

Crockernwell, Drewsteignton, Sandy Park, Venton, Whiddon Down

Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE NO. 191

APRIL 2022

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Our latest Parish Council (PC) meeting took place on Monday 21st March (7.30pm) at Drewsteignton Village Hall. New planning applications:

0069/22 Proposed: Canopy (already constructed) and extension to Farm Shop at Oinkers at Drakes Farm, Higher Fingle Farm, Crockernwell. A site visit had been conducted in advance of the PC meeting. The PC agreed to support the application.

0052/22 Proposed: Part-conversion of barn / change of use to ancillary accommodation and formation of wildlife pond at North Cuma, Drewsteignton. A site visit had not been possible due to Councillors work commitments. The PC agreed to provide a neutral view.

0066/22 Erection of two-story extension to northeast elevation of dwelling at 10 Barn Close, Whiddon Down. The Agent and Owner were not able to support a site visit. The PC agreed to provide a neutral view. Several planning decisions are awaiting DNPA ruling – details are on the Parish website. Cllr. Ridgers reported the Farm Shop Application at Whiddon Down will shortly be discussed by WDBC Planning Committee.

Parishioners are reminded Dartmoor National Park Authority are seeking nominations from the Parish to fill a representation seat (West & Mid Devon) on the DNPA Board. The timetable requires nominations to be returned by 5:00pm Thursday 7 April 2022. More details are available on the DNPA or PC websites.

The Government Consultation on the Landscapes Review is asking parishioners to engage in an online survey to gauge support for proposed legislative changes and their potential effects on different groups and interests. The survey link is attached here: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/future-landscapes-strategy/government-response-to-the-landscapes-review/>

The toilet block in Drewsteignton is open, following a very thorough deep clean by the new cleaner.

The finances of the Parish Council remain in good health. A draft copy of the full meeting notes will shortly be available on the PC website. Save the date - Invitations to local groups will be issued to attend the **Annual Parish Meeting Monday 23rd May at Whiddon Down Village Hall.**

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 16th May 2022 7.30pm at Drewsteignton Village Hall. Please note that any changes to meeting dates or venue will be posted on the Website. We extend an open invitation to all parishioners to come along.

Cllr. Peter Brennan Chair, Drewsteignton Parish Council

Drewsteignton Village Store & Post Office

Reminder: We are really pleased to announce that we have managed to find a new supplier for Milk and Dairy produce who will deliver to us on a regular basis. We have been trying for over 2 years to find another dairy as we have not been happy with the Milk we have been receiving from Riverford.

Trewithan offer a full range of Milk, Cream and Butter and we hope to develop the range over time. They are a family-owned dairy which has been awarded the highest possible rating for standards and pride themselves in paying above the market rate to the farms. They invest heavily in equipment; their milk is cooled to below 5 Degrees within 5 minutes of milking which gives a much better shelf life for the finished product. We hope you will enjoy this new product and we look forward to a long-term relationship with Trewithan **Cheryl, Stuart & Judy**

Drewe Arms

OPEN MIC Nights - 2nd Wednesday of every month.

7:00 - closing

Holy Trinity News



April Services and events

- 3rd – Family Service 5pm – short, noisy but reflective service, praying for peace. Followed by a proper high tea. Everyone welcome
- 10th Palm Sunday 11:15 – procession and traditional service
- 11th, 12th, 13th Holy Week prayers with candles 8pm
- 14th 7pm meal with communion
- 15th Stations of the cross 11:15
- 16th Easter vigil 11:30 – with bonfire and candlelight
- 17th Easter family communion service 11:15 – Easter egg hunt, short friendly service. All welcome.
- 24th Morning worship 11:15

Holy Trinity welcomes everyone to all services. Come and join us – you might be surprised!

