



# Colehill news

Issue 1 Autumn 2008

## Local news from Colehill Parish Council

### Welcome to the first edition of our Colehill newsletter.

We will be publishing this every 6 months to keep the people of Colehill updated on what is going on in our area and what clubs and groups are available. As well as keeping you posted on what's going on in Colehill we'll also be giving details of what we as Colehill Parish Councillors are doing on your behalf. We have been encouraged to issue a newsletter following feedback from the Parish Plan. One of the things you said you wanted was more information. I hope this newsletter helps to support you with some of the events and happenings in Colehill and wider afield. Please let us know how we're doing and what else you'd like to see. I firmly believe that the Parish Council should work for the local taxpayers and the only way that we can do that is for you to let us know what is and isn't important.

Keith Baker, Chairman CPC

### Community Website goes live

Calling all Techies (and technophobes!). We are launching our new website and will be going LIVE in November. Many of you will know that the community website has been around for several years but desperately needed updating. It was one of the things that came out in the Parish Plan survey and the CPC agreed. A design brief was put together and two companies were invited to tender for the business and after a series of meetings and presentations Adido Solutions were awarded the contract.

Colehill Parish Council set up a small editorial sub-committee to oversee the design and content of the website. The result of the last three months working closely with Adido is available at the click of a button at [www.colehill.gov.uk](http://www.colehill.gov.uk)

The great thing about the website is the way you will be able to reach your favourite clubs and societies, find out what is going on in and around Colehill, check out the scene at The Reef, link directly to local schools and find out what your Parish Councillors are up to. This is your website and we want you to participate by giving us feed-back on events, comment on local issues or let us know if you have concerns about things happening in your area.

The website will be constantly growing and evolving and we want as many clubs and special interest groups to subscribe for the benefit of the whole community. Details of how to apply for your club's page is on the website.

### News in brief....

#### Parish Plan launched

Colehill Parish Plan was launched on the 18th June to a packed Memorial Hall

#### Canford Bridge

The latest information from Poole Borough Council is that the works remain on schedule

#### Regional Spatial Strategy

Colehill Parish Council hosted a meeting on the 17th September in the Memorial Hall and invited experts to speak to local residents about the proposed developments

#### The Reef

Can you help raise funds for the new Colehill and Wimborne Youth and Community Centre?



#### Watch your speed

Results of recent surveys are quite surprising

#### Competition

Name the newsletter and you and your family can enjoy an afternoon at Coffee Pots Ceramic Cafe

**Colehill Community Website Check it out at**  
**[www.colehill.gov.uk](http://www.colehill.gov.uk)**



## The Reef

The management committee for the Colehill and Wimborne Youth and Community Centre (Reef) has to raise £½ million needed to build the new facility: EDDC and CPC have pledged considerable funds to the project but there is no financial support from either DCC or central Government. The committee has to raise at least half the costs before it can apply for large charitable donations. It has a target of £235,000 and at the moment has a shortfall of £65,000: put another way, £10 for every resident in Colehill Parish. This worthwhile project will benefit not only our young people but also the whole community who will be able to use it as a meeting place and drop-in centre. Can you help? Donations can be made to the Colehill and Wimborne Youth and Community Centre and sent to the treasurer, David Morgan, at 60 Lacy Drive Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1DG.

## Canford Bridge



The latest information from Poole Borough Council is that the works remain on schedule. The bridge was closed completely to all traffic in June and diversions have been in place since then. However, according to the engineering department in Poole, the bridge should revert to single-lane traffic on the 24th October with traffic lights controlling the flow and should fully re-open by the 9th January 2009.

### Comment

I'm sure we will all breathe a sigh of relief when the bridge finally opens for through traffic. The debate will run and run as far as local traders are concerned but for the majority of residents the inconvenience of having to use Julians Bridge to get in and out of town is a nightmare that can't end too soon. Ed.

## Did you know.....

**Contacting Dorset County Council** just got easier. Telephone 01305 221000 or Freefone 0800 232323 Mon – Fri 7am to 8pm

**Do you regularly have to walk round cars** that are obstructing the pavement? Contact us and we will ask our local Safer Neighbourhood Officers, PC Steve Brett and PCSO Matt Johnson, to speak to the drivers concerned.

