



Reading Room and Smithy STRETE



# STRETEWISE

**THE VILLAGE MAGAZINE**

**STRETE, BURLESTONE and Surrounds**

April May 2019 Vol 27:02

[stretewise.co.uk](http://stretewise.co.uk)

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Stretewise editor	Malcolm Hollis	01803 770 894
Totnes Ring and Ride		01803 867 878
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## Local Emergency Services

**Emergency Fire, ambulance, Coastguard, or police** 999 or 112

**Non emergency contact with emergency services** 101

**Torbay Hospital** 01803 614 567     **Dartmouth Hospital** 01803 832255

**Totnes Hospital** 01803 862 622     **Derriford Hospital** 01752 212082

**NHS Direct** 0845 4647     **Kingsbridge** 01546 852349

**STRETE Post Office (01803 770225) Opening Times Monday to Saturday 9am to 5.30pm (Except Tuesday) Tuesday 9am to 1 pm. STRETE STORES Monday to Saturday 7am to 5.30 pm & Sunday 8am to 12 noon**

**Stoke Fleming Library Village Hall** (John Lewis 01803 770075) Monday 3 pm to 5.00pm, Tuesday 10.30am to 12.30pm, Thursday 3pm to 5pm. Or 24 hours at [devon.gov.uk/libraries](http://devon.gov.uk/libraries)

## EDITORIAL

Firstly, may I apologise for this edition being so late—it is quite unacceptable. I have quite blotted any copy book I might have had.

In this issue we have a wonderful piece by Kate Gill about the content of papers found following the death of Jean Parnell. This puts together information drawn from a plotted drawing of the plan of a building that used to be on what is now the Kings Arms carpark.

There is much more within, including pieces about meteorites hitting a lady, and a terrific poetry piece by Roger Sinnott, now he is back from New Zealand.

I have included a personal piece about what had been going on with me, further on. It was fascinating for me.

The next key thing is that I think that it is time that I should pass on the editorship. I started in 2011, so I have only done 8 years, but I have got older in that time and a little slower.

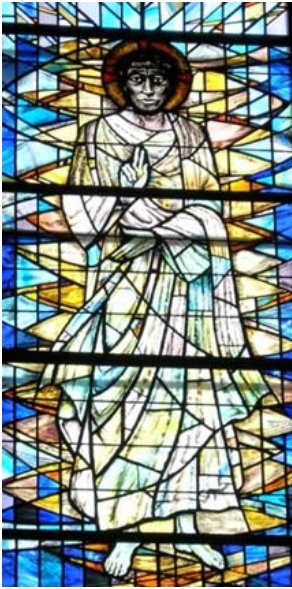
The new editor will be Dave Jones.

There is a lot of detail to be finalised, and I will email all these people who have helped me so much over these happy years. There are so many, but they include the delivery team, the Post Office, Nick Shepherd for all the stunning photographs that he provided, Roger Sinnott for his poetry pieces, Kate Gill for the pieces of interest, Liane, for her health notes, and so many more. There are so many other people that I will wish to thank once I have the chance to catch up, but first priority must be to complete the publication. Finally, I must thank Joan Kendall for all her help in arranging the change of editor.

I look forward to seeing you all quite soon when we are back in the village.

Malcolm Hollis

## READERS CORNER Peter Barker



Special places – we all have them, don't we? Places which are of extra significance because of the memories they preserve, the feelings they evoke, the associations which for us in particular they hold. After the wonderful 'post-retirement' visit which Gill and I made in 2006, New Zealand will always stir a special affection in my heart, and not least Christchurch where Gill helped ring the Cathedral bells and we joined in the Sunday worship. The 2011 earthquake was devastating. And now the city has been devastated again by the appalling terror atrocity against innocent people at the mosques. I'm sure I speak for all in expressing prayerful sympathy for friends and families of the victims, and for the brave people of Christchurch. My favourite window in the Cathedral fortunately survived the earthquake. It shows Christ in glory with the face of a Maori and the hands and feet of a white person: surely a potent symbol of the 'togetherness' needed now in Christchurch, and in so many other places.

On pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Revd Alison last September the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem was for me a very special place. We cannot know for certain that this is the tomb where Jesus' body was laid but it certainly fits the accounts so well. Crouching through the entrance it was easy to empathise with the women who came that first Easter morning and found the tomb empty; and with Peter and John entering and seeing the grave clothes neatly wrapped on the rock hewn shelf where Jesus' body had lain; and outside again with Mary Magdalene at first mistaking the risen Jesus for the gardener and then with sudden awe and joy recognising him as he spoke her name.

A special place indeed, because Christ's resurrection is so special – the bedrock of my Christian faith. I know the very idea flies in the face of our normal expectations – it did in those days too. But sometimes the seemingly impossible turns out to be after all the most plausible explanation, best accounting for the facts, as 'Frank Morison' famously discovered when he set out to write a book (*Who moved the Stone?*) disproving Christ's resurrection and ended up convinced that it happened. Easter matters: Jesus' resurrection demonstrates that evil and death, summed up in the crucifixion, have already been defeated by love. Easter assures us that Christ through his Spirit can be with us in the present today. Easter gives us hope for the future.

Wishing you all the joy and wonder of God's  
Easter blessing,  
Peter Barker.



*Rock hewn tomb with rolling stone at Nazareth Village*

## ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH STRETE



These are a pair of Egyptian Geese, and their seven offspring from this year. The Egyptian goose (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*) is a member of the duck, goose, and swan family and is native to Africa south of the Sahara and the Nile Valley. They are on our pond here on Tooting Bec Common. Sadly, the mortality rate is very high among their children, and already many have been taken by scavengers.

### **St Michael's PC is as follows**

#### **Church Wardens**

Sally Green 712438

Hilary Peart 770 067

#### **PCC Members:**

Roy Kendall (Hon Treasurer)

Sheila Kingsley Smith (Safeguarding), Brenda Range, Sue and Martin Sobey

Egyptian geese were considered sacred by the Ancient Egyptians, and appeared in much of their artwork.



# STRETE CHAPEL NOTES

*Greetings from the Strete Chapel Fellowship.*

Our Evangelical chapel is next to the Village shop and has been used by us for worship since the 1960s. The local congregation is augmented by holidaymakers, many of whom are regulars. The Chapel hosts a good mix of speakers during the year who visit to preach and offer communion. We extend to you all a very warm welcome to come and join us in fellowship on all of these occasions. The time of our Morning Family Services is normally 11.00 am. There is also a bible study on Wednesdays and if you are interested please contact Derek on 770256.

## **Breakfast for men at the Parish Hall**

We offer a warm welcome to all men to join a breakfast for men being held from 8 to 9.30 on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April at the Hall. There is no charge and it is an opportunity for men in the area to meet together. If you would like more information please ring Derek on 770018.

