

# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF HEDGERLEY 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014

Chairman indicated emergency exits

In attendance – Cllr Derek Baker (Chairman) Hedgerley Parish Council, Penny Harris (Clerk to the Council) and 24 attendees.

Chairman welcomed those present and said thank you for coming.

Minutes of APM 2013. These were approved as a true record, and signed.

## **PRESENTATIONS -**

### **Hedgerley Parish Council**

Its not often we find ourselves the subject of a national and regional news item but this was the case in May last year when Wetherspools announced their intention to open the first Pub on a Motorway Service Station at Beaconsfield MMSS and that they had Permission and a Alcohol licence to do so. Despite objections by us and others it was by then a 'fait accompli' and the pub duly opened in January this year. Wetherspools have it seems deliberately it a low key operation but we ,and hopefully the Police, will be scrutinising its operation to see if there is any evidence of drink driving increase or social disturbance.

Stage 1 of the Forestry Commission Woodland Grant Scheme 10 Year Management Plan for our two woodlands ,Kemsley Wood and Kiln Wood were implemented during the year. Arisings from the Holly clearance initially posed a problem for dog walkers but following further work by Ben Harris and the Hedgerley Conservation volunteers(HCV) this has been resolved.residents in adjoining Kiln Wood have seen the benefit of increased light to their properties from the tree work carried out there.

The other main issue in Kemsley Wood has been the youth club proposal to clear the long disused Tennis court and create a youth activity play area which initially was to include a skate board . this aroused considerable opposition from surrounding residents due to noise and supervision issues and was withdrawn in favour of a scaled down proposal which the Council has agreed could have a one year trial period to observe its impact.

On the Green a successful August bank holiday junior football tournament took place organised by David Vincent and it is understood another one is planned for this year. Also ongoing negotiations between the the newly reformed football club and the Drifters rugby club for joint shared use of the pitch as well of of its maintenance costs are now hopefully reaching agreement such that junior football matches can be played on the Green next year.

To commemorate World War 1 centenary this year we now have confirmed funding via our county Councillor Peter Hardy to install a commemorative park bench on the Green . In addition there will be two seats in memory of several recently deceased well known residents including Edith Tracy.

The PC objected to the latest boundary Commission consultation proposal which would join us with both Farnham Common and Farnham Royal; and have 3 District councillors covering a number of Parish councils. We are not opposed to joining with Farnham Common but consider there is little commonality with Farnham Royal. Also a single point of contact by one District Councillor is preferred as it gives continuity in addressing issues pertinent to Hedgerley.

Finally I'd like to thank our Parish clerk, Penny Harris for her work during a difficult year for her healthwise also Ben Harris for his tree /woodland work and the excellent signs he erected for this meeting; Grant Randall who does grass cutting and other maintenance; and last but not least my fellow Parish councillors.

*Derek Baker,  
Chairman Hedgerley Parish Council*

## **Report from County Councillor**

I was very pleased to be re-elected last May and to start my third four-year term as your county councillor. I also changed responsibility from Transport to Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources so let me start by giving you a very brief overview of the council's finances.

Like all parts of the public sector the County Council is under severe pressure to reduce spending. Our funding from Government has this year been reduced yet again, and although we have increased council tax by 1.5% this year after three years of freeze, our overall resources are in real terms much less than four years' ago. At the same time the statutory obligations of the county council particularly to the vulnerable and those in greatest need are increasing. 60 per cent of the county council budget goes on social care to disadvantaged children, the elderly and the disabled.

What this means is that budgets in other areas, principally transport and the environment, are ever more severely constrained, and funding is only available for critically important projects.

The main concern of residents in Buckinghamshire is the poor state of our roads, made much worse by a succession of bad winters. In the last three years the council has increased spending to over £50m of taxpayers' money on resurfacing work, and our plans include a further £60m in the next four years. Yet these large sums seem barely to keep pace with deterioration in the network from winter weather. Over the course of the spring and summer maintenance gangs will catch up with the damage caused by the recent very wet winter. To get ahead of the problem we would need to finance even larger resurfacing programmes. This would mean large-scale borrowing which would have to be repaid, with consequences for the council taxpayer in future.

