



ELECTION NEWS

Ten councillors were elected uncontested, including two new councillors, namely Nadia Biles Davies and Thomas Hardy. We extend a warm welcome to them as members of the Parish Council.

Two vacancies remain, and we would welcome applications from residents who would like to be co-opted. This is an opportunity for someone who wants to be involved in the running of the village. Please apply to the Clerk, Diane Whiskin, on 01582 794832, or e-mail her on clerk@redbournparishcouncil.gov.uk for further information. All you need is enthusiasm and a genuine interest in Redbourn and its future.

REDBOURN PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

**Public Meeting Wednesday 25th May at 7.30
in the Conference Room of the new Parish Centre**

Please join us at the first public meeting to discuss our Redbourn Parish Neighbourhood Plan. The Localism Bill is currently going through Parliament and one of the elements is that communities will be able to draw up their own Neighbourhood Plan. This will be recognised by the District Council giving local people more say in the future of their neighbourhood.

Although Redbourn Parish Council is taking the lead, the idea is that residents, organisations and businesses in the area will make major contributions.

In addition to a steering group, we are setting up four committees:

PLANNING – housing development, green belt etc.

INFRASTRUCTURE – roads, parking, policing, schools, health care, etc.

BUSINESS – regenerating the High Street, employment opportunities, etc.

CULTURE & LEISURE – The Common, community facilities, village day, etc.

We welcome all ideas and suggestions. Attendance at the meeting is not a commitment so do come along. And if you are able to join one of the committees, or even chair one, that would be great. For more information or to make suggestions now or in the future, phone or text the project manager: Redbourn Parish Councillor David Mitchell on 07528 334 297, or email.

**Yet another plea to dog owners ...
BE A RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER
(With apologies to those that are!)**

We continue to receive complaints about dog litter particularly on pavements around the school, and on the Common. Now the warmer weather is here, there will be different events taking place on the common as well as children enjoying the freedom it offers. Dog poo which is not picked up becomes even more of a menace and a health hazard. It could be a child who is dear to you that picks up a disease from the faeces, and suffers the awful consequences. It can happen so easily. If you have a dog, and you walk him or her in the streets, on the Common, footpaths or anywhere in Redbourn, please, please, pick up after it. Keep Redbourn clean, and be a responsible dog owner.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL LITTER PICK



Members of the public and parish council joined together to do the annual litter pick on Sunday 20 March. (Picture above). This is a nationwide annual event which takes place over one week. Our enthusiastic volunteers collected approximately 20 bags of litter, however these did not include a discarded washing machine discovered in the wooded area off Flamsteadbury Play Area. Fortunately, a passing scrap metal merchant took it away. Other areas litter picked by the group were the footpath leading from the play area and the Nickey Line around the Millennium Site.

The photograph below shows students from Oaklands College who attend the Transition Programme currently based at St Lukes. These young people and staff did a litter pick on the following day.



*Friday 29 April 2011
Congratulations and Best Wishes
To Prince William and his Bride*





Membership of the Youth Council has risen to 16, but any young people between the ages of 11 and 19 will be very welcome if they wish to join. Members usually meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Parish Centre

(on the corner of the Park and Common), 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

At the beginning of April a successful movie night was organised by members, and Toy Story 3 was shown in the main hall of the Centre, where there is a floor to ceiling screen with surround sound. Members brought along their own bean bags and enjoyed soft drinks, popcorns and other goodies during the film. They hope to organise more movie nights in the future.

The group is currently thinking about other social activities they would like to organise, and looking at play equipment particularly for their own age group, and are carrying out surveys to find out what young people would most like to see and its preferred play area location.

Sadly, the current Youth Connexion leader, Alex Ferguson, has decided it is time to move on after five years supporting the District's Youth Councils including Redbourn in the last 2 years. She will be leaving on Friday May 20th to pursue other opportunities, and members will be very sorry to say goodbye to her as they have learnt a lot from the involvement they have had with her and benefited greatly from her enthusiasm. Until such time as plans for her replacement are definite, another member of Youth Connexions staff, Debi Roberts, will cover meetings.

