

Longparish Parish Council

Officers and Representatives

Parish Council Officers and Representatives for 2010/11 are:

Chairman – Christopher Duxbury
 Vice Chairman – Jonathan Frere
 Transport Representative - Phil Harris
 Tree Warden - Graham Darrah
 Parish Lengthsman - Christian Dryden
 Hill & Valley representative – Natasha Rouse
 Village Hall representative – Christopher Duxbury
 LCA representative – Christian Dryden
 TVALC Representatives – Christopher Duxbury, Jeremy Barber, the Clerk
 Internal Auditor – HALC Internal Audit Service

Planning

The Council has no objection to proposed tree work at Longparish House and Wickets.

Open Spaces

The village inspection on 7 June was attended by ten Councillors and members of the Open Spaces Committee. By and large, the village is in good order and once again thanks go to all those who contribute and work to keep it that way.

The Cricket Club have a problem with their drains and it may be necessary to dig up a small part of the playground. We hope not but if so will ensure that disruption is kept to a minimum.

Natural England is consulting [ends 9 July] as to a possible direction to exclude dogs from parts of **East Aston Common** to protect a significant otter breeding population. The initial restriction would be for a period of two years until June 2012, to be followed by a further review.

The Council has agreed to support the proposal to restrict dogs for the initial period and an article concerning the consultation is included elsewhere in this edition.

Footpaths

In the May edition, we reported that the dedicated and permissive footpaths on the Testbourne Estate are now fully open. The detailed routes are shown at the bottom of the local walks page on the Longparish website.

The new dedicated path runs from the railway bridge over the track to Firgo Farm and down to Tufton, where it meets the existing footpath over the river; and then up to the bridge near Whitchurch.

In addition, the permissive footpath [in other words one which conveys no permanent right of way] runs from the A34 bridge, running parallel to the B3400 back to Hurstbourne Priors.

The two routes together make a picturesque and satisfying round trip walk, as well as adding significantly to the safety of walkers heading between Hurstbourne Priors and Whitchurch.

Roads

At the instigation of Mr Keith Thompson, Principal Highways Engineer Test Valley, Christopher Duxbury and Christian Dryden met with him, Mr Jon Bambridge and HCC Cllr Andrew Gibson on 15 June to discuss Longparish Highways matters. Jon Bambridge is the new Longparish contact; he already covers the majority of Parishes in Cllr Gibson's area.

Owls Lodge Shooting Ground

Following a series of complaints to the Environmental Protection Team at TVBC about noise from the shooting school, particularly on 17 April, Christopher Duxbury and Jonathan Frere attended a meeting with Mrs and Mrs Richard Faulds, organised by TVBC on 7 June.

The aim of the meeting was to establish more effective dialogue and communication, clarify issues relating to the planning conditions under which the school has to operate and see what practical measures could be taken to mitigate the noise of shooting.

The meeting had been useful; and a full article, agreed by all 3 parties, is published elsewhere in this edition.

2011 Census Preparation

Preparation has started for the Census which is to take place on Sunday 27 March 2011.

Local Authorities are working with the Office of National Statistics [ONS] to identify possible address anomalies; and the ONS is employing 'address checkers' to visit approx 3.6 million households across England and Wales in the coming months to provide accuracy. A number of these will be in Test Valley, including Longparish.

Address checkers will all wear photo ID on a purple lanyard; will never cross the threshold into a house; and will only knock on a door if there is a query such as whether the property is in a particular post code. They may, however, step inside bigger establishments such as hotels and guest houses.

If you wish to contact the ONS regarding the address check process, please ring 01329 444972 or email census.customerservices@ons.gsi.gov.uk.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 12 July. Meetings are public. Parishioners are welcome to come and can speak by invitation.

Christopher Duxbury - Chairman. Tel: 720580
 Email: chairman@longparish.org.uk

! Road Safety Awareness - Overtaking !

Did You Know?

You should give as least as much room as you would a car when overtaking horse riders, cyclists and motorcyclists. Cyclists and motorcyclists may suddenly move further out into the road if they need to go around potholes, drain covers icy patches etc.