## **Future Shape of the Council**

To address the longer-term financial challenge we are starting a major programme of change to make the council more commercially-minded, getting additional income from selling services outside the council and achieving a greater understanding throughout the organisation of costs. We want to combine private sector thinking with the public service ethos. Example initiatives are new companies such as Bucks Law+, selling legal services to schools and charitable organisations across the south-east, and Bucks Learning Trust, a joint venture with academy schools in Buckinghamshire selling school improvement services round the world. It is difficult to exaggerate how much local government is having to change in this time of austerity, and I am pleased to report that your county council is in the forefront of these changes.

## **Local Issues**

I was very pleased that at long last the drainage issues in Kiln Lane were tackled. I am only too well aware however of outstanding issues in the parish such as the dip in Hedgerley Lane that I am still trying to get resolved. Also the length of time taken to deal with the Moveable VAS for Parish Lane is a great embarrassment. The reality is that we have too few resources chasing a multitude of maintenance problems across the county.

I continue to work closely with your parish council and they raise local concerns with me on a monthly basis. I am very happy to hear from any resident on any issue or concern.

Peter Hardy, Bucks County Council

## **Annual Report from your District Councillor 2014**

### Chiltern and South Bucks Joint Working.

The progress of the proposed Joint Working of the two Councils has been underway for a year now with the goal of saving money by streamlining offices and functions and increasing efficiency. To date we have a Joint Chief Executive and two joint Directors which has saved the taxpayer £200,000 per year. The review of Heads of Services will net a savings of £782,000 over the next three years. A transformational plan to review all seven service units is in place with four having been implemented. These are Licensing, Community Affairs, Legal and Sustainable development (ie Buildings). Roles are changing and staff are moving into shared service areas which to date has given a savings of £0.5 m

The goal is and remains a need to provide a better service for the taxpayer and savings at a time when Central Government grants have dwindled and there is no desire in South Bucks to raise Council Tax.

### Changes to Refuse Collection

This change was prompted by the need for an environmentally efficient system which promised future savings. It commenced in February and in the main has been a resounding success. There are 27,709 properties in South Bucks and to date combined recycling from the Blue lidded bin is now in excess of 50% compared to last year. This all goes to the Veolia plant at Edmonton at the moment. The residual waste in the black lidded bin goes to landfill and is 35% less than last year and Food Waste goes to High Heavens in Wycombe

and last week was 42.44 tonnes.500kg of batteries have been collected and 400 kg of textiles. The green waste programme has 5431 residents signed up. To date 78 residents have called with issues on collection or supply of green waste bin and most are due to a neighbour receiving a bin in error,or a resident having a bin from the old trial area. Last week 67 tonnes were collected.

#### Changes to Electoral Boundaries and numbers of Councillors in South Bucks.

A review has taken place with local consultation on electoral boundary changes. The Council voted to reduce the number of Councillors from 41 to 28 and the Commission proposed changes based on population figures which will have an electoral effect on Hedgerley if they are implemented. It is proposed to link Hedgerley with Farnham Common and part of Farnham Royal rather than with Fulmer. It is also proposed that there would be three District Councillors to serve that area rather than the single Councillor who serves the ward of Fulmer and Hedgerley at the moment. We will soon have the final decision of the Boundary Commission on these changes and responses to any comments by Parish Councils.

#### Community Affairs.

The new golf Club house at Farnham Park is now complete ,open and worth a visit. It has been renamed The South Buckinghamshire and is an excellent venue to consider for meetings ,parties, dinners and weddings.

At Farnham Park Playing fields we now have the UK softball/baseball headquarters which is judged by those in the know to be an excellent facility.

