

The Bridge

January 2022

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



2022

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The Bridge

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

Articles

Please submit articles either by email to paradisefound86@icloud.com or by hand (legible handwriting please!) and take them to the drop-off locations at Barters Plant Centre, Chapmanslade, or Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley by the deadline.

News, reports, updates, thank you's, etc, from individuals or local organisations are free – the more the merrier – keep 'em coming!

File types

Save your files as .doc – please don't send .docx files – I can't always open them successfully.

Advertising

Small ads are £1 for each item whether 'For Sale' or 'Wanted'.

Events/local organisation ads (churches, clubs, playgroups, etc) are £2 per month for a boxed advert.

Full page ads cost £7.50, are subject to space availability and cannot be guaranteed,

If you are advertising, don't forget to take the fee – cash or cheque in a sealed envelope please, to either of the drop-off points (Barters Plant Centre or Acres Supply).

Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Please see information on the last page.

In this issue...

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Deadline

**Deadline for articles
or adverts for the next
issue of The Bridge is
4pm 19th January**

**Please note that no
items will be accepted
after this date**

Diary Dates

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL EVENTS ARE
SUBJECT TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS
THAT MAY HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED OVER
THE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR PERIOD**



January

Tuesday 4th

Coffee Morning – from 10 am, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 6th

Crafternoon – 3 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Saturday 8th

Frome Inner Wheel Soup and Puds Lunch – 12 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall (in aid of the Butterfly Trust)

EVENT CANCELLED

Sunday 9th

Deadline for applications for co-option to Corsley Parish Council (see page 33)

Monday 10th

Corsley Parish Council meeting – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 13th

Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Thursday 20th

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10 am to 12 noon, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Wednesday 26th

Light Bites Lunches – 12.30 pm to 2 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 27th

Quiz Night (supporting our friends in Maridi, South Sudan) – 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm, Warminster Conservative Club (booking essential)

February

Tuesday 1st

Coffee Morning – from 10 am, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 17th

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10 am to 12 noon, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Calling all quiz lovers

Supporting our friends in
Maridi, South Sudan

We were all set to have our annual quiz supporting our friends in Maridi in the Autumn of 2020 but restrictions prevented that, it is, therefore two years since we have been able to organise one. However, we have the opportunity to run one at the Warminster Conservative Club on Thursday 27th January, 7.30 for 7.45pm. prepared by popular quizmasters the Two Bobs.

Previously we have held our quizzes in village/church halls and, whilst this has worked well in the past, such places require a fair amount of 'scene shifting' to set up, some of it heavy. We have prepared the suppers ourselves (usually hot) and then of course there was all the clearing up afterwards. We are a small group of mainly ladies so to hold the quiz at the 'Con Club' where the function room is already set up with tables and chairs and the organising of booking and food is taken on by the club itself is making life so much easier for us. By booking the function room through a member of the club we have no hiring fee to pay, for us it is a win-win situation as it is keeping our costs really low, which of course means more funding for Maridi.

Teams can be up to a maximum of six people and cost £10 a head including a fish 'n' chip supper. Call the Club on 01985 217895 to book your teams in and order your supper. Let the club know if you have any special dietary requirements.

We look forward to you joining us for a fun evening!

Rev'd Gay Maynard

Domestic kerbside collections January 2022

Corsley

Household waste (black bin) Fridays 14th and 28th

Garden waste (green bin) Wednesday 19th

Mixed recycling (blue bin) Wednesdays 12th and 26th

Black box Wednesdays 12th and 26th

Chapmanslade

Household waste (black bin) Wednesdays 12th and 26th

Garden waste (green bin) Wednesday 19th

Mixed recycling (blue bin) Thursday 13th and 27th

Black box Thursday 13th and 27th



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Corsley Village Fair/Fête

It is looking increasingly likely that a fair/fête will be run on 3rd September 2022. However, we are still short of people to help make it happen. Please do consider giving a few hours over the coming months to help deliver part of this event – without more support, the running of the fair/fête remains at risk. Please email treasurer@corsleyshow.org.uk if you would like to know more or to get involved to make it happen!

Church and Community Coffee Mornings

Third Thursday of each month

10 am to 12 noon

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Salisbury Cathedral

Flower Festival 2022

Planning for the 2022 flower festival at Salisbury Cathedral is well underway

‘Celebration’ A Festival of Flowers takes place from Tuesday 10th to Sunday 15th May and will involve hundreds of arrangers.

It is designed by Michael Bowyer, Pam Lewis and Angela Turner, all Chelsea gold medallists.

Michael, director of Salisbury Cathedral Flowers and president of the



National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS), said everyone was saddened when the festival planned for 2020 could not go ahead due to the pandemic.

But, he said, next year's festival will include

elements of the cancelled festival as well as themes celebrating the Queen's platinum jubilee, key workers, the power of nature, the cathedral's treasures and the Church's year.

"As well as members of Salisbury Cathedral Flowers, every flower club and every church from the Diocese of Salisbury has been invited to take part," said Michael.

He added that the festival would be environmentally friendly, as arrangers would be using compostable substitutes for floral foam, and a section of the displays would focus on bees and other pollinators.

