

Peasedown St John

Parish Council



NEWSLETTER

'Building our Community Together'



June 2009

Issue 65

“It’s raining, so it must be Sunday”

That’s not true, I know, but it does seem like it a lot of the time. I am aware that it is past the middle of May and there is no sign of that hot dry summer we have been promised. Promises, promises!

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council all the Chairmen of committees and the Chair and Vice-Chair are elected. Being the Chairman of a large and forward looking council such as Peasedown St John is a matter of great pride to me, although it does take up a great deal of time that could be spent perhaps in other areas. Although it is not generally widely understood, the position of the Chairman on a council does not actually grant the holder any privileges as the position merely entrusts the holder with the responsibility of keeping the council on an even keel and ensuring that the work planned by the members is carried out to the satisfaction of the residents and within a strict budget. I am pleased to report that in the case of this council, that has not been a difficult task. Two major aims of good Chairmanship should be presiding over cheerful and focussed committees and council and also an ability to look ahead, sometimes many years, and to always bear the best interests of the whole community into account well into the future. I hope that I any my chairmen colleagues have been able to do both.

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The Parish Council’s Website can be found at www.peasedownstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk The website contains agendas for meetings together with Annual Reports and the Parish Design Statement.

To e-mail the Council please use clerk@peasedownstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk

Peasedown St John Primary School - Fundraising Events 2009

Summer Fayre	Saturday 20 June	12pm - 3pm
Summer Family BBQ & Disco	Friday 10 July	7pm - 10pm
Christmas Fayre 2009	Saturday 28 November	12pm - 3 pm

Mercury Explorers

Since my last report the Explorers have been doing various things. We have had a cooking competition, been bowling, and we also have had some fun evenings in the hall.

Back in April, 10 Explorers went to the Wye Valley for a weekend. On the Saturday they canoed down the river and Sunday they went hiking. The weather was great, everyone had a good time.

This month we are climbing on the Climbing Wall at the Blue School in Wells.

We are having a Backwoods Camp at Wellow on the 22nd. This is a camp where we cook on open fires with limited cooking utensils, and we also hope to go Clay Pigeon shooting in June.



At the moment we are male dominated; we have a few females in the group but we would like more to even things up.

If you would like to be part of the group and you have Wednesday nights free, give me a call -

Ian Tucker on 01761 470171

Peasedown St John Parish Plan Project

The Annual Parish meeting on 2nd April included a general exhibit showing progress on the project, plus a display of a large proportion of the detailed input Responses received from residents who participated in the Questionnaire exercise.



Those who viewed the display found much of the response data fascinating and much interest was shown in how the Final Report and Action Plans will be developed from this base.

Opportunity was taken at the Parish meeting to conduct a draw to select a random prizewinner from the returned Questionnaires (811 forms returned). Of these, 226 residents had been willing to reveal their identity and thus be entered into the draw. In view of this excellent response the Committee had already decided to make two cash prizes available instead of the original one, and a Generous donation of two bottles of wine by Cllr. Guy Matthews enabled a total of four prizes to be made available.

The draw produced the following prizewinners:

- 1st "The Occupier"(sic), 16 Braysdown Lane
- 2nd Mrs M Farr, 25 Morgan Way
- 3rd A Fricker, 1 Wellow Mead
- 4th Mrs A Park, 53 Braysdown Lane

None of the four prizewinners were actually present at the Annual Parish meeting, but Cllr. Matthews subsequently delivered their winnings.

In regard to progress on the project itself, the exercise of entering and collating the received data has proved to be a mammoth and time consuming task but is now completed. A framework draft

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Waste Day change

You will by now all have received a leaflet from Bath and North East Somerset council outlining the change of day for all your waste collection. Some people will be changing the day they have been used to but the new system should make it clearer for everybody.

As from 8th June waste collection day will be exactly the same day for normal refuse (black bags or dustbins), green box (bottles, jars, tins etc.) and once a fortnight garden and cardboard waste. This should make it easier to remember but please make sure that the waste is clearly identifiable.

Bath and North East Somerset Council is undertaking the change in direct response to residents who want a more convenient waste collection service and the need to meet the Council's key priority of addressing the causes and effects of climate change.

Milk Bottle Tops

We all use milk in our daily lives and the plastic bottle tops, blue, green and red, can be used by charities in exchange for cash.

A resident of Peasedown St John is collecting these bottle tops on behalf of CLIC (Cancer and Leukaemia in Children) and would be grateful if residents could save their bottle tops and deliver them to the Community Association at Beacon Hall.



