

Twyford Parish Council

www.twyford-bucks-pc.gov.uk

*Welcome to the February
2010 Newsletter*

*This time your Parish
Council would like to tell
you about*

*Results of the shop survey
and what is being done to
secure its future*

*Our response to Bucks CC
inaction on the state of
the roads*

*Plans for the Recreation
Ground*

*The installation of Vehicle
Activated Signs to try to
cut speeding through the
village*

*Extension of the Burial
Ground and how we man-
age the existing area*

The 2010/2011 Precept

Dates for your Diary

*Early March Shop Consul-
tation & Village Meeting*

*March 8th Next Parish
Council Meeting 8pm Vil-
lage Hall, Meeting Room*

**If you have car damage
due to road conditions
let me know asap—
738424**

THE SHOP

Over 70% responded to the shop survey, so a big THANK YOU! for your interest.

Just about everyone uses the shop at sometime, with many villagers relying very heavily on the lifeline that it provides. In fact, nine in ten claimed to use the shop at least once or twice a week. Although not used by many as their sole source of supplies it provides a place to top up or find things that have been forgotten for many people meaning that shopping trips by car are being minimised, good for the environment. The prospects for a new shop look particularly bright if a larger range of products is carried. Other popular suggestions for the use of more floor space included having complementary retailers, a café as a meeting place, providing office space for local businesses and, of course, bring back the Post Office.

Plenty for the shop committee to think about.

As promised, after the Panto has finished a Village Meeting will be held so that a consultation about the style of the shop for which Planning permission is sought can be started.

Our village is certainly enthusiastic about a new shop BUT we still have to convince

AVDC Planning Committee. This is a big hurdle to jump, but the eloquence of the many reasons put forward in the questionnaire will be enormously helpful.

In the meantime, the shop committee are pressing ahead with the temporary accommodation next to the Village Hall. There is a lot to do, not least having to manage the transfer of services—telephone, electricity etc— and the movement of stock and equipment, which will take place at the end of this month. Plenty of willing volunteers will be needed then, so please look out for the calls for assistance.

Finally as the premises are moving the shop has to re-apply for its liquor licence. This note represents the formal notification of that happening.

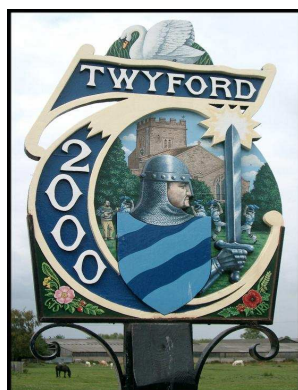
Notice of application for a Licence to sell alcohol

Twyford Village Stores Association Ltd has applied to Aylesbury Vale District Council for a Licence to sell alcohol for consumption off the premises from premises on land in Portway Road, adjacent to the Village Hall.

If you wish to oppose this application, please give notice in writing by 5th March to:

Licensing Services Manager
66 High Street
Aylesbury
Bucks
HP20 1SD

or by email to
licensing@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk



THE ROADS

The Parish Council has protested to Buckinghamshire County Council in the strongest possible terms expressing the outrage that is felt in the village about the state of the highway and footpaths, about the lack of gritting that has taken place on a bus route. We have indicated that improvements in these areas seem to us to be of paramount importance to the village and that having made this point in our Parish Plan and continuously ever since and having contributed around a quarter of a million pounds to the Council's coffers each year since then we expect action to be taken. It is just possible that we have now grabbed their attention. A Planning meeting next week will show if this is the case.

THE RECREATION GROUND

The post and rail fencing is now in place as is replacement wire mesh fencing behind the Pavilion. The Drainage Board are expected this month to clear the water course and coppice the hedge on the eastern border. They will also shore up the banks, where there is a danger of slippage. 600 hedging plants have been ordered and these will be planted to reinstate the hedge at the northern edge of the ground and also to fill in gaps in the other hedges. There is a plan in the very early stages of development to improve the facilities of the Pavilion.

VEHICLE ACTIVATED SPEED SIGNS

At last there is some prospect of these being installed, provided the cost to the village is kept to a minimum. The idea is to have one sign visible to traffic entering the village along Bicester Road and a

close to the allotments on Portway Road that will be double sided, thus reminding vehicles not to speed up too soon when leaving the village as well as providing a warning to those entering the village.

Hopefully this will have an impact on the level of speeding through the village but, if necessary this can be reinforced by the use of hand held speed cameras that could have the force of law behind them.

THE BURIAL GROUND

The promised extension to the Burial Ground now seems imminent. The lost deeds have been located and the legal work has started in earnest. The new area will be around a fifth of an acre and be to the northern boundary of the existing ground. When this is available the village will need to decide how we clear, maintain and fence it.

IN the meantime your Parish Council is debating how the Burial Ground in its entirety should be managed. You may be aware that many PCs are having to manage difficult situations where the wishes of the bereaved as to the kind of objects to be placed on graves are at odds with traditional practices. Hopefully, by creating a sensitive set of regulations this can be avoided in Twyford. When these are finalised they will be available on the Council's website.

2010/2011 PRECEPT

In the current financial year the precept, the money that the Parish Council receives from the village to carry out its duties, was not increased. The Parish Council does not feel that this freeze can be maintained for a further year and so an increase of around five pounds for a Band D tax payer is proposed.

SOME HOUSEKEEPING

Many of you will be aware that the Bottle Bank was very full long before it was emptied by the Council. This meant that folk wanting leave bottles just left them on the ground.

PLEASE DON'T DO THIS

The Council driver doesn't bother to clear the site and so the bottles just lie there getting broken until someone clears up the mess. Richard Simmonds did it on this occasion, so thank you, Richard. If the site is full, please take your bottles home again and call me or the Parish Clerk and we will try to arrange a pick up.

Also on the subject of mess there have been a number of complaints about the extent of dog poo on the Rec and in the Churchyard, and possibly elsewhere. We all realise dogs have to go but it is each dog owner's legal responsibility to clear up mess their dog leaves. Please do this, there is a disposal bin at the Rec and if it is felt necessary a further point can be put in elsewhere in the village. Can you also note that you must make every effort to ensure that your dog is not allowed to wander unaccompanied.

NEW PARISH CLERK

For those who are not already aware, Mary Searle resigned as Parish Clerk at the end of last September. Her place has been taken by a comparative newcomer to the Village, Andrea Curtis. Andrea lives at White Cottage on Bicester Road and can be contacted on 730617 or by e-mail at acurtis@live.co.uk

If you have car damage due to road conditions let me know asap

Roger Landells

Contact number 738424