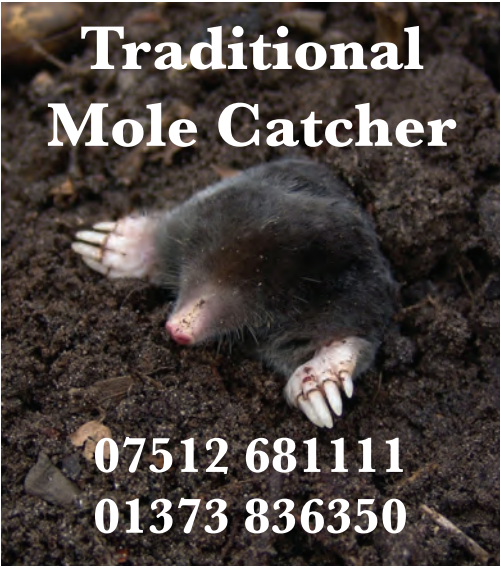
Tickets for the 2022 flower festival are now available from the cathedral's website

www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/events/celebration-festival-flowers

Bob's bafflers

- 1 According to the Bible, who committed the first ever murder?
- 2 What medical condition is caused by a deficiency of iron in the diet?
- 3 “We have 12 vacancies - 12 cabins, 12 vacancies” – is a line from which 1960s film?
- 4 In which battle was Horatio Nelson fatally wounded?
- 5 According to the old saying, where does charity begin?
- 6 What was the name of the ship on which Charles Darwin began developing his theory of evolution?
- 7 What was the title of the book Charles Dickens was working on when he died?
- 8 Which character was played by Julie Walters in “Acorn Antiques”?
- 9 Who composed the classical piece “In the Hall of the Mountain King”?
- 10 Which is Britain’s oldest cathedral?
- 11 Who is the current Vice President of the USA?
- 12 According to myth, which Roman Emperor had a day added to the month named after him because he was insulted that it only had 30 days? The extra day was apparently removed from February which is why it’s shorter than other months.

Answers on page 40



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Lite Bites

Christmas lunch

Our Lite Bites Christmas lunch on 15th December took place in a beautifully decorated festive Reading Room and raised over £300 for the Children's Society thanks to the generosity of all those who attended. The meal began with a delicious apple punch and was followed by the traditional Christmas lunch and a mince pie to round it all off. Between courses our guests were asked to test their brains with a Christmas Quiz for which a small prize was given.



A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all our guests who donated so generously and we hope to see you all for our Soup Lunches in the New Year.

I think we should also record extra special thanks to all the marvellous helpers who dished up the meals, served them AND washed up afterwards: without you all the event would not have taken place.

Maureen Willcox



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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Parish Clerk, John Willcox, rounds up the PC's activity in December

The Parish Council met in the Reading Rooms on 6th December. The meeting was attended by our County Councillor, Mr Bill Parks.

The meeting was chaired by the current Vice Chair, Dr Neil Carpenter and the first item of business was the election of a Chair, this post being vacant since the resignation of Mike Butler. Neil Carpenter was elected Chair and David Ball was elected Vice Chair.

Mr Parks advised that the Council had recently published material relating to the Queens Platinum Jubilee, which he had noticed was on the agenda for this meeting (the meeting subsequently agreed to defer this item and pick it up in January.) He also spoke about the ash dieback survey that the Council is undertaking, the Council have engaged Wessex Rural Crafts to inspect along A and B roads, but for all other routes the expectation is that Parish Councils will be doing this (by the way, there is no budget for this or for the felling of any trees affected!)

Co-option

Wiltshire Council had advised that there was not a requirement to have an election to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation. It was agreed that the Parish Council would seek a co-optee to fill the vacancy and would follow the same procedure as adopted previously. Details would be published in The Bridge, put on the village Facebook page and notice boards around the village (see notice elsewhere in this edition for details.).

Following further discussion it was also

agreed that, beginning in January, the PC would meet every two months and would trial starting meetings at 7 pm rather than 7.30 pm.

Planning Applications

It was reported that the planning application for the further development of the Baytree Close site – PL/2021/07575 - had been withdrawn. It is understood that a revised application will be submitted in due course.

There were two planning applications that were considered;

PL/2021/10341. Dye House Farm, variation of a previous application to allow the introduction of fish to the wildlife pond. The PC had no objection to this application.

PL/2021/05441. 1 Heathway, Amended plans to a proposed extension had been submitted.

The PC had no objections and repeated their previous observations regarding this application regarding the implementation of the national planning policy relating to light and privacy.

Streetscene

David Ball, the PC rep for streetscene reported that he would be attending a meeting, to be chaired by our MP, Dr Andrew Murrison, along with officers and members of Wiltshire Council, representatives of Chapmanslade and Maiden Bradley parish councils and the Maiden Bradley Weight Watchers Group. The subject of the meeting

is the increasingly vexatious problem of overweight lorry traffic through the villages. The discussions with Wiltshire Council regarding the speed limit review through the village are ongoing.

