

Parish Council Report

The past few months may have felt long dark and challenging but finally it seems to feel more like spring is coming than winter is here. The days are lengthening, bulbs are blooming, buds are bursting, birds are serenading and last but very much not least, it looks like lockdown will at last be lifting. It has been great hearing how many residents have already received the vital vaccination, and how people's experience with what is an incredibly complex logistics operation has seemed to be overwhelmingly smooth and efficient. I can claim no connection at all, but I must confess a sense of pride of home team success for the Oxford/Astra-Zeneca researchers. We wish a big thanks to all our hardworking and dedicated NHS parishioners helping everyone get through these extraordinary times. While some easing of measures may be in sight, we are still a long way from returning to 'normal' life, so if you need to reach out for any reason, our community's volunteers are still on stand-by and ready to help. You can contact your street coordinator or email community@moulsford-pc.org.

Carrying on the theme of moving forwards, the Parish Council is pleased to report that the Recreation Ground Working Group has had a first meeting to review the draft plan created by ASA Landscape Architects that we shared in the December Moulsford News. It's clear that a comprehensive final plan will take some time to consider and develop, taking into account the wide and creative variety of possibilities, and the need to consider not just immediate fund-raising for whatever is decided upon, but also long-term maintenance needs. Thanks to everyone on the working group and others who have given their time and advice to help ideas get flowing.

What has been unanimously agreed is that any plans need to respect the traditional, open green space character of the Rec and its adjacent listed buildings. The Working Group and PC have also agreed that as a first step, we need to make better use of what we already have. This will involve removal of the cricket shed and associated equipment, and maintenance work to prolong the life of the existing playground equipment. We are also anticipating some woodland management around the boundaries, in particular removal of dead wood and cutting back overhanging branches over the playground. We will also be exploring ways to improve the health of our existing trees and establishing new habitats by planting native hedges and selected trees. To keep most of our natural material on site, we are also thinking about building dead hedges and wood stacks to help encourage some of our nationally threatened village wildlife, including stag beetles and hedgehogs.

When lockdown restrictions allow, we hope to hold a family-friendly community woodland work party later in the Spring to help create some of these features. If you would like to be part of this, please do get in touch with Jo Baker jbaker@moulsford-pc.org.uk.

Finally, a quick update on the sewage treatment plant work on Underhill. The treatment plants have now been delivered and the work on the road itself has been completed except for the tidy up work to the verges, this will be finished as one of the later tasks. The contractors would like to thank everyone for their patience and co-operation throughout this process. Their focus has now turned to the site in the allotment, two new pump houses will be installed, one replacing the existing pump behind the garages and the second sitting between the plants and the outlet pipe. Once the system is fully connected it will be a further two months or so before it can be used, whilst bacteria build up in the tanks. The access road and car park will be resurfaced, the grass reseeded, and the overgrown allotment plots cleared. Work is on target and should be completed by the end of April.

My dear friends,

I am writing this letter on Ash Wednesday on the first day of Lent. Lent was originally in the early church a time of learning and preparation for new Christians to prepare themselves for being baptised on Easter Day. After a while, all Christians were encouraged at Easter to renew their baptismal vows to follow Christ and to take part in this time of preparation. It was inspired by Jesus' time of preparation before he started his public ministry, when *"the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness"* for 40 days. The "wilderness" was the baking-hot, arid, rocky desert to the south and east of Jerusalem. During that time, Jesus fasted and found himself confronting head-on the great temptations that would recur throughout the rest of his life: to use his gifts for his own ends, to seek world power and status, and above all, to avoid the suffering of the cross. In the desert, he was able to see these temptations clearly for what they were and so he was much better prepared to resist those temptations, whenever they sprung up during the next few demanding and challenging years.

I suspect many of us feel we have been walking through the "wilderness" for most of the last 12 months! We have struggled with all the restrictions and frustrations that the Covid pandemic has forced upon us. Whilst I do not believe that it is the Spirit of God that has sent us into this particular wilderness, the story of Jesus' 40 days in the desert reminds us that good and positive things can come out of such a time of testing, however tough and challenging that time might be.

Such a time strips away from us many of the unnecessary fripperies of life, upon which we can so easily become dependent, and it can make us aware of what is truly important. As a result, we may well not only have more time, but more 'head-space' to consider what are the most important things in life and maybe even to change direction as a result of this.

Such a time also often makes us very aware of our own weaknesses and limitations; and maybe as a result of this to seek new habits, or disciplines, or networks, to give us the support that we need in order to survive and flourish. Lent is a great time to do this and every year plenty of good resources are provided. There are many good Lent books available (just Google "Books for Lent") - or you might like to have a short daily reflection emailed to you during Lent put together by our bishop, Steven Croft: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see/>.