Members of the Parish Council and Youth Council join together to thank Alex publicly for her guidance and support during the last two years and wish her well in the future.



REDBOURN IN BLOOM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Best Kept Garden, etc

Don't forget, this year judging starts at the end of May to include the best of the Spring flowers.

Horticultural Show

This annual event takes place on Saturday 10th September in the Village Hall. To allow you plenty of time to consider and create your entries this year will include classes for flowers, vegetables, fruits, household and crafts, and entries are invited from experts, adults, children and novices. For further information, more detail and entry forms, get your prospectus from the Post Office or the Hertfordshire Garden Centre, and start planning and growing!

Grants for Cavity Wall and Loft Insulation

Currently costing under £100 each in some areas thanks to Council grants, the Energy Saving Trust estimates households can save £115 each year with cavity wall insulation, meaning a remarkable return on investment. Get insulation installed in 2011 and you'll benefit from a grant. You can compare insulation deals on 0800 8048 777 or at cocoonyourhome.co.uk.

Changes for all Bus Pass Users

From April, Hertfordshire County Council will take over the concessionary travel scheme, which offers free travel on local bus services to older and eligible disabled people. Current passes will remain valid until their expiry date, but from 1st April new applications or renewal forms must be sent to Hertfordshire Council. Paper application forms will continue to be available from district or borough council offices and one-stop-shops for applicants to collect. For more information visit www.hertsdirect.org.

The Face of Redbourn Council is changing!

After the elections in May, Councillors Tony Bull, James Lowen, Gary Atkinson and Elaine Warren will be retiring as council members.

Tony Bull has been a councillor for 8 years, serving on all the committees and was involved in the early stages of the planning for the Parish Centre, and has been Chairman of the Council during this time. He has expertise in all things: for instance, he helps resolve IT problems in the office, has produced the village map which he customises for village organisations, formats the quarterly newsletter, is the unofficial photographer for parish council events, produces the portfolio for Anglia in Bloom, and is always there to consult and support when situations require this. His enthusiasm, energy and involvement in all things is greatly appreciated.

James Lowen, also a councillor during the last 8 years, and serving a Chair of Finance, has moved the Parish Council finances onto a firm footing, eradicating the annual deficits and thereby securing financial reserves for the payment of the building of the Parish Centre. As a council and a village we have benefited greatly from his financial expertise and experience, as he has led us forward through the economic downturn.

Gary Atkinson has been a member for one year only, but during this short time he has brought the council into the 21st century, advising on a new e-mail system, website, and technology in the new Parish Centre. The demands of his busy working life have made it impossible for him to continue as a councillor. His knowledge of IT has been of undoubted value to all concerned.

Elaine Warren has been a councillor for 3 years, and during this time has led on successful Village of the Year submissions, the planting of Cumberland Garden, the planting of the disabled footpath at the Millennium Site, and the furnishing, decor and planting for the Parish Centre. She has worked determinedly and tirelessly to achieve all these things, and we wish her the very best.

We offer our sincere thanks and best wishes to all these retiring councillors, and best wishes for the future.

Meet Your Councillors – DAVID MITCHELL



I have lived in the Parish of Redbourn for 12 years with my wife and two children, 13 and 10. Our house is outside the village so I am aware of both rural and village issues. Until recently I was a Television Producer, including 23 years at the BBC. Now I have time to get more involved in the community, and am pleased to be an independent member of Redbourn Parish Council.

I sit on the Planning and Parish Centre Management Committees, as well as attending meetings with the Police and Herts Highways. I am keen to conserve the village and the surrounding Green Belt and prevent the area becoming an overspill for Greater London.

Last summer I discovered that the District Council were suggesting building over 3000 houses in the Parish which would have changed Redbourn completely. A campaign was launched and the proposals were eventually taken out of the Draft Local Development Framework.

