



Dinedor Newsletter

JANUARY 2020

Have you heard of 'Nextdoor'?

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL



Nextdoor is the free, private social network for your neighbourhood. It is the best way for you and your neighbours to hear what's happening in your local area.

Several households in Dinedor have already signed up and are finding it is the best way to stay informed about what's going on in our neighbourhood - whether it's finding a last-minute baby-sitter, planning a local event or sharing safety tips.

There are so many ways our neighbours can help us: we just need an easier way to connect with them.



USEFUL - the easiest way to keep up with everything in your neighbourhood



PRIVATE - a secure environment where all neighbours are verified



TRUSTED - a community built by you and your neighbours

To join Nextdoor simply visit:

www.nextdoor.co.uk

and sign up or download the App to your Smart phone.

Further details are available via a poster in the village hall.

THE DEADLINE FOR
THE NEXT EDITION IS
THURS MAR 19

The Parish Council met on Tuesday January 21, with two members of the public, and David Summers, Ward Councillor present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - (for parishioners to raise questions / give information).

The poor state of the roads through the area was raised once again, particularly after the recent heavy rains and frost. The more people who log problems with Balfour Beatty, the company which does the council's highway repairs and maintenance, the more likely it is things will be done. Please use the links below.

Any problems with roads, drainage etc. contact with Herefordshire Council now has to be made via their website www.herefordshire.gov.uk or by telephone on **01432 261800**.

Home > Travel and Transport > Roads > Report a problem

DEFIBRILLATOR AND NOTICE BOARDS

Quotes have now been received for both of these and work will be completed in the next few weeks.

CLERK'S REPORT, FINANCES AND NEXT YEAR'S PRECEPT

In the current year monies have been spent on supporting the village hall with its refurbishment and drainage repairs, paying the lengthsman to clear some ditches, buying and installing a defibrillator and two new village notice boards, as well as our usual expenditure on administration and essential insurance.

This additional spending has been taken from reserves. We do not anticipate major spending for the forthcoming year.

The parish precept (which is collected by Herefordshire Council on behalf of the Parish Council) has not been increased for some years and it was agreed to make a modest increase for the forthcoming year, which will raise the precept income by £500 to £9,500.

WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT (David Summers)

Last month we reported that we hoped to take up the offer of free road salt.

Unfortunately we could not find anywhere to store it but will try again next year. If you can help, please contact Liz Kelso (the salt is not in bags).

DINEDOR CAMP

The specification for the tree survey was agreed.

Essential tree maintenance will happen in the next few weeks. Thanks to the volunteers and the community payback scheme for all their ongoing input.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Draft now received from Kirkwell's and the Steering group will meet in early February.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Nothing to report.

VILLAGE HALL

Two parish councillors have met with the village hall committee and agreed in principle the terms of the new lease between the village hall charity and the parish council. It will be formalised in the next few months.

This is just a summary of the meeting - please do consider coming along to the next meeting on **March 17 at 7.30 pm**. Full minutes of all our meetings are on the website

www.dinedorparishcouncil.org.uk

DINEDOR VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Social and "January Jackets", our New Year lunchtime get together. From the comments we have received at and after these events they appear to have been greatly enjoyed, and we are delighted to have arranged them.

Those who came to "January Jackets" had a first opportunity to experience the new suspended acoustic ceiling and LED lighting, and it was gratifying that all those who attended and completed a brief questionnaire approved of the improvements we are making. Remarks such as:

Amazing difference – could easily take part in conversation today...Sound much improved and hall seems "cosier" ...Lighting/ceiling tiles are a great improvement. Visually pleasing.....

suggest that so far our project is moving in the right direction. However, not wishing to be complacent, if you should have a comment to make, please let us know! Our next move is to change the floor and after consulting with attendees at the December coffee morning, at "January Jackets" and by e-mail the preferred flooring option seems to be a light coloured, wood effect, vinyl plank which will have the appearance of a wooden floor but provide the benefits of vinyl. We are now seeking quotations, and we hope to progress the new floor within the next 3-4 months.

Two further improvements which have been completed are the Parish Council funded fire protection upgrade and the hearing loop. Please note that the fire alarm is tested weekly so on these occasions the external bell may be heard briefly. However, if the bell rings continuously, this may indicate a fire: so please in such circumstances ring 999 and try to notify a committee member.

The hearing loop has been partly funded by Monmouth Building Society Charitable Foundation. To take advantage of the system, hearing aid users must ensure that the T-setting on their aid is activated by their supplier and when at a presentation in the hall that their T-setting is switched on.

As part of our Health & Safety review, lighting has now been installed along the side of the hall towards the rear car park to assist you on dark nights: and signs have been put up to indicate the emergency Meeting Point in the rear car park next to the field, and to warn you of HGVs crossing the entrance to the Village Hall.

