

Village News

Est. Sept 1992

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Bi-Monthly

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Issue No. **166**



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Dealing with your own affairs and getting them in order can appear daunting. We're here to make life easier. Do pick up the phone or email us and we would be happy to have a free, no-obligation initial chat with you. We can meet on video call or in person when safe to do so.



Anna Burnside PARTNER
anna.burnside@theburnsidepartnership.com



JACQUI BIRKS TAX DIRECTOR
jacqui.birks@theburnsidepartnership.com

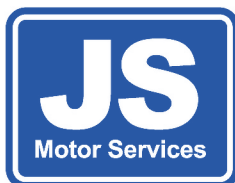
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We are OPEN for picture framing, reglazing, repair and restoration. Also mirrors, local cards, gifts, books, picture gallery and a selection of recycled frames.

Our normal opening hours are Tuesday-Friday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm and Saturday 9.00 am to 1.00 pm.

We have refurbished and made some changes during lockdown to improve all areas within the shop and gallery.

We are operating Social Distancing and other safety measures, so you can confidently choose and shop.

We also have an exciting new book on Minster Lovell to be published in time for Christmas with beautifully designed colouring panels – a great gift to give or enjoy.

We can be contacted on **01993 775262**
or by e-mail grahamkewprints@gmail.com

Minster Lovell History Club

We hope all our members are still fit and well and continuing to weather the consequences of covid-19!

Sadly, we have had to cancel all meetings, trips and speakers and we probably won't be able to have any normal meetings this year.

But we are still aiming for a Christmas Dinner, if restrictions have eased! ***We will be in touch.***

If anyone has suggestions for Speakers for next year, please let me know.

01993 775262 or email grahamkewprints@gmail.com
Graham Kew *Chairman*



MINSTER LOVELL METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Fred Ireland

The Manse, 25 Berryfield Way, Carterton OX18 1GS
Tel: 01993 867301 email: Ireland.fred@gmail.com

Lay Pastoral Worker: Mrs Dawn Haley

85 Brize Norton Rd. Minster Lovell. Tel: 775675
email: dawn.haley8@gmail.com

We are there for you, and welcome you to join us when ever you are able to.

Sunday worship 11.00 am. There is a prayer box in the porch for your confidential prayer requests. For **confidential listening support**, or if you are lonely and would just like someone to visit, tel: **01993 775675**

Minster Lovell Methodist Church Diary for Sunday 12th July 2020

The Sun is shining and at 10.00am it is already warm, today we are re-opening for worship after sixteen weeks of lockdown due to Coronavirus. Along with the excitement there is some apprehension. The Chapel door is open, antibacterial hand wash, wipes and posters are in place, orders of service which include printed hymns, notices, contact information, pens etc., are all on chairs in readiness for the congregation, but who will come? We know that seven of our regular worshippers are unable to be with us.

We wait in anticipation and slowly one by one (some hesitant) people come. By 11.00 am we have welcomed eight to worship – as the service began a latecomer arrives. With the door wide open, the service begins, the theme of the service is 'togetherness', being at one with each other and Jesus is a recipe for a good crop, spoken of by Jesus in the Parable of the sower, but firstly we looked at the other side of the coin 'being apart' which has had, and is still having, terrible effects on our lives.



As advised the service lasted 45 minutes and although it was different not to be singing the hymns everyone joined in responsively.

At the end of the service most stayed to chat, we are all glad to be back.

Along with all the preparation for re-opening we are pleased that some of the stonework has been completed, and two very special people have committed themselves to keeping the grounds of the chapel clear. I am sure some of you will have noticed the difference. We are still waiting for the New Notice board.

Our Harvest Festival service is planned for Sunday September 27th and if we are able we will have the Harvest Supper on Monday 28th September. Notices will be placed round the village and on the Notice Board.

Everyone is Welcome and Valued



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We are not sure when we will be able to open again for Community Counts due to all the implications with distancing and supplying refreshments, but as soon as we can open, *we will.* Dawn Haley

Covid-19 Please CHECK with advertisers **FIRST** if current situation unclear.

Fishing in Minster Lovell To fish at Wash Meadow is available only to residents of Minster Lovell and who must hold a permit. If you wish to obtain a permit contact the **Fishing Bailiff** – Mr **Paul Woodley** in the village on **01993 704137**

St Kenelm's Church, Minster Lovell

(Adjoining Minster Lovell Ruins)

Rev'd Toby Wright
wtparish@btinternet.com
www.witneyparish.org.uk

01993 779492

Please email the Witney Parish for information on Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals



Parish Priest: The Revd Toby Wright, The Rectory, Station Lane, Witney, Oxon
ALL SUNDAY SERVICES ARE AT 9.15 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

It doesn't look as if it's going to be business as usual at St Kenelm's Church for some time yet. The Parochial Church Council is reviewing its options for some kind of opening of the church but the regulations and guidelines governing what can be done are formidable, reasonably enough. In particular, it looks really difficult to have unrestricted access to the church during the day, as pre-Covid, because managing the health threat to and from visitors would be next to impossible for a congregation – many of whose members are not allowed to be part of that management.

