# Dorney Parish News

# October 2023



### **Dorney Horticultural Society Annual Show:**

My Dream Garden by Isobel Palmer, selected as the winner of the Dorney Mouse



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<u>ISSUE NO. 8/23</u> <u>OCTOBER 2023</u>

### **EDITORIAL**

This issue of 'Dorney Parish News' includes important updates on Eton College's plans to develop housing on two sites in the village and routes to solving the disgrace which is the Orchard Herbs site.

Roughly every fourth weekend this magazine is delivered to distributors and individual subscribers. Any conversation at those addresses usually includes 'Oh, I just wanted to ask you, what's happening about....' and the subjects of enquiry are usually Orchard Herbs, Eton's plans for our village and entry to Dorney Lake. We've long wanted to spell out, if we could, the exact state of play around these issues.

At least the Lake is now open, after a probably justifiable re-closure due to September's heat wave. But with the publication of an article sent to us by the bursar, we now know that Eton intends to appeal the refusal of their application to build 12 houses in the Boveney Conservation Area which we celebrated in our last issue, and to build 11 houses on the Court Farm site, with public meetings planned about the latter in November. This article is on page X.

An email from Bucks Council to our Parish Council seems to make it clear that formal action over the site is likely to be long delayed and casts doubt as to whether Bucks ever intends to produce an injunction against this illegal activity. This email and our council's strong reaction to it can be read on page Y.

Many of those subscribers live in Harcourt Road, and Virginia Silvester wishes us a happy centenary birthday. A large proportion of the current houses, much of the south side of the road, was built and occupied in a rush, one hundred years ago, in 1923. True to form, Virginia reveals the fascinating identities of those pioneer residents in this issue.

I don't know if a regular writer for this parish magazine ever has been married in St James the Less, but Mike Quincey has, last August. He completes the heart-warming story this month and Dorney Parish News wishes Mike and Cheryl every possible happiness.

We'd like to welcome a new contributor to 'DPN', well, actually two. Laila Marples speaks with the voice of 'teenager living in a small village' (her description), and that surely is a voice never heard before in these pages. Andrew Oliver has recently written several smashing articles covering what we have always referred to as 'Nature Notes'. Andrew, better known as 'Olly', will be back in future issues as will be our Dorney Common correspondent, Kristina Perkins.

In fact, we are always appealing for new contributors. We're conscious that much in issues like October's is controversial. Let us know how you feel (preferably for publication) about not just the high-profile disputes, but anything about the politicians who serve us, whether it be here in Dorney, in Aylesbury or in Westminster, or the utilities that often infuriate us. The recent Neighbourhood Plan survey has been a helpful start, but this magazine is committed to reflecting the views of this very special parish.

# **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

**Rev. Carole writes:** As we enter the month of October, so many of our big supermarkets and department stores are festooned with decorations related to the upcoming season ... and sadly I am not referring to Christmas. Of course, I am talking about Halloween ... and it seems to be getter bigger and bigger every year. According to the New York Times, Halloween is now bigger business in the U.K. than Valentine's Day and Firework /Guy Fawkes Night and second only to Christmas and Easter.

Undoubtedly the influx of American movies and television series like "The Walking Dead" have added to the enthusiasm for Hallowe'en in the last decade.

But how many of us know the origins of Halloween?

The word "Hallowe'en" comes from All Hallows (All Saints Eve) and is celebrated the day before the Christian Festival of All Hallows or All Saints Day on 1st November.

However, the festival of Hallowe'en originates in the pagan Celtic New Year celebration of Samhain. It was a time when it was thought the dead revisited the earth, and when people wondered what the new year held in store ... this accounts for the twin emphasis of Hallowe'en; fear of the dead and evil spirits alongside the customs associated with predicting the future.

Christians believe that good and evil are opposites, and many are worried about the presentation of evil as no more than "harmless fun" at Hallowe'en. Concentrating on evil at Hallowe'en brings fear to impressionable young minds and can also breed an unhealthy interest in the occult, which leads to emotional, mental and spiritual distress. This is confirmed by child psychologists, who are dealing with increasing numbers of disturbed children.

For these reasons it is hard to accept Hallowe'en as "harmless fun".

However, Christians believe that evil is real but a defeated power, defeated by the death and resurrection of God's own Son, Jesus Christ nearly 2,000 years ago, and therefore those who trust in Christ need not ultimately fear evil, however evident it is, at times, in the world today.

Hallowe'en at my house means that we do not celebrate this pagan ritual, but we do celebrate Jesus being the light of the world and the next day is All Saints Day when we remember all those people down through the centuries who have followed Jesus in their lives. We do not want to spoil our children's fun, but we need to teach our children the facts so that they know the truth about Hallowe'en. We often have a pumpkin in our window that has a cross carved out of it rather than an evil face. Some Christians also hold a 'Light Party' celebrating Jesus as the light of the world and doing fun activities, so that children do not miss out. Perhaps this Hallowe'en, those of us who are Christians can all give a special 'treat' to those that call and bless them with a gift (chocolate is always popular!) and perhaps a leaflet giving information showing them the true way of life by following Jesus.

Acknowledgement is given to the Association of Christian Teachers for some of the material included in this article.

### By Rev Carole

### **Church Services in October 2023**

Sunday	1st (	October
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9.30 am	Holy Communion (said BCP)	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00 am	All Age Family Service	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

### Wednesday 4th October

### **Sunday 8th October**

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

### **Sunday 15th October**

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

### Wednesday 18th October

10.00am	Holy Communion (said BCP)	St John the Evangelist, Eton
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### **Sunday 22nd October**

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

### **Sunday 29th October**

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

### 'Abuzz with Excitement' - the Dorney Annual Show September 2nd

Scores of villagers visited the show at Dorney Village Hall, which was abuzz with excitement throughout the afternoon. Not our words but those of a visiting reporter from the *Maidenhead Advertiser*. Indeed, the 68<sup>th</sup> Dorney Annual Show, organised by the Horticultural Society, was a happy, well-attended and memorable occasion.

The Society committee was very pleased that a supportive and cheerful throng turned up on a Saturday afternoon to inspect the entries. Of course, we'd like those numbers and that interest to be reflected in more entries across the 79 different classes, but this was a great platform to build on in future years. The number of entries held steady, but, as importantly, the judges – John Barker (vegetables and flowers), Andrea Alsworth (Domestic) and Jan Bowman (Handicrafts and the children's section) – agreed the quality was admirable. Jan pointed out that the entries revealed the 'talent' that resided in the village.

As always DHS chair Ron Alsworth ensured the day ran smoothly and efficiently. He thanked the committee for their efforts, and the Tuck Shop for opening up to sell ice creams on this summery day. Handing out the prizes, he thanked everybody, winners or not, who took part and pointed out that the edible entries no doubt tasted better and were cheaper than those to be found in your local supermarket. He urged all our guests to join the Society and benefit from the events staged. The next will be our Harvest Supper (on October 6<sup>th</sup>) with a talk by the celebrated author (*The Autumn Fruits Cookbook, Wild Food Garden Food*) Charlotte Popescu.

If Ron rightly paid tribute to all entrants, lets spotlight a few of the successes. Over the years, DHS has owed an enormous debt of gratitude to John Akerman, a most stalwart supporter of the Show. Once again, this year his 42 entries won for John the DDHS Cup. His Exhibition Shallots propelled him towards sweeping the board in the Fruit and Vegetables awards. After all this, the Dorney Show Cup was John's as Overall Show Winner. Anna Snook's display of Mixed Flowers made her Overall Winner in the Flowers division while the winner of the Domestic Section was Jan Bowman. Her lemon curd is truly scrumptious (believe me).

