

Dorney Parish News

December 2023/January 2024



No Potholes!

Resurfacing at Village Road.

Which Roads Next?

HS2 pothole fund?



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EDITORIAL

Around a year ago, the twin editorial team of this magazine were anxious. The cost of printing 'Dorney Parish News' seemed ever to rise. There did seem to be one definitive solution. We wanted to share information with our whole community, and that can be done more efficiently without incurring printing costs at all. I think it's fair to say that for about one day the decision had been taken. 'Dorney Parish News' would be an online publication.

But hold on...we talk much now about *Dorney DNA*. Our DNA might be about a tangible, and maybe, attractive, physical journal. Even more so, it might be about that journal being distributed by *people*. Elsewhere, we pay tribute to our distributors and appeal for new team members. Our distributors have been among the most loyal advocates of the well-loved (we hope) traditional format. Thanks to them for shepherding our readership through the resulting price rise, and thanks to readers for, almost universally, paying it.

There is still a missing ingredient. You, dear reader. Leaving aside the question of succession – a new team will be required *someday* – does the parish magazine reflect our community's thinking? The most obvious example is a current one. We are disposed to be suspicious of inappropriate development which upsets the delicate balance of what we have in this parish, such as Eton College's twin house building ambitions and the application to build a hotel on the already disgraceful Orchard Herbs site. Does this suspicion reflect widespread local thinking?

Can a magazine with traditions like ours reflect the diversity of our current demographics? I won't cite examples, but recently we have carried contributions that definitely do not reflect the views of one or other, or both, of the editors. Yet, those perspectives by significant figures need to be reflected. But we have little idea of what readers think. I wish we could hear, and possibly publish, more subscribers' viewpoints.

From time to time, we do receive photographs. Thanks to Sarbjit Dhandia for the dramatic fireworks picture. We were at the Dorney School display, and the universal view seems to be that such a well-organised and downright enjoyable evening could be the foundation of a real village event, open to all. Public gatherings could return as part of the 'Dorney DNA'!

Animal conservation seems to be rightly claiming its share of that DNA. Our contributor, Andrew Oliver ('Olly') via the Parish Council has put rewilding back on the agenda. Wildlife warning signs may well be appearing around Marsh Lane after a spate of deer fatalities. The safety of the beloved cows on Dorney Common is a major incentive in plans for a reduced speed limit on the road to Eton Wick.

The magazine enjoys an interval now during which I hope all our readers, writers, distributors and their loved ones have a peaceful and safe Christmas. 'DPN' will be back in early February. See you then.

Urgent – Distributors Required!

Entering December, thoughts turn to Santa. As a small boy, my scepticism was first aroused by the thought 'how does he complete such a delivery round in one night?' In recent months another round has rivalled the size of Santa's, and that is the delivery of each month's copies of Dorney Parish News. Well, this magazine would now like to recruit some elves to help out!

Five years ago, when this editor succeeded Charles Cody, 12 names were listed as 'Distributors', politely arranged by their surnames in traditional fashion, with three quarters 'Mrs'. Now the team is 8 and the Editor has more letter boxes to stuff.

Now, I do not doubt the generosity of our readers will be immense. Hinting at my exhaustion, many suggested that they would answer the call when it came. That time is now, as we approach a new year. We can be flexible going forward, but the vacant rounds are centred on Dorney Reach Road, Meadow Way, Oak Stubbs Lane and Marsh Lane, but believe me, volunteers from The Common, Boveney and Dorney Village will be warmly received.

I think each of our team has over the years enjoyed the camaraderie of distributing to no more than around 20-25 addresses. As enjoyable has been the challenge of requesting and, if necessary, persuading those households to part with the modest cash sums required to join the two thirds or so of villagers who are privileged to receive this publication. I say

'cash', but while the editors firmly prefer the cashless environment facilitated by online payments, I'm not sure a hybrid world of money and transfers has made life easier for our distributors. All we can assure our new distribution team is that the parting with cash eventually will phase itself out. But powers of persuasion on the part of distributors still will be welcome.

Tributes are long overdue. The list of distributors includes the most stalwart characters in Dorney. Further back, Jean Oxlade and Rob Schwartz patrolled Dorney Reach Road and Dorney Village with efficiency and friendliness. Many Harcourt Roaders will recall opening the door to Maureen Cox, and when she wasn't organising the badminton players and New Year Village Hall parties Teresa McGuinness, with Harry, covered much of Meadow Way. Michael Cobb sees to the rest. Dorney's loss is Dorset's gain with both Maureen and Harry, and we wish them well. Jean Tyler has left the village as has Joy Richmond. Jean is fondly remembered by Oak Stubbs Lane subscribers, while much of Harcourt Road was Joy's patch and she was our ambassador to the congregation at St James the Less.

Of course, we pay tribute to those no longer in a position to distribute the magazine, but as the season of goodwill looms, let's introduce the rest. Liz Stockwood has picked up the gauntlet of Harcourt Road, while Tim Penfold has been a tower of strength with the higher numbers. Sandy McCabe takes care of the DPN community on the borderlands with Taplow, sharing Marsh Lane with Anna Snook. Does anyone remember when Jacquie Leishman and Deysia Tuddenham were not delivering around Lake End Road and Ashford Lane? Finally, Angie Wood-Dow and Paul Temple marshal with great care our Dorney Common and Village Road subscribers. Oh, and the editor delivers one or two.

Merry Christmas

to all our present and future clients



Are you always too busy to focus on your family that
you love the most?

Don't put off getting your Family Portrait session and call me today!

The Studio
9 Oak Stubbs Lane, Dorney Reach
Maidenhead, Buckinghamshire SL6 0DW

T. 07878162452

E. richard@shymansky.co.uk

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British Institute of
Professional Photography

Services in the Local Churches



St James the Less, Dorney

St. John the Baptist, Eton Wick

St. John the Evangelist, Eton

Part-time Assistant Curate: Rev. Carole Gooding
(07786) 290162

Churchwardens: Stephen Baker & Mark Procter

Correspondence Address: St. James the Less, C/O

St. John the Baptist, Eton Wick Road, Eton Wick,

Windsor, SL4 6JA

Email: Helen O'Neill stjohnstjamesed@hotmail.co.uk

For information about our churches, activities and church history please see our parishes' web site: www.stjohnstjamesed.org.uk

RCCG Praise Embassy, Haywards Mead, Eton Wick, Windsor, SL4 6JN

Pastor: Olusegun Omotayo 07712 126334 www.rccgchurchatslough.com

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, Burnham

Parish Priest: Fr. Joseph Udoh, M.S.P. 01628 605764

Stephen Baker writes: Our four-week Advent Season starts on Sunday 3rd December, where each week we focus on a specific theme running up to the Season of Christmas (which lasts for 12 days). For those of you who attend a church, regularly or infrequently, this is when we remove our Paschal Candle from its centre stage and replace it with our Advent Wreath.

During the first week of Advent we focus on **hope**, where we light the purple Prophecy Candle. This is the week where we begin our four-week journey of preparation, reminding us that Jesus is coming.

During the second week we focus on **peace**, where we light the purple Bethlehem Candle. This week we remember the journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem. It is also where we are invited to reflect on how we can be an incarnation of that peace through how we live our daily lives by helping those in need around us.

During the third week we focus on **joy**, where we light the pink Shepherd's Candle. This week we reflect on the joy we have within our faith, the joy we have experienced so far and the joy yet to come.

In the fourth and final week, we focus on **love**, where we light the purple Angel's Candle. This week we remember God's love of the world, Christ's love for all of us and our love for one another.

Finally, on Christmas Day, we light the Christ Candle. This candle is white and represents the purity of Christ and officially starts the 12-day celebration of Christmas.

Whether or not you yourself are a Christian, worship in a different religion or are not religious at all, the four key messages of Christmas are: Hope, Peace, Joy, Love. Hopefully they will all form part of your Christmas this year, but also take the time to think of those around the world and closer to home who are struggling with one or more of these. Particularly remember those who are caught up in conflicts, natural disasters, sickness and financial uncertainty.

