

NORTH ASTON

NEWS

September 2014

#287



On the Land, Mikron Pictures, Planning for the Harvest

NORTH ASTON NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2014, No: 287

Useful Contacts

North Aston News

Telephone: (01869) 347356

Email: info@north-aston.co.uk

Kildare Bourke-Borrowes, NAPM Chairman

Telephone: (01869) 340200

Email: chair@north-aston.co.uk

Beverley Rees, NAPM Treasurer

Telephone: (01869) 347434

Email: treasurer@north-aston.co.uk

James Taylor, NAPM Secretary

Telephone: (01869) 347888

Email: secretary@north-aston.co.uk

North Aston PCC

Clive Busby, Church Warden

Telephone: (01869) 338434

Email: casb@north-aston.com

Kildare Bourke-Borrowes

Telephone: (01869) 340200

Email: k.bourkeborrowes@btinternet.com

North Aston Gardening Club

Lynn Quek, Acting Chairperson

Email: lsquek@doctors.org.uk

North Aston Pet Alert

Please notify of any Firework Parties

Deirdre Oakley: Tel (01869) 340646

Also email: info@north-aston.co.uk

North Aston Farms

Telephone: (01869) 347865 or 347888

Email Jeremy: jeremytaylor@north-aston.co.uk

Email james: jamesfionn@hotmail.com

North Aston Organics

Telephone: (01869) 347702

Email: northastonorganics@gmail.com

Website: www.northastonorganics.co.uk

Hillcrest Care - Park Farm House

Telephone: (01869) 349922

Email: farmhousehm@hillcrestcare.co.uk

Nicholson Nurseries

Telephone: (01869) 340342

Email: office@nicholsons.gb.com

Website: www.nicholsons.gb.com

North Aston 100 Club

Norman West. Tel (01869) 340368

Old Bakery Bookings

Mary Healy. Tel (01869) 347702

Email: maryvhealy@googlemail.com

Village Marquee Bookings

Marcus Potts. Tel (01869) 347365

Email: info@north-aston.co.uk

CDC Local Councillor

James Macnamara, Lower Heyford

Telephone: (01869) 340109

Email: cllr.james.macnamara@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Thames Valley Police non-emergency: 101

Out of Hours Doctor: 08453 458 995

Your Village Chairman

Heyford Park and the proposed Neighbourhood Plan

As James has reported in the Minutes of our Village Meeting of August 7th, I prepared and distributed an up-to-date 'sitrep' on this Plan (anyone who wants a copy, please ask). Since then three things have happened. It's been confirmed that North Aston PM (a non-statutory body) can be part of the Plan, the proposal for the Plan has been submitted to Cherwell (probably the largest rural Neighbourhood Plan ever attempted), and CDC have come up with proposals on how to provide the extra required 22,800 homes between 2011 and 2031 – and that now includes for the first time over 2,000 homes at Heyford Park. Plus another 750 homes in rural villages. So things are moving on a-pace, and this must reinforce our decision to participate in the Plan (subject to your vote in May 2015).

Our Church Organ

There's something we take for granted; it's there, it gets played, we leave and forget about it. However, now that it seems very likely that the Church is going to acquire a wonderful new pipeless organ, people have been looking at our existing one with awe. 'Seriously historic' in the words of one expert (it's over 200 years old). It seems that there are likely to be very generous grants available to completely restore and conserve it in due course. But next time you're near the Church, go in and have a look at it.

Mikron Theatre

This amazing touring theatre company performed their 'Till the Cows Come Home' musical play at Nicholson's Barn in August, their third visit. If you didn't make it this year, I really recommend it for next August. Hugely entertaining theatre for all and all ages, AND the profit from the bar has been given by Nicholson's to our Village Fund (thank you so much Liz and Niel).

Village Sign

Can we have another discussion about this at our next Meeting (November 20th)? I've been all over the UK this year, and I so like arriving at villages with proud signs. Since our nice old sign went rotten, replacing it has made no headway, and I know that some people aren't in favour. I am!

