



Ducktown Echo



Spring 2020

The Aylburton Community Newsletter

Issue 39

Aylburton Parish Council

Chair: Cllr Stephanie Lord

Parish Clerk: Meg Humphries 07850 476235 aylburtonclerk@outlook.com www.aylburton.net



aylburtonpc

Coronavirus

A note from the Chair of the Council



Dear Parishioners

In these unforeseen and uncertain times may I take a moment to ask everyone to be a little more neighbour-ly and (safely) check on any of our fellow parishioners who may be elderly and/or more vulnerable at this time. A phone call could make all the difference to someone who is feeling anxious at this time.

The NHS and Public Health England websites (see below) are the best place to find all the information you need on how to protect yourself and others. If you are, or know of anyone who is, without access to the internet then please don't hesitate to call any one of the parish councillors and we will do our best to help give you the information you need.

We will be compiling a list of willing volunteers who may be able to help with prescription collection, shopping etc. for those who have to self-isolate and whose neighbours or family cannot help them out.

If you are willing to be added to this list please contact the following:

Mark Topping
mark.topping@fdean.gov.uk 01594 840086

Stephanie Lord
steph@molyneuxassociates.com 01594 845561

Once compiled, we will circulate the list of volunteers to all the councillors who will be able to coordinate any help that is needed when it's asked for.

Take care
Stephanie Lord
Parish Chair

The Council met on Tuesday 10th March and the main points of discussion were:

Planning

Kate Baugh of Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) attended the full council meeting on 11th February and gave a comprehensive presentation regarding the process involved in formulating a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). As an alternative to a fully-fledged NDP she also outlined a less formal community consultation exercise that might be more appropriately tailored to the specific interests of Aylburton. The Parish Council agreed to consider this further.

The 2009 Community Plan would be consulted and the PC would assess whether the objectives that were enshrined within it are still relevant today.

Flooding and salt grit provision

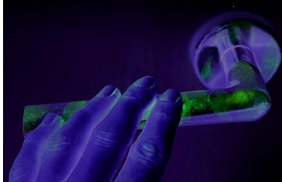
The FODDC has a database of properties that flood and will be sending out letters to those households explaining how to claim relief. If your property flooded recently and you don't think FODDC is aware of this, please contact them as soon as possible on 01594 810000 and ask to speak to someone about flooding.

There was considerable discussion on this item and it was decided to:

- Identify how many sandbags are needed by those with homes at risk of flooding, and for the Council to purchase and supply these directly for storage in each case.
- To make arrangements for a meeting with Lydney Park Estate and FODDC Flood Risk Division to discuss flooding at Milling Brook area and identify what remedial measures might be practical and feasible.
- Various gullies and ditches have been identified for improvement and reported to Highways for action.
- The PC will identify the condition and location of the existing salt reservoirs and replenish or relocate as necessary. A new grit bin has been requested for lower Chapel Hill.

Plant Tubs

The flower tubs are looking stunning at the moment as the daffodils bloom. They will be planted up with



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summer bedding later this year. Volunteers are desperately needed to water the tubs throughout the summer. Anyone interested in helping with this, please contact the PC Clerk. We are aware that a couple of the tubs need replacing and will be carrying this out shortly.

The Cross Monument

An application for funding has been made to the Summerfield Trust to augment the £1,000 already received from TESCO for an interpretive historical plaque.

The Climate Emergency ‘Lydney and Aylburton Solar Streets Scheme’

This was presented by Councillor Mark Topping. In response to the FODDC’s declaration of a climate emergency and in partnership with a solar PV installer homeowners in both Lydney and Aylburton could be eligible for a discount for the installation of PV panels. An example of a 14 panel 4kW system has been given by the company at a cost of £3,750. Look out for more information later in the year.

In the light of FODDC advice the Council will consider what additional action can be taken on the broad issue of climate change.

Wildflower Verge

A verge in the village is to become a trial wildflower area. Over the next two years, the verge from the start of the new cycle/footpath up to the entrance at Park Farm will get its first cut at the end of July, giving wildflowers a chance to grow, flower and seed.