So that is the serious bit over and done with... It's nearly Christmas! The emails have been flying round for months, getting ourselves ready for Christmas 2023 across the three churches across the

Benefice and of course St. Mary Magdalene in Boveney. If you think Christmas is creeping in earlier and earlier into the Supermarkets every year, trust me they have nothing on the Church. In addition to all of our standard services, this is the time of year we get to some of the really fun stuff and by the time you read this we will have brought a class from each of the three primary schools into their respective local Church to partake in Christmas Unwrapped – a fun exploration of the Christmas story. We also have our Carol Services running, the two to pay particular attention to for our readers are Boveney on the 10th December at 3p.m. and Dorney on the 17th at 6.30p.m. Dorney's will be followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies... yum. Our Christingle service on Christmas Eve will take place at 3.00p.m. followed by Midnight Mass starting at 11:30p.m. I hope to see some of you at these services and would like to sign off by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Stephen

Church Services in December 2023 and January 2024

Sunday 3rd December

9.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00 am	Any Age Service	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Wednesday 6th December

10.00 am	Holy Communion (said BCP)	St John the Evangelist, Eton
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Sunday 10th December

9.30 am	Holy Communion	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick
3.00 pm	Advent Carol Service	St Mary Magdalene, Boveney

Sunday 17th December

11.00 am	Nine lessons & Carols	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick
4.00 pm	Carols & Mince Pies	St John the Evangelist, Eton
6.30 pm	Nine lessons & Carols	St James the Less, Dorney

Wednesday 20th December

10.00 am	Holy Communion (said BCP)	St John the Evangelist, Eton
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Sunday 24th December: Christmas Eve

3.00 pm	Christingle Service	St James the Less, Dorney
4.30 pm	Christingle Service	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick
11.30 pm	Midnight Communion	St James the Less, Dorney

Monday 25th December: Christmas Day

10.15 am	Combined Family Communion	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick
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Wednesday 27th December

10.00 am	Dedication Holy Communion	St John the Evangelist, Eton
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Sunday 31st December

9.30 am	Holy Communion	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Wednesday 3rd January

10.00 am	Holy Communion (said BCP)	St John the Evangelist, Eton
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Sunday 7th January

9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00am	Any Age Family Service	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Sunday 14th January

9.30am	Holy Communion	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00am	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Wednesday 17th January

10.00 am	Holy Communion (said BCP)	St John the Evangelist, Eton
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Sunday 21st January

9.30 am	Holy Communion	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00 am	Morning Worship	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Sunday 28th January

9.30am	Morning Worship	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00am	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick



Come and celebrate Jesus' birth with us!

St. Mary Magdalene, Boveney Carol Service 10th December – 3.00p.m.

Please join us for our annual Carol Service at St. Mary Magdalene, alongside the River Thames

This is usually a busy service, in a small church, so please arrive early to be guaranteed a seat

Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather (including footwear) and please bring a torch

Parking is available in the Ramblers' car park, Boveney

Contact: stjohnstjamesed@hotmail.co.uk
Find us at www.facebook.com/Church-Community-of-Eton-with-Eton-Wick-Dorney-and-Boveney

St. James the Less, Dorney invites you to...



Come and celebrate Jesus' birth with us! You are welcome to all of our services, supporting TearFund and Wayne Dixon (CCiS)

10th December

Advent Carols

3.00 pm St Mary's Boveney

17th December

Nine Lessons and Carols

6.30 pm St James' Dorney

24th December - Christmas Eve

Christingle Service

3.00 pm St James' Dorney

Midnight Mass

11.30 pm St James' Dorney

25th December - Christmas Day Family Communion

10.15 am St John's Eton Wick

Contact: stjohnstjamesed@hotmail.co.uk

Find us at www.facebook.com/Church-Community-of-Eton-with-Eton-Wick-Dorney-and-Boveney

Down on the Farm by Peter Bowman

By any yardstick it was a significant Dorney event. The evening of 17th November, and the morning of 18th November (a Saturday), saw Eton College share their unfinalised proposals to develop Court Farm with Dorney residents in a Lake View Room incongruously bedecked in Christmas party glitter. In other places (including in this very issue) the serious planning implications can be considered, but Dorney Parish News was there at both events, so could we judge the initial reaction? Were Dorney hearts and minds won over?

Just a reminder first...Eton 'have worked up plans for 11 high quality new homes in this location...a combination of barn conversions, reconstruction and new builds to replace demolished barns' alongside the (improved) 4 existing properties. At the same time, Eton are appealing against Bucks Council's refusal of 12 residential buildings on the Boveney Court Farm site, just across Dorney Common.

Let's be positive. The exhibition was professional and our hosts (drawn from architects, planners, consultants and the higher echelons of the College) were attentive and courteous. The colourful visuals were easy on the eye, a strategy best expressed by the stated aim of 'retaining the existing farmstead feel'. An eyesore it wasn't and some real examples of those, like the enormous grain silo visible from Southfield Close, would disappear. Some said the designs were more sympathetic than those at Boveney Court Farm.

So, there we were, four seated village neighbours, reflecting on the show, and my 'you wouldn't object too much then?' brought forth various versions of 'well, no, not really.' But, honestly, that's about as positive as it got. I suppose 'better than an earlier scheme that was deeply unpopular' is not a storming endorsement.

What is it about this scheme which makes us uneasy? Here we should say, please let this magazine hear your views, views which may come to a different conclusion. It's a mistake by Eton to link these proposals to 'acute housing need'. The answer to those problems is surely not 4- or 5-bedroom dwellings on Dorney Common. The universal response we heard is 'there are no affordable houses'. One acute observer saw a Dorney demographic profile being further skewed to the elderly and comfortably off. Residents couldn't believe that these developments would leave the Common unscathed, with attention focussed on the surely inadequate trackways leading into the site. One who lived close by the site expressed dread over the strain on the already inadequate local infrastructure, blighted by low water pressure and failing broadband, plus of course, more traffic on the B3026. The site might have a degree of elegance, disguised by new planting, but it represented an unwelcome increase in density, as many pointed out, in the flood plain.

These local views were widely expressed, but a rather unattractive sentiment emerged, expressed by more than one of our hosts. The Dorney DNA of open spaces has seemed to us to be buttressed by planning conventions embraced by Bucks Council, hence the Boveney Court Farm refusal. But this was a false reprieve. Dorney Parish would be called upon in the future to surrender its fair share of land for housing. Protections like the Boveney Conservation Area Appraisal would be swept aside once Eton's appeal got to work. Given our perilous future, we should fall in line with these proposals because, after all, 'better the devil you know'.

Won over? No, not entirely.



DORNEY

PARISH COUNCIL



Ashford Lane/Lake End Road initial safety measures agreed.

Dorney Village Hall request consideration to transfer charity to Dorney Parish Council

Proposal being made to Bucks Council to reduce 60mph speed limit on Common Road to 40mph, based on precedent of National Parks with unfenced roads

Thank you to the happy resident of Village Road who sent this picture. A few days of inconvenience but a great result. It's a start - pressure will continue to resurface the other roads in the parish.

ORCHARD HERBS:

THE LONG-AWAITED NEW ENFORCEMENT NOTICE IS IMMINENT

DORNEY PARISH COUNCIL AGREES TO SUPPORT A RESIDENTS GROUP TO WORK ON REWILDING OF THAMES WATER FIELD

APPLICATION MADE TO COMMUNITY BOARD FOR INSTALLING SPEED-REDUCING WHITE ENTRY GATES ON LAKE END ROAD & MARSH LANE

Next DPC meeting Tuesday 16th January 7.30pm at Dorney School. 2024 Meetings will be held January, March, May (+APM), July, September, November____

Dorney Playground Movie Afternoon



As you know, Dorney Playground Management Group are trying to raise money to improve the playground. We want to replace the not working I-play with a **timber snake swing**.

In October we had a Halloween Party and raised £600.

In December, we are having a movie afternoon.

On Wednesday 6th December, Dorney Playground are having a movie afternoon in Dorney Village Hall. Between 3.15 and 5.30, we will be showing The Grinch. Tickets cost £5.00 and all monies raised will go towards the new timber swing. Please see the poster for more details. Although it is inevitable that most of the audience will be from Dorney School, everyone is welcome. So, if you know of children who would like to attend, but you can't get to the tuck shop, just email me on the address below.