I am now the project manager for the new Redbourn Parish Neighbourhood Plan, and we will be having our first public meeting on 25th May (details in this Newsletter). This Plan will be the way to determine our future and make a clear statement about what we, the locals, want for Redbourn. I hope you will join me.



Registered Charity No. 297955

Our Services to Villagers

We all too often take for granted what we do as a volunteer group in this lovely village of ours; and sometimes we need to remind ourselves, as well as potential clients, of the services we have to offer.

Transport can be provided to visit hospitals, dentists, doctors and clinics for treatment. We have over 50 caring people who are willing to use their own cars, in exchange for a minimum donation to cover their running costs (currently 40pence per mile). Medical prescriptions can be collected should there be difficulties.

Our Care Bus transports clients to and from Redbourn Day Centre, as well as providing a door to door service to local shops and a nearby supermarket so there is no waiting around in all weathers! We also make journeys to an afternoon Monday Club, the Village Good Companions, the Macular Disease Society and a swimming group to Harpenden, to name but a few, and organise and run frequent outings in our minibus. These are very popular because it gives people, often living alone, the chance to enjoy the company of others for a large part of an afternoon; for dates and how to book a place, look out for our articles in 'Common Round' each month or posters dotted around the village. We also like to think of the Care Bus as the village minibus because, for consideration of a donation, we can provide it with a driver to various village groups..

Mobility Vehicles - We have 4 electric Personal Mobility Vehicles available for short or long term loan. These are of various types and sizes and are in good condition. Two of the vehicles have front/rear lights and indicators. All we ask is that the borrower pays for the insurance. To try one out, please contact the Care Office.

Message in a bottle – we operate this scheme locally on behalf of the Lions Club. It is particularly useful and potentially life-saving for those who live alone, should urgent medical assistance be needed. Pick up a pack from our office or, we can deliver if getting about is not easy.

And remember that the Care Group exists for people of all ages and backgrounds; if we can help, we will. All you have to do is pop in to the **Care Group Office in the Village Hall. We are open 9.30 – 12 noon Mon – Fri. Tel: 01582 794550.** For full details of services you can pick up a brochure from the office or visit the Redbourn website and click on 'Care Group'. **Non urgent** requests or enquiries can be sent by email to redbourncaregroup@btconnect.com

We need your help ... We are concerned that the open space between St Luke's School and Hilltop, (known as "the pan handle"), is being used as a dumping ground and place to burn garden rubbish. In the dry conditions which currently prevail this is a fire hazard. The Parish Council leases the land as part of the Long Cutt Play area from St Albans District Council. If you see anyone using the land in this anti-social way please report it to the Parish Council (01582 794832) or notify PC Chris Clayton or PCSO Alli Dewar (01727 354192).

Youth Club News

Now that the new centre is open for business, the Parish Council wishes to fulfil its promise to re-instate the Youth Club in Redbourn. We are not sure how much funding will be available for youth workers to be employed, and we are consulting with the appropriate organisations. Thanks to the flourishing Redbourn Youth Parish Council, occasional film nights have begun to be held at the Centre for young teenagers. Posters advertising these will go up on village noticeboards. However, we need to find out what the young people of Redbourn would like from a youth club, and what would make them attend regularly. Parish councillors and youth workers are carrying out surveys, building on the results of the survey the Youth Council have organised, and have arranged a meeting at the Parish Centre for young people in the village on the evening of 26th May. There will be a competition to decide the name for the youth club, the creator of the winning name will receive a prize. If you are a teenager living in Redbourn, and you have not yet been asked for your views on the youth club and teen activities in the village, please contact the Parish Council. If any adults would like to volunteer to help run the youth club, or to fundraise, please let the Parish Clerk know. The biggest complaint we hear from young people in the village is that there is nothing for them to do – encourage teenagers in your own family to get involved, so we can create something they will really enjoy. Watch noticeboards around Redbourn and the website for more news about the youth club.

DATES for your DIARY

Every week - **Monday Club** for the over 60's
Methodist Church - 2 to 4pm - friendly atmosphere,
Light refreshments served (Transport available)
Contact: Redbourn Care Group 01582 794550

Thursday - **Pop-In** - Village Hall, 9.30 to 11.30am
Join your friends for a cup of tea or coffee and a friendly chat - Stalls:
Plants, Books, Cards, Bric-a-Brac

Cumberland Garden

Weeding first Wednesday morning every month
at 10.00 am

Bring your own tools! Stay as long as you like.

First Tuesday every month - **Good Companions**

Village Hall, 2.00 - 4.00 pm

(Transport available if required)

Contact 01582 792822 for further details

Redbourn Youth Parish Council

Every third Tuesday, 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm, Parish Centre

Village Plan Meeting

Wednesday 25 May, 7.30 pm

Conference Room, Parish Centre

Beating the Bounds

Sunday 29 May 2011

9.00 am at the Harpenden Lane Roundabout, or

11.30 am approx at St Mary's Church

Scout Fete

Saturday 11 June, 11.30 am to 2.30 pm

The Common

Redbourn in Bloom

Outing to Burghley House

Wednesay 29 June

REDBOURN PARISH CENTRE

This lovely new building is available for hire from 8.00 am to 11 pm daily. Suitable for meetings, conferences and social events, it has already been used for christening parties, children's parties, a movie evening, a youth choir, photography shoot and first aid classes. The main hall can accommodate 80-100 people whilst the conference room can hold 40 people. The building benefits from care-taking services, has a fitted kitchen (with electric cooker, hot cupboard, water urn, refrigerator, and handwashing, food preparation and washing up sinks) accessed from both the foyer and main hall, and fully serviced washrooms. The building offers free Wi-Fi, internet connections and also multi-media audio visual systems.

If you would like to view the building we will be happy to show you around. Contact the Parish Clerk or her Assistant for an appointment and more information including cost of hire, etc, on 01582 794832.

Another successful annual **Art and Crafts Show** took place at the Village Hall over Easter Weekend. Help is required next year for setting up and taking down the stalls and art displays. Please contact Pat Schofield if you can help (01582 793096). All proceeds go to the Recreation Centre.

The intention is to produce REDBOURN NEWS quarterly. If there are any subjects you would like to see in the newsletter or if you have an article/letter you would like published please write to the Parish Clerk Diane Whiskin, or e-mail clerk@redbournparishcouncil.gov.uk

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

(from 5 May 2011)

Beaumont Ward

Maria Maynard (Chairman of Planning)
2 High Street

Colin O'Donovan (Chairman Commons)
7 Ver Road - 01582 792382

Ron Stent
10 Saberton Close - 01582 793151

David Fenton
Old Dairy Farm, The Common - 07585907009 or
clr.david.fenton@redbournparishcouncil.gov.uk

David Mitchell
South Field House, Lilly Lane, Hemel Hempstead
01442 257720 or 07973418124
clr.david.mitchell@redbournparishcouncil.gov.uk

Thomas Hardy
52b High Street - 01582 792704

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Nicholls Ward

Pat Schofield
82 The Park - 01582 793096

Vivienne Windle
1 Coopers Meadow - 01582 626351

Roger Gray
"Stoneleigh", Blackhorse Lane - 01582 76291

Nadia Davies
6 Brache Close - 01582 799083
Nadia.davis12@btopenworld.com

Vacancy

Vacancy

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Parish Clerk - Diane Whiskin

Parish Centre, The Park, Redbourn AL3 7LR
01582 794832 or clerk@redbournparishcouncil.gov.uk

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District Councillors

Maxine Crawley
14 Saberton Close - 01582 793760
(Sitting member, subject to re-election on May 5th.)

Tony Swendell
6 Monks Close - 01582 792076

Roger Gray
"Stoneleigh", Blackhorse Lane - 01582 762914

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County Councillor
Maxine Crawley (details as above)

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Member of Parliament

Rt Hon Peter Lilley
01582 834344
email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk

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