## **Children's club Thursday evenings**

We also run a children's club at the Chapel on Thursday evenings from 6.30 which is attended by children from the village and their friends.



I returned from a four week break in New Zealand just before that terrible event in Christchurch. It is hard to believe that it could have happened in such a peaceful country. I was based in a quiet coastal village, Waihi Beach, which is a fifteen-minute drive from Waihi on the southern end of the Coromandel Peninsula. That town grew from the mining of gold and they have a monument to the many miners that were involved in the tunnelling work of the first world war battle zones.

My 'holiday' involved daily swimming and walking with no thoughts of Brexit! What bliss. I did manage to read 10 books - but no poetry. I was struck by the large numbers of English flowers and shrubs. I did several walks in reserves where the tree ferns were absolute giants compared with those at Coleton Fishacre. There were also many New Zealand flax plants which I thought to myself, rather smugly, 'I have some of those'. One thinks of New Zealand as sheep country but this is not the case in the North Island where beef is dominant. The cattle were looking rather scrawny due to several weeks of drought.

Four weeks was enough. I was beginning to pine for my garden and the vegetable planting season. The following poem, rather sentimentally, conjures up what the Englishman abroad may think about – if he is poetically so inclined!

I have not managed to dig up much information on E.V. Lucas. He does not appear to be a prolific poet. He worked in a bookshop in Brighton where he no doubt acquired much of his education. His forte seems to have been biographies, novels and romances. I suspect the poem above was influenced by the romantic poets of the time. Nevertheless I think the poem has the merit of an accurate portrayal of the countryside in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century ( Not that I remember it!)



**The Old Country**  
**1868 - 1938**

**E V Lucas**



O England, country of my heart's desire,  
Land of the hedgerow and the village spire,  
Land of thatched cottages and murmuring bees,  
And wayside inns where one may take one's ease,  
Of village greens where cricket may be played,  
And fat old spaniels sleeping in the shade. -  
O homeland, far away across the main,  
How would I love to see your face again! -  
Your daisied meadows and your grassy hills,  
Your primrose banks, your parks, your tinkling rills,  
Your copses where the purple bluebells grow,  
Your quiet lanes where lovers loiter so,  
Your cottage gardens with their wallflowers' scent,  
Your swallows 'neath the eaves, your sweet content!  
And 'mid the fleecy clouds that o'er you spread,  
Listen, the skylark singing overhead....  
That's the old country, that's the old home!  
You never forget it wherever you roam.

Edward Verrall Lucas joined Punch in 1904, and remained there for the rest of his life. He was a prolific writer, most celebrated for his short essays, but he also produced verses, novels and plays.

# Strete's Most Recently Found Treasure

By Kate Gill

Recently whilst turning out Cousin Jean's treasure hoard of historic items, I found to my delight a piece of precious Strete history. It could so easily have been overlooked. It was a sheet of badly folded yellowed paper in a bag of scruffy bits and pieces.

It is a pencil drawn plan of - **'The Thatched House. Strete. South Devon.'** - which stood on what is now the Kings Arms carpark. The very building which was bombed and burnt out during the Evacuation by the resident American Soldiers!

One of the things that intrigues me most

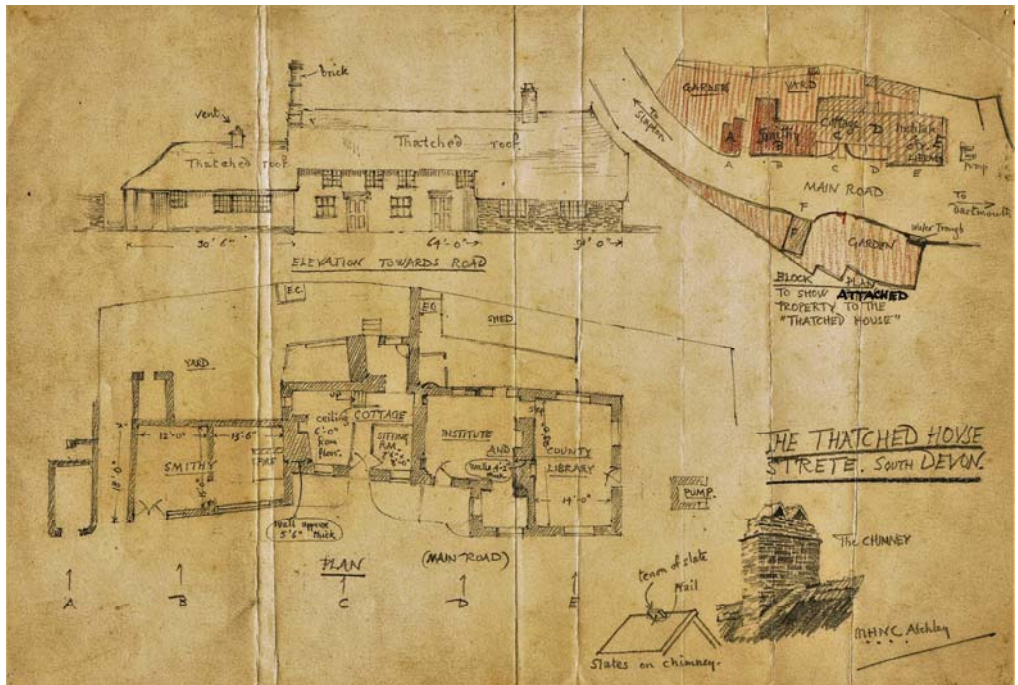
is why did Jean have it, indeed where did she get it!

The answer to that will never be solved.

I asked myself a great many other questions only to some of which have I discovered the answer. The simplest ones were:-

1. Who is M. H. N. C. Atchley
2. When was the property built?
3. Who occupied it?

In 1943 the year of the evacuation Jean was 11 years old. surgeon – the family had links to the West country.





*Photo of the Thatched House Photo pre 1942*

The drawing must have been done whilst it was still standing. It was a beautiful building, it was photographed and post-cards were made of it. A water colour picture of it was painted which was used to illustrate a book. It was also a very practical building. It housed the Institute and County Library, as well as a cottage and Smithy. It also hosted the Boy's Club. It was Strete's only secular communal building! Its destruction was a huge loss to the community.

