

# THE **Bourton** **BUGLE**

LOCAL NEWS, VIEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BOURTON-ON-THE-HILL

## SUMMER 2016



- Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party
- Fete date
- The return of Hillcrest
- Speed gun training
- Fork handles
- And more!



Welcome to the Summer edition of the Bugle - we have a lot of news including details of the party to celebrate HM's 90<sup>th</sup>, the fete and a call for volunteers to help track speeding in the village.

*Ailsa Vigrass*

**ST LAWRENCE'S CHURCH**

The Church and congregation have been busy since the last issue of our "Bugle" encompassing Easter, Good Friday and the services telling of the Resurrection



As always the church looked wonderful with Easter flowers. Congratulations to the flower arrangers.

The Annual Parochial Church meeting was held on 11th April John Weston resigned as church warden. He was warmly thanked for all his hard work. He has been responsible for the church fabric which entails winding the clock. (*Have you noticed how accurate the clock is?*), looking after the broadcast system and so much more. Very best wishes John,

Mike Bunston has been elected as the new churchwarden to join Philip Gee. Liz Bowden, Sonia Creaton and Sir Peter Herbert retired from the PCC. Gratitude was expressed for everything they had done for the parish over many years. So the Parochial Church Council is now The Rev Dana Delap, the Churchwardens, Sandra Gee, Frances Stone, Tom Martin and Henry Betts.

**The Services**

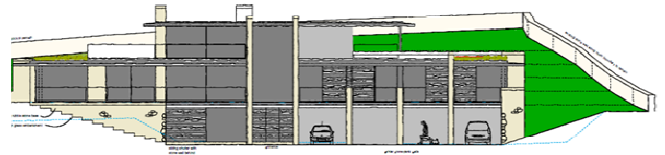
5<sup>th</sup> June 6.00 pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

*Peter Herbert*

**PARISH COUNCIL**

**Hillcrest**

**A wall of glass behind the church!**



There is a new planning application for Hillcrest, planning reference 16/01777/FUL.

We have objected to this application because we strongly feel that the ultra-modern design would stand out, both dominating the village scene and compromising the character of the village when viewed from many locations.

Approaching Bourton on the Hill from Moreton in Marsh the site is very visible on the hillside above St Lawrence's Church. During daylight hours and especially in the morning with the relative position of the sun, there will be light reflection from the wall of glass interfering with the view of Bourton.

At night time there are no streetlights and as one approaches Bourton the church is illuminated making it a focus and visible for many miles. This proposal would add a wall of glass and light just behind/above the church.

The property would be visible from the Millennium Wood, from the Horse & Groom's garden, and from various public footpaths lower down the slopes of our hill. The views from all of these locations would be compromised by this proposal.

Furthermore, there are four properties immediately beneath the site. The large amount of glazing will have a significant negative effect on the privacy of these properties.



The proposal is too radical for such a prominent and sensitive location, would be detrimental to the village's Conservation Area and to the wider Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

**We need your help.** We need as many residents as possible to object, the number of objectors is taken very seriously by the Planning Committee. Please register your objections on the Cotswold District Council website, [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk), before the 9<sup>th</sup> June. Go to their planning register and the Hillcrest application reference is 16/01777/FUL.

**PLEASE OBJECT NOW!**

### **Speedar Gun**

Longborough Parish Council have now bought the speedar gun that we will share with them.



This is for use under the Community Speed Watch program. They are also qualified to train us to use the gun, so we will be holding sessions soon in the Old School. See more info later in the newsletter.

### **Broadband**

Very frustratingly BT have cancelled their plans to upgrade broadband to our village, which comes via cabinet 2 of the Blockley exchange. Everyone in the village is frustrated about the poor broadband service we receive.



We have been lobbying our District Councillor, Alison Coggins and County Councillor, Lynden Stowe, who are both sympathetic and supportive. They are aware of the issue on Bourton and many other villages. We are undertaking a survey of the different broadband speeds around the parish so that we can present hard facts when lobbying Cotswold District Council.

### **Highways**

We have asked Highways to repaint the parking lines outside the Old School car park, to clear the drains in the main road above the Horse & Groom and to also clear the pavement between the Horse & Groom and the Longborough turning.



### **Millennium Wood**

A professional survey of the trees will be conducted later this year, to identify any issues and maintenance work.



### **Coming Soon – Village Website**

The Parish Council is going to create a website, which is now a legal requirement, so that all important government notices as well as the Parish Council's agenda, minutes and finances will be accessible as part of our obligation to 'open government'. This will of course allow us to include information about other village activities.



### **Councillors**

At the Parish Council AGM on the 16<sup>th</sup> May Andy Vigrass was re-elected as Chairman and Liz Bowden was re-elected as Vice-Chairman. The Parish Councillors are Andy Vigrass (Chairman), Liz Bowden (Vice Chairman), Louise Davis, Jacqueline Job, Sir Peter Herbert, Tom Martin & Mark Norton. The Clerk to the Parish Council is Alexia Monroe.

