

Town and Parish Newsletter

March 2010

Welcome

In this issue of the newsletter, we ask you to take part in forthcoming consultations, give you information about delegating services to town and parish councils and highlight some events taking place in the coming weeks.

Many thanks
Brenda Pyne / Judi Gardner

Planning seminars for parish councils

Development Services will be hosting a series of planning seminars for parish councils, starting in the south with a seminar at City Hall, Salisbury in May. This will give you the opportunity to ask questions about planning, conservation and enforcement issues in Wiltshire as well as keeping up to date on changes in planning procedure and government advice. We will also be inviting an officer from Neighbourhood Services to answer your questions about public opens space. You will be receiving an invitation to these meetings directly from the area hub offices during March and we hope your parish will be able to send a representative along.

Contact: Judith Howles 01225 754379 (Judith.howles@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Anti-social behaviour strategy consultation

The Wiltshire community Safety Partnership is undertaking a review of the anti-social behaviour strategy for Wiltshire. Your views are important to us and we would like you to share your ideas and feedback on the draft strategy. To take part in the consultation, visit <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/consultations/antisocialbehaviourstrategyconsultation.htm> and fill in the questionnaire by Thursday, 18th March please.

Violence reduction consultation

This consultation is also available to take part in. The questionnaire and draft strategy can be found at <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/consultations/violencereductionstrategyconsultation.htm> until 18th March.

Additionally, we would like to invite you to attend a series of consultation events which are open to the general public. Dates for both the above mentioned strategy consultations can be found on the above web addresses.

Contact: Jacqueline Jasper 01225 776773 (Jacqueline.jasper@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Waste consultation update

A planned public consultation into possible changes to Wiltshire's waste and recycling service will not take place ahead of the General Election. The consultation was due to put forward a number of options for the refuse collection and recycling services which currently differ from area to area across the county.

However, it became clear that differing national policies emerging from Whitehall have caused confusion and uncertainty regarding future waste and recycling services. It would, therefore not be appropriate to hold a consultation until the council has a clear steer on the national policy following

the General Election. In the meantime, our waste and recycling services will continue to operate as currently provided.

Delegation of services to town and parish councils

Wiltshire Council is looking at how local services can be delivered by town and parish councils to suit the needs of individual communities. At its meeting on 23rd February, the council's cabinet endorsed a report, presented by Cllr. Richard Tonge, which proposed a programme of work to examine the feasibility of transferring the responsibility of certain services to town and parish councils. Services which could be operated by local councils include play area and grounds maintenance, public conveniences, allotments and street cleaning. Cabinet also asked that the issue of street naming be explored. ([Read more](#))

Community Area highway information documents

Following the decision regarding the council's budget on 23rd February, 2010, the lists of proposed highway and related works for 2010/11 are being prepared. The information will be included in the community area highway information documents, which will also include facts and figures about the roads in your area. They will be available on the council website in April in electronic format as we are trying to reduce the amount of paper received by the parish councils. However, they can be provided in printed format if required.

Contact: Jan Kuipers 01225 713382 (jan.kuipers@wiltshire.gov.uk)

County Flood Fairs

Invitations to attend two flood fairs, organised in conjunction with the Environment Agency, will be sent out shortly. Their purpose is to raise awareness of flooding and drainage issues and how local communities can help to manage these risks as well as to showcase available property protection measures. Both events will have speakers from the Environment Agency, Wiltshire Fire & rescue, National Flood Forum, Met. Office and Wiltshire Council Emergency Planning Team and will include a display of flooding-related equipment used by Wiltshire Council and Wiltshire Fire & Rescue.

The first fair will be held on 14th April from 10.00 am – 2.00 pm at the Olympiad Leisure Centre, Chippenham.

The second event will be held in the south of the county shortly afterwards – details will be confirmed nearer to the time.

Contact: Renate Malton 07832 429999 (renate.malton@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Introducing new essential standards of care

From April 2010, new essential standards of care are being introduced gradually across all health and adult social care services in England. The Care Quality Commission (CQC), the new independent regulator of health and adult social care, will license services if they meet essential standards and constantly monitor them to make sure they are compliant with the law. The new systems means that you can expect services to meet essential standards of quality and safety that respect your dignity and rights. NHS trusts are the first to come into the new system. From April 2010, for the first time, all NHS hospitals must by law be registered with CQC according to the essential standards.

Find out more on the CQC website www.cqc.org.uk/

British Tourism Week 15th – 21st March

Tourism is worth around £762 million a year to the Wiltshire economy and employs some 6% of the county's workforce. To celebrate this and to introduce local residents to some of the attractions that bring people quite literally from across the world to the county, VisitWiltshire will be encouraging people to get out and about during British Travel Week. A number of tourist information centres have set up special walks and behind-the-scenes visits. Information about these and a range of attractions offering special discounts (through to the end of April) will be

appearing in full page adverts in Newsquest titles on 11th and 18th March. Full details of all events and special offers are available from the VisitWiltshire website at

<http://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/site/britishtourismweek>

Contact: Alun Williams 0845 602 7323 (alun.williams@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Recycling News

Household Recycling Centres

The council provides 10 household recycling centres across Wiltshire, all operated by Hills Waste Solutions, on its behalf. These HRCs provide facilities to recycle a huge range of materials, from food and drinks cartons to mobile phones and low energy light bulbs. These centres typically re-use more than 75% of the waste that they receive and they contribute around a third towards Wiltshire's overall household recycling rate.