It’s part of a wildflower biodiversity project run by Aylburton Parish Council following the sharp decline in flying insects, including pollinators, in recent decades. Since 1930 the UK has lost more than 90% of its wildflower meadows; between 1990 and 2017 there was a 76% loss in the number of flying insects nationwide. The Forest of Dean District Council recently declared a Biodiversity Emergency.

Regular mowing all around the edge of the trial wildflower verge will continue from April to October, including the narrow strip which runs alongside the road. The rest of the verge will be allowed to grow until July when it will get its first cut. It is hoped the number and variety of wildflowers on this verge will increase over time.



Dean Meadows Group

Aylburton Methodist Church

Minister: Rev Michelle Ireland 01594 833247 www.aylburtonmethodistchurch.co.uk
 Church Treasurer: Elizabeth Day 01594 840123
 Community Room booking: Amy Reece 01594 369383 thecommunityroom-amc@outlook.com



Julia Newcombe

Annual Women’s Fellowship Rally



Julia Newcombe

Our Christmas services and events were well attended and we shared the opportunity to gather in the celebrations of our Lord’s birth – all who came were truly reminded of the real meaning of Christmas. The Action for Children collection boxes, organised by Bob and Gail Braithwaite, raised £487.76. The small gold bags hung on the Christmas tree raised £145 for the James Hopkins Trust and with an additional £170 donated at our Annual

Women’s Fellowship Rally in March meant that Marlene and Brian Morse were able to send £315 to the Trust.

Renovation work on the tower has come upon a few problems but we are hoping that the repairs will be completed soon. Although fund raising events have ceased for the moment further donations for the repairs are still needed. We are grateful to those to those who have already contributed.

Rev. Michelle Ireland has sent a letter to all our members, in which she says “It is with huge sadness that I write to you regarding the closure until 14th June of Aylburton Methodist Church for worship and all other activities during this extremely challenging time”.

We will be in regular contact through email, phone or letter. We would be happy to help anyone in the community who has a need that we can meet e.g. errands being run or shopping done. It’s at times like these that we must all pull together.

Michelle will be helping us spiritually by sending an email or letter with words of encouragement and bible

quotations. Should any of you from the village wish to receive any of this literature please contact Michelle, Liz or Jane. We will be pleased to share this with you.

Although we will not be meeting at Chapel for the next few months, there are some special times we can still keep in mind - among them are Holy Week and the glory of Easter Day. Do remember to rejoice with us all as we say on Easter Sunday ‘*Alleluia, Christ is risen!*’ and our response “*He is risen indeed, Alleluia!*”

May God bless us all in these difficult times and bring us ‘closer’ to our neighbours and friends and most of all Our Lord, on whom we do depend.

Aylburton WI

Secretary: Sandra Rickards 01594 841041

1919 — 100 Years — 2019



Members at Lydney Park



Members enjoy tea in the Dining Room at Lydney Park



Tranquillo Duo – Hannah Mitchell and Sarah Waycott

In December our members celebrated the Aylburton WI centenary with an afternoon tea at Lydney Park. The ladies enjoyed a social, relaxed tea, with music supplied by the flute and piano duo ‘Tranquillo’.

This year Jane Tovey will be our President and Jeannie Williams will take on the role of Treasurer. Sandra Rickards will continue as Secretary. Several committee members have stepped down after long and valuable service. The new committee will still need their support and knowledge through the coming year.

The Soup and Pudding lunch in February was well

supported and thanks once again to everyone for their help to make it another success. We will be donating £200 to the Great Oaks Hospice. Over Christmas members raised £80 for SARA whose work was appreciated during the recent floods.

Denise Voyce, one of our very creative members, spent many hours compiling a collage for the Tim Poole Cup competition, which is open to all in the Gloucester Federation. The subject was ‘A year in the life of your WI’. This gave us a huge opportunity to showcase our Centenary year celebrations. We were rewarded with the first prize.

Our events planned for 2020 have unfortunately been postponed due to the recent Corona virus outbreak. Many of the members will be self-isolating but we will be keeping in touch through our monthly newsletter and occasional phone calls. The members have been asked to contribute short stories, recipes, photos and other interesting ideas.

Aylburton WI wishes everyone a Happy Easter.

UPDATE

Parish Council

Full council meetings are normally held in the Methodist Community Room at 7pm on the second Tuesday of each month except in January and August. The Parish Full Council meeting planned for April will be taking place remotely with as much information as possible available online.