Our programme of improvement has largely been funded by grants. However, we are often expected when applying for a grant to make a contribution, and simply to operate and maintain the hall we have overheads which we must continually fund. Hiring the hall does make a significant contribution, but we still do rely on your donations which can be gift aided and taken by direct debit – contact me if you wish to set up a regular payment - and on fund raising events. Accordingly, we do hope that you will attend our next fund raising event which will be a **QUIZ NIGHT on Saturday May 2..** Indeed, please invite your friends to make as many teams as you can, and let us fill the hall and really give our new acoustic ceiling a test!

Our Quiz Master will be Chris Waters: and it will be very helpful if you will register your team or teams (of 4) with Chris (Tel 873165), Marlene (Tel. 870628) or me (Tel. 870666) by **Wednesday April 29**. There will be refreshments, and full details will be e-mailed and posted on notice boards nearer the time.

For your diary: **2nd May Quiz Night – 7 pm**

Allan Simnett

DINEDOR VOICES

Despite reduced numbers (on occasions), we were able to sing at Charles Court, Ballingham Church and at the Dinedor Church Carol Service during December and enjoyed two other social events together. We have taken a break in January but reconvene with renewed enthusiasm on **Thursday January 30 at 7.30 pm**, in the village hall.

If you love singing, we would love to see you.

Further details from Nick and Trish Austin 01432 870730



DINEDOR ART GROUP

February 20 - April 9th

The Art Group will begin on **Thursday February 20 at 10 am** in the Village Hall. The term consists of eight two and a half hour sessions with a break for coffee and biscuits in the middle. The fee varies according to the number of members but is usually around £22 for the term. The atmosphere is very relaxed and light-hearted and there is absolutely no pressure to achieve a masterpiece or even a work of basic competence!



If you have never drawn or painted anything in your life, this could be the moment to have a go. There is no tutor but we encourage each other and are often pleasantly surprised at what we can achieve. In June we shall be holding our biennial Exhibition – something to work towards.

You are very welcome to come along on Feb 20 for a taster session with absolutely no obligation to join if you find it's not for you.

Further information is available from Margaret Bircher on 01432 870587.

FRIENDS OF ROTHERWAS CHAPEL

A very happy start to the New Year! 36 joined the Bushbag Carollers in the Wassail at Rotherwas Chapel. The

acoustics and English Heritage's work on deep cleaning made for a sparkling occasion and a resounding success. The conservation team will continue to come monthly till June and anyone

interested in conservation in practice will be able to visit the chapel when they are there. In February we are meeting with Ginny Slade, newly appointed, to work with us as an Affiliated Group. We also expect to be able to give you news of the maintenance schedule and work to keep the Chapel bird proof. Watch this space.



DINEDOR HERITAGE GROUP

Our last meeting of the winter season will be held on **Tuesday February 25 at 7.30 pm.**

This should prove to be a most interesting evening with Heather Hurley giving a presentation concentrating on the Scudamores of Holme Lacy in the 18th & 19th centuries.

This will be held in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30 pm. Light refreshments available. Members £3.00 and others £5.00. **Further details from Ian on 07883 137096**



Your Families and War

Saturday February 8th - 11 am to 3 pm
Herefordshire Archive and Records Centre



Hear more about Roterwas Together's plans to create a Roll of Honour and a Munitions History website and share your family's stories.

We want to hear what you and your family and friends did in WW 1 and WW 2. Please bring your anecdotes, photographs, maps, artefacts and stories along to our drop in sessions.

The Roll of Honour working group will share what they learned during a two-day study trip to Bletchley Park funded by a Go and See grant from Herefordshire's A Great Place.

All welcome – Refreshments Provided – Free Parking

For more information please contact Roterwas Together community group at Roterwas@hotmail.com

NEWS FROM ST MICHAELS HOSPICE

Big Spring Walk & Black Mountains Trek

Blow out the cobwebs this Spring by joining St Michael's Hospice as we explore our green and pleasant land.

Whether it's a gentle Sunday morning stroll, or an all-day mountain hike, we've got a walking adventure for you.



The Black Mountains Trek on **Saturday March 7** is a challenging 30 kilometre walk taking in the remote, dramatic scenery of this renowned mountain range. Marshalled by the Longtown Mountain Rescue Team, you'll reach the prominent central ridge of the Black

Mountains which offer superb views across the Brecon Beacons National Park.

End the day at Longtown Village Hall where a two-course meal awaits.

For something more gentle, try the Hospice's Big Spring Walk on

Sunday March 22.

Choose from a gentle Sunday morning stroll, or a longer meander. Set off from Hereford Rowing Club on either a 2.5 k, 5.5 k, 12.5 k or 17.5 k walk. Each route will head west towards Breinton, returning to the Rowing Club along riverside paths. It's free to enter in advance but we ask those taking part to get sponsored for St Michael's.

To sign up for Black Mountains Trek or Big Spring Walk, visit

www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/events

COFFEE MORNING

Village Coffee Morning
Saturday February 1st
Any time between 10.30 am and 12 noon

Tea/coffee/cakes available

Our December Coffee Morning was a great success with a real buzz of conversation.

We welcomed three new residents, as well as two who have recently returned to Dinedor!



Don't miss out - Book the date in your diary!

