

The Courier



Uffington Parish Council

The Courier

Produced by J.F.N.Packford

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(to Jem Packford, Lower Woolstone. Tel: Uffington 820631 or

e-mail jem_packford@lineone.net

UFFINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Simon Jenkins (Chair)

The Council

Uffington Parish Council has six councillors. They serve four year terms, with elections next due in 2019. The composition of the Parish Council is:

Mr Simon Jenkins (Chair)	Tel. 01367 820776
Mr Graham Banks (Vice Chair)	Tel. 01367 820379
Mrs Fenella Oberman	Tel. 01367 820230
Mrs Karen Pilcher	Tel. 01367 820978
Mr Mike Oldnall	Tel: 01367 820369
Dr Paul Coad	Tel: 01367 820428
Clerk	
Mrs Julia Evans	Tel: 01235 833466

Councillors may be contacted on the above telephone numbers or by e-mail to: parishcouncil@uffington.net

The Council meets on the second Monday of the month in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, at 7.30pm. All residents are welcome to attend these meetings and raise any issues; we will make it easy for you by having an “open forum” session early in the meeting. The agenda is published on the Parish Council website and notice board at least three clear days before the meeting.

Appeal for funds for the restoration of the Old School Room (Tom Brown's School Museum)

This is one of the most important topics on our agenda at present, and for the village as a whole. Most people will be aware that the Old School Room is in urgent need of restoration – principally to the four external walls but also some other works, including the guttering and downpipes. We are longing to see the black tarpaulin protecting the lower part of the south wall removed! At present, we



are hoping to start the work in March or April, once the weather improves - subject to having raised sufficient funds. As at 31 December 2017, we have raised £25,627 towards our target of £52,250. Paul Armishaw has built a thermometer for us to track progress, which will be installed shortly.

The Parish Council is extremely grateful to all those who have contributed towards

this appeal - whether by cash, cheque, bank transfer or small change dropped into the jar in the Shop – but please do not stop; as you can see, we are not there yet. If you have an idea for a fund raising initiative please feel free to go ahead. As an example, a New Year quiz has been set up; copies will be on sale in the Shop for £1 a go with proceeds going towards the repairs. The winner will receive £20.00 and entries should be returned to the Shop or Geoff Rumble by 31 January 2018.

If you would like to discuss an idea with a member of the Parish Council, please approach any of us.

Jubilee Field

Save the Date: The Jubilee Field Spring Tidy will be held on 17 / 18 March 2018. Please assemble at the Village Hall at 10.00 am on Saturday 17 March, equipped with gardening tools.

Faringdon Rotary Club have very kindly donated a further 2,000 crocus corms to the village, and these have been planted along the railings by the children's play area. We are hoping for a colourful display in the spring to compliment the bulbs that were planted the previous year, near the village sign on the Jubilee Field.

Ditch clearance It is essential that the ditches around the village run freely. If you need some assistance in clearing ditches which are your responsibility, please contact the Parish Council at uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com

The Parish Council would like to thank the small group of residents who assist with maintenance work around the village, in areas which are the responsibility of the Parish Council; much essential work has been done during the summer to keep tidy the verges and various other areas of grass. If you would like to join this group, please get in touch with the Parish Council at uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com

Parking on Broad Street by the School

Please do NOT park, for however short a period of time, on the yellow zig zag lines outside the School; they are there for an important purpose - which is to make it possible for children to enter and leave the playground safely. It is a parking offence to park on these lines and you may be liable for penalties.

Please also do NOT park beside the gate to the Church and from there through the bend and back towards the Museum. Parking in this area is dangerous as it obstructs the view of the road ahead to traffic coming from the Woolstone and Fernham direction. There is a white line on the road to indicate this.

