

Crockernwell, Drewsteignton, Sandy Park, Venton, Whiddon Down

Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE NO. 196

SEPTEMBER 2022

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The parish Clerk will be on annual leave from the 22nd to 28 August. There are 2 vacancies for PC representatives for Crockernwell and Whiddon Down.

Planning matters update. Application 0234/22 for the erection of a garden shed at 5 Lamb Park Drewsteignton, 0214/22 for erection of summerhouse at Crossways Crockernwell and 0162/22 retrospective application for stable block at Knowle Cottage Drewsteignton were all approved by DNPA.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on the 19th September 2022, 7.30pm at Whiddon Down Village Hall, with all welcome to come along and see local democracy in action. Please note that any changes to meeting dates or venue will be posted on the website.

Cllr. Peter Brennan, Chair

Council Tax Rebate Application - Alternative Payments

An alternative payment issued by the Post Office

The Government is providing a Council Tax Energy Rebate of £150 to help households with the rising costs of energy bills.

Households living in properties in Council Tax bands A to D will receive this rebate. This is a one-off payment and you do not need to repay it.

Our records show that there are a number of properties in the area which are eligible for the rebate but have not yet received it. This may be for one of two reasons:

- You haven't applied for the rebate; OR
- It has not been possible to pay you directly into your bank account (please see below).
- <https://www.westdevon.gov.uk/post-office-rebate>

Citizens Advice Bureau

For advice and help with finance, bills, council tax housing, support and more:

The Ockment Centre North Street, OKEHAMPTON, Devon, EX20 1AR

<tel:03444111444>

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/get-help-with-the-cost-of-living/>



Drewe Arms

OPEN MIC Nights - 2nd Wednesday of every month - 8pm start

Holy Trinity News

September and the new school year kick off with **Family Service at 5pm on Sunday 4th**. Enjoy a friendly service, reflect on your wishes and hopes for the new school year and share a baked potato and a follow-up of cake! ALL welcome – presents for all children!

Then just two weeks later on **17th September, we have the Whiddon Autumn Festival** with Freddie Crowley, the Corvus Consort and Ferio Saxophone Quartet performing music from their exciting new CD. A not-to-be-missed event.

Equally exciting, on **September 25th we have a BIG BREAKFAST** – kindly provided by the Smith Family as well as some of the PCC, we shall be offering a superb culinary feast to all villagers and visitors. Who can resist a Sunday breakfast? Not me!

Finally, the PCC are laying out their plans to create a sustainable and carbon zero church space by adding a raft of solar panels to the church roof, an air-source heat pump, radiators and LED lights. How is this to be funded? See public notice below.

Public Notice

The Parochial Parish Council (PCC) has to do certain works in order to keep the church open over the next decade. These are needed both to meet Church of England national policy on net-zero, and to allow us to keep the building heated and lit sustainably. These include:

Provision of solar panels to the roof – maximum number possible 35

Installation of sustainable carbon-neutral heating to replace the outdated and inefficient oil boiler

Removal of inefficient lighting and replacement with LED lights

In order to do these works, we need to raise around £150,000.

The PCC wished to raise this money by selling the Village Hall. This also, by a measure of 4 to 1, reflected the wishes of the many villagers who came to the meeting in the churchyard on 16th July 2021. However, the Village Hall Committee has refused to give the permission that the PCC require to enable the sale. This appears to leave the PCC with two alternatives.

The first is to ask for substantial donations which would enable us to do the works required to make the church carbon neutral and sustainable. (Cont.)

The sums involved are way beyond the amounts that can be achieved by fund-raising events. But if anyone is able to offer a substantial donation towards these overall costs, we would love to hear from them as soon as possible.

The second is to sell the Church Cottage.

The PCC would prefer not to have to sell the cottage. It has excellent tenants and it is an asset to the church. But we have confirmed with the Diocesan lawyers that it can be sold to provide funds to benefit the church.

If we are forced to sell, we will adopt the following principles:

- We will not sell it as a second home.
- We would be interested in an investor who would keep the property tenanted, ideally with the same tenants.

This notice outlines the position of the PCC as of July 2022.

We welcome constructive comments from anyone in the village. Please send these to the churchwardens at ruth@merttens.co.uk

A candle burns in the Ladies' Chapel at all times to symbolise our thoughts and prayers for all those suffering in the war. We pray for peace.

Drewsteignton Christmas Craft Fayre

Please put the dates of **26th and 27th November** in your diaries to come along to Holy Trinity Church and support our local crafts people. We have several new joiners this year to help you find that perfect gift you've been searching for. Our ever-popular pop-up cafe will be back providing us with delicious cakes and refreshments and giving you the opportunity to catch up with friends.

ALSO: Following the very successful bric-a-brac stall last year, we will be having another this year so please bring any **Quality** items to the church on Friday 25th November or contact me on 01647 281605 or j.hocking05@btinternet.com if you need them collected.