Scotland

Nothing to do with North Aston directly of course, but I know that many of us visit Scotland regularly, love the country and its people, and desperately want them to remain part of our nation-family. If you feel that way, this is a plea for you to call your friends north of the border and tell them that we love them and to please please vote NO on September 18th. If they vote Yes, I for one will be in mourning.

Kildare

If you have any suggestions about Village life, please do call or email me.

Telephone: 01869 340 200 ~ email: chair@north-aston.co.uk



The lucky winners of this month's draw are:

First Prize (£25): Jenny Martin

Second Prize (£5): Ted Short

Anyone who missed out on renewing their membership this year - or who hasn't previously been involved - will now have to wait until next April to sign up. Be prepared! If you'd like to reserve a number, please speak to Norman West, or call him on 340368.

You've got to be in it to win it!



Fabulous fast funny and informative ... You'd never buy homogenised milk from the co-op again ...



The Mikron Theatre Company returned to North Aston again last month, and performed their latest production; *Till The Cows Come Home*. A good crowd assembled at the Barn in the Park to enjoy original music and great open-air theatre.



This Month's BIRTHDAYS

Thea Busby
 Florence Busby
 Matt Dale
 Nicholas Oak Dale
 Don Davidson
 Camilla (née Durnin)
 Karen Hack (née Brown)
 Sam Hatzigeorgiou
 Clara Nicholson

* * *

and congratulations to
Peter & Jane Durnin
 on their Wedding Anniversary!

Many Happy Returns to all the North Aston residents who celebrate birthdays this month. If you're not listed, or know someone who should be, please let us know.



Happy 9th Birthday

Thomas

With love from
Mum & Dad xx

Classifieds

Baby Sitter

Looking for a local, reliable, sixteen-year-old baby sitter in the village? Call Freya on 07806 477401 or (01869) 340625.

Deddington Farmers' Market

The traditional Farmers' Market in Deddington takes place every 4th Saturday of the month. This month's will be on **27th August**.

North Aston Harvest Supper



Lunchtime, Sunday 5th October

Orchard Barn @ The Park, North Aston, 12:30 for 1:30 pm

Usual format:

Welcome Drink and Main Course provided ~ bring a Pudding to Share

Please bring all your own drinks, cutlery, crockery and glasses.

We are planning a little music, so please bring an instrument, your voice or some music.

All Welcome!

'Tickets' on the Door, but Reservations Essential before October 1st

Please book by leaving a message on 01869 347702

or email to northastonharvestsupper@gmail.com

Price: £6 on the Door - Children under 12 Free

Please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements.

Steeple Aston Players

presents

Cash on Delivery

by Michael Cooney

A highly amusing farce about a benefits cheat!

Thursday 6th, Friday 7th and Saturday 8th November
at Steeple Aston Village Hall at 7.30 pm

*If you would like to help building and painting the set please contact
Alan Wightman (01869 324875)*

North Aston Village Meeting

Thursday 7th August 2014 ~ The Minutes

Those present: Marcus Potts, Eileen Gilmore, Tony Rees, Chris Hazle, Mary Healy, Jeremy Taylor, Sarah Bourke-Borrowes, Jane Durnin, Peter Durnin, Beryl Greenwood, Clive Busby and Mark Stay.

Officers present: Kildare Bourke-Borrowes, Beverly Rees, James Taylor

Village Meeting

1. Welcome & Minutes of the Last Meeting

Kildare Bourke-Borrowes welcomed those present to the meeting with the hope that we might start a little more promptly next time! Before moving on to the Minutes of the previous meeting Clive Busby wished to offer Trudy's apologies of absence. It was noted that although as agreed in the previous meeting there was no expectation from anyone to send their apologies anymore, this wouldn't prevent those who felt compelled to from doing so! The Minutes of the previous Village Meeting were accepted. Proposed Marcus Potts, seconded Mark Stay.

2. Treasurers Report

Beverly Rees said that the village meeting accounts were similar to the last meeting. Total expenditure was £588.33 which included Insurance (£566.15) and Subscriptions (£22.18) leaving a balance of £2,040.65.