On the other hand, the PCC understands that the community is entitled to the use of its Parish Church in so far as that use can be made safe. It may be possible to open the church for weddings, funerals and baptisms, provided that a sufficient number of people able and willing to manage such occasions can be enlisted. Whether the PCC will feel that the benefits of regular Sunday worship would outweigh the risks and the difficulties involved is uncertain, to say the least. The services might well feel rather awkward and impoverished – social distancing, no congregational singing, no coffee afterwards. It may be that the Zoom services organised for Witney Benefice as a whole offer a better way of worshipping just now – certainly, one of the positive surprises of the Covid situation is how well Zoom has worked for so many people previously unaware of the medium, and not least for church congregations.

All the best to everyone in dealing with a changing but still very difficult situation and please do be in touch if you think we might be able to help. It's perhaps worth reminding the village that the St Kenelm's Trust makes available to under-25s bursaries for educational purposes.

Contact Judith Brown: geoffbrownml299@yahoo.com 01993 778784.

Hugh White, Team Vicar. hugh@witneyparish.org.uk 01869 347889

Churchwardens: Kirsty Strange, kirsty@witneyparish.org.uk

Judith Warwick, judithwarwick@outlook.com

To all those who attended Mervyn's Funeral

We would like to thank you for all your messages and letters of condolences at Mervyn's passing, especially under such trying times. Also, for making such a sombre occasion a memorable one.

It's at such times like these that we see our effect on people's lives.

The service and eulogies at the graveside were read beautifully and the villagers did us proud, even the weather was kind. And I know Mervyn would have been deeply humbled. *Thanking you once again. God Bless you all. **Sheena Neal & family***

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The Village News find extra copies if you need one in your local SPAR and Post Office



Minster Lovell

Councillors: Mr David Haley (Chairman), Mr Colin Alderman, Mrs Sue Bicker, Mr Chris Jones, Mrs Jean King, Ms Ann Williams & Mr Jonathan Stowell.

District Councillors: Miss Gill Hill & Mr Kieran Mullins.

County Councillor: Mr Liam Walker.

USEFUL NUMBERS:

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks – Electricity Outages – 105

Report highway problems – www.fixmystreet.com

West Oxfordshire District Council, Main Reception – 01993 861000

Missed waste collection – 01993 861025

Thames Water – Leakline – 0800 714614

Minster Lovell Parish Council

With a slight ease in lockdown measures at the time of writing, the Parish Council hopes that you are all staying well and have been able to spend more time with friends and loved ones at this difficult time, and have been able to enjoy the warm summer days in our beautiful part of the world.

Ripley Avenue

The Council has commissioned work to replace and move the football goals in the Amenity Area to provide children in the Village with a much-needed outlet for energy over the summer months. The Council asks that parents ensure that children take care of the new football goals to prevent damage and ensure that they are available for all children to use.

The Council discussed opening the Ripley Avenue play park at the July Parish Council meeting but have reluctantly agreed that it is not possible to follow the Government guidance on managing the park safely. The Council will review this again at the August meeting.

Please remember to keep your dog on a lead when you are in the Amenity Area and do not let dogs run free. The Council has recently responded to a request from a resident to remove a bench to deter young people congregating and causing a nuisance in the evenings.

Parish Council



Parish Clerk: Alexandra Molton, 111 Walker Drive, Faringdon,
Oxfordshire SN7 7FY

Email: info@minsterlovell-pc.gov.uk Tel: 07712 705865.

Website: www.minsterlovell-pc.gov.uk

Village maintenance

The Clerk has reported several maintenance issues in the Village to OCC and WODC recently, including overgrown hedges and broken and rusting bins. Please contact the Clerk if you spot anything which needs attending to in the Village during the summer months. The full and over-flowing litter bins are reported to WODC almost on a daily basis and the Council will review the collection schedule. If more collections are required this will of course be at a cost to the Parish Council.

The Council recently selected a contractor to carry out weedkilling in the village, which has now taken place for this year. The Council will shortly be commissioning a contractor to carry out the bi-annual survey of all Council-owned trees.

The Council is currently exploring the possibility of installing a handrail at the end of the stile on the footpath to School Hill and will discuss this further at the July Parish Council meeting. The seat opposite Bridge Cottage has also been removed for repair.

The Council also plans to set up an annual review schedule for next year, with regular inspections of benches and open areas of the Village, and a dedicated fund for carrying out repairs and maintenance and purchasing replacements.

New fencing has been installed at the entrance to Wychwood Close which has improved the area and the Council will ensure that area remains in a good condition.