This is particularly relevant in Longparish at the moment as we have several large potholes, still awaiting repair, which are large enough to overturn a cyclist.

OWLS LODGE SHOOTING SCHOOL

Following a series of complaints to the Environmental Protection Team at Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) about noise from the shooting school, primarily triggered by the disturbance experienced by some villagers on Saturday 17 April, a meeting was organised by TVBC at the school on Monday 7 June. Those present were Richard and Tanya Faulds (owners), Christopher Duxbury and Jonathan Frere (Parish Council), Lorna Taylor and Sonya Enright (TVBC), and, for part of the time, Jim Neal (District Councillor). The aim of the meeting was to establish more effective communication, clarify issues relating to the planning conditions under which the shooting ground has to operate and see what practical measures could be taken to mitigate the effects of the noise of shooting.

During the preliminary discussions it was acknowledged that, while a section of the local community still had serious reservations about the planning process and felt that insufficient weight had been given to consideration of the actual level and cumulative impact of the type of noise generated, the fact was that permission had been granted and that the shooting school was operating legitimately. It was also stressed that, while the option of pursuing concerns through the statutory noise nuisance mechanism remained open, this would be a lengthy course of action and the outcome would be unlikely to satisfy either party. Much more was likely to be gained by improved cooperation and better communication.

The initial meeting was followed by a tour of the site, during which Mr and Mrs Faulds explained the layout and the method of operation. The main shooting area consists of four sets of stands (Olympic/Double Trap, Skeet and Sporting x 2) surrounded by bunds, 2 of which extend to the North West where the gap will be closed by a further bund to create an additional area roughly between the main shooting stands and the village. Completion of the extra bund, which was due by October of this year, has been delayed by the down-turn in the building industry and it will now be completed as soon as is practicable (probably late 2010/early 2011). As the new bund is situated between the main shooting area and the village, and Mr and Mrs Faulds have undertaken (as a gesture of goodwill) not to shoot in the area to the North (towards the village) of the internal bund, the expectation is that it will help to reduce noise levels, although it will not be possible to verify this until it has been completed. Mr and Mrs Faulds also explained that, as those shooting on the 4 stands shoot in turn rather than simultaneously, the maximum number of shots audible at any one time should be no more than 4, although some disciplines are characterised by 2 shots in very quick succession while others have a longer interval between shots.

With regard to concerns that had been expressed about key planning conditions, Mr and Mrs Faulds explained that they maintain a register of activities at the shooting ground and acknowledged that shooting was allowed only between 1000 and 1800 hours. In view of the questions that had been raised about the validity of their shooting on consecutive weekdays, they had also already decided that they would shoot on Tuesdays and

Thursdays only in order to avoid any misunderstandings, even though permission existed for them to shoot on 3 weekdays. In addition, while shooting is not allowed on Sundays, they are entitled to shoot on 12 Saturdays in the year and they acknowledged that these days were the most likely to be contentious as there was a conflict between their interest in maximising utilisation while the shooting ground was in operation and the interests of those in the local community who wished to enjoy Saturdays over this period undisturbed. In order to alleviate this they undertook not to hold any more open competitions on Saturdays (other than local charity events) and to restrict other usage in future to practice, tuition and invitation-only charity events.

The importance of communication was acknowledged, as, for example, it was felt that the lack of forewarning had exacerbated the impact of the shooting on 17 April, and Mr and Mrs Faulds undertook to ensure that the village was made aware of the calendar of events, probably through Hill and Valley. For information, the Saturday shooting schedule for the remainder of 2010 will be as follows: 19 June, 21 August, 11/25 September and a possible invitation-only charity event in October. In addition, details are available on the shooting school's website (www.owlslodgeshootingschool.co.uk) and any queries about dates can be directed to the following email address (richard.faulds@btinternet.com). Mr and Mrs Faulds will also liaise in future with regard to possible clashes with key events in the village and are keen to promote a positive relationship with the village, for example by welcoming visits to the shooting ground and by offering to run a "have a go" clay pigeon shooting stand at the Village Fete, if felt appropriate by the organisers.

It was agreed that the meeting had been very useful and all concerned were grateful for the positive way in which it had been conducted.