Adult Handicrafts featured a number of fine watercolours and high-quality photographs. One of the artists, Chris Knightbridge, was declared overall winner. Special mention must be made of Chris Vine – his large skilfully hand stitched leather framed circular mirror was declared Best Exhibit in this division. Pete Stevens' entries ranged from a prize-winning savoury quiche to wildlife photography and Pete was deservedly nominated the Show's Best Newcomer.

Everybody delighted in the Children's Section entries. There were gingerbread men, dinosaur illustrations, painted pebbles and even a bug house. Henna Bywater-Owens painted her Dream Garden and was overall winner for the under 8s. Another dream garden won Isobel Palmer the special award of the Dorney Mouse and a place on this month's cover of *Dorney Parish News*. But perhaps it is fitting that the overall winner of the over 8's division was Matthew Akerman. Yes, grandson of John and with other grandchildren Luke and Daisy doing well, the dynasty is established.

### **DORNEY & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

### Awards 2023

**DIVISION 1 - FRUIT & VEGETABLES** 

BEST EXHIBIT (for Exhibition Shallots) John Akerman

OVERALL WINNER John Akerman

JUDGES SPECIAL AWARD (for Exhibition Shallots) John Akerman

**DIVISION 2 - FLOWERS** 

BEST EXHIBIT (for Floral Decoration) Jan Bowman

OVERALL WINNER (for Mixed Flowers) Anna Snook

**DIVISION 3 - DOMESTIC SECTION** 

BEST EXHIBIT IN JAMS & PRESERVES (for Lemon Curd) Jan Bowman

BEST EXHIBIT IN PASTRY AND HOME! (for Savoury Quiche) Pete Stevens

OVERALL WINNER Jan Bowman

**DIVISION 4 - ADULT HANDICRAFTS** 

BEST EXHIBIT (for Leatherwork) Chris Vine

OVERALL WINNER Chris Knightbridge

**DIVISION 5 - CHILDRENS SECTION** 

BEST EXHIBIT (Children under 8 years old) Henna Bywater-Owens

OVERALL WINNER (Children under 8 years old) Henna Bywater-Owens

BEST EXHIBIT (Children 8 years old and over) Matthew Akerman

OVERALL WINNER (Children 8 years old and over) Matthew Akerman

SPECIAL AWARD Dorney Mouse for Dream Garden Picture Isobel Palmer

**OVERALL SHOW WINNERS** 

EXHIBITOR WITH MOST ENTRIES (DDHS Cup) John Akerman

BEST NEWCOMER (Judges Special Award) Pete Stevens

OVERALL SHOW WINNER (Dorney Show Cup) John Akerman

# Dorney Horticultural Society's Annual Show 2023 The Prizewinners



The Hall is Open



Anna Snook



Chris Knightbridge



John Akerman's prize winning display





Digging for Victory
- the Vegetable Section

Isobel Palmer



Jan Bowman



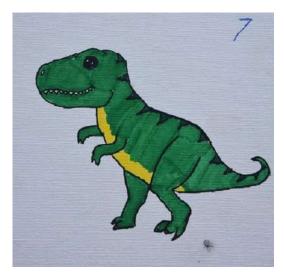
John Akerman



Matthew Akerman

Pete Stevens





My Dream Garden by Henna Bywater-Owens

Dinosaur by Peregrine Palmer





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Professional Photography



### Annual Plan 2023/24

Updated: 19 September 2023

<u>Action</u>	Purpose
Heritage	
Review of Dorney Conservation Area	Consider expansion to include other parts of Dorney Village and Lake End
Orchard Herbs Site	Work with Burnham PC and Bucks Council for injunction and to revert to permitted usage as soon as possible.
Environment Environment	
Review management of roadside verges	How to manage a less manicured look
Planting at Dents Corner, Marsh Lane/Harcourt Road	Improve appearance of Dorney Reach entrance and
areas	centre of Dorney Village
Trumper's Field, Dorney Reach Review	Review ownership and usage
Memorial Garden, Village Road	Review planting in Memorial Garden
Memorial Garden, Village Road	Conduct Tree Survey (DEC23)
Trail bikes in fields and on Jubilee River footpaths	Work with Slough, EA, police to prevent trail bike incursion on Jubilee River/local fields & footpaths
Annual Footpath Audit	Ensure all footpaths are usable and maintained according to standards.
Volunteer litter-pickers	Continue to support large group of volunteers with necessary equipment
Best Kept Village competition	Consider re-entering in 2025 - involving Dorney Horticultural Society and others.
Dorney Lake	Meetings with Dorney Lake to gain summer access for residents
Community	
Possible parish boundary change - Lake End	Support parish boundary change
Planning and Architecture	
Complete Neighbourhood Plan by 31 December 2023	Support Neighbourhood Plan Working Group as required
Infrastructure	
Potholes	Pressure on Bucks Council to repair all potholes.
Resurface certain roads	Pursue previously agreed resurfacing of certain roads
Dangerous Parking outside Pineapple	Resolve dangerous parking at the junction of Ashford Lane and Lake End Road
Village Road Cattle Grid	Pressure Bucks Council to make good and reduce noise
Review reduction in speed limits	Lake End Road (Sainsbury's into Dorney): reduce speed limit from 60mph to 40mph
Review reduction in speed limits	Common Road/Boveney Road: reduce speed limit from 60mph to 40mph
Review reduction in speed limits	Marsh Lane (from entry to Dorney)/Court Lane: reduce speed limit from 40mph to 30mph
Reduce speed on entry to Parish	Review installation of white entry gates on verges - Dorney Reach at Marsh Lane from Taplow and Lake End Road from Sainsbury's
Reduce number of street furniture and signage	Annual Street Furniture/Signage Review
Flooding of Lake End Common (Ashford Lane)	Investigate flooding on Lake End Common/Ashford Lane with Thames Water and Environment Agency





To be discussed at next meeting of Parish Council on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 at Dorney School:

Speed limits – particularly Dorney Common

**Budget** planning

Litter picking equipment

Cattle Grid: On 20th September Littlewood contractors, working on behalf of Bucks Council, carried out the long awaited remedial works to the failed noisy cattle grid on Village Road.

The grid is constructed from a steel frame attached to the concrete pit. Bolted to this are four frames which form the grid. After cleaning out the build up of rubbish work unfortunately was interrupted by the huge amount of rainfall. The following day rubber pads were glued to the frame before reinstating the grids which were bolted through the rubber to the frame..finally work completed and relative peace returned to this end of Village Road.

Review of Parish Maintenance during the autumn.

NEW DATE FOR
PUBLIC
NEIGHBOURHOOD
PLAN
PRESENTATION
Thursday,
October 12th
7pm

DORNEY
PARISH
COUNCIL
ANNUAL PLAN

POSTED ON WEBSITE AND ON OPPOSITE PAGE OVERHANGING BRANCHES IN MEMORIAL GARDEN, VILLAGE ROAD WILL BE REMOVED SHORTLY.

DATE AWAITED.

Please report any problems in Dorney Parish or the surrounding area on FixMyStreet

### ETON COLLEGE'S SITES IN DORNEY PARISH

By Janet Walker, Bursar

As Dorney residents will be aware, Eton College owns two sites in the parish area: Boveney Court Farm and Court Farm Dorney. I am writing to set out our intentions for both of these locations, and to advise of a forthcoming public exhibition in respect of our proposals for the latter.

