



Colehill Clarion

local news from Colehill Parish Council

Issue 7 Autumn/Winter 2011/12

Tel: 887786

Challenging times but still a lovely place to live

This is the first time that I have had the opportunity to submit an item to the 'Clarion' since becoming Chairman of Colehill Parish Council.

Despite much of the general news being rather gloomy, we in Colehill have much to feel pleased about and much to look forward to in the coming Year. Firstly, we now know that the School Crossing Patrols in Colehill are safe, something that was causing us all concern. We also now have an active Community Allotment Association which has got off to a good start as can be seen in this newsletter, and despite the disappointing loss of some sponsorship for the Reef Youth Centre, all concerned are continuing to work hard raising funds for work to start.

The question of the future of our library rests with decisions to be made by residents, so please do read the relevant items in this newsletter and make sure of your response. It really will be up to you.

A recent visit from a friend from Australia, after walking around the area prompted the comment 'Who would want to live anywhere else'my sentiments too.

David Mitchell, Chairman

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What's On in Colehill & Wimborne

and lots more.....

www.colehill.gov.uk

www.twitter.com/colehillnews

Canford Bottom

Work was due to start on the Canford Bottom scheme on the 10th October and by the time of reading this article, it may be that many of us will have started feeling the impact of the road works. We know that many local people are strongly opposed to the development of a "Hamburger Junction" at Canford Bottom and Colehill Parish Council has written to the Highways Agency responsible expressing the concerns of Colehill residents. Some of the points that were raised with the agency were the impact that road closures and traffic diversions would have on people's ability to travel to and from Poole, Bournemouth, Ferndown, Ringwood and beyond. Reference was also made, in the strongest of terms, to the detrimental effect that the road works could have on local businesses in these particularly difficult trading conditions.

David Mitchell, Chairman of the Parish Council, has also written to Robert Mackenzie, the project sponsor, asking that the Parish Council is kept informed with regards to any changes to the proposed diversions that may need to be made during the construction. He has drawn particular attention to traffic using Uddens Lane and Lonnen Road as a potential route to avoid the roundabout. With so many HGVs using SatNav, this will be an obvious short-cut for them to take and we have requested appropriate signage to deter them from doing this. Updates on the scheme can be found at:

<http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/projects/30980.aspx>

Allotment Gardens

After a very long and often protracted period of searching for land suitable to be developed for allotment gardens, it now appears that a viable site has been identified. Negotiations are on-going with the land owner, who is very keen to support this local initiative and it is hoped that a formal announcement can be made before the end of the year. There has been an enormous interest in "growing your own" and Colehill residents are no exception.

Almost 100 local people attended a meeting earlier in the year, the outcome of which was for a group of enthusiasts to set up their own management committee and to join the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners. If all goes according to plan, allotment owners should be enjoying the fruits of their labours next summer! For further information please contact the Secretary of the Colehill Association, Mrs. Joanne Phillips, on 01202 840746



Conservation Days

Colehill Parish Council owns several areas of woodland: Triangle Wood, Kyrchil Corner, Coombes Wood and Merrifield Corner. Conservation workdays are held regularly throughout the year and volunteers are always needed, so please do come along and help. The group meets every 6 weeks in St Michael's School layby at 10.30am and works through until about 1pm, litter picking and pruning overgrown trees to allow light to filter through to the undergrowth to encourage growth of plants other than rhododendrons! Litter pickers and bags are provided. Bottled water is available and in case of minor accidents, a first aid kit is carried and volunteers are covered by public liability insurance!

Volunteers are asked to wear stout shoes or boots and to wear gardening gloves as the undergrowth can be muddy and dirty. Hi-Vis vests are supplied so that workers are clearly seen by drivers and other members of the public, who will often stop and chat to volunteers. Most are really surprised to know that the group is made up of volunteers from the Parish Council. Most of the rubbish collected is discarded food/drink containers (including crisps, sweets, sandwich boxes, drinks cans and alcohol bottles) dumped after people have gathered in the woods.



