on 4th April.

Meeting closed at 20.52

News from St Giles

The next coffee morning is on Tuesday 4 April at 10.30am in the village hall. Hope to see you there!

A big thank you to everyone that comes to coffee morning. Thanks to your support and some very generous donations, we have just transferred £170 to the church treasurer to send this gift for the starving in South Sudan.

Busy Bees for pre-schoolers and their carers will have their fortnightly meetings in Tockenham village hall on Wednesdays from 10am to 12 noon. For details of both Busy Bees and coffee mornings please contact Kim Gough on 07850 933344.

The Vicar is in our church most Mondays at 6.30 pm to say Evening Prayer. If you would like to join her please feel welcome. Occasionally this may not happen if unexpected events have to take her away from this routine.

Church contact details: The Vicar is Revd Rachma Abbott, and she lives at the Vicarage, Wood Lane, Clyffe Pypard. Her phone number is 01793 731134, and her email address is reverendrachma@gmail.com . Our churchwardens are Mandy Cook, 01793 853504, and Kim Gough, 07850 933344.

To keep in touch with the times and dates of services, Busy Bees, coffee mornings and other activities, please look at the google calendar on the Tockenham village website: <http://www.tockenham.org.uk/> An electronic version of this magazine also appears on the village website.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This is not a normal Parish Council Meeting, but an opportunity for residents to hear an overview of the work of the Parish Council for the preceding year. There will also be the opportunity to ask the council questions. Please come along to the Village Hall on Tuesday 4th April at 7 pm. We will be very pleased to see you.

Diana Kirby

Chair of Tockenham Parish Council

**TOCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 7th March 2017**

Present - Councillors Diana Kirby, Geoff Cowling, Sarah Still, Michael Knight, Martin Marmoy

Also Present - Councillor Bucknell.

Absent - Emily Maiden (Clerk)

Ordinary Minutes

Public Question Time: No questions were raised.

_Reports from Wiltshire Councillor:

Councillor Allison Bucknell explained that the road works due during Feb were unable to be done because of an “overrun” at Lacock and have been rescheduled for end of April.

A pharmacy at Lyneham is going ahead but a Doctors surgery is meeting opposition from the NHS – “there is no unmet need” according to them. Councillor Bucknell will continue to pursue this.

1/17 Apologies for absence - No apologies for absence were received.

2/17 Declarations of Interest – in accordance with Wiltshire Council’s Members Code of Conduct, as adopted July 2012.

None raised

/17 Minutes

No minutes received from clerk for meeting of 10th January 2017 Chair to draft minutes from Jan meeting from her own notes.

No contact has been forthcoming from Emily despite numerous efforts by the Chairperson. Finally after contacting her boss Johnathan Bourne at work he advises she is resigning as of this evening.

Chair will work with Mr Bourne and Emily to arrange for all the paperwork and financial matters to be handed back to the council asap.

Councillor Cowling and Councillor Kirby to see the bank this week to explain the situation and arrange for signatures and cheque books etc to be redirected and transferred to the Chairperson.

No one has come forward to take on role of Clerk so this needs focusing on.

4/17 Clerks Report

Police Report

Community policing have had an open invite to the village coffee mornings which remains open to them.

New Crematorium by Junction 16

Councillor Knight went along to open evening and judged the application to be appropriate. No objections from the council in Tockenham.

Green Farm, Lyneham planning application.

240 houses are planned for this site which is considered by this Parish Council as too many for this size of community.

The Great British Clean Up.

This was a success with 18 people turning up to help pick up litter around Tockenham on Saturday the 4th March.

The “Greenway” signage

enquired about by Councillor Marmoy has yet to be priced up so he will contact Mark Stansby of WCC for some figures (this has to be paid for by our village if we go ahead.

The Big Pledge

This was beset with technical problems on the web site last time. This year’s theme is “*World Athletics Championships*”

Re-election of Parish Councillors.

The council must observe a state of “Purdah” during this time.

Nominations start on 15th March and the present councillors remain in post until the next meeting which must be within 2 weeks of the Election Day which is 4th May. The next council meeting is set for 9th May.

Councillor Bucknell to send electoral register and hard copies of the nomination papers to the Chair for the forthcoming elections.

Councillor Knight is standing down and a replacement person is required.

5/17 Local Planning Applications.

None received

6/17 Finance and Administration – To consider financial matters and to receive notification of any further matters for consideration.

2015 / 2016 Audit

It seems that our clerk has not been complying correctly with the requests of Grant Thornton (our auditors) for the audit returns for 2015 / 2016 and, as a result, they have had to take extra time to chase these matters. This has resulted in an invoice from them to TPC of £375.00 + VAT.

Payment of this invoice was agreed by the council. Proposed by Councillor Cowling and seconded by Councillor Marmoy.

The audit process for 2016 / 17 starts at the end of March

Invoices

Bulldog Fencing invoice for £2,220.00 to be paid in next financial year. Proposed by Cllr. Cowling and 2nd by Cllr. Knight