Crime Rates have been reducing over the last year with the rate per 1000 residents being 15.63. Theft from cars however has sharply increased. There is now a police Crime Commissioner in Thames Valley ,Anthony Stansfeld and his office via the web is a port of call for queries ,questions or complaints not answered elsewhere.

Gypsy and Traveller Communities are 7<sup>th</sup> highest in England and the Government has asked all Parishes to do a survey of available land for pitches. The response of South Bucks is that we have taken and given a large amount of land pitches and the issue should be more evenly shared with our neighbours.

The chief planning issues this year have been Pinewood ,which has gone to appeal and is still with the Home Secretary. Also the Khalsa school in Stoke Poges which is on land purchased by the department of Education. This is an unresolved issue to date with an application coming up again on May 7<sup>th</sup>. As always the Council stands firm on the protection of green belt and resists all applications to overturn this policy.

Respectfully submitted by Councillor Anita Cranmer.

Cabinet Member , South Bucks District Council

Portfolio Holder for Community Affairs and Community Safety.

## **Thames Valley Police**

Sgt. Rachel Dale and PCSO Chanelle Drummond introduced themselves as the new officers responsible for the Hedgerley area. Sgt. Dale commented that Hedgerley was considered a low crime area.

## **HEDGERLEY YOUTH CLUB management committee**

This is the eighth year in the new Youth Club and it has proved to be a highly successful building. In particular for the eco interested, our air to air heater costs very little to run and maintains an even temperature 24/7, even through the coldest of winters. We mistakenly installed radiators as well as having never used them.

We were all very disappointed this year with the lack of local support for the woodland play area developed by David Vincent. Particularly we regret that the sleeper wall Grundons were prepared to donate as a football wall was not installed. This has led to continuing friction over the car park/play area outside the Scout and Youth Club huts. The Management Committee is doing its best to reduce this tension by altering our meeting dates but this obviously depends upon the time available to your youth leaders. I would ask that the Parish Council reconsider this option.

Sadley, because of illness, Ann Paye who loyally supported Julie Tompkins, had to resign in the Autumn. Julie's club has continue to thrive with the support of Natalie Fletcher, who also runs the junior group. However both would benefit from more help both from parents and people to assist, like Iksha Khurana, on a more regular basis. The senior group led by David Vincent and Karen Robinson is progressing well and is diversifying quite wonderfully into football teams. As

retiring chairman I would really like to thank all those who made the Youth Clubs such a success. I hope that the Parish Council and parishioners recognise the need for such activities and the overall benefits to the community.

Sue Cooper

# 1st Hedgerley Scout Group

1st Hedgerley Scout Group currently have approx. 90 Young People, supported by 40 Adult volunteers. We also have a young leader development programme for 14 -18 year olds that links to their Duke of Edinburgh Awards and give them a good grounding in leadership skills, volunteering in the community and working with young people.

This is a great support team but we are always looking for more adults to be involved. Currently we are looking for a new Beaver Scout Leader to take over in September.

3 of our scouts have been selected to represent the uk at the world jamboree next year in Japan.

All sections have very varied and exciting programmes but camping is the highlight for most of our young people.

This year our Scouts are attending a week long international camp based in Windsor Great Park.

The Cubs are going to the HOAC Activity Centre

The Beavers are having a sleepover at Caldicot School.

Community Work.

In early November there were talks and visits about our armed services and we saw a large turnout at St Mary's for the Remembrance Sunday Service.

In December we held the annual Senior Citizens party for 100 local VIPs. Providing a 3 course dinner and an afternoon of entertainment before being chauffeured back home.

Next month Beaver, Cubs and Scouts will be working with Hedgerley Conservation Volunteers on projects around the village as part of their community week. Which nicely links to our next group.

Phil Anstey

# Hedgerley Conservation Volunteers



## Report to Annual Parish Meeting

Between the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013 and the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2014 twenty conservation events, with an average of five volunteers at each event and over 300 hours voluntary effort. There has been a small, but encouraging, increase in Membership from 48 in 2012/13 to 50 in 2013/14.