Remember that we are trying to raise **£15,000**.

So, we have set up a **fund me page**.

If you would like to donate any money towards the new timber snake swing go to

<https://gofund.me/1a5ed9aa>

or scan



Any amount will help.

Please support Dorney Playground

Dorney Playground Management Committee

Playground4Dorney@gmail.com



When: Wednesday 6th December

Time: 15:15 -17:30 (film to start 15:30)

Where: Dorney Village Hall

£5 entry (tickets available from tuck shop)

Come along straight after school and watch The Grinch with friends.

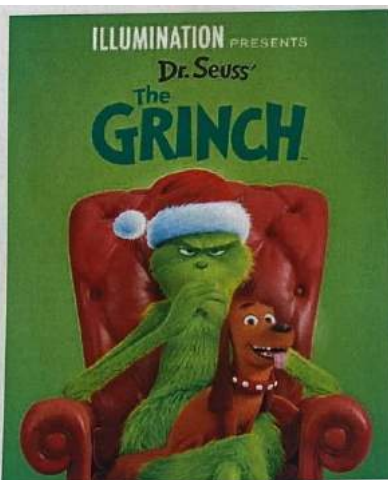
You can drop your onesie and pillow off to the tuck shop in the morning to change into afterschool to get super comfy!!

Tuckshop treats like hotdogs, drinks, ice creams and snacks will be available.
(please bring cash on the day)

Years 1-4 must have a 'designated adult' (1 adult could supervise a couple of friends for example) yrs 5/6 just need to provide a parent's contact number when purchasing the ticket and must be collected after the film by an adult as it will be 530pm and dark.

Helpers to supervise would be appreciated.

This is being run by the Playground Trust and all profits got towards the Playground



Fireworks at Dorney School



With thanks to Sarbjit Dhandia for the picture

The Dorney School's fireworks event on Saturday, November 11th was a resounding success, drawing a crowd of over 250 attendees from both the school and the broader community.

The feedback was unanimous—the fireworks display surpassed expectations, delivering an outstanding spectacle that one might not anticipate from a small village school!

The event not only provided a memorable evening for all in attendance but also proved to be a substantial financial success with a profit of over £2700 that will be directly channelled towards benefiting the pupils at Dorney School. The proceeds will contribute to revitalising and enhancing the playground markings helping the children to pursue an active and healthy lifestyle.

Dorney School are hopeful that next year's fireworks extravaganza will build upon this success and cement its place as a highlight in the local event calendar. As Dorney School continues to engage and unite both its immediate and extended community, the event highlights the school's commitment to fostering not only educational excellence but also a vibrant and connected community spirit.

Isy Mostyn
Dorney School PTA



The Palmer Arms
Festive Menu 2023
Available From the 24th November

£29.95 ~ 3 Courses / £25.95 ~ 2 Courses
Complimentary Crackers

STARTERS

PARSNIP SOUP, PARSNIP CRISPS, TRUFFLE OIL, CRUSTY BREAD

SMOKED SALMON AND CREAM CHEESE ROULADE WITH PRAWNS AND WATERCRESS

ROASTED PUMPKIN RISOTTO, SAGE FRITTERS (VG) (GF)

CHICKEN LIVER & PORT PARFAIT WITH A FIG AND APPLE ONION CHUTNEY

SMOKED DUCK, ORANGE, SPRING ONION SALAD, CHILLI PLUM JAM

MAINS

TURKEY BREAST WITH PIGS IN BLANKETS, ROAST POTATOES, SEASONAL VEGETABLES, SAGE ONION
STUFFING & RED WINE GRAVY

PAN FRIED SEABASS WITH CRUSHED NEW POTATOES, WILTED SPINACH, PARMESAN WAFER,
CHORIZO AND OLIVE CREAM SAUCE

PORK BELLY WITH CRACKLING, APPLE CIDER SAUCE, ROAST POTATOES, CABBAGE & BACON
BEEF WELLINGTON WITH SPINACH DUXELLE, DAUPHINOISE POTATO & BUTTERED CARROTS, JUS
(+ £5.00 SUPPLEMENT)

LENTIL AND CHICKPEA RISSOLE WITH LEEK AND POTATO MASH, BRAISED RED CABBAGE, ONION GRAVY
(VG) (GF)

DESSERTS

CHRISTMAS PUDDING *WITH BRANDY CUSTARD*

CHOCOLATE FONDANT WITH MINT CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM

SELECTION OF BRITISH CHEESES WITH CELERY, GRAPES, AND CRACKERS (+ £2.00 SUPPLEMENT)

APPLE & RAISIN CRUMBLE WITH CUSTARD

STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING WITH VANILLA ICE CREAM

Optional 12.5% Service Charge will be added to the bill

Terms & Conditions Apply

BLACK FRIDAY ON DORNEY COMMON

'Avarice, in old age, is foolish; for what can be more absurd than to increase our provisions for the road the nearer we approach to our journey's end?'

Cicero

I love a good sale! However, back in the day when we had famous post-Christmas January sales, the push-shove queues started in the chill of early morning, creating a bottle neck flood of shoppers grabbing cut-price bargains. I wasn't particularly keen to enter the scrummage, to feel the thrill of seeing the present you bought your mother now at a 50% discount.



Now we have Black Friday, which once was a single bargain basement day, now seems to have migrated into a full week or more. Bombarded by the media, in every communication crevice, what is the origin of this frantic frenzy that electronically zaps eleventy-eight cut-price offers down our portable communication devices each day? Apparently, it has migrated from over the water.

The first use of the term 'Black Friday' was apparently associated with the crash of the US gold stock market in 1869, when two Wall Street financiers, Jay Gould and Jim Fisk, worked together to buy up as much gold as they could, hoping to drive prices up so they could cash in a bonanza.

On that Friday, in September, this conspiracy was exposed, which sent the stock market into free-fall, resulting in mass business bankruptcy. Shopkeepers struggled, making losses throughout the year, 'in the red', would then supposedly earn a profit on the day after Thanksgiving, 'went into the black', because holiday shoppers blew their money on discounted merchandise.

However, this theory is challenged by another, which is claimed to be the ‘real deal’ of the day. Back in the 1950’s police in the city of Philadelphia used the term to describe the chaos that ensued on the day after Thanksgiving, when hordes of suburban shoppers and tourists flooded into the city mostly on a Friday, in advance of the big Army-Navy football game held on Saturday each year. The Philly cops were fully engaged that long weekend, working extra shifts and long hours dealing with the swell of crowds and traffic. Shoplifters took advantage of this bedlam in stores, and made off with merchandise, adding to the law enforcement headache. Which is true? Maybe neither!

The English language and humour connection is something I have always enjoyed, playing with words, anything from theatrical innuendoes to sharp perceptive retorts, always bring a smile to my face, and underline the fact (in my humble opinion of course) that smart words hit harder than the strongest fist. As decades past, of course our language and phrases mutate, as do we change in body and soul:

1978	2023
Long hair	Longing for hair
8 tracks	Cataracts
Streaking	Leaking
Acid rock	Acid reflux
Seeds and stems	Fibre
Stayin’ alive (the song)	Stayin’ alive (the goal)
Going to a new, hip, joint	Getting a new hip joint
Rolling Stones	Kidney Stones
Bell bottoms	Big bottoms
Disco	Costco
Whatever	Depends
Rock n roll all night	Sleep through the night (bar loo run)
Think you know everything	Think you know your name

This last week, I have been amused at the volume of cars that traverse the common to use the Boveney turn off and my drive to turn back, surprised that the ROAD CLOSED signs actually meant no passage and no rat run to the Bath Road. The first time venturing across the cattle grid into the village and onto the new black tarmac was an astonishing treat. Instead of eyes down on a bingo call looking for potholes the size and depth of large buckets, the surface was as smooth as a new infants seating area. My car silently glided along, and I could finally drive looking ahead!

The simplest thing brings the largest pleasure.

