

THE GRAPEVINE GREAT HINTON

January 2012

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The Boundary Commission Report

The Boundary Commission has made its recommendation that the whole of the electoral Division of Summerham and Seend will form part of the new Trowbridge Parliamentary Constituency. The Parish Council was aware that there had been political representations to make Summerham and Seend a part of the Devizes Constituency and sought the views of parishioners on which Constituency the village of Great Hinton should be a part. E-mail and hard-copy fliers were distributed to the community identifying how the Boundary Commission recommendations could be viewed and responded to. The Parish Council itself responded directly stating that it felt that the inclusion of Summerham & Seend in the Trowbridge CC was desirable, since it will give us access to the same MP who is responsible for both Trowbridge and Melksham, the potential over-development of which poses the biggest threat to the parish and surrounding countryside.

However, it was noted that Westbury was included in the Warminster & Shaftesbury CC despite its closer alliance with Trowbridge, and that Box & Colerne and Corsham & Box Hill were included in the Trowbridge CC despite their close links with Chippenham.

The Boundary Commission for England reviews the parliamentary constituency boundaries every five years and on this occasion has been mandated by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011 to reduce the total number of constituencies from 533 to 502 and make sure that each constituency contains a similar number of registered electors. In practice, this means constituencies must contain between 72,810 and 80,473 electors. To achieve this, in some instances, BCE had to propose constituencies that cross county or unitary authority boundaries.

Report by the Chairman of the Great Hinton Parish Council.

Having received a number of nominations to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council, Sue Andrew was seconded to the role of councillor by the unanimous decision of everyone involved.

Following a meeting with the Highways Authority concerning safety issues at the A361/C232 junction at the Strand, a questionnaire was issued to everyone in the parish to establish which of three proposed options was most favoured. The majority of respondents voted to do nothing fundamental but to add some additional safety features where possible. The final outcome was an agreement with the Highways Authority to clear the verges around the triangle right up to the edges of the highway, to paint a large "SLOW" sign on the road at the entrance to the C232 from the Devizes direction, to refresh all other white-lining, to cut back the hedge and verge at the exit towards Trowbridge, to trim the tree on the triangle and to erect "SLOW" signs on the A361 on the approaches to the junction. Highways Maintenance will be inspecting the high earth banking around the newly built wall on the corner and take any action required as the bank is already showing signs of erosion due to vehicles running over the edges, and is likely to get worse with time. Action for the agreed improvements is

underway but will take time for final implementation.

The implementation date of the proposed 50mph speed limit on the A361 has yet to be decided.

The Parish Council also wrote to the Highways Authority requesting that a 20mph limit be considered for the village. The response was rather long but can be summarised as follows:-

20mph "zones", incorporating physical speed-calming features such as road humps are well established and seem to work well. 20mph "limits" relying solely on the use of signage appear to work less well and apparently do not have a substantial impact on actual vehicle speeds. Nevertheless, the Wiltshire Council has implemented five schemes on an experimental basis, and the results of the trial will be used to form the basis of a policy that may allow the introduction of this type of limit in other locations around the County. Watch this space!

High on the agenda over the past couple of months has been the planning application for the conversion of The Linnet ex-public house into two dwellings. A well-attended open meeting in the Village Hall, together with a questionnaire to the Parish at large produced very useful feedback. Many regrettably accept the closure of the pub, but were far less concerned at the passing of an up-market restaurant. Conversion of the property to dwellings, with the prospect of new families in the village, is largely supported. Most concerns centred round the garden and car-parking proposals, as well as the form or presence of the mansard windows. Steve Adams, the developer, has agreed to address the areas of concern, pass them by the Parish Council, and resubmit his proposals to the Wiltshire Council Planning Dept.