The Buckinghamshire Association of Local Councils announced the Bucks Best Kept Village Competition results in July and, despite a lot of work by HCV members and villagers, Hedgerley was not placed in the Morris Cup.

Undeterred we will try again this year. Hedgerley has won the Morris Cup on several occasions, most recently in 2008. In 2002 we also won the Sword of Excellence for having the highest marks in any category.

At midsummer we organised joint events (holly, ivy and scrub clearance in Kemsley Wood, Hedgerley Hill and the Glebe Field) with the Hedgerley Beavers, Cubs and Scouts as part of their Community Week. These proved to be very popular and extremely successful and we are planning to repeat this initiative in 2014.

Ragwort and thistles were then cleared in Church Meadow and a wonderful display of wild flowers was observed in high Summer

In late Summer, the meadow was cut and arisings cleared by Burnham Beeches. We then welcomed the return of the British White cattle from Burnham Beeches to graze Church Meadow East and West and hopefully they will return in late summer again this year. My thanks to the team of lookers who keep an eye on their welfare every day.

In the Autumn, our focus turned to Holly clearance in Kemsley Wood, which is likely to be our main project for several years to come. We were successful in applying for hedgerow and woodland trees from BTCV and the Woodland Trust and these were planted in St Mary's churchyard and Kiln Wood following further cuttings clearance.

Over the Winter and into early Spring we have been clearing cuttings in Kiln Wood following Woodland Management work undertaken by the Parish Council contractor. Residents of Coppice Way have also assisted.

We were also successful in our application for a grant from The Angel Fund for plants and bulbs to go in the planters outside the shops and one of our members, Sarah Packer, has led the project to revitalise this soft landscaping feature. The results of this hard work have been seen and enjoyed by villagers this Spring with a delightful display of spring bulbs and flowering shrubs.

I would like to end this report, by expressing my thanks to all the volunteers for their efforts over the past year, and to Hedgerley Parish Council, residents and village organisations for their moral and financial

John Lovelock  
Honorary Secretary, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2014

# *Hedgerley Historical Society*

## **Hedgerley Historical Society**

### **Report to Annual Parish Meeting**

2013/14 has been a busy programme with an excellent range of talks including a special evening with BBC Antiques Roadshow expert Paul Atterbury when he enthusiastically shared his passion for railway history and a wonderful evening arranged at short notice with Philippa Langley when she described her quest to find the grave of Richard III.

In the Spring we had two guided walks, the first with John Watson (Chairman of the Friends of Langley Park) to see the transformation of the gardens and grounds following Heritage Lottery funding and to learn the fascinating history of the Estate and then a visit to Cookham with Stephen Palmer to see the properties and locations associated with the famous artist Stanley Spencer RA.

Our Chairman Michael Rice gave an autobiographical account of his life working at Pinewood Studios and we had a most enjoyable summer evening guided walk in Windsor with Blue Badge Guide Laura Comley-Smith.

We held our fifth Autumn lunch last October followed by a moving talk on the vital work of the women (and men) of the Air Transport Auxilliary (Grandma Flew Spitfires) during the Second World War by Richard Poad.

Membership has risen 20% from 156 in 2012/13 to the present total of just under 190. Attendances at our regular continue to average 56 which creates a good atmosphere for speakers and members/visitors alike.

In Autumn 2013 we commenced our study project on Hedgerley during the Great War.

Our study is looking at the lives of the men from Hedgerley and Hedgerley Dean who fought for their country in the Army and Navy and in particular the 10 men (and boys from the Court Farm Childrens Home) who were killed in action or died later as a result of their injuries. One of these men (Christopher William Bowden) is buried in an unmarked grave in St Mary's churchyard and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission will be erecting a memorial stone in his honour.

We are also looking at the impact the War had on Hedgerley and have recently discovered a wealth of information on the Hedgerley Park Estate and the Stevenson family who lived there for over forty years and The Church of England Waifs and Strays Society Farm Home at Court Farm.

