Uley, Owlpen & Nympsfield

April 2024

Village News



Uley Parish Council

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Uley Parish Council Meeting	S	
You are very welcome to atter	ne Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the mo nd. Details of the meetings can be found on the the Uley village website at: <u>www.uleyparishcou</u>	notice boards at



The April edition of the Messenger is available to download from:

https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/parish-resources/communications/#messenger

Please note, articles submitted by individuals do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the Church and / or Parish Council.

Uley Parish Council



Key dates for the upcoming elections on Thursday 2 May 2024

Registration Deadline Midnight, Tuesday 16 April 2024

Postal Vote Deadline 5pm, Wednesday 17 April 2024

Proxy Vote Deadline 5pm, Wednesday 24 April 2024

Polling Day Thursday 2 May 2024

Candidates are needed to join Uley Parish Council

If you love your community and want to help make a difference please contact the Parish Council Clerk for more information.

clerk@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Report from Uley Parish Council for inclusion in papers for meeting of SDC Housing Committee on Tuesday 19th March 2024

On Thursday 14th March Uley Parish Council (UPC) arranged a public meeting in Uley Village Hall in order to gather the views of the community concerning Stroud District Council's (SDC) proposed development of The Knoll.

In excess of 85 members of the public attended the meeting, some of whom were representing others unable to attend. Members of the public were given the opportunity to make comments and ask questions of a panel which included two District Councillors and several members of the SDC Housing Committee and Planning Department.

All the comments and questions asked were against the proposal. The main areas of concern were:

The school. Very close proximity to major building site; safety of access for pupils, staff and parents; severely damaging effect upon appeal of the school, overall pupil numbers, attraction and retention of high quality staff; noise and particle pollution effect upon health and wellbeing; distraction from education. Currently open, peaceful outlook from classrooms and playing field; these would both be overlooked by development with potential views into the classrooms.

Safety. Widespread concern regarding safety of pedestrians, particularly the young and the old, both in the vicinity of the site and over the whole length of South Street and the feeder road, The Street, the main access points to The Millennium Green and to Prema and its

café. These concerns were both for the period of demolition and construction and for the future with a net increase of 15 dwellings on this site.

Decanting. Widespread distress at the way tenants and owner occupiers have been treated; lives put on hold and futures made uncertain; destabilising effect upon residents' lives; daily stress about future which is likely to take at least 2 years to determine. How do residents manage their households through this lengthy period of uncertainty.

Highways. Access totally unsuitable: too narrow; lack of pavements; danger to pedestrians, parked cars and animals; existing traffic and parking pressures. Pedestrian access to the school. Access off The Street already severely congested at times. Additional construction vehicles over building period of in excess of two vears will exacerbate. No turning space for large vehicles. Increase in volume of traffic with 18 new dwellings. Further congestion of The Street, Uley's main thoroughfare. Safety of access for existing residents of South Street to doctor's surgery. Insufficient parking spaces allocated for new residents: no visitor spaces.

Loss of Heritage Asset. Many people, both within and without the community, admire and treasure the Swedish houses. They form part of the history of the village. General dissatisfaction that they have been allowed to deteriorate, that useful housing has been left empty and that heritage assets have been allowed to rot. Everyone attending was in favour of retention and retrofit of these houses. 20th Century Society recommend that they should be designated Non-Designated Heritage Assets (NDHAs) in recognition of their heritage significance. The 20th Century Society is a Statutory Consultee for listed buildings and is a recognised consultant for NDHAs. SDC's report for next week's meeting somewhat misrepresents Historic England's view; HE's 2018 report clearly states that these buildings are of local significance.

Access for Emergency Vehicles. This is already very constricted and causes worry.

Infrastructure. Severe problems already exist with the main sewage system through the village and along the river. Severn Trent has acknowledged that the mains water supply pipework is in an unsatisfactory state in some parts of the village.

Planning Blight. Over the whole area. This is a peaceful area of Uley, close to the settlement edge. Because of the problems of access and the likely duration of demolition and construction, every house on South Street would be affected by noise, traffic, congestion, loss of amenity, disruption of peaceful enjoyment and loss of value. Damaging effect of the current uncertainty about the future is bearing on house values.