Uffington and Baulking Neighbourhood Plan

From Robert Hart, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group:

The last few months have been a busy period for the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG), and work continues apace. The Landscape Capacity Study (LCS), which assessed every parcel (mostly fields and woods) of land in the parishes of Uffington and Baulking, forming the plan area, has been finalised and agreed with the independent consultants employed to conduct it. While the Housing Needs Assessment (HNA), conducted earlier in the year, provided us with details of what development was needed in the plan area during the plan period of 2011 to 2031, the Landscape Capacity Study has identified the landscape impact of development on each of the parcels of land in the plan area. The HNA broadly showed that c19 houses are required in the plan area during the plan period and that they are predominantly needed in Uffington, with much lower numbers needed in Baulking. The LCS identified one or 2 parcels standing out in both Uffington and Baulking as having the least landscape impact. This detail, combined with the Characterisation Study conducted at the outset of the NP process, has been written into a draft plan, which is currently being matured. The villages were formally consulted on the outcome of the studies at an open evening in November, which was a very useful and interactive event in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, and will be consulted again once the draft plan is sufficiently mature. Opinion has also been sought from local landowners regarding particularly sensitive or publicly enjoyed spaces, as to their willingness to designate their land as 'local green space', to protect it from development and maintain its rural setting. About 30% have agreed and these designations will form part of the draft plan. From here the draft plan will be publicly consulted on, assessed by the District Council and once agreed, it will be submitted for examination to an independent inspector, appointed by the District Council. Once approved, it will be put to the villagers of Uffington and Baulking for adoption via referendum, planned to be conducted in late 2018.

Your continued patience, support and engagement are greatly appreciated. The next public event will be advertised as always at the village shop, parish council and school noticeboards and in village circular emails. However, the NPSG website, www.ubwnp.net, remains the best way to stay up to date on progress, and to place any comments or questions.

Planning applications in Uffington – since the last edition of the Courier

The following have been approved by the Vale District Council:

- Single storey side extension at Grounds Farm Bungalow, Fernham Road, Uffington.
- Single storey oak framed garden room extension to side following demolition of existing single storey extension, at West View, Fernham Road, Uffington.
- Erection of a greenhouse and a summerhouse at Field Cottage, 3-4 Upper Common, Uffington

The following are awaiting determination by the Vale District Council:

- Listed Building consent for Structural and in-situ conservative repairs to masonry and minor alterations to the Old School Room (also known as 'Tom Brown's School Museum').(P17/V3234/LB)
- Proposed new dwelling with access at Former Post Office, Broad Street, Uffington.(P17/V2670/FUL)
- Proposed stable block, store and hay barn. Retrospective change of use from agricultural to equestrian, at The Walnuts, Broad Street, Uffington.(P17/V3294/FUL)
- Proposed erection of two self-build dwellings at Dragon Hill, Woolstone Road, Uffington. (P18/V0003/O).

New planning applications

We have said this before, but we encourage those intending to submit an application to the Planning department at The Vale District Council to discuss them with the Parish Council at an early stage. We may be able to help you to avoid unnecessary errors which serve to downgrade the quality of the application.

Jacksmeadow – Section 106 Contributions

As part of the planning approval for the development of Jacksmeadow, certain sums of money were required to be paid to the parish, district and county councils as contributions towards the additional infrastructure and facilities required to support additional residents. These facilities may be located within Uffington parish (e.g. Public Art) or further afield if shared (e.g. Secondary Schools or Swimming Pools).

The Parish Council is pleased with the projects which we have so far supported, which are listed below. We believe that they provide excellent examples of improvements to community facilities, as intended by the generous contributions from the developers of Jacksmeadow:

- New equipment for the children's play area – two items were installed in October and the new slide was installed just before Christmas.
- Support for the THMH Energy Efficiency project – including the new heating system and the solar panel array.
- Measures to reduce speeding on Fawler Road – a vehicle activated sign which lights up when you are speeding will be fitted in January; regrettably it was delayed by a delivery problem before Christmas.
- Support for the new meeting room over the porch of St Mary's Church.
- Support for the refurbishment work due on the Old School Room – Tom Brown's School Museum.



Surprisingly, the old slide came out in one piece!