With the precept still to arrive, the year was on course to end the same as it started with expenditure roughly equating to the precept. The accounts were unanimously accepted.

3. Broadband

CB informed the village that the proposed use of Dane Hill Farmhouse for the purposes of transmitting broadband was no longer happening— however it seems that there had been a lack of communication between Peach Pubs and CB over the termination of this project leading to unwarranted confusion and disruption for CB.

It was noted that neither Jan Liberadski nor Niel Nicholson was present to expand on any further developments on the broadband front. CB commented on the dish next to Peach Barn which he thought was picking up signal from Aynho. James Taylor said that he thought Peach Pubs were not finding this very satisfactory and that they were wanting to build a temporary mast next to their office which might conceivably allow the village to receive broadband – as yet this hadn't progressed.

4. Heyford Park

KBB handed out a summary of the situation so far regarding the proposed Mid-Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan as of the 7th Aug 2014. KBB went on to describe why he thought the plan was important.

According to CPRE Oxfordshire is required to have an extra 100,000 houses by 2031. As a result of this all villages will be prey to speculative development. Kildare suggested that this would be very unlikely in North Aston at present, but things can change. He put forward an imaginary scenario where Nicholson Nurseries, for example, might sometime in the future be taken over by a bigger business which might then look at the brownfield site as a development potential. North Aston it seemed might not be entirely free of risk in the future so any means of passing development pressure on to Heyford Park had to be seen as a safety valve.

MP asked what would happen if Upper Heyford Parish don't play ball (in joining the Neighbourhood Plan). KBB stated that a Neighbourhood Plan could be formed without Upper Heyford Parish.

Jane Durnin asked whether development could still happen in North Aston, referring to three sites that had been included in the previous Cherwell District local plan. MP said he thought they had all been taken off that plan.

Mary Healy asked what we would gain by signing up for the plan.

KBB explained that if there is a Neighbourhood Plan which is passed it gets embedded in the Local Plan and we would then get a say over issues such as traffic management.

Chris Hazle asked when the document has to be signed by. KBB said May 2015 when it will be voted on by referendum. MH continued to voice concerns over signing something which effectively would endorse development at Upper Heyford.

Tony Rees voiced concerns about the Dorchester Group and said the word on the street was they had no money. KBB had no comment and said this didn't affect the concept of a Neighbourhood Plan.

KBB stated that both Jan Liberadski and David Hazle were unable to continue being part of the village representation at the Dorchester meetings due to time constraints, and asked if there were two others who would like to take their place? An ominous silence prevailed!

MH repeated her previous concern that North Aston might become a suburb of Upper Heyford. TR commented that any development at Upper Heyford might be no worse than when the Americans were there.

KBB said that Dorchester was offering potential "advantages" such as a cricket club, health club etc that could be open to those signed up to the Neighbourhood Plan.

Mark Stay commented that he thought it would be better to be at the table than not. A vote was taken for KBB and JFT to continue representing the village at future Dorchester meetings and to report back. There were ten in favour and two abstentions.

Village Fund

1. Minutes

The minutes for the previous meeting were accepted. Proposer Mark Stay, Seconded Peter Durnin.

2. Treasurers Report

Beverly Rees commented that income had included marquee hire, 100 Club cheque and proceeds from the Village Fête.

The Fête had taken just under £3000 with some costs still to come off which would bring it down to about £2600. BR had done a spreadsheet allocating the income from each stall at the fete.

BR commented that there was £105 unallocated. MP said nothing had been put down for the peg game. KBB said he would ask Elizabeth Harvey-Lee about it.

MH asked whether anything had been allocated for the games cards and whether that might account for some of the unallocated money.

It was agreed that it had been a very good Fête considering the weather. KBB wanted to mention three things – firstly to thank Ken Hanley for a very generous donation of £100, secondly to apologise for any confusion arising with the games cards and thirdly to applaud the BBQ which made an amazing £310 profit.

It was agreed that the profit for the Fête would be split 50:50 between the Church and Village. Beryl Greenwood said that the Church would be very grateful for a contribution as its insurance had nearly doubled.