DINEDOR NEWS FROM THE PAST (2)

1853 – Deaths on The Hereford and Gloucester Railway Works at Dinedor

In July 1853, John Baker, a married man of Hampton Bishop had taken the job of constructing a road to a quarry in Dinedor, in connection with the Hereford and Gloucester Railway Works. He had employed two men, Vines and Harpurhy.

One evening, the man named Vines heard John shout out "look up" and as he heeded the warning he saw John trying to run away from an earth slip, but he was not quick enough and was jammed against the "batter". He was pleading for help to be got out, and several men rushed to help but he died soon afterwards.

Vines said at the inquest that he thought John was not careful enough, and that several times they had all nearly been killed.

The following year, a workman named Joseph Matthews was employed at the Dinedor tunnel on the railway, and was engaged in letting down a "rib" weighing around 30 cwt to which a rope was attached and fixed to another "rib" which had been secured.

For some reason, the rib slipped and fell against the head and shoulders of Joseph, so that he was violently knocked over against another rib. He was killed outright, and it was supposed that the neck was compressed between the two pieces of timber causing strangulation.

1896 – Husband kills wife by Accident at Dinedor

William Jones, alias Ravenhill, was working in the garden with two other men; his wife Kate approached him, baby in arms, and accused him of taking too much cider.....further, she threatened to open the tap on the barrel rather than let him drink it.

William, aged 33, was somewhat annoyed about this.

He had a jug of cider in his hand at the time, and in temper he threw it at her – unfortunately the jug hit Kate on the head opening up a large wound which started to gush blood.

Kate tried to get back into the house, but collapsed before reaching the door – when a neighbour rushed to help, Kate said "I am done for" before dying.

She was 30 years old and left three children including a young baby.

William was arrested, and the post mortem on Kate showed that the blow had fractured her skull, driving a piece of bone into the brain and cutting an artery.

A verdict of manslaughter was returned.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

Christmas was celebrated at St Andrew's with a Carol Service held on December 15. As is usual for the event the church was full.

Our thanks go to Chris Over for leading us through the service with warmth and humour. Thanks also to Irene Goodman who came to play the organ to accompany the singing for the Carol Service and also again on Christmas morning.

The church was attractively decorated with a Christmas tree, lighted candles and a delightful Nativity scene under the altar. Children also took part in readings and placing the Nativity figures. We were delighted again to have children take part again in the service on Christmas morning.

Thanks to everyone involved in decorating the church, providing refreshments, and to parishioners who have permanently donated Nativity figures which were displayed around the Church.

Vicar – Vacancy

The post still remains vacant, however, Rev. Penny Littlewood, has agreed to undertake pastoral issues for the Parishes of St Andrew's and St David's, Little Dewchurch during the period of interregnum. She has taken a number of services at St Andrew's, is of a warm, personable disposition and can be contacted through St Martin's Team Office 01432 353717.



Forthcoming Services at St Andrew's

Holy Communion Services will continue to be held at 9.30 am on the second and fourth Sunday of each month.

February 9th & 23rd

March 8th & 22nd

April 12th & 26th

No member of the clergy has yet been identified to take the services shown.



Sink Green Farm B & B
Rotherwas, Hereford HR2 6LE
01432 870223
www.sinkgreenfarm.co.uk
Unwind... Relax... Enjoy...

MORE NEWS FROM THE HOSPICE

A year-long exercise challenge taking a group of St Michael's Hospice patients on a virtual tour of Britain has been successfully completed.



The Hospice's Physiotherapy team devised the virtual Tour of Britain which allowed patients to take it in turns using exercise bikes or treadmills to help complete a 7,723-mile journey around the British Isles – all without leaving St Michael's.

Starting and ending in the Cornish town of St Ives – a favourite place for one of those taking part – the journey lasted throughout 2019, ending just before New Year's Eve.

Rose Livesey (pictured second left) said: 'I've really enjoyed taking part. You really feel as though you are contributing to a worthwhile cause.'

The exercise helped improve the cardiovascular system and strengthened legs and arms.

CALLING ALL DINEDOR FARMERS.....

It has been suggested that a regular feature by members of Dinedor's farming community would be welcomed by our readers.

There is particular interest in hearing about aspects and challenges of farming life or how the land or crops or livestock has changed over the years.



Please consider writing a short paragraph or two and let's start sharing farming stories, starting with one in the next edition of the newsletter in time for Spring!

Details to contact the editors are at the bottom of this page.

Dinedor Parish Newsletter is produced six times a year and the cost is borne by the Parish Council.

If you are a local business and would like to place a small advert in a future edition, the rates are very reasonable at £20 for the year. Please contact us via the details at the foot of this page.

All editions of the newsletter are available (in colour) on the website www.dinedorparishcouncil.org.uk

A printed black and white copy is delivered to all properties in the parish and we are grateful to our team of distributors for being willing to do this.

Finally, if you have any item of interest that you would like to share in future editions or any new interesting ideas, the Editors would love to hear from you.

Dinedor Newsletter is published by Dinedor Parish Council

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