The best way to stay updated day-to-day on council news is to follow www.facebook.com/aylburtonpc for the latest news on the council and parish-level activity during the pandemic. The Annual Parish Assembly will either be postponed or carried out remotely with an online update.

Our current community helpers for the challenges presented by the COVID-19 outbreak are:

Mark Topping: mark.topping@fdean.gov.uk 01594 840086

Stephanie Lord: steph@molyneuxassociates.com 01594 845561.

And parishioners can also get support from Mary Court on 01594 843651

Parishioners can get in touch with us at any time via email or phone to raise any concerns, questions or comments.

St. Mary's Church

Parish Priest:

Rev David Gardiner 01594 730484 admin@lydneyparish.org.uk

Churchwarden: Aylburton – Mary Court 01594 843651

Aylburton Common Mission Church – Jane Hale 01594 843917

Please contact any of the above named if you need help or support during the coming months.

Weddings and funerals can be arranged with David.

As with all other religions, church services are changing their format during the Coronavirus epidemic.

Rev David is streaming services on weekdays, except Fridays, at 9 am, 5:30 pm and 9 pm

www.facebook.com/parishoflydney Details of the daily services are on the Church of England web pages.

Methodist Church

The church is now closed for worship and all other activities during this extremely challenging time.

Rev Michelle will be producing some thoughts for each Sunday and for the days of Holy Week and these will be delivered by email or by hand.

A live service is streamed from Wesley's Chapel in London on Wednesday 12:45pm, Thursday 12:45pm and Sunday at 9:45am and 11am.

Release the Bats

WRITING GROUP

If you cannot seem to make space for writing, if you are struggling to get thoughts, ideas and feelings down on paper or if you are in constant negotiation with your inner critic then Release the Bats might give you wings.

*Please contact Nicky Hutchison for more information
07745 341625 or nickypicardy@icloud.com*

Ducktown Echo

Editor: Virginia Ridley 01594 841294 ducktownecho@gmail.com
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Copy deadline for the Summer edition is Sunday 28th June 2020

In this difficult time it is not possible to print and circulate the latest edition of The Ducktown Echo so we must rely on the Parish Council's Facebook page www.facebook.com/aylburtonpc to keep you up-to-date with what has been going on in Aylburton.

Please keep sending in items of interest or photos both old and new.

From all the editorial team here at Echo Chambers we wish our readers a safe and Happy Easter.

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS

District Councillor

Cllr Mark Topping

01594 840086

mark.topping@fdean.gov.uk

Glos. County Councillor

Cllr Alan Preest:

01594 564668

alan.preest@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Mark Harper

01594 823482

mark.harper.mp@parliament.uk

Glos County Council

01452 425000

FOD District Council

Planning, waste, recycling,
nuisance, licences, street
wardens, dog warden

01594 810000

Local Police Team

01452 753800

Non-Emergency 101

GCC Highways

08000 514514

Neighbourhood Watch

FoD Chrissie Parkes

01452 753784

Snow Warden

Colin Newman

01594 842532

Community Wellbeing Agent

(formerly Village Agent)

Richard Skinner

01594 812447 or 812399

07927 051328

richard.skinner@fdean.gov.uk

Lydney Doctors

Severnbanks Surgery

01594 845715

The Lydney Practice

01594 842167

Hospitals

Lydney

0300 4218722

The Dilke

0300 421 8640

Gloucestershire Royal

0300 4222222

Pharmacists

Lloyds Lydney

01594 842847

Lydney Co-op

01594 843443

NHS Dentists

0300 330 1348

All Emergency Services

Western Power (enquiries)

0800 404090

Western Power (power cuts)

105

Severn Trent Water

0800 783 4444

Dial-A-Ride

01594 843809

Cinemas

Coleford - Studio

01594 833331

Cinderford - The Palace

1594 822555

Leisure Centre, Lydney

01594 842383

Libraries

Lydney 01594 842769

Chepstow 01291 635730

NHS Direct

111

National Rail Enquiries

03457 484950

Travel Line

08712 002233

Airports

Bristol 0871 3344444

Cardiff 01446 711111

Gatwick 0344 8920322

Heathrow 08443 351801