

Horspath Parish Council

May 2022 Newsletter

After our Annual Parish Meeting held on 26th April 2022 and our subsequent Annual Parish Council meeting on 3rd May 2022, it became clear that residents were not happy and wanted more information about what was happening in the village. Obviously our website is always available, but we're also aware that some residents don't choose to use the internet and would prefer the good old fashioned printed information in a newsletter. We would love some feedback regarding this.

Can we remind residents that our Parish Council meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 8pm in the Village Hall. Residents are welcome to attend the meetings, but we ask that no comments are made until the end of the meeting, when they will be given the opportunity in AOB by the chairperson (Beverley Oakley), to ask any questions or make any comments. This is to enable Councillors to ensure that all items on the agenda are covered. Can we also remind residents that the Parish Council is made up of volunteer residents, who give up their time to try to improve the village, and keep our lovely village the best it can be, we do sometimes get things wrong but we will always listen to residents views and try our best to accommodate everybody's wants. The only paid position on the council is the clerk position Hayley Kogel, who has been doing a wonderful job for Horspath for almost 22 years. Some parts of her job are challenging and difficult, but she always manages to make them look easy and we're very grateful to her for all she does.

News

Stonepit Charity Funding

For any residents who are suffering financial hardship, with all the price increases and fuel bills sky rocketing, please, please don't feel you're on your own, grants are available from the Horspath Stone Pit Charity Hardship Fund. Residents should contact one of our referral agencies – Horspath Primary School, Horspath Nursery, or St Giles Church, who will be able to complete a referral form for you.

Horspath Stonepit Charity also offers the following grants to all children living in Horspath:-

£100 grant towards the residential trip to Yenworthy with the school.

£100 grant towards swimming lessons

£100 grant towards secondary school uniform.

£100 grant towards 6th form school transport

Please visit the website www.horspathstonepitcharity.net for more information on the launch of the Horspath Stone Pit Charity Infrastructure Fund.

Nature Reserve/Conservation Area

You may or may not be aware that our beautiful nature reserve/conservation area is inaccessible at the moment, due to general wear and tear and the erosion of the steps, making it unsafe for anyone to walk around. We're looking to get this work completed as soon as possible, but please be patient. We're also looking to install a bench in this area so that everyone can enjoy the peaceful surroundings.

Bus Shelter Libraries

The bus shelter libraries on The Green and Gateley are once again up and running please feel free to leave any unwanted books and puzzles, or find yourself a tricky puzzle to do (I quite enjoy the wasgij puzzles they're a challenge).

Burial Ground

It's been brought to our attention that the burial ground is in need of a face lift, and after a site inspection we're looking into the possibility of replacing the path and extending it, to enable wheelchair access. As requested we will be installing a bench in this area for residents to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the surroundings.

Events

14/05/22	Spring Market at The Hub 10.00am – 12.30pm
17/05/22	Parish Council Planning Meeting 8 pm (<u>to be confirmed</u>) Open to all
02/06/22	Jubilee Flower Festival in the Church 10.00am – 6.00pm
03/06/22	Platinum Jubilee Tea and Cakes in the garden at The Hub
07/06/22	Parish Council Meeting

Platinum Jubilee

This year we will be celebrating our Queen's Platinum Jubilee, 70 years as our Queen is an amazing achievement. To mark the occasion we have purchased three lovely planters which will be placed on the grass verge outside the village hall, these will be planted with pretty red, white and blue flowers for everyone entering or leaving the village to see and enjoy.

A new bench will be installed by the war memorial engraved "For Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee 1952 – 2022"

We look forward to meeting some of you at The Hub to celebrate with tea and cakes.

Useful Tips

I've been spending quite a bit of time in my garden, as I'm sure many of you have, and I've one particular area that is continually plagued with stinging nettles, that no matter how many times I dig up roots and dispose of, they still keep appearing. Last Spring I decided it was time to put these nettles to good use when I found a recipe to make your own plant food. I simply picked the nettle leaves, the small fresh ones were the best but all worked, I put the leaves into a bucket and covered with water, then left it for a couple of weeks till there was a froth on top, then I simply sieved and used the liquid at a ratio of approximately 10 – 1 (10 pints water to 1 pint feed).

But if you want to try this, please be careful picking the leaves, you will need protective gloves, also the bucket can get a bit smelly, so don't store it too close to where you might want to sit and enjoy your garden. Hope this works as well for you as it did for me.

We look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas regarding the Newsletter.

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Best wishes Horspath Parish Council