The College has, for a number of years, been looking carefully at the future of these two sites, as part of our wider duty to optimise investments to further our charitable purposes, such as helping to pay for the College's extensive outreach programme and provision of bursaries. In addition, in the case of Boveney Court Farm, the site is no longer needed for our grounds and maintenance staff. Consequently, it is surplus to the College's requirements, and consideration must be given to its future.

When looking at the future of the two sites, we have (a) taken into account the opportunity to restore and utilise existing barns, and ensuring a sustainable future for the sites as a whole and (b) sought to design proposals which are sensitive and sympathetic to the character of the wider local area.

Furthermore, we recognise that the South Buckinghamshire area has an acute housing need (for both market and affordable homes), coupled with a shortage in delivery. Buckinghamshire Council can only demonstrate a 2.5 year supply of housing land (in this area) for the period 2021-26 and this continues to decline: now standing at 1.8 years for 2022-27. This is considered to be a chronic position (given the requirement for five years), resulting in what is known as "a presumption in favour of sustainable development" (a national planning policy) applying when such proposals are assessed.

According to the Office of National Statistics, nearly a third of 20 to 34 year olds in the UK are living at home with their parents (2021 figures). Against this background, the College considers that it is appropriate to make use of previously developed land in its ownership – such as these sites – to make a modest contribution to tackling the wider housing shortage.

Having full regard to this context, we believe that the redevelopment of Boveney Court Farm and Court Farm Dorney to provide residential dwellings – including through the conversions of existing barns and buildings – would be the most effective utilisation of these landholdings. The College will therefore seek to secure planning permission in respect of its plans for both sites.

### **BOVENEY COURT FARM**

As readers of Dorney Parish News will be aware, our proposals for residential properties at Boveney Court Farm were shared with the local community (particularly those residing in Boveney) through a public exhibition in late 2021. Following this, and taking account of feedback received, an application for 12 residential dwellings was submitted – to Buckinghamshire Council – in 2022. Despite an officer recommendation for approval, the South Buckinghamshire Area Planning Committee refused this application at a meeting in July 2023.

Whilst we acknowledge the Committee's prerogative to make such a decision, we consider that the reasons for refusal do not stand up to scrutiny – particularly given the comprehensive assessment provided by planning officers as to why the application should have been approved.

The College has therefore decided to exercise its right to appeal Buckinghamshire Council's refusal decision to the Planning Inspectorate, and we will commence this process shortly. We very much hope that our appeal will be upheld, thereby allowing us to utilise Boveney Court Farm to provide much-needed new residential properties, In addition, subject to the appeal being successful, the College will make a substantial financial contribution to the delivery of affordable housing elsewhere in the South Bucks area.

### **COURT FARM DORNEY**

Our attention now turns to Court Farm Dorney, on the eastern side of the village, and adjacent to the boundary with the Borough of Slough. The site – accessed via two vehicular routes from Common Road – compromises of four existing residential properties (Court Farm House and Court Farm Cottages), five former agricultural buildings and paddock land. Following the issuing of a Certificate of Lawfulness in 2019 (which confirmed the existing uses of buildings on the site), the College is now in a position to bring forward plans for 11 high quality residential dwellings at Court Farm Dorney.

After much preparatory work (including through pre-application discussions with Buckinghamshire Council, which has led to a smaller but higher quality scheme), we have now almost finalised proposals which would see the conversion of one barn and the re-construction of another to create residential properties. In addition, nine new dwellings would be constructed; whilst other barns would be demolished or partially demolished. All of this would complement improvements being made to the four existing properties on the Court Farm site.

It is recognised that this site – like Boveney Court Farm – is in the Green Belt. National planning policy allows for limited infilling or the partial or complete redevelopment of previously developed land (as this is) where it does not (1) have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt or (2) cause substantial harm to such openness, where it contributes to meeting an identified affordable housing need within the area of the local planning authority. As will be set out in the College's application, we consider that our scheme meets these tests.

However, before finalising the proposals, we would like to share them with the local community. This will provide residents with an opportunity to speak to our project team and provide feedback on the scheme, which will be taken into account ahead of submission.

The College will be hosting a public exhibition in Dorney Lake's Lake View Room on the following dates:

- Friday 17th November 4pm to 7pm
- Saturday 18th November 10am to 1pm

This exhibition will operate on a "drop-in" basis, open to all Dorney residents. Ahead of it taking place, details will be distributed to all properties in Dorney Parish (along with those in the immediately adjacent part of Slough Borough, on Common Road), inviting them to attend.

We fully recognise that these proposals – like those for Boveney Court Farm – are likely to generate quite a bit of interest locally, and we expect there to be concerns. However, it is important that the College secures a meaningful future for the Court Farm Dorney site, and we consider that a residential scheme in this location would be the most effective use of it, not just in helping us further our charitable purposes, but also contributing to housing need in the wider South Bucks area.

The College is committed to this being a high quality development in keeping with the character of the surrounding area. We look forward to sharing the proposals with local residents later in November.

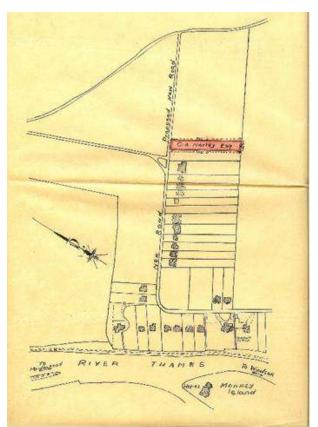
### **HAPPY 100th ANNIVERSARY!**

This year Dorney Reach celebrates a special milestone. It is one hundred years since the building and occupation of the first houses on the south side of Harcourt Road.

Before this development took place, there were only eleven houses in Dorney Reach – nine on the riverbank and two at the northwest end of what was to become Harcourt Road. The road at that time did not join Marsh Lane where it now does; rather, it curved up what is now Meadow Way. In 1919, 33 acres of farmland between Marsh Lane and the houses on the river were sold as building land. Some or all of this area was acquired by a London firm of developers, the Honest Housing Company, who later changed their name to Dorney Estates Company Ltd.

Building began in 1923 towards the river end of Harcourt Road and gradually spread eastwards along the south side of the road. Two houses were also built on the east side of Dorney Reach Road. In 1924, it was proposed to extend Harcourt Road as far as Marsh Lane. By April 1927, 33 new houses had been completed.

Newspaper advertisements in 1924 offered houses ready for occupation for between



£1,150 and £1,650, or built to order from £900. The developer provided a booklet "with full particulars, photographs and plans". One of the earliest houses to be occupied was later described as having been "built to the present owner's requirements in 1923 under the supervision of an architect". There was an architect associated with the developers – John Edwin Sterrett FRIBA, known mainly for designing religious buildings including a church in Slough. Looking at the houses today, it's clear that each is individual but with recognisably similar features. Perhaps prospective buyers had the choice of square or rounded bay windows, inset porches or a small porch roof, optional sunlounge, interior door style. Inside, it's the same; some houses were fitted with washbasins in the bedrooms, some had corner fireplaces. One was built as a chalet bungalow and only four initially had garages.

Almost all the new houses were owner occupied. They were detached and built on long narrow plots

backing on to the remainder of Oak Stubbs field. Typically, about half an acre in size, these gardens offered scope to the new residents to grow their own fruit and vegetables and keep chickens. The owners named their houses; there were no house numbers in Dorney Reach then and indeed Harcourt Road did not receive a name initially, being known as the "New Road".