May you have a fruitful and helpful Lent.

With warmest regards,



Andrew Petit, Vicar of Moultsford

andrewpetit@virginmedia.com

Telephone: 01491 651216

Church Services March 2021

As from the beginning of March, we are meeting back in church (socially distanced)

7 th March	3 rd Sunday of Lent	9.30am Parish Communion	Church
14 th March	Mothering Sunday	9.30am Parish Communion	Church
21 st March	Passion Sunday	9.30am Parish Communion	Church
28 th March	Palm Sunday	9.30am Morning Praise	Church
1 st April	GOOD FRIDAY	2pm <i>The hour of the cross</i>	Church
4 th April	EASTER DAY	9.30am Parish Communion	Church

During this season of Lent we shall each Wednesday morning be holding a short informal service of reflection by Zoom at 8.15am.

Please email Andrew Petit (andrewpetit@virginmedia.com) to get the Zoom link.

Monthly Coffee Shop

Gail Slinger



The next **Village Coffee** is on **Wednesday 10th March 2021 via Zoom**, so put on your kettles and have a great cup of coffee/tea with a well deserved treat and a good catch up chat.



Just send me your email address so I can reply with the Zoom link. (gailslinger2601@gmail.com)

February had an amazing turnout, what a great follow on from January, with more new faces and the regulars joining in. It's lovely to see you all. I'll continue to thank the men for joining in and the great topics of conversation. Fingers crossed for 2021 when we can meet again in the Pavilion.

Future Dates: 10th March & 14th April

Planning Applications & Decisions

Moulsford News and Planning deadlines invariably mean that the planning information above is out of date by the time of reading. For a current view of planning, please visit the online planning portal here: http://www.moulsford-pc.org.uk/community/moulsford-15214/planning-tracker/		
P20/S4643/FUL Moulsford Preparatory School, Moulsford, OX10 9HR	Variation of conditions- 2 (Approved plans), 7 (New vehicular access), 8 (Vision splay details), 12 (Off-site highway works) & 9 (Turning Area & Car Parking) on application P20/S0173/FUL. Proposed erection of building for pre-preparatory school with associated outside teaching space, access, drop off and collection area, and landscaping.	MPC No strong views. SODC Considering.
P20/S4706/FUL Wallingford Road, between Goring and South Stoke, RG8 0JA	Development and operation of a Transitional Hybrid Energy Project and associated infrastructure including access.	MPC Object. SODC Considering.
P20/S2071/FUL Cranford House School, Moulsford, OX10 9HT	Lighting to the Astro Pitch. Appeal against refusal.	MPC Considering. SODC Considering.

Keep in touch!

If you're planning local events, doing something for charity, or simply have something to say, Moultsford News wants to hear from you.

You can reach the editor, Paul Holmes by email:

moultsfordnews@moultsford-pc.org.uk

For advertising contact Emma Reynolds at:

reynolds743@btinternet.com

Deadline for April edition
Weds 24th March 2021

133 Goring - Wallingford via Streatley & Moultsford

WEDNESDAYS only from 10th March 2021

Service number	133	
GORING Railway Station	09:08	
Swan Hotel	09:09	
Streatley, Primary School	09:14	
Moultsford Beetle & Wedge turn	09:18	
Moultsford, Old Vicarage	09:19	
Cholsey, Papist Way jn. (A329)	09:22	
Wallingford Hospital	09:25	
WALLINGFORD Market Place	09:30	
Service number	133	133
WALLINGFORD Market Place	10:30	11:15
Wallingford Hospital	10:31	11:16
Cholsey, The Meadows	10:34	11:19
Moultsford, Old Vicarage	R	R
Moultsford Beetle & Wedge turn	10:37	11:22
Streatley, Primary School	R	R
Streatley, The Coombe	R	R
Swan Hotel	10:43	11:28
GORING Railway Station	10:53	11:38
WALLINGFORD Market Place	11:15	12:00

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Please note: services are subject to change at short

Moultsford Parish Council Meeting

Weds 10th March

7.30pm via Zoom video call

Please contact parishclerk@moultsford-pc.org.uk for joining details should you wish to attend.



FREE TESCO BUS SERVICE

The T3 service runs on **Thursdays** and departs from the end of Underhill/main road bus stop at **9.20am**. It then picks up at the Recreation Ground bus stop at **9.22am** and after routing through the villages of East Hagbourne, Blewbury, Cholsey and South Moreton arrives at Tesco at **10.10am**.

The return service departs Tesco at **12 noon** returning to Moultsford at approximately **12.45pm**.

