



Monxton Matters

Editor
Mike Cleugh

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May 2006

The AGM at Monxton Village Hall

The Allotments & Potential New Houses Triggers Some Lively Debate



The potential for new affordable housing at the Allotments at Sunnybank (picture right) was the main item for public debate at the recent AGM at Monxton & Amport Village Hall. A presentation from the local housing officer was discussed by the residents and the council. A number of Sunnybank parishioners expressed their outrage that the Allotments had been given back to the TVBC some years ago despite the publicity in Monxton Matters before the event and the clearing of the rubbish in preparation for their handover, which involved some 40 plus parishioners. No doubt there will be more of this in the coming months.....



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The Monxton Duck Race 27th, May June 10.30am start, finish in the Black Swan

The Monxton Duck Race and Village Fete

This will take place on Saturday 27th May on Monxton Green

**The stalls open 10.30 to 1pm, with the duck races and will be opened by our
MP Sir George Young**

**Ducks will be sold by the Black Swan pub and
Amport PTA in May and on the day.**

Prices: £1 per Duck/race

Great prizes – you will be impressed!

**The finish line is The Black Swan Pub, open all day with Hog Roast,
Live music and an Evening Buffet**

**Also on the Village Green there will be a Tombola, Children's
Games, Plants, Cakes and Stalls by The Fairground Craft
Centre from Weyhill**

All Proceeds go towards Amport School PTA & Monxton Village Hall

Michael Departs The Black Swan for France

The party on Friday evening two weeks ago marked the end of an era, as Michael the landlord of the Black Swan left to return to France. He was presented with some choice gifts as can be seen and he will leave Tracy to take over the task of managing the pub. We trust he will enjoy his new home in the south of France, while we continue to enjoy the hospitality at our local hostelry.



Monxton & Amport Village Hall

Forthcoming Events

Village Hall Weekly Programme

Mon Morning	10.30 - 12.30	Arts & Crafts Group (RAGS)
am		
Mon. Evening	7.30 - 9.30 pm	Jujitsu
Tues. Afternoon	2.00 - 3.00 pm	Badminton
Evening	8.00 pm	Occasional meetings - Four Parishes Arts Society
Wednesday, Thursday Friday:		Available for social events Monxton Parish Council meeting (every 2 months)
Sat. Afternoons and Evenings		Available for children's parties and social events
Sunday: Mornings		Monthly Church coffee mornings

Diary Dates

The Duck Race the most successful annual event for the young and not so young. Prizes and a barbeque during lunch at the Black Swan	Saturday 27th May starts at 10.30am Stalls will be open on the village green and a Tombola.
Monxton Open gardens weekend	May bank holiday 28th & 29th May

VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Mrs Saville read out two reports given to her by Mr Hodgson and Mrs Richards. The hall has been decorated thanks to volunteers from the DLO and new chairs have been purchased, the cost of which was shared between the village hall and the Parish Council. This year, the village hall has hosted some very successful events, such as the 'Hoedown at Monxton Creek' and some cinemas nights such as 'Phantom of the Opera'. Other successes include the Skittle night, a quiz night and Peter Pan. The Time of Our Lives Theatre Group will be back in September.

Jenny Van de Pette from Amport has joined the village hall committee and Mrs Saville is the village hall representative of the Parish Council. As Mrs Richards is wishing the step down as the Chairman of the village hall committee, a new chairman is needed. The parking for the village hall is now completed and a parking sign is to be put up shortly. There is now a mother and toddler group on a Friday morning and a tap dancing class will begin next Thursday evening.

The priority is to design and install a new more modern lighting system. Mr Barry Hayward has offered his help and advice. The hall also needs a new kitchen, cooker and fridge. A Capital grant is available to management committees for renovation and alterations to village halls, a scheme jointly funded by TVBC and the Parish Council. The financial results for the year have been very good and the balance in hand is £18,042. Although the outgoing costs are lower than in previous years, the main reason for the higher balance this year is the hard work and efforts of the village hall committee.

The village hall AGM is on Tuesday 18th July at 7.30pm.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF

The Monxton Parish Council

Thursday 4th May 2006 at 8.00 pm

Full edition available on the Monxton Website or from the Parish Clerk

MATTERS ARISING (Abridged version)

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Chairman invited Mr John Lancaster to address the meeting. He explained that he is employed by Community Action for Hampshire, a company, which deals with rural housing. They are independent leasers between District Councils, Parish Councils and land owners. They are commissioned to look at rural housing in villages where due to soaring house prices residents have been forced to move out of the area or young members of the family cannot afford to stay in their own villages. These affordable housing schemes are aimed at such people who have connections to the village. Following the results of the housing need survey which this company carried out last August a need for 4 dwellings was identified.

