

Newsletter



August 2003

Chairman's Comments

Consequent to the recent elections the following councillors were deemed elected to the Parish Council :- A D Pain, A P Thackray, J F Crow, R C Dudman, M R Dyer, N R Hindmarch, M C Packham, S E Pattison, F D Peach, H J Tilly, A Warman. Unfortunately this was two less than our official complement and therefore at our last council meeting we co-opted P Burrow and G Willetts. With five new councillors we have sufficient new blood and fresh ideas to take the council forward, fully utilising the hard won experience of the senior councillors. We will be reviewing all of our services at a special brainstorming meeting to set our plans for the forthcoming 4 year term of office.

Land at Ashley

The Deed has now been signed that confirms our rights to benefit from any future development of this land, at present designated as open space. However our legal costs in confirming our position have to be recovered. This is in progress with the other parties concerned .

Vandalism in the Parish

We continue to suffer from vandalism especially around the Village Hall area and playpark. We have recently had to repair the gate from Braeside Road into the playing field. Expensive pea gravel, installed for safety reasons in the playpark, appears to be diminishing rapidly. Children's rides are being senselessly damaged. This cannot continue especially as the safety regulations regarding all items in the park are being upgraded. This may require substantial expenditure so that we comply with enhanced safety laws. The Village Hall Management Committee may be installing a CCTV system which will give us more control of the activities in the playpark and surrounding areas.

Message from the Editor

The sole purpose of this newsletter is to provide better communication with the residents of this Parish. The articles have been provided by Parish Councillors and the Youth Club
Peter Walker

Noise and A31 speed problems

There have been several complaints regarding excessive noise from motor sport activities in the Wayside Road / Boundary Lane area. This is at present being investigated by East Dorset District Council and hopefully in early September there will be a suitable resolution. The A31 speed problems within the Parish are still causing problems especially for those residents who live in roads with direct access to the A31. We will be looking to raise this again with the Highways Agency and other authorities in an effort to reduce the speed limit on that trunk road throughout our Parish. We have suggested this before but will try again .

Cllr. Alan Pain

St Ives First School

The Governors are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Stuart Calvert Headteacher with effect from September this year, succeeding Mrs Evans who has taken up a post as Inspector with Bournemouth Education Authority.

The year has been a success academically with very good results in the assessment of our Key Stage 1 pupils - that's the first 3 years of education. This a great tribute to our staff.

There have been significant improvements to our school security with better control of access into the building and success in finally getting the boundary fence increased in height along that portion of the pathway leading to the school which is hidden from view - this has long been a matter of concern. The remainder of the fence will be replaced as funds permit.

St Ives School Association continues to provide enormous support for the school and raise

considerable sums through its range of activities - the Strawberry Fair was a particular success! This year they have, happily, managed to find a lifeguard for the summer and are able to open the swimming pool to the community - see below - this is an asset which the Parish should make every effort to maximise. There is always a shortage of helpers to run the pool, so, if you have a little time to spare and an inclination to support the community you will be most welcome. Please do contact the school Admin Officer 01425 475478 who will quickly pass you on to SISA.

Our thanks to our neighbours for their continued adherence to the voluntary "one way" system during "school run" times in Sandy Lane, your co-operation is very much appreciated

St Ives First School Swimming Pool

**Open 11 am to 5 pm Mon to Fri 24 July
to 5 September £1 per swimmer
Private hire 11 am to 5 pm Sats (not Sun)**

**Contact Debbie James 01202 822556
Nicky Martin 01425 474467**

Cllr. Mike Packham

Results and information a recent survey

Recently a survey of the areas of concern for local residents was undertaken and it has now been collated.

By far the greatest concern was law and order and as your Police Authority member I have arranged an appointment with the Chief Constable to try and address some of the problems.

The next concern was the Health Service, which unfortunately cannot be addressed at local level.

The Environment was the next concern. East Dorset District Council has given an additional £12,000.00 to enable them to increase the litter picking programme and the problems on the A31 are being looked into. Transport and Street lighting were also

concerns and I am going to ask the Parish clerk to put them on an agenda as soon as possible for your councillors to discuss a way forward.

However, refuse, car parking and education although mentioned did not appear high on anyone's concerns. These issues will be monitored. Of the three questions asked about Council Tax, the vast majority of you asked for the tax to be kept as low as possible but not to reduce services. On the question of the B3081 slip road a majority of you wanted a filter lane whilst mini roundabouts and traffic lights were not a high priority. Addressing these issues will be a slow process because unfortunately it takes ages to achieve success. The Environmental problems all cost megabucks but we are working hard to get these issues into the budget programmes.

Cllr. Ann Warman

Dial A Ride

Since the Parish Council launched Dial a Ride in conjunction with Vision Wimborne at the end of 2002 usage has increased month by month. In view of its popularity consideration is being given to committing one of the vehicles for the sole use of this parish on possibly two days per week.

The journeys can be anywhere- hospital, shopping work- with the cost of a trip to and from Sainsbury's, Haskin's or Christchurch being about £5.

If you wish to travel further afield the price is 50p per mile. Prices are agreed at the time of booking. As with anything popular its success depends on having sufficient numbers of people to run it. Similarly Dial a Ride needs more volunteers, so if you can spare time to help, either driving (full training given) or in administration you will be warmly welcomed. Please ring the Parish Clerk on 01425 482727.

Cllr. Sheila Pattison

Flooding and Drain Survey

Over the last few months I have been carrying out a survey of the flooding that occurs in St Leonards and St Ives every time we have some heavy rain.

I have been marking any areas on a large scale map, any help that you can give me will help to get something done about this problem that seems to be getting worse year by year.

As some of you know this has also been giving us problems on our roads, washing away the subsoil under the tarmac and causing the roads to collapse.

