

Dear Readers

Lately I have received lots of articles for inclusion that have already been beautifully typed up and then printed out. To get these into the newssheet I have to scan or type them again and, as my typing is probably not as good as yours, errors can creep in. So if you can email contributions or even put them on a disk and then drop them into the PO or through the door, we stand a better chance of not changing what you want to say by my bad typing!

The Tubney addition to our coverage is doing so well we now need

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If you would like to help, please contact Judith or Peter Fontaine on 01865 391275 for more details.



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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Refuse Collection

The Council would ask residents not to put out refuse too early for collection. Plastic sacks left at the roadside have been torn open, probably by animals and owing to recent strong winds the contents have been blown around. The Council appreciates that over the Christmas and New Year period the collection days changed, but the revised dates were published in MAD News and on the Council's noticeboard outside the Institute. Refuse for collection should be left at the kerbside by 7.00 am on the day of collection.

Dog Waste Bins

The Council would thank those dog owners who are clearing up after their pets. There does appear to be an increased usage of the bins off the path near the Anson field and the Cemetery path. The Council has received comments that these bins are full and overflowing. The Council along with Cllr. Jane Hanna, the District Councillor, is discussing with the Vale of White Horse District Council the possibility of larger bins and/or an increase in the frequency of emptying. The District Council would be grateful if residents would contact them if the dog waste bins are not emptied or start to overflow. The person to contact is Kate Morris, the Technical Officer in Waste Management on 01235 520202. The Parish Council too would like to be informed should anyone have the need to contact the Vale D.C.

Bus Service no. 67 Heyfordian Coach

The Council has received notification of the limited timetable for the no. 67 bus. This actually serves Southmoor to Faringdon and Wantage, plus the villages in between. Anyone wishing to use the service could catch the X15 to Southmoor and then change.

South East England Regional Assembly

The assembly comprises 111 members including elected councillors nominated by all 74 of the region local authorities. The South East Region covers Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, West and East Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire and Surrey. The Assembly is preparing a Plan for submission to the Government to set out policies on housing, transport, education, health, environmental issues such as green space, countryside, energy, waste, water, and climate change. The Plan is a new way of planning for the future of our region. It will define a clear vision for the South East to guide development to 2026. The draft Plan will be published shortly and local consultation will take place. Further information can be found at www.southeastra.gov.uk/southeastplan

Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 9th Feb, 2005 at 7.30 p.m. in the residents' lounge Duffield Place.
Clerk: Mrs L Martin 90 Howard Cornish Rd, Marcham Tel: 01865 391833

Dear Editor

Before Christmas I investigated a concern that the dog bin located by the village church on the Marcham to Frilford path may not have been emptied. The Vale checked with the contractor who said that he had recently become aware of increased use of the bin and that it might need emptying twice a week. The Vale asked him to empty the bin immediately and when I checked a couple of days after this it had been emptied but was already half full again. This was also the case just after New Year. The officers of the Vale are aware of the situation and will liaise with the parish council as to whether to install a larger bin or to move to a twice weekly collection. Although I check on these matters I would be happy to hear from any villagers if there is a problem with any of the bins in the village or if they are aware of particular times and places when dog fouling is taking place. The dog bins in Marcham are ordinarily emptied on a Thursday.

JANE HANNA

District Councillor

ENVIRONMENTAL WARDEN

David Coates has been appointed as a new warden in the Vale. His duties include enforcing the law which relates to: fly tipping, fly posting, persons who deposit litter; and with effect from the 10th January 2005, all responsibility for lost and found dogs including persons who allow their dogs to foul footpaths and open spaces. His hours of duty are normally between 8am and 4pm although there is some flexibility within this system. He would like to meet members of the public to discuss this new post, so if any groups would like to invite him along to a meeting, please contact him on 07909 535558 or 01235 520202. Email to david.coates@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Dear Editor

It is very disappointing that the Marcham by pass remains in the pending tray. This by-pass is urgently needed, and we must maintain pressure on the Government to fund it. I was, however, pleased to see that the County Council has not dismissed out of hand proposals to re-site the roundabout at Frilford. It does state that a southerly roundabout would interfere with Josca's playing fields and Strathview, as well as being more expensive. However, the new scheme proposed by residents does have some new aspects, and the County Council will be assessing it, as well as meeting residents to discuss the proposal. I do believe that it is important to consider an alternative, to avoid a roundabout being built so close to the houses at Frilford.

ED VAIZEY

Conservative Parliamentary Candidate 3