TVBC's view is that it is clear that some areas of the village will be more affected than others, due mainly to differences in distance and the intervening topography. The level of disturbance from shooting on any given day will also be influenced by the weather, and the type, direction and intensity of shooting. Therefore, variation in noise levels can be expected on a day to day basis. Nevertheless, the aim of the measures taken by Mr and Mrs Faulds is to reduce the overall impact over the course of a year. Please contact the Environmental Protection Team at TVBC if you need assistance.

LONGPARISH PLAYGROUP

Registered charity no. 1001065

Special Needs Assistant/ playgroup assistant

Longparish Playgroup is looking to employ someone to work in the playgroup 3 mornings a week. Two of these mornings will be supporting a child with special needs. Child care qualifications and /or experience would be preferred. Please call Claire on 01264 720455 for more details.

Longparish Toddler Group

Our toddler group, which runs term time only, is changing from a Tuesday to a Wednesday in September at the start of the new school year. All parents and carers concerned please note and contact Becky Chadd on 07973 423628 if you have any queries.

Longparish School News

Book Week

On Monday 7th June, pupils at Longparish Primary School got the chance to meet the author Ali Sparks and hear what she has to say about writing books. She was very entertaining and definitely understood children in different age groups. In our act of worship, Ali told us about her life and family and we investigated the components that make a good story. For the rest of the day she worked with each class and held a writers' workshop at lunchtime.

On Tuesday, the whole school came dressed as book characters such as Pippy Longstocking, Frankenstein and many others.

On Thursday we held a book fair and there were loads of authors, such as Ali Sparks, Francesca Simon and Terry Deary. Then on Friday we shared books that we had written during the week with children from other classes.

This week was a great success, I think everyone enjoyed it. I do hope it happens again! Grace Turner

The Living Rainforest

On Friday 21st May Kingfisher class arrived at 'The Living Rainforest'. First of all a tour guide showed the class round the rainforest and we learnt about adaptations and some of the animals. We also learnt about the layers of the rainforest.

Then we had lunch and played in the play park. After lunch we got into our groups and went back into the rainforest and did some pastel drawings of the animals and plants we saw. Afterwards we hurried off to go and see some more of the animals.

We saw many animals like toucans, giant snails, little black monkeys and turtles and many more. Later on we did a quiz about every thing we had seen, but it was a shame that we didn't get to see the crocodile because he was hiding. Then the time had come, we had to go whether we liked it or not!

Hannah Scarfe, Daisy Cooper & Scarlett Ridge

Welcome appreciated

"As newcomers, may we take this opportunity to thank everyone who has so warmly welcomed us to the beautiful village of Longparish and also for the cards and flowers we have received? The sense of community spirit is astounding and we already feel like we have been here for longer than a week! The friendliness and kindness of you all has been quite overwhelming and we eagerly look forward to raising our family here.

With sincere thanks and kindest regards again to all of you from the Sykes Clan at 74 North Acre".

BIRDS OF LONGPARISH THE KINGFISHER

The kingfisher is one of my favorite birds. I was lucky to be able to sit, watch and photograph them bringing fish to feed their young. Kingfishers are one of the declining birds of Britain and the Longparish birds didn't cope with the cold winter; I have only seen one in the last three months. I don't know of any nesting in the village this year.



Photo © chrisbowman

Most people only see a flash of blue as it skims low and fast over the water. A closer view shows a brightly coloured bird with bright blue back, orange chest, black beak and orange legs. The female is the same as the male except her lower mandible is red. Their food is mainly fish: sticklebacks and bullheads but they will also eat fresh water shrimps and tadpoles. They always eat the fish head first, for if a stickleback were eaten tail first the spines would stick in its throat. It sits on a perch over the water and when it sees a fish it dives into the water to catch it, then back to its perch where it repeatedly hits the fish against the perch.

