

Limpley Stoke

news

Issue No 27

June 2020

Council's bid to buy pub for community

You may remember reading an article by LSPC chairman, Anthony Gennard, in the March 2020 issue of *Limpley Stoke News* about the Hop Pole Inn being put up for disposal by the Wellington Pub Company. At the time, it was hoped someone might come forward to take on the role of co-ordinating a community buy-out option, but that turned out not to be the case.

The Parish Council has since announced its intention to seek to purchase the pub and is currently compiling a business case to support a Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) application. This loan would be used to purchase the inn and pay for renovation, prior to leasing the pub to a tenant landlord. A key part of the PWLB process is a demonstration of public support for the purchase and retention of the inn as a community asset. To that end, a questionnaire has been sent out to Limpley Stoke households asking two clear questions:

Question 1: do you support the Parish Council purchasing the inn as a community asset owned by the Council on behalf of the residents of Limpley Stoke?

Question 2: in the event of unusual circumstances, would you support a temporary increase in your Parish Council precept payment (council tax)?

This would not exceed an additional £1 per week per household (about £50 per year). Normally, the Council will meet loan repayments from the rental made by a tenant landlord. In addition, under normal circumstances, the Parish Council could afford to meet the PWLB loan repayments from reserves and the existing precept. However, there may be occasions when additional funding is necessary, for example, COVID-19.

(Freshford residents are also being asked to support this initiative, although the precept question will not apply to them.)

There is space on the questionnaire (also online at limpleystoke.org) to indicate how you would – or wouldn't – like to see the Hop Pole used. Most people who have answered the questionnaire already say they don't want an expensive gastro pub or a dedicated sports bar in Limpley Stoke. The majority seem to want something that serves the community foremost, such as a traditional pub, but one that also recognises the need for innovation and ingenuity as key factors in the successful delivery of desirable services, not only for our residents, but also the numerous visitors who make the journey to this beautiful area and village. **Closing date for questionnaires: July 15, 2020.**



Anthony Gennard and his team will endeavour to keep you all informed of what they are up to over the next few weeks. There will be plenty of opportunity to add your voice but Anthony has asked, at this stage, that you offer your support for this exciting challenge.

In the meantime, you can call him for a chat on 07468 461261 during the week, but he is a busy man and may take a while to reply. Leave a message or email him or the team via the 'Contact us/Drop us a line' option on the website limpleystoke.org, where you can read all the details about the Parish Council's bid to purchase the pub. The Parish Council is working towards a deadline of **July 24, 2020** to secure the Hop Pole, after which date the Wellington Pub Company can advertise it for general sale.

New-look shop opens for business



The Galleries shop has re-opened to customers, following its brief closure last month. The new, spacious layout will allow for social distancing to be maintained more easily. To protect staff and customers, the Galleries team ask you to take a few simple precautions:

- maintain social distancing
- wear a mask in the shop, if possible
- sanitise hands before entering the shop (sanitiser will be provided outside)
- only one family member to enter
- minimise time in the shop by bringing a list

New opening hours (excluding bank holidays)

Mon–Fri: 09.00-17.00; Sat: 09.00-12.30; Sun: CLOSED

Pre-orders, collection and delivery

Monday–Friday: order before 1pm for same-day collection / delivery

Hall needs you

The Hall Estate in Bradford on Avon, home of world-renowned inventor, the late Sir Alex Moulton, is looking for volunteers. Currently closed due to the coronavirus situation, it is hoped the estate will re-open later this year for open garden days, guided tours and other special events.

Organisers are looking for enthusiastic locals to give a few hours of their time as garden, events or café volunteers, and as house guides or tour assistants. As well as making a valuable contribution to this special place, you can find out about the history of the estate, learn new skills and meet a friendly group of like-minded people.

For more details, email events@moultontrust.org or use the contact form on the website <https://buff.ly/2XKQBSu>.



Lockdown life

People are being asked to share their stories and experiences of living in lockdown to help Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre in Chippenham compile an archive for future generations to study. The archive will reflect people's individual and collective experiences and show how lives have been transformed by this global crisis. Those studying the 1918/19 flu pandemic turned to the archives and tomorrow's historians will do the same for COVID-19.

The record of experiences might be written – a diary or poetry – but could also be drawn, photographed, painted or crafted. People are also asked to keep hold of items such as leaflets, official communications, posters, flyers, which can also be added to the centre's local studies collections.

Councillor Richard Clewer, Wiltshire Council Cabinet Member for Heritage, said: "There is no doubt we are currently living through a time that will be remembered and discussed for generations to come, and it's important we document it as much as possible, and ensure that people's real voices and experiences aren't lost."

For more information about how to get involved with the Living in Lockdown project, visit the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre website at www.wshc.eu.

New online booking system for household recycling centres

From **Thursday, June 4**, a new online booking system will be available to allow you to book a visit to any household recycling centre (HRC) in Wiltshire up to three days in advance.

From **Monday, June 8**, 15-minute slots – which must be pre-booked – will be available for visits to HRCs. **Please note: you will be denied access if you haven't booked a slot in advance.**

Other restrictions, including no trailers or vehicles 3.5 tonnes or over, remain in place. The postcode entry system will still be in operation until the sites close on Sunday, June 7.

In order to protect staff and ensure social distancing, only one person per vehicle is permitted to leave their car.

Find more information at wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres.

Play park and tennis out of lockdown

The King George V play park on Woods Hill is now open for you to enjoy again, although, at time of writing, the play equipment was still out of bounds.

Freshford & District Tennis Club courts re-opened last month for singles and family doubles only. For details, visit www.freshfordtennis.co.uk.

WASTE COLLECTIONS

Household waste

Monday, June 1

Monday, June 15

Monday, June 29

Blue-lidded bin

Black box

Green waste

(chargeable)

Wednesday, June 3

Wednesday, June 17



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

MP: Michelle Donelan

01249 704465

michelle.donelan.mp@parliament.uk

Wiltshire Unitary Councillor:

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01225 723749

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MyWiltshire app: potholes, road issues, blocked drains, grit bins

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/

mywiltshire-online-reporting or phone 0300 456 0105



Kill your speed!

Since lockdown began, Wiltshire Police have received many reports of motorists taking the risk of driving faster and, in some cases, far in excess of the legal limit.

Over the next few weeks, Wiltshire Police, along with other forces throughout the UK, will be

taking part in a two-phase operation to remind motorists of the importance of travelling within the speed limit. This operation is deliberately timed as travel restrictions start to ease, to keep people safe as the volume of traffic increases.

Motorists are asked to be more aware of the speed limits and of other road users, and to slow down, save lives. Perhaps Limpley Stoke, particularly Woods Hill, might be a good place to start!

Walking in Wiltshire – and beyond

If you've exhausted your usual walking routes during lockdown, take a look at this website, <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/wiltshire>, which has hundreds of free walks to download and lots of information.



Mobile library monthly visit:
CANCELLED until further notice

Website: www.limpleystoke.org



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