

Dogmersfield Newsletter

Edition 21

Autumn 2009

RAF ODIHAM

In June, Peter Curnow-Ford, our Planning Officer, attended a meeting held by RAF Odiham, along with representatives of many of the local parishes.

These are regular events, led by the Station Commander Group Captain Andy Turner with the aim of maintaining open, active communication between the base and the people in the surrounding area.

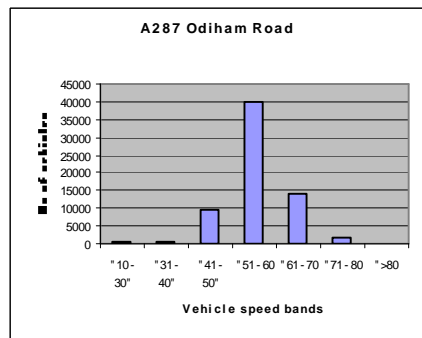
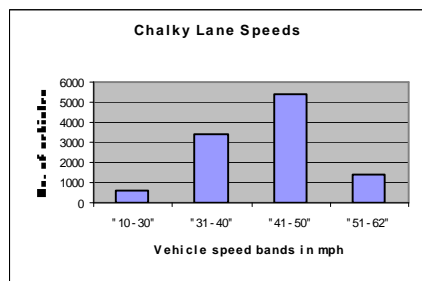
Group Captain Turner announced the cancellation of Project Belvedere, which could have led to the closure of the base.

It seems fairly certain that RAF Odiham can look forward to being around for at least another 30 years - the approximate lifetime of the current Chinook fleet.

TRAFFIC SPEEDS

At the Annual Parish Assembly some of you asked if we had the results of the speed checks on Chalky Lane and the A287 Odiham Road.

The following charts give an approximate spread of the vehicle speeds on the two roads in February and May.



FLOWER SHOW AND FETE

This year the number of exhibits entered for judging in the main Marquee was 451—



the highest ever, and an indication of the ever increasing popularity of this local event, organised by the Dogmersfield, Winchfield and Crookham Village Horticultural Society and held, by kind permission of the White family, at Pilcot Farm.

The Banksian medal was won by David Rowlands, the Kenyon trophy by Nicolette Pike and the Manorial trophy by Lauren Dolding (age 7).

The rain held off until the end of the afternoon, the Morris Dancers and the Farnham Brass band entertained a huge crowd and the cake stalls and tea tent did a roaring trade.

The only disappointment was the Children's Fancy dress competition which did not have a single entry. Please do encourage your children (or grandchildren!) to enter this event next year.

Many thanks to the organisers for running such a wonderful show.

Next Year's show will be on 17th July.

POLICE HELICOPTER

Some of you may have been disturbed recently by the sound of a very noisy helicopter flying over the village at night. This is the Surrey Police Helicopter, which is now stationed at RAF Odiham, and not night flying Chinooks.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Harvest Supper
3rd October 2009

Parish Council Meetings
7th September 2009
5th October 2009
16th November 2009



All meetings take place at the School at 7.30pm and all residents are very welcome to attend.

DITCHES & FOOTPATHS

Steve Bramwell, who is our councillor responsible for the



environment, is co-ordinating the project to clear and maintain the verges and ditches in the village. To date, we have had a successful meeting with Hampshire Highways department who agreed to spend some of their budget clearing the front ditch on Chatter Alley and putting in place countryside kerbing.

The next stage is to clear the back ditches and thick vegetation. We have earmarked some money in this year's precept for this work and have received a couple of quotes from local contractors. We do not have sufficient funds as yet, so we intend to apply for some grant money which could then be used to 'top up' our contribution.

Many of the footpaths in the Parish have become overgrown with summer vegetation. It is the responsibility of landowners who have paths crossing or adjoining their land, to keep the footpaths clear.

The path that runs from Sprats Hatch lane through Dogmersfield Park is very popular. It forms a circular walk that includes Tundry Pond and the canal. The narrow section of the path in the middle of the park had become severely eroded. We submitted a report to Mr Wellington, the owner of the historic park, highlighting some of the problems and suggesting some improvements. We are grateful to him for his speedy response in repairing and widening this section of the footpath.



There have been some complaints about horse riders using a couple of the designated footpaths in the village as short cuts. May we remind all riders and horse owners that footpaths are NOT bridleways.

It is illegal at all times to ride or lead a horse on a footpath.

COMMUNITY EVENT

The parish council decided against holding another summer BBQ this year as we felt a change was needed. We were approached by The Friends Of All saints Church with the suggestion that we

hold a joint event, and agreed to help organise a barn dance. Sadly, this did not come to fruition but we are very much hoping to be involved in this next year. We are planning a hog roast and barn dance which we hope will be held in the school gardens and hall. Tickets will be on sale in the Spring.

DOG MESS

We have been approached by a number of residents with complaints about dog mess on the pavements and verges in the village. This is a new issue - we have never had to deal with this problem before. We have investigated the installation of dog mess bins, but these are expensive to maintain and empty—we would have to pay an annual fee to HDC for each bin.