We are upon our annual Dorney Horticultural Society splendid Christmas Dinner, which this year boasts the usual sumptuous festive dinner, convivial conversation, tipsy tippling and a new fun three phase quiz which hopefully did go well. Bob and I were allocated the ‘Name this Tune’ section, where I can only hope (since it hasn’t happened yet but will be by the time you read this) will go as smoothly as the village road.

Our DDHS Christmas get-together is slightly later this year, (last Friday 1st December) so as our parish magazine goes to print, this evening has surely passed, but I have no doubt that we all enjoyed ourselves! So, here we are, on the brink of another new year, and with that I sincerely wish you all a very happy and contented 2024.

‘Happiness is not having what you want, but wanting what you have’.
Rabbi Hyman Schachtel.

Kristina Perkins

The DNA of Dorney: An Analysis of Housing Density in Dorney and its Settlements

One of the major contributors to Dorney's unique DNA sitting, as we do, in between Maidenhead, Burnham and Slough, is the low density of our housing.

This is cited in a number of planning documents produced by Bucks Council – the purpose of which is to provide planning guardrails:

1. Dorney's Landscape Character Assessment 2011 (LCA):

- a. Bucks Council: *"Landscape Character Assessment (LCAs) describe and record what makes parts of Buckinghamshire different, distinctive or special. LCAs encourage sensitive siting and the design of development that minimises harm to the character and the valued qualities of Buckinghamshire's landscapes."*
- b. Dorney: *"Settlement is dispersed and spread linearly along roads or as common edge settlement, with a strong historic character (e.g. Dorney and Dorney Common). Isolated properties and farmsteads are also scattered through the landscape."*
- c. Landscape Guidelines:
 - i. *Conserve open views, particularly across Dorney Common towards Windsor Castle and towards higher ground in the north.*
 - ii. *Monitor vertical development [e.g. houses] along the floodplain, which will impact greatly on the low lying, open character.*
 - iii. *Maintain the historic openness of Dorney Common and conserve the loose linear settlement character preventing infilling and nucleation."*

2. Dorney's Conservation Area Appraisal (1996):

- a. *"Because of Dorney's low density residential layout, there is very little hierarchy of space within the village."*

3. Boveney's Conservation Area Appraisal (1996)

- a. *"Consequently, there is little in the way of townscape views, nevertheless, this rural, low density character is a quality that the District Council regards as being worthy of preservation."*
- b. *A number of key landscape views onto Dorney Common and across to Windsor Castle exist from within the settlement."*

The following analysis of Dorney's net site area housing density (dwellings and gardens/hectare) indicates, by Settlement, the current housing density. The right hand column of the first chart assesses the housing density of the two current Eton "aspirations" for Boveney Court Farm buildings and Court Farm.



Current and Proposed Houses

Dorney Parish Housing Density Approximate Numbers	Current Houses			Proposed Planning Applications			
	Net Site Area	Density		Net Site Area	Total	Density	
Settlements	Hectares	Houses	Houses/ha	Hectares	Houses	Houses/acre	
Lake End	1.9	12	6				
Dorney Reach	29.5	177	6				
Dorney Village	14.2	73	5				
Dorney Common (inc Court Farm site)	10.2	29	3				
Boveney (South of Cress Brook)	8.5	9	1				
Totals	64.3	300	5				
			Settlement			Site	
Court Farm Site (build/garden area only)	1.19	4.0	3	1.19	15	13	
Boveney Farm Site (build/garden area only)	0.57	0.0	1	0.57	12	21	Refused
Net Site Area: dwellings and gardens only							

Houses based on specific Settlement Density and on highest Density (Lake End)

Dorney Parish Housing Density Approximate Numbers	Proposed Allocation based on Settlement Density		Proposed Allocation based on Lake End Density (highest)	
Settlements				
Lake End			6	
Dorney Reach				
Dorney Village				
Dorney Common (inc Court Farm site)	3			
Boveney (South of Cress Brook)	1			
Totals				
Court Farm Site (build/garden area only)	3	4 existing	8	4 existing/4 new
Boveney Farm Site (build/garden area only)	1	1 New	4	4 new

The Bucks Planning Committee voted 6-1 against the Boveney application, citing *"substantial harm to the openness of the Green Belt"* due to *"the increase in built form on the site, the increase in the number of buildings, and the bulk and massing of the new buildings"* – essentially, high housing density. Despite the application's 12 houses, density calculations (using Lake End's and Dorney Reach's highest figure of 6 houses/ha) suggest it should have a maximum of four new houses (second graphic, right hand column).

Dorney Parish comprises five distinct settlements: Boveney, Dorney Common, Dorney Village, Dorney Reach, and Lake End. Each has a unique history and development. The Court Farm Proposals pertain to Dorney Common, characterised as a low-density linear settlement along the Common's edges.

Dorney Common currently has a housing density of 3 houses/ha, while Dorney Parish averages 5 houses/ha. The Court Farm Proposals aim for 15 houses on a small plot, resulting in a housing density of approximately 13 houses/ha – four times higher than Dorney Common's average.

To align with planning policies and using the parish's maximum housing density, Dorney Reach's and Lake End's density of six houses/hectare, the Court Farm site should have a maximum of eight houses, not fifteen (second graphic, right hand column).

This suggests a likelihood of Bucks Council treating the Court Farm application similarly to the Boveney one.

Bill Dax

Are you doing New Year resolutions this year?

According to an article I read the top seven new year's resolutions are exercise more, lose weight, get organised, learn a new skill or hobby, live life to the fullest, save more money (something my Dad would LOVE my Mum to do!) and finally quit smoking. Well, I wonder how many people do these and keep it up. Very few I assume.

The New Year is looming. 2023 is ending so why not talk about what we are going to change from the past year, for the next? Every year I hear less buzz about New Year resolutions. So, do younger people care less about setting resolutions?

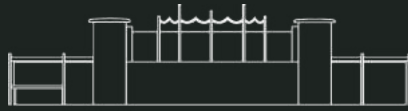
New Year's resolutions came about some 4,000 years ago from the Ancient Babylonians. They were the first civilians to hold this tradition to honour the New Year, but they did this in mid-March rather than at the start of January timed with when their crops were planted. Through many different eras New Year resolutions moved to the start of the New Year. At the start of 2023 a survey found that 30 million (which is about 44% of the population) Brits have made resolutions. In Australia over fourteen million (which is about 55% of the population) people made them in 2022. So clearly people are keeping the tradition, but it's easy to set them but not so easy to follow through with it. 43% quit before the end of January says a survey on people who live in America.

I'm not in my Year 2 class anymore talking about what I'm going to do more or less of in the coming year, which tended to be eat less chocolate but would find myself on the 1st of January devouring a dark chocolate KitKat that would be in my sweet tin. With no thought to it, with no cares in the world, just a little girl enjoying the sweet sensation of eating a chocolate bar at the end of what felt like a long day then, but now a day I would love back. I'm now in Year 13, A-Levels in 5 months and thinking to myself, maybe my New Year's resolution should be taking in the last few months of school before leaving for university.

This year I have been reminiscing of events and life skills and things that I could benefit from changing for the new year. I find it so interesting the habits and activities that you mature into and fall out of. Like I said in my anecdote earlier 10 years ago, I was saying to cut down on the amount of chocolate I eat and frankly now I would probably say the same, but I would also have a sensible one that I could follow through with and at the end of the year, before making 2025's resolution, being like 'wow I feel accomplished'.

So, I encourage you all to make a New Year's resolution that is realistic, something you know you can get to and don't have to push yourself too hard. Forgive yourself if one day you go off track. Finally, be specific, this will allow you to know your achievement clearly, for example if it's lose weight, make a weight you want to get to and how you're going to get to. As long as you have determination and want to see a change at the end of the year, you will be able to do it. I'll finish this article with a quote.

'If you can dream it, You can do it' – Walt Disney



DORNEY LAKE

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM
THE DORNEY LAKE TEAM**

CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS 2023

Dorney Lake will be open every day
throughout the Christmas and New Year
period.

Our gates will be open from 7.30.am to
6.00pm, but please do exit by 5.30pm to
ensure that the gates do not close on
you.

SPORTING EVENT DAYS 2024

Please check our website for the most up to
date information. Additional event days
may be added at any time.