**Let's look at question one** – a search on the internet followed.

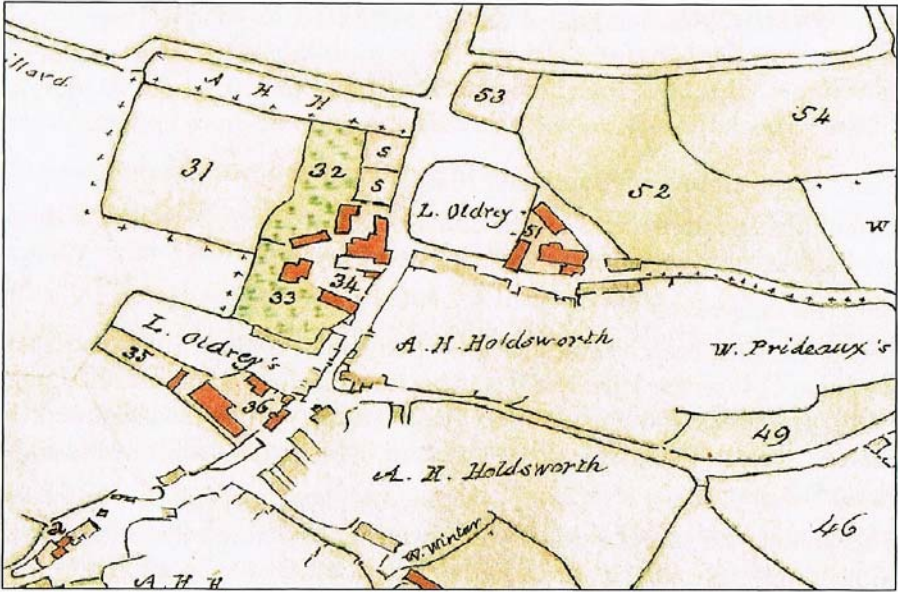
**The artist** was Max Heriot Nevil Cuthbert Atchley.

He was born on 6th March 1898 in Barton Regis, Bristol. He was baptised on 13th May that year in Clifton. He was aged 3 in the 1901 census. Aged 13 in the 1911 census his occupation was 'scholar'

and he was living at 23 John's Road, Clifton, Bristol. He married in 1934 and on 29th September 1939 he became a registered architect. His father was a surgeon – the family had links to the Westcountry. He died 24th June 1941 aged 43.

### **1816 Map**

Max Atchley therefore died before the Evacuation. Clearly he had nothing to do with the building of the cottages as they show on two early maps. The first is a map belonging to Mr Michael Toll dated 1816. This map was discovered when we were researching the early history of Strete Farms for BaSH. On close inspection you can see the profile of the buildings and site in the bottom left-hand corner. Properties/buildings coloured in red at this time belong to the Strete Estate as do holdings with numbers. (see map on next page)



1816

**1886 Map**

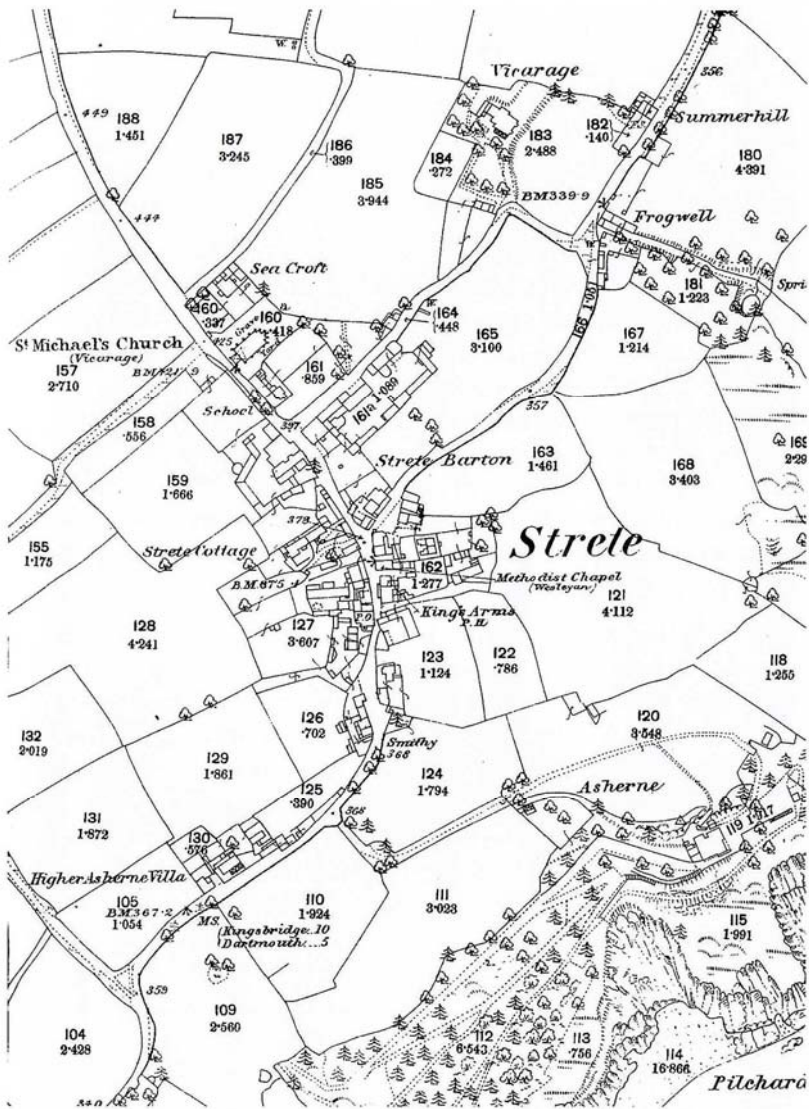
Let's leap forward 70 years to the second map - to the O.S. map of 1886. The profiles on the maps are almost identical.

**Photo of original Picture**

Therefore we must assume that our newly discovered document might have been drawn as an exercise as part of Max Atchley's studies – he clearly had access as his measurements seem to be very accurate.







The village as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1886

This record is officially closed.					
Strete	1	Jeffery Albert	M	5 June 1880	M Gardener private serv.
"	2	Jeffery Amelia M.	F	11 Mar 1892	M Unpaid domestic dut
Jorge Edgcombe	1	* Wills Hubert L.	M	15 Aug 1911	M Jobing Gardener
John Wills	1	Edgcombe Archibald	M	16 Nov 1890	M Mason
"	2	Edgcombe Florence M.	F	1 Nov 1894	M Unpaid domestic duties

A section of a page from the 1939 National Register for Strete Village

### Question two – who occupied it?

Recent research has given me access to the National Register of 1939. This was taken on 5th October, a shade over one month after WW11 was declared on 1st September; it helpfully shows most of the residents. It was occupied by Hubert Wills and we are lucky enough to have one of his sons still living and working in Strete. John has clearly followed in his father's footsteps – as a gardener. John was not born at the time but he recalls tales handed down by his family.

