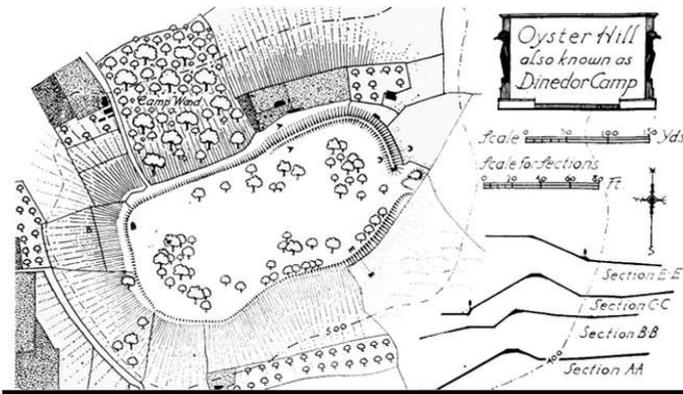


Dinedor Newsletter

MAY 2020



DINEDOR SPORTS

Unfortunately Dinedor Sports is to be cancelled for this year! With so much uncertainty over meeting together it is thought that this is our best and only option. Many of our key workers fall within the 'at risk' category and it is imperative that we stay safe and follow government guidelines. This decision is being taken now as this is the last newsletter before the end of July and we wanted to get the message across to as many parishioners as possible.

We may hold an extraordinary AGM towards the end of this year when we can decide what, if any, donations we are able to make.

It has also been suggested that when we are all able to meet again, we hold a village barbecue but this does not, necessarily, have to be held under the 'Dinedor Sports' banner. Keep well. Stay safe!

RURAL THEFT

Alerting Dinedor residents!

Following the recent theft of a quad bike from a farm in the village, the next evening a male was confronted trying to remove items from the church roof. The police were called and their investigations are ongoing. In the meantime they have fixed a sign to the gate down to the church advising that the premises are now forensically covered by Smartwater®



Please be vigilant and make sure you take all necessary precautions.

We have two 'Rural Crime & Business Officers' covering this area, Sarah Smith & John Meek.

If you have any reason to contact them they will be pleased to hear from you and help out where necessary. Contact details are:-

sarah.smith@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

john.meek@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

or you can contact them on 07773 047243.

At an appropriate time in the future, they have committed to come to a Parish Council meeting to introduce themselves and provide information.

THE DEADLINE FOR
THE NEXT EDITION IS
WEDS JUL 22

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL

A big first for the Parish Council on 19 May 19, as we held our first virtual meeting, using Zoom. This is because we are not allowed under the COVID rules to meet in public. The technology worked well with four councillors and four members of the public taking part, all from their own homes.

The virtual meeting is still a formal one, able to make decisions and ensure that parish council business continues.

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

Whilst the repair of the potholes during lockdown has been welcomed, there is concern about the quality of the repairs, particularly on Hollow Farm road. This will be reported to Hereford Council/Balfour Beatty.

Our website should have the facility for someone to subscribe and be sent a notification when there is a posting on the site but we were told this is not working. It will be rectified ASAP.

CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCES (Liz Kelso)

This was a routine report and we agreed to pay necessary insurances, expenses etc. We have received a small sum from Fastershire to help with the cost of the licence for the Zoom meeting. We have again agreed the appointment of the internal and external auditors.

PLANNING APPLICATION

We considered an application for redevelopment at Hill View, to demolish the existing bungalow and replace with four new dwellings. After taking into consideration the views of the members of the public present at the meeting, it was agreed to object to the application on the basis that with the proposals already in place for either side of this area, it was inappropriate. Concerns include - small site, increase in traffic numbers, the difficult corner near Cranwell and exit on to the main road, drainage issues and out of character for the village.

PLANNING ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The land near Maes-y-felin is being restored as required by Hereford Council and Historic England.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

We agreed that this would, at long last, be sent to Herefordshire Council for Reg.16 consultation.

LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

We will re-join the scheme in the expectation of receiving a grant towards the cost from Hereford Council. This should help with the road flooding and other problems during the winter months.