The new slide



The solar panel array on the hall



The new roundabout and climbing frame

Public Art contribution

This project was opened on Wednesday 18 October and has generated much interest and praise. A smaller version of the village map will be installed in the red phone box opposite the church which houses the information point. The trail leaflets will also be available there. The information posts include an icon for which brass rubbing kits are held by the Uffington Shop. One of the information posts on the Village Trail and the lectern and map are pictured below:



Communications

- **Village Web site.** The village website will be found at <http://www.uffington.net/> It is in the ownership of the Parish Council, which pays the hosting and support charges on behalf of the village. Requests for additions and changes should be made to the Clerk, Julia Evans, at uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com or through the website.
- **E-mail notices.** We have set up an e-mail distribution list which is used to publish notices of general interest to residents of Uffington, the villages of Woolstone and Baulking, and others further afield, as and when they occur. If you would like to join it, please call 01367 820776 or send an e-mail with your own details to sjmjenkins@gmail.com For data protection reasons, individual e-mail addresses are not disclosed.
- **Facebook page for Uffington, Baulking, Woolstone, Kingstone Lisle, Fawler** – The majority of Parish Council communications are shared on the local Facebook page.

The Allotments

There are some spare plots at the Uffington allotments; the cost is currently £40 per year. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Council at uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com

Advertising in the Courier and on the website

The Parish Council's Advertising policy is shown on the next page. It will be implemented slowly in order to give advertisers time to consider the advantages to their own businesses of an eye-catching colour advertisement on the village website (with a link to your own website), and in the Courier, which is distributed free to a number of pubs and shops etc in the surrounding area, as well as to c450 households in Uffington, Baulking and Woolstone. Invoices based on advertisements in this edition of the Courier will be distributed shortly, to take effect in the Spring edition. Advertisers please respond, or we may not be able to include your advertisement in the next edition.

If anybody wishes to advertise in the Courier and / or on the village website please contact the Parish Council at: uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com We would welcome more advertising and also more colour to give the Courier a 'face-lift'.

NOTICES

Drainage

Please remember that it is vital that any blockages or overflows in the foul drainage system are reported immediately to Thames Water. It is only if there is a documented history of problems that they may have to take action in the future. The 24/7 emergency number is **0800 316 9800**.

You should be aware that Thames Water distinguish between "operational flooding", and "hydraulic flooding". Operational flooding is caused by sewer collapses, equipment failure and blockages (e.g., clothing, sanitary items, wet wipes and cooking fat – **DON'T FLUSH ANY OF THESE**). Hydraulic flooding is caused by insufficient capacity under normal operation and Thames Water believes that Uffington does not suffer from this type of flooding.

Oxfordshire County Council Winter Weather Information

OCC has recently published their winter weather information which can be found on the village website under the Essential Contacts page at <https://www.uffington.net/essential-contacts/oxfordshire-county-council/>.

Uffington Parish Council's Advertising Policy

Uffington Parish Council (the Council) encourages appropriate and relevant advertising (colour or black / white) in the media platforms which it supports; these are:

1. The village website
2. The Courier (quarterly newsletter)

Printing costs for The Courier and website maintenance costs are borne by the Council. Sufficient copies of the Courier are printed currently for it to be distributed free of charge to all households in Uffington, Baulking and Woolstone. In order to reduce the financial burden on the Council, it has been decided to introduce a small charge for advertising, with effect from January 2018. The annual charge will be:

- ¼ page or less: £20.00
- ½ page: £40.00
- Full page: £75.00
- Advertisements on the website only: £10.00 (Links to external commercial sites are acceptable, at the discretion of the Council)

One-off or short term advertisements will be charged at a proportionate rate to the above, with a minimum charge of £5.00. The Council reserves the right to reduce or remove any charge.

The above are inclusive of VAT. The charge will be payable annually in advance, at the start of the year, and will be subject to review annually. Payment will entitle the applicant to an advertisement, colour or black / white, of the appropriate size, for 12 months in the Courier (4 issues) and Uffington village website. If payment is not received within 2 months of an invoice being submitted, the advertisement will be withdrawn.

This small charge will enable the Council to print more copies for distribution to local shops, garages, pubs etc, thus improving the reach of advertising.

An abbreviated version of all relevant advertisements will also be included in the Welcome Pack, which is distributed free of charge to all those who move into the villages of Uffington, Baulking, Shellingford and Woolstone.

Last updated: November 2017. Adopted by the Council on: 13 November 2017.