By the end of 1923, seven of the new houses were occupied. Who were the people who first made their homes on this new housing estate? The earliest residents were young couples with young children or slightly older childless couples. At least five of the husbands had fought during World War I and most, if not all, worked in London, presumably using the train from Taplow which was a key selling point for the estate. Let's take a look at each of these households.

Trevose in Dorney Reach Road was occupied from Christmas 1923 by a couple in their thirties, Norman and Dorothy Kyte. Norman had begun his military service as an Army private but then became a sapper in the Royal Engineers and finally a 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenant in the Machine Gun Corps. From June 1916 he was in France before marrying Dorothy early in 1918. They lived in North London before moving to Dorney Reach and Norman continued to work for a stockbroker in the City. We can guess they named their house after the place on the north Cornish coast; the 1921 census found them holidaying in Barnstaple in north Devon. They do not appear to have had any children and moved away to Sussex in the early 1930s.

At Valhalla in Harcourt Road, nearest to the river, were Frank and Ada Pound. Frank was 28 years old and was born in Portsmouth, where he became an apprentice in the naval dockyard. Early in the 1914-18 war, he had won a scholarship to Greenwich Naval College and joined the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors in April 1917, spending a year at sea on HMS Renown from June 1918. He married Ada in 1920 and they lived in Portsmouth where their son was born in 1922. Promotion in 1923 saw him posted to the Admiralty in London and he brought his wife and baby son to live in Dorney Reach. A second son was born in 1926, but Frank's career as a naval shipbuilder took the family away by 1930. It seems likely that their house was named for HMS Valhalla, a destroyer built in 1916-7, which perhaps was the first ship Frank had been involved with.

ILA POUND, CONSTRUCTOR LIEUTENANT

Next door lived another young family. Claude Bloor was 26 and born in Chiswick, although he and his parents did live in Maidenhead for a time. During the First World War he served as a junior officer in the Royal Field Artillery and was treated for a gunshot wound in his right arm in 1917. An only child, he followed his father in becoming a chartered accountant and joined the same firm in the City of London. In 1919 he married Maude Grantham and their daughter Jeanne was born in 1921 while they were living in East Molesley. Claude became a partner in the firm in 1923 and the family moved to their new home in Dorney Reach, which they called Jeanne Lodge after their little girl. The Bloors did not however stay long and by 1926 were living in Bedford Park where their son was born. A later owner renamed the house White Lodge.

The next house, a chalet bungalow, was the home of a Scottish couple, Arthur and Lily Turnbull, from the end of December 1923. The house was called Sunnyside, perhaps after the street of that name in Edinburgh. In their early forties, the Turnbulls had been married since 1910 and previously lived in South London. They do not appear to have had any children. Lily had been a shorthand typist before her marriage and Arthur worked as a clerk and commercial traveller. He served in the RAF as an aircraftsman during the 1914-18 war and spent a year of that in France. In the late 1930s Lily's elderly parents came to live with them in Dorney Reach. Then tragedy struck. A casualty of the Great Depression, Arthur was made redundant by the woollen merchant who had employed him for eleven years – effectively from the end of his RAF service. He became very depressed and committed suicide on 10 November 1930 by throwing himself under a Bakerloo line train at Paddington. Lily's parents returned to Edinburgh where two months later her father died. Lily probably went with them as the house was recorded as unoccupied in April 1931. But she did return to Sunnyside, where in 1939 she was housekeeper to the occupiers – a widower and his late wife's brother and sister.



The fourth house in this group, Dorincourt, was bought on 10 October 1923 by Leslie Moss and his wife Ethel. Married since 1909, they were in their mid-thirties. They came from north London and Leslie worked as a marine claims settler at Lloyds Insurance. Apparently childless, they took a leading part in arranging social activities to raise funds for the first Dorney village hall – "whist drives, dances, concerts and sales". Leslie's father had been an actor and theatre manager and there were other family theatrical

connections. At home they laid out the garden. The front was screened with a yew hedge which still survives, as does the ornamental fishpond in the centre of the back lawn. Beyond, an avenue of filbert nut trees led to an area where fruit and vegetables were grown. Having designed the house the way they wanted it, this couple remained much longer than most residents and it was not until 1951 that they moved away.

Jumping over the next plot, which was still vacant, the house called Taroba was owned and occupied by John and Winifred Malin. John worked as a patents' clerk and came from Sunningdale, completing the purchase on 5 October 1923. Newly married and aged in their twenties, the Malins had a son born in 1926 and stayed in Dorney Reach until 1934. Their reason for naming the house is unknown, but they called a later home, in Chorleywood, "Dorney End".

The final one of this first group of houses to be occupied was Longfield, where Walter Carter moved in on 26 November 1923. Walter had joined the army as a private early in the First World War and went to fight in France in January 1915. He was commissioned as an officer at the end of the year and the following year married Esme. Before they came to Dorney Reach, Walter and Esme lived in Wandsworth where their son was born in 1920. Walter worked as a jeweller specialising in restoring antique jewellery, in Gerrard Street in Soho. Walter and Esme were in their early thirties when they moved in and a second child, a daughter, was born in 1926. The Carter family was still living in Longfield at the start of the Second World War and probably still in 1949, but later moved to Sussex.

As the Dorney Reach estate grew, another developer became involved. L Walter & Sons, a London based firm of draughtsmen and builders, announced in March 1926 that they had acquired building rights as part of the estate and offered to build standard bungalows to purchasers' own requirements for £595. Meanwhile the Dorney Estates Company branched out to build a Dorney Estate in Banstead in Surrey. The company ceased trading by September 1931, by which time the new estate in Dorney Reach comprised 34 houses. Harcourt Road was named after an 18<sup>th</sup> century bride of Sir Charles Palmer.



Our houses have for the most part stood the test of time. Often extended and modernised, they continue to shelter us today. May they long continue to do so.

### Virginia Silvester





# The Studios School of Performing Arts

Classes 2022/2023

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#### DORNEY SCHOOL



### RESPECT \* COLLABORATE \* GROW

### News from Dorney School

What a great start to the school year! Happy children skipping through the school gates and the sound of laughter and learning in the air. I love the Autumn term. Treasures are found under the canopy of trees that surround our beautiful school. Conkers, acorns, sycamore seeds and bouquets of colourful leaves that seem to glow in the warm autumnal sunshine.

This is the season that shows off our village school in all its glory. Being part of the Woodland Trust means that we have pledged to look after the woodland and nurture the trees around our school and park. Being part of Eco schools means that we encourage biodiversity in our nature garden. The scent of late Summer is still in the air and our children enjoy looking after our school chickens amid the butterflies and bees, busy with their last summer soiree.

The new year has been made even better by an email that dropped into my inbox last week:

"Congratulations to you, your staff and pupils at Dorney School for gaining Healthy Schools status for 3 years. You will have automatically received a validation certificate and Healthy Schools logo from Leeds City Council's Health and Wellbeing Service. Access to the Leeds Healthy Schools toolkit has been commissioned by Buckinghamshire Public Health for 3 years,



with support provided by the Public Health team. You are the fourth school to achieve Buckinghamshire Healthy Schools status as part of this initiative."

