

SH & NLS NEWS

Stoke Hammond & Newton Leys South

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G.O.M.
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JUNE/JULY 2021

www.stokehammondpc.com

Cllr ALAN HUMPHREYS



Cllr FRANZINE SHARKEY

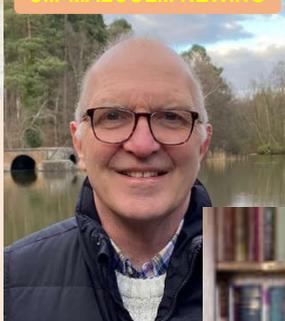
Cllr GREG NOBLE



Cllr DAVID VENN



Cllr MALCOLM NEWING

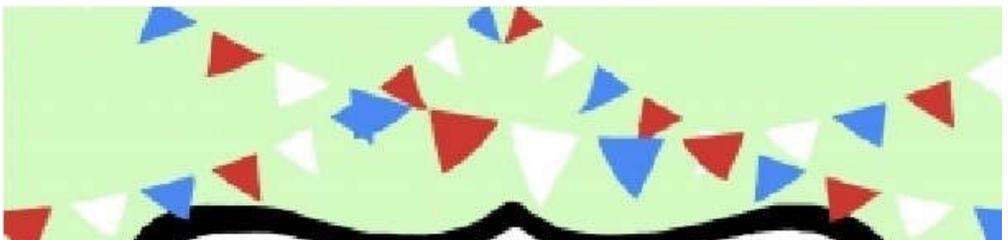


Cllr DAMIAN WILLINGDALE

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Cllr STEPHEN MCNALLY



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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Well on the front cover you have sight of your seven newly elected Parish Councillors. There were 12 candidates who put themselves forward for the elections held on Thursday May 6th with a turnout of 33% against the electorate of 1376, and purely in alphabetical order, you now have Cllr Alan Humphries, Cllr Stephen McNally, Cllr Malcolm Newing, Cllr Greg Noble, Cllr Fran Sharkey, Cllr David Venn and Cllr Damian Willingale, who will be serving this parish for the next four years.

At the same elections we were also voting for our three Great Brickhill Ward unitary councillors, and Phil Gomm, Jilly Jordan and Iain Macpherson, all representing the Conservative Party won through, with Phil Gomm acting as our primary contact for Stoke Hammond and Newton Leys.



So, the first order of business after the elections was to hold the Annual Parish Council Meeting (APCM) but a recent High Court ruling meant that the Coronavirus Act 2020 would not be extended and hence we are no longer allowed to hold remote meetings. With the Community Centre not available, we have to say much thanks to St Luke's Church who allowed us to hold our meeting there. This did make us realise and have much sympathy for the Rector and his Sunday church services, as anyone speaking at the meeting struggled to make themselves heard. The first order of business was to elect the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council, with Cllr Malcolm Newing and Cllr Stephen McNally being duly elected to these respective roles. With there not being too many other items on the agenda, this proved to be a shorter meeting than most.

At the tail end of April on Tuesday 20th we had our Annual Parish Meeting (APM) which was held remotely by Zoom, where we heard reports not only from the PC, but also from the Stoke Hammond Community Association, Button's Preschool, the Village Show, the Sport's Club, St Luke's Church, the Book Club and the Gardening Club.

Prior to this on Tuesday April 4th we held our last PC Meeting before the elections where we were joined by 12 members of the public. This was also the last meeting for long standing Cllr Mike Robinson as he would be stepping down. Given the number of years Mike had dedicated to the PC and the Parish, we felt it only fitting to recognise this, and we had secretly arranged for Mike's wife Julie to present him with a suitably engraved whiskey tumbler along with a bottle of his favourite tippie a single malt Irish whiskey plus vouchers to his favourite art supplies shop.



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As is the norm there were planning applications to be discussed, and details of these and the Council's comments can be found in the 'Planning Applications' section, elsewhere in this edition of the SH & NLS News. Other items in brief from this meeting were:

- A resident from Brookfield off Brook Farm Close raised an issue about a recent planning application 21/00064/APP in that as an owner of a neighbouring property, they felt the planning department had not taken adequate measures to publicise this application, which they only learnt about through the last edition of the SH & NLS News. It used to be that the planning office wrote directly to neighbours, but this practice ceased some time ago. Likewise, the displayed planning notice was tied to a lamppost but facing in a way so as to not make it visible. The resident will be making a direct approach to the planning office, but the PC also resolved to in future publish details of new planning applications on the Stoke Hammond Facebook page.
- Fly tipping yet again seems to be on the increase, but this is of course not unique to us but a nationwide problem. Many of us except maybe the local authorities, recognise that part of the problem has been caused by the closure or reduced operating times to tip sites plus the introduction of fees for the disposal of certain waste types. Any Fly tipping can be reported via the FixMyStreet website, but as a PC we would welcome any suggestions as to how we tackle this issue.
- Another problem, again not unique to Stoke Hammond is the matter of dog mess, which despite the number of dog bins provided in the village which are emptied on a regular basis, still continues to be an issue. The PC like the vast majority out there cannot fathom as to why a certain small minority of dog owners think it's OK to leave their dog mess lying on the ground. No doubt the same people who discard their litter rather than use the provided bins. We do await an update from the new Ward Council on the possibility of a council appointed dog warden.
- The PC have approved the quotation to straighten up some 13 lopsided bollards to the Village Green, along with one to the small Green to the right of the Dolphin. It was also agreed to purchase a further 12 posts to match those already installed along Bragenham Side, these to be positioned to the r/h side of the entrance to the garages, to prevent cars parking and obstructing this entrance.
- As announced at the end of March the Oxford Cambridge Expressway project has been scrapped – good news for our surrounding communities. But the East West Rail project is very much alive, and we have just received an extremely large box of consultation documents and maps.