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Dear All,

The New Year will be well under way by the time you read this. I hope that Christmas went well, or tolerably, for you and yours and that you found some space amidst all the hubbub. I managed to read a book from cover to cover for the first time in ages. It was Robert Harris' new page-turner, 'Munich'; based on four frenetic days towards the end of 1938 when Prime Minister Chamberlain travelled to Austria with a small group of advisers to try, once more, to pull Europe back from the brink of all-out war.

It painted the much slated leader in a kinder light, showing him to be less the appeaser, and more of a pragmatic and tireless stickler for the kind of detail which drags reasonable results from unreasonable men. The action focuses on two young men, a German and Englishman, who had met at Oxford six years before finding themselves on the opposite side of the negotiating table in Munich. With Hitler at the height of his power, the young German diplomat wrestles with his revulsion of the man and his cause, realising that the path to peace moves through some very tight passes indeed.

But, as Kenny Everett would have said, "I'm telling you the plot, Michael!" – you will just have to read this very human drama for yourselves. What good novels do so much better than any other kind of media is put the reader in close touch with the personalities of the characters and through them, if they are well-drawn, we see windows onto our own lives too. They show us that the right way ahead often remains obscure, relying on our own patience and perseverance and of the action of others too.

May your projects and paths this year be undertaken with the necessary humility and wisdom to see them through with the help of others. May we find in our own imperfections the knowledge that there has to be a greater good, making all things whole. Be ready for a few judicious tweaks and experiments to our pattern of worship in these beautiful villages of ours, bear with me if you will, and know that you are most welcome to celebrate with us – dipping in and dipping out on any given Sunday - at a time and a place which works for you.

I'll finish with a poignant verse from that lugubrious song-smith, Leonard Cohen:

“Ring the bells that still can ring
Forget your perfect offering
There is a crack in everything
That’s how the light gets in”

With love & prayers, Jeremy

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SCHOOL NOTICEBOARD.

Our school year ended with the EYFS nativity “Whoops a Daisy Angel” and our lovely production of Lights, Camel, and Action in the Church. Based on a “Strictly” version of the nativity – we even had our very own judges! Both occasions were packed to the brim with parents, family and members of the local community. Thank you to everybody who supported us including the PTA who served mulled wine and treats. The children, danced, sang and acted beautifully. Key Stage Two also sang Christmas songs to the Afternoon Club at the village hall – which is something we look forward to every year.

Last year saw some of our most exciting work, from creating our own version of Macbeth, trips to the theatre, Roves Farm and the Ashmolean to competing in a range of sports tournaments with other schools. Three events which particularly stand out were of course our summer fete, our Remembrance service and our Macmillan coffee morning. These were wonderful opportunities for our pupils to develop leadership roles and take on responsibilities, whilst meeting and talking to a wide range of people in the local community.

Pictures are on our school website: www.uffington.oxon.sch.uk.

From all at Uffington School may we wish you a happy and a prosperous new year.

Mrs Lisa Bradbury,
Head Teacher

'OPEN SPACE' SERVICE

Sue Jennings

Open Space modern worship Sunday 14 th January 3pm at St Mary's church. Informal and fun, for all ages, all welcome, refreshments after. The theme will be: 'Jesus the light of the world'.

Next one -March 11 th 3pm Mothering Sunday .

Contact Sue Jennings 07956534478 or any of the ministry team for details.



'Open Space' Service

Sunday 14th January 2018

3-4pm

at St. Mary's Church, Uffington

SN7 7RA

All ages welcome.

Modern songs, a talk, testimony, discussion, a craft, prayers and light refreshments.

The theme will be : 'Jesus is the Light of the World'

Ph Sue Jennings for more details 07956534478

Or any of the Ministry Team

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Krista Soper (01367 820364)

We wanted to wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

This growing season, being fairly dry, has meant that the strawberries, liking it hot and dry, were fabulous but the other plants, those which need more water, depended on the additional watering. But overall the crops were successful.

In September the Beavers came and harvested a variety of vegetables that they had planted earlier in the summer. The potatoes which they dug from the ground was stunning. No one went home without a bag of potatoes that evening.