AGM AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Under the COVID 19 legislation, these legally required meetings do not have to take place this year, so we agreed to postpone them both until next year.

DINEDOR CAMP

Use of the camp and the woods area are increasing during these difficult times. Many thanks go to the volunteers who are continuing to look after it. Signs will be displayed reminding people that the appropriate social distancing rules should be followed.

NEXT MEETING

As usual, this will be on the third Tuesday of the month on July 21 at 7.30 pm.

It is expected to be a virtual meeting so do look at the website

www.dinedorparishcouncil.org.uk for details and how to log on.

If you have any difficulty, please do let us know and we will be happy to help.

DINEDOR VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

We live in strange times with our village hall temporarily closed and the meetings of village groups on hold. However, as and when the lockdown is lifted, we will review our procedures and health and safety policies to ensure that they fully comply with Government guidance and on re-opening seek to minimise the risks of infection.

It is perhaps at a time like this that we begin to appreciate what we gain as a community by having the opportunity to regularly meet and interact with fellow parishioners at our village hall. Community is all about people getting together, having fun and laughing together, and working together: and I am sure our inability to currently do so is having an impact on many of us.

In the last newsletter I mentioned that once our programme of hall renovation and redecoration is complete later this summer, we hope that we may be able to attract new bookings both from residents and those living further away, for family occasions and possibly commercial events. I suggested that with the church of St Andrews so close, Dinedor offers a beautiful setting for small country weddings and with so many weddings postponed due to Covid-19 perhaps Spring 2021 could see wedding cars in the village.

It is amazing the activities that go on in village halls as I realised when recently completing a survey for ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England), the Government body supporting village halls and rural communities. We estimate that only 30% or so of parishioners regularly use our village hall, and the only event which may bring in a few more is Sports' Day. Clearly, the hall is intended to benefit everyone, and the fact that perhaps 70% do not use it poses the question, why. The survey listed activities over 7 A 4 pages and I am going to list just a few for which we have or could provide facilities in the hall in the hope that the list may trigger some interest:

Jumble Sales	Race Nights	Fashions Shows
Tea Dances	Discos	Produce Show
Cookery	Language lessons	Guides/Brownies
Computer Club	Band Practice	Dance lessons
Flower Arranging	Photography	Sewing/Upholstery
Fitness Classes	Skittles	Table Tennis
Bingo	Garden Club	Model trains/planes
Beetle Drives	Chiropody	Outreach office
Concerts	Whist Drives	Scouts/Cubs/Beavers
Film Shows	Yoga	Parent & Toddler
Darts/Billiards/Snooker		

If you are interested in any of the above, and particularly if you are willing to organise them, do let me or any of the Management Committee know.

Kate Beamish in her poem 'The Village Hall' refers to a hall

...in a dreadful state.

Extremely drab, rundown and dull

and yet, its life is over-full!

Throughout the year its use is endless,

it's never left alone and friendless.

Used in turn by everyone,

full of laughter, noise and fun.

Our hall is certainly not drab, rundown and dull, and maybe our objective for it should be **endless use** and as her poem concludes as a **place...used and loved by all.**

P.S. there seem to be very few poems about village halls and If you would like to submit a poem to me about our village hall, I shall be delighted to receive it and perhaps publish it next month!

Allan Simnett Tel. 870666 e-mail treasurer@dinedorvillagehall.org.uk



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COFFEE MORNING

There will be no Coffee Morning on **Saturday June 6.**



However, we hope that on **Saturday August 1,** we will feel that it is safe enough to invite everyone to join together at Dinedor Camp for a 'socially distanced' Coffee Morning! We would need to provide our own drinks and cakes, and bring our own chairs. Hearing trumpets might be helpful to enable us to

communicate with each other! We may even be able to play 'Name that Person' unless of course hairdressers are back in business by then!

Even during the lockdown willing workers have continued to work hard to look after Dinedor Camp and it would be so good if we were able to spend an hour there together, in our beautiful local asset.

Won't it be great when we can engage with our Dinedor community again, but in the meantime let us appreciate the help and kindness shown by so many Dinedor residents?

Look out for more details in the next Newsletter.