Equine Road Safety and Rights of Way

Lavinia Mitchell took the meeting through the main issues affecting equine road safety in rural areas such as ours. There were several actions which would make the village safer for horses, riders and pedestrians which the council will look to take forward. In addition, the British Horse Society, who are actively working to improve road safety with their 'Dead Slow' campaign, have offered guidance and will also support the initiatives with the provision of training, signage and other materials

Lavinia also reported on some problems that riders have with access issues on local bridleways. She drew attention to the importance of off-road routes, to protecting our historical rights of way, and making sure that they are available and in good order for everyone to continue to use and enjoy.

Finance

The deadline set by Wiltshire Council for details of the precept claimed by the Parish Council is 18th January 2022. The precept is the amount that the PC needs to fund its duties and responsibilities and is raised by Wiltshire Council via Council tax. The PC sets its budget each year, usually in December. It should be noted that Corsley has a lower precept than other local villages despite being made up of a number of hamlets leading to significantly greater road lengths.

At the meeting it was agreed to defer this task to January when it was hoped that we would have more certainty regarding some significant cost elements, both those falling in the current financial year and those which should be budgeted for in the following financial year. Additionally it was felt that

the Parish should be aware of areas where significant expenditure may fall in order that feedback can be obtained;

• Kissing gates

Many in the parish are in various states of disrepair and need replacing. Should they be replaced like for like or should they be replaced with metal ones? (It is known that many of the gates were 'donated' by organisations and individuals in the village, it would be useful if any donees could advise on their views on replacement by contacting the Parish Clerk)

• Village gates at either end of the village

These have been shown to slow traffic in other villages

• Speed indicator signs

Again these have been shown to slow traffic in other villages.

• Contributions to Wiltshire road safety initiatives eg road signage and road markings.

• Equine Safety measures

Signage and training

• Verge cutting

Parishioners will have noticed that there has been a reduction in the frequency of verge cutting by the local authority. This has led to many complaints and the PC have considered 'doing their own thing'.

The PC agreed that they would continue to make grants/donations to village organisations. Details of the criteria and how and when to apply will be confirmed early in the new year.

Once again, the PC would welcome input from residents as to how they feel we should be using the precept in supporting the village.

Dates of next meeting

Monday 10th January (as currently planned)
Meetings are held in the Lower Room at Corsley Reading Room and begin at 7.30pm



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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

I wonder how you feel about the short, dark days of December and January? For some it's an opportunity to enjoy the longer evenings, engaging in some sort of craft, to settle down by an inviting fire, feeling the warmth and comfort – maybe with a good book. For others the dark nights are far too long, and they would really value some company, it is good to keep an eye out for those who might be struggling.

There is however something quite special about the dark, because there are lights that can be seen much more clearly, candle light glows brighter and stars twinkle brightly for example. In the New Testament (the second collection of books in the Bible) at the beginning of the Good News (Gospel) according to John the Apostle it says "In Him (God – specifically the Word) was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Further on, chapter 8: verse 12 says When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'

As the carol says, there are twelve days to the season of Christmas which ends with Twelfth Night, but it isn't the end of what we may term as the season of light, which in the Christian calendar runs from Advent Sunday to the last day of Epiphany and known as Candlemas. The Epiphany, which begins on the 6th January marks the coming of those rather mysterious Magi from the East who are also called star gazers, the arrival of a new, extra bright star, is a sign to them that a new king has been born. They set out on a long journey to find him and pay homage, following the light that is breaking through the darkness, guiding them to the place where Mary and Joseph are staying with the young Jesus, they kneel in awe before this tiny wonder and present their gifts – gifts for a king. The first to find Jesus were the shepherds who represent Israel – the Magi represent the non-Jewish world, we can share in their wonder, that moment of sudden and great realization that Jesus is a light that darkness can never overcome.

The blessing of the light of Christ be with you as we journey on through to lighter days, and watch out for those first signs that Spring is just around the corner...

A healthy and happy New Year to you all.

With love

Gay

January Church Diary

(COVID-19 regulations permitting)

Sunday 2nd January: Epiphany
9.30 am Eucharist at St Margaret's, Corsley
10.30 am Morning Worship at Longbridge Deverill



Sunday 9th January: Plough Sunday
11.15 am Benefice Plough Service at Horningsham



Sunday 16th January: 2nd Sunday of Epiphany
11 am Matins at St Margaret's, Corsley
10.30 am Eucharist at Brixton Deverill



Thursday 20th January
Church and Community Coffee Morning 10 am until 12 noon
at The Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade



Sunday 23rd January: 3rd Sunday of Epiphany
9.30 am Eucharist at St Philip and St James' Chapmanslade
10.30 am Eucharist at Longbridge Deverill



Thursday 27th January
Quiz in aid of the Maridi Diocese South Sudan
Warminster Conservative Club at, 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm
(See the separate article on page three of this edition of The Bridge)



Sunday 31st January: Candlemas
10.30 am Benefice Eucharist at St Margaret's, Corsley
This will be our first ECO Church service with David Morgan from the
Diocesan Environment Group speaking

Important Public Notice

Creation of development groups for our two churches in Corsley and Chapmanslade

The Corsley and Chapmanslade Parochial Church Council are creating development groups for each of our two parish churches, to begin a process of public discussion and decision making into their future use and to secure their survival. These groups will begin their work on 1st April this year.