In December we held a Wreath making workshop one evening at one of our member's homes, creating some spectacular wreaths. The minced pies, mulled wine and other nibbles helped get the creative juices flowing and everyone went away with a festive decoration for their front door. Old and new friends met up and the evening flew by.

So we have been busy at the Community Garden.
Hope you and all your family have a very fruitful 2018.

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UFFINGTON BAULKING AND WOOLSTONE MINIBUS ASSOCIATION

Our community minibus, which seats 16 people plus a driver, exists for use by all within our villages and the surrounding area, for social and recreational activities. A team of volunteer drivers operates regular shopping trips, and the minibus may also be reserved by local groups and individual members of the community for their own purposes.

It is necessary for villagers and local groups to join the UBW Minibus Association in order to use the minibus. Membership is available to all, and there is no charge to join.

The shopping trips are to Faringdon every Tuesday and Wantage every Wednesday and Friday. We leave Patricks Orchard, Uffington at 9.30, picking up and setting down members where convenient for them.

The Association is run on a 'not for profit' basis. There is a modest fare for the shopping trips, and Bus Passes may be used.

Group and individual private bookings are charged a flat fee of £20, plus 80p per mile driven, plus VAT. Insurance and fuel are included.

The Association has an ongoing need for new volunteers to drive or assist with administration, in order to sustain our activities. The driving commitment is about one morning a month. A full car licence is required, and training is provided.

Please call John Hatcher (01367 820417) for further information.

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WHITE HORSE GARDEN CLUB PROGRAMME 2018

A Happy Healthy New Year to Everyone.

New Year's Resolution – JOIN THE GARDEN CLUB.

Talks and Visits not to be missed – enter in your diary, calendar, phone now.

Thursday 1st February The Creative Shrub Garden: how to create lasting plant combinations using shrubs. By Andy McIndoe, former MD of Hilliers.

www.andymcindoe.com

Thursday 1st March Summer Flowers from Seed: wonderful annuals and biennials. By Derry Watkins, acclaimed owner of Special Plants Nursery, Chippenham. www.specialplants.net

Thursday 5th April Growing Vegetables in Small Spaces: ideas on how to make the most of any space and recommended varieties to grow. By Sally Nex.

www.sallynex.com

Thursday 3rd May – 2pm VISIT to Derry Watkins Special Plants, Greenways Lane, Cold Ashton, Chippenham SN14 8LA. £10.50 entry including tour and refreshments. Numbers limited to 24.

Saturday 12th May 2.30pm – 4pm PLANT SALE. Please bring plants for sale. Label and price each plant. If you wish, bring plants for sale on a 50:50 basis and add an extra label (indelibly marked with your name and cost). Please support our only fund raising event.

Thursday 7th June 6pm VISIT to Shellingford Gardens. Parking at the Old Stables, Fernham Road, Shellingford SN7 7PU, courtesy of Robert and Janice Sharp. Members free. Visitors £2.50. Refreshments.

Wednesday 20th June 2.15pm & 4pm VISIT to Manor Farm Garden, Frampton-on-Severn, GL2 7EP. Followed by Pan-Global Plants. www.panglobalplants.com. Members £10. Visitors £12.50. Tour & Refreshments. Numbers limited to 30.

Thursday 5th July 6.00pm

VISIT to Appleton Manor, Eaton Road, Appleton OX13 5LW. Members and visitors £12.50 includes tour, fizz and canapés. Numbers limited to 40.

Thursday 2nd August 2.30pm VISIT to Kathy Brown's Garden, The Manor House, Church Road, Stevingham, Bedford MK43 7QB. Members and visitors £10, includes tour and refreshments. No limit on numbers.

www.kathybrownsgarden.com

Thursday 6th September Successful Fruit Growing; grow your own 5 a day. By Philip Aubury, Director of Birmingham Botanic Garden (ret)

Thursday 4th October Autumn Flowing Perennials. Plants for Sale. By Rose Hardy, from award-winning Hardy's Cottage Plants. www.hardysplants.co.uk

Thursday 1st November Ornamental Trees. Plants for Sale. By Sam Mallett from Notcutts Nursery.

