

Bartons and Sandford Bulletin

November 2023

Dogs and Delivery: We have a small delivery problem for the Barton Bulletin which I need to share with everyone. A number of our wonderful volunteers who distribute the Barton Bulletin have expressed a concern about aggressive dogs on their delivery route. Volunteers will not enter gardens where there are dogs in the vicinity. If you do not receive a copy of the Bulletin please get a copy from the village shop. Any problems please contact David Small [07810255634](tel:07810255634).

Protect Our Fox: Thanks for coming along to our apple pressing event at the Sports and Social Club, since then, we've been working hard to realise our vision: "To create an independent, community-owned pub that is a welcoming village hub offering exceptional food, vibrant community events and genuine connections, while complementing other local spaces within our village" This week we launched our Business Plan which sets out this vision for the Fox, how it will benefit the community, how much it will cost and how we will pay for it. We also applied for funding from the Community Ownership Fund to match fund your generous £83k in pledges. This funding is not guaranteed and subject to lots of other applications, so we're still welcoming pledges. We also shared a preview of just how the good we think the Fox could look under community ownership! Including the new 'Foxhole' Café with outdoor seating area, the extended dining area and reproduction stocks! Find out more, tell us what you'd like to see and pledge your support if you haven't already at www.ourfox.org Thanks to all our volunteers for their help.

Christmas Card Delivery: 1st Barton Beavers and Cubs will be delivering Christmas Cards in Middle and Westcot Barton on Monday 18th December. Look out for post boxes which will be put up village at end of November. Please make sure all envelopes are labelled clearly; if you are unsure of the address please put a return address on the back of envelope so we can return the card to sender. Thank you for supporting Beavers and Cubs in the village. Jill Elliot, jill.elliott@oxonscouting.org.uk

Table Top Sale: Steeple Barton Church are organising a sale at The Alice Marshall Hall on Saturday November 4th, 2pm to 4pm. If you would like to donate unwanted goods for the sale, that would be fine, but any unsold items MUST be returned to the donator. There will be light refreshments on sale. All proceeds will go towards the installation of CCTV equipment at Steeple Barton church to monitor the parking area in light of recent thefts from cars. More information and offers of help, please contact Dave Jackson skellgilldave@yahoo.co.uk

Good Neighbour Scheme: Bartons Good Neighbour Scheme is a friendly group of local volunteers who give their time and services free of charge to help neighbours in our community, especially where friends, family or professional services are unable to help. The voluntary work our volunteers do involves befriending the elderly, shopping, collecting prescriptions, providing transport to GP or hospital appointments and undertaking small tasks such as help with gardening or changing light bulbs. Please call Louise & Judith on [07486886971](tel:07486886971) or email bartonsgns@gmail.com to request help, find out more or to join us as a volunteer.

Needle and Natter: A weekly meeting at Alice Marshall Hall, every Monday, 12.30 till 2.30 for all who share crafting, carding, sewing, crocheting, knitting etc., or just enjoy talking, eating, drinking and laughing. Do come and join us it is only £3.00 for entrance, drink and biscuits (gluten and dairy free are catered for).

Middle Barton Drama Group: Middle Barton Drama Group is BACK and searching the village for those interested in joining our merry band! There are many ways in which you could help, support or join in your village group: costumes, Make up, set building, stage management, acting, directing, script-prompting, media and promotion, video editing and SO much more. Don't be shy!! Email Lynda_webb@btinternet.com to get involved or to ask any questions – our return show will be early 2024 so NOW is the right time to get involved!

Pre-School: The autumnal weather has finally decided to grace us with its presence, and be relatively consistent with itself too. It has made for the perfect environment for outdoor adventures featuring the Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood, and Room on the Broom. Lots of blustery weather to blow off a hat, a bow, and a wand! And of course, what Witch would be without her potions? We've been brewing colourful potions with glitter, baking tasty (definitely artisan style) bread, and creating autumnal hedgehog friends out of clay and spaghetti. Halloween crafts have also been abundant, with all sorts of spookiness created to adorn the pre-school for the Monsters Ball. This was held on the last day of term, and we were absolutely thrilled with the turnout. Many thanks indeed to all who attended. It was excellent fun, and the children looked truly fantastic in their Monstrous/Spooky/Marvel-ous/DC/Princess y costumes! As we are a charity, we are always so grateful for all monies received, and every penny goes back in to the pre-school. We would not be, without you. So many thanks again. Now... Onwards towards Christmas! (yes, I said it). The new term commences on

