

COW LANE PADDOCKS

Marcham Parish Council has available for rent the two paddocks off Cow Lane adjacent to the allotments between 1st April 2007 and 30th March 2008. Should anyone be interested in renting one or both paddocks please contact the Clerk stating the rent you are prepared to offer.

Please note the Council is not obliged to accept the highest or any offer.
 Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
 90 Howard Cornish Rd. Marcham.
 Tel: 01865 391833

Dear Readers

This issue is so full of letters, reports, notices and adverts I only get six lines this time! Hope you all have a very happy Easter and enjoy the sunshine...

Until next time



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ADVERTISING

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DEADLINES

Advertising: 5pm 15th month
 Other copy: 5pm 20th month

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

NOTES The Editor reserves the right to alter, omit or hold over copy to another issue. The views expressed in the Marcham & District News are not necessarily those of the editorial team.

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www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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 April 2007

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

A415 Packhorse Lane – Temporary Traffic Light trial

Members of the Parish Council and representatives from PLAGS met with officers from the County Council on 14th March to hear the County Council’s proposals for a temporary traffic light trial. It is planned to install lights over the shortest possible section of road just either side of the most westerly bend. This should minimize problems for those with driveway accesses, and the shorter the distance, the shorter the time delays in changing the lights and therefore the shorter the queues. A footway area for pedestrians will be marked out by physical barriers, either blocks at ground level or the red and white barriers used by workmen. Concerns have been raised about vehicles being able to get out of Mill Road and North Street should traffic queues form on the A415. Unfortunately the cross roads area could not be included as part of the temporary trial, but consideration will be given to that area should the traffic lights become a permanent measure. A bid for finance has been submitted from the 2007/08 budget in case the scheme goes ahead on a more permanent basis.

The County Council does not wish the trial to proceed whilst there are other road measures and repair works elsewhere which could affect the results. It is currently working out the best time to do the trial and sourcing the necessary lights etc. The Parish Council will be notified when the trial is to start and the Parish Council will help the County with its advertising. At the moment it is thought that comments on the scheme will be sent back direct to the County Council and an email address and other contact details will be advertised in due course.

The Parish Council is extremely grateful to Mr. Steven Howell Head of Transport at Oxfordshire County Council and Mr. Peter Ronald from the County’s local depot for supporting the parish with its concerns over the safety of the A415, and for their efforts in arranging this traffic trial to take place.

Mr. John Mansell

The Parish Council was very sorry to learn of the death of John Mansell. He had served on the Parish Council and Marcham and Frilford Joint Burial Committee for over 20 years standing down in 1983. He was much appreciated and admired for his voluntary work within the community.

Parish Council Elections – 3rd May 2007

A reminder that should anyone be interested in standing as a candidate, then nomination forms and further information can be obtained from the Vale of White Horse District Council, Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon tel: 01235 520202 who is handling the election process or from the Parish Clerk whose details are below. The deadline for receipt of nomination forms, which have to be returned to the Vale of White Horse District Council, is noon on 4th April, 2007.

Best Kept Garden Competition 2007

The Council has decided not to run a best kept garden competition this year, as the onus for arranging this would fall on the new Council. Later in the year the new Council will decide what to do in 2008 and the time of year that any competition should be held.

New “Fire Gateway” provides easy access to the Fire and Rescue Service

People who want to contact their local fire service to ask a question or request a home fire safety assessment, will now find that it’s just a click away with the launch of the Fire Gateway website – www.fire.gov.uk. This one stop shop, supported by Oxfordshire County Council’s Fire and Rescue Service, will enable residents to submit online requests for help and provide them with information to prevent fires and save lives. Needless the say, this is not an emergency service where the telephone number remains 999.

Co-operative Futures

This organization provides free information, support and advice for the development of communally owned enterprises. If there is anyone within the parish who has a business or an idea that involves trading for social good rather than for profit then contact Co-operative Futures c/o Restore, Manzil Way, Oxford OX4 1YH tel: 01865 726521

Planning Aid – Planning Help for individuals and communities

Planning Aid offers free, independent and professional advice on town and country planning issues to community groups and individuals who cannot afford to pay a planning consultant. It is an organization funded by Central Government and the Big Lottery. A regional office has recently been set up in Oxford. For general information about the service contact Planning Aid South, 3 Woodins Way, Paradise Street, Oxford. OX1 1HD tel: 01865 798673 or email dagmar.hutt@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk

Longfields – New Housing Development

The 13 new dwellings should be finished in July this year. There are 11 units for rent and 2 for shared ownership. The 2 shared ownership properties are currently being advertised by the Vale of White Horse District Council. This is to allow time for anyone interested to arrange any necessary finance. The remaining 11 units for rent will be advertised later in the year.

The details of the 2 on offer at the moment can be viewed at www.Valehomechoice.org.uk or further information can be obtained from the housing section at the Vale of White Horse District Council, Abbey House, Abingdon. Tel: 01235 520202.

REMEMBER these properties are available for anyone with a local connection and in order to bid for one of these properties you have to be on the District Council’s housing register. **The closing date for bids on the 2 shared ownership properties is 3rd April.**

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 11th April 2007 at 7.30 p.m. in the residents’ lounge, Duffield Place.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Rd, Tel: 01865 391833