Update on Village Space

With the advent of spring, we are hoping to move into a new phase of improvements to the Village Space at the back of the church. As many people have already realised, the heating in the church is currently on 24/7, maintaining a temperature of 12 degrees. This has proved more efficient than turning it on and off, and we raise the temperature from ambient to warm (well, quite warm!) for any planned events and services. With the moveable radiant heater, the space has been quite comfortable for small informal gatherings, or tea, coffee and cake on the sofa. Happily, more people are using this lovely space, and the free WiFi, for all sorts of informal get togethers, including as a nice indoor area for children to play in when it is raining or windy outside. So, now we know that this space, even in its current form, works well for a variety of purposes, it is worth recapping on where we are with our plans to develop it further.

As was clearly stated at the village meeting in July last year, the PCC has two aims:

1. To maintain our lovely church building **for village and community use**; to enable it to be heated and lit sustainably, preferably as close as possible to carbon neutral. This means that ongoing costs can be kept to a minimum.
2. To nurture and support a worshipping community. We are aware that this is very much a subset of those who wish to use and enjoy the church building, but many more look very naturally to the church for important occasions such as weddings, baptisms and funerals.

We see no contradiction between aims 1 and 2. Indeed, they are complementary.

We are now in a position to make a real start on the required changes to the building. We are gathering estimates for solar panels (on the non-visible roof), for an air-source pump and heating system, for LED lights and for supplementary radiant heaters. In addition, we are talking to locally-raised architects about innovative and creative ways in which the back space can be modified to enable a wide variety of uses from toddler groups or pop-up homework classes to keep fit and yoga. We are also considering how to raise the money required. Our estimates so far suggest that the solar panels, heating and lighting will cost in the region of £100,000 and any improvements to the Village Space at the back will be on top of this – perhaps a further £50,000.

Raising this amount of money is very unlikely to be possible from donations or the usual fund-raising. Therefore, the PCC is considering selling one of the two properties owned by the church, either the Church Rooms/Village Hall – subject to the approval of the Village Hall committee - or the Church Cottage. The idea of selling the Village Hall in order to fund the development of the church building itself was one of the suggestions proposed at the open meeting in the churchyard last July and, by a ratio of 4 to 1, the comments posted by those who attended the open meeting last year supported this idea. Currently, all options for raising the money required continue to be under discussion and consideration.

The final bit of very good news is the resurgence, after a long intermission due to the pandemic, of FoDC – Friends of Drewsteignton Church. A meeting was held last Monday and Johnnie Loram has agreed to act as chair. The PCC is so happy to work once again in partnership with this group of committed and enthusiastic villagers. Together, we are so much more likely to achieve a sustainable church building with space for a wide variety of village events and activities, as well as for services and celebrations. The re-birth of FoDC brings us a level of hope which will energise us all.

Family Service – 5pm on 3rd April – high tea with baked potatoes, salad, and cake
Easter services kick off at 11:15 on Palm Sunday on April 10th with services throughout Holy Week to Easter Sunday's Easter Egg Hunt and celebration communion.



Drewsteignton Gardener's Club April 2022

Don't Miss Out!!!

By popular demand the PLANT SALE is back!

30th April 10am Saturday until sold out!

Don't be late!! All sorts of plants for sale:

at BARGAIN PRICES!!




RHS PARTNER GARDEN
 Lead to honour
 Lead to honour
 Lead to honour

Stone Lane
 garden sculpture nursery

**Stone Lane Gardens,
 Chagford, TQ13 8JU**
 RHS Partner Garden

Open all year round
 Woodland and Water Gardens
 National Collection of Birch and Alder

Summer Sculpture Exhibition
www.stonelanegardens.com

WHIDDON DOWN VILLAGE HALL

Lots of news this month from Whiddon Down;

By now the redecoration of the main hall should be complete. All the lighting has been replaced with LED fittings, which should prove more energy efficient as well as brighter and more economical.

The old, faded curtains are being replaced with stylish vertical blinds to compliment the new windows. All the windows have been replaced now. A big thanks to Okehampton Glass. A good job done!