I feel we have to accept we shall never know all the answers; and simply enjoy the information contained in our new found drawing – marvel even that we have discovered so much intimate information.

We have a site plan, a ground floor plan, and a front elevation. The sheds are included and fine detail of the construction of the slates on top of the double chimney for the Institute and Library – complete with 'tenon' of

slate with 'Nail'.

The measurements of the building and rooms are amazing – the walls so thick the ceiling so low. The building itself is 91 feet long, carefully marked out in increments per section.

It shows the double door access to the smithy with the walled off section where the forge/fire is and the massive height of the two fire chimney which includes the cottage fireplace. In the cottage it shows windows with their window seats and also in the Institute and County Library.

Conveniences were not to be left out – two earth closets are shown against the back walls of their respective properties.

Each section is labelled with a letter A – E on the ground floor plan, but we have a letter F on the site plan. Close inspection of the two maps does not include shed F. This was clearly added in more recent times – that building does still exist, but it is in pretty poor shape.





Old thatched cottages at Strete, South Devon, once popular with visitors, were burnt out during the pre-invasion exercises by American forces. (Story and another picture in Page 5.)

### Western Morning News Picture

have a letter F on the site plan. Close inspection of the two maps does not include shed F. This was clearly added in more recent times – that building does still exist, but it is in pretty poor shape.

Let's not forget the last item 'the pump' that still stands complete with its memorial plaque but minus the hand pump. Someone or something has recently given the structure a nasty knock – but fear

not - plans are afoot to rectify the damage.

Thank you again Jean for providing us with a bit more Strete history.



Dartmouth Town Crier Les Ellis with his wife Liz

At the early February meeting of the social club a short business slot was had and then we were introduced to our speaker for the afternoon.

Looking very resplendent in his 18th Century livery being the colours in the badge of Dartmouth, Red/Blue and Gold, Les Ellis , who is the Dartmouth Town Crier, was introduced along with his consort, Liz his wife, dressed in her gold and

red outfit,

He first told us a little history about himself and of being in the Police Force in London and the various roles he had held in this. He also is a guide taking people around Dartmouth and is due to train more Guides for the Mayflower 400 celebrations.

## SOCIAL CLUB     Joan Kendall

He spoke of the role of ancient and modern town criers. The earliest one being 396BC. Les is in his thirteenth year as a Town Crier, starting with Galmpton Gooseberry pie fair where he was spotted and asked to become the Town Crier of Dartmouth.

Town Criers are appointed by either the Town Clerk or Lord of the Manor. Devon has the most Town Criers but there are ones all over the world.

A lot of the sayings we use now a days come from what the Town Crier would shout. Les told us that the format is always to start your cry with either ringing a bell, or whatever instrument your particular Crier uses, then with the words O'Yea, O'Yea, O'yea and finishing with "God Save the Queen".

In competition Les has been very successful both with his Cries and also as Best dressed one of which he won recently in Windsor. His wife has also won awards for best dressed consort and is about to have a new outfit which we all look forward to seeing her wearing.

Les then read out his Home Cry which was in Rhyme and promoting Dartmouth, which I personally found very moving. To finish off he was asked to cry

with volume of voice that he uses when a town crier although this was very loud it was with great clarity, which is one of the four disciplines that is needed.

He was thanked for a most interesting and informative talk by Judy, after which he and his consort joined us for us for the usual cups of tea and biscuits served by Chris and Carol.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 26th February when Brian Parker is our speaker on **Mysteries and Myths** in the Parish Hall at 2.30 p.m. On 12th March we are holding our Anniversary Lunch at the Old Inn at Halwell.

On 26th March we have one of our favourite speakers coming, Brenda Loosemoor, who is going to speak on the Queen.

Contact Joan Kendall 01803770782.

## SOCIAL CLUB 28 February 2019 Joan Kendall

There was a good attendance at the meeting held on Tuesday 26th February when we welcomed our speaker for the afternoon, Mr. Brian Parker of Dartmouth, a retired scientist with hobbies including history, Probus and was a volunteer at Dartmouth Museum.

His illustrated talk was “Mytheries”, a title made out of two words, Myths and Mysteries. He gave us a pot pourri of many different things. Always asking us the question ‘true or false’ which usually got the wrong reply.

A lady called Ann Hodges survived being hit by a meteorite coming through the roof of her house and wounding her in the hip area. The chance of this happening is a 1 in 500 billion. Apparently there was a bit of controversy as to who the compensation should go to, Ann claiming it was hers and her landlord saying it was his as it had come through the roof of his property.



*In 1954, geologists came across the first recorded case of a meteorite colliding with a human being. Ann Hodges had the unfortunate luck of being that person. In the early afternoon of November 30, Ann Hodges was napping peacefully on her couch when she was awoken by a grapefruit-sized piece of rock slamming into her left side. The rock had crashed through the roof of her Sylacauga, Alabama home, bounced off of her large wooden console radio, and straight into her as she slumbered.*

He gave us a lot of facts and figures. e.g. sound travels one mile in 5 seconds. He showed us a picture of a toy mounted on wheels which belonged to the Incas, displacing the myth that wheels were not about in the time of the Incas. Stonehenge's most important solstice is the winter ceremony.

His son had a friend from University named Simon Beck, from Somerset, who made patterns in the snow. This was sponsored by a lingerie company for their underwear. Not used now. A member of our club said how they saw the same type of patterns done in the sand at Breen in Somerset and wondered if this was also done by Simon.

Brian had the pleasure of speaking to a local man who as a Boy was a 'Telegraph Boy' who told Brian of his memories both of delivering telegrams locally and of war, going into Belson where he saw the most horrific sights. This boy was none other than Eric Pillar.

On the question of 'Red sky at Night, Shepherd's delight' when asked the usual question "True or False" got a resounding reply True, "False" came back the reply from Brian. He went on to

explain to us the reason. I am sure all the country ladies present in the room still doubted that it was False as Country people study the sky and know what tomorrow will bring. "Red sky at Night etc. Red sky in the morning Shepherd's warning." Used by Farmers a lot.

An interesting fact was that our Church here at Strete, St. Michael's is not aligned east to West. This was because it was built in the Victorian times when the Church had to fit the plot of land which was not the case previous to this.

He finished with the Lock Ness Monster showing us proof that the pictures were computer enhanced.

He was thanked by Dorothy after answering questions.

The welcome cups of tea were served by Colleen & Sheila.

Our next event is the Anniversary Lunch at Halwell.

Contact Joan 01803770782

The new Health & Wellbeing Centre is currently being planned for at a site on the overflow of the Park & Ride at the top of town. Planning permission is hoped to be applied for early in the summer and permission obtained by the autumn. The build is expected to take between 12-18 months and for everything to be in place by 2021.