This dumping is fly tipping and it is illegal. Under the 1990 Environmental Protection Act, it is a criminal offence to fly-tip and if people see anyone doing it they should report them to the police. Also this rubbish can be a hazard for wildlife, local people and their pets. The wooded areas are well used by dog walkers and broken glass is a real danger. We are so fortunate to live in such a lovely environment and all of us have a responsibility to keep it litter free and safe for all to enjoy. The

Parish Council is always looking for volunteers to help maintain our lovely woodland. Please contact us if you would like to take part in our Conservation Work Days: children are encouraged to take part but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

In recent weeks hopes had been raised that the management of Bournemouth Airport would withdraw the imposition of the unpopular £2.50 fee for drop off and pickup operations. Those hopes were dashed in a letter sent to our local MP, Annette Brooke. Bournemouth Airport management have made it clear that the charge will remain due to a serious drop off in revenue caused by the economic downturn. Robert Goldsmith, MD at Bournemouth Airport, has apologised for the need to impose this fee but hopes that the travelling public will not be deterred by the charge.



Scouting is Fun!

1st Colehill Scout Group is enjoying great popularity with the young people of Colehill with 50 Beavers (age 6-8), 52 Cubs (age 8-10½) and 31 Scouts (age 10½-14). Explorer Scouts (age 14-18) are District based units and not connected to a specific Group. An excellent and experienced team of 28 leaders across the sections offers a challenging, adventurous and fun programme of activities for all ages.



This is an exciting year for the Beavers as they celebrate their 25th Anniversary. They started the year with a District Beaver Sleepover, went BAD in September (Beaver Activity Day!), enjoyed a Celebration Parade with a special service in Wimborne Minster and events will culminate in a carol service and Christmas Party later this term.

Cubs have visited Badbury Rings, done backwoods cooking on the beach, bike riding at Moors Valley and Greenfield camping for 2 nights in July. Scouts enjoy greater challenges and their greenfield camp included a night hike, which requires orienteering skills. By Scout age they are expected to set up camp by themselves and will also be responsible for the cooking, clearing up and keeping the campsite tidy and safe. They also have the Order of the Boot – a night hike with a difference!

2011 is also a World Scout Jamboree Year and Scouts from all over the world gathered in Sweden for a massive camp celebrating Scouting. These are held every four years, are an amazing feat of organisation and a fantastic experience for all involved. Next term a couple of District Explorer Scouts, who attended the jamboree, will be visiting the 1st Colehill Scout Group to share their experiences with the young people.



Scouting gives us the best of our Young People and faith in the future. You can help our local scouts by logging on to <http://communityforce.natwest.com/project/4955> and voting for 1st Colehill Scouts to receive £6000 under the Natwest Community Force Scheme. If anyone would like to join this vibrant team and join in the fun please contact Group Scout Leader,

Helen Lynch, on 01202 883076 or email h.lynch295@btinternet.com

Reef Youth Centre

The fund-raising committee, chaired by local businessman David Tarring, is still working tirelessly to secure the financing to enable the build to start on The Reef Youth Club, Colehill Lane. Mr Tarring has approached the Regional Development Agency once more to see if there will be any opportunity for the project to secure funding, which was sadly turned down earlier in the year due to the Government withdrawing the scheme. It appears that there is still a moratorium on this scheme and it is very unlikely that it will be lifted. David has since been in talks with officers at Dorset County Council, who have expertise in sourcing funding streams for projects such as The Reef. It will be a tense time whilst the committee waits to see if they will qualify for a grant that will enable this much-needed project to commence in 2012.



On your marks, get set.....

Despite these setbacks there is tremendous local support for the rebuilding of The Youth Centre, clearly demonstrated in July when almost 300 local people, many of them children, took part in Colehill's first **BIG BIKE RIDE** organised by cycling enthusiast, Norman Davies. Participants could choose from two routes, 10 miles or 25 miles, which took them out through the lovely Dorset country side starting from The Reef and finishing at Colehill Memorial Hall. Local MP, Annette Brooke, started the ride off and donated

signed certificates for the riders. A barbecue and country fair, organised by Colehill Parish Council, took place in the grounds of Colehill First School and was the perfect end to a superb community event. The **BIG BIKE RIDE** has raised £2000 and was so popular with local people that many were asking when the next one was going to be. Summer 2012 for certain, date to be announced. Thanks must go to the many volunteers, young people from The Reef and all those behind the scenes, who made the day such a success.

Donations can be made online at www.virginmoneygiving.com



and enter "Colehill" or "Reef". If you are a UK tax payer, please complete the gift-aid form.



and they're off, only 25 miles to go.....

