

NEWSLETTER

August 2018, issue 18

Parish Council matters

News from the Parish Office

A new gate has been fitted to the entrance of the playground at Goosecroft. It meets all RoSPA safety standards and is bright yellow to make it easily identifiable to those with visual impairment.



An additional, large bin has been installed on Mapledurham Drive at the entrance to Blounts Meadow, ready to be used by those who kindly give their time to litter-pick in Bucknell's and Blounts Meadows.

It is also hoped that visitors to the meadows will use the new bin, thereby reducing the level of littering over the summer months.

Village Plan

The Village Plan has now been drafted and is with West Berkshire Council for approval. Once the final document has been agreed, it will be printed and a copy will be delivered to each household in the civil parish of Purley on Thames.

Public meeting, Thursday 20 September

A public meeting to discuss policing matters and combating crime is to be held from 7.00pm to 8.00pm on Thursday 20 September at St Mary's Church.

The meeting will be attended by Alok Sharma, MP for Reading West, together with Superintendent Jim Weems, West Berkshire Policing Area Commander, and Paul Anstey, Head of Public Protection and Culture at West Berkshire Council. West Berkshire Councillors and Sue Briscoe, Chairman of Purley on Thames Parish Council, have also been invited.

The purpose of the meeting is to update residents on the work the police have carried out to tackle law and order issues in Purley. It will also be an opportunity for local residents to raise and discuss their specific concerns with Thames Valley Police and West Berkshire Council.

The meeting is open to all residents. If you would like to attend, please call 0118 941 3803 or e-mail alok.sharma.mp@parliament.uk to let them know.

West Berkshire Council

Over the past few weeks, we have reported various issues to West Berkshire Council including a fallen tree blocking a footpath, roadside hedges needing cutting and an incident of fly-tipping.

If you see any similar issues, you can report them direct to the district council via the web site - www.westberks.gov.uk/servicerequests/describe_case.aspx?lev=0 – or you can let us know and we'll pass the information on.

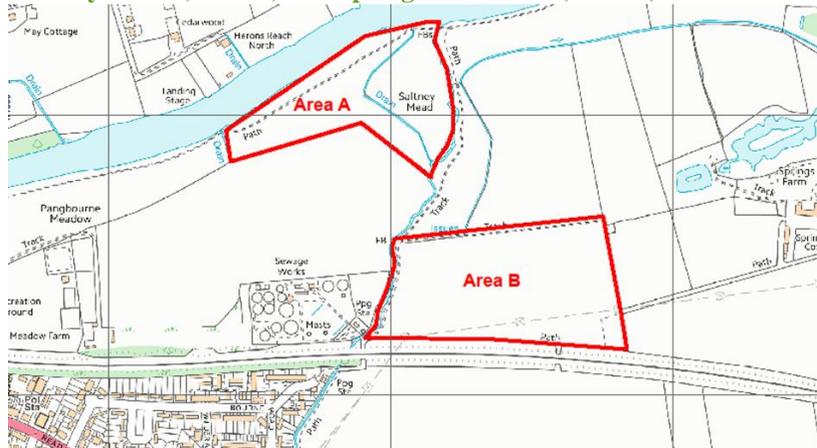
Villager of the Year 2018

The result will be announced in the September issue of Purley Parish News – we're all very excited to discover who will be Villager of the Year 2018!

Springs Farm

Over the past few weeks, we've had a number of queries about some notices which have been put up on boundaries to Springs Farm land, including on Westbury Lane and by the sewage treatment works in Pangbourne. The explanation we've been given by the WBC Definitive Map Officer is that the document is a Notice of Landowner's Deposit and relates to a statement from the landowner which will prevent any registration of their land as a Town or Village Green, unless an application to register it as such is made within a set time period.

Saltney Mead (Area A) and Springs Farm field (Area B)



This means that, although the registered footpaths are public rights of way and will remain as they are, there is no public access or right to wander across the areas marked A and B on the map, or to play sports, have picnics, fly kites, etc, there as it is privately owned land.

Further details may be found at <http://info.westberks.gov.uk/article/30845>

Allotments



Before work started

Work on constructing the four new micro plots was carried out in early August. Once again, the team from Springs Farm was sent to help and, in all, spent two days on the allotments, first cutting back the hedge along the boundary with Springs Farm, and then setting up the new micro plots. The team worked extremely hard and did another excellent job, so we now have four first-rate micro plots.

A little more work is still needed to tidy up the plots, rabbit-proof the fencing, fill the raised beds and put wood chip on the paths, but they are now almost ready for their new tenants – which is quite an achievement, particularly given how hot the weather was at the beginning of this month.



