

Parish Council 3.12.08 Charles Milner-Williams in the Chair : Cllrs. Davis, Mallock and Phillipson in attendance. County Cllr. Mrs.Pat West also present.

From the floor certain **pot-holes** were mentioned, and the state of the pavement by Mullenspond ,following rather exuberant hedge trimming there. Kate Phillipson following up her report on “**affordable**” **housing schemes** regretted that the Councillors from Monxton, due to report their experiences, had been obliged to call off at short notice. She was adamant that we needed absolutely full information before getting further involved. Mrs.West gave the benefit of her knowledge of proceedings at Grateley and Monxton, and also mentioned Appleshaw. There had been problems at these places. It was agreed to ask the Monxton Councillors to attend our February meeting, with a view to a follow-up discussion at the March one.

The Council was frustrated by the continuing failure of Hampshire Highways to deal with the **damaged Stream bank**,and other items. Mrs.West made helpful suggestions of people at a higher level in County who should be approached. There was, however, relief that the stolen **man-hole covers** had been replaced.

Council had a considerable debate on the FREEDOM of INFORMATION ACT, and its practical effect here. John Davis commented that there had “not been one formal request from anyone in the Village”. It was felt that provided the name, phone number, and address of both Chairman and Clerk were well publicised, with a clear indication that they should be approached for such information, then the ACT would be met.

On behalf of County, and our Borough Councillors, Mrs.West was unreservedly scathing about Monday’s decision to allow the Andover Airfield proposal to proceed. We would be “**blighted by this horrendous Megashed**”. However there were still doubts for various reasons,if it would ever go ahead.

Another bizarre decree from PLANNING was reported by Joh Davis : that as part of the approval for the **NEW CAR PARK** by the School it is required that the long HEDGE, which runs from the top of Stanbury Rd. to the School, be grubbed out, and a new one planted. This seems so ridiculous that it will be contested, possibly by recruiting people like the CPRE and RSPB to the cause. If it’s a matter of Height, it would be relatively simple and cheap to have it “cut to size”.

The Clerk reported that 2 tenders had been received for GRASS-CUTTING in 2009 but a 3rd one was awaited,and would be chased up.

Kate Phillipson spoke about a possible extension to the PLAY AREA to allow for having bigger children there.

It was noted that changes were coming to the GARDEN CENTRE & SUB POST-OFFICE at Weyhill, and residents had been invited, by circular, to come & see what is planned.

From the floor, a question was asked about **the Handbells**, and whether they might make an appearance at one of the local events soon. This will be followed up.

Finally, the Chairman said that the tree to be planted in memory of Ann Gerrish would be a Hornbeam ; on the Green. He then expressed thanks to his fellow-councillors for their work , and support during the year.

Twelfth Night (6th Jan)(contd.from side

1 This will mark the end of the festival of Christ-Mas, and will be a light-hearted evening.

There will be bangers and mash and a choice of puds. Entertainment will be provided by ENSEMBLE CHAMPAGNE, who are a young & talented group of musicians :and,of course, the results of John Davis’s CHRISTMAS QUIZ will be announced. The price will be £20 per head, incl. entertainment and food. Please bring your own wine. We expect a high turnout, so book your tickets early thro’ Chris Rome 772755, Margaret Davis, or Margaret Milner-Williams 773546.

I would like to offer a very big **thank**

you to the team who gallantly deliver this publication, and the 7 WHOLE DAYS, around the area ; Jackie Salmon, Sandra Coward, Pam Alderson, Joan Savage, Ron Pennells, Janet Hopkins, Sue King, Marion Hoskins, Doreen & Donald Anderson, Pam & Ken May and “first reserves” such as Terry Thorne, and even our worthy Chairman, Charles. Please accept our gratitude, and hope that you can continue for another year.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

to all our readers, and to all in the Parish from Thruyton Parish Council, and of course from yours truly, your editor.

An Appeal. Please try to come to Village events if you possibly can. You will be most welcome. More news in January.