Ecology. Grave concerns about the disturbance of wildlife across this area of the village and the Millennium Green, the effects of run-off, both during demolition/ construction and from the ncreased hard landscaping. Pollution of River Ewelme below.

Budget. At meeting in January number of new units increased from 16 to 18 because of marginal viability of scheme. Therefore highly unlikely that there will be scope in the budget for a preschool or a turning circle. Current plan provides insufficient parking spaces for residents and none for visitors.

Resolutions. Two resolutions were proposed by a member of the public. These were carried.

- 1) To request the Parish Council to oppose the proposal to build 18 houses on The Knoll.
- 2) To request the Parish Council to request Stroud District Council to restore the existing Swedish houses and to bring them to full occupation.

In summary, UPC asks the Housing Committee to take note of the opposition to this development.

Result from SDC Housing Committee meeting on Tuesday 19th March 2024

Motion: To consider the proposal to redevelop 3 sites which include Swedish Timber Houses and to add these to the New Homes and Regeneration Programme and to request that Council is asked to allocate the additional budget required.

Outcome: The resolution received cross party support at Stroud District Council (one member abstained), with the amendment that an update will be brought back to committee regarding highway and other key infrastructure considerations.

Uley Millenium Green

In accordance with the 2021 Environment Act, which became law on 1st January this year, Parish Councils and organisations must have a biodiversity policy in place and be seen to be acting on it.

To further our biodiversity policy, Uley Parish Council introduced the trustees of Uley Millennium Green to Glorious Cotswold Grasslands and their volunteers. The UMG trustees have co-ordinated with GCG to restore a selected area of the steep bank down towards the river. Work was carried out early in March with a view to promoting and encouraging the growth of more wildflowers for pollinators on the UMG.

The trustees who manage the Millennium Green have been closely involved with this scheme and will continue to monitor the area and assess whether any further areas will be suitable as a future project.



All ages are welcome.

Marmalade for sale in aid of the church wall fund

> Please contact Liz Rymer on 860520 or 07377 401747

Church News

Spring is on the way, and the village looks beautiful. The wedding season is underway too, mostly at Owlpen. You can hear the bells ring out across the Uley valley when the wind is in the right direction.

The clock chimes again – with night curfew!

The Easter Season is upon us – do join us for any or all of our Easter services across the Benefice. All are most welcome.

Uley School children will be Experiencing Easter with church members, who we do thank for organising these sessions, which have proved popular year after year. It is a joy as always, to be working closely with school staff and students.

Messy Church continues. If you haven't been before with your primary school age children, do come and give it a go. By way of encouragement, the cake is always delicious! Many thanks to all who were involved in any way with the interview day for a new Rector. Very much appreciated. We await an announcement with excitement and anticipation.

Christian Aid Week comes round in May. Watch out for activities, information and ways to support this vital charity, with so much need at the present time.



Church Quiz Results

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Quiz in aid of Uley Church – this raised £1,478, a really good result. Thanks to our quiz master Matthew Fort and adjudicator Paul Mills not forgetting Marion Mills who ran the event.

There were 14 teams, the winning team was Anne & Paul Hutt, Cathy & Rod White and Frances & David Lungley. There were very generous donations to the raffle from individuals and local businesses including Frocester Fayre, Eastington Farm Shop, Della Cassa restaurant and Uley Community Stores.

Please all turn out at 10.30 on April 20th to support the start of Uley Church Friends – see you there!

From the Registers

Year's Mind in April

Daisy Jessie Coles, Kenneth Ken Wright, Christine Smith, Kathleen Baxter, Ruby Hendy, Lilian Anne Mayes, Gerry Bailey, Phyllis Hobbs, Brian Ridsdale, Jim White, Julian Wathen, Mike Stennett, Laura Freeman and Marian Bailey with apologies to the family for omission last month.

