

Twyford News

Twyford Parish News

Issue 1 / November 2023

Our Chairman's Message

Communication is a vital part of modern life and Twyford Parish Council is keen to improve our communications to local residents. We hope that you enjoy this, our first of hopefully many newsletters to keep you informed of what's been happening or planned to happen in our village.

The next newsletter will follow in a few months time and, like this, will be distributed to each house in the village by hand. Thereafter we shall only deliver a paper copy if it is requested. If you would like to continue receiving a paper copy, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Future copies, published quarterly, will also be available from the telephone box library, the post office, local pubs and the GP surgery. We also hope to make this available electronically on our website.

All contact details including email address and how to sign up for the Twyford Information System (TIS) and access our Facebook page are included on page 7.

What's On

2 nd December 4pm	"Christmas Crackers"	Twyford Community Centre
2 nd December 2:30 - 5:30pm	Christmas in the Park	Ballard Close Playing Field
17 th December 5pm	Village Carol Service	St. Mary's Church
19 th December 8pm	Carol Singing Tables for dinner may be reserved	Phoenix Inn
24 th December Time tbc	Santa sleigh ride through the village	

Organising a local event? Tell us about it to promote it in our newsletter.
admin@twyfordhants.org.uk

Hunter Park Update

As part of the Parish Council's ongoing work on our wonderful park, there have been several new additions to the park. We've installed a colourful set of chimes and a finger maze as well as further waste bins (made from reconstituted plastic).



The hazel hedge that was planted last year is thriving and will soon hide the wire fence.

The play area in Ballard Close is also undergoing improvements.



Wildflowers in Hunter Park

The wildflower areas in Hunter Park have produced a wonderful show this summer. They have provided welcome food for Twyford's many insects.



Next year, we hope to expand the current wildflower beds making them less formal and also introduce further wildflower areas in the park.

All Aboard the CycleBus

Twyford and Colden Common residents are behind a cycling initiative - a CycleBus. This aims to give school students, commuters and leisure riders the opportunity to cycle safely and sociably to and from Winchester.



Tony Higginson, a keen cyclist and one of the founders of the CycleBus says, 'After scoping out and planning the route, cycling it in school hours and adding refinements, we set a start time and advertised it to commuters as well as local children and students. Initially a group of 6 of us has now grown to around 20 including Marshalls and is protected by a bike trailer with signage and a camera.'

Refurbished Amenities

The Northfields bus stop has been given a facelift. Andy Roberts replaced the rotten timber and our caretaker, Darren Wyatt repainted the shelter.

The telephone box at Northfields, which contains the library and defibulator unit has had the door repaired and replaced. The phone box will be repainted in due course.

Planning Applications

There are five major planning applications along Hazeley Road currently being considered by the South Downs National Park (SDNP). They are the replacement of the mill with light industrial units at Hazeley Enterprises Park, a significant enlargement of Multi-Turn and next to the surgery, each inter related, twenty new houses, ten being affordable, a new public car park and a flood mitigation scheme.



The Parish Council is acutely aware of the potential impact along Hazeley Road during their construction as well as afterwards and is seeking to engage both SDNP and Hampshire Highways to

recognise the need for traffic solution plans to be considered.

There is good news regarding the High Street as the installation of a pedestrian crossing near the Old Forge is able to progress subject to plans and funding being completed.

Hunter Park Pavilion

Why not book the Hunter Park Pavilion for your birthday parties, family gatherings, picnics, etc. The pavilion has a fully equipped kitchen plus toilets. For more information about the facility or to make a booking, please contact Sue Nias, the Assistant Clerk, via email at admin@twyfordhants.org.uk or call her on 07881 036524.



Berry Meadow & The Meads

The Parish Farm Committee manages the meads and meadows on behalf of the Parish Council. The flora and fauna has thrived this year.

This is in part due to the grazing routine, the summer weather and the management of the area by volunteers. Particularly satisfying is the increased amount of butterflies and wild flowers.

A village volunteer who regularly carries out butterfly transects, reports a significant increase in marbled white butterflies this summer.



Action on Carbon in Twyford

The climate change is a huge subject and overwhelming us as individuals wondering what we should do, but there's a wealth of easy things we can each do to help and will make a difference. What concerns us here in Twyford?

Well, aren't we all worried about the amount of traffic speeding through the village and depositing even more carbon? If every one of us when driving in the village reduced their speed to 20 mph then everyone following would have to do the same – this would have a massive impact on the carbon count.

Food waste is another area for reflection. Think before you buy. Buy locally sourced and seasonal. Try to cut down on the amount of meat. Before shopping assess what's left in the fridge and store cupboard. Are there vegetables left? Why not make a pot of soup? – so easy – nutritious, easily frozen, could also be the base for a hotpot.

Keep thinking! – if everyone did the little things at all times, we would leave this world a more sustainable place for our children and grandchildren instead of the disaster we will be leaving them to face.

Energy Saving Tip

- a green Twyford resident says,

Put a bucket in your shower to capture the water and use it to flush the loo. We saved over £100 on our water bill last year doing exactly that!