The decisions made should have a positive impact on our communities as a whole in both villages, so all interested parties are invited to play a part in deciding how changes to the churches could provide additional facilities with benefits to all.

It is expected that the terms of reference for each group will include:

- 1 Plans to bring the churches up to good condition.
- 2 Ideas for changes of use to include wider community activities
- 3 A plan for building development to meet item 2.
- 4 Financial planning and grant applications to permit building and ongoing running costs.
- 5 Undertake public and statutory consultation to meet local authority planning, Historic England, interested parties and church regulation requirements.

Detailed terms of reference will be the first task of each group.

Discussions will be held with all village organisations during January and these will be encouraged to be represented in the development process.

If you are interested in having an influence in these fundamental changes to the way our church buildings operate and the effects on our communities please contact one of the following:

Rector – Rev Pauline Reid

revpauline@btinternet.com
01985 841290

PCC Secretary – Sue Fear

suefearpcc@gmail.com
01373 832074

PCC Joint Treasurer – Ian Buick

ibuickuk@gmail.com
01373 832318

Join the 50/50 Club!

For only £24 a year or £2 per month, you can join the Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches 50/50 Club. Half the payment is returned as prizes, with the other half supporting church funds. There is a £100 prize to be won each month! You can pay by cash, cheque or standing order. If you would like to take part, you can sign up with Neil Britten on 01373 832515.

Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

Rector	Rev Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.com (day off Fridays)	01985 841290
Associate Priest	Rev Gay Maynard revgmaynard@gmail.com (day off Mondays)	01373 832490
Lay Pastoral Assistants	Barbara Hughes Claire Tanner	01373 832273 01985 218099
Pastoral Visitor	Alan Hopkinson	01373 832393
Churchwardens St Margaret's St Philip & St James'	(Vacancy) Contact Rev Gay Maynard Ian Buick	01373 832490 01373 832318
Deputy Churchwardens St Margaret's St Philip & St James'	Currently vacant Janet Aylesbury	01373 832752
PCC Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074
PCC Treasurer	Ian and Janet Buick	01373 832318
Planned Giving Officer	Judith Helliar	01373 832803
Benefice Administrator	Currently vacant	
Choir Leader	Claire Tanner	01985 218099
Tower Captain	Michael Attenborough	
Electoral Roll	Di Britten	01373 832515
50/50 Club	Neil Britten	01373 832515
After Alpha Home Group	Trudi Hopkinson	01373 832393
Time To Think Home Group	Renee Cole	01373 839008
Light Bites Lunches	Maureen Willcox	01373 832171
Benefice Webmaster	Mike Palmer	mjp.mikepalmer@gmail.com

Copy for Six Open Doors should be sent to
Ian Buick at ibuickuk@gmail.com or by phone on 01373 832318.
Please contact Ian if you would like to receive
weekly news of Church events and activities

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Walking through lockdown

Corton Flood Plain Walk



For this walk, I parked in the lay-by outside the entrance to the Dove Inn at Corton, on the back road from Warminster to Salisbury. If the lay-by's full, I ask to park at the Dove Inn and that's where I have lunch; it's a win-win situation!

You'll need wellies here at any time of year – and a drink may be handy, as this can be a ninety-minute stroll or a two-hour trek! Be warned that the fields you're going through are sometimes filled with cows...

Walk the lane at the left of the Dove Inn (Coomb View), down the hill and round at the bottom, with Weston Nurseries on the left of the right-handed bend. On your right should be Corton's playing field, while on the left you'll pass the Fane Village Hall. Round the next bend left, you'll pass a house on the left with a mural high on the brick wall, of a Saracen on horseback; I wonder if this building was once a pub?

When the road bends right, go into the dead-end lane straight ahead. The bungalow

on the right here is a 1919 extension to the 1828 chapel further along the lane. Pass that and the lane becomes a tractor-width track. Ahead of you is a railway bridge to pass under and you'll see the track resembles a ford.

Keep walking ahead. The track eventually turns left on a bend, but go ahead, on to the single-width muddy path that rounds a left-handed bend and then goes straight ahead of





you. You'll reach a pair of metal kissing gates; go through both and keep walking. Ahead of you should be another metal kissing gate and, when you're through that, go ahead and slightly right, through another metal kissing gate. You should now be on a bendy bit of single-width mud path to yet another metal kissing gate. If you don't like cows, check this field and the next one are clear of livestock before you enter, if possible.

Otherwise, cross the first field and there's a metal kissing gate at the start of a tarmac bridge, and another one at the bridge's end, which leads into a second field. Follow the trodden-down grass track across this field until you reach – yes, you've guessed it! – a metal kissing gate. Go through it, cross the wooden bridge and you're in the hamlet of Knook. Follow the tarmacked road ahead of you, passing a substantial house on your right, which may once have been the rectory or vicarage for little Knook church behind it.