Weddings in April

Benjamin Locke & Catrin Fear at Holy Cross on 6th April Stephen Welch & Sophie Wright at Holy Cross on 20th April

Banns of Marriage

Richard Weir & Emily Murrell Joshua Ansell & Charlotte Sanders

Save the Date – Uley Annual Show Saturday September 14th 2024

So far there has been no response to last month's email asking for suggestions or new categories you'd like to see. We your Uley Show Committee have a few great ideas between us.

However there is still opportunity before our meeting April 8th for you, the exhibitors, to have the chance to share any suggestions you might have for us to take into consideration – particularly regarding new category ideas. We don't want to change too much as it's such a successful show, but we always welcome fresh ideas. There is a new email address set up to use for this and any other queries you might have (see below). Shortly after our next meeting in April, we will be putting the Vegetables, Fruit, Art and Photography categories on the Uley Show Facebook, Uley Society Facebook, Uley Society Website and the Uley Community Stores website pages. Keep a good look out and get busy.

Any queries contact the Team by email: <u>uleyannualshow@gmail.com</u>

Pami Daviç

Notice to dog owners and walkers

Please could all dog owners and walkers ensure that their dogs are kept under control when walking public footpaths and in public areas.

Dogs should not be allowed to 'worry' livestock. This means owners must prevent dogs from attacking livestock, chasing livestock, or being out of control off lead in a field containing sheep. Even if your dog does not bite livestock, chasing or barking at them can cause pregnant animals to lose their young through stress. This is particularly important at this time of year.

Dog mess should always be picked up, especially in fields. Canine faeces can contain parasites that, if not cleaned up, can spread to grass. If this grass is eaten it can cause pregnant cattle to lose their young, as well as blindness in humans.

Church Letter

Dear Friends,

I confess to finding it difficult to think what I would like to say for this months letter. There is such a lot happening in the world at the moment that is worthy of comment. In our news the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza are rightly covered in some detail. My difficulty and sadness with this is that I find myself struggling to take it all in. When we see suffering on such a scale how on earth can we respond? Perhaps we find a way, by giving aid or money to support people far away who are suffering. What we can do of course is keep the needs of the suffering world in our thoughts and our daily prayers. Indifference to the world's needs surely cannot be part of who we are.

Where I find hope is in good stories of people with a passion to share. One such story today in our news broadcast was concerning a 13 year old bell ringer who has become the youngest ringer to qualify at Ripon Cathedral in Yorkshire. Alice Barrett started ringing at the age of 10 when her Mum saw a facebook page asking for ringers to ring in the new year 2020, as they were short. Alice went along and loved it. Her Mum Louise said, "Our family are very proud of her dedication. I am incredibly proud of Alice, not only for her accomplishments but also

for her resilience and determination. Learning to ring has been a challenge especially as a small 10-year-old, but she went back week after week with 100% effort and a positive outlook.

"We are forever grateful for the opportunity to ring in such a magnificent building and for the support and friendship so willingly shared by all of the team. If anyone has ever thought 'I'd like to try that', just go and do it. You'll never look back." (from the publication, "The Stray Ferret")

I had the privilege of being with the bell ringers at St James for their AGM recently and their commitment and passion for ringing the bells was so clear to me. Gathered in the ringing chamber were people with years of experience and those too, who are relatively new to bell ringing. What was evident to me was that here were people whose love and passion for bell ringing enhances the worship of the church and because of the centrality of the church in the town, mark all the great occasions the community remembers and celebrates each year. I for one, am verv grateful for their constancy in the worshipping life of the church community.

As we continue in vacancy across the benefice, how many people,

whether as part of a group or just on their own, play a part in making things work and run smoothly? The answer of course is lots of people and most go unnoticed as they quietly go about what they do. Echoing the words written about Alice the bell ringer in Ripon, the life of the Ewelme Benefice in vacancy is very much about "resilience and determination". so that worship continues and we look outwards to the needs of the community and to the world at large. It is also evident in the "support and friendship" we share and nurture, as we try and look out for one another.