Further info to follow in the next issue of the DPP. Thank you, **Jane Hocking**

Drewsteignton Playing Field

We will be going ahead with the Bonfire Night in November and, as the 5th falls on a Saturday this year, that will be the date. We are looking for pallets for the Bonfire. We only want pallets, no other wood and no painted pallets. If you have any, can you let Jimmy or me know please?

The Playing Field has had a financially difficult time during Covid as we have not been able to raise much money while most of our expenses have remained. We have had to take out the older children's swings for safety reasons and the young children's swings don't have a lot of life left. We will then have a playing area with no swings. We have no money to replace equipment at this stage and really have just enough to keep going. As a result we will be focusing on trying to raise money. The Bonfire Night has historically been our major fundraiser and we will be looking at other events where we can also raise money

We have to cancel the afternoon tea at Ford House on 1st October as we have finally managed to arrange a date to get our drive done and so must reschedule the afternoon tea to a later date. We will advise you soonest of the new date
Alison Chapman: 01647 281197

Drewsteignton Gardener's Club Autumn Programme

12 September The self-seeded garden

10 October Incredible vegetables

14 November Compost making & no dig garden

12 December Christmas supper

All meetings begin at 7.30pm at Whiddon Down Village Hall

Entry £2.00 non-member. Membership £5.00

All are most welcome

Enquires: Bunny 01647432068

STONE LANE GARDENS



WHIDDON DOWN VILLAGE HALL

September is already upon us. The Village Hall AGM has been and gone. The same committee stood down and were duly re-elected to serve another 12 months. No younger people took up my challenge so, sorry, you're stuck with us.

The wall has been rebuilt, many thanks to Bryan Gillard and son, for a nice tidy job.

We have been offered some reflective strips to make the wall more visible.

Hopefully, the expense of repairs can be avoided in the future. It may be necessary at a future date to chain off the Carpark when the hall is not in use. We must explore all possibilities to protect our community space from deliberate vandalism. CCTV is still an option although a costly one.

We have two new exercise classes starting this month. A welcome for Zumba and a new ballet-themed class for the more mature amongst us. Check out the notice board and Facebook page for details.

We are happy to announce the following fundraising events for later in the year:

19/11/22 A table-top sale, buyers and sellers all welcome

10/12/22 A return visit for Byngs game-show road-show + pig-racing extravaganza

19/12/22 Christmas meat and Festive Fayre bingo.

We hope the community will come along and give us some much-needed support.

Watch out for details nearer the time.

Best wishes to you all, **Jenny Turner**



Acorn Community Support

“September days have the warmth of summer in their briefer hours, but in their lengthening evenings a prophetic breath of autumn.”

Rowland E. Robinson

If you are interested in finding out more then please contact Mandy or Fran on 01647 252701 or visit our website www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk/get-involved September is like the start of a new year. The lazy hazy days of summer (and rather a hot one) are over, and the golden days of September are here. It's a time of renewed energy to take up new pastimes and resume old ones. Time to reap the rewards of harvest or benefit from those of someone else's harvest (an easier option). It should be a time of plenty. (Cont.)

Please remember that although we organise activities, arrange transport for medical appointments, we are also here to help if you have a problem. Even if Acorn cannot help, we may know someone who can. We are a listening ear so pick up the phone.

Activities for September

From Cheriton Bishop

- **Lunch Club**, Kings Arms-Tedburn St Mary 6th Sept, and then 4th Oct. - contact Jean Martin on 01647 24586 to book (a couple of days in advance please.)
- **Shopping** is at Sainsburys fortnightly on Monday 5th and 19th September 2022. We would love to see more of you on the bus.
- **Outing** – Widecombe in the Moor on 20th September 2022 – book your seat.

From the Teign Valley

- **Shopping** at ASDA/Sainsburys - Friday 2nd, 16th and 30th September 2022
- **Outings** – 12th September – Buckfast Abbey and 26th September – Shaldon Beach and The Ness. Please phone to book your seat.
- **Lunch Club** Tuesday 6th and 20th September 2022 (different venues each time).
- **Coffee Morning** Tuesday 13th and 27th September 2022 for 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!

Our **Memory Lane Café** is also running – held on the 2nd and last Thursday of the month. For September that will be 8th and 29th. Please contact the office if you know of someone who would benefit. We have a great time.

If you would like to book a seat on the minibus for any of our trips, lunches 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.

Best wishes, **The Acorn Team**

Events in Drewsteignton - Saturday 17th September

A group of up to 20 classic vehicles A group of up to 20 classic vehicles from the Tamar Historic transport Club will take part in a car treasure hunt around the village and at Fingle bridge on Saturday 17th September. They will be in and around the village for approximately 2 hours before lunch please look out for them.