Dog litter

Unfortunately there has been an increase in dog litter in the Village, particularly on the footpath between Minster Lovell and Curbridge. The Council are liaising with West Oxfordshire District Council on the possibility of installing an additional dog litter bin on the footpath but in the meantime

please do dispose of all dog litter in a safe and responsible way. A recent survey showed that the Village has **21** dog litter bins so we are certainly not short of a place to deposit dog litter!

Bridge consultation

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) recently held a public consultation on restricting the weight of several local bridges, including that in the Lower Village, to 18 tonnes. The Parish Council objected to the consultation and requested that the limit be set at 7.5 tonnes. A representative from the Parish Council joined an OCC meeting to discuss the proposals in July and reported back to the July meeting to confirm that a 7.5 tonnes limit will be put in place on Burford Road and Brize Norton Road.

Parking in the Old Village

The Parish Council has received several complaints from residents of the Old Village regarding visitors to the area parking unsafely and inconsiderately. The Council has previously raised this issue with OCC and the local Police will continue to pursue this directly with them. Although the Council is sympathetic of the problem, unfortunately the Parish Council itself is not able to do anything to prevent parking. If cars are parked unsafely or causing an obstruction please contact the Police on 101 to report the issue.

Audit

The Parish Council has received a pre-audit report and will be discussing the recommendations from this at the July Parish Council meeting. The Clerk will advertise the period for the public to exercise their right to view the accounts on the Parish Council website and village noticeboards.

Future meeting dates:

In the current circumstances the Parish Council is carrying out monthly meetings via Zoom. Please contact the Clerk if you would like access details for future meetings. If face-to-face meetings are permitted, the Clerk will advertise this on the Council website and village noticeboards.

- 17th August 2020, 7.30 pm via Zoom.
- 21st September, 7.30 pm via Zoom.
- 19th October, 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Also a reminder that all Extra Parish Council meetings, which can sometimes be called at short notice, are advertised on our website and agendas will be posted on the Village noticeboards.

Alexandra Molton Parish Clerk



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over the past few months. The rain was certainly welcome for the garden though.

Hints and tips

1. Don't forget a good old-fashioned remedy for black fly is to spray plants
/veg with diluted washing up liquid.
2. Hope you've enjoyed the extra time in the garden growing all sorts of veg
and flowers. You know you can always plant up old pots and tubs with
your favourite vegetables, especially potatoes. More tips next year.
3. Keep dead heading your plants especially roses to encourage more blooms.
4. You know you can use Tomorite (plant food) on your flowers. It's not just
for tomatoes.

It was so nice for the four of us to get together (at a safe distance) over a
cup of tea and a piece of cake to discuss this article.

Happy Gardening Anne, Judy, Margaret and Rosemary Committee Members

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Thank you to all of you who supported our fundraising activities. We raised £111.00. Congratulations to all our winners for the quiz and the treasure hunt - All winners have been notified.

The Stars of Minster Lovell have also received an Egg; John, who maintains the green areas in the village; Alex, the Spar paperboy; the Spar and the Post Office - Thank you to you all.

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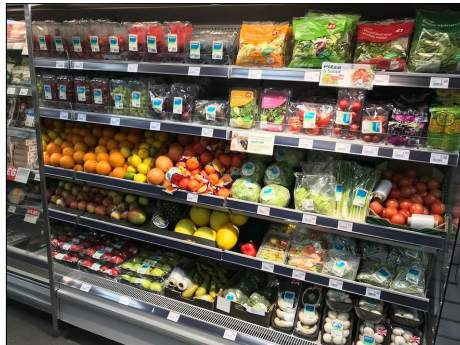
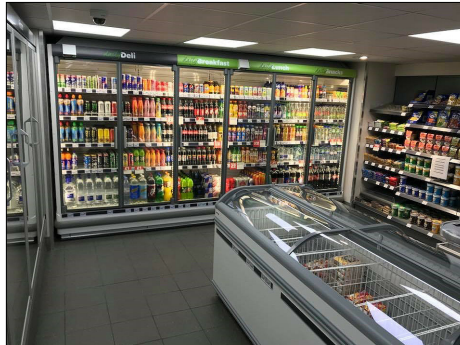
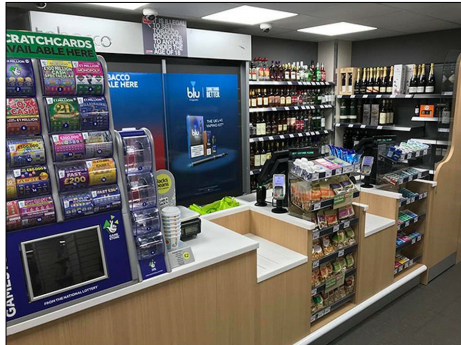
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DEADLINE OCT/NOV *Village News* **20th SEPT** email jnigel26@gmail.com