Kingfishers breed in their first year and are very territorial sometimes fighting to death. The pair bonds by the male giving the female a fish. They both excavate a nest burrow in the bank of a river or lake about 60-90cm long with a nest chamber at the end. They can have 2-3 broods a year starting in early April. 6-7 eggs are incubated by both parents for 19-21 days. The young can eat up to 18 fish a day. The young are fed by both parents. As the nest gets smelly and dirty, after feeding the parents will dive into the water to clean themselves before setting off to catch more fish. The young kingfishers leave the nest after 24-25 days old, but remain longer if the fish supply is short. The young are fed for 3-4 days after leaving the nest and are then chased away to fend for themselves. A lot of the babies don't survive while learning to fish, as their feathers become waterlogged and they drown. The adults then start again cleaning out

the old nest and lay a new clutch of eggs. I would like to thank Clare for allowing me to occupy her garden quite a few times to watch and photograph them.

I have increased my record by four to forty eight different species on my scoot around the Cleeves in one trip. The lapwings that nested in the pony field raised three young, and the swan at the beginning of Southside Road has seven cygnets.

chris bowman

Longparish Fête Saturday 4th September at the Cricket Ground

Country and Western theme with music throughout and sessions of line or square dancing by BLAZING SADDLES

Punch and Judy shows

Ruby Slippers Show School Dancers

Childrens Gymastics Display

Dog Show

Stalls – (not the final list)

Bricabrac	Bouncy Castle and other rides
Books	Barbecue
Cakes	Helium balloons
Bottles	Balloon race
Produce	Hook a duck
Grand draw	Slap the rat
Teas	Wooden rustic decorations
Putting	Coconuts
Childrens games	Longparish sewing club
Beer tent	

**Join in the fun - note the date.
Volunteers needed to help - please call me if you can do so. Also for further information and your ideas and suggestions email or call :**

Tom Bremridge 01264 720689

tom@brem.eclipse.co.uk

July Haiku

The calling cuckoo
keeps cadence with my long stride
-a quick march tempo!

Longparish Village Hall Centenary celebration 16th October 2010

in the Village Hall - an Edwardian evening with music and supper

We are putting together a "History of the Village Hall" booklet and would be very grateful for any contributions, whether spoken, written or photographic. There must be many memories of the very active Social Club which operated at the hall for many years. Maybe you remember the Coronation events in the hall, wedding receptions, Millennium celebrations, birthday parties, Harvest suppers, school plays, etc. etc. Photographs would be particularly welcome; they can be scanned and returned to you, as can newspaper articles.

If you would be kind enough to contact any of the following to relate your memories we will be happy to collect them in the most appropriate way.

Gina Snowden 720128	Orchards, Southside Road
Ginny Hayes 720287	2 Mayfield Villas
Jill McHenry 720869	69 North Acre

LCA - L2SOTM - The Longparish Second Sunday of the Month handicap race

It was a lovely morning for the June run, so lovely that most of our regulars were elsewhere! The small field gave all the runners a big incentive to try to win. Sandra Jones made a huge effort. She led from start to finish and beat her handicap by nearly a minute to take the gold cup for most improved woman. Jeremy Barber was in hot pursuit and finished 3 seconds later to be most improved man.



Thanks go to everyone who competed or officiated and to the Cricket Club for the lovely venue. The next race is on Sunday 11 July starting at the

usual time of 10am at the Cricket Ground.

Runners of all standards are welcome as are brisk walkers. It is a handicap race so the slowest have as much chance of winning the cups as the fastest. Supporters of all ages are very welcome.

THE LONGPARISH LINK

The next Longparish Link lunch will take place on 14th July, 12 noon to 1400 hours, in The Plough, hopefully in its new Private Function Room. To begin to create some more value it would be good if members were each prepared to talk for a few minutes about:

- a) What they and/or their company do
- b) What they can offer other members
- c) What they would like from members in the way of support, either now or in the future.

As usual we will put up a poster on the village notice boards to remind people of the date.

Please come along and help us build the network. If potential new members from Longparish, or the surrounding area, would like more information please contact any of the people below:

John Scott email: johnhscott01@btinternet.com

Tel: 01264 720018; Mob: 07876 197678

David Marklew email: david@davidmarklew.com

Tel: 01264 720796; Mob: 07747 014519

Cass Scott email: carolyn@speckled-hen-interiors.co.uk

Tel: 01264 720018; Mob: 07810 522500



LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB TUESDAY 27th JULY from 6.30 pm.