The NHS is now offering extended hours for doctor's appointments:-

Dartmouth Medical Practice -  
Thursdays - 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Or at a local hub over weekends:

Pembroke House Surgery 266 Torquay  
Road, Paignton, TQ3 2EZ

Fridays - 6.00pm—8.00pm

Saturdays - 8.00am—6.00pm

Sundays - 8.00am—2.00pm

There was a meeting on 1st March with the South West Ambulance Service Foundation Trust (SWASFT). Their area of operation extends from Land's End up to the Worcestershire boundary in the north and to the Hampshire boundary in the east – a vast area and the largest of any Ambulance Trust in the country, covering 20% of England's landmass, with 5.3 million residents and 17.5 mil-

lion annual visitors. The Trust has 4,500 staff and 5,200 volunteers. In 2018 they handled around 1 million calls, on average one call for every 5 residents, which is extraordinarily high and suggests that a large number are unnecessary; 6% of calls are in Category 1 (life threatening – heart attacks, strokes, etc) and 51% in Category 2 (urgent – broken limbs etc). One of the reasons why it takes so long sometimes for an ambulance to arrive is that it may be diverted to a more urgent call while on its way to a patient with less urgent needs.

Dartmouth has one ambulance stationed in the town, but this is quite likely to be called away to urgent calls elsewhere in the region. SWASFT tries hard to provide an equal service across the area, but inevitably ambulances get drawn into the more populous areas, leaving the more remote communities with longer response waits.

There is no real solution to this and it is a price we pay for living in a more remote place. SWASFT's funding problems are just one example of a much wider problem of underfunding of all local public services. It was suggested that we should be willing to pay higher taxes to fund better local public services.





The meeting was urged to lobby our MP and for SWASFT to campaign more vigorously for more government funding. It was agreed that SWASFT needed to make greater efforts to communicate with the public to improve public awareness of how they are organised, the services they provide and the constraints they face. This might help in the recruitment of volunteer First Responders and discourage unnecessary call outs.

The Rapid Response Vehicles are manned by local volunteers - First Responders - who are given the appropriate training to be able to attend 999 call outs in their local area which are not Category 1 or 2 and therefore where the patient may have a long wait for an ambulance. They are trained to be able to assess the patient's needs, make them more comfortable and to wait with them

until an ambulance arrives, so that they are not alone and suffering from anxiety. Ideally there would be a team of, say, 5 or 6 people in each village, or group of nearby villages, so that they could share the time they were on call. Volunteers can be any age, and people with nursing or medical skills would obviously be especially welcome, but anyone can volunteer so long as they are reasonably fit and have a car. Please contact me if you might be interested in being a volunteer First Responder (770665) – your local community urgently needs your help, as there is a great shortage of volunteers at the moment.

# STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Helen Darch

Homer Park, Strete, Dartmouth TQ6 0SJ    [streteClerk@gmail.com](mailto:streteClerk@gmail.com)  
01803 770018    [www.strete.org.uk](http://www.strete.org.uk)

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL (PC)

HELD IN STRETE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 17 JANUARY 2019 AT 7.00 PM

### PRESENT

Cllr Kate Gill, Chairman (KG); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr David Rothwell (DR); Cllr John Vallance (JV); Cllr Richard Foss, District Councillor, Allington & Strete Ward (RF); Mrs. Helen Darch – Clerk

### PUBLIC FORUM

A member of the public attended the meeting but advised he was attending as an observer.

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Brazil had sent a brief report by email. He commented there was not much to report over the Christmas break. A quick update on the Slapton Line: Slapton Parish Council has met with Highways and he understood the outcome of these talks, to do with traffic management, would be discussed at the Slapton Line Partnership (SLP) meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> January. Following the SLP meeting it may be interested parties will want to explore options further but they would need to see the outcome of the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> January. KG informed the meeting that the SLP meeting will take place from 10am to 1pm on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

### DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Foss wished all present a happy new year. He has decided to take the planning application for 8 Crestway [1940/18/HHO] to Development Management Committee as the equitable way to deal with this, and noted the committee doesn't always agree with officer recommendations. KG stated the PC will send a representative and it is likely Mr. Shepherd [7 Crestway] might attend. Attendees to contact Kathryn Trant to confirm attendance.

RF informed the meeting that there was a five-year supply of land in the Neighbourhood plan (NP) [*the Five-Year Housing Land Supply Position Statement for Plymouth, South Hams and West Devon was published in December 2018*].

He also counselled to make sure all green spaces were included in the NP as another parish had omitted one green space but unfortunately the plan had to be passed as it stood or else it wouldn't have passed review by a planning inspector [independent examiner].

RF also mentioned the Communities Together Fund which had closed to new applications on 14<sup>th</sup> December but would reopen in the autumn to new bids.

The issue of the public toilets and means of funding them continues. This is also dealt with at item 0119/10.

As mentioned already, the SLP is meeting on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January. Business in Slapton is lobbying hard to see the back roads improved. However along the Gara Mill road some residents are concerned about traffic and the works planned to the road to improve surfaces and the passing places. JV noted there were a number of those expressing concern who didn't live on the Gara Mill road. RF affirmed the works were going to take place and KG commented as the road is a County Highway it is going to be used.

**0119/1** **APOLOGIES** - Cllr Julian Brazil; Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC); Cllr Mark Hanson (MH).

**0119/2** **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 20 DECEMBER 2018**

The above minutes were AGREED as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

**0119/3** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
Parish Councillors were invited to declare any unregistered or other interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. **None were declared.**

**0119/4** **CLERK'S REPORT**  
**Highways matters.** The Clerk contacted DCC Highways to log a request for the gully sucker to visit the village and Lisa Edmonds (LE) explained the schedule for visits to the village estates and the main road. The machine would not normally do non-scheduled visits but the next visit to do the A379 should be mid-2019 and the village estates also in 2019. RF advised if there is a genuine reason then it is worth asking again.

**It was requested the Clerk contact Lisa Edmonds and ask her to deal with the rubbish which accumulates opposite the Laughing Monk.**

LE had also asked the Clerk if the parish wanted to elect a road warden. This volunteer post would be responsible for minor works such as patching, keeping the buddle holes clear and hedge work and have training to do their job.

This volunteer post would be responsible for minor works such as patching, keeping the buddle holes clear and hedge work and have training to do their job.

It was suggested that IC might want to look after the buddle holes or if he couldn't perhaps a roads warden could be recruited.

The snow warden for Strete is DR and LE asked to confirm if any salt stores were needed. DR had confirmed already with the Clerk that there are sufficient stores for this winter. He will fill the three bins in the village. JV asked for salt supplies for the bin by him [Gara Mill].

