

SUMMER 2018

# Your Newsletter

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

Published by Peasedown St John Parish Council

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## Parish Council Community Grants 2018

A grant from the Parish Council helped towards the cost of the Summer Barbecue at Braysdown Allotments (see picture below), which was enjoyed by all. It was an opportunity for parish councillors to meet the allotment holders and see all the fabulous vegetables, fruit and flowers that their hard work has produced. Following a successful event last year, Councillors decided to award a further grant this year, for what it is hoped will be an annual event. Thanks also to Tesco for supplying the bread rolls and sauces for the event, and to the allotment holders who brought food to share, and did the barbecuing! More photos can be found on our Facebook page. If you would like further information about renting an allotment, please contact the Parish Office.

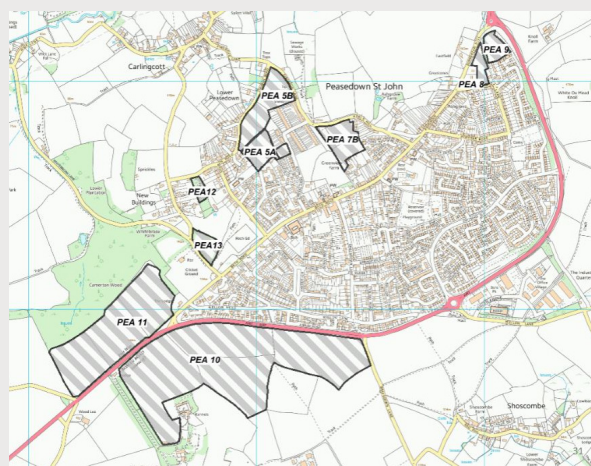


Grants were also awarded to Bath Area Play Project, Midsomer Norton & Radstock Dial-a-Ride, Golden Years Holiday at Home, Somer Valley Walking Festival, Peasedown Social & Wellbeing Group, Wansdyke Play Association, PSJ Scout Group, 2nd PSJ Brownies and 1st PSJ Guides, PSJ Residents' Association and Shoscombe After School Allotment Club. Event grants were awarded to Peasedown St John Cricket Club for their Annual Firework Display and to Party in the Park through their "Gold" Sponsorship Scheme.

## Help Shape the Future of Peasedown St John

The Parish Council has been asked to take part in the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) site reviews, taking place as part of the preparation for B&NES Council Local Plan. This will involve a desktop survey of any sites that have been put forward as potential areas for future development. It is an opportunity for those with knowledge of the local area to give a view on which sites might be suitable and which would not.

An initial meeting is being held on Tuesday 21st August 2018 at 7pm at Beacon Hall and all those who are interested in the HELAA may attend. At this meeting it is hoped to discuss an overview of the process with a view to commencing the desktop survey of the sites. **Members of the public with an interest in planning - this is your opportunity to be involved - you have the right to attend and would be most welcome.**





## Thoughts from the Chair



For those of you on holiday who have enjoyed the heat it has been a lovely spell of weather, for those working in the intense heat - not so good. The Parish Council's Caretaker and staff have worked hard watering the plants, and the majority of the floral displays are looking good. The beds on the roundabout at the Dunkerton end of the village have been subject to repeated vandalism and as a result these plants have not fared well. However, let us celebrate the many positive things that happen in our village. Plans are proceeding to save the Youth Hub and, whilst we were sorry to see Mandy's Discount Store close after a decade or so, on a brighter note there are plans to use the building for a café.

The Parish Council has many functions in the village, one being that we are a Statutory Consultee on all planning applications. We don't make decisions on planning applications, but our comments and objections do carry weight. If you have a planning application that is being considered, it is worth coming along to a Parish Council meeting and, in the public session, explaining to the councillors what you are hoping to do. As many of you have expressed concern over the years about parking, when reviewing plans the councillors are interested to see how a development will impinge on the neighbours and access for Emergency Services in the local area. Parish Councillors are elected to represent all sections of the community.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer! Best wishes, Kathy.