Sister Raphael, a Carmelite nun, living in community in Dysart, Scotland spoke about her long life, of 91 years and counting, and her call to a life a prayer and work. In a short film about life there, she said, "We are planted in a place like a flower and all we have to do is to bloom and the sun will shine on us". I think that in these simple words, spoken by a woman of great age and wisdom, there is the invitation for each of us to blossom. I think that it starts with knowing who were are and what we can offer and then trusting that God will provide.

I wish you all well this April and join with you in our prayer for peace in this beautiful world of ours.

Yours in Christ

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Uley Community Stores & Post Office Diary

Tel Shop: 861592 | Tel Post Office: 860203 (Ailsa, Sadie and Angela) www.uleycommunitystores.co.uk | Run by Volunteers

The Committee is pleased to announce that all the six applicants for Uley Community Spirit Grants were successful. They were Uley Event Group (towards the Lantern Festival), Uley & Tabard Youth Players (purchase of microphones), Uley Cricket Club (purchase a new mower for cricket square), Uley Toddlers (renew liability insurance), Friends of Uley School (purchase of iPads) and Uley Society (purchase of digital projector).

The Post Office has had written notice that the last pick up is to change from 17.00 to 16.40.No date has been given yet. Their advice is to have your post, parcels etc. in the Post Office by 16.30, so that they can complete all the necessary paperwork.

The new 1st class picture stamps available are of dinosaurs. However, on Tuesday April 2rd, both the 1st and 2nd class stamps are going up by 10p. The 1st class stamp up to £1.35. Then the 2nd class stamp up to 85p. I'm going to buy on mass ready for posting Christmas cards!!!!

Easter Monday, April 1st Shop 9am-12am, PO closed.

Heads up: May Day Bank Holiday Monday May 6th Shop 9am-12pm, Post Office closed.

Spring Bank Holiday Monday May 27th Shop 9am-12pm, Post Office closed.

If you have any suggestions for any new items you'd like stocked please let us know.

Dami Daviç

Garden Notes

April in Uley

Nothing raises the spirits more than dropping down into our valley with beech woods and hedgerows covered in their lime green fuzz, alive with nesting birds and insects. Let's never tire of the excitement of Spring in all its glory.

Blossom

The garden is full of it. From ornamental cherries, like the stunning mature example in our high street (does anyone know which it is?), to all our fruiting trees, with that exquisite combination of white, pink and green that only nature does best. Step-over apples or pears are an interesting option for edging a path or lawn, or even for delineating sections in a vegetable garden. Grown on very dwarfing rootstock (M27), they can be trained in a single T section no higher than 50cm - ideal to 'step-over' and easy to harvest! They are also suitable for good sized pots, but with more care and feeding to support their growth.

Tulips

Perhaps your pots are resplendent with tulips - so many stunning varieties to choose from and some suitable for planting in borders and grass. Long lasting varieties that have done well with me over 6 years are: Tulip Spring Green, Purissima, White Triumphator and darker varieties such as: Havran, Black Hero and Night Rider. Plant them deep!

Meadows - mini or otherwise

Lawns are getting a lot of bad press

these days, and I admit to eroding ours in favour of a planted mini meadow or even just areas of longer grass. These offer a break in the monoculture of a traditional lawn, giving our wildlife some refuge and, if planted with wildflowers, a great source of pollen and nectar. Even leaving a few feet uncut in areas around the garden and left to flower with daisies and dandelions will attract butterflies. Dandelions flower from March onwards when little else is offering nectar to our early season solitary bees. For the 'lawnless', try planting a pot or two with some wildflower natives and see who comes to visit! I'd like to hear from you. In the coming months I'll expand more on meadows and their maintenance.

Birdsong

For the twitchers amongst us, the birdsong in April is at its crescendo. Although I'm familiar with our most familiar songbirds, the less common leave me ignorantly frustrated particularly when out walking where less common species abound. After a few false starts I've opted for Merlin Bird ID as being the most accurate. Developed by Cornell Lab of Ornithology in New York State, it allows a variety of ID paths to find that elusive bird anywhere in the world! Simply, hold up your phone, press record on the app and up comes a list of who is singing - and it's free! Marvellous!