News from Dorney School

World Children's Day 2023

Four big campaigns that overlap this month which I think is a happy coincidence as events around the world and closer to home show me that we need more than ever now, to educate and inspire our children to make moral and good choices so that they are prepared for their future. What is the legacy we want our children to inherit? For me, my deep wish is for a more peaceful world, where all people are equal with equal rights and opportunities. A place where everyone has a place they can call home, and where racism, discrimination and extremism no longer exist because we see ourselves, and our families in each other. A planet where we show kindness to everyone, and respect for our planet and natural resources so that the world can remain beautiful for multiple generations to come. It is within our power; what we need is to work together and encourage our children to follow in our footsteps. Although we will cover each campaign in turn at school, this will be a lifelong of learning and we will revisit the themes in each campaign multiple times over the years the children are at Dorney School.



UNICEF has designated 20th November to be World Children's Day to highlight the rights of every child no matter where they live in our world and how these rights must be protected. It is vital today that we understand what this means and how we can all work together to ensure that the 54 articles in the convention cover all aspects of a child's life including the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all children everywhere are entitled to. It also explains how adults and governments must work together to make sure all children can enjoy all their rights. It is inexplicable to me that in our lifetime, in the last weeks, more than 5000 children have lost their lives in Gaza because we, as adults, are unable to negotiate for peace. Children are the innocent victims of any conflict and hardship, and it is our collective responsibility to hold all leaders and global organisations to account to ensure children remain the first priority.

2023 Theme: For every child, every right



Many of our families celebrated Diwali this month and we were so pleased to see so many of our children dress up and enjoy the festivities. Staff were treated to some Diwali treats too!

The school's annual Fireworks event was a huge success.

The community was treated to

an impressive display of fireworks and enjoyed many autumnal treats on a clear, cold night. We had families who travelled from as far away as Uxbridge to join us. If you missed it this year, do look out for our posters next year. Hope to see you there!





BBC Children in Need

Another annual event that marks the school calendar. This year the whole school went on a teddy bear ramble in our local area of outstanding natural beauty and raised nearly £300!

Dorney School wishes to send each and every reader warm Christmas wishes and hope that the Yuletide brings you warmth, happiness and peace. Let us pray together that the

peace we hold dear will ripple out to everyone near, and far. It took the birth of a child not far from the arena of conflict today, to send the message and love and peace in our world.

We always welcome visitors to our school and would like to invite you for a visit soon. Do come and see us in action. All you need to do is email office@dorneyschool.co.uk

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Sharifah Firza Jelany-Lee

Headteacher



The Engagement Ring

Karen Kimberley (BA, DCH, DHP, NLP, GQHP, MAC, ITOL) is a Taplow-based therapist and coach specialising in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP), Counselling & Hypnotherapy to help with:



- Lack of confidence and low self esteem
- Anxiety and depression
- Communication, business or relationship problems

Contact Karen: kk@karenkimberley.co.uk to arrange an initial conversation

or call 07785 566468

www.theengagementring.co.uk

www.lifecoach-directory.org.uk/lifecoaches/karen-kimberley

A request for Dorney Parish Council to consider taking the helm of Dorney Village Hall.



In a move aimed at safeguarding the legacy and financial stability of Dorney Village Hall (DVH) for many years in the future, the Trustees of DVH have extended a request to Dorney Parish Council (DPC) to consider becoming the Sole Trustee of the charity.

The genesis of this request lies in the escalating difficulty faced by village hall charities across the country in finding dedicated individuals willing to assume the responsibilities of trusteeship. The recent challenges encountered by DVH in this

regard have prompted the current trustees to seek a solution that ensures the continued prosperity of the hall and falls in line with many other village halls in small parishes in England.

The rationale behind this proposition is multi-faceted. Firstly, the dwindling availability of individuals willing to undertake the role of trustees. Recognising the imperative to protect the long-term future of the charity, the current trustees are taking proactive measures.

Secondly, the Trustees felt that such a change should take place when DVH is in a strong financial position with current reserves of over £60,000 and an average annual operating surplus running at £7,000+ p.a. The hall has recently been decorated throughout inside, the floor is being re-sanded and sealed this winter and the outside is also being repainted and tidied up. DVH will remain a separate charity and its accounts will be completely separate from the Parish Council's.

Thirdly, Dorney Parish Council, deeply ingrained in the local community, is perceived as the ideal candidate for the role of Sole Trustee. The attributes that DPC would bring to the management of DVH are myriad: a commitment to openness and transparency, a culture of accountability, adherence to high standards of public conduct, and a shared commitment to the welfare of the community. Moreover, the Parish Clerk, Ruth Senior, concurrently serving as the Village Hall Manager, adds a layer of continuity and familiarity to the proposed transition.

The changing landscape of DVH over the years is another factor underpinning the request. Since its establishment in 1930, DVH has undergone significant transformations in purpose and usage. The evolving needs of the community necessitate a recalibration of the hall's management structure, aligning it with the contemporary dynamics of Dorney.

A brief historical overview of DVH sheds light on its evolution. Established in 1930, DVH initially served as a hub for numerous village clubs and associations. The governance structure involved a Committee of Management comprising 32 members, reflecting the vibrant community clubs and associations at the time. Fast forward to the present, only two clubs—the Dorney Badminton Club and the Dorney Horticultural Society—regularly utilise the facility, highlighting the need for a tailored and sustainable approach to its management.

Drawing parallels with neighbouring Buckinghamshire parishes, such as Taplow and Burnham, where Parish Councils own and manage their respective village halls, the proposal aligns with a trend towards securing community spaces through local governance.

The next steps involve DPC carefully considering the request and providing feedback to the Trustees of DVH. This pivotal decision will shape the future of Dorney Village Hall and determine its continued role as a community anchor.

In the spirit of communal foresight, the collaboration between DVH and DPC emerges as a beacon of hope, ensuring that the heart of Dorney continues to beat vibrantly for generations to come.

Bill Dax, Trustee, Dorney Village Hall

Windsor St. George

Rotary
Club



Christmas Carol Service

& Reception

Congregational Carols | Music | Readings

Hosted by

Chris Hollins TV Presenter
with Celebrity Readers

Saturday 16th December 2023

7.00pm

College Chapel

Eton College

By Kind Permission of the Provost & Fellows

Tickets available at £28 from

<https://windsorstgeorotary.org.uk/carol-service>

Includes a post service

Drinks & Canapes Reception



In aid of



In aid of



A Time for Reflection by Mike Quincey

I still work in my green uniform long after most sensible people are cruising or adding to climate change in other extravagant ways. I get my jollies driving mostly incredible awe-inspiring people to and from clinics, hospitals and home, whatever 'home' may be.

So it was with this mildly 'do gooding' smugness in mind during this recent conversation in the bell tower at St James the Less in Dorney....

"Listen up everybody! Ringing next Sunday will be at 8.45," instructed Janet, the Tower Captain and Boss.

"Is that 8.45am?" I enquired.

The lovely Cheryl, now Mrs.Quincey and I have a lie in on Sunday after our 6.00am struggles out of the pit during the week.

"That's the middle of the night on Sunday!" I grizzled.

"It's Remembrance Day," she stated.

I felt ashamed. We were remembering brave men and women who had given an awful lot more than a lie in and I resolved not to be late.

We rang as we always do on this sombre occasion with the bells 'half muffled'. This is done by strapping a leather pad to one side of the clapper on each bell so that the exposed side gives that familiar hard, joyously clear sound, and as the bell spins the muffled side produces a haunting soft sound; almost a caress it is so beautiful.

As we rang, my thoughts turned to my then 23-year-old father taking a terrible beating in HMS Exeter as she vainly fought off the Admiral Graf Spee, losing half of the crew in the battle.

A story that haunts me every year is that of a frantic radio operator trapped in a torpedoed and sinking merchant ship broadcasting the ships name and position ending, "Tell Ethel I love her. My will and all she requires is on the mantel piece behind our wedding photo."

I thought of my mother as a 21-year-old, lying buried in the ruins of her home shattered by a bomb that killed her mother.