**Letter re laurel hedge.** The Clerk drafted a letter to the owners of the laurel hedge and sent it to KG, IC and LN to review. The letter asks the owners to cut the hedge back to the fence as it induces traffic particularly buses to move out into the road. RF advised that

Highways has a legal right to cut back greenery that impedes the highway.

**It was resolved that IC takes this up with the owners.**

**Greenspace contract.** The Clerk had drafted a letter to Greenspace to summarise what works they do for the council. A schedule of works was sent to JV just before the last meeting. The Clerk asked if councillors were happy with the contract. **It was resolved the Clerk would circulate to councillors the draft letter which has a schedule of works and put the item on the next agenda.**

**Grants and funds.** At the last meeting the possibility of grant funding was discussed in particular for the fencing work in 2019. As noted by RF the Communities Together Fund closed in mid-December 2018 for bids but may be open again after the district and county budget process is completed. Another initiative the Pocket Parks Plus allows community bodies in alliance with their LA to bid for small sums up to £25k for refurb to refurb or create new park spaces (£15k). The deadline for this one is 25th January to bid and end of March to

spend the monies. The PC would have to provide the match funding of 30% plus and another body do the main bid. **It was resolved the Clerk approach Cathy Aubertin to find out about grants suitable for the fencing works.**

## 0119/5 CHAIR'S REPORT

17.01.19 The last month does seem to have been one of peacefulness even the weather seems to have been relatively kind. As a consequence I have very little to report.

Slapton Line – It is anticipated that the snagging work is likely to be completed by the end of next week. The repositioning of the sign posts is likely to be one of the last things to be completed. The Slapton Line Partnership meeting is still on track for 25<sup>th</sup> January.

Strete Gate Car Park – It seems that although the parking meter has been repaired the season of “Doughnutting” has sadly returned. So we will watch this space.

Coastal Footpath Signs – I have contacted Jane Beech who has forwarded the information about collapsing footpath signs to the correct de-

partment.

Quote - *“In terms of the maintenance and management of existing National Trails like the South West Coast Path, this is undertaken by the access authority Devon County Council (with grant aid from Natural England). I will forward your email on to my access colleague at Devon County Council so that he can take this forward.”*

Banking – The pantomime of the last few months has just about come to the end of its run – thankfully.

We look forward to year of fruitfulness and peacefulness!

An unashamed advert – the Parish Hall is beginning to thrive again with our aim being to hold at least one ‘fun’ ‘fund’ raising event here every month. This month Curling returns and it is tomorrow night so if you fancy an evening out and haven’t bought a ticket see Monica in the Post Office tomorrow. Refreshments will be available.

**The Chair’s report was received.**

## **0119/6 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS**

No planning applications or matters were received. As noted under the District Councillor's report, 8 Crestway [1940/18/HHO] will be considered by the Development Management Committee and interested parties are to contact Kathryn Trant at SHDC. Blindwells [3400/18/FUL] is yet to be considered and this is considerably delayed.

## **0119/7 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

### **NP Report for PC – January 2019**

#### **A379 Traffic Speed Survey**

The traffic speed survey near the proposed access to Cox's Farm Field identified an 85% speed percentile southbound of 24.4 mph and 21.9 mph northbound. The information was passed to Richard Jackson of Devon Highways to provide details of the required visibility splay for safe access onto the A379 from Cox's Farm Field.

The requirements are 27m northbound and 33m southbound as well as reducing the height of the privet hedge on top of the wall heading northbound to 750mm.

#### **Response Report Update**

Updated details of the Response

Report is available to view on the website.

#### **Policy SNP8 – Revised Wording**

Revised wording for SNP8: Housing Development Site at Cox's Farm Field following re-consultation comments received including those from SHDC and Historic England relate to the following:-

4.8 – as a result of the changes to the settlement boundary, the site is the most sustainable location for development in the village.

4.9 – the 30% calculation evidence to justify the increase in the number of homes from 12 to 17 based on the affordable housing need over the plan period to 2034 for 5 homes.

4.10 – clarifies the number of car parking spaces in the proposed village car park.

4.11 – clarifies that the two access points between The Plat and A379 are to be connected.

The policy wording confirms that any development should conserve and enhance the Conservation Area and designated heritage assets.

#### **A379 Access – Supporting Evidence**

Following a site meeting with Duncan Smith of SHDC it was agreed that sup-



porting evidence detailing the issues regarding access to Cox's Farm Field from the A379 near the Kings Arms car park should be included with the plan. This includes:-

1. A379 traffic speed survey details and the required visibility splay
2. Details of the possible need to re-align part of the stone wall on the north side of the access within the Conservation Area including reducing the height of the privet hedge to 750mm
3. Comments received from SHDC Conservation Officer in respect of the possible re-alignment of part of the stone wall
4. The possible re-location of the electricity sub-station close to the access
5. The need for a developer to address any possible impact on the Conservation Area in a planning application, that would be submitted for approval to SHDC planning department, in the event of the site being offered for development by the landowner

SHDC have confirmed their support for this evidence as part of the NP for inclusion with Reg. 15 submission documentation. However, SHDC pointed out the possible risk of the examiner considering there was insufficient evidence and may ask for more. If more specific evidence was

requested arrangements could be made for this to be addressed.

#### **Submission Version of Strete NP**

A revised SNP including all the agreed changes was approved by SG members attending the meeting. This has been submitted to SHDC together with the Statement of Basic Conditions, Statement of Consultation, Strategic Environmental Report, and Screening Report for a Habitats Regulation Assessment, Monitoring Framework, Sustainability Appraisal and the Response Report in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 15. SHDC have advised this will move to Reg. 16 and a six-week consultation phase during which they will look to appoint an examiner. It has been suggested that it is likely to take two to three months before the NP is formally accepted.

SHDC have subsequently advised no record of consultation with Natural England can be located in respect of the HRA Screening Report provided by SHDC in July 2017. This has been amended by SHDC and submitted to Natural England with a request to process asap. This requirement is an essential part of the Statement of Basic Conditions. As a result, until Natural England concludes the consultation requirements on this screening report, SHDC are unable process SNP

SNP to Reg. 16. This could result in a delay of 5 to 6 weeks.

Hard copies of SNP are to be made available in public places for members of the community to read together with a letter drop prior to the referendum to inform and encourage members of the community to vote in support of the plan.

### **Consultants On-Going Involvement**

Following the submission of the plan for examination by SHDC any comments that may be received from the examiner may require the assistance of Lee Bray to provide an appropriate response.

### **The NP report was received.**

#### **0119/8 UPDATE ON THE SLAPTON LINE**

KG noted this had already been discussed [see the reports by both the County Councillor and District Councillor].