Moultsford Pavilion Hire Rates

The Pavilion is the ideal place to hire for your event and can accommodate a range of different activities. Standard hire rates as follows:

Hire Fees	Mon-Fri: Hourly fee up to 6pm	Mon-Fri: Hourly fee after 6pm	Weekend Hourly fee: Anytime
Village residents	£13	£15	£15
Non-residents/ Commercial	£16	£20	£20

Discounted rates are available for regular weekday evening bookings (Monday-Thursday). Special rates apply to weddings. The full list of rates can be obtained from the Bookings Secretary or can be seen on the Pavilion notice board.

To book call Karen Gilmore, Pavilion Bookings Secretary
07707 068151 or email
moultsfordbookings@gmail.com

census
2021

Be a part of Census 2021

Census day is 21 March 2021.

By taking part and encouraging others to do the same, you'll help make sure your community gets the services it needs.



Find out more at www.census.gov.uk



Follow @Census2021

 Office for National Statistics

What is the census?

The census is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales.

Local councils, charities and many other organisations use census information to decide how to spend billions of pounds on services every year.

This includes spending on transport, education and healthcare. To make sure this money is spent where it's most needed, it's important that the census counts everyone.



Your support matters

We understand that building good relationships with communities means more people will want to take part in the census.

We also understand that no one knows your community better than you. Support from trusted local leaders and community representatives will be vital in helping people take part.

Building community links

We need your help to reach the widest possible audience for Census 2021.

Our local community engagement staff will be on hand throughout the census with resources, advice and practical support that helps everyone to take part.

Knowledge

You have a unique understanding of your community's interests and the challenges it faces. This knowledge allows us to plan support that help everyone take part.

Awareness

Your community links can help us spread the word about what the census is and why it matters to everyone. This will build trust in the census and increase support.

Access

Your networks can help us reach people in your community who need support to take part. This will make sure they're included.



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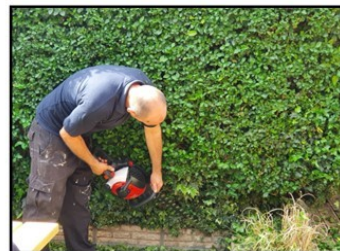
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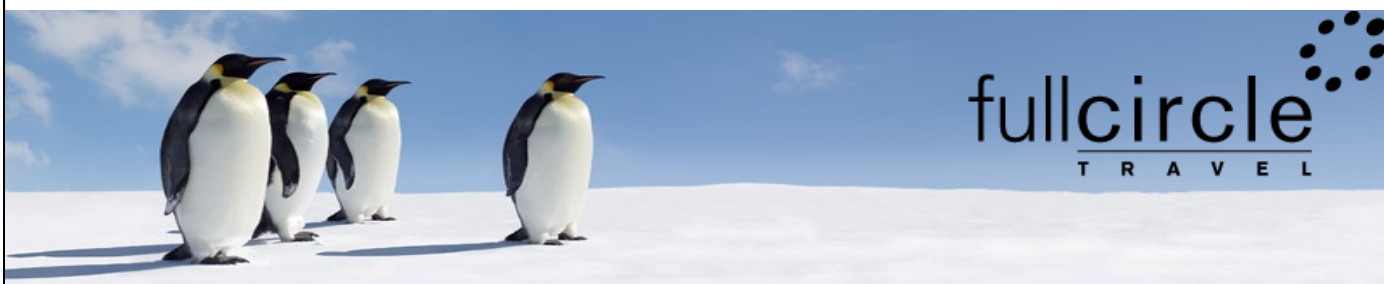
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Sarah Elvy (Vice Chair)	37 Underhill	01491 651668	selvy@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Joanne Baker	2 Willow Cottages, Willow Court Lane	01491 652793	jbaker@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Ben Partridge	22 Underhill	07828 902947	bpartridge@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Bernadette Sachse	4 Valley Close, Goring on Thames, RG8 0AN	07812 601975	bsachse@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Geoff Twibell (Parish Clerk)	Greenhill Cottage	01491 282979	parishclerk@moulsford-pc.org.uk

South Oxfordshire District Councillors

Anne-Marie Simpson	Mallards, Moulsford, Wallingford, Oxfordshire. OX10 9HR	01491 651298	Anne-Marie.Simpson@southoxon.gov.uk
Jane Murphy	Corner Cottage, High Street, South Moreton, Didcot. OX11 9AD	07970 932054	jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk

Oxfordshire County Councillor

Mark Gray	5 Little Lane, Cholsey, OX10 9LX	01491 651333	limasheepdog@yahoo.com
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