Thursday 6th December AGM followed by a talk on Beer and Hops with samples to savour and goods for sale. By The White Horse Brewery. Seasonal refreshments. Xmas Raffle.

Everyone WELCOME at the White Horse Garden Club. Membership is £10 per annum. Visitors £2.50 per meeting. Raffle £1. Venue: Thomas Hughes Memorial (large) Hall, Uffington SN7 7RA. White Horse Garden Club Committee: Verity Cavanagh, Alison Corley, Jane Cracknell, Patricia Dalrymple, Hilary Deakin, Pamela Preene.

Further information: Pamela Preene, T: 01367820251 E: parrottspreene@aol.com

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AFTERNOON CLUB

Ann Smith

We would like to wish everyone A Happy and Healthy 2018.

One of our members, Mrs Audrey Packer, sadly passed away just after Christmas, our condolence to her family, especially her dear sister Rene.

At our October meeting Sara Jayne told us about making greeting cards and in November we had Christmas lunch cooked and served in the village hall.

At our December meeting some of the older children from Uffington School came and sang to us, this is always enjoyed by members. Thank you children and thank you Mrs Bradbury and helpers.

Our first meeting for 2018 will be in the hall on January 11th at 2pm .

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ELM TREE SURGERY SHRIVENHAM

Pam Coulson

PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION SERVICE

Will patients ordering repeat prescriptions from the Surgery please note that they should now do so before 12.30 pm on the Monday of the week in which they are needed, earlier orders would of course be welcomed. Prescriptions will then be available in the Post Office on the following Thursday.

BENEFICE 200 CLUB DRAW – 17 December 2017
Results of the 2nd Draw of the year [quarter ending 31st December 2017]
Held following Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church, Baulking

1st Prize £150.00	144	Ann Smith
2nd Prize £55.00	57	Susie & John McCullough
	198	Patricia & Dougie Dalrymple
	10	Ann Kelsey
3rd Prize £35.00	2	Amelia McPherson
	79	Barbara Lloyd
	86	Sarah Brazier
	193	David Erwin
	199	Hugh Baxter
4th Prize £27.00	44	David Harrison
	165	Anthony Spink
	68	Bill Mitchell
	65	Anthony Spink
	54	Mr & Mrs G Douglas

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The Uffington Players Present

Mother Goose

By Ben Crocker

Performances will take place at

The Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall

February 15th, 16th & 17th

Tickets will be available from Uffington Stores
Or on line at ticketsource.co.uk/the-uffington-players

Adult/Concession Thursday £9/£7

Friday & Saturday £12.50/£10 (Supper Included)

Doors open 7pm. Curtains 7.30pm

Prize for the best worst Christmas jumper.

For further information please call 01367 820474

THOMAS HUGHES MEMORIAL HALL Douglas Dalrymple (Chairman 821063)

The AGM. This will take place on Monday January 29th at **8.00pm** in the small Hall. It is open to anyone who lives within the 'area of benefit', so within Uffington, Baulking and Woolstone. It is not an occasion just for the Council, the Trustees, and the Management Committee, - anyhow in theory. Amongst usual necessary matters at the meeting – noting and approving the Accounts, for example – we shall be looking ahead to 2018, and planning any necessary or desirable projects. These are not anticipated be on the same scale as those achieved in 2017.

2017. The programme described in the last Courier has been completed, thanks to the recent insulation work in the small Hall. Once the plaster has fully dried, both Halls will be warmer in Winter and cooler in Summer. The new gas-fired heating for the large Hall is working well at reduced running cost, and the solar panels in the depths of Winter are already generating free electricity that is providing income and being used for hot water supply. In addition the ramp on the Jubilee side of the large Hall, together with its handrail, and the step from the store room to the field, have all been created and installed to satisfy H&S requirements. The Management Committee is appreciative of all the various works done by Stephen Crook and his team over the last six months.

THANKS. Appreciation is also due to the following bodies for grants and administrative assistance in dealings with official bodies, without which the programme could not have been funded. They are listed in alphabetical rather than any other order:

The Doris Field Charitable Trust; The Faringdon & District Rotary Club;
The Garfield Weston Foundation; The Trust for Oxfordshire Environment 2;

The Uffington Parish Council (For much practical assistance and advice along the way to securing an amount of Section 106 moneys arising from the Jack's Lea development.); The VOWH Capital Grant; The White Horse Show Trust.