#### **0119/9 VILLAGE PUMP**

As MH and IC were absent, it was decided to carry this over to the next agenda.

#### **0119/10 SLAPTON LINE PUBLIC TOILETS AND REVISED CAR PARKING CHARGES**

Cathy Aubertin had sent an email on 31st December to the three parishes [Slapton, Stokenham and Strete] affected by the consultation into funding of the public toilets at Strete Gate and along the

Line. The email proposed replacing the pay on entry charges into the toilets with amended car parking charges. Parishes were asked to communicate their concerns about the proposals by the 31st January. The intention is to implement the revised charges in April 2019.

Councillors commented that any amended charges would only be effective if the machines were working and at the moment the machine at Strete Gate is out of order. Also councillors wondered what the distinction was between '24 hour' parking and 'All day' parking.

### **It was resolved the Clerk would reply to Cathy Aubertin as requested but ask her to note the first point about working machines and clarify the distinction between the two types of parking charge.**

#### **0119/11 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS**

The Clerk updated the meeting on a number of contracts agreed in recent meetings.

**Playpark.** Works are being done by Peter Tanner who promised to start before Christmas. The latest localities report [14th January] advises that new toddler swings have been fitted and the slab swings removed for repair. The localities manager also sent the Clerk a copy of a report from their insurer, Allianz, which listed a

number of issues to do with the playpark. The Clerk asked the localities manager to confirm if the insurer required any additional works to be done and to remind him that the council was getting remedial works done.

**This was noted.** Since the meeting the Localities officer confirmed the insurer had identified a number of items that required rectification but were not of immediate danger. Her advice was to deal with these in due course with no time scale for completion. **It was resolved that IC would oversee the fencing works taking place at the playpark.**

**Fencing. JW Wicks** was contacted after the last meeting to confirm price for the entire works and a start date to avoid nesting in mid-March. They have come back to confirm their quote and a provisional start date of February. RC asked if the works would be supervised and KG suggested that IC would do this as the works were being done next door to his house. **It was resolved that IC would oversee the fencing works taking place at the playpark.**

**WIFI.** After the last meeting the Clerk rang PlusNet to confirm the quote and installation. However, PlusNet have now informed the Clerk that they could not quote on that basis if they were not sure there was fibre already into the Hall. They could offer an ADSL contract for £18/mth plus VAT and

upgrade this once they had a fibre line into the Hall. ADSL will only give 5mbps speed which is probably too little for the downloads needed by multiple users.

After speaking with Plusnet the Clerk then contacted Openreach on 28th December who explained where the fibre ran which is to a cabinet [No 1] on the Hynetown Road. Openreach advised the Clerk to ask for full provision which she did but Plusnet will only offer the lower service until they can get the line upgraded. This was confirmed on 16th January and a quote emailed to the Clerk.

The Clerk went back to EE as the second lowest quote to see if they would agree to a fibre contract and they have agreed to an immediate fibre service but at a price of £46.90/mth plus VAT for 24 months which includes line rental on a BT Business package. Quote valid until 28th January. They have quoted £46 to reactivate the dormant line or £125 if a new line needs to be run in. RC suggested the Clerk approach BT for a quote and LN advised the quote is to match the best quote so far. RF suggested an alternative which is to install an aerial that would pick up WIFI. Actionwest in Kingsbridge had done this for another parish.

The Clerk also informed the meeting she would write to the Parish Hall to give them progress on the WIFI works.

**0119/12 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**  
**KG (Chair) Playpark. This has been**  
**dealt with under 0119/11.**

**LN Transport and Roads.** Before the last meeting LN had sent the Clerk a quote from John Gilbert for annual hedge cutting costs which was for £445 plus VAT. The works cover the A379 bank and inside the Village Green. LN thought this price might be reduced at some point. **The quote was accepted.**

**LN also informed the meeting she would need to visit Philip Knight in Fuge to remind him to cut his hedges.**

Finally LN had sent around to councillors an email from a resident in Fuge who wanted to know plans for the Gara Mill road. **It was resolved the Clerk would reply to the email.**

RC raised the possibility of works being done to Strete Gate out of the £600k monies available for works to the Gara Mill road. This is to be followed up with JB after he informed the PC that funding could be made available.

**DR Health and Safety.** DR has successfully contacted South Hams planners on the listed status of the K6 telephone box. He sent a lengthy email on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January to SHDC on what has been done to the telephone box. There might be a charge of £30 for the planning consultation but this will cover what has been done and the intentioned use of the listed box. RF promised to help. DR has managed to speak

to the new owner of Glen Cottage who owns the land where the telephone box stands and has sent an email to confirm what is needed from the owner. **DR to meet with the owners in a couple of weeks when they are in Strete.**

**DR also outlined two quotes he had received for a new defibrillator at the Hall. These are £1,644 inc VAT from Blue Box Medical Ltd and £1,857 inc VAT from Primary Care Supplies. The existing defibrillator is on lease from South Western Ambulance (SWA) on a four-year term at £1,800 and under the lease would be updated. The lease has recently expired but councillors have agreed to extend it at a cost of £1,800 over four years.**

**Under the former quote the defibrillator would be supplied along with one set of pads, a heated cabinet, a four-year battery, and an eight-year warranty but there would be no support offered. Under the existing service with SWA two training sessions a year were offered. It was noted since Hynetown House acquired a defibrillator the one at the Hall had not been used. DR expressed a preference for the existing machine provided by SWA.**

**The quotes were noted and the report was received.**

DR reminded the meeting that he has arranged training for the defibrillator with The South West Ambulance Service at 6.30pm on Wednesday 23rd January at the Hall.

RC asked what was being done about engaging an electrician to install the defibrillator in the phone box and DR informed the meeting that a three-pin socket was to be installed.

#### **IC Rights of Way, tree warden and**

**Strete Gate.** IC was not at the meeting but KG spoke on the tree at Firstfield.

This tree is a Monterey pine and could achieve considerable girth and height. KG had contacted Savills but the tree is not on Toll land at the moment. Rather it is on Kingsley-Smith land at present. The tree could also constitute an issue if it grows under the road.