Mr Lancaster explained that the affordable housing will only be built if the Parish Council agrees to it. Such schemes tend to be built in 'exception' areas, on the edge of a village where planning permission can be granted where a need is proven. The dwellings are either rented properties or of shared ownership. The Parish Council believes that affordable housing is necessary in Monxton. The residents at Sunnybank do not wish the scheme to go ahead and would prefer it to be a play area as there are a growing number of young children in the area. The Parish Council understands this and is suggesting that the housing scheme could also incorporate a play area. Mr Lancaster explained that the housing association will only pay £8,000 per plot of land for a dwelling and therefore purchasing land from private land owners is very rarely an option as the land is usually too expensive. The residents of Sunnybank also expressed their concern over the right of way issue across the allotment. Cllr West confirmed that they do have right away and they should contact HCC to ascertain its exact path.

FINANCE – STATEMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/2006

Mr. Eaglesham (having circulated a copy to each parishioner present on arrival) went through the accounts for last year. Mr Eaglesham explained that the accounts had been approved and signed at a meeting of the Parish council on the 27th April. The total balance in hand as of 31/03/06 is £9,099.20. Out of this amount, the Parish Council continues to set aside £4,000 for improvements to the Village Hall and £3,000 for the improvements to Traffic Calming due to take place shortly. The Parish Council is to pay £2504.00 as their 50% contribution towards these improvements. This will leave £500 which could be used subsequently.

FOOTPATHS

The chairman invited Mrs Harriett Egerton to address the meeting. She explained the issue of the 'B.O.A.T', byway open to all traffic, concerning the path off Hook Lane. It could be several years before anything happens concerning this as mentioned in previous council minutes. Mrs Egerton reminded residents that footpath and bridleway users are respectfully requested to keep to the marked rights of way and not to stray into or around adjoining fields. Mr Hopkins at Manor Farm, Monxton asked this point to be mentioned and this applies throughout the parish.

There are several broken signpost around the village which have been reported to Mr Peter Watson, the rights of way officer at HCC, so they should be mended soon.

PLANNING MATTERS

Item	REF/DESCRIPTIONS	Parish Council	TVBC	Comments
1	05/00568/FULLN Erection of detached double garage and stables/hay storage/tack room. Dingley Dell. Chalkpit Lane.	Objection by MPC	Permission subject to conditions	
2	06/00073/FULLN Erection of 2 storey side extension to provide annexe comprising kitchen, lounge, bedroom and bathroom. 23 Sunnybank. Monxton	No objection by MPC	Permission by TVBC subject to conditions	
3	06/00497/FULLN 2 storey side extension to provide dining room and utility with bedroom and ensuite over. 21 Sunnybank. Monxton	No objection by MPC	Permission by TVBC subject to conditions	
4	06/00558/TREEN conifers x11 fell T6 – ash clean and deadwood and prune T7 conifer, reduce height by 6ft. Meadow Lodge	No objection by MPC	No objection by TVBC	
5	06/00655/TREEN Removal of branches from 2 sycamore trees. Bushmills House. Monxton	No objection by MPC	No objection by TVBC	
6	06/00799/Removal of 1 fir tree and 2 silver birch trees. Pollard 1 Weeping willow. Rectory cottage. Monxton.	No objection by MPC	No objection by TVBC	
7	06/00726/TREEN Fell 1 beech tree, the Owls. Chalkpit Lane.	No objection by MPC	No objection by TVBC	
8	06/00829/TREEN Fell beech, crown, clean and reduce willow and walnut tree by one third. Dingley Dell.	No objection by MPC	No objection by TVBC	
9	06/01026/TREEN Crown reduce willow by one third, Willow Glen.	No objection by MPC	Pending consideration	
10	06/00866/FULLN Alterations to the roof and insertion of dormer windows. Burnside, Chalkpit Lane. Monxton.	No objection by MPC	Pending consideration	
11	06/01041/FULLN Erection of two storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation, utility room and water closet. Ridgeways, Broad Road, Monxton.	No objection by MPC	Pending consideration	

Matters Arising from Monxton Parish Council

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The clerk read out a report from Mrs Chris Brandwood.

There has been one burglary in Chalkpit Lane this year. Mrs Brandwood also read that funding for neighbourhood watch projects is to be withdrawn although she has not received any information about this officially.

She also requests that residents visit the mobile police unit when it is in the village as if they don't then the service may be withdrawn.

