

DUMMER PARISH COUNCIL AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2009

www.dummer.hampshire.org.uk

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Dummer Parish Plan

On Monday 19 October Dummer will launch its programme to develop a Parish Plan. Basingstoke's Community Development team will be attending the parish council meeting to brief councillors on the purpose of parish plans and the process involved. A few years ago Dummer created a Village Design Statement, so why does it now need a village plan?

In recent years there has been increased emphasis on providing evidence to justify actions by all levels of government from Westminster down. Development of a parish plan provides this evidence and also has other benefits – bringing people together, creating a community spirit and identifying external partners. The plan crystallises villagers' aspirations and identifies priorities. It can open up sources of grants to realise these priorities. It also influences and informs the BDBC Local Development Framework. This is important for Dummer as the urban area of Basingstoke creeps ever closer. Wide participation by residents is vital for the plan to have validity, so do please attend this important meeting to learn more, ask questions and volunteer your help.

Telephone kiosk adoption

Because the telephone kiosk in Down Street is rarely used it is being offered for adoption, either without a telephone service or with a sponsor-subsidised service. The community has until 18 October to respond. See the notice on the kiosk for details.

Tennis court contributions

Many thanks to players and friends who have donated to the tennis courts. Gift Aid together with a generous contribution from Southern Communications (Glebe House) will make this a record year and justifies the additional maintenance expenditure.

Hedge trimming

It is easy to neglect hedge trimming for a year or two and then discover that the hedge has grown so tall that it is causing a

nuisance by shading a neighbour's garden. Legislation considers that a continuous evergreen hedge over two metres high is a potential nuisance. As importantly, hedges can restrict sight lines or constrain the width of the highway – there is still plenty of time to trim them before the winter.

Neighbourhood Watch

Response to the relaunched Neighbourhood Watch Scheme has been encouraging but even wider participation would increase its effectiveness. The main communications medium with members is via email rather than telephone. If you would like to be added to the contact list for the village, please email johndelaney@btinternet.com.

Focusing on our Future

Important decisions are being made that will affect the future of Basingstoke. These will set a blueprint for the way the borough, villages and communities will grow and change over the next 20 years, from jobs, educational facilities, transport infrastructure and housing, to retail, cultural and leisure facilities. Two important documents will set a vision and key ambitions for the borough:

- The Local Development Framework
- The Sustainable Community Strategy

To have your say go to: www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning/ldf/focussingonourfuture.htm

South East Gypsy & Traveller

Accommodation, Examination in Public

The consultation period for recommendation of the new policy on Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople ended in early September. This will now be subject to an Examination in Public that will start on Tuesday 2 February 2010, with a preliminary meeting to set the scene and explain the process on Friday 16 October in Reading.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
INCLUDING A PARISH PLAN BRIEFING:
MONDAY 19 OCTOBER 2009
AT 7:30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Respect our countryside

We are fortunate in Dummer that so many of our homes back onto fields and afford views of rolling Hampshire countryside. We can also enjoy walking the footpath network that surrounds the village. It is important that while we enjoy these privileges we respect this environment by keeping to rights of way, controlling dogs and not dumping garden waste on agricultural land.

Planning applications: awaiting decision

Applications awaiting a decision are: erection of a single storey building to replace two temporary office units and installation of air conditioning units at Dummer Motorway Maintenance Compound; change of use of agricultural land for keeping of horses, erection of a single storey building forming stables, tack room and hay store and installation of a wind turbine on Land at Kennel Farm West (retrospective); erection of a detached three bedroom dwelling following demolition of existing bungalow and erection of a carport at Sweetlands, Up Street (new application); two applications, one for change of use to a cricket ground, including new landscaping and temporary access, and a second for construction of a new cricket ground involving importation of inert waste material to create new landform, along with temporary access and contractors' compound (to which BDBC has raised objections for HCC to decide), both at Land adjacent to the Indoor Cricket Centre, Dummer Down Farm; change of use of an agricultural building to storage at Southwood Farm (retrospective); construction of a manège at Land Opposite the Wheatsheaf, Winchester Road (retrospective).

Planning applications: decided

Applications decided are: mixed residential and business development at Kempshott Park Industrial Estate, Longwood Copse Lane; two applications, one for conversion of existing storage within the roof space to office accommodation, and a second for erection of single storey rear extension to existing office building and new covered walkway, both at Southern Communications Ltd, Down Street; demolition of existing bungalow and erection of a detached three-bedroom dwelling and carport at Sweetlands, Up Street (previous application); erection of a single storey rear extension and first floor side extension at

3 Queensfield (refused). The appeal of three overlapping applications for development of the redundant farm buildings at Kennel Farm has been heard and dismissed.

Fireworks

It is time to remind residents that if you have a fireworks party planned, please be sure to warn neighbouring dog and horse owners so that they can take measures to avoid their animals panicking while the revels take place. To contact horse owners, speak to Trish Willats (Paddock Lodge) or Sarah Grogut (Kennel Farm).

THE FIREWORKS SAFETY CODE

- only buy fireworks marked BS 7114
- don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- keep fireworks in a closed box
- follow the instructions on each firework
- light them at arm's length, using a taper
- stand well back
- never go near a firework that has been lit (even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode)
- never put fireworks in pockets or throw them
- always supervise children around fireworks
- light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- never give sparklers to a child under five
- keep pets indoors

More information is available at:
www.berr.gov.uk/fireworks/resources.htm

Tree applications

Four tree applications were omitted from the summer newsletter. They were: remove 1 branch and fell 2 unknown species, 1 ash, 3 fir and 1 hawthorn at 3 Olivers Cottages; fell 2 conifers and trim 1 unknown species at Stable Cottage, Up Street; reduce by 10ft 1 cedar and fell 1 unknown species at Manor Farm, Up Street; fell 1 beech at 3 Manor Farm Cottages, Up Street; fell 1 maple at Box House, Up Street. Felling of a dying cyprus has been approved at the Queen Inn, Down Street.

Parish Councillors:

Julian Jones (chair) tel: 397227,
Barry Dodd, Sarah Grogut, Debra Mann,
Elwyn Wareham

Borough Councillors: Andrew Finney,
Cecilia Morrison, Diane Taylor

HCC Councillor: Anna McNair-Scott
MP: Sir George Young