



Your Newsletter

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

Published by Peasedown St John Parish Council

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Good News for Diabetics



Photos attached shows (L to R): Sharon Clark (Hillcrest Surgery Nurse Practitioner/Manager); Cllr Ray Love (Peasedown St John Parish Council); Claire Wells (Hillcrest Surgery Practice Manager)

The Parish Council is delighted, that following their recent letter to NHS England, Diabetic Eye Screening services will be resumed at Hillcrest Surgery in Peasedown St John.

Councillor Ray Love raised the issue at a Parish Council meeting after discovering that the treatment required by diabetics to check for any deterioration in their eyesight would no longer be available at Hillcrest Surgery. Residents of the village who would previously have been able to walk to the Surgery were going to have to travel by bus, taxi, Dial-a-Ride or a lift from a friend because the treatment they are given includes drops in their eyes which would prevent them from driving immediately afterwards due to their vision being impaired.

A letter was sent on behalf of the Parish Council to the Patient Liaison Services Complaints Manager, condemning the decision to relocate the service.

The point was made that this issue affects many

residents of Peasedown St John, most of them elderly, and some of whom may not be able to attend because of other infirmities. The eye tests are important to monitor any deterioration in vision, which might otherwise worsen without their knowledge.

A response has now been received from the Quality Improvement Project Manager at NHS Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group, saying that the service will be resumed. Cllr Ray Love said: "I'm delighted that the provider has reflected on their decision and decided to continue the Diabetic Eye Screening service at Hillcrest Surgery for the time being. This will make a huge difference to local residents suffering from diabetes."

Trip to the Seaside for Community Group

Southside Family Project's Peasedown Community Hub Group is an after-school group for children and their parents supported by members of Southside & Bath Area Play Project staff. Weekly sessions are held at Peasedown Youth Hub which provide children with space to play and helps adults to develop the skills and confidence they need to become positive role models.

Thanks to a grant from the Parish Council, which helped to pay for a coach, the group had a summer trip to the seaside in Dorset. Cllr Amanda Clarke said: "The trip was an excellent opportunity to escape everyday life and build bonds within families and with other families in the group. All concerned had a really great day out."

If you have a community group that might benefit from a Parish Council grant, the next opportunity to apply will be March 2020. Photo shows Councillors Mandy and Richard Clarke presenting the grant cheque to the group.



Thoughts from the Chair



Summer is well and truly over and very soon we will be turning our clocks back. The Parish Council staff still have grass to mow, hedges to trim and the autumn planting of the beds and planters. It is with the planting that we are so grateful for the help of volunteers. It is a good time to mention the Snow Wardens who are prepared to go out in the snow and ice to help keep our key walking routes open. Calvin Bird coordinates this Parish Council service and I know that he is very keen to recruit more helpers. For details please contact the Parish Office.

With all this talk of the gloom of winter there are many events to look forward to. The Parish Christmas tea for senior residents is on Sunday 8th December. Not sure if you qualify as a senior resident? - in this age of anti-discrimination you can decide for yourself. We are busy collating photographs for our Parish Calendar and if you have a scenic photo (within Peasedown St John) that you would like considered, please e-mail a high-quality image to the office.

The parish councillors representing you are looking at new projects, general repairs and replacements that will need to be funded in next year's budget - yes, we do start planning this far in advance! Parish Councillors are your elected representatives. It is an unpaid role and there are 17 of us working to make the village a pleasant place to live, work and play.

With best wishes, Kathy.

Green Peasedown

One of the biggest challenges today is the problem of caring for the planet as we face major climate change and the loss of many species of animals, plants and insects. B&NES Council recently declared a climate emergency with an aim of reducing our greenhouse gas emissions (aiming to become carbon neutral by 2030) and caring for the natural world. What can we do in Peasedown? The Parish Council has made a start with the LED streetlights but there are all sorts of ideas that have been suggested to the parish council as possibilities:

- Planting trees to absorb Carbon Dioxide
- Working towards Plastic-free Peasedown to reduce single-use plastic in the villages.
- Encouraging people to get on their bikes.
- Sourcing all energy in public buildings from renewable sources.
- Encouraging people to reduce short car journeys in the village.
- Getting electric car-charging points in the area.

These were just a few ideas for action, some may be great; others won't get off the ground. There are other ideas emerging. For instance, it has been suggested that we look at the management of the road verges to encourage wildlife. Also, the village has recently started the Repair Cafe that prevents broken items from simply going to landfill and this may well lead on to a Library of Things.

