



AUTUMN 2022

Your Newsletter

For residents of Braysdown, Carlingcott,
Peasedown St John and Woodborough

Published by Peasedown St John Parish Council

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New Recreation Ground Facilities for Hire



Photo shows L to R: Cllrs Barbara Bailey, Jonathan Rich, Jo Davis, Kathy Thomas, Andy Larcombe, Simon Kidd, Conor Ogilvie-Davidson, Audrey Gillard-Sprake and Les Sprake, outside the new Recreation Ground Canteen

Saturday 3rd September 2022 marked the first official use of the Recreation Ground Canteen which will be available for hire by members of the community.

This exciting new facility provides a small meeting room with kitchen facilities and a separate accessible toilet.

Peasedown Miners Welfare Football Club will be regular hirers of the canteen. Manager of the Football Club, Nick Young, said: "We are delighted to have these new facilities which will enable us to provide refreshments for our spectators and players on match days."

Cllr Jonathan Rich, Chair of the Parish Council, said: "We hope the new canteen will be of benefit to many local residents. Although the Football Club will have priority on home match days, it is hoped that local groups will consider this as an alternative venue for smaller meetings or social events".

Councillors will also be able to use the canteen as an alternative venue for Parish Councillor Surgeries, which may be more accessible for some, or give the option to hold the surgeries on different days.

The canteen and toilet are available to hire for £10 per hour (minimum 3 hours). Please contact the Parish Office to find out more or to make a booking.

Beacon Hall Storage gets a Makeover

During the summer break we like to concentrate on maintenance at Beacon Hall, whilst there are fewer classes taking place. As well as getting all the chairs professionally cleaned, this summer's project has been to give the crockery and cutlery cupboard a makeover.

The very tired and dated kitchen units have been removed and replaced with smart new shelving. We hope that this will make life easier for our hirers who will be able to see the full range of equipment available at a glance, when catering for an event at the hall.

We have a great range of equipment including tables and banqueting chairs, bluetooth sound system, a fully-equipped catering kitchen with commercial fridge and dishwasher and crockery/cutlery for 100 guests. All for £15 per hour!

To hire the hall for your event or party please contact the Parish Office.



Thoughts from the Chair



As the weather turns cooler we face what is likely to be a difficult winter, with rising inflation and unprecedented fuel prices. It is a good time to thank our many voluntary organisations who work so hard for local residents, and our Parish Council volunteers - not least the councillors themselves - who help to make our village a pleasant place to live and work.

As a Parish Council we will be looking at general repairs and replacements that will need to be funded in next year's budget, as well as any projects of benefit to our residents. We would welcome your ideas – please send us an email or come along to our next councillor surgery to let us know what you think. The dates for these are advertised in advance on our Facebook page, noticeboards and on banners.

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Her Majesty The Queen on 8th September. She has served our country with honesty, integrity, dignity, love and compassion and has inspired generations in our Country, the Commonwealth and across the World. Her entire life was devoted to public service, and the list of world events she has lived through and her devotion to her country has been truly amazing.

We have some dates for your diary in the next couple of months: a Remembrance Day event at Beacon Hall on 13th November; and we hope to hold the Christmas Tea for Senior Residents at Beacon Hall on Sunday 4th December (to be determined at Full Council on 27th September). This will be the first Christmas Tea for two years and it will be great to welcome you all again. With best wishes, Jonathan.



Parish Councillors and residents gathered on Sunday 11th September for the reading of the Proclamation following the death of Her Majesty the Queen

Community Grants

This summer, Peasedown St John Parish Council has given away a total of £2,100 to organisations in the village. Here are some of the local groups who have benefitted this year:

Peasedown St John Cricket Club received a grant towards their Annual Firework Display on 4th November, to provide free tickets for pupils at Peasedown St John Primary School.

Peasedown Social and Wellbeing Group received money for materials to make blankets and scarves for the homeless in the Bath area. This group meet every Tuesday at The Hive in Peasedown St John. With a focus on tackling isolation in the community, the group often do craft activities, and have previously donated knitted items to the homeless and Salvation Army.

Bath Area Play Project received money for a Play Day on Beacon Field (pictured right). Bath Area Play Project are a small voluntary organisation established in 1979 to support the child's right to play and facilitate a range of play opportunities for children of all ages and abilities. Their Playdays are always very popular and well-attended.