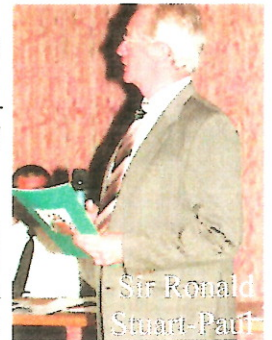
**Do you have to walk along uneven pavements** or drive over pot-holes? Let us know and we will contact Dorset County Council about repairs

**Need Help? Contact CPC on 01202 887786 or email : [info@colehill.gov.uk](mailto:info@colehill.gov.uk)**

## Colehill Parish Plan was launched

on the 18th June to a packed Memorial Hall. Every household had received a copy of the plan and had been invited to attend this public meeting to hear how their aspirations, expressed in earlier surveys, would be met. Many of the "service providers" supported the meeting by having table displays with leaflets and literature available for residents to take away.

David Mitchell, Chair of the Parish Plan Steering Group, formally presented a copy of the plan to Sir Ronald Stuart-Paul, Chairman of East Dorset Community Partnership and to Keith Baker, Chairman of Colehill Parish Council.



A presentation was given by members of the Parish Plan Steering Group outlining the action plan that had been agreed as a direct result of the questionnaire. A lively Question and Answer Session followed in which many of the organisations responsible for delivering services to the community took part. One of the hottest topics of the evening was recycling and it is evident that the vast majority of residents would like to see this stepped up. Lindsay Cass, Head of Technical Services at EDDC certainly earned his "cuppa" at the end of the evening!

Colehill Parish Council has adopted the Parish Plan and agreed that the Parish Plan Steering Group should continue offering their advice and support to the CPC. On 3rd September East Dorset District Council also gave their support to the majority of recommendations contained in the plan. Regular updates on the progress and implementation of the plan will be reported here in the newsletter



## Watch your speed

Speed cameras are an emotive issue but here are some statistics that may surprise you. Colehill shares a SID (speed indicator device) with Holt and we can report on the readings taken along Wimborne Road for the week 15th - 22nd September. 10,296 vehicle movements were recorded during the week 500 fewer than the same period in 2007 but this could be down to the bridge closure. However, the most disappointing statistic is the speed of the vehicles using the road. More than 60% of cars broke the 30mph speed limit, over 6,200 vehicles. The average speed of these offending vehicles was 37mph but speeds well in excess of 60mph were recorded on several occasions with one car recorded at 80mph. This is way up on last year (67mph was the highest recorded during the same week) but the most serious aspect of these inconsiderate drivers is that the overwhelming majority are local residents. For the few seconds you may save on your journey through the village, is it really worth the risk to drive with such excessive speed? It could be points on your licence next or worse.....

## Welcome refurb for local store

**Our new-look Co-Op** reopened on the 16th October to great acclaim after a long-awaited refurbishment. Not only does the store look a lot smarter on the outside with bright new signage but the interior has been transformed with new colour scheme, new fixtures and fittings and a new air-conditioning system. One of the biggest bonuses for all us regular users is the installation of an extra till which should alleviate the queues during busy periods. Don't forget that the Post Office, which had been under the threat of closure, is still operating as normal.



## Regional Spatial Strategy, how will the latest plans affect us?

Colehill Parish Council hosted a meeting on the 17th September in the Memorial Hall and invited Sheila Bourton from Keep Wimborne Green to speak to local residents about the proposed housing development that is being imposed on this sensitive area of Dorset by central Government.

The South West Regional Assembly, an un-elected body, met in Taunton, Somerset in 2007 to consult on the development of housing in the whole of the area which includes East Dorset. The use of brownfield sites was discussed as well as extending into the green-belt (urban extension), which is supposed to be protected against development. A public enquiry was held in Exeter in the summer of 2007 but surprisingly no local representation was allowed. Despite extensive evidence from a myriad of experts on the detrimental effect that the proposed housing scheme would have Hazel Blears MP, Housing Minister, upheld the original report recommending 5,400 houses in East Dorset. In July 2008 this number was increased by a further 1,000 making a total of 6,400 houses to be built in the area.