This accreditation validates what we do at our school. We encourage everyone to make healthier choices whether at home, at work or at play. We promote self-awareness and ways to keep active and healthy. We grow some of our fruit and vegetables and collect our very own free-range eggs to make delectable snacks for all to enjoy. Our extensive grounds mean that we promote outdoor learning and are now on our way to becoming a Forest School.

On top of this, we also received this for our School Travel Plan initiative:

"Congratulations your Very Good TP level Modeshift STARS accreditation application for Dorney School has been approved........ Overall, engagement is higher than average for schools in the UK, even though a couple of schools have not engaged and with some launching quite late.

**7** schools have an engagement rate of **50%** or over. **4** of these schools have engagement rates above **70%**.

### Dorney school have the highest engagement rate at 94% (which is amazing!)"

We are so proud of our school as we place children at the centre of all that we do. Our teachers are highly experienced, and our lessons are engaging, challenging and fun. Above

all, our curriculum aims to develop the whole child – happy, positive, active and enthusiastic!

Our Early Years Reception class is outstanding with the local authority encouraging staff from other schools to visit and learn from our provision. As one local authority advisor said, "Everything you now do, is the icing on the cake".

Come and visit this delectable school. Let us entice you to join us and be part of an inclusive, warm, nurturing community. We love our school. It is our happy place. The next open events are:

- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 1.30-2.30 pm
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 10-11 am
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1.30-2.30 pm

Everyone is welcome. There will be light refreshments and a tour of the school in action. More details can be found on our school website <a href="https://www.dorneyschool.co.uk/">https://www.dorneyschool.co.uk/</a> or by emailing the school at <a href="mailto:office@dorneyschool.co.uk">office@dorneyschool.co.uk</a> or ringing us on 01628 620871 I hope to see you there.

Warmest wishes,

### Mrs Sharifah Firza Jelany-Lee

### Headteacher



Please feed our swans! Wendy from Swan Support (<a href="www.swansupport.org.uk">www.swansupport.org.uk</a>) has been spreading the word that it's OK to feed bread to our swans.... and lots of other food too.

Our swan numbers are down as sadly some have flown elsewhere and permanently moved, searching for food.

### Swans, ducks and geese need a variety of foods to keep them fit and healthy.



- Bread
- Wheat
- Leafy Greens
- Dried Grass
- Grains and Cereals
- Swan food or pellets

### **Swan Feeding Tips**

- Feed small amounts at a time, making sure all food has been eaten before giving more.
- Always feed on water.
- Never feed them anything that has gone mouldy.
- Please remember to feed responsibly and follow any guidelines in your area

# DORNEY SCHOOL



Respect • Collaborate • Grow

"A little village school with a 'Big Heart' and a warm welcome"

Warm, inclusive, Published results nurturing above local and community that national schools, places the child every year. first. Open events 30<sup>th</sup> November 1.30 5 mins drive from the local Ofsted graded Sainsbury's 'Good' for EYFS. (Taplow) Personal Beautiful Development, grounds and Behaviour & excellent Attitudes facilities Ample parking for everyone

Visit our website at <a href="www.dorneyschool.co.uk">www.dorneyschool.co.uk</a>
and telephone in to book your school visit
School Address: Harcourt Close, SL6 0DY







# CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT DORNEY LAKE

Set within 400 acres of stunning Berkshire Countryside between Royal Windsor, Maidenhead, and the business centre of Slough, Dorney Lake offers the perfect central location for friends, family and colleagues to celebrate the festive season.

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

### Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th December 2023

Both children and adults can enjoy a hearty and delicious breakfast, with activities for the kids and of course, a very special visit from the man himself.

Adult: £27.50 Under 3's: £15.00 Child: £25.00 Under 1's: £5.00 (gift only)

## FESTIVE AFTERNOON TEA Sunday 10th December 2023

The classic indulgence with a festive twist. Enjoy sweet treats and savoury delights whilst overlooking our 400 acres of stunning Berkshire countryside.

Junior Afternoon Teas are inclusive of a small Christmas Gift.

Adult: £29.95

Junior: £16.50 (Children under 10 years)

### SHARED CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT

### Friday 15th December 2023

Enjoy a relaxed atmosphere, fantastically unique festive cuisine served from street food style market stalls, and dance the night away with our live DJ. Tickets: £70 per person

Price including VAT. Minimum 2 tickets per booking. Over 18 event

### **EXCLUSIVE CHRISTMAS PARTIES**

#### November and December 2023

Celebrate the festive season with one of the most unique office Christmas

parties in Berkshire. Discover a new, fresh take on the traditional with street
food market stalls, live DJ, and more.

from £65 per person

Price excluding VAT. Cost per head variable dependant on peak and off-peak dates. Suitable for 60 to 150ppl

### BOOK SOON, our Festive Events sell out fast!

For more information or to book, visit our website at www.dorneylake.co.uk Got a question? Talk to our friendly Events Team at infoedorneylake.co.uk

# Does Dorney have good amenities coming from a teenager lacking the ability to drive just yet?

One of the many positives of Dorney was the recent parish survey and being able to have your say. In this article, I'm going to go into detail on one specific question along with giving my opinion as a teenager on this matter.

One of the questions in the recent survey was 'with regards to amenities in Dorney, which of the following would you most like to have available'. This question interested me, especially seeing the results. These were the options given and how many votes they got, village shop (33), dentist (1) and doctors (59).

Firstly, the dentist, getting one vote. Sorry to that one person, the likelihood of this happening could be limited.... But nonetheless still a good choice. Having a dentist would be useful with people who can't drive or need people to drive for them and making that trek to the nearest dentist in either Maidenhead, Windsor or Slough could be hard for some people. Having it down the road could benefit many of us. On the other hand, people may already have a specific dentist that they have been to previously. More questions about this could be: would it be NHS or Private? You most commonly only need a check in every 6 months unless something goes wrong, so how much would it be used by the residents - there are only 753 of us - when the typical dentist would have 2000 people registered? Would it be open to walk-ins in which case this would likely mean a lot more traffic through the village and the bigger benefit likely for people outside of the village?

Coming a not so close second was having a village shop, getting a positive 33 votes. I think this again would be a positive asset to Dorney. Although we have a Sainsburys in Taplow about a 4-minute drive and then a little Nisa over the common in Eton Wick, we don't have one in the heart of the village. But do we need one if we have a few around us? You could also argue that again people may not want to drive four minutes, which seems like a waste of petrol especially with prices still being very high (and everyone seems to be discouraging us from using cars). So having a shop in the village would be very convenient, extra convenient if you forget that one item for dinner. As a teenager this would be helpful, in particular when my parents go out and I have to order a Deliveroo and in some situations (even if it is a very rare occasion) I want to cook my own dinner it would be helpful to have a shop a walk away. The obvious thought of a village shop is the same as the Sainsburys, but I would suggest a Daylesford-esque shop with fresh meat or freshly cooked meals. A more organic style shop.

And finally coming in top with 59 votes was a doctor. I think that this would be a brilliant asset to the village as having various generations in the village everyone would benefit, especially as health is some peoples' number one priority. A doctor's surgery with a pharmacy included would also be beneficial for people who need prescriptions so they don't need to travel somewhere else to collect them which kind of defeats the purpose of a local doctor. But on the other hand, people may have a particular doctor they go to and who knows them well, so this may cause stress in the process of moving doctors. Saying that I still think a doctor's surgery would be beneficial in Dorney, especially if it means it will be easier to get an appointment. Having a doctor that also has a mother & baby clinic would attract more families to the area and having access to physiotherapy to help with mobility of all ages, this would help if I got into a lacrosse injury in the little amount of matches I play.