Parish Hall Solar Panels

In May 2023, 39 x 415W Perlight mono modules were installed on the south facing side of the parish hall roof, together with a Solar Edge inverter and OFGEM approved generation meter. Maximum generation capacity 16kW. The panels provide electricity to the parish hall (including the Gilbert Room) and excess can be sold back to the grid.

This was the culmination of 12 months work by trustees and was 40% funded by LOCASE, a low carbon emission EU fund of which Hampshire CC are participants. The investment from reserves by trustees is intended to help future proof the hall by significantly reducing running costs, whilst making a contribution to the climate emergency situation.

As part of the same project, an old gas boiler was replaced with a significantly more efficient boiler, again with support of LOCASE. The finances of the hall are set up to provide a small surplus each year providing reserves for hall maintenance, but in 22/23 a deficit resulted from the dramatic increases in fuel prices that everyone was subjected to. It is very much hoped that this will not occur in the future as the volumes of gas and electricity required to run the hall will be significantly reduced.

It is early days yet, and of course the sunnier side of the year, but so far over 6.5MW of electricity has been generated, with an average of 30% used for the hall and 70% sold to the grid. Of the hall's consumption, only 7% came from the grid. We are told these panels can generate even on cloudy days so it will be interesting to see how generation and consumption progress throughout a whole year.

The installation was by AES (Abel Environmental Services), based in Romsey, who are a leading Hampshire supplier and installer of solar systems. They provided excellent service and support before, during and after installation.



Twyford Community Centre

The Twyford Community Centre (TCC) is now just over one year old and the first year has been quite a learning curve for all the volunteer team. We would like to thank everyone who have supported us in so many ways and who are helping us go from strength to strength. We welcome new volunteers to help us with maintenance (carpentry and repairs to brickwork, painting and minor repairs) always welcome.



We have a lot of established users and it's good to see that we are starting to get new young people showing an interest in some ideas for the future. This is your centre and it needs your help and support.

We have had many bookings for parties, wakes, meetings, demonstrations, skittles, cake sales and the like. We will continue to show major sporting events, when we can, as these seem very popular.

We are currently trying to raise funds to fit out the main kitchen and we have a few fundraising events coming up in the run up to Christmas.

These include a lovely cultural evening with Chapter & Verse performing their "Christmas Crackers" evening with our local Jazz Trio complementing the evening. This is on 2nd December starting at 4pm, with canapes and fizz. Tickets are £15 per head.



Tickets for events are available from the Bar on Friday nights, or contact twyfordcommunitycentre@gmail.com to order yours.

News & Information - About Our Community

The Parish Council has a service called **Twyford Information System (TIS)** which provides information directly to your email inbox about social events, local charitable fundraising, road closures, local public notices, parish council news and meetings.

Sign up today at www.twyfordhants.org.uk/intouch or scan the Twyford Info QR code:



The Parish Council has a **website** that contains extensive information including meeting agendas and minutes for the Full Council, Finance, Recreation and Planning committees. Plus lots of other stuff.

Logon today at www.twyfordhants.org.uk or scan the Website QR code:

You can also keep up to date with news and meetings from the Parish Council by following our **Facebook** page.

Access this at www.facebook.com/twyfordhants.org.uk or scan the Parish Council QR code.



Parish Council Meeting Dates

Full Parish Council meetings are held monthly on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in the Gilbert Room in the Parish Hall. The next full Parish Council meetings are: 23rd November, 7th December, 25th January, 22nd February



Twyford Parish News

What does the Parish Council do?

The Parish Council looks after a range of much-loved facilities in the village from Hunter Park, Berry Meadow, Northfields play area, The Meads & Compton Lock and allotments to more everyday facilities like bus shelters, street lighting, defibrillators.

We represent the village and lobby against issues that we think will have a detrimental impact on village life including scrutinising proposed developments in and around the area. The Council also works hard with Winchester City and Hampshire County councils to improve road safety on our streets.

Your Parish Council

Chairman

Chris Mitchell chris.mitchell.cllr@twyfordhants.org.uk

Councillors

Richard Sellars (vice chair), Chris Corcoran, Sue Cook, Angela Forder-Stent, Christine Hill, Stewart Hoad, Wayne Lawton, Jade Pain, Ingrid Percival, Steve Pullen

Parish Clerk

Jamie Matthews 07443 598464
clerk@twyfordhants.org.uk

Assistant Parish Clerk

Sue Nias 07881 036542
admin@twyfordhants.org.uk

Twyford Parish Council Postal Address

The Pavilion, Hunter Park, Park Lane, Twyford, Hampshire. SO21 1QS.

Have Your Say!

All members of the Parish Council are keen to improve the infrastructure, services and facilities of our area. We all have ideas of our own which we are working through but we're keen to hear your views too. Please email the Parish Clerk with any ideas that you have and keep the conversation going by keeping in touch with your elected Council members and attending our regular drop-in sessions.