Waste Collection

In Colehill we have the good fortune to have a very efficient weekly collection of waste in black plastic sacks. Whilst this is very much appreciated by residents it does give rise to one particular problem and that is the danger of black sacks being put out the night before. Unfortunately, at the same time, we have seen an increase in the fox population in the area and being opportunistic animals they have taken to raiding the sacks to seek food. The resulting mess of distributed material along pathways and roads is becoming more regular and apart from being unsightly it is a health hazard. Quite obviously it is not the job of refuse collectors to clear up the roads following such an incident and we ask, unless you have a very early morning collection, PLEASE DO NOT PUT BLACK SACKS OUT UNTIL THE DAY OF COLLECTION.

Rendezvous Club at St Michael's

The Rendezvous Project is a community lunch club running every Wednesday from 11 to 2 pm in St Michael's church hall, Colehill. All visitors will receive a warm welcome from Marjorie Shaw, the Manager of the project who said that 50 to 60 people attend regularly each week. All sections of the community visit Rendezvous including Mums with young children, the elderly, disabled, single people as well as residents who have just moved to the area. Each week helpers and students from Beaucroft School attend for their lunch: the helpers spoke very highly of the project and the social benefits gained by the students.

Rendezvous was originally the idea of Loraine McGregor and took about a year to come to fruition. The project is supported by volunteers from St Michael's church including Canon John Goodall, who is regularly seen helping out in the kitchen or welcoming people. The menu is very varied, reasonably priced and visitors can look forward to some delicious seasonal food as winter approaches.

Rendezvous is an inspiring community project that tackles loneliness by bringing people of all ages and backgrounds together. If you have just moved into the area or would like to make new friends do pop along and you will be guaranteed a really warm welcome.

Garden not big enough?

A local resident living in Leigh Road has a large garden which he is offering to an enthusiastic gardener who may wish to take on the plot to cultivate flowers, fruits and vegetables. This could be a win-win for both parties, the owner of the plot will have his garden maintained and the "tenant" will benefit from freshly grown produce. Please contact Tracey Paine, the Parish Clerk, for further details. Telephone 01202 887786

COLEHILL LIBRARY NEEDS YOUR HELP

**It will close in 2012 as funding is
being withdrawn by DCC**

**Colehill Library is one of the most
used and successful libraries in
Dorset**

**Could you volunteer to help run
the library?**

**Would you be prepared to pay
through the Parish precept to keep
the library open?**

**Read the full story overleaf and complete
and return the attached questionnaire**

You can help save Colehill Library

Colehill Library will close in 2012 when the funding is withdrawn by Dorset County Council (DCC) from 9 of the 34 libraries in the county. Despite every effort by Colehill Parish Council, the Friends of Colehill Library, local District and County Councillors and the hundreds of residents who signed a petition opposing the closure, DCC has made it very clear that they are pressing ahead with their plan to close our library.

The only option that has been offered to Colehill is that the library is set up as a Community Library, with some limited support (not financial) from DCC but continuing access to the county's book supply. However, the success of this plan will be dependent on all local residents being prepared to underwrite the running costs of the library and at least 40 people stepping forward to volunteer to help run the library as librarians, administrators and managers. The library will no longer enjoy the benefits of a professional librarian but all volunteers will have the opportunity to attend training courses and to learn about the procedures involved in successfully running a Community Library.



The running costs for Colehill Library, maintaining the current number of opening hours, will be approximately £10,000 per annum, equating to an increase in the Parish Precept of £3.30 per household, per year. These figures are an estimate only: Colehill Library Action Group (CLAG) is working on a business plan which will be presented at a public drop-in meeting in Colehill Memorial Hall on Saturday 3rd December, between 9.30am and 12noon.

It is very important that every household has the opportunity to express their view on the future of Colehill Library. Please complete the Library Questionnaire and return it to Colehill Parish Council via one of the drop-off points detailed on the reverse, by Monday 14th November.

Library Questionnaire

Please complete and return by Monday 14th November
Tick appropriate box

Do you think Colehill Library should remain open? YES []
NO []

Do any members of your household use Colehill Library? YES []
NO []

If yes, how often do you use it?
Once a week [] More than once a week [] Once a month []

Do you think Colehill Library should be run as a Community
Library, funded through the Parish Precept? YES [] NO []

If yes, how much would you be prepared to pay each year to
fund the library? £3 [] £4 [] £5 [] other [] (amount)

Would you be prepared to act as a volunteer to help run the
library? YES [] NO []

If yes, how many hours would you be able to volunteer for each
week (hours would be worked on a fortnightly rota)

1 - 2 hours per week [] 3 - 4 hours per week [] More []

Categories marked ** essential

Name:.....