@awalledgarden <u>purdonuk@gmail.com</u>

INSPIRING WOMEN

Uley WI Diary - March 2024

It's been a busy few weeks with members participating in a variety of sporting, cultural and mind-testing activities. We were joined by members of Sheepscombe WI at the Tudor Arms, Slimbridge for lunch and skittles - hugely enjoyable. Then there was a trip to the Theatre Royal Bath to see 'Calendar Girls'. We dodged showers for a leisurely stroll along the Stroud Canal led by Jenny Cox and were rewarded with an excellent lunch at the Stroud Brewery Café. Well worth a visit. Our Quiz Team in the WI County Championships came 3rd out of 14 teams, which was guite an achievement.

Forthcoming activities include a visit to the Holburne Museum in Bath, a series of 'Supper Club' outings when groups of 4 to 6 members get together for sociable outings with food. We also plan to do lots more local walks now that Spring has arrived. More sunshine will be welcome though.



Our talk at the March meeting was by Angela Lerwell who has written a book about the Sussex farm where she grew up. She highlighted the dramatic changes in the lives of farming families over the past century, by drawing on her family's journals and stories.

The next Uley WI meeting will be in the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 10th April when the talk will be 'Walking the Coast' by Steve Tilley.

Ann Warrender

For more information on Uley WI please contact our email address: <u>secretary.uleywi@gmail.com</u>. You can also follow us on Facebook at 'Uley WI'.

Celebrating 200Years of the RNLILife



Since 1824, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) has saved more than 144,000 lives. 2024 marks 200 years of lifesaving and to celebrate this incredible milestone the Dursley RNLI Branch are organising the following events for your diaries:

Sunday 7th April from 9.30am is the 'Dursley RNLI Five Peaks

Walk' Choice of starting at either Cam Peak or Coaley Peak. The walk takes you on public footpaths to visit Coaley Peak, Uley Bury, Downham Hill, Cam Long Down and Cam Peak. Make a donation on the day or via Just Giving at Dursley RNLI Five Peaks Walk. Get friends, relations and colleagues to sponsor you while you explore our wonderful part of Gloucestershire.

Sunday 19th May from 2 till 4pm -Luxury Cream Tea with a Prosecco Bar at Uley Pavilion, Shadwell.

Come and celebrate and enjoy an afternoon of luxury at a venue with outstanding views. A one-off event that is not to be missed! Tickets cost £6 each and will be on sale at the Uley Shop or pay on the door.

For more information contact Brian at: <u>brian.lamerton@btinternet.com</u> or John at: <u>johns.williams@talk21.</u> <u>com.</u>

Treat your partner or come with friends. All monies raised will be donated to this wonderful charity.

We look forward to seeing you there!

John (p filliamç

Dursley RNLI Branch





From the Archives

In these unsettled times of various strikes throughout the Country, similar situations have always been with us one way or another, so it seemed somewhat timely to talk about the strikes experienced in the Uley valley in the 18th & 19th centuries.

Most of these strikes in troubled times affected the weavers and mill workers and in spite of settlements their wages were so low that many families could hardly survive. In the depression of 1792 at the house of a Uley weaver who was charged with working under the common price, trouble flared and assembled weavers began unroofing & pulling down the house down. The following year it all became more serious, and the military were called in.

In 1802 came the first phase of a long battle that dragged its way through petitions & counter-petitions over the next few years. There were major strikes in the Dursley & Uley areas causing serious disorders between 1825 and 1828.

In 1825 weavers were on strike for a pay rise to compensate for the harder and longer hours required in weaving fine-spun yarn. We must remember that the weavers and their families had few possessions, usually living in rented cottages throughout the village and sometimes working from home, in which case the weaver would have to walk to the clothier's mill or workshop to collect a heavy chain of yarn.