Wednesday November 1st, and finishes up on Wednesday December 20th. If your child is over 2 and you would like to register them for Pre-School, please contact on [01869 347968](tel:01869347968) middlebartonpreschool@gmail.com, so that we can send you a registration form. Registering your child in advance helps us arrange staffing requirements. We accept government funding for 15-30 hours if eligible. For further information or details, visit www.middlebartonpreschool.co.uk.

WI News: NFWI campaigns tackle issues that matter to women in their communities. From equal pay to climate change, mental health, and violence against women, over the past 100 years we have embraced a diverse set of challenges. The WI has brought about real change - and we are just getting started. Our WI has voted to support this year's WI resolution for 'clean rivers', highlighted in the media this is crucial for the survival of animal life and for our enjoyment of the waterways and its environs. Since the last bulletin we have made cards, enjoyed some knit, stitch and natter and we are already planning our Christmas celebrations! The WI has been inspiring women for over 100 years. Discover more about our history, from our origins through to the present day www.thewi.org.uk Contact for membership: Jenny Jackson (President) skellgill_jenny@yahoo.co.uk or [01869 340759](tel:01869340759) *Dates for the diary* 14/11 Infantillia – a look at the history of the nursery, equipment baby welfare and much more! 12/12 WI Members Christmas Dinner (and entertainment).

Steeple Barton PC: Notes from the meeting held in the Alice Marshall Hall on Monday 16th October - there were 3 members of the public and apologies from Councillors Parry, Rogers, Cox and Graham. Apologies also from Andy Hinton. The minutes from the September meeting were approved and signed. Reports from the County and District Councillors can be found on the website steeplebartonparishcouncil.org. Items discussed: Traffic calming: the flashing angry/smiley face signs (SIDS) have been delivered and will be erected shortly once positions have been agreed. Donation requests: a request for donations received from St Mary's Church towards graveyard maintenance and security measures were discussed. The donation for the graveyard maintenance was agreed; the request for a donation towards security measures will be carried over to the November meeting. Village parking: this was also on the agenda and will be carried over to the November meeting. The PC will ask the local PCSO to attend to join in the discussion. Dead tree: the PC had received an email from a resident regarding a dead tree in Holliers Crescent, the Clerk will request

quotes for the work to remove the tree. Planning: Future Plan for WODC up to 2041 - Councillor McRobie had attended a workshop to join in discussions on the three key aspects, 1) draft local plan objectives and potential policy topics, 2) the potential pattern of future development in West Oxfordshire and 3) a call for sites, ideas, opportunities for how land might be used in the future. Notes will be included in the October minutes that will be published on the website after approval at the November meeting. Two planning applications were on the agenda 23/02419/HHD First floor front extension, 100 North Street. As the cut-off for comments was on the 13th the PC had discussed this application via email and a comment was uploaded on the WODC planning portal. 23/00818/OUT Amended Hallam Land Management application for the development of Holliers field. Just before the amended application was posted the PC had submitted a request to WODC asking why things were being posted on the portal after the original cut-off date. The planning officer confirmed that this was not unusual in that applicants were permitted to address objections and technical issues raised during the consideration of the application. It is anticipated that this application will be reported to the Uplands Planning Committee on 13th November 2023. *Finances* The Clerk confirmed the 2nd Precept payment had been received. *DONM* Monday 20th November in the Alice Marshall Hall 8pm.