At the crossroads, turn right and walk carefully through the farmyard. At its end you'll see a five-bar metal gate, with a gap beside it for walking through. Next, ahead of you, is another five-bar gate to the footpath. It isn't locked; go through that and walk across the field, through a metal kissing gate and over a bridge. Keep walking on the tarmac road,

past different buildings until you reach the Prince Leopold pub at Upton Lovell. Beyond the pub there's a triangle of grass and a tree on the right, with a dead-end road beside it, which leads, eventually, to a footbridge. Cross that and go through yet another metal kissing gate. Check for cows here!

Cross this field, walking straight ahead, until you can see a five-bar metal gate ahead of you, then find the kissing gate to the left before it and go through that. You're now on a hard narrow path which leads to the railway and this time, you need to climb the yellow metal steps, cross the tracks and descend the steps at the other side. **DO** be careful here! The hard path you're on now bends right and takes you out to a tarmacked lane. Hooray, you're back in Corton at last!

Turn left and stay on this lane, not turning off. You'll pass various buildings including a former derelict church and a cottage with a well outside, both on your right. When you pass the Dairy House on your left at a right-hand bend, you'll see designated road parking for the Dove Inn on the right. Round the next bend right, your car should come into view, if you left it in the lay-by near the pub. The Dove Inn opens at noon and I recommend a bowl of their cheesy chips, after a hike that's probably near four miles long!

Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Councillor Colin Bell reports on the PC's latest activities

Chapmanslade Parish Council (PC) met on 9th December 2021 in the village hall. Councillor Phil Holihead Chaired the meeting at which there were five councillors and two members of the public. As always, at the start of the meeting councillors were invited to declare and record any conflicts of interest.

Update on Barters Farm construction traffic

It was agreed that a recent PC letter sent to Newland Homes, the developer at Barters Farm, expressing concern over construction traffic travelling through the village from the Frome direction (as opposed to direct off the A36, which was pledged during the original planning consultation process), would be sent to relevant Wiltshire Council Planning Officers for their attention/intervention.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

As reported previously, relating to the Barters Farm Development, the first tranche of CIL monies has been received. For the benefit of parishioners and residents, and drawing on previous community consultation, the PC is working on the process by which it can determine how best to utilise these funds. The PC will continue to liaise with Wiltshire Council to establish the required protocol for project identification and awards. Once this is established, the PC will publish details on the PC website. In addition, the PC will invite parishioners and residents to review,

comment and ask relevant questions as part of transparent and open dialogue. Further discussion regarding CIL is tabled for the PC meeting on 13th January 2022.

Planning Applications

PL/2021/10085 - Listed building consent (Alt/Ext) Conversion of existing farm outbuilding to create single residential dwelling and proposed extension on western elevation (Thoulstone Farm)

The PC agreed to check with Wiltshire Council Planning Officers that this planning application did not include any changes to building structure or size between planning application and listed building application. Based on Local Planning Authority, the PC has no objection to the Thoulstone Farm listed building application.

PL/2021/10341 - Removal/variation of conditions. Variation of condition 2 of 19/01106/FUL to allow the introduction of fish to the wildlife pond (Dye House Farm, Corsley)

No objections were raised on this application.

PL/2021/10796 - Householder planning permission. Proposed carport with study over (2 The Old Orchard, High Street, Chapmanslade)

No objections were raised on this application.

20/06919/OUT - Outline planning application for five serviced self-build plots, with all matters reserved except for access (Land to the north east of 150 High Street, Chapmanslade)

The PC continues to object to this outline planning application. The PC's objections remain as per the formal objection, which have been previously submitted to Wiltshire Council. This objection is based on a number of factors including the site being outside of the village settlement boundary, significant concerns relating to highway safety and the potential negative impact on biodiversity and sustainability.

PL/2021/11047 - Householder planning permission. Single storey rear extension with two storey side and rear extension (138 High Street, Chapmanslade)

No objections were raised on this application

Inspectorate Reference: APP/Y3940/W/20/3258466; Planning Appeal: 19/11575/FUL – Change of use of land to create a traveller site, day rooms and associated works.

The PC agreed to continue to object to this Appeal. This decision was based on a number of factors including previously recorded significant highway safety concerns raised by Highways England and the proposed development being in a designated Special Landscape Area.

Finance

The prudent financial management of the PC budget was reviewed and discussed. This included a review of expenditure to date, consideration and agreement of planned payments, which included a donation to the church and to the village hall. The outcome is that the forecasted spend for the financial year 2020/21 is within the received precept of £5,850. The 2021/22 budget was discussed

and the precept was agreed, with a 3.01% uplift on the present year. For the benefit of parishioners, the 2021/22 PC income will increase by £566.

Recognition, appreciation and thank you

The PC took the opportunity to formally recognise, appreciate and express their gratitude and thanks to the range of voluntary community groups that commit their time, energy and expertise for the benefit of parishioners, residents and visitors to the village. These include all members of the village hall committee, the group of volunteers who have coordinated the procurement and installation of the new outdoor table tennis table, outdoor gym equipment and bench on the Parish Memorial Playing Field, those active on the COVID Action Group and many, many more. Thank you!