We must bear in mind also that by 1826 there was severe distress all over the country which prompted more unrest among the mill workers. Edward Sheppard, the owner of Uley's largest cloth mill, gave in to most of the strikers demands. He tried to encourage his fellow manufacturers to do the same, but the strike dragged on until the Autumn in the Stroud valleys.

By 1828 the West of England woollen industry was in deep decline and many smaller businesses went bankrupt, as did Sheppard's Mill in the 1830's resulting in many unproductive and empty mills causing poverty and destitution among the population. Uley had lost its industrial heart and its population declined from 2,641 in 1831 to just over 1,000 in 1881. The workhouse, situated at the top of Fop Street, was in a bad state of repair at this time but with the collapse of the woollen industries it was decided to repair it and when the work was completed the first three families were given accommodation, followed by others in fairly quick succession. A desperately sad situation for these once hard-working families with nothing but a very bleak future ahead.

Margaret Groom

Letter of thanks

Thank you so much for the lovely cards, letters and offers of support sent recently.

Tom would have been overwhelmed by the level of love and respect shown. He has always said how lucky we were to have found Uley!

Thank you again

/al Dottç

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Easter weekend The first bank holiday of the year hits us in March and we have: Good Friday—Super seafood specials Easter Sunday— Relax with a roast Easter Monday— Open for Brunch



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Christian Aid

Christian Aid Week falls next month. We've taken information from their website to show their aims and objectives. Next month we'll show how you could support them during their special week.

For over 70 years, we've been standing with the poorest of our neighbours. We work in 37 countries, with people of all faiths and none, to stand up for dignity, equality and justice.

Together with our supporters and partners, we aim:

- to expose poverty throughout the world
- $\cdot\,$ to help in practical ways to end it
- to highlight, challenge and change the structures and systems that favour the rich and powerful over the poor and marginalised.

We believe in life before death

- We seek to follow the teaching of Jesus Christ, who commanded his followers to love their neighbour and work for a better world.
- We stand with the most vulnerable and excluded people of the world
 both in times of crisis and for the longer term.
- We support people to stand up for their rights and to build stable, secure lives they can enjoy living.

We're part of a global movement for change

- Together, we have great influence and impact. We want people to pray with us, to act, to give and to get involved with us in a variety of ways.
- We work to educate and mobilise people to build a movement that can change the course of history and bring social justice to all.
- We campaign to ensure a more equal division of power in the world, promoting the rights and voices of anyone discriminated against because of who they are.
- We push our political leaders to tackle climate change and tax dodging – which hit the poorest the hardest – and for our society to welcome those who have been forced to flee their homes overseas.

Prue Vernon

St Giles, Uley

] ony King

St James, Dursley





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Don't forget about our 100 club too - monthly prizes up to £25 with an input of just £1 a month! Contact <u>100clubuley@gmail.com</u> or 07771 526082 to sign up.

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The Ewelme Benefice Parish of Uley with Owlpen and Nympsfield

Churches of St Giles, Holy Cross and St Bartholomew

Churchwardens: Pauline Thomas 01453 860047 Moya Wallis 01453 619270 www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk

April 2024 Services



Sunday 7th April St Bartholomew's St Giles

Sunday 14th April St Giles

Sunday 21st April St Giles Holy Cross

Sunday 28th April St Giles 2nd Sunday of Easter10.00amService of The Word6.00pmEvening@St Giles, Informal Worship

3rd Sunday of Easter 10.00am Parish Holy Communion

4th Sunday of Easter10.00amParish Holy Communion6.00pmBCP Evensong

5th Sunday of Easter 10.00am Benefice Holy Communion

Church opening times

St Giles is open each day for private prayer St Bartholomew's is opened during the week Holy Cross is open each day

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals by arrangement. Please contact Clare White, Benefice Administrator

ewelmeparishoffice@gmail.com 01453 549280

When the office is closed, emails will still be answered and messages picked up.

Church Activities

13th April- 10am Messy Church at St Giles

20th April- 10.30am Friends of St Giles meet in church



Printed by J&C Carter, 22 High Street, Cam, GL11 5LE E: cotsmark@btopenworld.com T: 01453 546645