

Limpley Stoke news

Issue No 10

December 2018

Clean Air Zone proposals

An update from our local councillor, Johnny Kidney

As reported in last month's News, Bath and North East Somerset Council has been consulting on a proposed Clean Air Zone for the city. While I'm sure all will agree that action to tackle Bath's poor air quality is to be applauded, there are significant concerns about elements of the proposal in its current form. For example, the B3108 bridge by Limpley Mill will become the closest toll-free crossing of the Avon to the east of Bath, with inevitable implications for increased traffic from the A36 through Limpley Stoke to link with the A363 Sally in the Woods via Winsley and on to the A4/A46/M4.

As Wiltshire Council's Stakeholder Governor at the RUH, I am also worried about the impact on the ability of Wiltshire residents, particularly older and more vulnerable residents, to access our local hospital without being hit by the proposed charge. I have responded to the consultation and have also discussed issues around increased traffic and access to the RUH with our local MP.

Wiltshire Council has formally responded to the consultation, expressing significant concerns about the impact of elements of the plan on the county.

The BoA Area Board met last month to discuss and agree a joint statement from across the community area. Points raised focused on inevitable increases in traffic as drivers seek to avoid Bath, noting that sat navs set to 'avoid tolls' would potentially divert all traffic through our area, regardless of the Clean Air Zone compliance of vehicles.

While there was agreement that tackling air pollution is to be supported, there was consensus that the Clean Air Zone proposal in its current form appears rushed and does not sufficiently take into account the very significant potential impacts on communities outside the city, particularly in our area.

B&NES will now consider all the consultation feedback to inform their final proposal, before the Council's Cabinet makes its decision on December 18.



An autumn walk on the K&A Canal towpath at Darlington Wharf, Bath
(© Sheena Broadhead)

Bus pass changes

From **January 1, 2019**, not all senior concessionary bus passes issued by Wiltshire Council will be renewed automatically. There are approximately 20,000 passes in circulation which have not been scanned on a bus prior to renewal, indicating that the pass has not been used, so these will not now be renewed automatically.

If your pass is not renewed automatically but you would still like to receive one to use in future, contact Wiltshire Council on 0300 456 0100 / concessionarybuspasses@wiltshire.gov.uk.

Church Lane

The yellow sign which appeared on Church Lane warning of a two-week December road closure should have been removed by the time you read this. According to Wiltshire Highways, BT had planned to carry out duct-laying work on Church Lane but this has now been postponed.

Avoncliff Wood needs your support

The Woodland Trust, the UK's largest woodland conservation charity, has launched an appeal to raise £355,000 by the end of December in order to protect Avoncliff Wood. The wood, which lies adjacent to the riverside walk between Freshford and Avoncliff, is not currently open to the public.

Historic paths have long since disappeared in the decades it has been left untended but, with the public's help, the Woodland Trust has the opportunity to take 48 acres of rare and ancient woodland into its expert care, alongside a further 26 acres of land which would be planted to buffer and protect the wood and its wildlife.

Under the Trust's ownership, the wood will be kept as natural and unspoiled as possible and local people and schools will be able to get involved by planting trees and shaping the future of a new woodland on their doorstep.

The Trust says: "In this part of the world, the chance to manage such a wonderful piece of ancient woodland and adjoining land for planting is exceptionally rare. We owe it to the people of the South West to take this hidden gem of a wood into our care and protection, allowing its peaceful beauty to slumber on forever."

If the appeal reaches its target by the end of this month, the Trust will consult with the community, before creating new woodland to extend Avoncliff Wood and protect the views across the Avon Valley. To donate, phone 0330 333 3300 or visit woodlandtrust.org.uk/avoncliff.



Hedge helpers sought

Fancy trying your hand at the ancient skill of hedge-laying? The Freshford Lane hedge, which volunteers helped 'lay' two years ago, is showing good signs of recovery after many years of neglect. The Galleries Field hedge is now ready for the same treatment.

Hedge-laying is a traditional countryside way of creating hedges by weaving partly-cut branches through the upright stems of shrubs, which improves the environment for wildlife. It is hoped many of the previous volunteers will again lend a hand but anyone else would be more than welcome. You work at your own pace and training is given to those starting from scratch. Ouch!

Dates pencilled in are **Monday, December 3 and Friday, December 7** (weather permitting). Contact Stephen Dawson at stephenjrdawson@gmail.com / phone 01225 722511.

First tree planted

The first of more than 10,000 trees to be planted across Wiltshire to commemorate the soldiers who gave their lives in World War One has been planted at Tedworth House arboretum in Tidworth.

Wiltshire Council has supported more than 100 community groups who planted thousands of trees last month – one for every Wiltshire soldier who died during the conflict – as a lasting tribute to those men and women from the county who sacrificed their lives.