Meeting minutes

Minutes of this meeting and other PC meetings can be reviewed at www.chapmansladepc.org.uk

Next Parish Council meeting

The next Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting will be on 13th January 2022 at 7.30 pm in the village hall. As always, members of the public are invited and encouraged to attend. For further details please contact the PC Clerk via chapmansladepc@yahoo.co.uk. All members of the Chapmanslade PC look forward to welcoming you.

Members of the PC recognise that the ongoing pandemic continues to create for all of us, multiple challenges, variables and concerns. Whilst sensitive to this situation, the PC wish to communicate their 'Seasons Greetings' and heartfelt good wishes for 2022 and beyond.

Colin Bell, Parish Councillor

Corsley WI

December news

Eve Tigwell rounds up the December meeting



We were very fortunate that our December meeting could be help ‘in person’; although your committee decided that to keep us all safe we would have to forego the planned mince pies, mulled wine and spiced apple juice. As a token of the season those present went away with a chocolate Santa instead! The business part of the meeting was brief.

A demonstration is always fascinating, and Kit Pottow made this one great fun too! She introduced us to the samples of wreaths she’d brought along, and talked us through how different styles and materials could be used. Kit aims to use natural, biodegradable or recyclable materials, including biodegradable Oasis. All her plant materials come from her garden and walks in the local countryside (lock up your hydrangeas!), with just a few bought in from local growers. Hers is a very busy life between the family farm, the family, wreath-making workshops and, of course, making wreaths and decorations for Christmas!

Kit’s chosen charity (to which her fee was donated) was the Wylde Valley Disabled Children’s Charity, which provides outdoor experiences such as camping and riding for those who otherwise might not be able to access such facilities.

We watched, fascinated, as Kit rapidly constructed an evergreen wreath Christmas wreath, talking us through all the different stages and offering lots of tips on how to make a professional end-product. There was

plenty of discussion on techniques, especially “quarters” and “thirds”; with the various pros and cons of modern and traditional methods being debated by those more au fait with floristry terms.

At the end of her demonstration, Kit (ably assisted by Alice) auctioned off the wreath she’d just made, along with the samples she’d brought along. The meeting decided that the monies raised (£45) should also go to Kit’s chosen charity.

As part of the meeting, Maggie Wobey had brought along a craft stall; all the items were made by herself with woodwork by her husband, Derrick. They are raising money to start a nursery at the Temple Cloud School, for which they are governors. With a super range of gifts for young and old, they raised £75!

There was also the usual table for Christmas cards, to which Eve added those ‘little brown envelopes’ for everyone’s 2022 subs; due by the end of March.

Judith closed the meeting with Christmas and New Year wishes to everyone.



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Memories of Corsley School

Winds in the willows

David Ball recalls his tenure as Headteacher at Corsley School...

It was one week till half term and a Friday in October. The children all loved Fridays, for that was swimming day! At 1 o'clock, directly after lunch, the whole school clambered aboard the Beeline coach and set off for the swimming pool at the Kingdown Sports Centre. Boo Hardy and I took our classes there each week – she supervised the girls changing and her class in the pool and I supervised the boys changing and the more confident learners in the pool. A qualified swimming coach took the children who could swim and taught them the various strokes and how to improve their techniques and our aim was that every child would be able to swim before they left us for secondary school.

The day had started much like any other, the usual lessons in the morning, the children went out to play as normal at break but, after their lunch, they were a little more excitable than usual; Boo and I put that down to the windy weather and the fast approaching half term holiday. Lining the children up on the playground at 1pm to get on the coach, we both kept our fingers crossed that the threatening rain clouds would pass over without a downpour!

As we walked into the sports centre the wind was becoming a bit stronger, but it was calm and warm in the pool and although we could see the leaves swirling in the windy gusts outside, Boo and I taught the children as usual, got them dressed and lined them up

ready to return to school. As we led them out to get back onto the coach and emerged from the shelter of the building, we discovered that the wind was much stronger and many of the smaller children were struggling to reach the coach. We all climbed aboard and set off for school but it was to be a longer journey than usual! As we reached the Picket Post roundabout we discovered that all the traffic was turning back – a tree had been blown over and was blocking the A362 and our route back to school. There then followed a long detour back to school via Chapmanslade, which was exciting for the children but Boo and I were worried we wouldn't be back in time for the end of the school day and the parents would be waiting. We arrived just a minute or two late, so all the children who were going home on the coach stayed on board and the others were taken by their waiting parents at the gate.

Boo and I went into the main building for a well-earned cup of tea, but on the way a parent suggested I have a look at the roof on the front of the building. I unlocked the front door and stepped outside, just in time to see a slate slide off the roof and embed itself vertically in the front lawn - a quick glance showed three other slates had also embedded themselves in the grass. I hastily stepped back inside and locked the door, grateful that only the occasional visitor ever entered the school that way!

It was October 16th 1987 and the Great Storm had well and truly made its mark in Corsley! Several trees had come down and many had damaged roofs, greenhouses and sheds. Longleat lost hundreds of its magnificent beech trees – it was one of them which had forced our lengthy detour!

