



Parish Council, New Beaconsfield  
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Contact the parish clerk:  
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## Issue 23 Winter 2019

### Welcome from the Chairman

On behalf of the Parish Council could I wish you a peaceful and relaxing Christmas wherever you are celebrating it? In this edition you will find notes from our Parish Councillors about the very extensive work they have undertaken this year to support various village activities. Looking forward to 2020 much of our effort will be directed, with the help of everyone in the village, to welcoming over 40 families and helping them to settle in and bring their new talents and skills to support what we know will continue to be a vibrant village. Back from the future, the annual Carol Service round the tree will take place on Christmas Eve on the Green at 7pm. The collection will be in support of the Shipton Citizens' Advice Bureau activity. They have quietly and discreetly helped many people over the steppingstones of life at times of distress so please come and give generously. Brian Rigby

### HGV Ban through Burford

Burford Town Council, supported by WODC and OCC, is trying to stop HGVs using Burford High Street. It is estimated that 600 lorries pass through Burford daily, and 50% of these through Shipton. An eighteen-month trial of the 7.5 tonne weight limit was approved by the OCC Cabinet Member in July this year.

The approval was given on the condition that the 20+ signs from Banbury to Swindon and Witney to Stow, plus the monitoring of breaches and of prosecution costs must be borne by Burford: this is a total cost of £150,000 up front. It can provide £20,000, Chippy Town Council has promised unspecified support and other monies have come from the County Councillor's fund, charities and Burford homeowners, but there is still a long way to go. They have requested Shipton PC to ask residents who live along the A361 to contribute as well. Local estate agents have suggested that houses along the route will be more saleable without the lorries. The mayor states that the lorries cause 65% of the air pollution on the A361 and that the air quality would improve without them. The mayor, John White, can supply more information on request.

([burfordcouncil@btconnect.com](mailto:burfordcouncil@btconnect.com))

Jill Mavin

### Christmas Carols on the Green

There will be Carols round the Tree on Christmas Eve again this year at 7pm. The local brass band which played so beautifully for us last year has agreed to play again and the collection will be for the Citizens' Advice Bureau who hold surgeries at the surgery! Come along and enjoy singing your favourite carols.

### Bus Service goes from strength to strength

Good News! The community bus service to Witney (operated by WOCT) and supported by your Parish Council is continuing to show a steady increase in usage. A new timetable begins on 9<sup>th</sup> December and now includes a new Saturday service (with 3 return trips) in addition to the 5 daily trips on the Monday to Friday service. They will also be able to take contactless payments. Please make use of this facility and help ensure its continued survival. A reminder that the latest timetables can be found on the Shipton website ([www.shiptonunderwychwood.org](http://www.shiptonunderwychwood.org)) or the WOCT website ([www.woct.org.uk](http://www.woct.org.uk)).

Also, don't forget about the excellent Villager bus service, which is run entirely by volunteers. Services run through the Wychwoods on Monday to Friday. Different routes run on different days, but connections can be made from the Wychwoods through to Chipping Norton and Witney. For details on the timetables please refer to their website at [www.villagerbus.com](http://www.villagerbus.com)

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## ***SUPERFAST SHIPTON***

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Works are continuing apace to install superfast full fibre broadband throughout our village. We appreciate that this has been highly disruptive for us all and, on behalf of the PC and Gigaclear, we would like to thank you all for your patience and cooperation during this time. The good news is that the end is in sight and works should be totally completed by the end of March. By this time Gigaclear will have dug around 10,000 metres of trenching and installed 'pot' connections to 485 properties in Shipton-under-Wychwood. Just a reminder that this is a Fibre to The Premises (FTTP) network which brings major speed and capacity benefits over and above existing Fibre to The Cabinet (FTTC) services. The main cabinet (at the junction of The High St and Ascott Rd) went live at the end of October meaning that the service is now available to some of our residents. If you would like to be kept updated on the availability of the service to your particular property, please go to [www.gigaclear.com](http://www.gigaclear.com) and register your details.

Tim Yates

### **Welcome to New Villagers**

The Parish Council is planning to produce a 'Welcome Pack' intended for people new to the village. It is scheduled to arrive early in the New Year in time for when people start to move into the new Deanfield development. It will detail a whole host of information including sports clubs, pubs, shops and the various groups and societies found in the Wychwoods as well as general local information. Although intended as a guide for new villagers, if you think a copy would be of benefit to you please contact the clerk of the council to arrange a copy when they become available.

Rob Dyer

### **Precept remains the same**

There will be a nil increase on the precept again this year. The PC has agreed to take a large chunk of money out of the reserves to avoid putting up the precept. This is as well as budgeting to create a community and wildlife space at the allotments, to develop an environmental fund to plant more trees, to upgrade the equipment at the playground and replace the path and to increase the number of donations given to local community groups (including continuing its contributions to the bus service and the library).

And finally, do keep an eye on your neighbours- their welfare not their drinking habits. Are they signed up to our Newsletter—applications to Lisa at [clerk@shiptonunderwychwood.org](mailto:clerk@shiptonunderwychwood.org) and the Thames Valley Police and WODC Alert system both designed to keep us up to date and safe? The links are <https://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk/> and <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/registering-on-our-website/>



And the weather? A local saying tells us '*If November ice supports a duck, winter will be slush and muck*'. Who knows so keep warm or dry or preferably both.

**Happy Christmas**

## Notices



### **Change of start time for December Parish Council meeting**

The December PC meeting will be brought forward to 6.30pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December, to accommodate the Rock and Pop choir's family session.

#### **Grounds Maintenance Contract**

**Shipton-u-Wychwood PC requests tenders for its grounds maintenance contract for the next 3 years, starting April 2020.**

**Please apply to;**

**[clerk@shiptonunderwychwood.org](mailto:clerk@shiptonunderwychwood.org)**

**Closing date 31/01/ 2020**