NEW VOLUNTEERS. Regrettably the call in the last Courier for further assistance in the management of the Hall did not lead to a rush of eager participants: in fact so far it has led to none. Is it too late for a New Year's resolution of a positive and community nature?

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FUEL OIL BULK PURCHASE SCHEME

Paul Armishaw

Community First Oxfordshire (previously ORCC) is the oldest rural community council in the country and is a registered charity. Their fuel oil purchasing scheme has been operating in our three parishes since February 2011 and was one of the first in Oxfordshire. The oil buying syndicate brings communities throughout Oxfordshire together to make the most of joint buying power. Not only do you get the best possible price, but the oil companies can make the most efficient use of delivery lorries (and fewer journeys to a particular community helps the environment). You also pay the same bulk price regardless of the quantity ordered, ideal for keeping your tank regularly topped up. The minimum order is 500 litres.

Wherever possible, they operate the scheme through local volunteer co-ordinators, who are placed within the community and can help with day to day issues. From helping those with no internet or computer access, to checking oil levels for those who are unable to and reminding you to check your oil levels or when an order date is imminent. They are there to support anyone who needs that extra bit of help and guidance.

I have been the co-ordinator for Uffington, Baulking and Woolstone plus the surrounding area since 2011 when prices were over 60p/Litre. We currently have circa 50 members and this has plateaued somewhat since the fall in prices experienced in the last three years or so. However, prices have been trending upwards again since February this year. With the heating season approaching, now is the time to think about a cheaper option. If you would like to know anything further about the scheme, do not hesitate to contact me on 820385.

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Classified Advertising

ACCOMMODATION

BED AND BREAKFAST at Norton House, Broad Street, Uffington, SN7 7RA. Contact Fenella or Carl Oberman Tel 01367 820230, e-mail carloberman123@btinternet.com, Website <http://www.smoothhound.co.uk/hotels/nortonfaringdon>.

ACCOUNTANCY & TAX

SWASH & CO, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS Bookkeeping, year-end accounts, corporation tax returns, VAT, payroll, tax and self-assessment 01367 821128, enquiries@swashandco.co.uk

CARPENTRY

WILTSHIRE WOODWORKING - Commercial and Domestic Carpentry & Joinery. Custom/Purpose made joinery, Manufacture and installation, Real wood and laminate flooring, Doors, skirting, kitchens fitted, Fencing and decking, Shop fitting and renovations. Telephone Jamie Wiltshire on 07771 953803 www.wiltshirewoodworking.co.uk.

EATING OUT

THE TEA POT - Home made cream teas. Open Saturdays 3-5:30pm, Sundays & Bank Holidays 3-6:30pm March to December. Coffee, Lunches, Teas, Suppers or Barbecues can be arranged any day of the week for group bookings. Coaches are welcome by prior arrangement. Handcrafted Gifts and greetings cards, Various Gifts and Homemade Cakes on sale in the Tea Room. Britchcombe Farm, Uffington, Tel 01367 820260 (24-hour telephone answering service). We are situated 1/4 mile from the oldest White Horse Monument, on the B4507 near Uffington, Oxon. Nearby places of interest include Wayland Smithy, Blowing Stone, The Ridgeway and the Uffington Museum.

UFFINGTON COMMUNITY CAFÉ is at Memorial Hall, Saturdays from 11am to 3pm. Home made Cakes, Bacon or Veggie Rolls, Hot & Cold Drinks. FREE fruit and sweets for kiddies. Vicky & Chris can't wait to see you. Contact 07884167800.

FURNITURE RESTORATION

BROUGHTON RESTORATIONS Littleworth - All aspects of antique furniture restoration undertaken by experienced craftsmen - Insurance work, including fire and flood damage. Fully insured workshop, Full accredited member of B.A.F.R.A (British Antique Furniture Restorers Association), 30 years experience. Tel: **01367 242009** www.broughtonrestorations.co.uk

GLAZING

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