Occasionally these tops can be used for a specific purpose, i.e. a motorised wheelchair for a disabled person, but they have to be named.

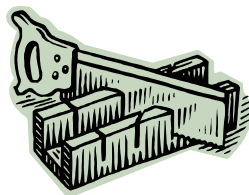
Peasedown St John Youth Centre

Young people from the centre as usual have been very busy taking part in a range of activities, some of which you may have read about in the local press.

Over the Easter holidays members of the Youth Community Council took part in 2 clean up days which were a great success.

The young people have also been establishing their garden at the centre which has been funded by Crimebeat and Action Earth which is sponsored by Morrisons. They have been busy planting seeds and transplanting seedlings. A group have been busy learning carpentry skills and have made the first 2 raised beds for the garden.

They have entered Bath in Bloom and we hope to have a really good display to put on for the judges later in the summer when they make their visits.



The youth centre started a choir on Monday 18th May from 5.30-6.30 and any young person aged school year 7 and above is welcome to come along. The group will be singing a wide range of songs chosen by them. No auditions are required, please just turn up. Any young person wishing to stay for the main youth club session which runs from 6.30-9pm will be admitted free of charge.

In order to give the young people further inspiration we have booked tickets to go and see The City of Bath Male Voice Choir and ACM gospel choir who all did really well in the BBC's Last Choir Standing.

The group are looking forward to a very busy summer of activities at the centre which include Boxercise classes which will be

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David Field's Resignation

The Parish Council has been informed that Dr David Field has resigned from our surgery citing ill health and the serious accident, whilst skiing, of one of his sons.

David has worked in Peasedown St John for nearly 30 years, starting as an outreach doctor from Hope House in Radstock, then, when the first surgery was built in Hillcrest, he became the leader of a very successful practice.

Over 10 years ago, he was instrumental in getting the every growing practice a purpose built surgery in Wellow Lane, which has gone from strength to strength under his leadership, He will be missed by his many patients for the dedication he showed to them.

We wish him and his family all the best and hope that his son makes a full recovery.

Caretaker/Handyman

As from 26th May, the Parish Council has a new Caretaker/Handyman, James Murtagh. who will have responsibility for keeping the village clean and tidy. At first, he will spend his time getting to know the village - walking the pathways through the village, clearing overhanging branches, looking after the trees on the Public Open Space before he takes on grass cutting around the village.

Cyril Chivers, who works for us in the Cemetery will be staying on for the time being (although at present he is confined to his home with a broken hip). The Parish Council sends its best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Recreation Field Project

As residents will be aware, the Parish Council applied to Bath and North East Somerset Council for a grant to improve play facilities for 8-13year olds on the Recreation Field.

We were successful in our application and have been given a grant of £40,000. Consultations have been on going since March, with Councillors Gregory and Kennedy visiting the school and asking the children to provide drawings showing what they would like to see on the field.



From these drawings we have been able to draw up a short list of equipment they would like.

Further consultation has taken place with mothers with young children, health visitors, children from around the village and parents and at our Annual Parish meeting.

There are a number of residents in the village who use the Recreation Field, however infrequently, who we would like to hear from, or anyone else, who has views about the project. Please get in touch with the Parish Clerk on 433686.

Once the final designs are submitted to the Parish Council, two open evenings - at the School and Beacon Hall - will be held in order for residents to see the designs for themselves.

Articles for the August issue of the newsletter should be with the Editor by 16th July

Bath and North East Somerset Council elect new Chairman

Bath and North East Somerset council formally appointed its new Chairman at the council's annual general meeting on Thursday 14th May.

Cllr. Bryan Chalker takes over the role from the outgoing Chairman, Cllr. David Bellotti. The Chairman of the council is elected annually in May and chairs all meetings of the full Council, as well as representing the people of Bath and North East Somerset and the Council at ceremonial, civic and other occasions.

Cllr. Chalker has been the local member for Lambridge Ward since 2003. He is a former police officer, professional broadcaster, freelance journalist, recording artist and has written and published four books.

Cllr. Chalker has adopted two themes for his year as Chairman - "Grow Your Own Food! And "Know Your Local Heritage", which encompass two of his interests. During his year in office the Chair has chosen to support three local charities. The Royal British Legion Welfare Fund (Somerset), the Bath Cats and Dogs Home and The Forever Friends NICU "Space to Grow" Appeal. He has several fundraising events planned, including the Chair's Charity Ball in early 2010 and Teddy Bears' Picnic on Ted's Big Day Out in October.