## Parish Council Vacancies

**YOUR  
PARISH COUNCIL  
NEEDS...**



**YOU!**

Why not join the Parish Council and have a say in what goes on in your village? There are currently four vacancies on the Parish Council that can be filled by co-option. This would be the ideal opportunity for anyone who wishes to try being a Parish Councillor without a long-term commitment, because all of the current councillors come up for re-election in May 2019. Being a Parish Councillor is a voluntary role and you would normally be expected to attend a monthly evening meeting (7pm to 9.30pm) as a minimum.

If you would like to know more, please contact the Parish Office for further details and an application pack. Completed applications will need to be returned by the end of August 2018.

***We would like to take the opportunity, on behalf of the community, to thank Rod Bridges, Nathan Hartley, David Walker and Karen Walker for their contribution as Parish Councillors, and to wish them well for the future.***

## Road Safety - A367 Junction

Concerns were raised with Kelvin Packer, B&NES Council Group Manager for Highways and Traffic, regarding the junction with the A367 at the Southern end of Peasedown St John, when he attended a meeting of the Parish Council two years ago. Following a number of accidents earlier this year, he has recently provided the following up-date: "As previously indicated to the Parish, the location has been subject to ongoing monitoring and is included in the route review programme. The feasibility report is being updated by council officers in view of the most recent series of incidents. Although both roundabouts and signal controlled junctions have potential road safety issues associated with them, I am now updating the recommendation to indicate that a roundabout is the most desirable junction at this location.

This is a potentially costly scheme and cannot be delivered in the 2018/19 Financial Year, as the current year's programme has already been agreed. However, whilst recognising that there is considerable demand for traffic schemes, I will be liaising with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport on the potential for this to be included in a future capital programme. Ultimately, whether the scheme goes ahead will be decided by the Members when they set the Council's budget. In the meantime I have asked my team whether it would be possible to lower the speed limit as an interim measure."

We are hoping that Kelvin Packer will attend the Full Council meeting at **7pm on 11th September 2018**. All residents with an interest in this issue are welcome to attend.



## Further Improvements to Beacon Hall



We have continued to make improvements to our fantastic community hall which is now an even better place for a party, with a sound system featuring new wall-mounted speakers and a Bluetooth amplifier. This makes it really easy to connect a phone or tablet to play your own music.

Plans for the near future include upgrading our internal and external lighting as well as possibly adding mood lighting for parties.

We have attached the list of regular activities to this newsletter. We have one or two spaces remaining for regular hirers if you are interested in running a class or group.

## New Multi-use Games Area for Beacon Field

Our multi-use games area on Beacon Field is reaching the end of its useful life and Councillors are looking at options to replace it. Young people using the area have requested a second goal-end and this is something we are considering.

We are also looking at up-grading the toddler play area on the Recreation Ground, and over £40,000 has been allocated to these two projects.

If you have any comments or suggestions on either of these projects, please get in touch.



## Fly-tipping in Litter Bins



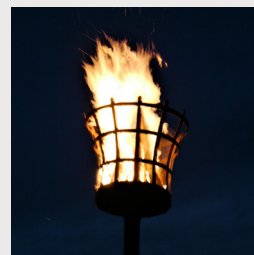
Recently, we have had issues with residents filling litter bins around the village with their domestic waste, which generates additional cost by way of labour, bin bags and disposal charges and is illegal. Items such as an old microwave have been dumped in the waste bin next to Beacon Hall, which results in the Parish Council having to pay to dispose of an item which local residents could have disposed of free of charge!

All of the waste the Parish Council has to send to landfill attracts a tax of almost £89 per tonne. These additional costs will affect ALL local residents who will have to pay higher council tax to cover the Parish Council's costs, for waste services that they are **already paying for** through their Council Tax.