District Councillor: I have offered to be trained by OCC Highways to become a "Super User". This means that I will be able to mark potholes with paint, and put them directly on to the works schedule, via the Fix My Street website. There are some limitations in what I am allowed to do. Potholes in roads must be a min 40mm deep, paths and pavements 20 mm. I am only allowed to mark holes within a 30mph or 20mph area, and not on an A or B road. So the main road through the Bartons, and rural roads between the villages I will

report on F.M.S in the usual way. However I can also mark collapsed kerb stones in the designated areas, like on the corner of Frances Road. I have done the initial online training, and await a meeting with a highways official to do a practical session, armed with spray can and lumi jacket. Councillor Dave Jackson skellgilldave@yahoo.co.uk 07407 443944

Speedwatch: Even though the new flashing speed indicator signs purchased by the parish council will appear soon, the Speedwatch group has decided that there is still a benefit in our sessions. This is partly to monitor traffic, but also to tell motorists that we are keen to remind them of the speed they should be doing. A session usually lasts 90 mins with a minimum of 3 volunteers are available. One benefit we have found is the camaraderie and friendships that have been established. We would welcome new volunteers, especially as a couple of members are moving away soon. The training is fairly straightforward, taking about an hour. More details from Cllr Dave Jackson.

Church News: *Services of Remembering and Remembrance* On Thursday 2nd November we will be holding two All Souls' Day Services at which we remember loved ones who have died. There is an opportunity for their names to be read out and individual candles lit. The services will be at 3pm in Westcote Barton Church followed by tea at the Alice Marshall Hall and 6pm in Duns Tew Church followed by drinks. Please contact us before the services if you wish to add any names to those being remembered and to let us know which service you may attend to help us plan the refreshments. Please email stephanielacey34@icloud.com, or call Steph on 01869 347350. Then on November 12th, Remembrance Sunday, the Benefice Service is at 10.50am in the Bartons Victory Memorial Hall. There is also a Remembrance Sunday service in Duns Tew Church at 10.50am. *Shoebox Appeal 2023* Over the next few weeks, we are aiming to bring some Christmas joy to less fortunate children around the world by supporting the charity the Teams 4U Shoebox

appeal. If you are interested, please could you bring your items or shoeboxes to Duns Tew church by Sunday, 12th November. Your help could make such a difference to the children who receive them. Full details of how to do this with a guide of what to include are online at teams4u.com/shoebox-resources/ We will then take the shoeboxes to a collection point in Witney so that they can be distributed to children in Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania. *Family@Church* in November is on Sunday 26th November in Duns Tew Church. The theme will be Waiting - preparing for Advent and how Advent is the season of preparation for Christmas. Breakfast and an activity from 9am with a service from 9.30am. All are welcome. *Advent & Christmas* Details of Advent and Christmas services will be on our website and on noticeboards and look out for our Christmas cards at the end of the month. We start with an Advent Carol Service on Advent Sunday, 3rd December, in Duns Tew Church at 5pm with the benefice choir. *Christingle* Looking ahead, the Benefice Christingle service, with Middle Barton School choir, will be at Sandford St Martin church on Sunday 10th December at 3.30pm. It will finish in time for everyone to be back in Middle Barton before Santa sets off on his sleigh! *Warm Hub* The weekly lunch club and breakfast continues: Every Wednesday: The Wednesday Lunch Club, 11am-4pm, Alice Marshall Hall. A two-course meal for £6, open to all. Every Saturday: The Destiny Breakfast Café 9.30-12, Alice Marshall Hall. Drop in for food and chat at this breakfast cafe offering a warm, friendly space for all. *Get in touch:* If you would like to speak to someone or for prayer requests please contact Stephanie Lacey: 01869 347350 stephanielacey34@icloud.com or Revd Dr David Jackson: davidjacksontd@gmail.com 07973 657260. For admin enquiries, please email Clare Harper, Benefice Administrator (Thurs only) enquiries@bartonbenefice.org.uk bartonbenefice.org.uk/ facebook.com/bartonbenefice/

Church services	Westcote Barton	Steeple Barton	Duns Tew	Sandford St Martin	Nether Worton	Over Worton
Thursday 2 November	3.00pm All Souls' Service		6.00pm All Souls' Service			
5 November	9.30am Eucharist			5.00pm Evening Prayer		11.00am Eucharist
12 November		10.50am Benefice Remembrance Service at Victory Memorial Hall	8.30am Holy Communion (Said) 10.50am Remembrance			
19 November		5.00pm Informal Service Alice Marshall Hall		11.00am Eucharist	9.30am Eucharist	
26 November	5pm Evening Prayer	11.00am Eucharist	9 for 9.30am family@church breakfast & activity from 9am			

I would be grateful if contributions for inclusion in the December Bulletin could please be sent to me no later than November 20th. Thank you. Chris Puttick, cputtick@gmail.com