** House Number/Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

** PostCode:.....



CUT HERE

Library Questionnaire

You can drop off your completed questionnaire at the following collection points:-

The Co-Op Stores, Smugglers Lane

The One-Stop Shop, Dales Drive

Furzehill Stores, Smugglers Lane

The Spar, Leigh Road

Colehill Library

Colehill Memorial Hall

At the home of:-

Cllr Pat Francis, 11 Parmiter Road, BH21 2BN *

Cllr Dave Barnes, 19 The Vineries, BH21 2PU *

The Parish Clerk, 1 Hornbeam Way, BH21 2QE *

BY MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2011

*** You can post the form, if more convenient, but it will be at your own expense.**

Who Stole our Grit Bin?



It's hard to believe but some unscrupulous person or persons unknown, stole one of the Parish Grit Bins from the junction of Jessopp Road and Cutlers Place.

* THIS IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE AND WHEN DETECTED, THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL SUPPORT PROSECUTION OF THE OFFENDERS
At times when we are all having to tighten our belts, and that includes Colehill Parish Council, we are now faced with having to purchase a replacement grit bin before the winter sets in.

* Dorset Police have been advised of this theft: if anyone has any information that could help the police catch the thieves, please let PC Steve Brett or PCSO Matt Johnson know. Tel: 01202 22 22 22

Dorset County Council Winter Strategy

We have been advised by DCC that all the grit bins in Colehill Parish will continue to be filled throughout the winter months of 2011/12. However, plans are being considered to withdraw this service some time in 2012, possibly resulting in the cost of filling and replenishing the bins in future years falling on the Parish Council. Should the Parish Council contract DCC to carry out this vital service only the grit bins considered to be in "strategic locations" will be filled. Colehill Parish Council has explored alternative methods of filling the grit bins but it would mean that a secure area suitable for storing several tonnes of salt and grit would have to be found as well as a means of distributing it when required. We believe these costs would prove prohibitive so if the need arises will continue to use DCC, who do provide a reliable service, often in extreme conditions.

School Crossing Patrols



After months of lobbying, protests, petitions, marches and general public outrage, it looks as though people-power has won out on the issue of the much-loved school crossing patrols and the wonderful people who see our children safely across the roads, day in, day out, regardless of the weather.

Dorset County Council has confirmed that the Lollipop Ladies and Men will remain a familiar sight outside Colehill school gates for many years to come.

Mineral & Waste (M & W) Management Plan

We've all read extensive reports on Hampshire County Council's plans to extract minerals from land adjacent to Moors Valley Country Park, known as the Purple Haze and Blue Haze Development. Whilst the land being considered is within Hampshire, the proposed mineral extraction and subsequent land-fill will have a profound effect on East Dorset residents. Representation has been made to Hampshire CC, who are now committed to undertaking a review of their strategy as a direct result of the public outcry at what could be a 50 year plan.

The actual period of consultation on this issue is now ended but so important does East Dorset District Council feel it to be that signatures continue to be collected to support their objections to the plans, as well as the objections of the East Dorset Environmental Theme Action Group, Dorset Wildlife Trust, Verwood Town Council and other environmental groups. Wildlife lost on this project will be lost forever.

You can access the website to attach your name on the well known Dorset for You site, www.dorsetforyou.com, and follow the directions. Please do so, this is too important for the long term future of our part of East Dorset to ignore.

Three years ago, our very own area was being considered as a possible site for M & W extraction and it appears that the authorities are revisiting their strategy with regards to Cannon Hill Plantation and Uddens. At the time of writing, we do not have any indication as to the progress of this review but will keep residents informed via the newsletter and the website. Sadly, it appears that we are "not out of the woods" yet on this one.

Renewable Energy Consultation

Much is heard these days of the need to exploit renewable energy sources and to become much less reliant upon fuels that increase our carbon output. What may not be known to many is that there is a Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Renewable Energy Strategy which itself seeks to contribute in meeting the UK's 15% renewable target by 2020.

Locally there are specific targets on Renewables involving Onshore and Off-shore wind, Biomass, Ground sourcing heat pumps, marine and air sources.

Colehill residents will be aware that planning permission has been given for a first biomass generating plant to be set up at Hurn and more plans of mixed sources are in the pipeline which will directly affect us all in this area,

/Renewable Energy Consultation continued:-

hopefully adding to the energy supply without adversely affecting our environment. The need for sensible development is vital because we all have a vested interest in seeing progress but without excessive cost.

Consultation on this issue can be found on the website at www.dorsetforyou.com/402620 . The closing date for response to the consultations has passed but residents might like to see details of the issues surrounding this important work on this website.