A quiz for teams of up to 4 people is being held at the Drewe Arms. There is no charge for entry but a donation will be requested and collection boxes will be available at the event. Questions will be on a range of subjects, all multiple choice and strictly timed for quick answers to overcome the cheats who may resort to asking "Google"!We have ways to deal with them!

Please come along, support this event, and enjoy the banter. You might even learn something from the weird and often obscure questions we have thought up.

These are both fundraising events to support a team of disabled gymnasts who are fundraising events to who have been chosen to represent Gt Britain at the World Gymnaestrada in Holland next year. The team "Spartac" (Charity No 1165068) includes Olivia, the 11 year old disabled granddaughter of local resident Alan Brooks. More information from the website below or look out for posters with the QR code at Fingle Bridge Inn or the Drewe Arms.

https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/roadToAmsterdam?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=campaign&utm_content=roadToAmsterdam&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=d84c3ef1588e41fbbf8d548412f24c66

If you want to donate to this cause you can do so through the website or just add to the collecting boxes at Fingle Bridge Inn or The Drewe Arms.

Please come along, support this event, and enjoy the banter. You might even learn something from the weird and often obscure questions we have thought up.

A shift in consciousness.

There has to be an intelligent response from govt, on the climate and understand that we need to be building resilient neighbourhoods, living a sustainable, more connected way. Mostly they have their heads at the Growth and care more about G.D.P. than anything else.

Sixty years of brainwashing on rampant consumerism, flying on holidays, driving gas guzzlers, relying on supermarkets, without a thought of how food got on the shelves. The present system has been a huge factor in the destruction of nature, (Cont.)

in the pursuit of wealth. Our government is incapable of educating the public, because they so caught up in their disconnected agenda. We need grass root environmentalists, people who have a larger platform than the politicians, and plead an urgent call for change (Quote from Polly Higgins) In this critical juncture in history. One route, is to carry on as before, treating our planet as if it's something to be bought and sold. The other is to realise that our lives depend on this delicate ecosystem

Julia Whatley

Whiddon Autumn Festival 2022 - Meet the Artists



Only six weeks to go until our '22 festival begins. We can't wait to welcome you to our corner of North Dartmoor for an action-packed four days of choral performances, chamber music, solo song and community participation events. Tickets now on sale via the 'Events' page on our website, but we thought we'd introduce you to our dazzling line-up of young artists who will be featuring in this year's festival...

<https://www.whiddonautumnfestival.co.uk/events>

News from the Moor

 **National Trust**

Hi everyone

My daily rain dance doesn't seem to be making any difference as yet. It is a rare thing to have so many people, especially on Dartmoor when we usually have plenty! Thank you to everyone who is doing their bit to spread the word about low river levels and the high risk of wild fire. It all helps to protect this wonderful place. Although most of our gardens are struggling, there are a few plants in the garden at Drogo that are loving this heat. One example is *Coreopsis verticillata* 'Zagreb'. It's a stunning herbaceous perennial that loves the sun and has a long flowering season. The foliage is light and feathery, so it is an attractive plant even when not in flower, and it prefers full sun and well drained conditions so is thriving at the moment.

For those who are mostly hiding under trees reading books in this heat (Cont.)

(or is that just me?), we will be having a pop-up second hand bookshop at Finch Foundry for a month starting from Wednesday 31 August. Please do pop along to have a rummage or drop off any books you would like to donate. The bookshop will be open from 11 until 3 when Finch Foundry is open (closed on Mondays and Tuesdays).

Plans are also underway for Heritage Open Day. This is when we celebrate our wonderful heritage sites and open for free. There are 4 different options for you all. Lydford Gorge is taking part on Saturday 10 September, Finch Foundry on Sunday 11 September (please book via the website), and the hydro turbine house by the river at Drogo will also be open on Sunday 11 September. Castle Drogo itself is

taking part on Thursday 15 September.

Finally, I am delighted to let you know that St Clements Day will once again be celebrated at Finch Foundry on Saturday 19 November, 10am until 4pm. Finch will be ringing with the sound of local blacksmiths marking the day of their patron saint with displays, demonstrations and competitions. Cogs and Wheels Morris will also be performing. Everyone is welcome to join us so please pop it in your diary – it is a wonderful event.

Best wishes all,

Paula

Volunteering & Community Manager,
Dartmoor
01647 434130,
paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk

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.

Contact Details:

For Editorial Contributions	Shelley Mansfield	shelley.mansfield@me.com Tel: 07714 253484
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Village Hall Bookings Drewsteignton	Alison Chapman	callum.chapman@btinternet.com Tel: 01647 281197
Parish Council Business Drewsteignton	Alice Turner	clerk@drewsteigntonparish.co.uk Tel: 01837 83484
Village Hall Bookings Whiddon Down	Alison Chapman	callum.chapman@btinternet.com Tel: 01647 281197
Village Space @HTC Drewsteignton	Ruth Merttens	ruth_merttens@me.com Tel: 01647 281649

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