Finally, a kick-off meeting was held in the Village Hall, ably led by Belinda Fowler, Community Development Officer, who gave us a briefing on the advantages of having a Parish Plan, the process for developing such a plan, and the help that Community First can give us. The meeting was well attended, and the majority supported the idea of proceeding. Matters which people like about the village and issues which concern them were identified, while individuals identified subjects of special interest to them together with skills which could be useful as the process gets underway. Feedback will shortly be issued and enquiries made to identify others who want to take part but couldn't attend the first meeting. It is emphasized that the Parish Plan should be driven by the community, not the Parish Council, although the latter will support and help as required. One of the next actions therefore is to get a sub-committee in place to drive the activity – volunteers please!

Mike Dodd

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

The house-to-house collection around the parish this year raised £161.73. Lydia Peters, our Local Honorary Organiser, thanks everybody for their generous support. Without such donations, the Royal British Legion would be unable to continue its vital welfare and benevolent work. There was also a very good turnout of nearly 40 villagers for the brief Memorial Service, led by the Rev. Tony Longdon, held outside the Village Hall on Remembrance Sunday.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS

A very big thank you to all NHW distributors for passing on the newsletters and forwarding the rural crime information on to your neighbours.



Unfortunately it wasn't a quiet Christmas in relation to burglaries locally as I am sure you are aware that gates and other equipment were stolen from both Carol and Malcolm Burch's and John Powell's yards near the bus stop at the end of the village. Unfortunately the thieves came back a second time and stole further equipment and this time used a van to remove steel from the area. Unfortunately, it's not just the items these people steal, it's the devastation they leave behind and the stress they cause the victims having to replace locks, move other farming equipment elsewhere etc in fear of them coming back a third time. Because the criminals used a van on the second occasion, hopefully the Police have some leads from the tyre and footprints that were left.

There have also been several reports of handbag thefts in Melksham as well as rogue traders knocking on doors for work, or pretending to be from the Water Board etc.

Please do not buy anything at the door even if it appears to be a bargain. These people could be assessing your premises and your vulnerability for another time, or for other offenders. If you need work carried out, ask friends or others you trust for recommendations. Also, beware of flyers through your door and if you are thinking of taking up the offer or service, again get recommendations.

This may be a good time to think about recording the details, including serial numbers of your property and to maybe consider protective marking of valuables. There are various ways of doing this and I have some information I can pass on to you or I can ask the relevant people to come and talk to you about it.

Again, please keep being vigilant and take note of suspicious vehicles or people you may have seen in the village. I will text up to date information to everybody I have mobile phone numbers for so that you are made aware of anything occurring in the village. If you wish to be notified this way, please let me have your mobile number.

If you would like to be alerted by email of any local incidents, please either call or email me your details on deb.scott@virgin.net

Useful Information

Emergency Calls in the UK 999

Non emergency Calls in the UK 101

Debbie Scott NHW Area Coordinator 870410

Great Hinton Art Group



The Art Group meets on Thursday evenings, 7.30 to 9.30 pm, in the Great Hinton Village Hall, and has just started its first term in 2012. It is very much a do-it-yourself affair with no tuition (or criticism). Skill levels vary from relative beginners to very good. Cost is £1.50

per evening, capped at £15.00 for the term. It would be nice if our membership were to increase. If you are at all interested, you would be most welcome. Why not come along just to see us. Mike Dodd

BYO evenings at the Lamb on the Strand – join in on the last Tuesday of each month for a drink and a chat and draw the lucky numbers for the 100 Club.

Wine tasting

Steve Locke has agreed to share his passion for wine with the village and the next tasting is scheduled for the **10th March**. Numbers will be limited so register your interest as soon as possible with Kevin and Sandra 870906.

STEEPLE ASHTON BELLS

For those of you who can hear the bells ringing on Sundays and Wednesdays, the Steeple Ashton band was given an award recently for being the most improved band in the area. Listen and marvel !!! Gill Verscoyle

Badminton

Happy New Year to all the readers of "Grapevine" from the Badminton Group. Despite losing players through injury and work commitments we have managed to keep enough numbers to enable us to play every week. We were pleased to welcome back Terry after problems with his neck kept him on the side lines and we are hoping Diane will be back soon once treatment on her knee has cured the problem. There is still room for others to join us so if you are interested give me a call. Ken Young 870403



GREAT HINTON KIOSK LENDING LIBRARY

It was encouraging to hear from the majority of Village Hall Committee members at a recent meeting, that the Library is being well used by a number of villagers, including the children's section which we would like to expand if we can find the space.