ITEMS REQUESTED TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA

Village hall booking request.

As previously mentioned a new dance class will begin on a Thursday evening in the village hall so the Parish council have agreed to change their bi-monthly meetings to a Tuesday night as of July.

MOD/DLO developments.

It was mentioned by a resident that changes may be imminent at the above site which may have an impact on the village. The Parish Council, Cllr West and Cllr Arnell were not aware of these issues and will look into it. The Parish Council will report back any findings at their next meeting.

The subject of Broad Road was mentioned as it continues to be extremely unsightly. Cllr Norman Arnell will look into this matter and report back to the council.

Sue Ryan Resigns as Chairman of Monxton Parish Council

We were advised by Sue at the recent AGM that she would not be standing as Chairman or as a councillor at the next election due next May. She advised that she felt she had done her duty and requested that others in the parish of which there are many new recruits who could join the council and do their bit for the community.

**Monxton Parish Council meeting will be held
at the Village Hall on the Tuesday
11th July 2006.**

AGM – Monxton PC Chairman's Report

Monxton Parish council has dealt with 15 housing applications and 15 tree applications. Thankfully, none of them a great concern. The most important matter in the last year has been the traffic concerns. We have come to an agreement with HCC to do the 2 pieces of work on Grately hill and entry onto the high street from Andover. These should be complete in the next few weeks. Assuming these works are a success and we do not need to do anymore then we should have some finance available to do some painted lines down Grately hill which several parishioners have asked for.

The 20 mph suggested last year by the now disbanded sub committee has been put on the back burner for the time being. Sir George Young kindly enquired on its viability to the appropriate minister. It seems only appropriate when traffic is travelling between 25-30 mph. We need to keep then below 30 mph whilst I hope the agreed measures will do. Heavy lorries should be a thing of the past with the Red Post Bridge now restricted to 7.5 tonnes. If you do see any heavy lorries please request they turn back and give me their numbers. I will ensure they are prosecuted. The only way they can get into the village is via Cattle Lane.

The other area of concern is at Sunnybank. The number of children living in the area has increased dramatically and we need to slow the traffic down. A new sign indicating that Monxton begins here will be erected outside Mr Goodall's house, Homelea. This will automatically make the road 30 mph and this will continue down into the high street. The residents of Sunnybank are also concerned about the future of the allotment site which is now owned by Test Valley Borough Council. We understand that the latest housing needs survey indicated a need for a small number of affordable housing dwellings in the village. However, the site for such affordable housing is yet to be determined. Once the site has been decided, the Parish Council will work with the residents of Monxton and Test Valley Borough Council to ensure the best possible arrangements for all concerned so as to have as little disruption as possible. I know a number of residents are here tonight to express their concern. Affordable housing will be discussed as a separate item shortly.

The conservation boundaries have been looked at by Mrs Anne Marie Lomax of TVBC. She feels that the water meadows must be eliminated as there are no buildings involved. However water meadows do have an inherent building control so after an exhibition in the village hall, the Parish council had to agree to them being removed from the conservation area.

Monxton Matters has been regularly produced and distributed by Mike Cleugh for which we are extremely grateful. The cost continues to be split between the Black Swan and the Parish Council. Huge thanks, also goes to Mr Cleugh for his continuous efforts with the excellent website. I would also like to express my thanks to David Eaglesham for his work with the accounts of Monxton Parish Council. The Hoedown party last summer was a great success and produced a profit of £684 which has been divided by Amport School and the village hall.

Looking at the year as a whole I can say that it has been calm, the housing and tree applications have been largely uncontentious, the village hall has gradually become part of Amport and we now have an Amport resident on the committee. The cinema evenings are a great success and we have a weekly dancing class starting in May. With Amport's help we have put together a Welcome Pack which we hope newcomers will find helpful.

We are happy to report that there will be a police mobile unit outside the village hall on the 2nd Friday of each month between 10 am and 12 noon. One police officer will remain in the vehicle whilst the other will stroll around the village and talk to residents.

Lastly I would like to clarify my decision that this will be my last year and that at the elections next year I won't be standing for re-election.

Sue Ryan - Chairman

SKOOL'S OWT FOR THE SUMMER

***"OLD AMPORTONIANS"
FUNDRAISING DINNER & BOP***

SATURDAY 8TH JULY

THRUXTON MEMORIAL HALL

HEADMASTERS ASSEMBLY

At 7.30PM

3 COURSE SCHOOL DINNER & WINE

AT 8.00PM

Followed by Senior School Bop
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