Bookings are encouraging and social events are making a welcome return, our first being A Spring bingo on Monday 11th April. This will be a chicken and chocolate event. 12 games consisting of 1&2 lines chocolate prizes and a chicken dinner prize for a full house. There will also be a prize raffle. Doors open at 7.30. Eyes down at 8.00pm. All welcome, although seats will be limited. Proceeds to hall funds. Hopefully this will be the first of many. Watch this space!!

Thank-you and best wishes, Jenny Turner



Acorn Community Support

April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."- William Shakespeare.

Well I don't know about Tulips from Amsterdam but everywhere I look I see Tulips coming up in all their glory of colour and form a truly springlike scene. Spring is definitely here in Sunny Devon! So sad to think that we have so much conflict in the world whilst nature is putting on her brightest and bravest display. Our hearts and hopes for resolution are with those at war.

On the home front there have been plenty of activities to keep our lovely clients busy. Due to the Easter Weekend, some activities will be cancelled on Good Friday and Easter Monday. Normal service will be resumed on Tuesday 19th April 2022.

We would like to wish everyone in the community a lovely time over this holiday. The next meeting of the **Cheriton Bishop Lunch Club**, at The Red Lion in Tedburn St Mary is **5th April 2022**. Always room and a big warm welcome for a few more so if you are interested then please do contact Jean Martin on 01647 24586 to book (a couple of days in advance please.)

We also run a minibus from Cheriton Bishop once a fortnight on a Monday for Shopping at Sainsburys and there is plenty of room for more eager Acorn shoppers. This month it is only **Monday 4th April 2022** (No shopping on Easter Monday)

The **Cheriton Bishop Outing** will be to Exeter Cathedral for a ground floor guided tour (Date to be confirmed)

From the Teign Valley

Shopping at Sainsburys - **Friday 1st and 29th April 2022** (No shopping Good Friday)
Outings - **Monday 4th April (Venue TBA)** (No outing on Easter Monday)

5th April and 19th April are the dates for **Lunch Club** (different venues each time). This is very popular. **12th and 26th April for Coffee Morning** at the Teign Valley Community Hall. Activities such as Bingo, Quizzes and much more with plenty of chatter to go with your coffee and cake! Please contact the office and we will book you on.

Memory Lane Café is running—held monthly on the 2nd and last Thursday. Please contact the office if you know of someone who would benefit. We have a great time.

Acorn Jubilee Trifle - Copies of the Acorn Entry for the **Platinum Pudding Competition** have been placed in the Cheriton Bishop, Dunsford and Christow shops. If you want a copy of this pudding concocted by one of our wonderful volunteers and tested by as many people as could get their hands on it, then please go into the Shops and ask for a copy at the checkout. It's delicious!!!

We are still requesting EVERYONE, whilst inside (buildings or transport vehicles), wears a face mask and observes safe hand sanitising practices. We would also ask that everyone takes a lateral flow test on the morning of any Acorn activity. Acorn can supply these tests if you are unable to source them. We want you all to have fun and keep safe!

If you would like to book a seat on the minibus for any of our trips or coffee mornings, then please contact **Mandy or Fran at the Office on 01647 252701**

Acorn continues with all its usual services so please do call us and if you just want a chat then you know where we are.

The A(corn) Team

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www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk



News from the Moor

Hi everyone

As I write this month's update, the sun has been shining for 6 days and is set to continue for at least 5 more days. The gardens in our care are springing in to life, the blossom is starting to appear and the countryside seems to be full of daffodils. The seeds in my little greenhouse are getting a good start to the year too. I do hope that you all have chance to enjoy the signs of spring.

The main news from us is the ongoing clear up following the run of storms in February. Sadly, we had a lot of damage to trees at Parke, Lydford Gorge, Finch Foundry and Castle Drogo. The Ranger and Garden teams have been working to make the trees safe and remove them where necessary with incredible help from our dedicated team of volunteers.