ROTHERWAS CHAPEL

What a difference in the last two months. It is getting ever harder to recapture the shock of having to scrap all the news planned then; the exciting developments we discussed at our last committee meeting on March 26 with Ginny Slade, our new English Heritage manager. We were buzzing with the boost to the chapel's future but, the very next week, all changed as Ginny was furloughed, along with over 80% of other EH staff.

Our AGM was to be Monday June 1 at Rotherwas Chapel but, even then, it was clearly necessary to delay any arrangements until Ginny was back to work and public buildings open with people allowed to gather. We will let you know when that is possible; Ginny will be there telling us about her role within English Heritage and how she would like to work with us to promote and develop Rotherwas Chapel. Jonathon Weller is all set to hold another concert. Will the Abbott be able to hold the Assumption Mass?

Meanwhile, the Chapel survived the floods, the storms and the attempted lead theft. Some daffodils and snowdrops bloomed. A recent inspection visit showed the consistent care of volunteers and EH curators, together with a new maintenance contract, are really making a difference.

What a change from the time of the Dinedor Heritage Book Launch with the flies dropping in their hundreds. Let's hope the next newsletter will give you definite news of exciting projects. **Barbara Ferris**



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Covid - 19 Update

In the last newsletter, details were provided of a volunteer hub, co-ordinated by Duncan Green and Suzanne Penny, to provide assistance to residents who were self-isolating or shielding and needed support with shopping or collecting medication.

We have now set up a WhatsApp group - **Dinedor CV 19 Support Group** that alerts our volunteers to a request for support and enables a quick response.

In addition we are linked in to Herefordshire Council's volunteer hub and can respond to requests from local residents who have contacted them directly. It is very clear too that many parishioners are directly supporting their neighbours on a regular basis.

We know that the Coronavirus pandemic is a difficult time and it is important that you seek help if you are struggling. For many the coronavirus outbreak means that we are spending more time away from our loved ones and this can have a detrimental effect on our mental health.

Herefordshire Council is encouraging us all to follow five simple steps to help combat anxiety and loneliness and improve our mental health and well-being.

- Be Active - go for a walk, spend time in the garden
- Keep Learning - cook a new recipe
- Connect - speak to a family member on the phone or via video link
- Take Notice - take some time for yourself
- Give - help others, smile and say hello!

Healthwatch have compiled a list of free national helpline numbers along with some local ones and if you need any assistance they will be happy to help. **Ring 01432 277044**

**If you require help from our volunteer hub, please call
DUNCAN GREEN - 01432 870469 or 07974 447700, or
SUZANNE PENNY - 01432 873170 or
07971 544889**

THANK YOU!

A big 'Thank You' to many in the village who have helped those in need by shopping, collecting prescriptions and many other tasks. People have picked up the phone to check on neighbours who are isolating or living alone. It's lovely to see villagers stepping up to the mark and showing love and concern in this time of trouble and uncertainty.

Jean Savage.

And on a lighter note **Delyth Waters** would like to share the following poem, written in 1869 by **Kitty O'Meara**, in response to the Irish Potato famine and it is rather apt for the situation we now find ourselves in.

"And the people stayed home.

And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still.

And listened more deeply.

Some meditated, some prayed, some danced.

Some met their shadows.

And the people began to think differently.

And the people healed.

And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed."

HEALTHWATCH

As part of a national scheme, every local council in England have their own Healthwatch. Through our focus groups, forums, online surveys and feedback centre, Healthwatch Herefordshire listens to local people and then speaks up on their behalf in order to influence the delivery and design of health and social care services in the county.

Our current projects are adult mental health, men's health, falls prevention and social isolation and reasonable adjustments. Surveys for these can be found on our website along with a whole host of other information. We're aware that many people aren't online so if you'd like a hard copy version posted out to you, call us on Tel: **01432 277044**. We really would value your opinion.



St Andrew's Church

This little church was not always such a pretty sight. Back in the mid-19th century, it was reported that

"The probability is that a large percentage of the number who visit this charming spot (Dinedor Camp) never dream that within a very short distance of them when they are overlooking the Holme Lacy side of the hill, there nestles a little church, hidden from view by trees.