The next PC meeting is scheduled for 7.30pm on Tuesday 6th July, but should any urgent matters come up before this date then an extraordinary meeting will be called, and unless there should be any changes to the route out of lockdown, this July meeting will be held at the Community Centre, Bragenham Side.



Should you wish to contact your Parish Council, please do so via our clerk:

Joanna Simonds, Hollymill Cottage, Newton Road, Stoke Hammond, Bucks. MK17 9DE

Tel: 07818 016108 clerk.stokehammondpc@gmail.com www.stokehammondpc.com

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Update on fighting coronavirus in Buckinghamshire



13 May 2021

Dear Resident,

Following the end of election restrictions, it is good to be able to write to you personally again with an update on the Covid situation in Buckinghamshire. It's a particular pleasure as I am able to report that the infection rate in Buckinghamshire is following the national trend downwards and is now at 12.1 per 100,000 residents. This is far lower than it was just a few weeks ago. A tribute to the effects of both the observance of the lockdown but also particularly the high take-up rate locally of the vaccination programme. There are still some causes for caution and I will cover them a little later in this update.

On Monday next week (17 May) we can all look forward to further easing of Covid restrictions. You'll no doubt be aware that the government is satisfied its four tests are continuing to be met and that the roadmap can safely continue.

From Monday we'll be able to eat and drink inside pubs, cafes and restaurants. We can meet others indoors (two households or rule of six), and we can stay overnight in a hotel. Of huge importance to all of us, we can hug loved ones once again, and we can make our own choices on social distancing with close friends and family – this includes everyone, including anyone who's been shielding. All of these are freedoms we've been without and that I'm sure we will never take for granted again.

I must underline the importance of doing all of this cautiously. The message is clear; **let's take this next step carefully**. Covid hasn't gone away – people are still catching it and people are still spreading it. There are still rules in place that should be followed, such as the limits on numbers of people who can meet socially, so I ask you to make sure you are familiar with **what we can and cannot do** from Monday. When considering close contacts, weigh up the risks and stay cautious. Social distancing will still apply in settings like shops and hospitals. Still meet outside where you can and let fresh air in when you're indoors.

Importantly – get tested regularly and have your vaccine when it's your turn. We have new mobile testing units offering free rapid tests in various locations from this week – you can also visit one of the fixed sites and take test kits home if you prefer. There's more information about rapid testing on our website and you can also get up to date information on where the mobile testing units are on our social media channels (Twitter, Facebook and Instagram)

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If you or someone you live with develops symptoms of Covid make sure your household isolates and book a test for anyone with symptoms, either online or by calling 119.

Extra testing in Aylesbury

A small number of cases of the variant of Covid first identified in India have been found in the Kingsbrook area of Aylesbury. All the people involved have followed the guidance and have self-isolated. However, it's really important we track this as closely as possible, so Buckinghamshire Council and Public Health England have started targeted testing in the area this week. This is so we can help avoid the spread of this variant and understand whether it is spreading in our community.

We are asking everyone who visits, lives or works in the Oakfield Village area of the Kingsbrook estate (postcodes HP22 7AA to HP22 7BP) to come forward for a PCR test regardless of whether you have symptoms or not. There will be special mobile testing units in the area and we ask as many people as possible to visit them between today (Thursday 13 May) and Saturday 15 May. These test centres will be at four different locations, two in the centre of Aylesbury (Lidl Oakfield Road and Vale Retail Park) and two in Birtton (Aktiva Nursery and 'The Dog House' pub).

If you cannot attend a test site you can order a kit online; there will also be a team taking test kits door to door on Saturday for anyone who's not been able to get to a test site themselves. The full details are on [specialty set up pages on our website](#).

The situation in Buckinghamshire

As I mentioned, the infection rates in Buckinghamshire are now very low with an overall rate of 12.1 and a rate as low as 6.2 in the former Chiltern District area. You can see all the detailed figures on the [Covid dashboard on our website](#). While every death is a terrible loss, the number of people dying from Covid in Bucks is currently very low. Nevertheless, the situation in Kingsbrook reminds us all of the need to stay vigilant.

Vaccine news

437,886 vaccinations have now been given in Buckinghamshire. The vaccine is safe and effective and anyone aged 38 or over (or who turns 38 before 1 July) is currently eligible to book their vaccination appointment.