We had got off lightly. 18 people were killed

by the storm, an estimated 15 million trees had been lost, large parts of the country had no power, wind speeds of up to 86mph were recorded and all trains were cancelled as the worst storm since 1703 wreaked havoc in many parts of the country, but our children enjoyed their swimming session!

Corsley Parish Council

**Co-option to fill a vacancy
on the Parish Council**

Electors in Corsley Parish will be aware that a vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council following the resignation of a Parish Councillor.

Wiltshire Council has advised that there is no need for an election to fill the vacancy and the Parish Council has agreed that it will seek to fill the vacancy by co-option.

Candidates should be registered electors in the parish area, or if during the whole 12 months before co-option they have owned or been a tenant of any land or premises in the parish, or if their principal or only place of work has been in the parish, or if they have resided in the parish or within 4.8 km of it. Candidates should also be over 18 at the time of co-option, should not be bankrupt and have not been in prison in the last five years.

Candidates who are interested in co-option should apply, by email or post, to the Parish Clerk, John Willcox. Candidates

should attach a covering letter detailing relevant experience and some explanation of why they wish to join the Parish Council. The closing date for applications is Sunday 9th January 2022.

Prospective candidates are welcome to contact the Clerk or Neil Britten or Judith Helliar, both of whom were members of the Parish Council for a number of years for an informal discussion about the responsibilities and time commitments involved.

Contact details

John Willcox	01373 832171 corsleypc_jdw@aol.com
Little Orchard, Court Lane, Lyes Green	
Neil Britten	01373 832515
Judith Helliar	01373 832803

John Willcox
Clerk to Corsley Parish Council

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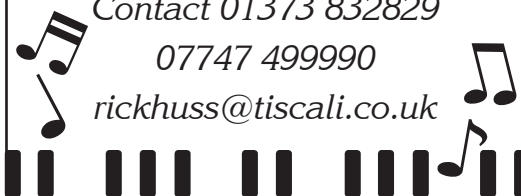
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Whitbourne Chapel

*'For I am the LORD, I change not...'
Malachi 3:6*

An unchanging God in a changing world

As we look back over the past almost two years it is easy to see the truth in the words from the hymn 'Abide with Me' – "change and decay in all around I see ..."

We don't like change, we prefer life to be predictable; we like to be in control. Change disrupts our little world, wherever that change comes from: our health, employment, financial pressures... This is clearly seen in the response to Coronavirus – it has brought many changes into our lives – some good, some unwelcome.

We also see much decay, as we are continually being told of the environmental disaster to which we are heading. Of course the greatest decay is from the Fall of man in the Garden of Eden – disease and death.

But in the midst of this gloomy picture, there is hope. The Old Testament book of Malachi, chapter 3 verse 6, says: 'For I am the LORD, I change not'. This is the one great constant we can trust as we go into this new year – that God is unchangeable. He is unchangeable in His character; and He is unchangeable in His purposes. Proud King Nebuchadnezzar was brought to realise this through some dramatic changes in his life. He came to see 'The King

of heaven ... everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble' (Dan 4:37).

God is also unchangeable in His grace and mercy and for those who return to Him, as Malachi went on to say, then He will return to them. In other words when we return to Him in repentance, trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ who died to save us from sin, then He will come to live within us.

The words in 'Abide with Me' go on to say: 'Thou who changest not, abide with me.'

*John Hobson
Visiting preacher at Whitbourne
Chapel*



Written Sunday 5th December:

Yesterday, we overheard a trio of Chapel members practicing Christmas carols, as we made preparations for a Fellowship Lunch. After our Service today,

we gathered in the Chapel's back room for our Christmas meal and the youngest person present was just 22 days old! There were a few others boasting three-score-years-and-ten, and many others in between those ages. How lovely that there's no generation gap in Christian Fellowship! If you would like a taste of Christian Fellowship in 2022, feel free to join us any Sunday at 11am.

Ray Mead

Please remember:

If you need help or simply someone to talk to, call 07980 013685 and we'll do our best to help you. Otherwise, visit our website www.whitbournechapel.org.uk or google 'Whitbourne Baptist Chapel'.

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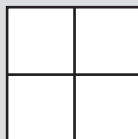
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A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

Thankfully, we had a dry autumn and higher than average temperatures for the last few months, for which we ought to be grateful!

The first signs of spring in the countryside will be those little white snowdrops popping up in lanes, bridle paths and verges. The willows will start to bud and the hazel will produce its dangly catkins (known by country children as lambs tails).

The hoar frosts will change your day with its sheer beauty of whitening the branches of trees, the hedgerows and all the surfaces it touches. My favourite are the fragile cobwebs just hanging with that delicate dusting of fine white frost.

Ground frosts are welcomed by farmers and gardeners alike as they break down the heavy soil making it easier to work when the seeds are sown.

The dairy herd is enjoying the warmth of the big barns, some are on straw bedding and others on thick rubber matting. It was a great relief that in November all our cattle were tested for bovine tuberculosis (TB) and, except for a handful of false negatives which will be re-tested in February, we are now free of TB in our herd and can now sell our cattle on the open market.

Some of the young stock will live outside most of the winter grazing on roots, kale and silage which was strategically placed in the fields last autumn.