Evening Garden Visit to The Old Rectory, Swarraton, Alresford SO24 9TQ

(By kind permission of Mr and Mrs. Peter Davidson)

A beautiful 2 acre garden started about seven years ago by the Davidsons. There is a formal courtyard garden, traditional long borders and terraced beds on a slope. The garden can be found on the B3046 between Alresford and Preston Candover.

Please let us know if you are able to come as I will need to let the Davidsons know numbers.

Non-Members welcome - £5.00.

Rosie Lowry 01264720325 or

Rosie@yewcottagealongparish.com



East Aston Common

This article is to advise you that Natural England are consulting about a proposal to restrict access by dogs on part of East Aston Common and to give you the opportunity to comment if you wish to do so. The closing date for comments is 9 July.

Natural England (NE) is an independent public body whose purpose is to protect and improve England's natural environment and encourage people to enjoy and get involved in their surroundings. Their work includes ensuring that Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are not harmed. They work with people such as farmers, planners, researchers and scientists, and the general public on a range of schemes and initiatives.

Under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW), the public can walk freely on mapped areas of mountain, moor, heath, downland and registered common land without having to stick to paths. The main such area in the village is East Aston Common, which is also an SSSI, and which roughly coincides with The Cleeves, the public footpath from there to Britwell Priors and the river banks, bed and islands.

NE has taken an interest in this area because it is a breeding site for otters which are a protected species. The right to roam can sometimes lead to sensitive wildlife being disturbed and NE has legal powers to ensure that this does not happen, including restricting access. But there has to be a careful balance between the need to protect rare habitats and wildlife and public enjoyment of the countryside.

Our parishioners love to walk at The Cleeves and many of us bring dogs. Some dogs love a swim, particularly where the river runs next to the road. The evidence from studies worldwide shows that otters are not disturbed by walkers nearby, as they are nocturnal and humans are not. Breeding otters however react more strongly and dogs are prone to investigate holts so they come into contact in a way humans do not. The most sensitive areas are the bank on the western side of the river, the islands upstream of the Long Bridge and the wild area upstream of Britwell Priors. Luckily these are areas which are little used by walkers and dogs. The owners are working with NE to restore some areas where water meadows have been invaded by coarse vegetation and scrub over the years and NE is concerned that this may lead to increased use in the future.

NE therefore proposes to make an order restricting access. It is required to consult about its proposal. The restriction would apply only to dogs, not to people and by and largely to areas which are very little used by people or dogs at present. It would apply for two years and then be reviewed. The proposal is that dogs will be OK on the road and footpath between the Long Bridge and Britwell Priors and the common land that side of the water and in the water in that channel of the river but not on the islands at all. Throwing a stick from the road into the river for a dog to retrieve would be fine. Dogs would not be allowed in the water at all north of Britwell Priors.

You can read the full proposal including a report about the importance of the area for otter conservation and a map on the NE website. Scroll down to Hampshire on this page

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/enjoying/places/openaccess/consultation.aspx>

The Parish Council considered the matter at their June meeting and concluded that the proposal represents a sensible balance between the rights of users and the need to protect valuable wildlife habitats. The Council decided to support the proposal.

You can make your own comments if you wish to do so. If you comment the parish council would be interested to have a copy (email clerk@longparish.org.uk)

Jeremy Barber (tel 720459)

Village Fun Day

The Fun Day on 19th June was great fun, thanks to the hard work of the LCA committee and all those who organised the entertainment, provided stunning venues and made refreshments. The weather was fine and sunny, though the evening was chilly, and many villagers came to enjoy all the activities. Photos will be in the new issue.