We hope that the research will provide us with a greater insight into life in Hedgerley one hundred years ago and may uncover previously unknown photographs and documents from this period in our history.

John Lovelock  
Secretary, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2014



## **TREE W ARDEN**

Our trees didn't suffer in last winter's storms as much as was feared. A few dead branches fell as did some dead trees. The Council has an ongoing woodland inspection plan overseen by an Arboricultural Consultant.

A contract for tree safety work has been issued and will be carried out this year. Trees are a great asset to the Village and I hope we will all enjoy them for years to come.

Maurice Ridgeley

## **FOOTPATHS in Hedgerley**

For those who walk our footpaths, they will know that last winter was a testing time.

Apart from mud, many paths were flooded, Kemsley Wood looking like a rural Venice with many of the paths canals. Although not an ideal surface to walk on, the cleared holly gave a route through.

Bridleway No.15 to Hedgerley Green was impassable except in waders. There are two trees across the path in the Portman owned part of Kiln Wood. Our Clerk is asking the land owner to remove these.

Anyone who finds a Public Footpath blocked in any way, please let our Clerk know.

Maurice Ridgeley

## **Tracy Trust**

The Tracy Trust continues to try and assist the needy people of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Hedgerley. The number of beneficiaries on the roll is around 120 and has shown a small drop year on year. My thanks go to the people on the Local Committee who give so much of their time organising assistance for our beneficiaries. This covers various things like shopping trips, hospital visits, Christmas tea party, toe nail cutting, chiropody, coffee mornings, dominos and indoor bowling amongst other activities. I am very grateful for their hard work.

Our governance programme is overseen by Peter Brogden and my thanks go to him, too.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow trustees, John Lunn and Jim Cannon for their support and advice. John Lunn has stood down as Chairman after several years of service but I am very glad to say he has remained as a Tracy Trustee.

Chris Woodward

## RSPB Otmoor Nature Reserve

First of all I'd like to say a big thank you to the Hedgerley Parish Council for their recent donation towards the management of Church Wood. The donation really is much appreciated. Being so close to the village, I hope the wood provides a much-loved, tranquil spot for enjoying and getting close to nature.

At the moment, Church Wood is alive with bird song, with the more well known species such as robins, wrens and blackbirds being joined by others, including blackcaps, goldcrests and nuthatches. The song is always at its best at sunrise and with the early morning light dappling the woodland floor, it's a magical time to listen to nature's orchestra. Maybe you'll even be lucky enough to see or hear the small and elusive lesser-spotted woodpecker. The number of these diminutive birds has decreased a lot over the past few decades and so it's great to hear that one has recently been seen and heard in Church Wood.

It's that time of year again when the bluebells start flowering, there was a great display last year and in addition to the beautiful bluebell carpet, over 50 early-purple orchids flowered in the wood, more than had been recorded for a long time. Butterflies are currently flitting around the woodland edges and as the year progresses, more and more will be seen, feeding on the bramble and woodland flowers and sunning themselves in the open glades. 14 different species were recorded during our official butterfly survey last year, including the holly blue, which although not rare, had not been seen in the wood for a number of years. Talking of new arrivals to the wood, ring-necked parakeets were recorded for the first time, squawking and providing a bright flash of colour on a cold day last December, they seem to have remained in the area ever since.

The majority of the hard work managing Church Wood is carried out by two teams of dedicated volunteers. They have had a successful year; coppicing, cutting, mending and carrying to keep the wood safe, vibrant and full of wildlife. One of our volunteers is also currently liaising with the grazer whose cattle graze Church Meadow, as we are looking into the possibility of his cattle also grazing the small meadow which makes up part of Church Wood.

