

**PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

**Village dumping**

The Council last month put an article in MADNews regarding fly tipping and the dumping of grass. Unfortunately this is still continuing, and was reported again to the Parish Council at its last meeting. Two areas which have been identified as problem areas are Hyde Copse and the path which runs alongside Longfields down to Cow Lane. It may surprise some people, but these areas are on private land and there are no public rights of access. The opportunity to walk along the path is there only with the express permission of the landowner. Access can be terminated at any time and the village stands to lose these amenities should they not be treated with respect.

**Car Parking**

Another problem discussed at the Council meeting was car parking in inconsiderate locations, particularly at junctions and on bends where vision is restricted. Blind spots do cause dangers for motorists, and the Council heard reports of near accidents. We were fortuitous in have P.C. Ben Peach, the local police beat officer, at the meeting, and he took a note of the areas listed.

**Weeds in footway/Howard Cornish Road verge - lime tree**

The Council discussed the weed growth in the paths and is referring this to the County Council to try and get them sprayed. It also was informed that the lime tree in the wide verge in Howard Cornish Road had had to be felled owing to a split trunk. The Council will ask the District Council who owns the verge to replant in the Autumn/Winter.

**Allotments**

It is a busy time at the allotments again with allotment holders tending their crops. There are more and more plots being rented at Cow Lane and the Council would remind allotment holders that the paths should be left free from obstruction at all times so that there is easy access to all plots. Also the allotment tenancy agreements state that no nuisance or annoyance shall be caused by the tenant to any tenants of other allotments. Could allotment holders therefore please respect the rights of other tenants and remain on their own plot and not trespass and interfere with the use of the adjacent plots.

**Consideration**

It does seem to be a month for moans and groans, but the Summer weather has brought us out into our gardens, cutting our grass, out onto the allotments and for more trips in our cars. Perhaps we could all think of other residents in the village when going about our daily activities and be considerate in what we do.

**Date of Next Council Meeting:**

7.30pm Wednesday 12th July in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place.

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

**PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ANNUAL MEETING MAY 2006**

The Parish Council met 11 times in the past year to transact business. During the past year the Parish Council has been involved in a range of activities and responsible for a number of actions. Those most worthy of mention are:

- Phase 3 of the Longfields affordable housing development has now achieved planning approval. This is the culmination of much time and effort and will provide housing for Marcham people. The development comprises 2 x 2bed bungalows, 4 x 1bed flats, 3 x 2bed houses, 2x3 bed houses and 2x 4 bed houses.
- The Parish Council, with the cooperation of the Anson Trust, has secured a grant of £24,950 from WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Limited). This will fund major improvements for the equipment on the play area in the Anson field together with a general make-over for the site.
- Among projects and grants, the Council has carried out work on the allotment wall in Parkside and provided a new seat there, carried out work in the Churchyard; work on the youth shelter; work on the war memorial; repairs to fencing on Cow lane allotments; provided financial support for the Youth Worker, the Youth Group, MAD News, the Duffield Sunshine Club and Senior Citizens Club; Marcham School and the Anson Field.
- A number of improvements have been achieved with regard to road safety matters; the village gateways have been established; the pedestrian crossing initiated; the vehicle activated sign at the eastern approach to the village implemented; and a safety barrier in Howard Cornish road installed.
- Our pressure has finally paid off and the former paper shop in Haines Court is now to be converted for residential use.
- We also ran the Garden Competition and came third in our category for the Best Kept Village competition.

With respect to the Council itself, following Marion Pointer's resignation last year, Peter Rowe was co-opted onto the Council and he has made an enthusiastic contribution.

In conclusion, I would like to thank our District Councillor, Jane Hanna, and our County Councillor, Iain Brown, for their support and assistance to the Parish Council and parishioners throughout the

year. I must also thank, on your behalf, all the Parish Councillors for giving their time, their attention and their commitment and to our Clerk, Linda Martin, for her outstanding support.

And as Sir Trevor McDonald has often said, AND FINALLY I would like to refer to a report in today's Daily Telegraph:- 'A man involved in a long running feud with a former parish council colleague attacked him with a broom and a shovel on a village footpath, a court was told yesterday. Eric Swift, a councillor in St. Briavels, in the Forest of Dean, Glos, until two years ago, struck Arthur Thomas, 73, the former parish council chairman, over the head, causing a wound that needed five stitches'.

I have now finished my term as Chairman of Marcham Parish Council and Will Cumber has agreed to reprise the role.

When accepting, I'm sure he hadn't considered the possibility of being attacked with a broom and a shovel as a risk associated with the job! And I would like to assure you all that relations between Parish Councillors in Marcham are infinitely better than in St. Briavels!

**COLIN BOUGH**

**ANSON TRUST ACCOUNTS**

The Anson Trust has recently received the final accounts for the period ended 31.12.2005. The Directors are keen to provide parishioners with as much information about the Trust and its operations, as they reasonably can, having regard to appropriate commercial confidentiality and the potential pending legal proceedings. In that light, the Directors have asked the Editor if she can display the accounts in full on the MAD News website.

For those who do not have access to the website or find detailed accounts difficult to follow, the principal figures are noted below:-

- Receipts for the year £18,520.18
- Payments for the year £53,265.30
- Of which receipts relating to the Institute were £5,418.94 and payments £12,304.22

This means the Trust effectively made a 'loss' of £34,744.42 in the year.

**HOLIDAY WASTE COLLECTIONS**

*Please ensure your rubbish bags aren't left vulnerable to animal and/or bird attack.*

August Bank Holiday	
Normal Day	Will be...
Mon 28	Tue 29
Tue 29	Wed 30
Wed 30	Thur 31
Thur 31	Fri 1 Sept
Fri 1 Sept	Sat 2

Write to MADNews and let others know what you think about current events