We would therefore ask all dog walkers to behave responsibly by collecting their dog mess and taking it home for disposal.



Local byelaws do apply here and it is an offence, punishable by a fine, to allow your dog to soil the footpaths and verges. It is particularly unpleasant for the children who use the footpath that links the school to the church. We would be grateful for your co-operation.

HART DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

There is now a regular Councillor Surgery on the 3rd Saturday of each month specifically for the residents of Dogmersfield and Odiham.

Councillors Ken Crookes, Stephen Gorys and Jonathan Glenn invite residents to come and discuss their queries and talk informally.

The surgeries are from 10am till 12 noon at the Bridewell (library building) in Odiham.

PLANNING

We have had to deal with a number of planning applications in the last 6 months, in-



cluding two new builds, some minor extensions to properties both within and outside the Conservation area and an extensive application to construct a large barn and ancillary buildings within Dogmersfield Historic Park.

The proposed construction of a faux barn as a residential dwelling in the heart of the village evoked much opposition from local residents. The Parish Council objected to the dwelling on the grounds of size, materials used and its position in relation to listed buildings. A group of residents organised a collection of signatures of those opposed to the new house and

attended the Planning Committee meeting at Hart District Council, where the application was refused.

We are still awaiting the outcome of the decision from Hart DC regarding the proposed new barn adjacent to Black Barn Farmhouse in the middle of Dogmersfield Park.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind all residents that it is in their own interests to have preliminary discussions with the Parish Council over ANY proposal which might need planning permission. Most of the houses in the village are within the Conservation Area, so any alteration, extension, change of use is likely to need approval from the planning department at Hart. If a preliminary proposal is placed before the Parish Council, we can then advise the applicant on the correct procedures to follow and also provide information on the various planning policies which might affect the application.

HITCHES LANE

Work is now starting on the new houses at Hitches Lane and the infrastructure is being put in place, with new roads, footpaths, signage etc being the first visible signs of this big development.

We have been told by our district councillors that a first tranche of 40 houses will be built—most of these in the Affordable Housing bracket—and the site will then be put on hold until the economic climate improves.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

All Saints Church continues to hold regular services every Sunday at 10.30am. The 1662 Book of Common Prayer Communion service and sung matins held on the first and second Sunday of each month continue to be popular. There is now a sung evensong (6.30pm) if there is a fifth Sunday in the month.

HARVEST SUPPER

The annual Harvest Supper will be held this year at Winchfield Village Hall on Saturday 3rd October at 7pm. The food, provided by local volunteers, is always excellent and there will be a table quiz this year.

For tickets (£10 each) please apply to Joyce Stace on 01252 620761 or Christine Lowe on 01252 811218



All Saints Church, will be open on **Saturday 12th September** for the local Stride and Ride Day. This event encourages participants to cycle or walk around all the churches in the deanery—some 25 in all.

All churches en route will be open for the entire day. If you would like to visit the church but do not want to come to a service, then this is the day to drop in.

STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT (SHLAA)

This is a consultation document produced by Hart District Council. The council are required by Government to identify any pockets of land that might become available for future development. All local landowners were requested to submit details of any land they might wish to develop in the long term.



Three sites were submitted in Dogmersfield. The planning consultation document rejected all three sites as possible Market Housing Sites, but suggested that they might be suitable for Rural Exception Scheme affordable housing. Dogmersfield Parish Council sent in a comprehensive response listing reasons why we felt that these sites should not be identified at this stage in the planning consultation. The documents and all the responses can be viewed at Hart District Council Offices or at www.hart.gov.uk

ONGOING PLANNING MATTERS

Farnborough Airport: The consultation on the application by TAG Aviation to increase the number of aircraft movements has now closed. Dogmersfield Parish Council objected to this increase and submitted a comprehensive response to the application.

Pyestock: Following the Public Inquiry held at the end of 2008 the result of the appeals for this massive warehouse development has now been made public.

The planning inspector concluded that the appeals should be dismissed and planning permission refused on the basis of impact on the strategic and local gap and impacts on the character and appearance of the rural area. The Secretary of State has disagreed with his inspector's recommendations and has decided to allow both appeals and grant planning permission with certain conditions.

Dilly Lane: The road infrastructure for Dilly Lane is being reviewed at the moment with a view to commencement some time next year.

PARISH ASSEMBLY

The annual parish assembly was held in the school hall for the first time on the 8th June. This was a successful event, with over 30 residents of the parish present.

There were reports from our local district councillors, the chair of governors and the chair of the parish council, followed by a lively question and answer session.

Thank you for supporting this event - it is one of the few times when the parish council receives direct comment and feedback from you and suggestions for work that you would like us to do on your behalf.

Comments and criticism are vital in helping us shape our policies and encouraging us to feel that we are continuing to represent the wishes of the residents of the parish.