His new deputy is Cllr Sarah Bevan who has represented us since 2003. Before being elected she worked for BBC's documentaries department and Grant Thornton accountants. She now combines her duties as a mother of three with her duties to the residents of Peasedown St John. She was also the Council's Human Rights Champion in 2004 and is a member of the Trades Union Advisory and Consultative Committee.

Peasedown St John elects Chair, Vice-Chair and Chairmen of Committees

In accordance with its rules, Peasedown St John elected its Chair, Vice-Chair and Chairs of Committees at its Annual Meeting on Monday 18th May.

Robert Butt was proposed, seconded and unanimously elected Chair.

Jonathan Rich was proposed, seconded and unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

The following members were elected Chairmen of Committees:

Environment:	Marion Button
Amenities:	Alan Spiller
Planning:	Colin Rich
Finance:	Mike Gregory

Party in the Park 2009

On Saturday 18th July at 12 noon, Michael Eavis will be opening the Party in the Park 2009 on Beacon Field.

The Management Committee have been working very hard to secure prizes for this event to include

Flight for four in a Cherokee Six light aircraft over Bath (worth £150)
Two-course meal for two at the Royal Crescent Hotel (worth £100)
Personalised digital portrait (worth £120) and many more.

There will be a farmers' market, licensed bar, cream teas, tombola and much more and in the evening at Beacon Hall entertainment by live music (entry by ticket only, on sale from 22nd June),

POKEMON CLUB

Sunday mornings 10a, til 12 noon at Beacon Hall
£2 Entry (Tea, coffee and squash free)

Pokemon Club has been running for nearly a year now, and has developed into a very exciting club. It has a nucleus of players who are so 'in to' the game that they can help teach brand new players and help less experienced players sharpen up on the rules.



There are no age constraints on the club as we provide a Trading Figure game which is excellent fun and a great way for the younger Pokemon fans to take part in league play to earn their special promo cards.

Every week we offer an organised 3 round competition where every player will earn pokemon goodies. As well as the competition, players log each battle on a league card to earn themselves special promo cards.

You do not have to own any of your own cards as we provide everything you will need. For more information please call Polly on 420604 or just pop in to Beacon Hall when the club is running (Under 8's to be accompanied by an adult, please).

Well done to Brandon Spence who won our recent 'Sudden Death' Competition.

For more information:

polly@pollyandpaul.co.uk

An interesting coincidence or not?

Looking on the internet the other evening, I came across the following facts. An interesting bit this from the Bible - you should read this.

Q - What is the shortest chapter in the Bible? **A** - Psalm 117

Q - What is the longest chapter in the Bible? **A** - Psalm 119

Q - What chapter is in the centre of the Bible? **A** - Psalm 118

So the number of chapters before Psalm 118 is 594 and the number of chapters after Psalm 118 is 594.

Q - What is the centre of the Bible? **A** - Psalm 118 v 8

Next question - what does this verse say that is significant?

Well ... here it is: **“it is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man”**

The events of the last few months put this verse in perspective.

Yes? No?

Special Services for June/July

Sunday 7th June 10.30am PRAISE SERVICE join us to sing hymns old and new

Sunday 21st June 12.15pm FAMILY SERVICE - please bring your family and friends

Sunday 12th July 12.15pm FAMILY SERVICE - please bring your family and friends

Jules

Peasedown Christadelphian Church

Mobile Library - Tuesday Fortnightly - Route L

Timetable	Arrive	Depart
St Josephs Catholic Church	09.45	10.15
St John's Close	10.20	10.40
Wellow Tynning	10.45	11.00
Orchard Way/Frenchfield Road	11.55	12.10
Orchard Way/Old England Way	12.15	12.30
Eckweek Lane	14.00	14.15
Eckweek Gardens	14.20	14.35
School/Community Group	14.40	15.40
Highfield	15.45	16.00
Idwall	16.05	16.30
Camvale	16.35	16.55

Dates for visits

June 16	July 14	August 11
30	28	25

For further information please contact

Bath Central Library 01225 394041 or 07980 998772

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started at the end of May.

They will be going ice skating in early June and going on a water-sports weekend in July where they will work towards achieving a Level 1 certificate.

We are also looking forward to camps in Staffordshire and Wiltshire over the summer holidays.

The young people are also sorting out their stalls for the Party in the Park event which will take place on Saturday 18th July at Beacon Field. Young people will also be making advertising Banners at the centre to promote the event.

