

Keith Wood - City Council Report

" Barton Farm is back on the agenda though in truth it has been there since the Council first agreed it as a Reserve Site for housing some 8 years ago. It's an issue now because the Government requires the Council to identify land for 2000 houses as part of the new Winchester Local Plan. It has been suggested that we ignore this "advice" but if we do so, the Government will determine regardless what is built where, which could lead to a free for all. We take the view that it is better to try to control our future rather than hand it over to others who may have less concern for Winchester. Trouble is, staying as we are is not an option. We are therefore proposing that brownfield sites are used first and that any major scheme is not begun until it is clearly required. Unless the Government change their rules ,it's unlikely that any major greenfield building will be required before 2015. Meanwhile we will continue to press this and any future Government to alter their housing targets to a level Winchester can reasonably absorb, without wholesale development in the countryside." *Cllr Keith Wood*

The Editor Adds: **The 'Save Barton Farm Group' are holding a march in Winchester next Saturday 14 March. They are seeking as much support as possible. For more details visit their website: www.savebartonfarm.org**

Drainage Improvements Continue...

Despite efforts by HCC and their contractors "jetting" the culverts last week, those under Bedford Lane are still blocked, leading to high levels of water in the ditch alongside the road. We'll keep you posted.....



David's Morgan causes heads to turn in Egypt.



Intrepid Councillor On More Travels

Parish Councillor David Spurling writes: "The Nile Trial rally which I returned from last month was claimed by the organisers to be the first ever overland drive across the top of Africa to Egypt for vintage and classic cars. Starting in Marseille, after a ferry crossing to Tunis, it passed through Tunisia and Libya to end on the Red Sea at Hurgada, a total of 6000 Kms in 20 days." Following his 2007 Peking Paris rally, he will be giving an illustrated talk on behalf of Winchester Alzheimers Society about his adventures. This is taking place at 7.30 pm on Friday April 3rd at Norton Park Hotel, Sutton Scotney. Tickets £10 from the Society on 01962 865585.

Should Motocross Licence at Three Maids Hill be Permanent?

Residents annoyed by the noise from the motocross at Three Maids Hill may be interested to attend the public meeting at Littleton Memorial Hall from 7pm on Monday 16th March held by Tony Child, the owner, who is planning to apply for a permanent licence to replace his current temporary one.

Obituary - Sid Herridge

Sid Herridge who has lived in the village since 1972 has recently died. Latterly he worked as a groundsman at Henry Beaufort School and then as a caretaker at South Wonston Primary School. I remember him collecting annually for the British Legion Poppy Appeal. He, with his wife Kate, quietly fostered many many children down the years, giving them the stability of a temporary home. We say goodbye to a quiet gentle man.
Cllr Rosemary Stephens



Headbourne Worthy Village News

Spring 2009

News and Information from your local Parish Council

Annual Village Litter Pick 4th April

Meet at 'Silverstream', Bedford Lane, at 10.30am on Saturday 4th April for this year's annual village litter pick.



Let's see if we can beat last year's total of twenty one bags of rubbish collected from

the verges and paths around the village. With coffee and a chat to encourage volunteers, and the provision of hi-vis jackets and bags, this annual village event is great fun and greatly improves our environment. Many thanks to David and Trish Spurling who will be our hosts.



The snow in early February gave us some wonderful new views of familiar landmarks. See the village website for more photos, and page 2 for more views and an easy circular walk in which to appreciate the beauties of our village surroundings. *Cllr Jane Rutter*

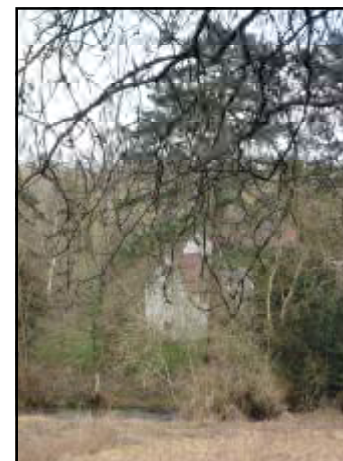
June Elections

There will be European Parliament and Hampshire County Council elections taking place on Thursday 4 June 2009.

Monday 27 April 2009 –
Notice of Election

Monday 11 May 2009 –
Statement of Persons Nominated

Tuesday 12 May 2009 –
Notice of Election Agents.



New Bench in School Lane

The dilapidated bench on School Lane has at last been replaced. Why not pause on your walk (see next page) to admire the view across the field to St Swithun's Church.



A Short Circular Walk - Cllr David Pearcey

Badly affected and depressed by the credit crunch? Can't afford that continental holiday? Don't despair – what about trying something that will lift your spirits and which is local and free.

I believe that when we are preoccupied with these worries it is easy not to appreciate what we have in and around Headbourne Worthy. We are, without doubt, most fortunate to live in a most beautiful part of the country. However, it does need a visitor sometimes to remind us of this fact, but it is true that there is much to savour right on our doorstep. The area is teeming with wildlife, flora and fauna and the scenery is constantly changing with the seasons. Who can fail to be uplifted by the recent marvellous displays of snowdrops all over the parish and the catkins, burgeoning buds of the

daffodils and primroses promise more delights. An ideal way to appreciate this and to explore is on foot and we do have a number of footpaths that allow for some marvellous views which would not otherwise be seen.



