

Minstead eNewsletter October 2020

COMING UP THIS AUTUMN

- 7pm Wednesday 21ST October Annual Parochial Church Meeting
(to be held on Zoom)
- 2am Sunday 25th October Summer Time ends - clocks back 1 hour
- Halloween weekend from 30th October - Junior Minstead Mystic Forest
scarecrow trail (see below for more)
- Sunday 8th November Remembrance Sunday
- Wednesday 11th November Armistice Day
- 8pm Tuesday 1st December Flower Show Society AGM (to be held on Zoom)

For the latest follow us on Facebook and visit the Community Website.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

- At October's Parish Council meeting Miranda Causton was co-opted onto the Parish Council to replace Cllr Alan Ferguson who retired from Council in April after years of sterling service during which he supported a great improvement in Parish communications and introduction of the much-acclaimed Community Website, and eNewsletters.
- In September Cllr Steve Cattell retired from Council after more than 43 years of service during which he was Chairman and Vice-Chairman and represented us on many outside bodies as well as keeping an overall view of many Parish matters and affairs. He presided over vast modernisation of this Council and taught and encouraged many of its present and past Members. We are sure that he will continue to be keeping an eye on us!

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

- The cladding on the Village Hall is now in desperate need of replacement, as is some of the structure underneath. The Hall Management Committee has decided that it should be re-clad in the same material (Cedar) and that this should be installed in its natural colour and left to weather naturally over the years. Samples of both states will be on display at the Community Shop. The work is expected to be undertaken in phases and you will be able to see when it starts.
- The Hall disabled & access ramp (Skittle Alley side) has been condemned as unfit for use. Work to repair, re-instate, replace it will start at the end of October and will render that Entrance/Exit unusable for about

four weeks. The Management Committee is working on a revision to their one-way and distancing plan to allow continued use of the Hall.

MINSTEAD OIL

Oil orders should be placed by 9am on Wednesday 14th October. Orders for November will be needed by Wed 11th and for December by Wed 2nd to allow time for deliveries before Christmas.

Many thanks to Mike Hutton for continuing to organise this service for the Community.

FLY TIPPING

There seem to be an increasing number of incidents of fly tipping around the Parish and we are very grateful to those in the Community who report these. You can easily report them with photos directly to NFDC either on the [NFDC website](#) or using the New Forest in Touch App which you can get either from the App Store or Google Play.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Access under current COVID restrictions means the church is open twice a week:

- on Sundays for Morning Service; between 10.30am and 12 noon. The service begins at 11am and booking is essential.
- on Wednesdays for private prayer between 8am and 12 noon. No booking needed.

The building has been prepared so that all visitors can be safe. To find out more including how to book, to read the latest Together News and other useful information visit the [All Saints page](#) on the Community Website.

Please note that the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on 21st October at 7pm on Zoom and also that regrettably it will not be possible to hold a Harvest Festival Service this year

BROADBAND

This note from Councillors Bill Andrews and Richard Taylor outlines the current state of Fibre to the Premises Broadband (FTTP) installation in Minstead at 5th October 2020.

We are very conscious that the parish needs to be kept up to date with the situation regarding FTTP in Minstead.

Openreach reached agreement with the various stakeholders to recommence

operations in the New Forest in mid-August. To comply with the new agreement Openreach have to re-survey all of their planned installations and re-submit applications for work on the Forest to the Verderers, Natural England and sometimes others. This work is currently underway. We have met with Openreach and HCC on one site to try to help resolve local issues, and we are in frequent contact with them both, providing local information when needed.

We do not have firm dates for when work will be done. Work to finish "Wave 2" (now known as "Cadnam V35") will be completed first, and our former community scheme some time later. There are some 20 schemes in a similar situation to us across the Forest.

We appreciate how frustrating this lack of certainty is and are actively working with Hampshire County Council to try to move things forward.

We have received several questions about the gigabit voucher scheme. The issues in Minstead are with implementation of existing plans, i.e. delivery of installation, rather than finance. Those properties covered by the existing schemes are not eligible for gigabit vouchers as they are currently part of a fully funded scheme.

Any new schemes could possibly be funded by gigabit vouchers, but they would need to go through the design and costing process before they could enter the build programme. They will therefore be consigned to the very back of the existing queue.