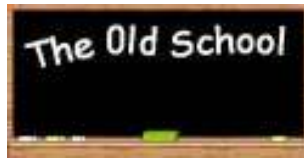
### **Next Meeting**

The next Council meeting will be held in the Old School hall at 6.30pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July. Members of the public are most welcome to attend.

*Alexia Monroe /  
Andy Vigrass*



## THE OLD SCHOOL



### Royal Pig Roast



There will be a Pig Roast in the garden of the Horse and Groom on Sunday 12th June to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. The bar at the Horse and Groom will be open from 12

noon. The Pig Roast will be served from approximately 2 pm. Finish at 5 pm.

Fun for all the family.

Raffle. Music. Competition

Tickets: £6 for adults, £3 for children. (To include pig roast and dessert)

Tickets available from The Horse and Groom and Pat Freeman 01386 701396.

### Autumn Fair



This year there will be a Village Autumn Fair in the grounds of Bourton House on Saturday 1st October from 12 noon to 3pm. Brass band, refreshments, Raffle, tombola, books, toys, bric-a-brac, home produce etc.

All donations to the stalls gratefully received.

Get looking in those cupboards!

*Pat Freeman  
Tel. 701396*

### Bridge Club

The Bridge Club meets in the Old School most Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All welcome.

[www.bridgewebs.com/northcotswolds](http://www.bridgewebs.com/northcotswolds)

*Alan Lamb*



## NOT SO FAST

We all agree that we need to slow the traffic down through the village and the Parish Council has a supply of wheelie bin stickers to remind drivers to slow down and stick to 30mph. We all become over familiar with our regular journeys and a once-a-week prompt is more valuable than a static reminder. If anyone who lives along the main road would like some stickers, please contact Alexia Monroe (01386 700277).



## SON OF A GUN



At the Annual Meeting in May we had a visit from Paul Nevin of Longborough Parish Council who showed us the 'Speedar' machine (speed gun) which we are sharing. We now need to have a contingent of villagers who are trained (by Paul) to work in teams of 3 to stand on the main road to record speeds, report offenders and to deter speeding drivers. Ideally we should have different teams at different locations and at different times of the day.

If you can spare a few hours occasionally then please join us to help cut speeding in the village.

To join a training session in the Old School, please contact Alexia Monroe on 7002777.

*Alexia Monroe*



## HOUSING CONSULTATION



**COTSWOLD  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

An update from Cllr Lynden Stowe, Leader Cotswold District Council.

We would like you tell us what you think about local housing:

We are currently consulting the public about our new draft housing policy document, which includes the Council's strategic priorities for the next four years until 2020. Members of the public, organisations and partners can submit comments on all sections of the draft plan. The consultation period began on Tuesday 3 May and the deadline for responses is 5 pm on Tuesday 14 June.

The draft plan contains six main objectives:

- Understanding the Cotswold housing market area.
- Increasing the supply and access to all tenures of housing.
- Developing thriving, sustainable communities.
- Providing housing for our most vulnerable residents.
- Making best use of the existing stock.
- Prevent and respond to homelessness.

This Plan is key to ensuring that the range – and affordability - of housing in the Cotswolds contributes to a good quality of life, and also supports local communities and the economy. The national housing environment is changing

rapidly and this needs to be reflected locally. We want to hear views about this draft plan from all sections of the local community including residents, partners and businesses. It would also be extremely useful to receive information or suggestions about alternative or additional ways to address the issues.

To make public consultation easier, the draft plan document and an online response form are available to download on the Council Website at [/about-the-council/having-your-say/consultations/](#). You can submit your views and comments using an online form which contains a list of general consultation questions about the Housing Plan. The form can be submitted electronically or by post.

This is an opportunity for us to make our voices heard on whether we would want to see for example, more affordable housing, or fewer holiday homes in the Cotswolds.

*Cllr Lynden Stowe*

## EDUCATIONAL TRUST



Thank you for all the grant requests over the last 6 months.

The Trust is delighted to have awarded grants to 24 village children this year for a whole range of activities, including school trips, sports kit, laptops and music sessions for the Toddlers. Thirty-seven children from the village also benefited from a Christmas gift of money from the Trust, bringing back an old village tradition that we hope to be able to continue.

**New** for this year; any children who are about to start Primary or Secondary school are eligible for a grant to help with uniform and other kit, and the Trustees will continue to give a grant to those starting college or university. We do need you to tell us who they are though, please!



We consider grants for any additional educational activities, for anyone in the village aged 25 or under. Please do email, write, or phone us about any requests or, if you prefer, we can give you an application form.