On a happier note, Castle Drogo has re-opened for the new season. It has been wonderful to welcome people back in to the castle. We hosted a creative writing workshop at Parke with the Learn Devon team and plans are underway for workshops at Lydford Gorge. By the time you read this update, both Lydford Gorge and Finch Foundry will have also re-opened but it is always best to check the website for all the latest opening details – storms seem to creep up on us all at the moment.

We are now well in to ground nesting bird and lambing season. Also, the butterflies are starting to appear from the undergrowth - they definitely need us to be kind to them. Please help us to care for our wildlife by following any signage, especially keeping dogs on leads and to the paths at this time. Finally, for all the pony fans, the ponies are now back on Piddledown Common at Castle Drogo. (cont.)

Regular walkers will know how canny the ponies are, especially if any gates are left open.

Best wishes all,

Paula - Volunteering & Community Manager, Dartmoor

01647 434130, paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk



Drewsteignton Allotment Gardens

Interested in renting a plot and live in the parish?

Register your interest on [01344 624690](tel:01344624690)

(business hours only)



West Devon
Borough Council

Boundary Commission Consultation

Constituencies are changing - have your say now

via bcereviews.org.uk, or at a public hearing in your region.

The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is required by Parliament to undertake an independent and impartial review of all constituencies in England. This is done to rebalance the number of electors in each constituency.

The 2023 Boundary Review also requires that the number of constituencies in England increases from 533 to 543.

The Commission is holding a secondary consultation on its initial proposals for new constituencies, which takes place from 22 February to 4 April 2022.

During the consultation, public hearings will be held across the **country to allow members of the public** to provide their views in person.

To have your say, submit your views in writing via the consultation website bcereviews.org.uk, by email, or letter; or speak at a public hearing in your region.

Find your nearest hearing and book a slot to speak at bit.ly/bcepublichearings.

On the consultation website, you can also view and take into account the responses sent in during the first consultation.

Follow [@BCEReviews](https://twitter.com/BCEReviews) on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/BCEReviews), [Twitter](https://www.instagram.com/BCEReviews) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/BCEReviews) to keep up-to-date with 2023 Boundary Review news.

- **Further information and resources** [Boundary Commission for England website](https://www.bce.org.uk)
- [Guide to the 2023 Review](#)
- [Guide to the public hearings](#)

Mobile Boost Voucher Scheme - Connecting Devon and Somerset's (CDS) [Mobile Boost scheme](#), which aims to upgrade indoor 4G coverage in "not-spot" areas, now includes a greater choice of equipment. The initiative, which is being funded through the HotSWLEP Growth Deal, aims to improve the quality of mobile phone calls and connectivity. It's targeting small businesses and households in rural communities who currently have inadequate coverage or have access to only one provider and are currently struggling with connectivity.

Businesses and households can apply for a voucher of up to £1,200 towards the cost of a mobile signal booster from a registered supplier. The value of the voucher will be dependent on the type of technology most suitable for the premises.

There are now three options of equipment available – these are a 4G booster and two models of "signal repeaters" which repeat the outdoor signal indoors. Suppliers will be able to advise on the most appropriate option.

Businesses and residents applying through the scheme will be required to make a contribution to cover the cost of installation. Depending on the option chosen, this will range from a one-off fee from around £200 to a monthly fee for a SIM card (averaging around £30 a month).

A huge 'THANK YOU' to Jenny Turner who so kindly delivered the DPP around Whiddon Down. She must stand down and this is a shout-out to anyone willing to deliver to: Grendon, Batesdown, Tor Hill, Redlake and Glenview on Harepath straight, Tenants Piece, Treable, East and West Fursham on the road to Fursham cross, Chapple farm, Flood Cottage, Flood Farm Homefield and Thornbury Farm on the Hittisleigh road.

The Drewsteignton Parish Post

If you have trouble reading this publication, do please let me know and a large-format version will be sent to you

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The Parish Post reserves the right to edit contributions and wishes to state that views expressed are not necessarily those of the Parish Post. Contributions for the next edition by end of 25th. Thank you, Ed