Visions of burned airmen's faces and bodies loomed out of my childhood memories in the early post war plastic surgery unit at The Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead where I had the honour to be in their remarkable company for a while.

More recently, I remembered a soldier acquaintance who had a colourful career until recently Afghanistan took a piece of his mind and tranquillity.

Young futures lost completely, or damaged, sometimes beyond repair, perhaps living in a tent on the street near you as a 'lifestyle choice', are all a failure of diplomacy, the bill picked up mostly by the young.

A young patient I have carried a few times sobbed in fear as I took her to her clinic to learn if she were to live longer than 23, and I thought of her too and her wretched bad luck.

We rang to a staggered 'stand' or stop, where the treble, the highest note from the smallest bell stops first followed by the 2nd, then the third and so on till the tenor, the heaviest and lowest note tolls slowly half muffled alone like the sole survivor of a battle for a few heart rending strikes until it too stops.

Fortunately, the national threats of disorder on the day were overblown slightly and left sleepy Dorney unsullied, allowing us the luxury so hard won by those we were remembering, of reflection.

We all stood silently in our own thoughts, tears in our eyes.

"Gets me every time," said one quietly, and it did.

My sombre mood didn't last long as that same afternoon Cheryl and I were visited the same afternoon by five grandchildren four to ten years and three parents, where they built a huge barricade from the nonsense that I thought was hidden from view in our garden, gave my drum kit a thorough outing (sorry neighbours) and we all dined on healthy food, plus of course fish fingers and cakes.

It was only the second time the kids had all met together, a first for my home, and it was wonderful to hear the delighted screams, laughter and the pad of running little feet (the children's that is) in the old place that rarely hears such fun.

Thanks Ladies and Gentlemen for our freedom to enjoy this in freedom. We owe you so much more than two minutes a year and some memorials.

And so to Christmas.

I'm sorry Dear Reader to mention it here, but the editor in his infinite wisdom, gives you all a well-deserved break from yours truly and his chums in January.

It has been a pretty grim time for the last few years, what with the pandemic, a financial crash and two wars. Mrs Quincey and I have suffered three dead cats, two stolen cycles and one burglary; happily pushed into obscurity where that nonsense belongs by our marriage, mostly featured in my offering to you that the Editor, in his unfailing wisdom, continues to entertain.

So, Dear Reader, and anyone else who picks up the Dorney Parish News out of curiosity, please accept from me my most ardent wishes for a very Happy Christmas and Wonderful New Year which we all hope to be better than the last (save of course for 'That Wedding'), and in the words of the late lamented Dave Allen,

"May your God go with you."

Stay safe.

Innovative proposal from Dorney Parish Council to reduce the Speed Limit on Dorney Common from 60mph to 40mph.



Dorney Parish News has been advised that Dorney Parish Council, based on carefully considered National Parks unfenced roads precedents throughout the country which appear to have assisted in reducing animal related deaths on such unfenced roads, have proposed to Bucks Council that they take the necessary special legislative actions in order to change the speed limit on roads crossing Dorney Common (Common Road – B3026, Boveney Road and Lock Path) from 60mph to 40mph.

Similar action was done by Hampshire Council (New Forest) in 1990, Devon County Council (Dartmoor) in the 1990s and in 2015 by the London Borough of Richmond (Richmond Park). This to be done at no cost to Dorney Parish Council.

In these situations, where animals roam across unfenced roads (Dartmoor, the New Forest and Richmond Park), the authorities have recognised that these areas require special laws to protect people and animals.

In all cases these councils have determined that a speed limit between 20mph and 40mph would be sensible. It is reported that the implementation of a 40mph limit, with suitable additional signage, in the New Forest significantly reduced animal related accidents.

Background:

Dorney Common is common land and is crossed by the B3026 (Common Road, Boveney Road and Lock Path). Commonable cattle have been permitted to graze on this land since 1637, possibly earlier.

These cattle have right of way on the roads crossing Dorney Common. There are around 200 possible cattle grazing rights for the Common. There are also horses and sheep rights but, currently, they are not used.



Common Land now accounts for 3% of England, but this includes large tracts of the country's most well-loved and ecologically rich landscapes including Dartmoor, the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales, the New Forest, the Shropshire Hills - and Dorney Common.

Regrettably, cattle have been killed and injured on Dorney Common since the motor car arrived in the early 1900s. Many suggestions on how this might be avoided have been examined and rejected over the years by Buckinghamshire Council, Thames Valley Police, Dorney Parish Council and the Dorney Commoners Management Committee. Fencing the Common, deep ditches alongside the roads, reflective head collars and corralling the cattle every night have all been examined and rejected.

The records show that a number of cattle have been killed or seriously injured by vehicles on Dorney Common roads over the past years. These collisions often also cause injury to drivers and passengers, as well as severely damaging the vehicles. They usually occur at night. The sight of a seriously injured calf is extremely harrowing.

This is an innovative, creative proposal by Dorney Parish Council and we are sure that all residents wish them the very best of luck.



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Taplow, Burnham and The Farnhams

You Said – Speeding is a concern

We Did:

During August, our Roads Policing officers have spent 14 hours conducting speed enforcement at various locations. Ten sites were visited, this resulted in them identifying 168 offences across South Buckinghamshire LPA. Our fixed cameras have identified 359 offenders.

Neighbourhood Officers have been out conducting speed checks at the locations shown below, however during August no speed enforcement was carried out by the Neighbourhood team due to other commitments and leave, and this was left to the Roads policing officers alone.

September

Location	Number of Vehicles passed Check Site	Number of vehicles over speed limit	Highest Speed Recorded
Lake End Road, Dorney	65	2	44MPH

October

Location	Number of Vehicles passed Check Site	Number of vehicles over speed limit	Highest Speed Recorded
Lake End Road, Dorney	68	2	40

You Said – Burglary is a concern

We Did:

Offending levels for Burglary have again reduced from last quarter from 7 to 6.

As the evenings start to draw in, we always expect to see an increase in burglaries due to the patterns our crime data demonstrates. Although we will diligently continue in our efforts to prevent and reduce burglaries, we highly encourage you also continue to take the necessary steps to assist in protecting yourselves, your homes and your neighbours.

Windows: Lock your windows.

Interior: Put your interior lights on a timer.

Doors: Double or deadlock your doors.

Exterior: Put your exterior lights on a sensor.

Neighbours: Keep an eye out for your neighbours.



You Said – Drugs are a concern

We Did:

People may be lead to believe that smoking or taking drugs is a victimless crime - think again. As per the findings of a recent police pilot scheme, 150 individuals were arrested for domestic violence and were then drug tested while in custody, 85% of them were found to be under the influence of some sort of drug.

Over the next quarter, the Neighbourhood team will be going into schools to raise awareness around this issue.

Regionally, Thames Valley Police carried out 31 warrants on suspected cannabis grows. This was part of the largest national operation of its kind, aimed at unearthing and disrupting organised crime groups and their illegal revenue streams. The warrants, which ran through June 2023, saw 35 arrests as well as the seizures of drugs, plants, and electronic devices. Cannabis 'factories' are a very real threat. Those tasked to look after the plants are often vulnerable and sometimes the victims of human trafficking and modern slavery. The size of criminal cannabis factories means that damage is often caused to the properties themselves; the buildings can become dangerous as a result of fire risks, booby traps, unlawful abstraction of electricity, fumes and water damage.

Anyone with information about a potential cannabis factory, or drug dealing in general, can contact Thames Valley Police online or via 101. In an emergency always call 999. You can also contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or crimestoppers-uk.org

Other News

We are getting various reports in regards to off-road bikes being ridden around various locations such as the Jubilee, Taplow, Blackpond Lane, Farnham Common and Burnham Park. We are doing extensive patrols in the area and are working with the local parish councils to find alternative solutions to ensure public safety, such as gating to prevent access.