A lot of tree safety work has been carried out in the wood recently, with storm damaged trees, those encroaching on the power lines and others that are diseased or dying, needing to be managed to ensure they don't fall onto the footpaths or onto the power lines. It's always a shame when trees have to be cut down, but all the dead wood and logs generated will provide excellent homes for a range of fungi, insects and small mammals. A number of trees have also been felled around the edge to the meadow, to increase the area of grassland and to try and encourage the growth of thick scrub that will provide ideal nesting habitat for birds and sheltered areas for insects and small mammals.

Church Wood is at its best during the spring and summer, so now is the perfect time to go for a wander round this lovely piece of woodland.

**Joe Harris**  
Warden

## HEDGERLEY MOTHERS UNION

Hedgerley Mothers' Union have 23 members, unfortunately our friend Margie Powditch died during the year, and we welcomed 3 new members who were enrolled in September. As usual we started the year with tea and chat and used our brains with a few quizzes and enjoyed hearing comments on favourite carols and happening over Christmas. Prior to our AGM, in February we had a talk about Care at Home. The Committee and Officers were all re-elected.

In March we enjoyed "armchair" exercises from a 91 year old, who put us all to shame in what she could do with her arm, leg, eye and other exercises. We went to Oxford Cathedral for our Lady Day Service, where several members enjoyed the service and witnessed the Bishop of Reading being enrolled as a member of the Mothers' Union.

In April Captain John Richards came to talk to us about the "Theme for the Year" – The Seeds we Sow, this made us all think. In May we visited St George's Chapel in Windsor castle and had a very interested tour of the Chapel, this was followed by tea at the Farm Shop. We welcomed a Diocesan member who enlightened us about AFIA (Away from It All) who provided holidays for families who were in need one, we had a bring and buy stall which raised £31.70 for the fund.

In July we enjoyed a wet afternoon at Patsy's home, the sun did shine for a while which enabled some of us to admire her lovely garden, we had a raffle which made £50 which was for the Mothers' Union Wheels Appeal.

Our lunch in August was a great success when we welcomed over 40 visitors to share our lunch and enjoy the chat and friendship.

We held our Annual Church Service in September where 3 members were enrolled. We then had another lovely afternoon at Tara, where we were welcomed to wander round the grounds and enjoy tea.

12 of us enjoyed an outing to St Albans Cathedral, with other Deanery members in September, again the weather was not good, but the Cathedral was well worth a visit.

In October we welcomed a member from the Salvation Army who gave a talk on their work and history, one of our members made a knitted sheep for their Christmas appeal.

November we had an illustrated talk on the work of Embrace (Formerly Biblelands), and several of us bought our Christmas cards from them. We ended the year with our usual Christmas party.

Members attended the Deanery Open Meeting in May, when The Revd Gordon Briggs gave an illustrated talk on the recent United Benefice tour to the Holy Land and in October we had a talk on SHOC (Slough Homeless).

We enjoyed an Advent Carol Service at Upton followed by a delicious tea and an opportunity to purchase some homemade Christmas decorations and preserves.

Members attended the Winter Meeting at and enjoyed meeting our new worldwide President in Beaconsfield. Three members visited Mary Sumner House (our Headquarters) and had a very interesting talk by our new President and a tour of the house, ending with prayers in the Chapel.

Our projects are still on-going, providing bags of basic toiletries and a soft toy for the Refuge in Slough as well as items for the children's ward at The John Radcliffe Hospital. We thank our members who are running the successful Hedgehog Toddle Group on a Thursday morning and The Revd Helen Chamberlain for providing the singing/dancing the youngsters enjoy.

Our forthcoming year promises to be as eventful and enjoyable as previous years and we hope to welcome new members and continue to serve families in our United Benefice whenever we can.

Thank you to all members who help to make our Branch the success it is, and a special thank you to Pam Powell who sends us all birthday cards; Rose Turner who continues to send over 100 cards to all those who have been Baptised in our 3 churches over the past 4 years, these are very much appreciated by those who receive them; also a very big thank you to Vera Hinds for providing the very tasty homemade cakes for our meetings and who is now coming off our Committee. We also owe a great big thank you to Alan Bones for all his help with transport and putting chairs and tables out for us.