This may well cause an accident if not seen in time to take action.

So if you can help in anyway please will you inform me on 01425 475874 or our local Parish Council Office on 01425 482727

Cllr. R C Dudman

HACB Ringwood and Fordingbridge

I wonder how many readers will know what HACB stands for? Some people instantly think it is the 'listening bank' but then realise that the letters are slightly different!

Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind – HACB for short, is an association for people with visual impairment. The association offers advice to those who have recently experienced sight problems or sight loss, and to relatives or friends of such a person. The loss of normal sight can be a very distressing and confusing time and it is not always clear where one can turn to for help.

Those living in the BH24 area are entitled to belong to the association and information can be obtained by phoning Mary Peach the Branch Secretary on 01425 470008 or Eric Love the Chairman on 01425 480057.

The club holds regular club sessions on the second and fourth Thursday afternoon of each month, with the exception of August, from 2 pm to 4 pm. An afternoon tea with sandwiches and cake is provided, together with some form of entertainment- a speaker, musical entertainer or quizzes. Transport can be provided for those who need it. During school term time, craft classes are held every Thursday morning from 10 am to 12 noon. Again transport can be requested.

The club (formerly known as the Ringwood Blind Club) is a very friendly place to meet and enjoy each others company. You do not have

to be registered blind or partially sighted just having sight problems is enough.

The volunteers also find it very satisfying and rewarding. Volunteers are always welcome and at the present time HACB Ringwood and Fordingbridge Branch is looking for :

Car Drivers or Escorts

Visitors – people who would be prepared to visit housebound members and anyone else who would like to come along to help.

The branch looks forward to seeing you at Greyfriars Activities Centre, Christchurch Road, (behind the library) on a Thursday. Or please telephone one of the names above.

Cllr. Frank Peach

Freedom Youth Club

The Youth Club has been busy in the run up to the Summer Holidays with frequent skate boarding trips, movie nights and various events.

Although we are closed now until September 15th, we are busy preparing for the year ahead. We are hoping to run a series of self-defence classes led by a qualified instructor, as well as child-minding and baby-sitting classes, and a pre-driving course. Naturally, the usual trips bowling, to Slades Farm etc. will still be on, as will our regular Youth Club and activity evenings.

We would love to hear from anyone interested in doing any of the courses, and anyone who has an idea for a project or course that we could either put on for you or help you to organise it.

Youth Club is open Monday to Wednesday, Tuesday night being a Girls only night from 7:00 to 9:30. You must be at least 11 to attend. We are on Braeside Road behind the Village Hall.

For further information or any enquiry, please call Karen on 01202 303742 or 078121 00375

St Claire's After School Club

Since St Claire's After School Club opened in the Youth Club in January the provision has

gradually been filling up. The children enjoy a wide range of games and activities, as well as regular outings. After the success of the visits from a local archaeologist, who did Roman pottery and the Community Police Officer, we are planning a visit from Bournemouth A.F.C.'s coach, Ferndown Fire Station among others in September.

After several months waiting for Ofsted to finalize our registration, Christopher Chope, the M.P. for Christchurch, took notice of our plight. As a result of this St Claire's is now a fully registered childcare provider. This means we can stay open until 6:00 and parents can claim Working Families Tax Credits towards the cost of fees.

The Lions of Ferndown and Wimborne have been kind enough to lend us use of their mini-

bus allowing us to pick up from St Ives First School, Three Legged Cross First School and Middle School.

For further information, please call Karen on 01202 303742 or 078121 00375 at any time.

Footpath Problems

We have received complaints that horse riders and motor cyclists are using the footpath between Sandy Lane and Horton Road. Residents are reminded that footpaths should only be used by pedestrians. It is both illegal and potentially dangerous for them to be used by persons on horses or motorbikes.

Peter Walker, Footpath Liaison Officer

Mobile Library Service Review

Dorset County Council are undertaking a fundamental review because of the declining use of the mobile library service. Since 1997, the use of the service has declined by 30% which is much greater than the trend in branch libraries. This is obviously a matter of concern. Four library vehicles serve 290 villages and urban communities across the county. The service is free to join and there is no charge for borrowing books. The vehicle carries a range for all ages, with an emphasis on adult stock.

A Panel, which consists of County Councillors, supported by library staff, is considering how to

maximise use of an essential service for communities, particularly those in rural areas. The Panel is evaluating current service arrangements and considering how best the service can be developed to address changes in communities alongside County Council and service objectives. For example, they wish to explore whether providing a service at other times such as Saturdays would attract new users such as families or people at work during the week.

The Panel would welcome your views on how the service can best meet local needs. A questionnaire is included with this newsletter so that you can let us know your views. Please return the questionnaire to the Parish Office at the Village Hall, Braeside Road by 30 September so we can collate all the replies and respond to the Panel.

Cllr. Alan Pain

Mobile Library Information

Tuesdays fortnightly

St Leonards – Braeside Road	09.30 – 11.00
Monkworthy Drive	11.10 – 11.45
Ex-Servicemen's Club	11.55 – 12.25
Sunnyside Park	16.40 – 17.00

Wednesdays fortnightly

St Leonards – Oak Tree Farm	9.30 – 10.30
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Notice Boards

Parish Council Notice Boards can be found at the following locations:

- 1 The Forge car park, Horton Road
- 2 Cornerways Surgery, Woolsbridge Road
- 3 The Village Hall, Braeside Road
- 4 Junction A31 and Boundary Lane by the mini recycling centre
- 5 Oak Tree Farm
- 6 St Ives Post Office
- 7 By junction of Greenacres Close and Hurn Road, Ashley

These notice boards are used for the display of all meetings and important civic notices, names and addresses of your County, District and Parish Councillors. They are updated regularly.