Offenders Brought To Justice

- A 50 year old male was arrested and charged for possession of an offensive weapon and assault in taplow
- Two males have been arrested and charged with drug offences and abstraction of electricity in Dorney after a cannabis factory was identified
- Three males were arrested and received a caution for assault on police and criminal damage in Taplow
- A 31 year old male was arrested and charged for assault in Burnham



DORNEY

PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE DORNEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2023, 7.30pm AT DORNEY SCHOOL

Present

Cllr. Jill Dax (Chair)

Cllr. Anna Palmer

Cllr. Robert Stopford

Cllr. Euan MacLennan

Cllr. Stephen Baker

Cllr. Martyn Westcott-Wreford

Cllr. William Voaden

Clerk Ruth Senior and 4 members of the public

Public Forum

No items raised.

PC/114/23 Apologies for absence

County Cllr. Paul Kelly

PC/115/23 Declaration of interest on any items of business on this Agenda

Cllr. Palmer and Cllr. MacLennan registered interest in item 16 on the agenda - Dorney Village Hall transfer.

Cllr. Palmer registered interest in a planning application.

PC/116/23 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 2023

These were **approved** with no amendments required and signed by the Chairman.

PC/117/23 To receive the Clerk report

There was no update from the Clerk for this meeting.

PC/118/23 Items of business carried forward

118.1 The Orchard Herbs Site

Cllr. Stopford reported that the Enforcement Notice is still expected by the end of November. The appeal for the hotel application could possibly be ongoing to the middle of 2024. Any responses on the site will be posted on the Parish Council website.

118.2 The Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan presentation in October was very well attended and the main questions were in relation to Eton College plans and the number of houses planned for Dorney. The plan has been reviewed following resident and Council comments and the draft has now been submitted to Buckinghamshire for review.

There are further questions over two areas of the plan; the extension of the conservation area to include more of Lake End and the Common and in our draft, it states up to 20 new developments however in the Bucks Local plan up to 2036 it suggests less. These two areas will be reviewed further.

PC/119/23 Planning

Cllr. Stopford asked the Clerk to check the objection submission for PL/23/2744/FA as it was not showing on the planning portal.

It was reported that Eton College may ask for a public hearing to the Boveney plans.

Outstanding applications

Application	Address	Application	Comment
PL/23/3328/PNE	15 Marsh Lane	Notification under The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015	Within permitted development allowance. No comment to be made.
PL/23/2744/FA	59 Harcourt Road	Demolition of building, replace with 6 bed house	Objection based on visual character, overshadowing, loss of privacy and car parking. County Cllr. George Sandy agreed and suggested a 'call in' if required.
PL/23/3576/FA	Dorney Court	Replacement of derelict pool house and pool equipment structure with a single storey pool pavilion	No comment to be made.
PL/23/3165/SA	4 New Boveney Court Farm Cottages	Certificate of lawfulness for proposed single storey rear extension	No comment to be made

PC/120/23 To receive an update on the Thames Water rewilding field

Harcourt Road resident, Andrew Oliver (Ollly) presented plans to become more involved in the Thames Water rewilding field project.

Thames Water were looking for charity support to take on the project but this has so far not been successful.

Ollly requested support from the Council on engaging with the local community and pushing the project forward, which was given. **It was agreed** that Cllr. Dax will make contact with Rebecca Elliot and Ollly.

PC/121/23 To update on the installation of posts and safety outside the Pineapple pub

Maydencroft have quoted £660+VAT for the installation of new posts outside Ashford Lane.

It was suggested that for extra safety we should install a wide angled mirror opposite the entrance to Ashford Lane on an existing post. Initial investigation suggests a maximum cost of £350.

Proposed Cllr. Dax, seconded Cllr. Westcott, all in favour after Cllr. MacLennan confirmed we have the funds available for this project.

PC/122/23 To update on local policing issues

Cllr. Dax reported on the update from PCSO Ange O'Connell.

The Roads Policing Officers attended Lake End Road on Sunday 5th November although being a Sunday, there were not many speeding offences recorded.

PC/123/23 To update on communications with the Local Area Technician

The Clerk reported that at the recent Clerk's Forum, she raised the problem of the lack of contact from the LAT for Dorney and also raised this with the Management Team.

As a result, from December 12th the Clerk will meet with the LAT every other month to discuss the outstanding issues, examples could be from road safety, Fix My Street reports, street signage etc. It was agreed the Clerk will compile a list for the first meeting and chase the information on the gullies report.

PC/124/23 To discuss funding for white gates and villages signs

PC/125/23 To update on the broken sign and new entrance signs to the village

These items were combined.

Graham White from the Beeches Community Board presented on what the Community Board is and examples of what they can fund. In Buckinghamshire there are 16 boards with £1.9 million split across them. The Beeches board has £95k allocated to it.

The Clerk confirmed that Buckinghamshire will fund the replacement sign at the Eton Wick end of the Common which has rotted.

It was proposed that we should apply to the Beeches Community Board for funding for the white

gate entry signs on Lake End Road and Marsh Lane as these have been proven to work in speed reduction and would be a welcome addition to the village. All in favour of this proposal, **it was agreed** the Clerk will begin the application process.

PC/126/23 To discuss and finalise the Annual Plan for Dorney Parish Council

It was agreed that this will be moved to the January Agenda. Cllr. Dax will re-circulate the plan with suggestions of areas which could be allocated to Councillors to manage.

PC/127/23 To ratify the £30 spend on printing for the Neighbourhood Plan presentation

This was ratified.

PC/128/23 To discuss Clerk hours increasing from 5 to 8 per week

The Clerk presented the reasons for the increased workload including; an increase in communications from Buckinghamshire, more in person meetings, increased demand from Council. As overtime has been previously claimed monthly, the increased cost to Council will be minimal but will be more stable and better for budgeting purposes. **This was agreed**, all Councillors in favour.

PC/129/23 To consider the transfer of the Dorney Village Hall charity to DPC

Dorney Village Hall (DVH) have contacted DPC with regards to DPC becoming sole trustees of DVH and taking over the management and charity.

It was agreed that this will be considered, all in favour and questions will be asked of DVH with regards to the charitable status, audits, and transfer process. The Clerk will write to DVH and this will be discussed further in January.

PC/129/23 To consider the proposed price increase from RJC Landscapes

Although the contract between the Council and RJC was for 3 years, overall costs have increased and the demand from Council for extra work has also increased therefore RJC have requested an increase to £565 per month.

It was agreed that the Clerk will request a full schedule of works from RJC and confirm the increase. All in favour of accepting the increase with immediate effect.

PC/130/23 To consider the speed limits in Dorney particularly Dorney Common

It was agreed that we should request a speed limit change on Dorney Common from 60 to 40mph following documentation provided by Cllr. Dax suggesting there should be no need for the £10k speed surveys as per other Common Land speed change projects in the UK. All in favour.

PC/131/23 To discuss litter picking equipment

It was agreed that this will be added to the January Agenda.

PC/132/23 Finance

The cashbook was circulated prior to the meeting and approved.

Cllr. MacLennan will begin budget planning and precept request for 24-25 to present in January.

PC/133/23 To consider any complaints/comments received from residents

We have had a request to install wildlife warning signage around Court Lane into Marsh Lane following the recent deaths of 3 deer. There is a post already in place which may be suitable. **It was agreed** that the Clerk will investigate signage costs and report back in January and will confirm this to the resident.

There have been several reports made on pothole issues on Fix My Street which have been closed off without repairs undertaken. **It was agreed** that the Clerk will investigate this further with the LAT.

PC/134/23 Items to consider for discussion at the next meeting on 16th January 2024.

Annual Plan

Playground update

Litter picking equipment

Wildlife signs

LAT meeting

Meeting ended at 9.20 pm









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Over the last few weeks, I have been working hard to champion the priorities of people across Dorney. Ensuring residents have access to better local health care, protecting our green belt and green spaces and getting more investment for our infrastructure.

Our green spaces and green belt continue to be a focus of mine and I know it is an ongoing concern for residents. I believe our local areas must be protected from any inappropriate damage, such as the ongoing issue of Orchard Herbs. I know that local Councillors agree with this too and are doing all they can to protect this area of Dorney.

On local healthcare provision, I have continued in my mission to improve access and quality of care for residents across the constituency. I am in communication with Buckinghamshire Health Watch and other local authorities to voice residents' concerns over the standard of their local healthcare. I am determined that every resident should be able to see their GP with ease and in good time, and I know that the Government is committed too. From next year, residents will be able to visit their local pharmacies and receive care for seven common conditions without the need to see a GP. This will release GP availability for more appointments. If residents do have concerns about their local healthcare, please do contact my office.