The new micro plots, fence and gate

We would like to thank the Springs Farm owners and team, the company which supplied the materials at a very generous discounted rate (they were impressed with the idea of the micro plots!), and everyone who helped set up the new plots.



Most of all, we would like to thank Graham Chapman, the Honorary Allotments Manager, who has put a great deal of time, effort and hard work into creating the micro plots.



The allotment year runs from the end of September, so invoices are now being prepared.

This is also a time when tenants consider whether to continue with a plot, so one or two plots are likely to be made available in the next few weeks. If you'd like to try growing your own produce but don't have a large enough garden, now is a good time to put your name on the waiting list.

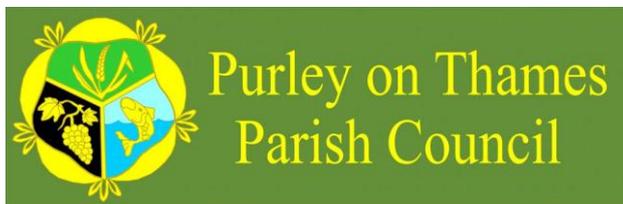
If you'd like to apply for an allotment plot or a micro plot, please contact the Assistant Clerk.



The new gate to the allotments

The old, rotten wooden posts and rather dilapidated gate at the entrance to the allotments have now been replaced.

In their place is a smart new gate and metal posts which we hope will last for many years to come.



Road closures

Tidmarsh Lane will be closed between its junctions with the A340 and Tidmarsh Court while Thames Water lays a new water main. The closure is expected to be in place day and night from Monday 20 August for around three weeks. During this time, all through traffic will be diverted via Bere Court Road, Pangbourne Hill and the A340.

A plan of the closure can be found at www.roadworks.org and any enquiries should be directed to Thames Water on 0203 577 8339.

Road resurfacing works

The resurfacing of Colyton Way, Brading Way and Mapledurham Way has again been delayed and will now start at the end of August. The current schedule is for initial kerbing works to take place from Thursday 30 August to Wednesday 5 September (including, we understand, over the weekend). There will be no further work on site until the main resurfacing is carried out from 12 to 25 September.

WBC has arranged with Reading Buses for the number 16 bus to continue to run down New Hill. On days when the Church car park is available, the bus will turn there; on days when the Church car park is not available, the bus will do a reverse turn from New Hill into Purley Village under a banksman's supervision.

There will be one temporary bus stop at the bottom of New Hill, near the junction with Purley Village. Signs will be placed as necessary, and notices have been put on bus stops giving information about when they'll be closed.

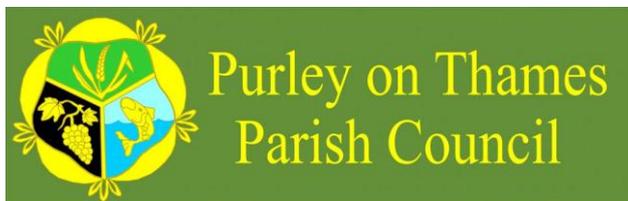
143 and 144 buses

The 143 bus service, run by Thames Travel, will continue to run until at least next year. The Parish Council will be supporting this service until March 2019, and discussions as to whether to include it in the 2019/20 budget are likely to be held early next year.

Further information about the service is available on Thames Travel's web site – <https://www.thames-travel.co.uk/routes/143> - and the timetable may be found [here](#).

The Sunday 144 bus service was expanded to run on weekdays but, because of lack of use and driver illness, it has been cut back again and runs only on Sundays.

The [route map](#), information about Going Forward (a not-for-profit Community Interest Company) and more details about the 144 service are available on the web site - <http://www.goingforwardbuses.com/>



Sunflowers

Although we planted our seeds earlier this year in the pot outside the Parish Office, an animal or bird seems to have come along and dug them up so, sadly, we have no flowers at all this year.

If you've fared better, we would very much like to see pictures of the sunflowers you've grown – and it would be lovely if you'd give permission for us to share the pictures in an issue of this Newsletter.

Village matters

Local news and events

If you've driven along the Pangbourne Road towards Theale recently, you might have noticed the building work taking place at Fielders Farm Shop at Englefield. This is part of a joint venture between the Englefield Estate and Cobbs Farm Shop and Kitchen, which is now well underway to transforming and expanding the site to include a bigger farm shop, café, delicatessen and traditional butcher.