It was agreed at this meeting that as from now anyone borrowing a book should fill in the date borrowed and the date returned sheet inside the front cover of each book so that any book showing no interest after approximately a three month period could be donated to charity. Please could anyone not happy with this arrangement ring either Anne (870607) or Gwen (871196) with the titles of their donated books.

We are happy to say the Library shelves are currently full and we wish to thank everyone who has kindly donated their books - we will be replenishing some of these in the near future so please keep any you have until such time that there is room when they will gratefully be received as we want to keep the stock updated on a regular basis.

Joe has kindly restored the Kiosk lighting which makes the interior feel more user friendly and improves a very dark corner of the village.

Thank you for your support and please keep using the Library - your comments and suggestions would be very welcome. Gwen & Anne.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee

This year the Queen will have reigned for 60 years and there is an extra Bank Holiday on the 5th June to recognize this Diamond Jubilee. The Community Committee have decided to organize a village family event on the **5th June**. Please make a note of this in your diary and please mention any ideas to a committee member so these can be considered. Ideas include a BBQ with games for all the family.



The 42nd Safari Dinner will be on 21st April. Replies to Sandra on 870906 by Friday 13th April please. If you'd like to join in for the first time and have four guests for one course, let me know and I will explain how it works.

WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR NEWS FROM JONATHON SEED

The work of a Wiltshire Councillor often not only involves representing residents in community and Council matters but also being the Council Representative in the community. Remembrance Sunday is a special day which I regard as a day of duty in the community which I am privileged to represent. Last year I attended the Great Hinton ceremony and this year I attended the outdoor Act of Remembrance at the Keevil War Memorial in the morning before moving to another service. In Keevil I reflected and remembered with over seventy villagers in front of a War Memorial which was recently refurbished with the help of a Melksham Area Board Grant. A similar grant was also given to the village of Seend to help them with their War Memorial restoration. These monuments to the sacrifice of villagers who gave their lives for our freedoms are incredibly important for the cohesion of village life and it is simply right and proper that they should be maintained at public expense. As I remembered in the autumn Sunday morning sunshine in the leafy village of Keevil my personal memories were of colleagues who had not returned from operations in which I served and that poignant moment of silence was shared with all present, many of whom have their own equally special memories of conflict and its tragic results. Later in the afternoon I attended the Civic Service and Parade in Melksham in my role as Chairman of the Melksham Area Board where I walked in procession to Church with fellow Councillors, joined with the people of Melksham in their Church Service and Civic Act of Remembrance and then attended the parade through the streets to the Town Hall. The town of Melksham really executes its Remembrance Service and March Past with a huge amount of dignity and is rightly proud of the day. Finally on this subject, the one thing that I have noticed this year is the significant increase in the presence of young people at Acts of Remembrance and my belief is that this is not only good for the nation but demonstrates just how much good there is in the young of our nation.

On a personal note, I am pleased to be able to announce that I have been reselected by my Party to stand as their candidate for Summerham and Seend in the Wiltshire Council Elections in 2013. It has been an enjoyable privilege to represent you and work on your behalf over the past few years and I will most certainly be standing in the 2013 Council elections in the hope of continuing this work.