3. Village Fête

There was an invitation from KBB for comments regarding this year's Fête. "Terrific" said Eileen Gilmore.

Mark Stay said he didn't think the Steeple Aston Ice Cream bike was worth the £25 hire.

Tony Rees commented that the generator used by the sweet van was very noisy.

KBB thanked everyone for their hard work.

MP voted a special thanks to KBB for organising it. MP said he had thanked Britvic for providing soft drinks. JFT was asked to thank Peach Pubs for their generous raffle prize.

It was asked whether the Big Lunch had been a success – despite it being rather a small 'big' lunch, it was agreed to try it again next year.

MH asked whether bar drinks could be rounded up to £1 or multiples of fifty pence to make giving change easier.

The Fête date for next year was set as July 18th 2015.

4. Fountain Lettering

Beryl Greenwood told the meeting that Humphris of Banbury had quoted to clean the plaque and repair damaged stonework, recut the letters, paint the inscription with two coats of clear varnish and repoint the joints in the stonework for £404.20 including VAT.

A conversation was had as to whether they would paint the letters black. BG thought this was good value from a very reputable company and would like to accept their quote providing the letters were painted black. A vote was held to spend up to £450. There were eleven in favour and one abstention.

5. War Memorial

A brief discussion was held over whether we should have a War Memorial. Chris Hazle asked why we should have one now as there was already the Roll of Honour in the church.

Jane Durnin thought we should have one. Marcus Potts thought the appropriate time to do anything would be towards the end of the WW1 centenary (2018).

6. Picnic Bench

It was noted that the picnic bench on the green was rotten and it was agreed to look into replacing it. Tony Rees suggested waiting until the autumn as they would be much cheaper then. KBB volunteered to look for a replacement and to buy it if he thought the price was right!

7. Thames Valley Police Speed Check

MP asked the meeting if the village wanted to take part in a speed check program involving the police. This would involve recording individual speeds of drivers in the village with a speed gun. Drivers caught speeding three times would be sent a letter and then if found to be re-offending on a future occasion could be visited by the police. MP reminded the village that 40-50% of vehicles exceed the speed limit through the village. The meeting expressed an interest in this scheme. MP said he would look into it and report back. A separate discussion was held over the purchase of new batteries for the speed monitor and also the possibility of buying a solar panel for charging them. It was proposed that the village spend £440 plus VAT on two new batteries and the solar panel. There was a unanimous vote of approval.

8. Any Other Business

BG wanted to return to the topic of a **War Memorial** and said she was in favour of a War Memorial for the village.

CB wanted to know if he could pursue the removal of the two poles and the old **telephone box** by the corner of the Green as they were an eyesore now that the hawthorn bush had gone. The meeting agreed to let CB pursue this.

CB wanted to know whether the **low voltage electricity line** that led to Deirdre's house was to be trenched in the field or on the Green. Jeremy Taylor replied that it would be in the field.

CB told the meeting that there would be an invoice coming from the **mole catcher**.

James Taylor raised the issue of a **Thames Water** manhole cover outside the Manor which had caused two vehicles to blow out two tyres each within the last fortnight. Eileen said it had been sprayed with blue.

Jeremy Taylor wanted to remind the meeting of the **loose kerb stones** and also to say that from the 18th August there would be some more **excavating** for low voltage cable laying and the removal of the high voltage poles.

MH asked if there was a date for the **Harvest Supper**. BG and CB said this would take place over the weekend of 4th/5th October.

Next Village Meeting: Finally, the date for the next Village Meeting was set for November 20th at 7.30pm.

RIDE + STRIDES

**Saturday 13th
September 2014**

Help to preserve the history on your doorstep by taking part in a sponsored walk, cycle or horse ride around Oxfordshire's churches.

All funds raised go to the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust, and 50% can be passed on directly to a church of your choice, including our own parish church of St Mary's.

More information is available from:

Deirdre Oakley (340646) or
Clive Busby (338434).

Please give them a call, or drop by to collect a Sponsorship Form.



North Aston Farm

The wheels have definitely come off the run of good weather we have been enjoying this summer.