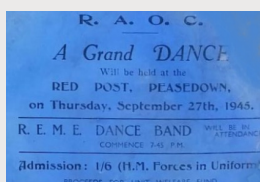
## Celebrating the End of Two World Wars



The Parish Council will be taking part in the "WWI Beacons of Light" event to mark 100 years from the end of the 1st World War. We hope you will join us on the evening of **11th November 2018** outside Beacon Hall, when we will be lighting the Beacon as part of a special event to mark this historic date. We hope to put together a display of WW1 photographs and memorabilia - if you have any that we could borrow, please get in touch. This could include any stories that you know of relating to former Service personnel from the village.



We have also been given some historic tickets dating from 1945 for a dance at the Red Post Inn to celebrate the end of WW2. We plan to display them in Beacon Hall and would love a photo or two to go with them. If you have any photos of the Red Post from that era or, better still, of someone who went along to the dance, we would love to hear from you!







# Beacon Hall

**Peasedown St. John Parish Council**

Beacon Hall, French Close, Peasedown St John, Bath BA2 8SN

**Tel:** 01761-434983 (with answer service)



**e-mail:** beaconhall2@btconnect.com

**website:** [www.beaconhall.org.uk](http://www.beaconhall.org.uk)

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

If you are interested in joining any of the regular activities listed below please contact the club organisers or ask our bookings secretary on the above details.

Monday		
Zumba Gold	09:30 – 10:30	Gabrielle – 07980 858176
Pilates (beginners/improvers)	10:40 – 11:40	Gabrielle – 07980 858176
Lunch Club (AGE UK) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month	09:30 – 14:30	Tina – 01225 466135
Bath All Starz Cheerleading	16:30 – 19:30	Ashia – 01761 436871
Tuesday		
Pilates Plus (seated & standing only)	09:15 – 10:15	Gabrielle – 07980 858176
Pilates (beginners/improvers)	10:15 – 11:15	Gabrielle – 07980 858176
Social Wellbeing group	11:00 – 13:00	Dianne – 01761 431706
Virgin Care – Baby & Toddler Hub 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month	13:30 – 15:30	01225 395371
Parish Council Meeting (check website for details)	19:00 onwards	Parish Office – 01761 433686
Wednesday		
Art & Craft Group	14:00 – 16:00	Kathy – 07918 713240
Bath All Starz Cheerleading	16:30 – 18:30	Ashia – 01761 436871
Line Dancing	19:15 – 20:45	Mandy – 07890 590552
Thursday		
Virgin Care – Humbug Theatre Group	09:00 – 16:00	Private Booking
Bath All Starz Cheerleading	16:20 – 18:00	Ashia – 01761 436871
Pilates (beginners)	18:20 – 19:20	Gabrielle – 07980 858176
Pilates (general level)	19:30 – 20:30	Gabrielle – 07980 858176
Friday		
Saturday		
Children's Dance Classes Dance Arts Academy	08:50 – 11:20	Catherine – 07985 535357
All Other Times...		
Are available for regular or occasional bookings – please contact us (details at the top of the page)		

Please note - on a monthly basis there are often changes as sessions may be cancelled and some are only held during term time.



[www.facebook.com/BeaconHallPeasedownStJohn](http://www.facebook.com/BeaconHallPeasedownStJohn)

# Local Business Saves 175 Bus for the Community

It was with some dismay that the residents of Peasedown St John heard that the First Bus were withdrawing the 175 Bus Service that many residents, and indeed visitors to the Circle Hospital, relied upon.

Into the breach stepped Alan Spiller of Arleen Coaches who, after some negotiations, was able to take on the running of the 175 Service. However, like all businessmen, he and his company cannot run a service at a loss. Unfortunately, B&NES Council does not subsidise these essential services because, as budgets are cut, bus service subsidies appear to be a thing of the past.