Longparish Cricket Club

*Sponsored by Barker, Son & Isherwood,
Solicitors*

Fine weather and a frenetic month of cricket for all of the Longparish sides. On a light day for the scorers, Longparish 1st XI notched their lowest score in recent memory putting on only 49 against Vosper, with 7 batsmen failing to get off the mark, a target that Vosper passed for the loss of only 2 wickets. The following game against OT's & Romsey saw the runs return. George Kousseff and Stuart Tognarelli put on 110 for the 2nd wicket before Kousseff fell on 53, Tognarelli departed on 74 and U15 captain William de Cani made 57 on his 1st team debut as Longparish closed on 261 for 8. In reply OT's batted well and were grateful for some decidedly flakey fielding from Longparish. Trodd hit 116 to see his side past the post with an over to spare. The away day at Hamble on a spicy wicket proved to be a low scoring affair. Longparish were dismissed for 153 with a few overs to go with Kousseff 38, de Cani 33 and Adam Lister 32 the chief contributors. Hamble lost wickets at regular intervals, Chris Clarke bowled beautifully to take 2 for 21, and Kousseff took 3 magnificent catches behind the stumps. U15 Brad Aldridge picked up 4 for 35 to secure victory by 16 runs.

Newly promoted Longparish 2nd XI currently occupy 4th spot in their division. A young side sprinkled with a dash of gnarled experience, they beat a dangerous Dinton side thanks to a superb 73 from Brad Aldridge and a devastating spell of bowling from 14yr old Alex Coetzee who took 4 for 22 from 10 overs as Dinton fell 13 runs short. Andover IV were next and a side featuring several players down from their 3rd team. Fine fielding and 3 wickets for U15 Sam Woodward, restricted Andover IV to 168, a target that Longparish II passed thanks to runs from Adam Lister 44 and Justin Jackman 43. A rather grumpy game against Upper Clatford followed with Warren Bonathon 64 and U15 Ben Gardner 57 the chief contributors to the Longparish total of 162. Another impressive display in the field by this precocious side skittled Upper Clatford for 109 with Woodward taking 5 for 35 and James Young 2 for 20.

On Sundays Longparish entertained Southampton based Merlin, and won an entertaining game by 59 runs with Warren Bonathon 50 and Gary Taplin 42 two of the many eye-catching performances. The away day at Woodgreen was, as always, an enjoyable affair. Matt Jackman hit his first fifty of the season and Michael Taplin chipped in with 35 as Longparish closed on 213 for 8. Woodgreen batted well and remained on the required run rate up until the introduction of Warren Bonathon who picked up 3 for 27

with some untidy spin to dismiss Woodgreen 29 runs shy of the target.

Longparish U11 crashed out of the cup competition in a close game at Ropley. Billy Mead, Scott Sturt and Jamie Blackmore scored the bulk of the runs and early wickets from Tommy Boxall kept Longparish in the game until a superb innings by the Ropley skipper saw his side to victory. Sam Frost and Nathan Smith bowled well and William and Harry Samways hit some stylish boundaries in the U11s third consecutive league win of the season against Twyford.

Longparish U15 were cruising to victory in the cup against St Cross A before a spectacular batting collapse left them 7 runs short of the target with overs to spare. A convincing league win against an understrength Hursley Park followed with Ben Gardner hitting 31.

Representative cricket got underway this month with Longparish players to the fore. Billy Mead was the leading scorer with 34 in Hampshire U11's convincing win over Buckinghamshire. Brad Aldridge and William de Cani were the leading wicket taker and run scorer for the Winchester & District side in the 3 day festival at New Milton, Aldridge taking 5 for 17 in one match and de Cani hitting a 50 against New Forest. Scott Sturt starred for the Winchester & District U10 side in both of their games against South East Hants and North Hants.



LCC Race Night

Sunday 4th July 8pm
at The Cricketers Inn

A fun fund raising event with the opportunity to win
BIG CASH PRIZES

Race card can be viewed online at
www.longparishcc.co.uk

Horses must be purchased prior to the event through Ray Smith on 078244775693

All welcome on the night to bet on the races and bid on the auction race.

All money raised helps Longparish Cricket Club.

Needle Felting Workshop

with Sharon Kearley Cost - £12.

Wednesday 21 July. 2-4pm in Andover Library.

Learn the art of dry felting with merino wool fleece and a needle! Make a memorable token of your day, maybe a brooch, key ring, purse or felted ball necklace and matching bracelet.

Booking line: 01264 353063