We have managed to finish making our forage - rather an excess this year and have since been busy trying to bale our neighbour's straw. We had quite a bit of oat straw as well some wheat straw this year. The problem with oat straw is that you cannot bale it straight behind the combine because it needs to wilt for two or three days and then if you get a period of wet weather during that time you can be in some trouble – especially when your neighbour is keen to get on and cultivate his land! Well I left for a week's holiday in France with a lot of very wet straw lying around and came back to find over a thousand straw bales in the fields and all the fields finished. Well done Robert and Bryan and obviously I need to go away more often!

The bulls are in with the cows and hopefully doing their job. I did spot one of the cows mounting the bull the other day which I thought might make an interesting photo caption! We are just weaning the lambs so there might be a few days of bleating and baaing! The lambs are now four months old and mainly eating grass and their mums will be competing with them for the best grass so we take the ewes off them. This gives the ewes a break and a chance to recover and the lambs an opportunity to have better feed.

For the first time in living memory we have spotted a pyramid orchid on the farm – unfortunately the rams spotted it too and much enjoyed it! *James*

Nicholsons - Bunnies and Barn Use

Our subject for the month will need to be RABBITS. The rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, brought in by the Normans for meat have become a major pest to agriculture and horticulture alike. The population was controlled by Myxomatosis in the 1950's but has been on a rapid increase since and is estimated to be in excess of 40 million in the UK today.

Since 1992 a new virus is affecting the population, viral haemorrhagic disease, but like myxi, it is not a kind disease and I feel that a more controlled population would be less susceptible.

Having run our nursery on the edge of "Watership Down" for more than twenty years now, we are familiar with the constant threat of invasion. This year, despite maintaining the fencing around the whole site, we have a small population in the nursery and they are very hard to eradicate. Is anyone else struggling? Can we do anything collectively? Does anyone know anyone who keeps ferrets? The fox has had our shared chickens twice now and each time I am so saddened but maybe foxes have their benefits and are controlling the rabbit population too.

The problem with rabbits is that despite being the most terrible pest to horticulture, they are seriously cute and even I brake

On the Land



August - September 2014

to miss them in Middle Aston Lane. Last week I was driving down the lane but met a Sainsbury delivery van who had stopped in the road and the driver was trying to catch the sweetest baby rabbit who had been hit by a car. As I pulled up the bunny ran off and the driver came over to explain his plight ... as we parted, I was left wondering what he planned to do with it if he caught it ...

On a separate note, we have had a busy time this summer in the Barn with a Wedding, 21st Birthday and a Naming Ceremony. These are all private events which are for families who live in our community or work at Nicholsons and while we try very hard to not cause any disturbance to the village, please do come and tell me if anything ever does affect you.

We are mindful of the fact that we do not have parking in the nursery as it is within the nursery security and so guests have parked in the cricket field (thank you James and Jeremy) or on the main road – we hope that this is not inconvenient to anyone. Events will remain rare but the facility is highly valued by those who have been able to use it – so thank you.

Here's a picture of baby Willow, who brought her "pet rabbit" (how could she!?) to her friend Isla's naming ceremony. Both dads work in the arboriculture team at Nicholsons. *Liz*



North Aston Organics

Late August and September are in some ways a mini spring. For one thing the propagation glasshouse is starting to fill up again with seedlings of winter crops for the polytunnels: spinach, winter lettuce, herbs such as parsley, chervil and coriander. Also hardy salad leaves such as rocket and more exotic leaves from the Orient such as pak choi, mizuna and komatsuma. One of the winter staples for our mixed leaf salad is miner's lettuce also known as claytonia or purslane. It is completely bomb proof against severe winter frosts and yet remains succulent and mild flavoured.

Outside, the recent cooler, wetter weather has benefited all the brassicas and leeks. Let's hope that the warmth and sunshine returns to ripen the sweetcorn and squashes. .

Mark



The Church MATTERS



With Thanksgiving

May I say how delighted I was to see such a turnout for the Vigil Service for the First World War we held in Steeple on August 4th? It was really moving to hear the bells as they pealed, and to see people stream into church for a quiet reflective time together - especially with all that is going on in the world today. There were great numbers there from all three villages, and I was very touched by comments I had back from people in North Aston about this.