Beat those queues... For details of extended summer opening hours, [click here](#)

New battery recycling facilities now open for business ([read more](#))

Recycle your "small WEEE"... ([read more](#))

Waste management performance report – December 2009 – we aim to produce this report every quarter and the latest performance figures are available online at

<http://www.recycleforwiltshire.com/our-stats/performance.html>

Contact: Martin Litherland 01225 718524 (martin.litherland@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Waste and recycling collections

The revised waste and recycling collection schedule for the Easter and early May Bank Holiday periods is provided in the second edition (dated March) of Your Wiltshire Magazine. The magazine is currently being distributed to every Wiltshire household via Royal Mail door-to-door.

Bikesafe 2010

Bikesafe is a national initiative for all motorcyclists who hold a full motorcycle licence, run in partnership with Wiltshire Police by the road safety units from Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council. Diary dates have been organised throughout the year and the one day programme includes theory and attitude advice, especially on the correct use of appropriate speed. The day culminates with each participant receiving an "on the road" assessment of their riding by a police advanced motorcyclist. Posters, giving more details, [are available here](#).

Contact: Colin Reeves 01793 466399 (colin.reeves@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Schools News

A new £450,000 extension to Monkton Park primary school in Chippenham was handed over on 22nd February, 2010. The extension includes two new classrooms, additional group rooms, enlargement of existing offices and extra play space. Works were completed on time and within budget.

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The council's strategic properties department is pleased to announce the completion of a new £1.6 million school in Shrewton. The new four-classroom building includes main hall, commercial grade kitchen, offices and food technology room and connects to an existing school building, constructed in 2005, which provides accommodation for the Shrewton pre-school nursery. The school previously consisted of a Victorian building and a range of dated prattens spread across two sites and the new facility was designed to bring the accommodation into one building on a single site. It incorporates rainwater recycling and electricity generating photo-voltaic cells which help it to achieve a sustainability rating of "very good" using the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment model. In addition, the pupils will benefit from a greater external space with new hard court and habitat areas provided on adjacent land.

Local, sustainable wood wins award

A Wiltshire Council-owned wood has won a coveted greenspace award. Oakfrith Wood, a local nature reserve (LNR) on the edge of the village of Urchfont, has just received a planning place award from the charity Sustainability South West. The award celebrates top examples of greenspace across the south west, recognising the input and influence the space has in supporting healthy, sustainable communities and the people who make them special.

The wood is managed by 'The Friends of Oakfrith Wood', a group representing the council, Urchfont Manor College and the local community and is an example of how the council and local communities can work effectively together to achieve high quality benefits for both local people and Wiltshire as a whole. Peter Newell, chair of the group, says "this is wonderful recognition of all the excellent work done by our volunteers over many years with the professional support of Wiltshire Council".

For more information on Oakfrith Wood, visit the council website

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/environmentandplanning/countryside/rangerservices/oakfrithwoodnaturereserve.htm>

Emergency Planning annual parish exercise

The proposed dates for the next parish exercises are Thursdays 7th and 14th October, 2010 from 7.30 – 9.00 p.m. More information will be made available closer to the time but if you are interested in participating, please keep your diaries free.

Forthcoming changes to bus services in Salisbury

Just a reminder that the Wilts & Dorset bus company will be making a number of changes to bus services in the Salisbury area on the 21 March 2010.

Details of the changes can be found on the Council's website [bus changes Salisbury area](#) and leaflets explaining the changes to passengers should be available from the Travel Centre in Salisbury Bus Station from the 12th March. However, if you need an advance copy of the new timetable for your route, please email Wiltshire Council's Passenger Transport Unit at buses@wiltshire.gov.uk or phone 01225 713454 .

Wiltshire Markets

For the days, times and locations of the general markets, please visit the council's website <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/markets/marketsfurtherinformation.htm>

but please keep an eye out for locally advertised Italian and Continental markets.

Sporting News

Sport Relief events in Wiltshire – Wiltshire residents, of all ages and fitness levels, can take part in local events as part of the national Sport Relief event next month. Sport Relief, an initiative of Comic Relief in association with BBC Sport, will see thousands of people across the country get active, raise cash and change lives. It has a unique history of dedicated people doing extraordinary things to make a difference. Wiltshire Council, together with Trowbridge Town Council and Chippenham Sports Club are organising events in Salisbury, Trowbridge, Chippenham and Amesbury on 21st March. At each event there will be the chance to participate in a one mile, three mile or six mile run. [Read more](#)

Wiltshire's big splash – if you are aged 16 years or under or 60 years and over, you could be swimming free at 15 sports and leisure centres across Wiltshire. In order to take advantage of this great scheme, you need to visit the centre of your choice and sign up for a free swimming

membership pass. More details can be found on the council website

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisureandculture/leisureandsportscentres/wiltshiresbigsplash.htm>

Women's cricket at South Wilts cricket ground, Salisbury ([poster](#))

Netball at Godolphin School, Milford Hill, Salisbury ([poster](#))

Activities available in 2010 at **Pewsey Extreme Sports Club** ([poster](#))

Quick Links

What's on at City Hall, Salisbury <http://www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk/>

All our parish newsletters are available to view on the Wiltshire Council website –
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/parishnewsletterhome.htm>

*This newsletter is produced by the corporate communications team at Wiltshire Council.
We welcome your comments - please email brenda.pyne@wiltshire.gov.uk*