Terry Stewart from the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) said that this was part of a national situation where the green belt is under threat of development. He also reminded the audience that over 50% of Dorset is designated as an area of outstanding natural beauty and that under the current proposals over 3,000 houses will be built in the green belt.

Opposition to the development on the green belt is being co-ordinated by local resident Nick King. He is a Bournemouth councillor and is fighting against the proposal for 16,000 houses to be built in Bournemouth, 1,500 at the back of the Castle Point Shopping Centre. Anyone who shops there knows how congested the roads can become so it leaves little to the imagination to think of the impact that an additional 3,000 cars would have on highways already at maximum capacity.

Time is running out for the protestors. Janet Dover, Parish, District and County Councillor, said that the District Council had agreed to support the opposition to the development and this was unanimously endorsed by the full council on the 22nd September. The consultation process ended on the 24th October and a response is expected from Government by Christmas. Annette Brook, MP for Mid Dorset and North Poole, has raised these issues in Parliament on numerous occasions particularly with regards to the fact that central government is not providing any funds for essential services to support the infrastructure that these huge developments will demand. What developer is going to take on these projects in the current economic climate?

South West Planning Consultants do not believe these schemes are workable and question why the Regional Assembly is pushing for all these houses to be built. The Prime Minister has stated his ambition for 3 million houses to be built in England between 2010 and 2026 but very little social housing has been built since the present government came into power in 1997. To make these proposed developments economically viable for developers to take on, a large proportion of the housing will have to be expensive executive housing not homes for young people and families. Doing nothing is not an option. Residents are still being urged to write to Hazel Blears MP to keep up the pressure.

**Have you any comments? Contact the Editor**  
at [info@colehill.gov.uk](mailto:info@colehill.gov.uk) or write to CPC, 1 Hornbeam Way,  
Colehill, Wimborne BH21 2QE Tel: 01202 887786  
Editor: Susan Davies  
Editorial Committee: Keith Baker, KD Johnson, David Packer  
Parish Clerk: Tracey Paine

## Traffic Calming

The long-awaited Traffic Calming scheme is due to start in early 2009. Andrew Berry, Management Engineer for Dorset County Council, regretted the delay in starting the works but expects the project to get underway the week commencing 16th February.

The closure of Canford Bridge and road works at QE School left the authority with no choice but to defer the scheme. He is confident that the project will be substantially constructed by the end of this current financial year and consultants are checking to see if it is possible to bring the scheme forward by a few weeks.

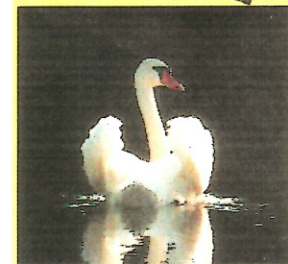
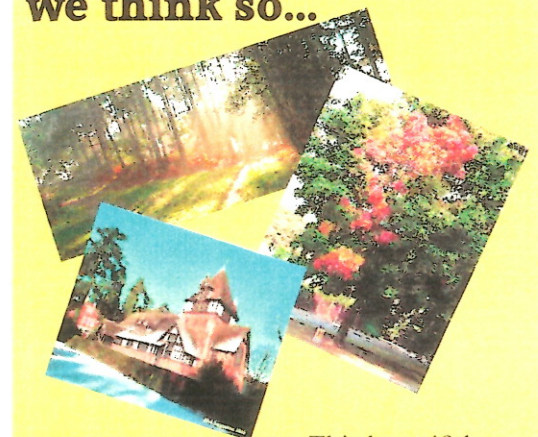


## Health care- we need to hear from you

The Primary Care Trust is reviewing ways in which resources can be better targeted. Colehill Parish Council would like to hear from you about your health care experiences particularly regarding day-care services, out-of-hours services and general health service delivery. The information will be supplied to the PCT for consideration when they meet to plan the allocation of funds for the financial year, 2009/10. Please write to CPC or contact us via the website.