1st Peasedown St John Scout Group received a



grant towards the cost of camping, together with flag carrying equipment, some of which they will use when they attend civic events such as Remembrance Day services.

Peasedown Residents' Association received some equipment and games for summer activities during the school holidays.

Braysdown Allotments Committee received money towards the cost of the Allotment Holders' Barbecue (pictured left). This popular event is held each year in July. Braysdown Allotments have been very popular during recent years, but the waiting list is now becoming more manageable. Please contact us if you are interested in a plot.



Could you become a Parish Councillor?



Peasedown St John Parish Council is the official public body responsible for the day-to-day running of the village. It consists of 17 Councillors who are elected for a period of four years. With an election approaching in May 2023, now is a good time for local residents to consider whether they would like to put themselves forward.

Parish Councils are the part of local government closest to the people. They serve the smallest area and are responsible for very local issues such as parks and open spaces, street lighting, allotments, floral displays, festive lights and litter bins. They can also use part of the money that is collected with the council tax each year to improve the facilities for local people, by focussing on projects such as installing new footpaths or play equipment, for example.

Parish Councils are not political bodies and although individual councillors may

have political affiliations, voting should be solely on what best benefits the local community and never from a party political standpoint.

There is a Full Council meeting approximately every 6 weeks, which all councillors are summoned to attend. In addition to this, Councillors get involved in other committees (such as Planning, Personnel, Finance & Amenities or Cemetery) according to their individual interests. Most meetings are held in Beacon Hall, but some non-summonsed smaller meetings take place online, and councillors can be supplied with a computer if required. Full Council and committee meetings are usually held on a Tuesday evening, but smaller advisory panel meetings can be held at different times.

As well as making decisions about where money should be spent and what policies should be implemented, councillors keep an eye on how things are going to make sure that the Parish Council is providing an effective service. As the representatives of their constituents and local organisations, they have a great opportunity to get involved locally.

In Peasedown St John, a Parish Councillor can contribute as many or as little hours as they wish, depending on how much they want to be involved. There are a whole range of activities to get involved with, not just meetings. The majority find that being a parish councillor is an enjoyable way to contribute to their community by helping to make it a better place to live and work. Cllr Conor Ogilvie-Davidson who has been a Parish Councillor for the last 4 years, said: "I really enjoy being able to play a part in making positive changes and improvements to our village. I wouldn't say it was challenging, but it can take a lot of time to be an effective councillor, you really have to buy-in to playing your part, taking criticism and having patience!"

Local residents are welcome to attend one of our meetings to get a flavour of what we do. The agenda for each meeting is published on our website and on the noticeboards around the parish. Why not come along? Parish council meetings are open to the public with a very few exceptions, e.g. when the business being discussed is confidential. If you have any specific questions about the role of councillor, please email the Clerk, or call us on 01761 433686.





Peasedown St John Parish Council
are planning to host their

Christmas Tea Party

for older residents
of Peasedown St John
on

Sunday 4th December 2022

Please **SAVE THE DATE**
and if you would like to
register an interest,
telephone us on:
(01761) 433686

www.peasedownstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk

Remembrance Event

We will be holding a Remembrance Day Event similar to that held in 2021, at Beacon Hall on Sunday 13th November 2022, at 3pm (details below). The event will include poems, readings, sharing of stories and some songs.

If you have any wartime-related stories or memorabilia, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with the Parish Office using the phone or e-mail overleaf.



Photo shows some of the WW2 memorabilia displayed at an earlier event



Remembrance Event

Sunday 13th November 2022

3.00pm

Beacon Hall

ALL WELCOME

**Event to include poems,
readings and short films**

Refreshments will be served



www.peasedownstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk

New Cycle Racks

We are pleased to report that we have recently installed some new cycle racks at the Recreation Ground and will be installing more at Beacon Hall. It is hoped that this will make life easier for existing cyclists and encourage more of our residents to cycle, rather than drive around the village. We would like to thank the organisation "Life Cycle UK" who provided us with cycle parking free of charge thanks to funding from B&NES Council. Life Cycle provide free, secure cycle stands to businesses and community organisations - for further information see:

<https://www.lifecycleuk.org.uk/free-cycle-parking#BathNES>

