

Dear Editor

I note, and welcome the report in the June edition of MadNews that the Parish Council are requesting "substantial" time to consider the proposals of the Anson Trustees prior to their lodging of any planning applications. This period of time is for a "proper consultation process to reflect the village view". I also read a report in the Oxford Mail that "The OWNERS" of the field have promised not to submit a planning application or sell the land for housing, without first consulting residents. (It's a pity they didn't do that before spending even more of their dwindling funds on glossy presentations). I would assume that both of the above groups will have read the May edition of MadNews which included a front page Pie Chart indicating that 69% of the Residents of this Village are opposed to the Anson Trust's proposals, while only 12% were in favour.

To my view, the NAF questionnaire seemed extremely fair, and provides a village wide result of nearly 6 to 1 against any proposals to develop the Anson Field. So why are further expensive and time-consuming consultations really necessary?

**COLIN TRINDER, Tower Close.**

Dear Editor,

It is a pity to see an historical building like the Village Hall wasting away over the years. I recently had a discussion with Mr John Duffield on his past offer to buy the Institute in North Street with the intention of restoring the building. Mr Duffield would still be interested if the Anson Trustees were to accept an offer from him. This would in turn guarantee the residents of Marcham and the Ex-Servicemen a Village Hall for the future and the saving of a bit of village history for generations to come. It would also free up some much needed cash for the Anson Trust to carry on their business, without being cash-strapped. A generous gesture indeed from someone with strong historical family ties in the village.

I am sure the residents of Marcham would appreciate having a village hall sooner rather than later, and who knows when later can be.

**LES MITCHELL**

**UPDATE**

The Directors of the Anson Trust are conscious that little information has been forthcoming since the exhibition and this does not mean there is no activity. The fruition of the overall plan to provide Marcham with



a state of the art village centre including top of the range sports facilities and an endowment to further the charity set up by the Anson sisters is a complex task.

Negotiations are taking place with the Land Owner, County Council, Parish Council, Planners and preliminary meetings have been held with the Sports and Social Club Committee and other interested groups to set up initial running parameters.

Land Surveys and site design work is ongoing and as soon as an Option on the Land is finalised it will be possible to present the overall scheme to the village and as promised the village will have an opportunity to discuss the proposal prior to planning being sought.

The intent to maintain a green area on the existing Anson field will be fulfilled and the provision of additional housing will support what will hopefully be a new build school in the village.

We are very aware of the frustration caused by the apparent silence but please be assured when the project moves forward and we can openly discuss the overall plans Marcham will have the opportunity to support one of the best village recreational facilities in the county if not the country with a substantial endowment to support the long term infrastructure provided.

**ANSON TRUST**

[www.ansontrust.co.uk](http://www.ansontrust.co.uk)

**the crown**

**HAS REOPENED UNDER  
NEW MANAGEMENT**

—

**REAL ALES  
QUALITY LAGERS  
FINE WINES**

—

The Crown, 1 Packhorse Lane, Marcham, OX13 6NT

**TEL: 01865 391522**

No doubt you will have already heard that The Crown has now reopened under new management. The pub no longer belongs to Green King and is now owned by the pub company Admiral Taverns. The new tenant is John who also runs The General Elliot in South Hinksey and The Fox in Sandford-on-Thames. The day-to-day management of The Crown is under the more than capable hands of Richard and Emma, together with their friendly dog Chester. All parts of the pub have reopened again including the garden where children and friendly dogs are more than welcome. The pub is now non-smoking and offers a range

of proper real ales, quality lagers, fine wines, spirits and a large selection of soft drinks.

Richard and Emma are working very hard to bring the kitchen up to hygienic standards. When this has been achieved food will be offered at reasonable prices bearing in mind that the quality will be above average "pub grub" standards. The suppliers of meat will be Cumbers who are based about 300 metres from the pub and only offer organic meat. A range of vegetarian meals will also be available.

Very shortly a new pool table will be installed together with a quiz machine called an "IT BOX" which will enable players to take part in all sorts of quizzes and games. A new jukebox offering a huge range of tunes will also arrive shortly. This together with a new High Definition television, which will show Sky & Setanta Sports, means that the public bar is the place to be if you are a sports fan.

Soon we hope to offer free Wi-Fi broadband internet access for patrons so that you can enjoy a leisurely lunch and drink whilst still being in touch with the office.

Richard and Emma will be only to pleased to meet you in the near future to talk about what else we have in store in the long term. But should you wish to organise a party or other gathering at The Crown, please do not hesitate to contact them on 01865 391522.

**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

**THEFT OF HANGING BASKETS**

Two baskets were taken from Howard Cornish Rd sometime during the weekend of 15/16/17 June. If you have any information, or if you have had anything damaged or taken, please contact the Police on 0845 8 505 505 and choose Option 1 Reporting a Crime.

***It is important that ALL crimes get reported to the Police***

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