Prior to the new shop and café opening, there will be a recruitment fair on 5 and 6 September. Further information may be found on the web site, www.cobbsatenglefield.co.uk



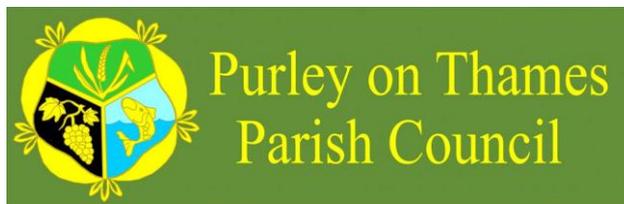
Purley Horticultural Society and Purley WI are holding their Late Summer Show at the Memorial Hall in Glebe Road on Saturday 8 September. The show will be open to the public from 2.30pm, with trophies being presented at 3.30pm. Further information and the schedule are at www.purleyonthames.org.uk/PHS/SSS2018.pdf



ENRYCH Berkshire is a charity which helps people with disabilities enjoy hobbies, interests and activities of their choosing, as well as helping them develop skills and knowledge through learning opportunities. It is holding its eighth Annual Golf Day on Friday 14 September at Goring and Streatley Golf Club and all proceeds will go towards the charity's aim of putting "colour into the lives" of disabled people.

For more information see www.enrychberkshire.org.uk/eberkshire/, or contact Sandy Jeffery on 01491 681344, e-mail sandy.jeffery@enrych.org.uk





There will be an open-air showing of The Greatest Showman on the Village Green in Whitchurch-on-Thames on the evening of Friday 14 September. All proceeds will go to support Whitchurch Pre-School – see the [flyer](#) for more information.



The Royal County of Berkshire Show 2018 will be held at Newbury Showground on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 September. Advance tickets may be bought online or at Collins Hardware in Pangbourne. Please see <https://www.berkshireshow.co.uk/Show/index> for further information.



A Family Fun Day is being held at Goosecroft on Sunday 16 September. There will be events in the Barn, on the playing fields and in the Sports and Social Club, as well as stalls raising money for community projects, and fun activities organised by local sports clubs. There will be refreshments available throughout, and the Sports and Social Club will be running a quiz in the evening.

Please see <http://purleysportsandsocialclub.co.uk/event/pssc-funday> if you'd like to know more.



Don't forget that to look out for the decorated pottery cylinders on poles which will be on display on Pangbourne Meadow from 15 to 30 September. For further information, see the [flyer](#).



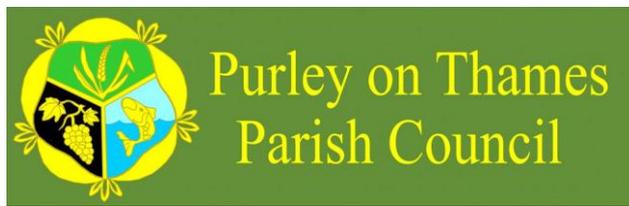
The Chiltern Society is holding its first Chilterns Heritage Festival from Saturday 22 September to Saturday 6 October. There will be a series of events ranging from guided walks to photography workshops, from private tours of museums and buildings (including a windmill!) to pop-up cinemas, all designed to celebrate the diversity of the region and to help people understand the heritage of the Chilterns.

The full programme of events and details of how to book are available on the Chiltern Society's web site – www.chilternsociety.org.uk/heritage-festival/. The events are all open to everyone (although there are discounted prices for members of the Chiltern Society).



The next production by Purley Players will be Amdram is Murder and will be performed in the Barn at Goosecroft at 7.30pm on Friday 28 and Saturday 29 September. Tickets cost £16.00 and include a meal. The box office opens on 28 August and further information may be found on the web site, www.purleyplayers.org.uk/





Arrangements for the Armistice Centenary celebration are progressing well and the programme is currently being put together, ready to be circulated around the village towards the end of September. There will also be a page on the Parish Council web site giving up-to-date information about various events during the week commencing 22 October, the exhibition over the weekend of 3/4 November, and Purley's part in the National Tribute on Sunday 11 November.

Don't forget we're looking for local individuals and groups to make poppies to be included in the display we'll use to decorate the Barn. If you'd like to help with this, please contact the Clerk during office hours.



More interesting local events are listed on the "What's On" page of the Parish Council web – www.purleyonthames-pc.gov.uk/whats-on/

Contact

Further information on matters raised here and other local issues is available on the Parish Council web site – www.purleyonthames-pc.gov.uk.

To contact us, please call 0118 984 4507, or e-mail asstclerk@purleyonthames-pc.gov.uk. You are also welcome to come and see us during the following office public hours:

Monday	2.30pm to 6.30pm
Thursday	9.30am to 2.30pm

If you know of anyone who might like to receive this Parish Council Newsletter, please ask them to notify asstclerk@purleyonthames-pc.gov.uk giving the e-mail address they'd like us to use.