You can [book your vaccine online](#) via the national booking system or by calling 119 – you can read more on the NHS website. Please remember that while your first dose will offer a good level of protection a few weeks after you've had it, you need two doses to further increase your level of protection. It is very important you attend both appointments.

Local people are being offered appointments at the Guttman vaccination centre at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, Aylesbury and other large centres in neighbouring counties (which may be closer for some Bucks residents). Community pharmacies continue to offer appointments too. Some GP practices are only offering COVID-19 vaccinations to

patients in [priority groups 1-9](#). Anyone not in these groups should book their appointment online using the national booking system when it's their turn.

People aged 18-39 with no underlying health conditions will receive an alternative vaccine to AstraZeneca (AZ) - either Pfizer or Moderna. This follows the [latest advice by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation](#).

For updates and news on all our local vaccination sites, including which vaccines are being offered, visit Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group's [new local site update webpage](#).

Lastly, a reminder that the vaccination clinic at the Odeon Cinema in Aylesbury has moved just up the road to Buckinghamshire New University, Aylesbury Campus. Anyone who has an appointment for the Odeon site is being contacted, so do make a note of this change if it affects your vaccination booking.

#WelcomeBackBucks

Many council services that were closed during lockdown are open for business again and it's brilliant to be welcoming customers back into libraries, leisure centres and other sites across Bucks. For details of opening times and arrangements at your local library [check our website](#).

It's fantastic that Bucks County Museum is opening its doors again next week too. The garden is already open and you can take a look at what's happening from next week too [on their website](#).

I should remind you that of course, Covid measures and social distancing will still be in place at all of these venues so please carry on sticking to the guidance to help keep us all safe.

Car parking

I hope as many people as possible are enjoying being able to shop, eat, exercise and enjoy themselves at our local businesses too. We expect even more people to return to our high streets with businesses such as pubs and restaurants being able to serve customers inside from Monday too. I just wanted to remind you that, after having been suspended for a month, parking charges do now apply again in Buckinghamshire Council car parks. We've put Covid safety measures in place such as marking out social distancing around ticket machines and there are ticketless and cashless payment options at more of our sites now.

Boost your Business

We know businesses across Bucks have faced unprecedented challenge this last year. If you're a business owner then do use our #WelcomeBackBucks hashtag in your social media promotion to reach a bigger audience. We've also produced a free ['Boost your Business' digital toolkit](#) to help our local businesses get back on their feet, containing poster templates and a marketing guide – so do check it out if you want that extra support and advice.

Business grants

With businesses able to start trading again, the government support grants scheme we've been operating has now closed. I'm delighted to say we've been able to pay out more than £140 million during the pandemic to help our local firms to help cover losses caused by the necessary Covid restrictions. Unlike many other councils, we prioritised getting these grants paid so every penny of available help could be passed onto local businesses.

Stay safe, stay cautious and enjoy getting more of our freedoms back,

Martin Tett

Leader of Buckinghamshire Council



**Buckinghamshire
Council**



Stay safe, protect Bucks

Buckinghamshire Council
The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury,
HP19 8FF
buckinghamshire.gov.uk



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NEWS FROM NEWTON LEYS SOUTH (NLS)



First of all, I would like to say that it is an honour to be voted back onto the Stoke Hammond Parish Council to represent the people of Newton Leys South and the wider parish. I will be working with the PC to ensure the community is served well

and residents' views are represented. Please remember we are volunteers and it can take time to lobby councils to make changes. If you have any issues, please contact the Clerk of the PC, Joanne, or myself, and we will try to assist or advise as best we can.

I am hopeful we are nearing the end of Covid restrictions so that parish events can get back to normal. It would be great to see the community coming together at events such as the Stoke Hammond Village Summer Show on 7th Aug 21. If you would like to book a stall or attend, details can be found within this magazine. We really hope to see you there!

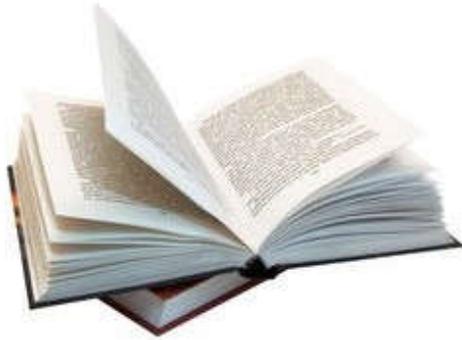
The "Alphonos" brickworks art installation is coming along well on Callow mound and should be completed soon. They will provide an attractive setting to sit and enjoy the scenery at Jubilee Lake. Details can be found at:

<https://scabal.net/project/alphonse/>

The public enquiry relating to planning permission for the Bletchley landfill extension will take place on the 6th July in Milton Keynes. We continue to campaign to close the site down and return it to parkland for us all to enjoy. We will update parishioners on progress via the Facebook page.

The allotments (off Martinique Meadows) have now been completed and some of our keen gardeners are planting their first crop of vegetables and setting out their pitch. If you would like to join the waiting list for an allotment, please look at the Fenny Stratford Council webpage for details. There are 81 plots in total.