We will do all we can to protect your anonymity but in exceptional circumstances your details may have to be disclosed to authorised personnel at the PCT.

## Worth fighting for ? we think so...



This beautiful photo was taken by Jess Johnson using a digital camera through a telescope. Do you have any images that we could publish?

September evening at Cowgrove



## Dates for your diary

**Fireworks**, St Michael's School  
Saturday 8th November (tickets from School)

### Remembrance Parade

St Michael's Church to War Memorial  
Sunday 9th November 10.15am

### Christmas Tree and Lights

St Michael's Church  
Saturday 29th November 5pm-7pm  
Sponsored by Colehill Parish Council

**Christmas Lights**, Wimborne  
Saturday 29th November 4pm

**Christmas Parade** in aid of Save the Children, Wimborne Town Centre  
Saturday 13th December

**Carol Concert** around the Christmas tree, St Michael's Church  
Sunday 14th December 5pm

**Aladdin** panto at the Tivoli Theatre  
15th December to 3rd January

**Puss in Boots** panto at the Memorial Hall, 6th - 8th February 2009

### CPC Meetings, Tuesdays

11th Nov. Finance & Gen. Purposes  
25th Nov. Highways & Plans  
2nd Dec. Council (Precept)  
16th Dec. Highways & Plans

### Chairman's Reception

Friday 21st November

### Helen O'Grady Drama

**Academy** Memorial Hall each Thursday. Classes to suit 5 - 17 years.  
Tel: 01202 755755 for information

### Hardy Plant Society

Memorial Hall, monthly speakers, visits to gardens and nurseries, plant sales.  
Contact Barbara Gooch. Tel: 882590

# Let's Party!

Calling all 3 - 10 year olds. We would like to invite you to a party at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 4th April 2009. There will be lots of fun things to do, a magic show, games and a delicious tea with lots of yummy things to eat and drink. The fun starts at 3pm and you can ask mum and dad to pick you up at 5.30pm. Tickets are £7.50 (TBC)



Do you want to come to a disco on Saturday 4th April 2009? We thought it would be good fun to make Colehill Memorial Hall rock so, if you're up for a really good night out and you are aged between 11 and 16 years then come and join the party. A professional DJ will be playing the latest pop music, lots of food and drink (strictly non-alcoholic) and a good time to be had

by all. We kick off at 7pm and lights go out at 10pm so make sure you have organised a safe journey home.

Tickets are £7.50 (TBC)

**Community Event** - we would like to hold a summer barbecue for local residents. Please let us know if this is the type of activity that you would support or if you have any other ideas, we would love to hear from you.

### What would you like to see happening in Colehill?

Community Choir? Dance Nights? Bands? Could you help organise any of these activities? Let us know.

Details of all our planned events will be posted on the website, on the village noticeboards and in the library.

**Dog Owners beware!** We have our very own dog warden who will be regularly patrolling popular dog-walking areas to make sure you clean up after your pooch. She can even issue fixed penalty notices to offenders. You have been warned.

TPOs make it an offence to fell, top, lop, uproot or wilfully destroy a tree. Contact planning to check if your trees have TPOs. Protected Trees guide [www.hmsa.gov.uk](http://www.hmsa.gov.uk)

## Competition sponsored by Coffee Pots and Colehill Parish Council

### Win a family session at Coffee Pots in Wimborne



Use your imagination and come up with a really snazzy name for the newsletter. The winner will receive a voucher for Coffee Pots in Wimborne where you and your family can spend a fun morning or afternoon painting pots, plates or ceramic animals AND enjoy a slice of delicious home-made cake, scones and drinks of your choice. Entries via the website at [www.colehill.gov.uk](http://www.colehill.gov.uk) or email [info@colehill.gov.uk](mailto:info@colehill.gov.uk) or post your entries to Clerk to the Council, 1 Hornbeam Way, Colehill, Wimborne BH21 2QE. Closing date for entries is 28th November 2008. Winner will be notified by post by 10th December.