The Sunday after we held impromptu retiring collections in our three parishes after our Sunday services especially for those Iraqi Christian communities that have existed since the start of Christianity and now have been devastated by the latest wave of violence in their homeland. We raised around £300 in the Benefice on a single Sunday: remarkable generosity. Thank you. All donations have been channelled through the Barnabas Fund which is amongst those co-ordinating relief aid.

As we look forward, it's back to school, farewell to Summer, and here comes Autumn!

On September 14th we have our Family Service. This month, the *Open The Book* team, which is so successful in Dr Radcliffe's School in presenting Bible stories freshly, will be taking part in our worship. The aim with Family Service is always to welcome families and children and to offer something that helps them engage with God in worship. Why not come along and give it a try?

On October 5th we have our **Harvest Festival**. It's just into next month, but I thought I'd give everyone a heads up on this. This year we are holding it at 9.30 am, and I would love to see lots of people from the village come along, especially as we are such a farming community. I know the Harvest Supper does so well, and I'd love to see the Harvest Festival Service hand-in-glove match it!

The point of Harvest, of course, is to stop and say "thank you". It's true enough that in the world today there's plenty of trouble. It's true enough that we are taking time to remember trouble from long ago, as if we don't have enough of our own. But still we need to remember that there are good things, sometimes the little things, sometimes the big things, sometimes the simple things that make life happen every day - and taking a morning out to say "thank you" is a wonderful way of remembering these things.

St Paul said: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Forgetting to be thankful, forgetting that actually there are genuine reasons to be thankful even when we also have 'prayers and petitions' to make, leads to anxiety. Harvest is a gift to us in the year as we celebrate all the gifts around us to bring us closer to God's peace and his presence. It's remarkably easy, even in a rural community like ours, to feel we can 'outgrow' the 'traditional' ways of life. But there is a wisdom here, God's wisdom of the life-giving nature of thankfulness, that I would

encourage us all to enjoy. 9.30am,
October 5th in church.

Everyone welcome!

Revd Marcus Green



Harvest Festival 2014



Any comments about the above are very welcome. More news is always available on our website: www.sntchurch.com
Please email our Rector Marcus Green: steeplerector@hotmail.com or tel: 340 903
If you wish you can also email Kildare: k.bourkeborrowes@btinternet.com or tel: 340 200
or Clive: casb@north-aston.com or tel: 338 434
Any other member of the PCC will also be very happy to talk, and they are: Bill Adams, Richard Bailey, Beryl Greenwood, Jenny Martin, Jane McArdle, Ted Short, Jeremy Taylor and Norman West.

Councillor Calling



August tends to be a quiet month, unsurprisingly due to holidays (including mine!) but there's always something going on to advise and warn about.

Council Tax Rebate?

Warnings include a scam which has recently come to Cherwell in which cold callers offer a council tax rebate in exchange for your bank details. You'll know this is a fraud because the only time the council will ever take your bank details over the phone is if you call to set up a payment or receive benefits. Any credit balance on council tax would be advised in writing – so beware!

Electoral Roll

Electoral registration letters are genuine, though. The whole system has changed, partly to combat fraud and also to reflect the fragmented nature of modern living. No longer is the "head of the household" (an interesting discussion point between spouses!) required to fill in details of all residents. Now each one of us must register individually which, you can imagine, involves a lot of genuine letters going to and fro. The good news is that those already on the register, the vast majority, don't have to re-register. That's lucky for Cherwell's Chief Executive who, as Electoral Registration Officer (a personal appointment), is responsible for getting this massive system change completed between this year's Euro poll (forgotten it already?) and next year's General Election.

Chief Executive

Cherwell's Chief Executive has been in the news in her day job with the annual moan from the Tax Payers' Alliance about her, and some of our directors', salaries being over £100,000. The TPA's holding your council to account on behalf of council taxpayers is perfectly fair – it's why for some years now, every single payment above a small *de minimis* level has been publicly available. Or it would be fair if only they'd remember that she is currently chief executive of two district councils, Cherwell and South Northants, and running more and more of the services for a third, Stratford, while working up proposals to bring in more. Cherwell taxpayers therefore pay less than half of her, and the other directors' salaries, making them quite a bargain rather than the scandal they proclaim.