(Next dates for Repair Cafe: 26 October and 23 November – 10.00am – 1pm at the Methodist church.)

All these ideas are brilliant but we need people to plan and develop them so that Peasedown and Carlingcott become leaders in responding to the environmental problems around us. Some of this work might involve organising events like a Peasedown bike day; others will be about encouraging others to deliver improvements to the environment in the parish council area. Already a small group is beginning to work on trying to gain Plastic-free status for the village but we need people to get involved.

SO... are you interested in joining a group to develop ideas for a Greener Village? If so, could you contact Ian Souter on souterfam@aol.com and we will meet together and see what we can do to make a difference to the villages and maybe the planet as well. But nothing will change if we don't get on and do it.

If you belong to a group that is doing something for the environment let me know so that we can promote it and get more support. If you have some good ideas, I'd be really pleased to hear them. *Ian Souter* - souterfam@aol.com



Ashgrove Cemetery and Memorial Garden



Ashgrove Cemetery has been transformed in recent years and is now a memorial garden as well as a cemetery. It is a beautiful and peaceful place to remember a loved one or just for a quiet stroll.

The Parish Council now offer a wider range of interment options including smaller plots for cremated remains and a scattering meadow. We are also able to accommodate a variety of different faiths. We have a new range of memorial options available, such as roses and bench plaques starting at £50.

The Parish Council is considering an area for small “Spirit Houses” (see picture below right), an idea developed in Canada for those who have lost a child through miscarriage. We would be grateful for feedback on whether this is an option that local residents would appreciate.

We are also working towards making our burial records publicly available, and will be adding this information to our website in due course.

If you would like any further information on any of these options, please contact the Parish Office using the contact details on the front of this newsletter.



Councillor Surgeries

Regular Councillor surgeries are being held in Beacon Hall. These are open to any resident who wishes to come along with a query, to report a problem in the village or to suggest ideas they would like the Parish Council to consider for the future. The picture right shows Councillors Ray Love and Conor Ogilvie-Davidson at the September Councillor Surgery.

Two more Autumn surgeries are planned:

Friday 18th October 2019, 3-7pm

Friday 15th November 2019, 3-7pm.



New Goal Posts for the Recreation Ground

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that the new goal posts have now been installed and are in use at the Miners' Welfare Recreation Ground, thanks to investment from the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund.

The grant will ensure that the following five football teams using the Recreation Ground as their home now have British Standards Institution compliant goals and nets for all their matches:

Saturday Teams

Peasedown Miners Welfare Football Club
Peasedown Albion Men's A-Team Football Club

Sunday Teams

Peasedown Albion U15s Football Club
Bath United Football Club
Radstock Albion Claret Football Club

The Parish Council worked in partnership with Somerset Football Association to secure the grant of approximately £600 from the Football Foundation, with money provided by the Premier League, The FA and the Government (via Sport England).

Cllr Jo Davis, Chair of the Football Club Liaison Advisory Panel at the Parish Council, said: "The Parish Council heavily subsidises football facilities at the Recreation Ground. The old goal posts were starting to rust badly, so this grant will be a great additional help in providing safe and improved facilities at the Rec."

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: "The Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund is dedicated to improving grassroots sport across the country, and I am pleased to hear that their investment is going to support Peasedown St John Parish Council in providing improved football facilities at the Recreation Ground."

"This will be of real benefit to its players in developing their game. Through the investment of the Premier League, The FA and the Government, via Sport England, the Football Foundation is working hard to support improvement at all levels of the game, and this is a great example of its work taking place across grassroots football."

"Since 2000, the Football Foundation has delivered projects totalling £1.4bn in grassroots sport investment, and it's great to hear that Peasedown St John is benefiting from this."

Photo shows Cllrs Conor Ogilvie-Davidson and Jo Davis (left), members of Radstock Albion Claret Football Team and Cllrs Andy Larcombe and Kathy Thomas (right).



Dates for your Diary

Forthcoming events that may be of interest to village residents:

Wednesday 23rd October 2019, 10:00-10:30am: Police Beat Surgery, Circle Hospital Cafe.

Friday 8th November 2019, 7:15pm (gates open at 6pm): Annual Firework Display, Peasedown Cricket Club.

Remembrance Day, Sunday 10th November:

Remembrance Day Service, St John's Church, 10.45am

Remembrance Day Event: Peasedown St John Parish Council, Beacon Hall, 6.00pm.

Senior Residents' Christmas Party: Sunday 8th December, 2019
- please contact us if you would like to attend.