We are grateful to Arleen's for taking on this service. Please remember it relies on your custom to keep going. The timetable is printed below:

## Mondays to Fridays (not Public Holidays)

<b>PEASEDOWN ST JOHN, Circle Bath Hospital</b>	....	....	1005	1245	1345	1700
Peasedown St John, Orchard Way	0710	0900	1007	1247	1347	1648B
Peasedown St John, Red Post	0715	0904	1011	1251	1351	V
Odd Down, Red Lion	0725	0918	1022	1302	1402	1706
<b>BATH, Dorchester Street, stop Bk</b>	0735	0932	1032C	1312	1412	1716
<b>UNIVERSITY OF BATH</b>	....	....	1052	....	....	....
<b>BATH, Dorchester Street, stop Bk</b>	0745	0940	1320	1420	1625	1725
Odd Down, Red Lion	0752	0947	1327	1427	1632	1732
Peasedown St John, Red Post	0801	0957	1337	1437	1644	1744
Peasedown St John, Willow Mead	0802	0958	1338	1438	1645	1745
Peasedown St John, Circle Bath Hospital	0805	1005A	1345A	1447	1652	....
<b>PEASEDOWN ST JOHN, Orchard Way</b>	....	1007	1347	1443R	1648B	1749

**NO SERVICE ON SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS OR PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

## A bit of history...

Arleen Coaches was founded by Arthur (better known locally as Flan) and Mary Spiller in 1965. They started out with one vehicle and a contract for a school run and another which transported the miners to and from work. Sadly, Arthur Spiller passed away in 2007, but Mary still likes to stay involved with the family business which is now run by her grandsons Justin and Kristian, together with their father Alan.

How things have changed! Today, most families living in Peasedown St John have at least one vehicle, and many residents bemoan the fact that parking is difficult. It was very different in the 1920s when Alan Spiller's great great grandfather George Alford operated "charabancs" as they were called.

It was a great treat in those days to travel to Weston Super Mare and other faraway places in an open-topped vehicle, the ladies holding onto their hats, and passengers enduring a bumpy ride without the suspension that we enjoy these days! Many of those early vehicles did not even have pneumatic tyres.

Travel from Peasedown St John to nearby villages and Bath was more often than not by bicycle. One elderly resident told how she worked in Radstock Co-op and cycled home for lunch every day, with no fancy gearing system on her bicycle. No wonder she found it hard to understand why people would cycle for the fun of it!



Another tale, told by a fellow Parish Councillor, was of her grandmother who could not reach the pedals on her bicycle, because of her short legs. Her father solved the problem by fitting wooden blocks to the pedals, so that she could pedal to Bath each day for work.

That was life in the "Good Old Days"! Now, we all expect to be transported for pleasure, shopping, work, or for hospital visits - no NHS when George Alford started his business.

*Kathy - with thanks to Colin Inman, Operations Manager, Arleen Coaches.*



# Garden of Remembrance Update

We are very grateful to a local resident who has offered a further donation for the Garden of Remembrance, which may be used to plant additional shrubs and to extend the pergola at Ashgrove Cemetery.

The picture below shows the Garden of Remembrance looking beautiful in early summer. Some areas of planting have suffered recently, due to the exceptionally long spell of hot, dry weather. However, we are looking at improving our irrigation systems to make watering easier in future, and at possible changes to include more hardy plants.



## Stamp Around in Peasedown St John!

Peasedown St John is joining in with a new initiative from the Parks and Active Lifestyles Team at Bath & North East Somerset Council called 'Stamp Around'. It's completely free and involves families getting outdoors and active in their local parks and green spaces to hunt for orange stampers which they squeeze onto a stamp card to collect all the different patterns in their local area.

There are three stampers to find in Peasedown St John – one on Beacon Field, one on the Recreation Ground and one on Ecewiche Green.

Cllr Claire Parfitt said "I think this is a great idea to get kids outdoors and exploring their local parks. Why not give it a go during the Summer holidays?"

If you would like to join in, you can pick up a stamp card from the Parish Office in Beacon Hall.



### FRIDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

**Talk on The Romans in the Somer Valley**  
Radstock Museum

### SATURDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

**Free short walks around Paulton, Timsbury & Westfield and from Radstock Museum.**

**Free walk from Peasedown St John to Pilton Festival**

### SUNDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

**Four free longer walks in the Somer Valley.**

**Free nature walk from Shoscombe.**

Booking is advisable for all events. For more information please visit [www.bathscapewalkingfestival.co.uk](http://www.bathscapewalkingfestival.co.uk)