Large ring feeders are moved onto the bagged silage daily so that when the wrapping is removed the cattle can help themselves, and there is little wastage.

All the water troughs have to be checked daily to see that they have access to water 24 hours a day. All the other water tanks are turned off during the winter so that we have no leaking pipes after freezing weather.

In January and February we batten down everything so whatever the weather the animals and staff are safe.

Already some of our sheep farmers will have their sheep indoors ready for lambing, but for those kept outside the food is scarce and sometimes you will find heavily pregnant sheep sheltering under hedges. Please make sure your dogs are on leads as the sheep are easily frightened and lambs will be aborted.

In some areas, old hedges are being laid by professional hedge layers (Prince Charles is an ardent advocate of this). It is a costly project for farmers and landowners and, sadly, a dying craft, it would be good to see some of our young farmers encouraged to learn the art.

There's a host of good reasons for hedges being maintained; they act as shelter from prevailing wind and rain, they create cover for nesting birds, and produce berries and nuts for food for all kinds of wildlife. They are also a lifeline for the movement of mammals such as hedgehogs. For farmers and land owners they are a secure way of keeping animals safe within their boundaries. The removal of hedges, whether farm or garden, means the loss of natural habitat for so many creatures.

I do hope the next few months you will all keep safe and healthy and be able to look forward to better times ahead.

Judith Helliar

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

Chairman, Hugh Deed, reports on the latest happenings at the hall

Happy New Year to all Reading Room users: past, present and future! We hope all residents enjoyed the telephone box display throughout December.

Coffee Morning

Kick off 2022 by coming to the Coffee Morning on **Tuesday 4th January** at 10am. We are considering whether the coffee morning would be better supported if it was moved to the second Tuesday of the month. Please let any committee member know your thoughts. Without more participants it is at risk of closing.

Photographers

The details of the competition to have pictures of Corsley life on display in the Reading Room are now available on the website. Entries should be submitted between 1st March and 12th March.

The competition is for photographs of local scenes/life around the parish. If there are sufficient entries, residents will be invited to vote as part of the process to select which ones are made into large prints and are put on display on the Reading Room walls. Photos taken between June 1st 2020 and March 12th 2022 are accepted.

Early notice of a talk you won't want to miss!

Thursday 24th February 2022, at 7.30 pm
Adrian Tinniswood, historian and writer is coming to talk about his new book 'Noble Ambitions: The Fall and Rise of the Post War Country House'. The book tells the stories of many country houses at the time and opens with a description of the 6th Marquess of Bath judging entries at the Corsley Show in 1946!

Tickets (£5) will be on sale from the end of January. For more details see CRR website, the Corsley Community Facebook page or the February edition of The Bridge.

Please do check regularly with the Reading Room website for any changes, especially anything COVID-19 related.

See website www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk for more details about the Reading Room. To hire, see the website or call Gill Parkinson (01373 832322) to discuss.

Hugh Deed

Chairman of Management Committee

Chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

01373 832897

Committee Members

David Carruthers, Hugh Deed, Claire Firman-Ford, Liz Garrett,
Vanessa Hyde, Jackie Jasper, Gill Parkinson, Mark Richards

Small ads

£1 for EACH item for sale or wanted (cash only please) - at one of the two drop-off locations)

Please note: no cash, no advert!

WANTED

Domestic cleaner in Chapmanslade for 3 hours per week. References please.

01373 832681

For up-to-date information such as occasional parish council meetings, church services, previous editions of The Bridge, local clubs and activities, business listings, and other useful information, please visit

www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk

Want something added? Just email the Editor with your request!

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Cain
- 2 Anaemia
- 3 Psycho
- 4 Trafalgar
- 5 At home
- 6 HMS Beagle
- 7 The Mystery of Edwin Drood
- 8 Mrs Overall
- 9 Edvard Grieg
- 10 Canterbury
- 11 Kamala Harris, the first female Vice President (as at September 2021)
- 12 Augustus Caesar, August being named after him.

Local organisation adverts

£2 per month for a small boxed advert or £7.50 for a full page. Full page adverts are allocated depending on space available and cannot be guaranteed. All monies must be at one of the two drop-off locations (Barbers Plant Centre or Acres Supply Garden Centre) by **4pm** on the **19th** of the month. Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Annual trade advertisements (12 issues, when space is available)

1 space	(69mm wide x 33mm high)	£22.00
2 spaces	(69mm wide x 66mm high)	£42.00
3 spaces	(quarter page - 69mm wide x 100mm high)	£60.00
4 spaces	(138mm wide x 66mm high)	£75.00
6 spaces	(half page - 138mm wide x 100mm high)	£104.00

Trade advertisement material should be supplied in print-ready format, to the chosen standard size and correct shape.

For trade advertising enquiries, please contact David James (Trade advert coordinator/Treasurer) at either thebridge832@gmail.com or 01373 832443.

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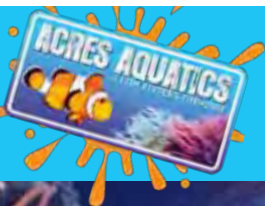
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