Mary Lane

## **Hedgehog Toddler Group**

Hedgerley Mothers Union have been running The Hedgehog Toddler group for many years. Adults are welcomed with a drink and we provide toys, playdough, puzzles, books etc for the youngsters to play with. Many friendships have started in the group which are on-going for both adults and children, it is lovely to see the children's faces light up when they see their friends and they go running to meet them; adults exchange ideas, discuss problems and generally relax. We have a number of children from Hedgerley (they park their pushchairs in the kitchen), others come from local villages. Some families have been coming to Hedgehogs since we started, it is lovely to see the children grow up and younger brothers or sisters take their place.

We meet on Thursday mornings (in term time) from 9.45 until 11.30am in the Scout Hut. We have 6 regular volunteers, plus others who help when required, we have 3 ladies on "duty" each week. The group is financed by St Mary's Church, who also cover our CRB checks and insurance.

The group is open to any adult with a child (children); there is no charge, but a donation box is on the table if anyone wishes to give something towards refreshments, new toys etc. You do not have to attend church to come along, we are open to all. Adults are responsible for their own children, we do not entertain or look after them. We do have a "Charter" which the parent or guardian sign up to when they first join us, we also keep a record of those attending each week.

The Revd Helen Chamberlain attends on a regular basis with her guitar and the children love to sing and dance to her tunes. Helen is then available if any parent/adult wishes to speak to her. Squash and biscuits are provided and birthdays celebrated after our singing.

The children love to help "clear up" and are very happy to talk to us. It is a very happy 2 hours in the Scout Hut for adults and children, if you are around at this time, pop in and have a cup of coffee with us, you will be very welcome.

Many of the families come to our Family Praise service which is held once a month in church, and all members of the family enjoy taking part, it is a very happy morning for both young and old. Several of our "babies" have been Baptised.

If you would like to know more about us, contact Mary on 01753 646926 or Helen on 01753 644093.

## **WAPSEY'S WOOD LIAISON**

### **1. Odour Issues**

Many complaints have been received as a result of the escape of landfill gas from the site. The problem results from gas seeping from the flanks of the landfill in Cell 5B. This is because it is taking longer to fill the prepared cells due to the reduction in the volume of waste arising.

Discussion with the Environment Agency have resulted in a scheme involving lining the Exposed flanks with polyethylene sheeting to provide an impervious barrier. A gas extraction system will be installed to remove the trapped gas. Work should be completed in May 2014.

### **2. Infill Programme**

Cell 4 will soon be covered with topsoil and seeded. The infill in Cell 5A was completed last year and is now due to be capped. Cell 5B will be capped during the summer when infill is complete.

Cell 6A will start to be filled imminently. The construction of Cell 6B, which is the last engineering operation for the site, will commence later this year.

Consultants have been commissioned for the revised restoration programme. Interested parties will be consulted when the final scheme has been prepared. The end date for restoration is 31/12/17.

### **3. Leachate Treatment**

Planning consent for the proposed plant was received in January. The project has been delayed due to the discovery of great crested newts which will be relocated to enable work to commence during the summer. The plant should be operational in Spring 2015 enabling the treated water to be discharged into the Thames Water sewer.

### **4. Footpaths**

Following the completion of restoration works, the footpaths and bridleways will be reinstated and accessible by 2017. The permissive paths will remain. The bridleway north of the motorway will be reinstated further away from the motorway.

## **Report on Hedgerley Women's Institute To the Annual Parish Meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup> 2014**

Hedgerley WI continues to thrive, with a membership of 51 ladies. We meet monthly in the Memorial Hall and listen to most interesting speakers on a wide range of subjects – recently discussing GM crops, charity ships, jewellery designing, memory loss, furniture making, literary luminaries in Bucks and the Jubilee River.