Time Capsule at Priest's House Museum

The Priest's House Museum will be burying a time capsule in the foundations of the new Open Learning Centre and has asked the Parish Council to nominate an object for the time capsule. We thought a copy of our latest newsletter would give excavators of the future an idea of what was going on in our Community but if you have any ideas, please let the Museum know.



Christmas Pudding Stir

The Priest's House Museum relies on volunteers to help visitors to get the most out of their visits; to help with important conservation work; to take part in archaeological digs; to help with the maintenance of the garden and grounds. It also offers wonderful educational opportunities to local school children and the

Education Service has won the Heritage Education Trust's Sandford Award.

Want to get involved? Tel:01202 882533

Colehill Parish Council says "sorry" to Cuthbury residents

In a recent article published in the Colehill Clarion, reference was made to the possible redevelopment of Cuthbury Close and the allotment gardens as part of the Core Strategy. These issues were raised in the EDDC questionnaire that went out to all residents in the Wimborne and Colehill area, inviting comment. In reporting a general view of the situation and possible development of areas within the conurbation to Colehill residents, Cuthbury was referred to as run-down with some unsightly properties. These comments have caused offence to residents and David Mitchell, Chairman of Colehill Parish Council, has unreservedly apologised. "It was never our intention to upset our neighbours and I want to assure the residents of Cuthbury that if this part of the Core Strategy is adopted in the future, residents would be fully consulted by EDDC as to what was wanted and what they would wish to see take place." The Environmental Theme Action Group (ETAG) does not advocate any form of property development: indeed the question of redevelopment is not within their remit.

Dates for your diary

November Events

- 3 Christmas Exhibition Open Evening, 6pm - 8pm
Walford Mill, Stone Lane
- 5 Fireworks, St Michael's School, Colehill
- 12 Wimborne in Bloom Charities Fair
Allendale Centre, 10am - 3pm
- 13 Remembrance Day Parade, 10.15am
St. Michael's Church to War Memorial, Colehill
- 26 Christmas Tree & Lights, 5pm
Christmas Market, 5.30pm - 7.30pm
St. Michael's Church, Colehill
Christmas Lights, Wimborne 3.30pm
Christmas Market, Church House 10am - 2pm
- 30 Gardening on the Dry Side, 7.30pm (Hardy Plant Soc.)
Talk by Kevin Hughes, Memorial Hall

December Events

- 3 Christmas Celebrations Day, 10am - 5pm
Walford Mill, Stone Lane
- 8 Late Night Shopping, 5pm - 8pm
Walford Mill, Stone Lane
- 10 Christmas Parade, Wimborne 2.30pm
In aid of Save The Children
Pudding Stir, Priest's House Museum 10.30am - 4pm
- 15 Sleeping Beauty
Tivoli Theatre until 4 January 2012
- 23 Carol Concert, 6pm
Corn Market, Wimborne

January Events

- 28 Growing for Gold, 2.30pm (Hardy Plant Soc.)
Talk by Mary Payne, Memorial Hall

February Events

- 3 Aladdin Pantomime in aid of The Reef
Until 5th Co.MaD, Memorial Hall



Winter Wonderland

Saturday Nov 19th - Saturday Dec 24th

Christmas at Stewarts is a unique experience that the whole family will enjoy and children will remember for years to come.

Advance booking is essential!

See www.stewarts.co.uk to book online from 1st November

Visit
Santa's real
Reindeer



Grotto Admission £7.50
including great gift from Santa

GARDENLANDS, Lyndhurst Road Somerford, Christchurch BH23 4SA Tel: 01425 272244
COUNTRY GARDEN CENTRE, God's Blessing Lane, Wimborne BH21 7DF Tel: 01202 882462

Santa's Arrival

Saturday 19th November
10.30am approx at Stewarts GardenLands, Christchurch
2.30pm approx at The Country Garden Centre, Broomhill

Come and see Santa arrive with the Dorset Youth Marching Band! You will also be able to visit Santa's very own reindeer who will be at each centre from 19th November through to 24th December. Tickets for a visit to this year's fabulous Winter Wonderland can be purchased from Tuesday 1st November online for just £7.50 including a great gift from Santa. Advance booking essential; entry by ticket only. Limited number of tickets, to be collected from our Garden Centres.

www.stewarts.co.uk



Christmas Shopping in Wimborne
Free Parking in December
Saturday 3, 10, and 17
Monday 19 - Sunday 25



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