STOKE HAMMOND BOOK CLUB



Not much to report from the last issue except that we have just managed to have a get-together to make plans and to chat about the innumerable books we have all read during lockdown - perhaps we will get organised and recommend those we enjoyed. So, progress is being made and the next book for us all to read has been ordered by the library, our Leader is all geared up to collect them and we hope to have a proper meeting at the end of June to get back on track - fingers crossed.

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The swans are in breeding season and we hopefully will see cygnets in the near future, how privileged we are to be able to watch them grow throughout the year.

Councillor Ethan Kelly Wilson from the Fenny Stratford Town Council recently completed a walk around Newton Leys, alongside a representative from Taylor Wimpey to highlight the issues which concern us the most. We look forward to seeing the improvements made as a result of this exercise and will keep you updated accordingly.

Please do support the local eateries/ restaurants and public houses if you can, they have had a torrid 15 months.

Until next time, enjoy the summer and the beauty of the changing season's.

Councillor Stephen McNally



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Web: www.careatthelindens.co.uk

THE Lindens

We hope you all enjoyed Easter, we certainly did here at The Lindens. Our residents enjoyed a lovely Easter feast and our dining areas had been beautifully decorated for the occasion by Lillian and Myrna. There was also a delicious, locally made Easter cake for the celebration.



Over the last few weeks our residents have been enjoying a wide range of Spring themed activities, along with gentle exercise classes, baking and bingo.



In relation to vaccinations, The Lindens are pleased to report that now over 90% of our residents and staff have received their vaccinations. As Covid restrictions ease, in line with Government guidelines our visiting provisions are kept updated, so now in addition to our window and in-house visits, we have added garden visits to enable our residents to receive visitors in our beautiful grounds as well, weather permitting of course!

If you are looking for a career in Care or to develop your skills further, give us a call we will be pleased to hear from you.

With Best Wishes

Michael Hannelly

Director

The Lindens

Stoke Road, Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire, MK17 9BN.

Tel 01908 371705

Email: info@careatthelindens.co.uk Web: www.careatthelindens.co.uk



Little Ashes Pre-School

Littleashespreschool.co.uk

07855215154

leader@littleashespreschool.co.uk

8.30am- 3.00pm, term time

This term is all about *under the sea!*

The children have covered topics such as sea creatures, mermaids and pirates, and save the ocean. We are also busy preparing our older children for their move up to primary school in September.

Our Forest School sessions have been very busy. We have been building a bug hotel, and looking at all the bugs and creatures in the woodland. The children have also been observing the new growth in the woodland and learning about seasonal changes. The allotment is getting busy, with lots of seeds planted where we hope we'll grow vegetables we can cook on a campfire!

We had our first Tiny Ashes students too! These are parent/ toddler Forest School sessions, for 2-3 year olds, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. For more information, please go to our website or email us.

"Little Ashes is simply wonderful"

"Little Ashes has supported my anxious child beautifully post lockdown. She now runs in happily and has grown in confidence hugely, I'm so grateful"



Too Many?

There's a lot of people rumbling on about humans destroying the World: global warming, climate change, plastic pollution. Now I don't disagree but it's only a change in the way we (humans) perceive the world and in the great scheme of things this is a very short term problem. A piece of meteorite rock has recently been put on display having fallen in someone's back yard. This is believed to be *4.5 billion* years old. That makes you think. It also made me consider previous mass extinctions – the end of almost all life forms. There appear to have been five ranging from 440 down to 65 million years ago.

So it wasn't humans that caused the last extinctions but we may be instrumental in promoting the next (although I somehow doubt it). In 1950 the year I was born the world population was around 2,000 million. In 2020 it was a tad short of 8,000 million. It therefore seems to me that the excess CO₂, plastic and waste in general is not the problem of the amount per capita but there are just too many humans on the planet.

Additionally, the % of the population which is now of "retirement" age is substantial. Anyone of my age is putting diddly squat into the country's/world economy. On the debit side we are taking out our State Pensions, free bus passes, prescriptions etc etc.. We "oldies" are undoubtedly a drain on society. AND what does society do about this? They put money into the NHS and medical research so that we can all live even longer! From a purely "me" point of view I think this is marvellous. On the other hand, I wonder if society should take another view.

It seems that the current world pandemic is targeting the old and infirm. Is this just a quirk of nature or could there be a greater force at work with a plan to curtail human excesses?

Grumpy Old Man

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STOKE HAMMOND SPORTS CLUB

After 14 months of Covid-19 the club has found this time very challenging, starting with the loss of most of the cricket season in 2020, plus planned events such as the 'fish and chip' bingo nights, the Christmas Table Top sale and all of our Christmas and New Year's celebrations.

This was then followed by strict COVID rules of only 6 people at tables with table service only, followed by yet another strict lockdown.

In that time, we did manage to update our furniture and install a card machine, plus we also now have Sky Sports and can broadcast most Premiership football games.

Looking forward we have plans to refurbish the outside wooden shelter and will be having a big clean-up of the outside space including the taking down of the old rotten shed and the moving of the container units.

SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL AREA

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The cricket season has now started with Saturday and Sunday team's and the start of mid-week evening matches on a Wednesday. The UEFA Euro will start on the 11th of June Turkey versus Italy with a 20.00 kick off. It ends on the 11th July and we will show as many of the matches as possible.

Once the Government has removed all the restrictions of Covid-19 we can then return to a sense of normality and organise more functions, and also re introduce our residential DJ James to boogie the night away.

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PAGEY'S SOW & GROW "PATCH"



Two months ago, the first sentence of this regular article started “as I write this the sun is shining through the kitchen window.....” Well that didn’t last long. April whilst dry was cold and windy, and May has been the same but add in wet too! So, in my garden everything is 3 weeks behind. We have been eating the asparagus for 10 days whereas last year it was mid-April. Boo Hoo !! Mind you the slugs and snails love this, the wetter the better - party time as far as they are concerned...swings, slides and merry go rounds for them. I have lost a third of my parsnips to them - they just munched through the stalks where they come out of the ground and I’m sure underground my spuds are under attack too. Not much we can do but crack on, use the usual nematodes or eco-friendly methods of sheep wool or wagging your finger at them that’s as good as some of the “friendly” solutions available).



We are also eating loads of rhubarb and making rhubarb vodka (yum). 2 kilos of rhubarb, 400 grams of caster sugar, 1.6 litres of vodka. Cut rhubarb into 2cm lengths, put into a Kilner jar and add all sugar. Leave for 24 hours. Then add vodka (or gin) and leave for 4 weeks, shaking occasionally. Then bottle. Keep rhubarb in freezer and make the most wonderful crumble with the boozy rhubarb. You can do a chilli vodka too if you are a little on the mad side 🍷

So, June is the month where everything can go outside, unless frost is expected - but you would have to be really unlucky (why did I say this? 🤔). Melons, squash, tomatoes and even peppers / chillies in protected sun pockets can go into the ground or pots / tubs. Stake the toms and any flowering climbers (clematis, cobaea, morning glory, Mina lobata, black eyed Susan etc) and feed every couple of weeks. Water if there is a dry period. In fact, water everything, especially in pots. Your fruits will be small if there is not enough

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water - apart from pests this is the single biggest reason for poor crops. We don't live well in a desert 🏜️ and nor do juicy fruit and veg. You can prune stone fruits in June (plum, cherry, peach etc to avoid silver leaf) but not other fruits. Don't forget to dead head when flowers are finished to encourage more growth. So many people don't do this and miss out enormously on extended flowering.

If it continues to be cold you will have to do some hand germinating yourself (don't get too excited!). Take a small paintbrush to your tomato flowers, or for courgettes, melons and squash cut a male flower off and wave it around and onto the female flower. The female flower always has a baby fruit on the end of the stem which the flower then comes from. The reason you have to do this is that when it is cold there are not many flying pollinators around...so you imitate them, buzz buzz.

I'm always talking about garden nasties or garden baddies or even garden "foes". Things that try and undo all your hard work. Some we can protect our plants from, some are difficult to avoid. A few here are: rose black spot - common fungal disease. Remove and destroy affected material and spray rose clear. Feed and mulch your rose - the stronger it is the more it will recover. Rust - fungal disease affecting leeks, onions, garlic, hollyhocks etc. With the veg just see it out and destroy any leaves and stems before eating the onion etc. There is no chemical control for alliums so keep them well spaced for good airflow, well fed and watered. Lily beetlesgrrrr I love my lilies and so do these little red devils. Pick them off and squish 'em. They will eat your lilies and lay their larvae in their own poo (what a way to start your life) and strip it bare. Try Grazers G4 beetle deterrent. Vine weevils lay their grubs in your pots and eat the roots of your plants (any plant !!!) . Ever had a strong plant looking fab which goes downhill fast (be honest though, if you haven't watered or fed it, you maybe the pest) then I bet it is these little beggars. Empty the pot out onto a tarpaulin and go through the soil. I bet it has the grubs in and virtually no roots on the plant. Use nematodes in the summer and water with a solution of Bug clear Ultra. Whitefly and aphids can be squished, sprayed with a soapy mixture or spray with bug killer. Slugs and snails - use nematodes twice through the summer - now and August, beer traps, search lights and ray guns and Le grand boot 🦶.



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Finally, here is a bit of fun for those of you who read this article. You can grow peanuts here in the uk! Inside or out, they must be the warmest part of your garden. Don't start till mid-June outside. Buy them as raw unshelled nuts and they can be planted as they are or carefully remove, without damaging, the pink or red outer coating. Plant 12 inches apart in warmest part of the garden, in a well-drained soil (or pot) with remnants of the nut just above the soil

(how you stop the squirrels nicking them I don't know). Earth up when they are 12 inches tall. Once the plants start to die back carefully dig them up and let them completely dry in a cool, airy place. Et voila.

Lastly the germinators are having a blast having shared 400 plants so far, all grown from seeds.