Community Banking

Poverty, though, at the other end of the pay scale, is never far from us and, with mainstream banking out of reach of those who need it most, we've all heard of the issue of "payday lenders", whose interest rates can be exorbitant – hundreds or even thousands of percent a year. Cherwell has now launched an alternative, the Cherwell Community Bank, piggy-backing on one set up in South Northants, to fill this gap and squeeze out loan sharks with far lower interest rates. At 2-3% a month, these would still make your eyes water but they

are a lot less than the alternative. Used responsibly, in conjunction with rent payment accounts and budget accounts, we hope this will help keep residents with financial stresses on the right side of the solvency margin. It can be found on Mondays 9.30-12.00 at Citizens' Advice, Banbury, on 01604 250016 or at northamptonshirecu.co.uk .

Build!

That may sound like rather an abrupt command, but it's the trademark of a Cherwell scheme that is now getting into top gear for "self build" homes. In practice, these will be partly built by professionals, but the owners/tenants can reduce the cost of buying or renting (sometimes a mixture of both) by finishing the job with their own hands. This is planned for two homes on a plot in Steeple Aston and all sorts of small parcels of council owned land. However, on a far more ambitious scale, nearly 2,000 homes at former MoD land outside Bicester at Graven Hill are planned for this scheme – putting the council, rather than developers, in charge of the pace of development and creating a huge boost to affordable housing in the district. With ambition goes risk, so we'll have to keep a close eye as plans evolve.

And then August suddenly became exciting, with the release for consultation of the revised Local Plan, which the government's Inspector has ordered to accommodate 6,000 extra homes on top of all those in the original draft. This will take some digesting, so I'll save it for next month....

James Macnamara

Tel: 01869 340109

cllr.james.macnamara@cherwell-dc.gov.uk



NORTH ASTON ORGANICS
Vegetable Stall

Open Mon-Sat from 9.00am
In the car park behind the Old Bakery

- Wide variety of fresh seasonal organic veg at affordable prices
- Minimal packaging & zero food miles
- Supporting the local economy



Too busy?
Why not try our Veg Box Scheme? Fresh vegetables delivered to your door!

Email: northastonorganics@gmail.com
Tel: (01869) 347702
visit the new website:
www.northastonorganics.co.uk



CHURCH SERVICES

PARISH WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2014

NORTH ASTON

STEEPLE ASTON

TACKLEY

Sunday September 7th - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Rev Marcus Green

11:00 am
Holy Communion
Rev Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Evensong
**Rev Marcus Green and
Fr Robin Gibbons**

Sunday September 14th - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Family Service
Rev Marcus Green

11:00 am
Family Service
Rev Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Holy Communion
**Rev Marcus Green and
Fr Robin Gibbons**

Sunday September 21st - Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Rev Marcus Green

11:00 am
Holy Communion
with Children's Church
Rev Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Informal Service
**Rev Marcus Green and
Fr Robin Gibbons**

Sunday September 28th - Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Morning Prayer
**Rev Marcus Green and
Richard Bailey**

11:00 am
Harvest Festival
Rev Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Holy Communion
**Rev Marcus Green and
Fr Robin Gibbons**

Sunday October 5th - Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Harvest Festival
Rev Marcus Green

11:00 am
Holy Communion
Rev Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Harvest Festival
**Rev Marcus Green and
Fr Robin Gibbons**

Morning Prayer

10:00 am Every Thursday
St Mary's, followed by Coffee

Families are welcome to all Sunday services.

Lunchtime, Sunday 5th October

12:30 for 1:00 pm North Aston Harvest Supper
In the Orchard Barn

Pay on the Door: £6 (children under 12 free)

Reservations essential - see main advert for details.

Helpers needed!



Visit the new Benefice Website for further information, a "What's on" page, and contact information: www.sntchurch.com