Many times perhaps, they have heard the very humble tintinnabulations of the bells and wondered where the sound came from, and on inquiry found it proceeded from Dinedor Church.

Others have been more curious and have explored the spot where the church is hidden. If they did, we fear that in some respects they were much disappointed; for instead of seeing that neat little building, comely and clean, holy and solemn in its quietness, which rises in the mind at the thought of a rural parish, a dark grim looking, uninviting edifice stood before them, though it seemed a matter of doubt how long it would stand."

The old church was dreadfully dilapidated, with dangerous walls and an all pervading dampness. The gallery and pews had nothing to recommend them and all in all the church did not do justice to the beautiful surroundings in which it nestled. After close inspection, it was decided that the church was in such a bad state that restoration was not possible, and the only option was to rebuild the church entirely – to a similar size and character, and using as many of the old materials and features as possible.

The Rebuilding of Dinedor Church

On a Monday in June 1867, the foundation stone of the new church was laid under a cloudless sky. Most of the 250 parishioners gathered to witness the ceremony'

The new church would have completely new flooring, with wood under the seats and encaustic tiles elsewhere, sourced from Mr. Godwin's works at Lugwardine.

The seats in the nave, the pulpit and the stalls as well as the altar table would all be new, and the roof would be slated and not tiled as the old one was.

The interior walls would be finished with Ashlar stone from Sir Edwyn Stanhope's quarry at Ballingham, and heating would be provided by one of Rimmington's apparatuses.

The tower would not be raised higher, and it was hoped that there would be enough funds to put a new arch within it.

All in all, the style would be of 13th century, with the builder being Mr. T. Stone of Fownhope and the cost was estimated at between £600 and £700.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

Due to Coronavirus the church remains closed for public worship for the foreseeable future. The churchyard remains open and has been well maintained, thanks to Bryan Edwards.

Bishop Richard of Hereford has said "I hope in the coming weeks, if new COVID-19 cases and deaths continue to decline and subject to a change in Government restrictions, to offer guidance for opening our churches for parishioners and visitors to enter for private prayer. We long to open our churches for public worship and life events including funerals but I fear that is some way off. At present the restrictions relating to funerals across our diocese remain in place. We will continue to communicate via our weekly update including any changes as soon as restrictions are eased".

Weekly updates can be found by going to www.hereford.anglican.org

On a brighter note, St Andrew's did briefly become focus of attention for the village on the evening of **May 8, VE Day 75th Anniversary**, when Vall Cleland rang the church bells in celebration and remembrance of that day. Her campanology skills were appreciated by all those who heard the bells ring.

Unfortunately, the Jumble Sale, due to take place at St Martin's on May 16 in aid of St Andrew's, had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. Joyce Nicholls, who organised the event hopes to hold it later in the year and looks forward to receiving your support. Joyce can be contacted at joyceniicholls@sky.com

The South Wye Team Office at St. Martin's is closed during this time but can be emailed at office@stmartinshereford.org.uk



NEWS OF 'DINEDOR VOICES'



Enid Bullock writes:

"It was with great sadness that I learned that Tricia and Nick had decided to have a break from running 'Dinedor Voices' previously known as 'Variety' and that our little choir could close. Variety is more than a choir. It is an opportunity for over a dozen people from the village and elsewhere to get together and have a good laugh and enjoy singing together. We didn't always get it right, but we all enjoyed the journey to improvement. I personally had spent over 40 years on the other side of the Hill not knowing anyone in the village, but over the last ten years I have been welcomed and made many friends.

I am pleased to report that Tom Hughes, who already leads a choir that meet in Hampton Bishop, may be willing to work with us and we could begin singing together again whenever we are given the go ahead to mix once more.

However there would be increased costs if we go ahead with this proposal and therefore, to make it viable, we would need to attract some new members. If anyone in the Village or elsewhere would like to join our merry and welcoming group, could you please let me or Julia know. Many thanks."

Bully 01432 870413 enidpat.bullock@gmail.com

Julia 07814 089705 julia.over@me.com

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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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