Jonathon Seed

Wiltshire Council Member

representing Summerham and Seend Division

Chairman Melksham Area Board

Chairman Licensing Policy Committee

Chairman Operational Flood Group (North)

Tel. 01380 850696 Mobile 07770 774463

www.jonathonseed.com

Lunch Club

On 1st December twenty-five members sat down to a full Christmas lunch with all the trimmings. The year saw an increase in the number of members so we must be doing something right!! January brought us two new members so we now boast twenty-seven members. There's still room for others to join us for a get together and an enjoyable meal cooked by a team of helpers. And occasionally we have a wee bit of entertainment. We meet on the first Thursday of the month between October and March at 12.15 so hope to see you there sometime soon. Audrey.



Help for Heroes

This is the Ladies Club Charity of the Year and fundraising is going well from a number of events. If you did not receive Christmas cards from friends in the village it was because they had decided to give £10 in lieu of the cost of the cards to the charity. A great idea which raised £240. Donations made at the Carols Evening totalled £106. A raffle and auction at the Men's Christmas Dinner raised £243. The Ladies' Christmas raffle raised £47. So all in all £636 has been sent to the charity with more to come from the Village Fete.

Great Hinton Indoor Bowling Club

We are now halfway through our third season with enthusiasm amongst the 23 members running high. The Monday evening players have welcomed John and Pat Putt as newcomers, and they seem to be enjoying the challenge of bowling. The 2012 Singles Knock-Out Competition is now under way, competing for the "Champion's Cup", currently on Eddie Knight's mantlepiece! Thanks to all members for their continued support. Mike T.

The Mens' Christmas Dinner

Due to the closure of the Linnet, the Men's fifth Christmas Dinner was held at the Lamb on The Strand with twenty-two Men from the Village attending. We were delighted to welcome newcomers Dom Verschoyle and Philip Selwyn-Smith. Fundraising was very much part of the evening in support of the Ladies Club chosen Charity "Help for Heroes" and it was an evening of extreme generosity, boosted by auctioning a very special bottle of wine courtesy of Steve Locke, and an original water colour painting by Mike Truman. Donations from those unable to attend were also gratefully received which made the final total £243. Thank you everybody. Mike T.

Memories of the Linnet

Mounted and framed limited edition prints of my water colour painting of "The Linnet" are now available. Greetings cards with blank interiors are also available. If you would like to view samples, please contact Mike Truman on 870607.

FILM SHOWS:

The film shows continue to be very popular. We aim to give about £100 to charity from each show, and the charities this year so far have been Keevil School PTA and the Church Preservation Trust.

Dates for the Spring are as follows:

Sat 11th Feb Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy

Sat 10th March The Help

Sat 14th April The Iron Lady

We are pencilling in an extra film night on 12th May. Hopefully this will be 'War Horse' if it is released by then. Keep an eye on the noticeboards. Gill

GREAT HINTON LADIES CLUB meets every third Wednesday in the Village Hall at 8 p.m. New members are always made very welcome. Our programme up until summer is:

15 February Workshop making decorated eggs and Easter chicks run by Leslie Bastonie

21 March Spring displays and container plants with Matthew and James from Avonfield Nurseries

18 April AGM and Quiz

16 May Fete planning meeting at 7 Peppercorn with a glass of wine to help the ideas flow!

SATURDAY 30 JUNE Ladies Club Village Fete with Judo Demonstration by Keevil School Children

Carols and Mince Pies

Carol (appropriately named because of the date of her birthday) Clarke organised another enjoyable evening with her seasoned team of readers, musicians and helpers from the Ladies Club who supplied mince pies, biscuits and mulled wine for the 70 villagers who packed the hall. Under the musical direction of Mike Evans, Will Locke, Daniel and Adam Lawes hit all the right notes and showed their skills in keeping ahead of the singers in setting a galloping pace for "God rest ye merry gentlemen" They claim it will be played even faster next year! Sylvia and Peter touched our hearts with their unaccompanied duet and Chloe and Josie performed their now eagerly awaited contribution. This year Chloe chose the poem she had written which she read with Josie antiphonally!! - and to much amusement!! The Grapevine is proud to be the first to publish the work of a future poet laureate.