The post & phone boxes on Wellhouse Lane.

A very easy and short circular walk that I do regularly with my dogs never fails to cheer me up whatever the weather and I would recommend it for anyone. Start from the water treatment works in Bedford Lane and follow the fingerpost sign across the watercress beds towards Springvale Road. There is regularly a white little egret patiently fishing here and I have seen kingfishers, redshanks, buzzards as well as the more common species and even a small pike under the bridge. Two swans, ducks and Canada geese are all pairing up too and they are usually in the settlement beds to the left of the path. It is interesting to watch the progress of the cultivation of the watercress and especially the unique lawnmower/conveyor belt machine used to harvest it. Cross the stile at the end of

the path and turn left along Wellhouse Lane and then turn left into School Lane. Take care along here as there is no footpath but there are ample passing places. About halfway along you can either turn left down the signposted path which leads to St. Swithun's Church or continue on along School Lane. If you go down the footpath please keep to the path and if you have a dog keep it on a lead and do not allow it to run off into Lower Farm to the left as this may well disturb the wildlife. With luck you may spot the deer and the occasional fox which frequent this quiet area, as well as the woodpeckers, jays and sparrowhawks.

At the bottom you will cross another bridge and into the churchyard. If you chose the School Lane route, take a few minutes to enjoy the view from the bench across the field towards the church before entering the cemetery opposite Headbourne Worthy Grange and following the path down towards the church. From here go past the church and cross Worthy Road with care into Pudding Lane opposite, or alternatively, at the Lychgate at the bottom of the cemetery, follow the footpath through the woods to Worthy Road. Cross the road and turn left. Enjoy the views down the river and across Pudding Farm and look out for the deer and herons. Turn right into Pudding lane and follow the lane round and recross Worthy road, preferably at the crossing on the right, then recross Bedford Lane and turn right back to the start. If this walk will be too tiring then I would suggest that a few peaceful minutes on the bench in the cemetery off School Lane would be rewarding, especially when the spring flowers are in bloom – it really is a lovely spot – but mind the rabbit holes!

Photo: Looking through St Swithun's Lychgate onto Worthy Lane.



Bogus Charity Collections

Hampshire County Council is alerting residents to a bogus doorstep charity collection operating in the county.

Trading Standards officers are investigating complaints from concerned residents who have received bags and leaflets through their door asking them to donate unwanted goods to a charity called 'Heartbeat UK'. Leaflets have been found in Chandler's Ford, West End (near Southampton) and Tadley in north Hampshire and others could follow.

The fliers state that the collections are being made by a company called 500 Ton Ltd whose head office is based in Staffordshire. Heartbeat UK is a genuine charity providing lifesaving equipment to emergency services and hospitals and is in no way connected to 500 Ton Ltd.

£1 Million lost by charities each year

These leaflets give the false impression that items are being sought for charitable means while in reality, items collected from such scams are often sold on for profit. The Association of Charity shops estimates that over £1 million per annum is lost by charities as a result of bogus collections. It is money that many charities shops rely on as a substantial proportion of their annual sales.

Residents are urged not to leave out any goods for collection in response to the leaflets and only to donate unwanted goods to charities they know and trust.

Anyone who has suspicions regarding the authenticity of a clothing collection claiming to be for charitable purposes can call Hampshire County Council Trading Standards through Consumer Direct on 08454 040506.

BUMPS & BABES



LANTERNS CHILDREN'S CENTRE
A SureStart Children's Centre

Lanterns is starting a new drop-in group for expectant mothers and fathers and those with babies up to a year old. The group will be held every Wednesday from 1.30 – 3 pm, starting on 4th March. A midwife will normally be present to talk to during the first hour of the drop-in. We ask for a £1 contribution towards the cost of running the group. For more information please contact Alison McDonough on 01962 893 602.



Jackie's County Corner

Greening your neighbourhood.

WinACC (Winchester Action for Climate Change) trains Low Carbon Champions to lead and raise awareness of green challenges in your village. If you are interested in doing this for your area, you may like to contact Cathy Swann (I can put you in touch) who has led the successful Greening Alresford campaign, or if you already live or work in Alresford, please join her as she is always looking for new people to join the active committee.

I have discovered a new website:

www.greenbang.com. It contains fascinating articles on green issues, including news of the Carbon Trust's interest free 'energy saving' grants to small businesses Go to their website for details.

The Winchester HAT (Hampshire Action Team) is looking at ways to reduce fuel poverty (where the total heating bill is more than 10% of the household income) for residents in conjunction with WinACC, local authorities, the Energy Saving Trust, and the Energy providers who are paid by the government under the CERT scheme to help out those struggling to pay bills. Contact me for details.

Flooding, which is set to increase as Climate change makes its mark, has brought problems again to roads in our area. Holes appear overnight and drivers skid as water collects. Please ring 0845 603 5633 or email www.fixmystreet.com. HCC receives this information automatically when you submit to this site, and I receive notice of the complaints too, so can follow them until they are mended.

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