If you want a free chilli or pepper plant, contact me and come pick them whilst stocks last. Page.chris1@googlemail.com or 07747 018814

Happy growing *PAGEY*

STOKE HAMMOND GARDENING CLUB



At last, we feel that things may be going to happen!! Delighted to report that The Committee have at last arranged a meet-up in the next couple of weeks so that plans for the Club can be discussed and ideas exchanged. There is much to be sorted. All of us on the committee have been noting and researching any

venues which might be suitable or suggestions for our future programme and are hoping that we can perhaps get started with some sort of gathering in the Autumn. Who knows? Obviously, we are cautiously optimistic but all members will be informed of any progress as we are, of course, so anxious to see everyone again after this long gap.

I imagine everyone's garden will be spectacular this summer with all the attention and nurturing - not to mention the rain! Perhaps we can do a tour - a sort of 'open gardens' - anyway, we will be in touch with all our members just as soon as possible with either good news or bad news!!

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MAVIS'S QUIZ

Answers to last month's quiz and if you remember you had to work out from the clues, the names of some well known board games.

- (1) SNAKES & LADDERS (2) CLUEDO
- (3) MONOPOLY (4) BATTLESHIP
- (5) RISK (6) MOUSE TRAP
- (7) OPERATION (8) SCRABBLE
- (9) TRIVIAL PURSUIT (10) CHESS



Something a bit different now – can you identify from these silhouettes the names of these world cities? To assist we've given you the first letter of the name and the remaining blank spaces.



(2) V _ _ _ _



(1) A _ _ _ _



(4) L _ _ _ _



(5) N _ _ _ _



(3) D _ _ _ _



(7) P _ _ _ _



(6) S _ _ _ _



(8) S _ _ _ _



(9) W _ _ _ _



(10) M _ _ _ _

Best of luck, the answers in the next edition



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St Luke's Church News

Review:

Our **Easter service** was a joyful event and the church was full (to social distancing limitations)! We weren't able to sing hymns, but some of us enjoyed humming under our masks. A wonderful occasion!

Plant Sale: We picked another washout of a day for the Annual Plant Sale, with morning torrential rain and afternoon gale force winds nearly blowing our gazebo away! Fortunately villagers and others still came out to support us and plant sales were beyond our expectations (given the poor weather) meaning sales of bedding, basket & container and vegetable plants raised over £500. Thanks also to Becky and Ivan who also pitched their stalls in the dismal weather! **We'll be continuing to sell plants from a table outside The Birches through the summer. Please take a look!**



Ongoing Activities:

Food Bank: The food bank is still being used regularly although on an ad hoc basis with some weeks only a few items being taken and other weeks, lots of items! The new family box - with children's foods (including baby food) and multiple tins of certain foods - has also been well used. Donations are most appreciated but please ensure that food is within the sell by or best before date otherwise it will be disposed of. Supplies are topped up weekly so if you'd like to use the food bank, even for a one off or on temporary basis, please do!



Prayers: We believe prayer is fundamental to our Christian faith and especially helpful to those who are suffering at this time. If you have any matters you'd like us to pray for, please contact a church member in confidence (details below).



Services:

As mentioned in the last SH news, one service per week currently rotates around our benefice (our "family" of parish churches which includes Brickhills: Great, Bow and Little). As we go to press, we'll be sharing our Pentecost (Whitsun) service at the end of May: the next service at St Luke's will be a Family Service on **6th June** at 10am and again on **4th July** (with a baptism). **If you'd like to attend either service, please contact Diane Webber (below) to reserve a place.** Sadly, we don't have confirmed dates for future live services, (which are



High Ash C of E School Parish Council Newsletter

Grow Together Shine Forever

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

June 2021

Summer Term

As restrictions begin to ease we have an exciting Summer Term planned for the children here at High Ash. We hope to be able to host as broad a range of events as possible and hopefully we may be able to invite parents along to some of the events taking place later in June/early July.

We are holding our Oracy Showcase, having a whole school Sports Day as well as a Year 5/ 6 performance - which will be recorded and the link sent out to parents for them to watch. In addition, we are planning some other transition events for our current Year 6 pupils, including the Leavers' Blessing at Church and the Leavers' Prom.

We can also confirm that we have a full 45 pupil intake for next year's Reception class in September 2021 which is fantastic news! We are hosting a Virtual Open Day in May and then hoping to invite all new parents to a Welcome Meeting and BBQ at school in July.

Summer term also sees High Ash bid farewell to a long-standing member of its teaching team as Mrs Brakefield retires this year. After 20 years teaching at our school we will all be sad to see her go but there are plans to invite members of the High Ash school community, past and present, to give her a wonderful send off!

We look forward to welcoming the parents and local community to some school events very soon!

Sarah J Boyce

Headteacher

headteacher@highash.bucks.sch.uk

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little
longer*



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distance



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covering



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subject to ongoing lock down release dates) and times may change once we begin weekly services in each parish again but when agreed, we'll post dates on the benefice website (see below) and advertise on the village Facebook page. If you aren't online and would prefer a phone call, please let us know (contacts below).



The Rector's still producing a weekly reflection, which is published on the village Facebook page or can be emailed to you on request.