After the meetings there is always a tea party which gives a wonderful opportunity for members to chat and socialise together. We have also started a craft group to enjoy the traditional crafts of knitting, crochet and the making of Christmas decorations.

There is an annual garden party in a member's garden, and we have had several outings to local places of interest. Twice a year we meet for lunch and in January 39 ladies had lunch together in the local Italian restaurant.

The Pancake Party in the Memorial Hall, which has become a very popular annual event, attracts people from villages as far away as Taplow and Hitcham. We have taken over organising the teas at the Horticultural Show in September and we sponsor a class.

A W.I. bursary was awarded to one of our members to enable her to attend a course at Denman College, which is the education centre of the W.I., in a beautiful Georgian house in Oxfordshire. There is a huge range of courses – everyone is welcome – men and women, members and non-members.

We take part in many events organised by Bucks Federation of W.I.s, and recently attended a science day and an outing to the Museum of London. So we certainly do a little more than just making jam and singing Jerusalem!

Jenny Harper -Jones  
President

2015 is the Centenary of the W.I. which will be celebrated up and down the country and Hedgerley will put on something special.

## **HEDGERLEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB and WORLD CUP FUNDAY**

A year ago the Hedgerley Youth Club received an invitation to take part in the Amersham Community Football Festival. We accepted and initially had an enthusiastic response from the lads but, on the day only five boys turned up at the youth club, not much good for a seven-a-side tournament. After a bit of discussion we decided to go along and see what the tournament was all about. We arrived to discover that no junior teams were playing but not to waste an opportunity the boys started playing football on the tennis courts. While this was going on two officers from Thames Valley Police turned up looking for players to make a team. The rest is history but our boys played their hearts out and demonstrated football skills that most people could only dream about.

The event spurred Guy Robinson, who already had ideas for establishing a Hedgerley youth football team, to hold a Football Funday on the August bank holiday last year. It was kept low key to see how much interest was generated and to make sure that his team of helpers could football tournament as well as the other activities. These included the mini -Olympics, the barbecue, the teas, the beer tent as well as the registration, team allocation and prize giving. As it turned out, they coped, the weather was in their favour and everyone had a great day.

This year the plan is to repeat the Football Funday on the Spring Bank Holiday, Monday 26 May. This will be the Hedgerley World Cup Funday and this year we will also be scouting for players to join the Hedgerley Youth Football Club. This is the newly established club, based in Hedgerley but recruiting players from Hedgerley and the surrounding villages, building teams to excel in the local leagues. Eventually we hope to have teams playing in leagues from age 7 to 15, but we intend to start off with the younger players in the age group 7 to 9. These players, both boys and girls, will be trained by our own qualified

coaches into formidable players in unbeatable teams... but winning isn't everything. Having fun and keeping fit are just as important, and this is our objective, to provide individual skills, teamwork skills, fresh air and fitness for our youngsters.

If you are in the age group 7 to 15, girl or boy, and interested in playing football, please register for the Hedgerley Football Funday, it's simple. Just send an email to, [hedgerleyyouthfc@gmail.com](mailto:hedgerleyyouthfc@gmail.com), stating your name, age and a contact telephone number. We will get back to you with confirmation but, if you want to, just turn up on the day. (We would prefer it if you let us know that you are coming to make our planning and coordination easier!

In addition to the football tournament we will be holding a mini -Commonwealth Games with loads of prizes and plenty of alternative entertainment, a tea tent, a barbecue tent and a beer tent...

We look forward to receiving your pre-registration and to seeing you on the Green in Hedgerley on the Spring Bank Holiday, Monday 26 May 2014. Turn up for registration and team allocation from

11:00 with football starting at 12:00. Prize giving should be complete by 16:00 but who knows!

David Vincent

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Chairman's closing remarks –

Thank you all for coming and please ensure you have signed the attendance sheet on the table. Please help us win the Best Kept Village competition this year. Judges are due in June.

Next Parish Council Meeting will be held on MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> May in the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm.