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This issue has been generously sponsored by  
**Friends of the Bulletin**

***The Milton Abbas Parish Newsletter***

***July 2022***

***incorporating What's On - pages 9 & 10***

**The Future of Milton Abbas Newsletter - The Bulletin**

Some changes and thank you's with regard to the newsletter for which I have been proud to be editor and producer since the daunting task of taking over in 2017, from the late and fondly remembered Peter Chafer.

First of all, on behalf of all our readers and supporters some very grateful thanks to:

- **Terry Hawker** who after this edition is taking a well earned retirement from his unstinting and very many years service to the village, distributing the newsletter. Not sure how many walking miles this would represent over the period of time but it would be considerable. Added to that would be his recent recognition by Dorset County Council for his years of volunteer work keeping our locality free of litter. In recent times he also distributed the Valley News which he will also no longer be doing.
- **Sue Hodder** who is also standing down from her dual roles of Bulletin treasurer and producer of the 'What On' section. Paula Driver has volunteered to take on these and has produced this months version. Thank you Paula.

Due to holidays and other commitments it will not be possible for me to produce a Bulletin for August and probably September.

In recent times there have many conversations re funding, digital emailed versions, coordinated use of social media platforms, merger with the Valley News (which represents Milton Abbas and surrounding villages and includes some of the same articles as in the newsletter) etc etc. I will be happy to coordinate/receive any initial expressions of interest/suggestions.

Meanwhile please enjoy this larger than usual edition enhanced with all the wonderful Jubilee event pictures. Regards, Ed

**MATCH PATCH CELEBRATE THE PLATIUM JUBILEE**

On Saturday the 4th June to celebrate the Queens 70 years on the throne Match Patch planted a Silver Birch Tree in the orchard. The tree was kindly donated by Helena Brown and the plaque provided by Dave Morley both are plot holders.

From Keith Gipp Match Patch Chairman



**MILTON ABBAS PARISH  
COUNCIL**

Minutes Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th May 2022 in the READING ROOM, MILTON ABBAS, at 7.20pm

**PRESENT**

Mr S. Driver            Mr N. Hodder (Chairman)  
Mr T. Ives              Mr R. Woodhouse (Vice-Chair)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mrs E. Sellen (Clerk) and 7 members of the general public. Mr T. Khandwala, Unitary Cllr Mrs E. Parker and an additional member of the public attended via zoom.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr P. Amor, Ms K. Finlayson, Mr S. Gould, Mr T. Khandwala & Unitary Cllr Mrs E. Parker.

**2. DISPENSATIONS**

TK had submitted a request for dispensation from attendance at meetings. The dispensation was unanimously accepted.

**3. OPEN FORUM None**

**4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2022 had been circulated. It was proposed by NH and unanimously agreed by those who had attended the previous meeting, that they should be accepted as a true record.

**5. MATTERS ARISING**

The Clerk had contacted the proprietor of the "Duck and Chicken" food van which had visited Catherine's Well in March and requested that future visits be scheduled for after 4.30pm to allow for the school bus to depart, and for the second vehicle not to be parked on the grass verge. There have been no subsequent visits. The replacement Nationwide cheque has been received and banked.

The Clerk had circulated photographs of the kissing gate at the entrance to Jane's Wood. The Clerk has obtained dates of future Jane's Wood working party visits and will send a letter to the landowner to request access. Some discussion regarding the easement ensued and consideration of investigating an alternate access.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

All correspondence had been circulated by email. The clerk drew attention to the following: Mr Peter Chafer died on 28th April.

Details of funeral arrangements are available on request.

Mr D. Morley has retired as chair of Matchpatch and Mr K. Gipp has taken over as Chair. Significant changes for access to Household Recycling Centres came into force on 1st May, so it is worth checking online before attendance if you have a van, works vehicle or trailer, in particular.

Planning Update event at Dorford Baptist Church Dorchester 27th May.

Mr Burdett-Clark had contacted the clerk to point out that the kissing gate is on private land and no repairs should be undertaken without consultation.

TI enquired about the appeal on the

bridleway from Catherine's Well to the Abbey and requested the Clerk to obtain an update.

**7. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Mrs E. Parker's report was available for residents to read. The Clerk announced the contents of the report and advised that it had been posted as a file on the Milton Abbas Parish Council Facebook group.

**8. REPORTS**

**HOMEWATCH**

Mrs E. Payne confirmed circulation of various media including road closure notices, planning applications etc.

**MATCH/JANE'S WOOD**

EP relayed a message from Ms J. Harrison confirming the MATCH AGM has not yet been rescheduled. No updates on Jane's Wood. RG asked whether the Jane's Wood sign would be reinstated. TI offered to enquire from Mr R. Pressland.

EP confirmed no updates for Jane's Wood or the Millennium Green.

**PLAYPARK**

TI advised that there were a number of minor points on the inspection report which have been considered. The most major is the subsidence under the Captain Mannering installation, however the inspection does not suggest that there should be any concern at this time. The play park committee are considering options for long term resolution.

**TRANSPORT**

NH confirmed that Dorset Council are slowly progressing the replacement signs for the location of Lower Lodge. Additional yellow lines have been painted on the road as a novel speed reduction technique. NH advised that an Openreach cage on the pavement outside Dale Cottage has now been replaced with a plastic floor guard, following a complaint to Openreach, so the pavement can now be used without the need to step into the road. NH had circulated an email from Dorset Council advising that their Govt grant request for £92M for improved bus services has been declined.

**WELCOME PACK**

TK advised that he has just published another update on Facebook, and continues to receive useful feedback. NH suggested maybe a monthly reminder that the Welcome Pack exists should be published through the usual communications channels.

**CSW None**

**MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST**

Mr R. Golledge had no updates. Mrs F. Robinson reminded everyone that there would be a community effort to tidy the Millennium Green on 22nd May in preparation for the Big Lunch as part of the Jubilee Celebrations.

**TELEPHONE KIOSK None**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

NH confirmed that planning applications and road closures have been reported on the Milton Abbas Community Facebook page and circulated by Ellie-gram.

**COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS None**

**PLATINUM JUBILEE ARRANGEMENTS**

FR advised that the invitations to the Big Lunch would be delivered during the

weekend, and pointed out that anyone who wished to partake of the free food and drink must submit the reply slip. NH advised that flyers advertising the various events will be delivered to all households over the weekend. Mrs E. Payne encouraged all households to consider decorating their houses with bunting.

**NHS WILDFLOWER GARDEN**

NH has recently spoken to the new farm manager at Milton Abbey School, but has not yet received the promised email from him. Exams will likely take priority at present, but in theory they are still prepared to put in the necessary labour, although some topsoil may be required from the Parish Council.

**REPORTS FROM OTHER PC OFFICERS**

TK has liaised with the Clerk re the defibrillators. Both in working order, however there is a damaged clip on the casing of the unit at the Surgery, which requires the whole cabinet to be replaced at a cost of £415+VAT, and the alarm on the unit at the Church is no longer working, although this is not considered critical. SD suggested that we ought to investigate whether the alarm from the damaged unit can be utilised to repair the unit at the Church. Agenda item for July to allow for reserves to be utilised to carry out the required repairs.

**9. PLANNING**

**Decisions**

P/FUL/2021/05710 Little Westwood – Erection of 1no detached dwelling – Refused  
P/HOU/2022/01281 Nether Fen Milton Abbey School – Erect garage – Granted

P/NMA/2022/00584 Cornborough, Milton Abbey School - Non-material amendment to Planning Permission No. P/HOU/2021/01632 to remove the north east chimney - Refused  
P/NMA/2022/01150 Strawberry Cottage, 49 Milton Abbas - Non material amendment against planning application P/HOU/2021/04572 to allow door and windows to be moved, 2 roof lights moved to right, internal wall to partition the garage, insulate garage walls and lower overall height of walls – Refused

P/PABA/2022/00741 Oxhouse, Delcombe – Erection of an agricultural building for the storage and housing of sheep on a temporary basis – Pre-approval granted

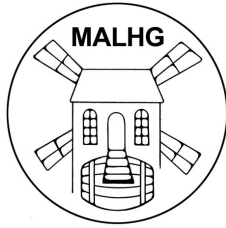
**Applications**

P/HOU/2022/00778 & P/LBC/2022/00779 5 Milton Abbas - Replace extension roof and 4 roof lights. Carry out internal alterations, repairs & redecoration. Install internal boiler (14/04/2022) – It was unanimously agreed to support this application.

P/HOU/2022/01974 Stonecroft - Erect single storey extensions (demolish garage and lean-to extension) (25/04/2022) – Mr K. Gipp attended to answer any questions and confirmed that he had spoken to all his neighbours, who are happy with the application. It was unanimously agreed to support this application. (Catherine's Well) is long, open gardens and to permit a garage to be built in the garden would be detrimental to the character of this area.

**Continued Page 8 Col 3**

## MILTON ABBAS LOCAL HISTORY GROUP



Bryan Phillips

## Notes from the Milton Abbas local history group July 2022

So now we know!

One of our members gave a presentation at our June meeting about the building of the lake and dam in Milton Abbas by Joseph Damer, Lord Milton. The excavations were started after Capability Brown had died, although it might already have been planned by him - unfortunately his designs do not survive. With just manpower, shovels and wheelbarrows this was a massive undertaking, similar in scale to the 18th century canal building, except paid for by just one man, with the profits from his Irish and Milton Abbas estates. After the construction came the filling - which is a great story in itself since Lord Milton shut the sluices to the Milborne Brook which stopped several water mills functioning, and cut off the supply to the farms downstream and Edmund Morton Pleydell's manor at Milborne St Andrew. Despite judgements against Lord Milton from 1795 onwards, he carried on regardless, and the Morton Pleydells gave up and moved to Whatcombe House.

We have shown that the story by the Rev Pentin, vicar of Milton Abbas, published around 1904 concerning the flooding out of the last leaseholder, William Harrison, is just that - a story with no evidence whatsoever.

This was a super piece of research and shows just what can be achieved by a close examination of surviving documents. There is more to this story because there were further court cases and proceedings against Lord Milton's heirs, including Caroline Damer and Lord Portarlington.

By the way the lake never did fill to its design as you can see today, the lake is about 30 feet below the height of the dam. The Abbey Church and mansion house were surely meant to be viewed from the three arched bridge looking across the lake and reflected in its surface, an absolutely typical Brown design. It is hard to imagine now, all the views are blocked by trees, the lake is covered with vegetation, and the landscape gardens are now rank meadows. Wouldn't it be wonderful if the whole Brown design could be brought back - it could look like Chatsworth, Stowe or Blenheim! As the leading Brown expert, John Phibbs, put it - Milton Abbas is one of the top ten examples in the country, perhaps the best example of his late work.

This is an exciting time for historians and archeologists with the new technologies of LiDAR, 3D laser imaging, photogrammetry and drones being made more affordable and usable and shining new perspectives on our past and future. Our history group are currently exploring the latest LiDAR images and overlaying this onto the various maps we have.

New members are still joining our group and the latest recruits are adding considerably to our knowledge by transcribing and using the latest LiDAR images. Many thanks to all our transcribers over the years because of their hard work we now have over a thousand documents available to search by our members. This makes research so much easier and more reliable.

Do follow our website to see the latest findings.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday 6th July in the Reading Rooms, Milton Abbas, 19:30**, will feature some new evidence about the long, four hundred year, and tangled history of Milton Abbas Grammar School. Do come along and see what we are up to.

### There's no such thing as a free lunch....

... however, you can get a perfectly good two course meal (and a glass of sherry) for as little as £5 on the second Wednesday of each month in the Milton Abbas Reading Room.

A small group of ladies (supported by our local sommelier smelly Trevor Payne) take it in turns to test out their culinary skills on unsuspecting residents of this and neighbouring villages. The problem is "too many cooks" who are now outnumbering their customers!

Before Covid-19 there were always around 20 or so participants but sadly, since the re-opening of the Milton Abbas Lunch Club a few months ago, the numbers have dwindled to 6 or 7.

So, why not come along to the next lunch - you never know you might like the food - and you can also take the opportunity to meet some of your neighbours on Wednesday 13th July between 1:00 and 2:30 p.m.

As is customary when more than three people meet in Dorset, there is a raffle (50p a ticket) so attendees are encouraged to bring a small raffle prize to put into the draw. All profits are set aside to subsidise a Christmas Lunch.

To book your place at the next Lunch Club please register your name with Milton Abbas Post Office by Monday 11th July to give the cooks time to buy the food.



## Milton Abbas celebrates the Platinum Jubilee in style

It all started on Friday afternoon with glorious sunshine and ended on Sunday afternoon with just a few showers from 3 o'clock so we just about got away with it!



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations started with free tea and cakes outside St James' Church with most of the cakes provided by local residents. They included a fabulous Crown sponge cake produced by the Saunders family. It is noted that Jack makes a cake for Coffee Stop every Tuesday morning as part of a Duke of Edinburgh award he is seeking. Sara had the honour of cutting it under the watchful eye of Richard.!



The weather was kind and around 150 people (including a few passers-by) enjoyed their afternoon teas. Meanwhile, across the road in the Reading Room the History Group held their exhibition covering significant events and other points of interest covering the past 70 years both within the village and much further afield. Over the two days there were over 100 visitors and donations made by visitors are greatly appreciated. As you may imagine, much time and effort was put in by very few individuals to create the items presented.

Of particular interest to many of the visitors was the article about a chestnut tree falling on one of the thatched cottages in 1953 – for those who were asking which one, it has now been confirmed to be No. 8. What followed showed that “elf and safety” was alive and well even in the 1950s as the local Council decided the diseased trees were past their sell by date and had to all be removed. Such a shame!



We were also treated to a wonderful display of red, white and blue (plus a little bit of purple) in St James' Church where the floral display took place. Very colourful.

On to Friday night at the Milton Abbey School theatre where approaching 200 people from far and wide (including Katya and her family from Ukraine – a warm welcome to Milton Abbas) were entranced by a splendid 59 min 49 sec film from Tony Shearn depicting extracts from the Queen's life and family interspersed with other notable worldwide news items – all to a background of music through the ages. For those who were wondering about the ending to the song playing when we lost the last 11 seconds they are “.... Long to reign over us, God Save the Queen”.

After a short break for alcoholic refreshment this was followed by Pete Robins (regular visitors to The Hambro will know him through his association with Longdog) hosting a stream of artistes, including our very own Elvis (Chris Henderson) and local girl-band The Divas, singing some of the hit songs of the last 70 years. The show started with Hal Cazalet singing the first number 1 in the Hit Parade in November 1952 - Here in my Heart by Al Martino –and ended with audience participation with everyone singing some of Her Majesty's best loved songs.

Without a doubt, the star of the show was Dave Robinson singing Ernie (The Fastest Milkman in the West) – an excellent interpretation and he dressed for the part – we won't forget old Ernie. Cometh the hour, cometh the man!

**Continued on page 5**

Saturday was a less busy day with a late decision to move the screening of the Party at the Palace inside due to the anticipated storms that evening. The weather probably kept some potential viewers at home but those who ventured out had a great night joining in with Rod Stewart singing Neil Diamond’s “Sweet Caroline” – really! who puts these shows together?

Anyone for a marmalade sandwich? Which is a not so clever link to The Big Lunch on Sunday afternoon at The Millennium Green. The lamb roast plus a well-received vegan option, followed by a wide range of children’s (and adults) races, proved to be a fabulous (almost) rain free affair.



If the Facebook comments and emails received are anything to go by, it was certainly a day to remember and enjoyed by all. The expected showers did not deter the many villagers who proved yet again what a strong community we have here in Milton Abbas. Long may it continue.



There are far too many people to thanks individually for the weekend of celebration so I will not attempt to do so. Let’s just say a very big THANK YOU to all who created, managed and participated in the various events over the 3 days.

**Nigel Hodder (on behalf of the Jubilee Organising Committee)**

**Milton Abbas Surgery News Gillian Brindle**

**24th July 2022 is Samaritans Awareness Day**

No matter what you are going through the Samaritans are there to listen, 24/7, without judgement or pressure. So, if you are struggling and don’t know who to turn to, please just pick up the phone and dial their free helpline: 116 123. You may also want to consider calling the surgery and speaking with Kelly, our Social Prescriber. She will be happy to be a listening ear and may be able to signpost you to support and help with whatever concerns you are facing. Whatever you are facing, remember you are not alone. #TalkToUs Whatever you are facing, remember you are not alone. #TalkToUs

**Plant and Veg Swap**

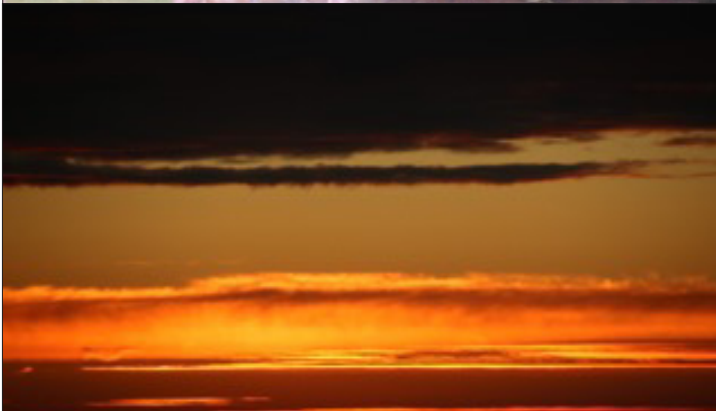
We have set up a plant/seedlings swap at the surgery where people can donate any spare seedlings or plants they have, and then anyone who comes to the surgery can pick up a plant on their way out. We would like to say a BIG thank you to all of you who have already contributed to our plant and veg swap here at the surgery. So far already we have had tomatoes, courgettes, dwarf green beans, purple sprouting broccoli, salad leaves, dahlias... the list goes on! Please keep bringing them in to us. And once you have potted your new plant at home, if you can bring the empty pots back to the surgery for them to be used again that would be great. Thank you everyone!

**Are you a Carer?**

The beginning of June saw the annual carers week take place with various events taking place across Dorchester to support carers locally. We know caring for someone can be difficult and isolating. If you care for a family member or friend who has a disability, illness or needs support in later life, please let us know. It is important that we know that you are an unpaid carer so that we are aware of the extra pressures you are under and can offer you appropriate support and information. Please contact Kelly or speak to any of the team who will be able to help you.



Jubilee Weekend Pictures





Jubilee Weekend Pictures



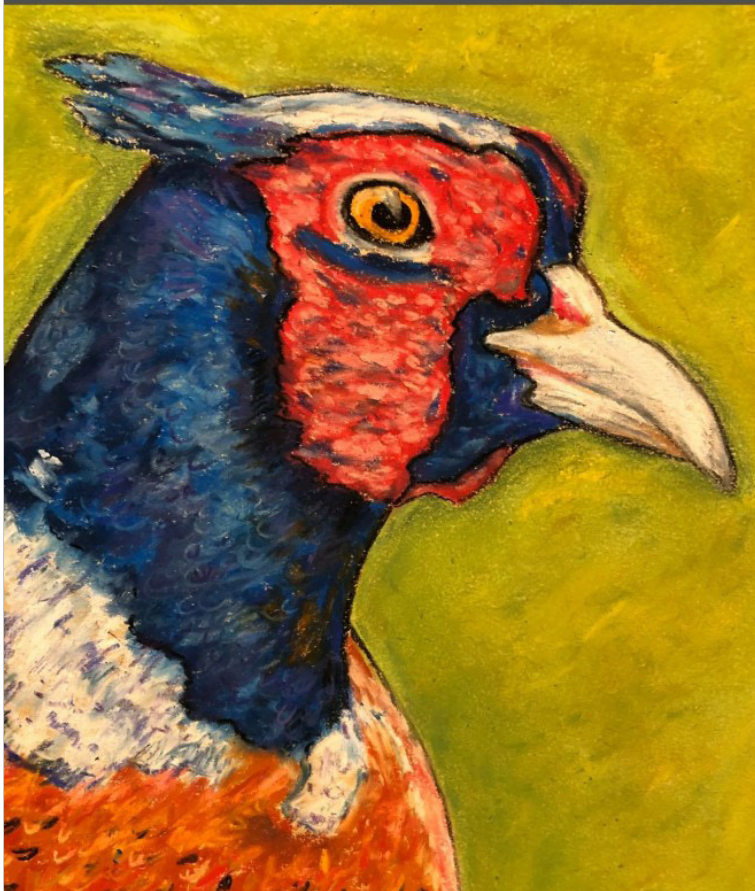


# MILTON ABBAS ART GROUP



23-31 July  
11am-5pm

Milton Abbas Reading Room



# EXHIBITION

FREE ENTRY

Continued from page 2

P/VOC/2022/02028 Strawberry Cottage 49 Milton Abbas - Erect garage & studio (demolish existing garage) (variation of condition 2 of planning permission P/HOU/2021/04572 to amend the approved plans) (29/04/2022) – RW advised that he had done the drawings and would abstain from the vote, but happy to answer questions. There were three votes in favour of supporting this application (and one abstention).

P/HOU/2022/02031 Bramber - Erect single storey side, front and rear extensions (19/04/2022) – it was unanimously agreed to support this application.

P/FUL/2022/02294 Land At 1 Catherine's Well - Erect garage (10/05/2022) – it was proposed by RW, seconded by SD and unanimously agreed to object to this application, due to the fact that the character of this development (Catherine's Well) is long, open gardens and to permit a garage to be built in the garden would be detrimental to the character of this area.

P/HOU/2022/02814 & P/LBC/2022/02815 51 Milton Abbas – Ext. & int. alterations & refurbishment of ancillary annexe building (03/06/2022) – It was unanimously agreed to support this application.

Any General Planning Concerns

LD 118-1 Little Hewish Farm Land Deposit – for information only

P/VOC/2022/02400 Fishmore Hill Farm - Erect 1 No. dwelling with store and welfare room (with variation of condition 4 of planning permission P/FUL/2021/00111 to amend approved materials)

10. COUNCILLOR VACANCY UPDATE  
There have been one or two expressions of interest in the vacancy, and NH encouraged all interested to submit an application.

11. EFORESTS.CO.UK FREE TREES OFFER

Due to technical failure, KF requested that the item be considered at the next meeting.

12. DECLARE THE PARISH COUNCIL EXEMPT FROM AUDIT

The receipts and payments spreadsheet for 2021/2022 had been circulated by email and it was confirmed that neither income (£24,411.08) or expenditure (£8,720.50)

exceed the £25,000 limit for requirement of external audit. It was unanimously agreed to declare the Parish Council exempt.

14. CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS  
NH considers it an honour to have been voted Chairman and he hopes that the Parish Council will make great strides in the coming year. KG passed the Matchpatch lease to the clerk for consideration at the next meeting.

**The next ordinary meeting would take place on 12th July 2022.**

### St James & Almshouses 180 Club Draw – Summer Special

1st	31	James	Farnham	£50
2nd	87	Gaynor	Norris	£40
3rd	166	Maximilian	Joanknecht	£30
4th	133	Linda	Whelan	£30
5th	10	Sarah	Cooper	£20
6th	168	Jill	Cocking	£20
7th	170	Jonathan	Elliott	£20
8th	110	Rachel	Coleman	£20
9th	83	Paul	Battrick	£10
10th	2	Derek	Lamb	£10

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