

**NAF UPDATE: ANSON FIELD DEVELOPMENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS**

In April every house within the main Marcham village envelope received a copy of a simple questionnaire. This just asked everyone in the household about the Anson Trust's proposals for the Anson Field. In total 590 households received the questionnaire. 66% of these households returned them, contributing 802 individual responses.

12% said they were in favour of the Anson Trust's proposals

69% said they were against the proposals

19% were undecided

The Neighbours Around the Field (NAF) committee organised the questionnaire with the aid of additional helpers. Originally we had proposed to the Anson Trust and to the Parish Council that a survey of Marcham should be undertaken to get a fully representative viewpoint of the whole village and offered our assistance.

We felt a joint survey would best guarantee an unbiased result. Neither group embraced our proposal so we were forced to organise the entire survey using our own resources. Despite this we have made every effort to ensure our survey is a true and unbiased representation of the views of our village. The survey form stressed that the Trust were planning to provide new upgraded facilities to replace those on the Anson Field and even gave a link to the Anson Trust web site.

The survey carries a clear message for the Anson Trust; your "23 user groups" do not represent the wishes of the residents of Marcham. There is also a clear message for the soon to be re-elected members of the Parish Council – they must not betray the trust of the residents of Marcham.

Further details about the survey, the areas covered and the results can be found on the NAF web pages at <http://www.scilutions.co.uk/anson/>

**BOB ANDERSON** 391460

(For the NAF committee)

Last month Anson Trust wrote to a lawyer asking for guidance in the event that the Trust became insolvent.

Here is a copy of the letter - also available at [www.ansontrust.co.uk](http://www.ansontrust.co.uk).

Dear Mr. Jessel,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Directors of the Arthur Anson Memorial Trust Ltd.

May 2007



You are aware of the background of the Trust and of its prospective plans to develop new facilities in Marcham, financed by the sale of the current Anson Field. In discussion with the Parish Council and other interested village groups, the question of what would happen to the Trust and its assets, in particular the Anson Field and the Marcham Institute site, if the Trust were to become insolvent or be dissolved, has been raised with the Directors. I enclose a copy of an article submitted to the Marcham and District News from one of the groups, Neighbours Around the Field, which is pertinent to this matter.

The Directors recognise that this is an important area of concern and needs to be addressed in a comprehensive and definitive manner.

Accordingly, the Directors seek your guidance with regard to the following questions:-

- What would happen to the Trust and in particular to its assets, if it were to experience cash flow problems and be unable to meet bills presented to it?
- What would happen to the assets of the Trust and what would be the position of the Trust, if the Directors decided to dissolve the Trust?
- Could the Trust transfer/dispose of the Anson Field and/or the Institute to the Parish Council or some other village body for a nugatory sum or at least a sum well below market value?
- What course(s) of action should the Directors be considering in the present financial circumstances?
- In taking decisions about the way forward for the Trust, what considerations should the Directors bear in mind and with whom should they consult?

As this is a matter of public concern in the village, the Directors have undertaken to publish the advice they receive in the Marcham and District News. The Directors trust that you will give your permission for the publication in full of your reply.

**ANSON TRUST**

Dear Editor

I was dismayed to read in the March MADNews the note by Malcolm Denton with regard to the removal for "restoration" of the Institute Lions.

This makes me, and no doubt others, nervous of the Lions' future. The record of the Anson Trust over the past few years leaves much to be desired as we all know. Are the Lions to be sacrificed to that great god – cash – or will they be put out to grass or returned to their gate post? What guarantee to the Lions have, let alone the residents of Marcham?

Yours worried on behalf of our Lions

**JEREMY P COLLINS**

Dear Editor

Following the encouraging response to the Group Against Reservoir Development (GARD) presentation at Steventon in February, GARD is planning a series of further presentations in other local communities. The first will be at Blewbury Village hall on Thursday 24th May 2007 at 7.30pm.

Anyone who would like to hear the latest regarding GARDs opposition to the Reservoir is invited to attend and will have the chance to ask questions of our Expert Panel.

If anyone would like to join GARD or display a "No Reservoir" sign on their property, please contact Lesley Lovell at [lesleylovell1@btinternet.com](mailto:lesleylovell1@btinternet.com) or me – details below. 07973 493664

**CAROLE HOOPER**, Spokesperson GARD.

Dear Editor

Can anyone explain, if the proposed reservoir has not yet received planning permission, what laying down of those huge blue pipes in the area means? They are being buried opposite Millets Farm, along and across Wantage Road past the boys' prep school and alongside the A34 going south. The farmers whose land is being excavated must have been notified and compensated for all this upheaval.

Why do we the local residents know nothing of all this??

**DINNY PAGAN**

See MADNews March 2006 p 3 for details of the pipe-laying. [www.madnews.co.uk](http://www.madnews.co.uk)

**TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

**Come along and join the Marcham Tennis Association or renew your membership.**

The locks will be changed on 25 May 2007 and you can come along to the courts from 3.15-4.00pm to pay get your new key. There will also be another session 11-12am on 28 May at the courts if you can't make the first one.

Membership fees for 2007- 2008 are:

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For more details contact Meriel on 01865 391725.

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