The Trustees are:-

- Catherine Firth, Porch House, [allen.firth@btinternet.com](mailto:allen.firth@btinternet.com), 700939
- Louise Davis, 8 Fenhill Close, [peteloudavis@gmail.com](mailto:peteloudavis@gmail.com), 700033
- Dana Delap (Vicar), [dana@delap.org.uk](mailto:dana@delap.org.uk), 700676
- Carlin Anderson
- Rupert Crawshaw

### BOURTON HOUSE GARDENS



We have had a good start to the season with visitor numbers in April way in excess of last year, despite the cold weather! Groups are once again visiting from all over the world and we have just reached the magic figure of 100 group visits, with bookings still coming in for this year (and for next).

In May we had a visit from Austrian author and TV gardener Karl Ploberger who filmed the garden from the ground and from the air, using a drone. We have been promised some aerial footage later in the year and hope to post it on our Facebook page and our website. We are delighted to have recently been awarded the Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence 2016, for consistently receiving good reviews on Trip Advisor over the past year.

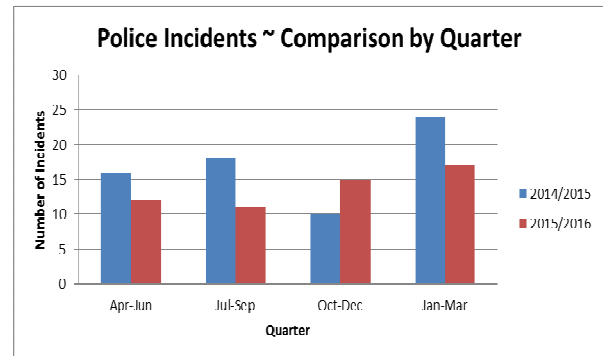
We wish you all a good summer and look forward to hosting the Bourton-on-the-Hill Autumn Fair in October.

*Roelof and Cheryl Quintus*

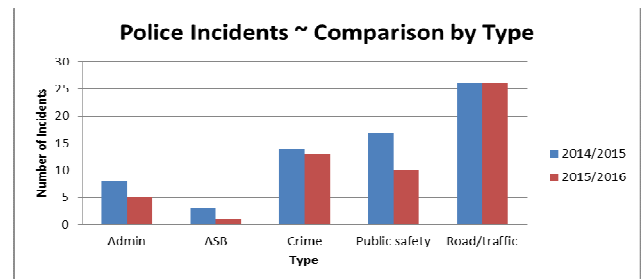
### LOCAL POLICE REPORT



The number of incidents reported in Bourton between April 2015 & March 2016:



Breakdown of incidents by type reported to police between April 2015 & March 2016:



Incidents related to Crimes	2014/15	2015/16
Burglary dwelling	1	1
Burglary non dwelling	1	2
Crime - other	0	1
Criminal damage	1	1
Theft - other	5	2
Theft from motor vehicle	5	6
Violence against the person	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>

The Beat Managers and PCSOs covering our area are:

PCSO 9050, Brian Stagg  
[Brian.Stagg@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Brian.Stagg@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk)



PC 71, Andy Traas  
 Andy.Traas@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

PC 2201, Nick Westmacott  
 Nicholas.Westmacott@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

PC 2361, Tim Mason  
 Timothy.Mason@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

**POLICE ALERT**

Unfortunately, there has been a recent spike in burglaries across the North Cotswolds. This having been said, I do not wish our communities to be become unnecessarily alarmed as the number of such offences remains far lower than the national average and we are currently working on apprehending the offenders.

Nevertheless, I am writing to all the communities across the North Cotswolds to request that everyone becomes more vigilant. **Should you see any suspicious activity such as young men in high powered vehicles, strangers knocking on doors asking for such things as directions, a dog, offering things for sale, etc.,** I would encourage you to note down the location, time/date, descriptions, including clothing, and vehicle registration numbers and then phone 101 with this information.

I would also stress the importance of ensuring your property is properly secured with all doors and windows are locked when leaving it unattended. For further advice about security, please visit

<http://www.safergloucester.co.uk/Default.aspx?page=1776>

Finally, I must stress that, in an emergency, you should always contact 999.

*Sgt 743, Richard Payne  
 Neighbourhood Policing Team  
 Stow on the Wold Police Station*

**FORK HANDLES?**

I am asking villagers for old vintage style garden forks or spades to use in the public borders. Much nicer than normal signage. An example is in the picture to the right.

They can be dropped off at 2 Chantry Gardens or if you can give me a call 07747-312802 I will be happy to collect.

*Jackie Jobs*



**THE NEXT ISSUE**

is due out in early October. Items for inclusion should be submitted by mid September to:-



*Ailsa Vigrass*  
[amvigrass@gmail.com](mailto:amvigrass@gmail.com)