Peasedown St John Youth Centre is open to any young person in school year 7 and above and currently opens Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday evenings from 6.30-9pm and on Saturday morning from 10.30-12.30.

Message from Bath Police

There have been numerous reports of companies leafleting residences asking for clothing for third world countries. On many occasions some of these companies falsely claim to be registered charities. To check whether a collection is for, or on behalf of, a registered charity please contact the Charity Commission on 0845 3000213.

Visit the Force website on www.avonandsomerset.police.uk where you can also sign up to receive local news and alerts, Crimestoppers appeals and job details direct to your inbox - on <http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/interactive/>

Travel Card Trial at Council Connect

Bath and North East Somerset Council will trail a while-you-wait service at the Council Connect Guildhall office for those residents who are disabled claiming their free Diamond Travel card, which entitled them to receive free local and national bus travel.

Nearly 38,000 cards have been claimed since free travel started in April 2004. Residents will need to have evidence of eligibility and proof of residency. A Council Connect team member will take a photograph at no cost and help complete the form.

The Council Connect office at the Guildhall currently received 85% of Diamond Travel Card applications, therefore was selected for the trial. Find out more about free travel for the over 60's by telephoning Council Connect on 01225 394041 or visiting www.bathnes.gov.uk and going to the 'Travel and Streets' section.

Another message from Bath Police

At 3.30pm on Wednesday May 13th there were two distraction burglaries in Chandler Close in Bath. The Water Board method was used in both offences. Although these crimes occurred in Bath, there were nine reported distraction burglaries throughout the Avon and Somerset Force. Encourage elderly or vulnerable neighbours, relatives or friends to use the doorstep code, deny entry to anyone they do not know and use a door view and door chain at all times.

If you have any information about any crime, phone the police on 0845 456 7000 or you can call anonymously to the independent charity CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111.

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covering ten proposed Sections for the Final Report has been prepared, and a small editorial working group from the main Parish Plan committee is now refining and balancing the content of the report so that it properly takes into account all views expressed by residents.

It is anticipated the Final Report will be available for distribution later this summer. In view of the considerable interest shown at the Annual Parish meeting in the 'raw data' results obtained from the Questionnaire, it is likely we may do the same as some other villages have done from their Parish Plans, and make this available to residents who are seriously interested in studying the basic underlying data.

As the file is the equivalent of 527 A4 pages in Excel format, it is likely there will be need for an administrative charge for this, to cover costs.

Look for further news of the Peasedown St John Parish Plan in later newsletters.

Annual Granny Trek 2009 for Children-s Hospice South West

The Fourth Annual Granny Trek was held at Charlton Farm on 26th April and was a resounding success. Six hundred walkers took advantage of the fine weather to tramp through the bluebell woods and those tackling the six miles found the new route through the Tyntesfield Estate most enjoyable and far less taxing than previous years.

It is hoped that last year's total of £38,000 will be surpassed and huge thanks are due to the Rotarians of Bristol Sevenside who do so much to help with the organisation and manning of the walks and car parks. However, even more gratitude goes to all those who took part and gave generously of their time and money.

Next year's date for your diary: Sunday 25th April 2010

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The council is still in discussion with other agencies over the £40,000 grant from central government for a play facility for the 8-13 age group to be situated on the Recreation Field. Like most things in life, the more people and groups that are involved in a scheme of this size, not excluding the most important group, the young people, the longer they take. In our case, the fact that the Recreation Field is not owned by the council and is, in fact Charity land, has also added to the problem. However, the council is in favour of the scheme in principal and we will continue to do all we can to make it a success. We have appointed Cllr. Mike Gregory to be the Manager of the scheme and he is more than capable of seeing it through and he is ably assisted by Cllr. Mary Kennedy, who has worked closely with the staff and children in the village school to obtain their wishes.

We are still trying to locate additional land for Parish Council allotments although we already have over 50 allotment holders. Some land has been earmarked at the top of the "cliff" on the village end of the Prince of Wales roundabout but it seems that this land was used by the developer to dump several tons of clay and sub-soil and so we are having to examine this more closely by carrying out a physical inspection - or at least two gardening members of the council are - to see if the land is suitable. We are also asking members of the public, who for one reason or another, do not want to cultivate their own garden, to lend them to the council for use as allotments. If you are able to lease your garden, then please ring the Parish Clerk on 433686, so that we can carry it forward.



Robert Butt
Chairman of the Council

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