I know that residents in Dorney and across the whole constituency have been concerned by the state of the roads in our area. I was delighted to learn that an additional £51.7 million will be allocated to road repairs in our local area. This is being delivered via the Government's redistribution of funds after a section of HS2 was scrapped. Ever since I was elected, I have campaigned to put a stop to HS2, so I am pleased that the funds for the scrapped part of HS2 are making their way to roads repairs in our local area.

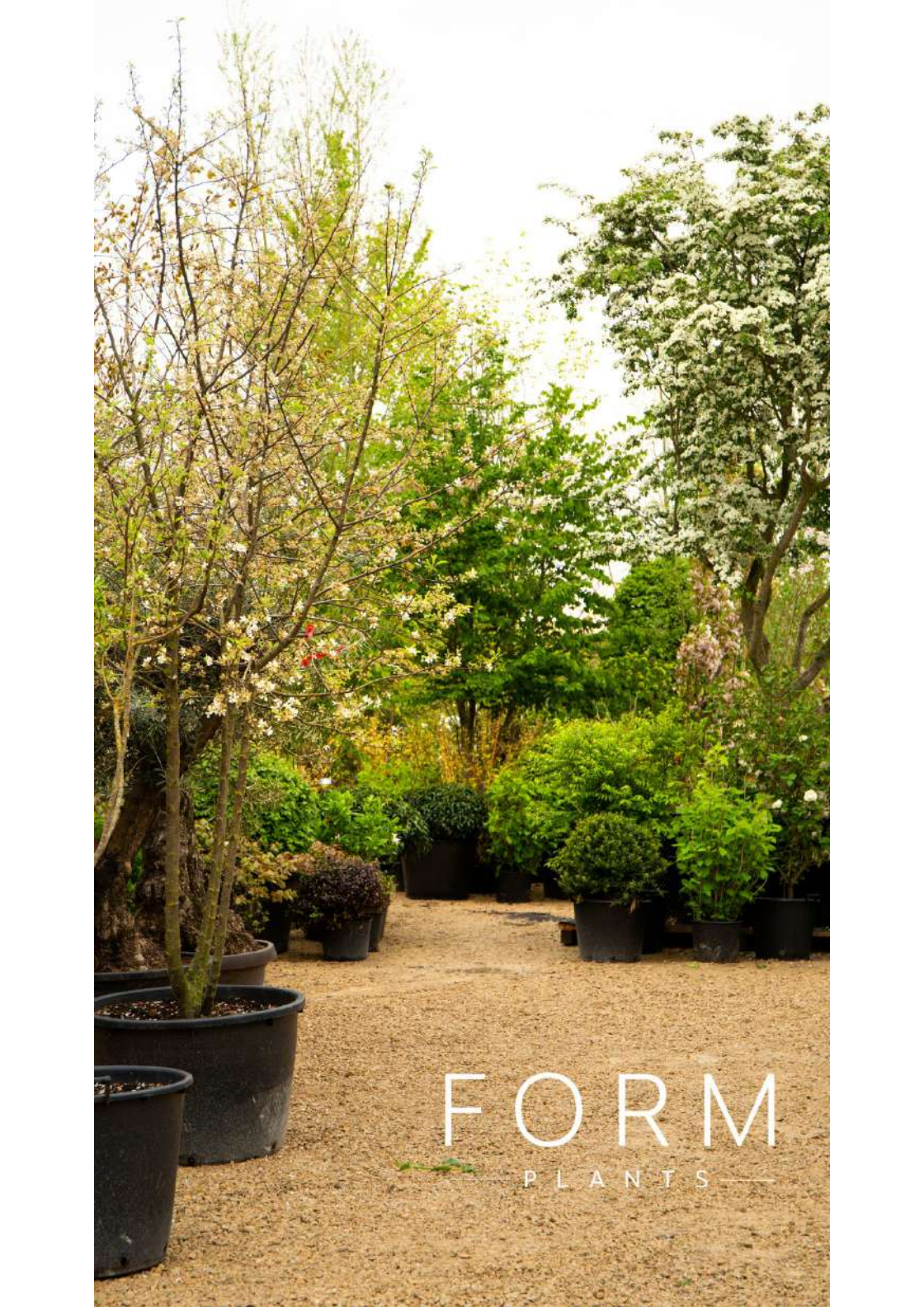
In Parliament, I was delighted to be moved from Assistant Government Whip to Government Whip, Lord Commissioner of HM Treasury. It has been an absolute honour to serve in the Whips office and I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass Bills that deliver for the people of Dorney and the country. I welcomed many of the Bills announced in the Kings Speech. These Bills will help deliver for people across the whole country.

November marked a time of remembrance for our fallen heroes, who sacrificed so much for our country and freedoms. I was honoured to lay a wreath in Beaconsfield for our fallen and marked the occasion in Parliament by placing a cross in the Constituency Garden of Remembrance. During this time, I wanted to send a special thank you to the Royal British Legion branches throughout the constituency who serve our community, especially our Armed Forces community. The work they did during the Poppy Appeal this year, and in years gone by, should rightly be praised.

To close my column, I want to talk about the Autumn Statement. I have always been a low tax Conservative, so with this in mind I am delighted with the Chancellor's statement. A 2% National Insurance cut for people across the country is putting money back into people's pockets, rewarding hard work. The Government is also focusing on support for our high streets and small businesses, by extending 75% business rates relief for hospitality, leisure and retail until 2025. Finally, the Government is also committed to protecting pensioners and the low paid. The triple lock has delivered an increase of the state pension by 8.5%, as well as an increase in universal credit and benefits for the lowest paid. Tax cuts for business and individuals and the lowest paid and pensioners protected. A brilliant Autumn statement from the Chancellor for the people of Dorney and across Beaconsfield.

From protecting the green belt to getting better access to local healthcare, I will work to champion the issues that matter most to residents in Dorney and Beaconsfield. If you require further assistance or have any inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me at joy.morrissey.mp@parliament.uk or 01494 977 505.

As your local champion, I'm here to help you. **Joy Morrissey MP**



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Dorney History Group

The Dorney History Group has no meetings, currently, but it has a wealth of information about Dorney's past on its website: www.dorney-history-group.org.uk, with over 6,000 web visitors each year.

Eton Wick History Group www.etonwickhistory.co.uk

The Eton Wick History Group has been meeting regularly since 1992. Eton Wick and the surrounding area is rich in history and the village has a heritage dating back to 1217.

Meetings are held at 7.30 pm in Eton Wick Hall, Eton Wick, and everyone is welcome. Refreshments are served, and there is a charge of £3.00 to cover costs.

Visitors and new members are always very welcome.

2023 Programme

13th December	'The Village's history through the website': with Mr. Steven Denham
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Further details from: Teresa Stanton teresams35@virginmedia.com

Hedgerley Historical Society www.hedgerleyhistoricalsociety.org

Hedgerley Historical Society (HHS) was founded in 1976.

All evening meetings begin promptly at 8pm, unless otherwise stated. Arrival from 7.30pm is advised. In Hedgerley Memorial Hall, Kiln Lane, Hedgerley Buckinghamshire SL2 3UZ

2023 Programme

13 December (Wed),	The Most Secret Airfield in WW2 Ian Griffith
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Dorney Parish News

Published monthly (except January and August)

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RATE OF SUBSCRIPTION: £7 per annum for 10 issues

Bank Transfer Details: Sort Code 60 04 53, Account Number 13611690

**The Editors are not responsible for the opinions of correspondents
expressed in letters or articles published in this magazine.**

Advertising in Dorney Parish News

Dorney Parish News is an A5 newsletter that is circulated monthly (except January and August) to residents and businesses in Dorney Village, Dorney Reach, Boveney and Lake End.

Our current print run is 250. Estimated readership is around 400 people. There are approximately 300 residential properties in Dorney Parish.

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Contact: Peter Bowman, Editor
peter.bowman@talktalk.net
07889 912714

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National Health Service

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