Both the weekly reflection and children's bible story videos (using the same Lion children's Bible story book used at High Ash school) read by the Rector or church member are uploaded to **You Tube** weekly. Links are on the benefice website (see below).

The Oxford Diocese has now withdrawn its "Church at home" online service, as churches are reverting back to live services.

Service planning and fresh ideas:

We're using this Covid break as an opportunity to reassess our service styles and times and are looking at fresh ideas and the possibility of offering a more modern evangelical style of service with a band, although this might be at a benefice level initially. If you would be interested in attending this type of service, could offer help in leading the service, or have a **view and comments** on the style of service you'd like the church to offer, we'd love to hear from you - please do get in touch by **9th June** (contact details below).



Children's work:

We've recently lost our co-ordinator for our **Open the book** programme in which a small team of adults go into our benefice catchment primary schools, (High Ash and Bow Brickhill) an hour a week to perform role play Bible stories with props. The children love the stories and the schools are desperate for us to start again but the team is suspended until we can find a new leader. If you are a Christian parent or retired/part time teacher or similar and think you'd **like to get involved** with this, (DBS check required) please contact us (details below) as the rest of the team would be delighted to "get back in the saddle"!



Fundraising:

The fundraising committee met recently and has devised a programme of events for the year, but these are obviously subject to the continuing of the release of lockdown. We'd be delighted if anyone wanted to help out at any of the events and will shortly be looking for help with the fete. Please contact Dave Webber on 270409 if you can assist us.



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Put these fundraising dates in your diary now! :

26th June Summer Fete at St Luke's Church 1-4pm

10th July Community Breakfast SHCC (8.30–10.30am last orders)

7th August Stall at the Village Show

4th September Barn Dance with Pig Roast SHCC

3rd October Harvest Lunch (after the Harvest festival service) SHCC

27th November Christmas Fayre SHCC

December hamper raffle

We're looking forward to seeing you all again soon!



Bible verse of the month: [Galatians 6:3-5 NIV](#) ³ *If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves.* ⁴ *Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else,* ⁵ *for each one should carry their own load.*

What does it mean? This is part of St Paul's letter to the Galatians and was written because Paul had heard that there was a lot of dissent in the new Christian church in Galatia. Some church members were making spurious claims and turning on each other which led to some thinking they were better than others (isn't it strange how people haven't changed in two thousand years!) Paul challenged them not to compare themselves with each other, but with themselves alone, basing their actions on Jesus' "law": to love your neighbour as yourself. Read the full context at:

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+6&version=NIVUK>

Church Benefice Website: www.brickhillschurches.org.uk.



St Luke's usually offers baptisms, weddings and funerals which are still available under strict limitations. Please contact the Rector if you'd like to discuss any of these. The Rector's contact details are on the website. His phone goes straight to an answerphone but he'll reply as soon as he's able, or contact a Churchwarden. The Rector's day off is Monday. If you have a prayer request or enquiry, please ring **Churchwardens: Harry, on 07773065271; Diane, on 270409 or Treasurer: John, on 270202.**

MAP
(Not to scale)



VILLAGE DIARY

Sunday 6 th June	Family Service – St Luke’s Church – 10.00*
Saturday 26 th June	Summer Fete – St Luke’s Church – Time TBC*
Sunday 4 th July	Family Service & Baptism – St Luke’s Church – Time TBC*
Tuesday 6 th July	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre – 19.30
Saturday 10 th July	Community Breakfast – Community Centre 8.30 – 10.30*
Saturday 24 th July	Senior Citizens Tea Event – Community Centre – 14.00
Saturday 7 th August	Village Show – Community Centre 13.00 – 18.00
Saturday 4 th Sept	Barn Dance/Pig Roast – Community Centre – Time TBC*

* Please see the Church News Section in this edition for further details.

ORGANISATIONS THAT USE THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Innovations

Tuesday’s 09.30 – 15.30hrs

Contact: Yvonne 078846 338153 or Alison 07714 664716

Buttons Pre-School

Monday – Friday 09.00 – 15.00hrs

Contact: 01525 270501/07973 158368

Joyful Tots

WHILST AT THIS PRESENT TIME ONLY BUTTONS PRESCHOOL AND INNOVATIONS ARE USING THE CENTRE, WE WILL BE REOPENING TO ALL FROM THE 1ST JULY AND BOOKINGS ARE BEING TAKEN NOW. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU ALL BACK.

Contact Deborah Johnson djartworks@hotmail.com

To Hire the Hall please telephone 07555 711929 or e-mail: enquiries@shcommunityassociation.co.uk

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Parish Council Chairman (<i>Malcolm Newing</i>)	07702 067966
Gt Brickhill Ward Councillor (<i>Phil Gomm</i>)	07778 117647
Gt Brickhill Ward Councillor (<i>Jilly Jordan</i>)	07740 308468
Gt Brickhill Ward Councillor (<i>Iain Macpherson</i>)	Not Available
MP - Buckinghamshire. (<i>Greg Smith</i>)	01296-714240
High Ash School	01525-261620
St Luke’s Church (<i>Revd John Waller</i>)	01525-261062
St Luke’s Church Warden (<i>Diane Webber</i>)	01525-270409
St Luke’s Church Warden (<i>Harry Davies</i>)	01234-822780
Stewkley Methodist Church (<i>Revd Donna Broadbent-Kelly</i>)	01525-240589

Police non-emergency number 101

NHS Helpline non-emergency number 111

PLANNING APPLICATION NEWS & UPDATES APRIL & MAY 2021



In this section you will find details of planning applications received, comments made by your Parish Council, and any updates on previous planning applications.

21/00718/COUAR Barn at Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond MK17 9DB

Determination as to whether prior approval is required in respect of transport & highway impact, noise, contamination risk, flooding and locational considerations for the conversion of agricultural barn into one dwelling house (Class Q(a)) and in relation to design and external appearance of the buildings (Class Q(b))

This application is exactly the same as the previously submitted and subsequently withdrawn planning application 20/03485. The first application we now know was withdrawn due to the lack of the inclusion of a structural survey.

For the same reasons as previously OPPOSED by your PC we reiterated:

- *That the field on which the barn is situated was put forward previously under the VALP Call for Sites for residential development and rejected by the then AVDC on the basis it was contrary to their policy of not allowing residential development on land outside the village envelope. Both the National and Local Policy Frameworks remain the same in this regard, therefore, rules should be enforced and this application rejected.*
- *The Parish Council have concerns that the proposed property sitting on such a large plot would highly likely in time materialise into a further planning application for more houses.*
- *Converting this barn would considerably change the whole environmental area, this being a route used daily by parishioners for leisure activities and dog walking. Access is a major issue, this being a single country track, and with the amount of large farm vehicles that already use it to access agricultural land further down the track, concerns are high that this proposed change of use would inevitably result in many big lorries being driven up and down the track, causing further deterioration to what is already a very poor track surface. The PC are also very concerned about access for emergency services.*
- *In summary, this residential development would be contrary to policy, being outside the village envelope; would have a huge environmental impact on the landscape; access is already challenging (particularly in winter months), with it being a single track and, access would still be required for tractors and other farm machinery that currently have to use that track to access other agricultural land.*

PLANNING UPDATES:

21/00064/APP 8 Brookfields, Stoke Hammond MK17 9FR

First floor extension over double garage.

As mentioned in the PC News section, a neighbour has complained to the planning department about the failure of the planners to effectively and correctly publish details of this application. The planning officer was to meet with the complainant

For further information/updates on these or other planning applications in our locality, please visit the following website entering the application reference or use the map search facility - <https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/search-planning-licensing-applications>

EDITORS NOTE

First, congratulations and welcome to our newly elected Parish and Ward Councillors. Six, rather than the normal four years since we've had elections, so it's been a while.

We're getting ever closer to a fuller return to normality, we can dine inside, have larger gatherings and even hug! The Sports Pavilion's reopened and from the 1st July the Community Centre is available for hire, and not far off the horizon is the return of the Village Show on Saturday August 7th.

It's around this time that I put out one of my appeals for ideas and indeed contributions for new content for the SH & NLS News. Please do get in touch if there is something you would like, whether as an occasional or regular feature.

May I please have copy for the August/September 2021 issue by the **20th July**

Greg Noble, Oak Farm, Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond. MK17 9DB

01525 270744 E-mail: gregnoble1980@aol.com

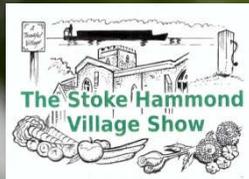


WASTE COLLECTION DATES

STOKE HAMMOND VILLAGE & NEWTON LEYS SOUTH

Waste Bin: 	Recycling Bin:  <small>Paper, glass, cardboard, plastics, cartons, cans & tins</small>	Food Waste Bin:  <small>Non-recyclable or compostable.</small>	Garden Waste Bin: 
	Wednesday 26 May	Wednesday 26 May	
Thursday 3 June		Thursday 3 June	Thursday 3 June
	Wednesday 9 June	Wednesday 9 June	
Wednesday 16 June		Wednesday 16 June	Wednesday 16 June
	Wednesday 23 June	Wednesday 23 June	
Wednesday 30 June		Wednesday 30 June	Wednesday 30 June
	Wednesday 7 July	Wednesday 7 July	
Wednesday 14 July		Wednesday 14 July	Wednesday 14 July
	Wednesday 21 May	Wednesday 21 May	
Wednesday 28 July		Wednesday 28 July	Wednesday 28 July
	Wednesday 4 Aug	Wednesday 4 Aug	

Saturday 7th August 1pm – 6pm Bragenham Side MK17 9DB



Stoke Hammond Village Show

DOG SHOW

£2 per class
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Registered charity
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Saturday 7th Aug 2021

- 2.00** Waggiest Tail
- 2.20** Most Appealing Eyes
- 2.40** Handsome Hound
- 3.00** Finest Golden Oldie (Dogs 7 years and over)
- 3.20** Prettiest Female Pooch
- 3.40** Best Rescue
- 4.00** Judge Would Most Like To Take Home
- 4.30** Best in Show

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