We hope this clarifies the situation a little and hope to be able to provide further, more useful updates when appropriate.

THE MINSTEAD RESILIENCE PLAN

The aim of this plan is to help the parishioners of Minstead support themselves when faced with an emergency situation within the village. It also provides important information to the emergency services regarding an ongoing situation and the requirements of the village. It was activated in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and "Lockdown" and remains available and will be reactivated as and when necessary. Click [HERE](#) to find out more on the Community website.

MINSTEAD COMMUNITY SHOP

Your shop has had a successful 4 months of trading since it opened on 1st June. The Committee and Volunteers who run it are keen to make sure that as far as possible it is meeting the needs of the Community. They try very hard to stock it with items that people have said they want including a range of basic groceries as well as a range of items from local suppliers. The objective is to keep prices as low as possible and this is made possible by the all-volunteer workforce and low overheads. Prices compare very favourably with local supermarkets although this is not possible in every case as we are buying in smaller quantities.

Sample prices are shown in the table below but do drop in to see all the other items on sale.

| Item | Shop Price | Morrisons Price | Members' Price |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Salted Butter | £1.75 | £1.80 | £1.58 |
| Semi-Skimmed & Whole Milk 1 pint | £0.55 | £0.50 | £0.50 |
| Semi-Skimmed & Whole Milk 1 L | £1.05 | £0.90 | £0.95 |
| Hovis Wholemeal & White Bread | £1.30 | £0.99 | £1.17 |
| Hovis Granary Bread | £1.45 | £1.30 | £1.31 |
| Heinz Baked Beans | £0.99 | £0.70 | £0.90 |
| Napolina Chopped Tomatoes | £1.00 | £1.00 | £0.90 |
| Medium Flat white Coffee | £2.50 | N/A | £2.25 |
| Small Flat white Coffee | £2.00 | N/A | £1.80 |
| Tea | £1.50 | N/A | £1.35 |
| Slice Minstead Trust Cake | £2.25 | N/A | £2.03 |

If there is anything you specifically require do let the team on shift know.

Visit the Shop Website to see the full price list; find out how to become a Member (shareholder) to get a 10% discount for a little as £25 investment; and also how to become a Volunteer.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR BOUNDARIES STOCK PROOF AND DITCHES CLEAR AND RESPECT THE NEW FOREST CODE

Every resident is reminded that it is vital that you regularly check that your hedges, fences and gates are stock proof. The condition of your boundary is your responsibility: you must 'fence against' Forest animals.

Now we are in the pannage season, pigs in particular often pass through poorly fenced properties to escape the Forest and are found on the busy roads.

Traditional stock fencing with posts, rails and stock netting make the best fencing.

In addition, everyone with ditches is responsible for making sure they are clear. This applies if they are adjacent to but outside your boundary. We suggest

that now is a good time of year to do this as hedges are being cut and the weather has not yet overwhelmed us!

In sum, please encourage everyone to respect the [New Forest Code](#), not to feed the animals and keep their distance from all forest stock.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Parish Council commends HMG's radical Planning for the Future white paper consultation to parishioners. This important matter deserves everyone's attention, interest and response so please read it carefully, respond directly before 29th October, and let Cllr Richard Taylor know your reactions/responses.

THE JUNIOR MINSTEAD MYSTIC FOREST THEME HALLOWEEN

To add a little bit of fun and excitement to this half term with a hint of a Halloween twist, Junior Minstead are organising the following activities.

1. Carve your own pumpkin competition.
2. Design & make your own Halloween, mystic forest mask. (any size & materials)
3. Following on from the success of this year's flower show scarecrows, we would love villagers and their families to make your own Mystic Forest Guy / Scarecrow. Think fairies, goblins, magic animals, witches, wizards etc . The only rule is to be as creative & fun in these rather gloomy times!

From Friday 30th October over the Halloween weekend there will be a trail in the village for everyone to follow to see the fabulous entries for the Mystic Forest guys and scarecrows.

Photos of your fabulous pumpkins and masks can be sent in to Junior Minstead, further details to follow soon!

With best wishes from all the Junior Minstead Team

secretary@junior.minstead.org.uk

A little inspiration!