The project to plant 10,000 trees across Wiltshire has been made possible due to the generous support of the Woodland Trust, which has donated all 10,800 trees.

On Remembrance Sunday, Bradford on Avon mayor, councillor Alex Kay, unveiled a plaque on an English oak tree planted at Barton Farm Country Park to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

Christmas and New Year waste and recycling changes

There will be no waste or recycling collections on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Year's Day. This means that the **household waste and black box** collections which would normally have been due on December 31 will move to **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2** (see box, right).

After the December 24 collection of **plastic and cardboard**, the next one will be due on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 8**.

The last December collection for **green waste** is on December 19. The service will resume on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16**.

For information about opening times at your local recycling centre or how to recycle your Christmas tree, visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling.

Owl merchandise

All 60 Minerva's Owls sculptures were sold at auction last month, raising funds for the target charities.

You can, however, still get your hands on some owl souvenirs as stocking fillers and do your bit to boost funds for the owl charities at the same time. Prices have been slashed, with mini owls now down to £29. There's also a calendar featuring the Freshford Wowlet, and posters, tea towels, books and mugs, all at £7 each, and colouring books at £3.

Merchandise is available from the owls website at <https://minervasowls.org/shop/> (with a central Bath click-and-collect option), or locally from Gitte Dawson, Hillside Farm, Church Lane, Freshford (01225 722511 / email gitte.dawson@gmail.com).



Freshford closures

Part of **Freshford Lane** in Freshford will be closed temporarily between 9.30am and 3.30pm on **Friday, December 7**, for a maximum of two days. The road will only be restricted as and when traffic signs are in position and may not be affected for the whole period.

Also in Freshford, **The Hill** will be closed to through traffic outside Hill House on **Monday, December 10** for a maximum of two days.. Both road closures are for Wessex Water work.

Treasurer vacancy

Limpley Stoke Village Hall has a vacancy for an honorary treasurer on its management committee, which meets six times a year.

Anyone interested in joining will be given support to ease them into the job, an important though undemanding role. If you are interested in learning more, contact Elizabeth Gee at elizabethgee3@gmail.com.

WASTE COLLECTIONS

Domestic waste/ black box:

Monday, December 3
Monday, December 17
WEDNESDAY, JAN 2
Monday, January 14



Green bin:

Wed, December 5
Wed, December 19
resumes WED, JAN 16



Plastic / cardboard:

Monday, December 10
Monday, December 24
TUESDAY, JAN 8
Monday, January 21



Useful numbers

Transport Link 07714 16 92 16
Power supply emergency 105
Police (non-emergency) 101
Bradford on Avon Police:
Andrew MacLachlan
0752 897 2236
andrew.maclachlan@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Wiltshire Unitary Councillor:
Johnny Kidney 07805 236 480
johnny.kidney@wiltshire.gov.uk

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Mobile library monthly visit:
Thursday, December 27
10.00-10.25am
Uplands Close, Midford Lane

What's On



Alleluja!

A concert of seasonal music and carols is promised by The Freshford Singers, conducted by Bernard Wight, from 11am on **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1**, at St Peter's Church, Freshford.

Music by Bach, Britten and Byrd. Mediaeval, traditional and exciting new music.

Free admission, with retiring collection for church funds.



Sweet music

Cantamus Chamber Choir will perform "What Sweeter Music" on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18**, at Holy Trinity Church, Bradford on Avon at 7.30pm. The choir's Christmas concert, directed by Michael Daniels, is billed as a magical journey celebrating winter and Christmas, with carols, seasonal readings and a confection of choral music. Licensed bar and mince pies from 6.30pm.

Tickets: £10/£5 students and under-18s available from Wiltshire Music Centre on 01225 860100 or visit www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk/whats-on/what-sweeter-music.

Palace garden

The **JANUARY 9** talk at Freshford & District Horticultural Society's monthly meeting is by head gardener of the Bishop's Palace garden in Wells. James Cross will talk about the past, present and future of this beautiful garden. Hidden within the ancient ramparts of the palace and protected by the moat, there are 14 acres of tranquil gardens. There is evidence that a garden existed before work began on the palace circa 1206.

The talk starts at 7.30pm at Freshford Village Memorial Hall. Admission for non-members £3. All welcome to attend.

Christmas church services

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

10.30am St John's, Hinton

Pop-up nativity/communion

6.00pm St Peter's, Freshford

Carol service

CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm St Mary's, Limpley Stoke Christingle

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am St Mary's, Limpley Stoke Christmas communion

11.00am St Peter's, Freshford Christmas morning service

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

10.30am Old Bakery, Freshford

Café church

Wishing you
all a Merry
Christmas
and
a Happy
New Year