Christmas Time by Chloe Scott

Trees with golden tinsel wrapped around,
Presents are hidden nowhere to be found.
Advent calendars opened each day,
Counting down to Santa and his sleigh.
Dasher, Dancer, Prancer and Vixen,
Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen.
Red lights, green lights and white lights too,
Decorate our house like a tattoo.
We found the presents under the tree,
Quite a few are for me!
All the presents have been opened and played,
So we can play a family game of charades.
The turkey in the oven sizzling away,
Making the stuffing on the twelfth day.
Turkey is nearly done and we are waiting for the ding!
So before dinner we will do some caroling.
Dinner is done so we will all watch TV,
It is the Muppets Christmas Carol for me!
The day is nearly over and we are very sad,
But oh well there still is next year
And then we can run around like mad.

Hangover Party



Another year and another Hangover Party. Five teams competed, with the 'Pepperpots' (Rebecca, Steve, George, Malcolm and Carol) gaining recognition as the best team whilst facing the challenges of alcoholic fog and general pandemonium. Their lead was quickly established with guessing the year of events in the 20th century and they were an average of only two years adrift across 20

questions. In the construction game their well decorated Tower Crane could not match the efforts of others and did prove that even a 'small job **was** too much' !

Over dinner the cocktail game was won by a bunch of alcoholics from the centre of the village (names withheld for legal reasons)

Finally the teams were challenged to direct a swivel chair driven in reverse by a blindfolded team member under instructions that alternated between normal English and *esrever hsilgnE* at the sound of a whistle.

Another year and another Hangover Party which as usual ended in contagious hilarity and a profit of £42.

Community defibrillator

In the autumn a large number of villagers attended a meeting where Steve Locke talked through the potential benefits of having an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) located on the outside wall of the village hall.

Following a Cardiac Arrest the chances of survival decreases by 23% a minute. It is therefore very important medical treatment starts as soon as possible. The UK Resuscitation Council suggests an AED should be available wherever medical treatment is more than 5 minutes away.

The Community Committee debated the advantages of an AED in the village and the possibility of dedicating a major fund raising event to secure one by the end of 2012. It was agreed that an 'Auction of Promises' would be held later in the year to cover the majority of the funds required (approx. £1600 in total). Possibilities of grants and donations would also be explored. Contact has been made with the Community Heartbeat Trust who can offer advice, support and an equipment package at competitive pricing. This includes a vandal proof box for which the code will be provided by the Ambulance Service during the 999 call.

An AED requires minimal training to use. It automatically diagnoses the heart rhythm and determines if a shock is needed. Automatic models will administer the shock without the user's command. It uses a voice prompt to guide the user through each step.

If you are interested in understanding more about an AED then you look at the website:

www.communityheartbeat.org.uk

100 Club

See below for the winners September - December 2011. Our lucky December £50 Bonus prize was won by Terri Dodd which was drawn out at the Carol evening. If you haven't won during the 2011-12 period don't give up - this coming year could be your year!

THE COLLECTION OF £15.00 PER PERSON WILL START DURING EARLY MARCH IN READINESS FOR THE FIRST 2012-2013 DRAW IN APRIL.

Your subscription is greatly valued and forms a major contribution to the upkeep of our Village Hall (our only community facility now that The Linnet has closed, apart from the library with room for two at a squeeze!).

NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME.

Good Luck everybody! Mike Truman - 870607

100 Club - these are the names of the latest lucky winners

	No.	£20	No.	£15	No.	£12	No.	£10	No.	£8
September	32	Julie Doel	115	Emma Nicholl	97	Sharon Tapper	58	Rosie Shuster	18	Peter Doel
October	11	Beryl Francis	23	Debbie Burston	34	Carol Burch	29	K Gorman	35	Sandy Salmon
November	71	Nikki Harran	123	Dr R Jones	74	Steve Locke	4	Gwen Harnott	52	Jill Verschoyle
December	90	M Winterburn	61	Paul Haynes	76	Rachel Lawes	70	Doris Saville	122	John Probert