Other amenities that a teenager like me would love in the village could include more flexible hours of access to Dorney Lake and the tennis courts, or a Post Office to help return all my Amazon orders and DPD packages.

Overall, the village shop would be something my brother and I would really love to see so it would get my vote. Having a shop in the village would allow more choice and independence especially considering I can't drive. I could even get a holiday job there!

Laila Marples 24



### 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



# TAPLOW HARVEST SCARECROW FESTIVAL



ST NICOLAS CHURCH 21<sup>ST</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2023

Follow the scarecrow trail and vote for your favourites

:: Harvest lunch and homemade cakes ::

:: Corn dolly making ::

# We Need Your SCARECROW!



Join the celebrations by making a scarecrow to decorate the church

Everyone is welcome to join in, including individuals and organisations Scarecrows should relate to our theme of **HARVEST** and the **CREATION** 

Scarecrows should be built from scratch by the entrant using natural materials as much as possible

Deliver your scarecrow on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>** or **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**The display will remain open for viewing throughout half term

23<sup>rd</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> October

For detailed information and a registration form, Scan the QR code or visit St Nicolas Church website <u>st-nicolas-taplow.org</u> or email churchwarden <u>hilary@turpinsacs.co.uk</u>





# Dorney Neighbourhood Plan

Next meeting on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> of October, 7pm (changed from Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> October) at Dorney School (NOT Dorney Village Hall).

We hope you manged to read our progress to date in the September Issue of the Dorney Parish News.

We are very excited to tell you where we have got to so far and receive your input and response to our proposals.

Unfortunately, due to issues outside of our control, the Dorney Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Working Group has had to change the date and venue for our final residents meeting but not by much!!

We are really sorry to mess you about and we do hope you will be able to attend the new meeting which will be held on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> of October between 7pm and 9pm, just a few days later than the previous meeting.

The venue has changed as well and it will now be held at Dorney School rather than Dorney Village Hall.

As we mentioned before your presence is vital as we complete the crucial next steps in completing the Neighbourhood Plan, a document that will be presented to Bucks Council for approval.

We look forward to seeing you on the new date and we thank you in advance for your patience.

Just to remind you:-

THE MEETING DUE TO BE HELD ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER IN DORNEY VILLAGE HALL HAS NOW BEEN CHANGED TO

12<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER AT 7.00PM AT DORNEY SCHOOL.

Please be a part of this important project and attend the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October, 7pm at Dorney School.

Your input really does matter.

If you have any queries or wish to be kept up to date by email, please send your request to

dorneyneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com

### It's Still Never Too Late

There are some conversations in life that are tricky.

It starts with, "The dog was sick on my homework," at school, then through teens when confronted by an exasperated father at two in the morning demanding, hands on hips, "Where the Hell have you been?" and later on to "Dad, sorry I've put a dent in your car."

You get the idea, and as you progress through life, the squirming hand ringing that precedes such utterances diminishes to zero; or so it should.

"Dad's getting married!" is certainly tricky when announced to sons in their forties, but wonderful people that they are with lovely wives and children, both appeared to think it a great idea, agreeing not only to be ushers and generally look after the old fellah, but to include their gorgeous children as bridesmaids and pageboy.

Well, I did warn you Dear Reader, that there would be a part two of last month's offering, and like all good (and bad) cliff hangers, I left you returning from an unoccupied hotel room in the fleshpots of Slough, breaking with tradition and spending my last night of bachelorhood with my bride.

A year earlier, the local all round 'good guy' John Akerman met Cheryl and I at a friend's get together, and the moment marriage was mentioned he bounced excitedly,

"When?"

"Probably August next year," we said.

"I insist on driving you in my old Bentley," he smiled, and on the third of August a year later became the proud recipient of a masterplan for the fifth together with all the other main players on the 'Great Day'.

To say I was nervous would be to describe World War Two as unfortunate, and by the time Usher Pete arrived to take me to the church ridiculously early in my ill-fitting hired suit, my nerves were jangling at C sharp. The sky was a deep grey, carrying the heavy downpour predicted to arrive as my new wife and I would later emerge from the church.

Pete and I arrived almost an hour too soon, and the other two ushers (Dave, my second son and old friend Andi in charge of car parking) were early too, and at that point 'looking after the Old Fellah' duties started with a trip to the Palmer Arms for a settling G&T, and warm congratulations from the on-duty boss.

On return to St James the Less, I was reassured that my nightmares of no one turning up had indeed been nightmares, as old friends and loved relatives hugged and shook hands over smiling conversations as Pete and Dave elegantly handed out orders of service under even darker skies.

As the ceremony drew nearer the church staff bustled around and the blonde dynamo in the dog collar grinned hugely as my Best Man Duncan (an old police mate) and I stood at the altar, waiting apprehensively. Had Cheryl come to her senses and run? The bells started ringing, announcing she had not! Thanks Roger and the brilliant team in the tower.

I was pleased with myself that so far all was running to plan, and I had held it all together very well, when suddenly, the hubbub of conversation stopped as the organ struck up Pachelbel's Canon in D as a small beautiful little girl in a white dress carrying a huge posy walked alone and confident into the aisle, and I started to choke.

Duncan raised an eyebrow.

"You OK Mate?" he whispered.

I nodded.

The bridesmaid was followed by the pageboy in his Sunday Best, and then by three identically dressed delights, followed by my stunning smiling beautiful bride.

That was it! From then on, she supported me, aided occasionally by Duncan.



The remainder of the ceremony was intensely personal, and perhaps not for these pages. It is perhaps sufficient to say that I came from the church into the pouring rain (well the porch actually) with my glorious wife and her entourage surrounded by the people I care about most on the planet, happy to be back in that great family of families, the most fortunate of pensioners. Thanks Rev Janet.

John drove us in the Bentley as he had promised as the sky lightened. Thanks John.

The wedding breakfast and subsequent party followed traditional lines except that roles were reversed. Usually the happy couple and their friends are youngsters and do the things youngsters do, while parents, grandparents and their friends sit around the edges and smile benignly over a glass of stout or port and lemon, at the antics of the young. Here, the youngsters watched bemused with their elders who were in the majority who seemed to have forgotten their age and ailments as the years rolled back, if only for the moment. The bride's entourage

stayed up into the night sipping soft drinks, bewildered until the older ones found normality in their phones.

The reception turned into a rowdy happy party as Cheryl and I performed our very brief and terrifying first dance, much to the approval of our patient dancing teacher friend who managed to drag some order from my two left feet, and became progressively wilder as my young ambulance friends rowdily taught us new group dances while the venue staff subtly moved around and catered for our every whim. Thanks Jane and all at Wexham Golf Centre.

All too quickly it was over, and some kind soul took the new Mr. and Mrs. Quincey home where Cheryl, whose happy smile had not left her face for twelve hours breathed into my ear,

"I don't want this day to end. It's been the happiest day of my life."

Three weeks later, after two honeymoons I was back to work in my green uniform, proudly flaunting my new shiny wedding ring. I collected my first patient Pam.

"You are getting married Mike!" she stated.

"Already done," I grinned.

"Oh, you must tell me all the details," she exclaimed excitedly, and I did en route to the next pick up.

"Mike's got married," Pam told her as she got into the ambulance, and so they chatted amiably about it, continuing the conversation at their clinic.

At my first break, I recalled the momentous events of the last few months and felt exhausted and elated at the same time.

"You're too old for this," I told myself. "Be your age!"

Certainly not.

Stay safe.

Mike Quincey

# JOY MORRISSEY MP Standing up for the Beaconsfield Constituency

Since I last wrote for this magazine, Parliament has returned after a busy summer recess. It was fantastic to spend so much time in the constituency this summer, meeting residents, attending events and visiting local businesses. With Parliament sitting again, I have been back in Westminster continuing my job as an Assistant Government Whip for the Energy and Education Departments. As I have always done, I have been championing the voices of the people of Dorney and the voices of the whole constituency in Parliament.

As your Member of Parliament, one of my main focuses is ensuring residents have access to fundamental health care services. Recently, I spent time talking with Buckinghamshire NHS Trust and Healthwatch Bucks. I continued to express the concerns raised by residents regarding Burnham Health Centre and their struggle to find suitable appointments and general access to healthcare. If residents are experiencing problems with healthcare access, I would be more than happy to represent your concerns to the local NHS trusts, so please get into contact with me.

In the first week back from recess, the Government introduced the Energy Bill for its Third Reading. This Bill will help drive down the cost of energy bills and deliver more affordable green energy for people across Dorney, the constituency and the country. At a time when Putin's brutal war in Ukraine has caused energy prices to soar, this Bill has become more important than ever before.

As I mentioned in my previous article, I know that protecting our green spaces and the greenbelt is a key focus for residents living in Dorney. This continues to be a priority of mine, too. Although not in Dorney, residents in Little Marlow have continued to express concern over the development of the Marlow Film Studio on our greenbelt. I have been clear in my opposition to such development and will continue to stand up for residents concerned by this project.

It has been an absolute delight to attend so many events in recent weeks, specifically hosting popup surgeries. I have been speaking to residents at these pop-up surgeries in Wooburn, Iver and Marlow about the issues that matter most to them. These discussions are so important and are vital in ensuring I champion the most important issues to residents across the constituency.

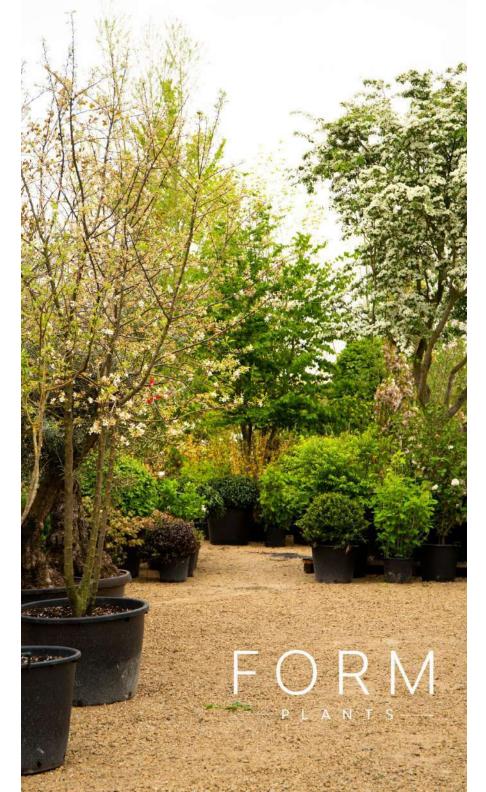
One issue I know matters to many across the constituency and in Dorney is the work being done to combat Dementia. Alzheimer's Research UK visited Parliament recently, and it was great to learn more about the future of dementia care in the UK. Funding for Dementia will rise to £160 million a year by 2024, and I know this is an issue that the Government will continue to put their focus on.

Thank you for reading this update. Although Parliament has been sitting, I have and will continue championing the important issues residents care about in Dorney and across the Beaconsfield constituency. 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.

Together, let's work together to bring a bright future to the Beaconsfield Constituency and to Dorney.

### Joy Morrissey MP

Member of Parliament for Beaconsfield
Assistant Government Whip
House of Commons | London | SW1A 0AA | 020 7219 8708
Disraeli House | 12 Aylesbury End | Beaconsfield | Buckinghamshire | HP9 1LW | 01494 977505
www.joymorrissey.uk | @JoyMorrissey | fb.com/joy4beaconsfield



### Orchard Herbs Site: The incompetence of Bucks Council continues.....

### 25th August 2023: Email from Bucks Council to Dorney Parish Clerk (extracts)

"In the past few weeks we have sought Counsel legal advice from 2 separate barristers about how to take this site forward. Unfortunately, both of those opinions were that applications to the High Court for a mandatory injunction was unlikely to be successful and that there is insufficient evidence to support a prohibitory injunction. There are also concerns raised as to if there any breaches of the enforcement notices currently taking place on the site. Our view is that this is mainly because the manner in which the site is currently being used has materially changed since the time that the notices were originally issued [2006 and 2007!] and therefore the activity occurring on site is outside the scope of the enforcement notices.

Given the complexities of this site, as a Council, we need to make sure our case going forward is legally sound, and that any actions we take are justified and proportionate. We are therefore currently preparing a new planning enforcement notice which we propose will address all the activities occurring at the site. Due to the complex nature of this site, officers will be seeking legal advice on the enforcement notice prior to serving and therefore we anticipate issuing a new notice in the next 6-8 weeks [by 20 October 2023!].

There is, of course, the likelihood of the owner lodging an appeal against the enforcement notice and this will again take time to be determined [Current Government estimate is one year – say, December 2024]. In the meantime we will advise you accordingly when the new notice is issued and send a copy to the Parish Council and the Local Ward members as per our standard protocol."

### 11 September 2023: Email from Dorney Parish Clerk to Bucks Council

"Thank you for your email of the 25<sup>th</sup> of August. As you can imagine we are extremely disappointed with what seems to be yet another delay in taking formal action on this site and the tone of your advice gives rise to Dorney Parish Council questioning when, and indeed if, Bucks Council have any intention or desire to produce an injunction for these illegal businesses. Your email of the 1<sup>st</sup> of August set out the expectation that effective action was finally going to happen to eliminate the daily noise, dust and disruption caused to our residents by the Ready-Mix Concrete operations, scaffolding business and skip hire. Furthermore it gave hope that the total eye sore of the second-hand truck and parts business, located in this rural environment, had moved to an end game – sadly this now seems not to be so.

The advice you have received seems in contrast to 5.1 Section 187B of the Town and Country Planning Act ("the 1990 Act") (inserted by section 3 of the Planning and Compensation Act 1991 ("the 1991 Act")) which enables the LPA [Local Planning Authority] where they consider it expedient for any actual or apprehended breach of planning control to be restrained, to apply to the High Court or County Court for an injunction. An application can be made whether or not the LPA have exercised, or propose to exercise, any of their other powers to enforce planning control." As the storage of non agriculture vehicles is in clear breach of the existing enforcement notice, which last year the Council was forcing the land owner to move, with some success. Can you

please explain to us why the use of an injunction for this breach of an enforcement notice was not considered.

In relation to these matters we have the following questions,

- 1. DPC request sight of the legal advice given by your external barristers.
- 2. The existing enforcement notices (those closed by Bucks and the current open one) clearly cover the limitation on storage of non-agriculture vehicles. Could you explain why these couldn't be used to clear the site, irrespective of the other ongoing businesses?. Last year this was happening under the weekly inspection by the council. We would appreciate knowing why a new enforcement notice is required to clear the site, when the old one seemed to work well.

Secondly following on from the email sent by Robert Stopford on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August please address and answer the following unanswered questions:

- We do appreciate the Stop Notice EN/18/2279 the council issued last year to close down the airport car parking operation, but would like to understand the reasoning why the council chose not to issue a Stop Notice for the Ready Mix Concrete operation at this time, for an illegal business which had been running for over a year on site and the scaffolding business which has started on site in the last 3 months along with a second Ready Mix Concrete site which can clearly be seen from the M4. Why can a Stop Notice not be issued for this operation? We understand such Notice only operates for 28days however it would seem this action would at least have the effect of indicating that the Council are taking action which in the long term could be more permanent.
- Finally, please update us of the situation in regard to the appeal by Orchard Herbs for the certificate of lawfulness PL/20/3452/EU.

We welcome the offer to meet to discuss these matters further, in Dorney, and will come back to you with some dates."

Both complete emails, together with previous correspondence and updates, can be found on the Dorney Parish Council's website under Local Projects/Orchard Herbs Site (Burnham).

Dorney Parish News has been consistent over the years in "calling out" the incompetence of the Planning Enforcement function at Bucks Council with regard to the Orchard Herbs site. The above email from Bucks Council simply reinforces that fact.

Dorney Parish Council, in its email above, continues to strongly pressure Bucks Council to resolve the problem, of their making, quickly.

It appears that the time is approaching for Dorney Parish Council to raise a formal complaint to the probably extremely busy Complaints Department at Bucks Council. On the assumption that this will not succeed in resolving the problem, the next step is to refer the complaint to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman.

Only when these two steps have been taken and no satisfactory solution delivered can a Judicial Review be initiated. The tragedy continues......



# MINUTES OF THE DORNEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023, 7.30pm AT DORNEY SCHOOL

### **Present**

Cllr. Jill Dax (Chair)

Cllr. Anna Palmer Cllr. Euan MacLennan Cllr. Martyn Westcott-Wreford

Cllr. Robert Stopford Cllr. William Voaden

Clerk Ruth Senior and 1 member of the public

### **Public Forum**

No items raised.

### PC/98/23 Apologies for absence

Cllr. Stephen Baker

### PC/99/23 Declaration of interest on any items of business on this Agenda

There were none

### PC/100/23 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 18th July 2023

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

### PC/101/23 To receive the Clerk report

The Clerk presented the report which was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

### PC/102/23 Items of business carried forward

### 102.1 The Orchard Herbs Site

The Clerk sent a reply to Darran Eggleton @ Buckinghamshire Council but no response has been received as yet. All correspondence is available on the Parish website. In the meantime **it was agreed** that the Council will begin to prepare for the next step.

There is no further update on the Certificate of Lawfulness.

### 102.2 The Neighbourhood Plan

Thanks were given to Cllr. Voaden and Mark Brand for their continued hard work on the Neighbourhood Plan.

The proposed plan was circulated to the Council prior to the meeting. **It was agreed** that any recommendations for changes be emailed to Cllr. Voaden by end of Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept.

**It was agreed** that the meeting should be delayed if possible so that we have representation from Councillors as there is nobody available for Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Oct. The Clerk will investigate the possibility of holding the meeting at the school on Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Oct.

**It was agreed** to remove the suggested site names for future development from the plan and to include more appropriate photos of local housing examples, possibly period properties in Boveney.

It was agreed that more of the DNA of Dorney article could be included within the plan.

Once agreed, the plan will be sent to Buckinghamshire as a draft for approval before official submission.

### PC/103/23 Planning

Hotel planning application appeal is still under review. The Heritage Report is to include photos of the site view from local residencies after a visit from the Inspector.

Outstanding applications

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Address	Application	Comment	
14 Dorney Reach Road	Single storey side extension	none	
59 Harcourt Road	Demolition of building, replace with 6 bed	Further investigation needed when documents are	
	house	available	
Boveney Court Farm	10 mobile stables	It was agreed after a majority vote that no action will	
		be taken	

### PC/104/23 To discuss the flooding problems on Lake End Common and Dorney Common

It was confirmed that the Environment Agency have been working on clearing blockages to alleviate flooding.

It was agreed that the Parish Council will write to Thames Water to advise of the apparent link between the Treatment Works discharges and the flooding on the commons.

Cllr. Dax confirmed that since receiving the Cain report 2022, the flooding on Dorney Common is in hand with the Dorney Common Management Committee.

### PC/105/23 To update on the possibility of installing posts outside the Pineapple pub

Further investigations of installing parking deterrents along the stretch of road outside the pub and Ashford Lane will continue.

**It was agreed** that Cllr. Dax will contact the landlord regarding moving the planters to stop people parking on the pavement.

### PC/106/23 To discuss and finalise an Annual Plan for Dorney Parish Council

The Clerk and Councillors thanked Cllr. Dax for producing the Annual Plan.

**It was agreed** that all Councillors should look at the plan and agree to take on some of the points as their projects, to confirm in November.

**It was agreed** that an outline of the plan will be sent to Peter Bowman for inclusion in the next Dorney Parish News edition.

### PC/107/23 To discuss the entrance signs to Dorney

No update – to be moved to November meeting.

### PC/108/23 To update on the broken Dorney Village sign

No update – to be moved to November meeting.

### PC/109/23 To discuss the Memorial Garden tree pruning

Following the quote from Maydencroft to trim the overhanging branches for £375 +VAT, **it was agreed** that this will go ahead. The Clerk confirmed this can be Community Infrastructure Levy spend.

### PC/110/23 To update on Dorney Playground

Cllr. Dax confirmed that there are problems with the number of volunteers for playground duties. The tuck shop will close as usual in October for winter/spring and the annual Halloween party is scheduled for Weds 18<sup>th</sup> October.

The Clerk confirmed that the request for more bins in the playground has been submitted to Buckinghamshire Council.

The Trustees have applied for funding to the community Board and Village Hall Charity to replace one of the pieces of equipment.

### PC/111/23 Finance

The cashbook was circulated prior to the meeting and approved.

### <u>PC/112/23 To consider any complaints/comments received from residents</u> None received.

### PC/113/23 Items to consider for discussion at the next meeting on 21st November 2023

Speed limits – particularly Dorney Common Budget planning Litter picking equipment

Meeting ended at 8.55 pm

### The Dorney Reach defibrillator - don't forget the keycode!



The Community Access Defibrillator is installed on the side of the Village Hall near the Playground Tuck Shop.

Should you need to use it, the defibrillator will lead you through the necessary steps.

The defibrillator case is locked. The keycode is **C123X**.

The information has been added to the Local Issues page on the Parish Council website so that it is always available.

Dorney Parish News will continue to provide Keycode details.

The Defibrillator in the old phone box on Village Road does not require a Keycode.





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The management committee welcomes non-residents, organisations, clubs, businesses, and societies to hire the halls.

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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.

### **Rate Card:**

Advertising Rates	Height mm	Width mm	10 issues	1 issue
Full Page	190	130	£100	£13
Half Page	90	130	£55	£8
Third of a page (Horizontal)	60	130	£50	£7
Quarter Page (Horizontal)	45	130	£45	£6

Contact: Peter Bowman, Editor

peter.bowman@talktalk.net

07889 912714

#### **Emergency Contact Details**

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Fire, Police & Ambulance	Emergency Calls: Incidents in Action	999
Thames Valley Police	Non-urgent calls	101
National Health Service	For urgent medical problems. Need advice	111
Crimestoppers	Anonymously report information	0800 555 111
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