**RC Planning and Neighbourhood Plan.** RC had no further comments.

**JV Village Green.** JV had not had a chance to visit the Village Green.

**MH The VAS sign.** KG informed councillors that the VAS battery is re-charged at Manor Farm. Due to personal reasons MH had not been able to attend to the VAS machine. it was unclear where the VAS sign was though it was being recharged. **The location of the VAS sign to be resolved.**

*Subsequent to the meeting, MH advised*

*that the VAS sign had been relocated to the east side of the Village.*

#### **0119/13(a) FINANCE**

The Clerk supplied the meeting with a list of cheques for payment  
1624 – Strete Parish Hall hires for December [PC and NP] £40.00

1625 – Clerk salary January £233.50

1626 – Greenspace invoices October to December 2018

£152.85 per month, £458.55

1627 – R. Clark (Printing) £23.97

**It was proposed and AGREED by all present to authorise payments as enumerated above.**

#### **0119/13(b) FINANCE**

A monitoring report to the year end 31/3/19 had been circulated by the Clerk previously. The latest projection to the year-end gives DR£167.45 at the year end. If the VAT reclaim which was paid into the Business Reserve account is transferred across to the correct account, projected cash is £1,090CR at 31st March 2019.

RC requested that Councillors be given the budgets for their areas of responsibility and that the budgets be publicised on the noticeboards. **The Clerk agreed to send round budgets to each councillor which covered their particular responsibilities. The Clerk will place budget statements on the two noticeboards.**

**The report was received.**

### **0119/13(c) FINANCE**

Cash at bank – £6,028.48 CR Current Account at 09/01/19, £14,266.44 CR Business Reserve Account at 09/01/19.

### **0119/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence listed on the agenda was noted. Councillors requested that a postbag be devised to circulate mail received between meetings. The Clerk agreed to institute a circulation list for mail received other than that which is forwarded by email.

### **0119/15 REPORTS**

Councillors were asked if there was anything else to add but there was nothing to add.

### **0119/16 THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2019 IN STRETE PARISH HALL AT 7.PM.**

**THE MEETING WAS CLOSED** at 8.45 p.m.

Signed: Cllr Kate Gill (Chair)

Dated: 21 FEBRUARY 2019

### **ACTION POINTS:**

**Clerk: contact Lisa Edmonds to deal with the rubbish opposite the Laughing Monk; circulate the draft letter to Greenspace which has a schedule of works and put on next agenda; ap-**

**proach Cathy Aubertin on grants for fencing works and on carparking charges to note point on non-working carparking machines and to clarify the difference between two types of carparking charge; contact BT for a competitive WIFI quote for fibre; Actionwest to install an aerial; write to Strete Parish Hall on WIFI works; circulate budgets to councillors and place on noticeboards; institute a circulation list for non-email correspondence; reply to a resident of Fuge who has corresponded on the Gara Mill road.**

**LN: to visit Philip Knight to remind him to cut his hedges.**

**IC: to be asked if he would look after the buddle holes; to approach the owners of the laurel hedge re cutting it; to oversee the fencing works at the playpark.**

**DR: to meet with the owners of Glen Cottage when they come down to Strete.**

Emma Johns from Kingsbridge Health and Sports Therapy runs a Stretch Class every Tuesday for an hour at 12 midday in the Village Hall. Men and women are welcome. These classes help to improve flexibility and mobility through a mixture of yoga and pilates. Age no barrier. New people always welcomed. Your first session is free of charge.

## LITTER PICKING TEAM



I have lived my life through the age of plastic, its brilliant versatility and durability. Sadly it is that latter which is our current challenge. The photograph of plastic waste in the Arctic shows the need for beach cleaning . MH

## Malcolm You are a Celebrity

Life is full of surprises. I was working on the latter stages of the magazine going together, and pulling the various articles together for the last time, when an issue of fact and detail became a little complex, and anything that involved the use of my memory seemed to largely challenge me.

Andrea noted that I hadn't been well for a couple of days, and she thought I was brewing one of my Chest infections, but on Sunday morning I was unresponsive, just sitting on the edge of the bed, staring into space so Andrea called an ambulance, and I went into Hospital. The problem started with the levels of sodium in my blood which were at dangerously low levels so they began trying to balance that out and then find the cause. I was a lot better quite quickly, but the lucid moments were still a bit in and out and I was very weary. It seems particularly cruel as I have been doing everything I can to try and keep fit.

From my perspective I was very confused, swearing blind that the people in the other beds were the characters in a play which they were performing in hospitals round the country. I even thought that my son, Richard and his wife were involved (they are both actors but live in the New York). It was quite some time before I realised that Richard was not in

## Malcolm Hollis

the next bed to me. I swore that he had sent me an email with some information about the play and that they were going to take it through the USA as a travelling unit, as was happening in the UK. At the time I was in the Accident and Emergency, where the ambulance had dropped me.

I was moved in the hospital to Dalby Ward after about four days, which is on the top floor of St George's hospital. Terrific views all round South London. The floors were all timber strips, and the doors Chrome. I woke one night and went to the Toilet, and when I came back people were walking past the open glass doors, giving the feel of a ship's gangway. In fact for some time I thought that I was up on the top deck of a large ship. I dived back into the toilet, convinced I had 'taken a wrong turning'.

"Malcolm, you are a bit of a Celebrity," the brilliant Doctor said. I looked at him strangely, I was now much repaired. The Doctor continued. 'You are the first completely new case of Addison's Disease that I have found'. Addison's disease – also known as primary adrenal insufficiency or hypoadrenalism – is a rare disorder of the adrenal glands. The adrenal gland is damaged in Addison's disease, so it does not produce enough cortisol or aldosterone.



It has been very strange going through the realisation as to what was real and what I had imagined. Now, looking back, I cannot believe that I could be so easily fooled, deceived, or misled.

As soon as they had told me that I have Addison's - they began to make arrangements for my discharge.

So there you are, I am now on the National Congenital Anomaly and Rare Diseases Registration Service (NCARDS).

I am now much improved so that I can return to finishing off the magazine, for the last time. From this issue the editorship will pass to Dave Jones. I wish him well and hope that he enjoys the task as much as I have.

The only thing is that I have upset Andrea by getting a strange and odd problem and nothing that is straight forward.

Malcolm

In 1855, Dr Thomas Addison first described adrenal insufficiency, which was subsequently named after him.

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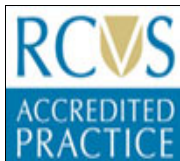


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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL (PC)

HELD IN STRETE PARISH HALL ON  
THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2019 AT 7.00  
PM

### PRESENT

Cllr Kate Gill, Chairman (KG);  
Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr David  
Rothwell (DR); Cllr Ian Cum-  
berlidge (IC); Cllr Julian Bra-  
zil, County Councillor, Kings-  
bridge Division (JB); Mrs.  
Helen Darch – Clerk

### PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public  
attended the meeting.

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S RE- PORT

Cllr Brazil as county and dis-  
trict councilor had involve-  
ment in both DCC and SHDC  
budget meetings and had  
attended the SHDC meeting to  
table an amendment. For DCC  
a 4% increase overall was vot-  
ed in despite £17m less from  
Central Government for  
2019/20, and the Liberal Dem-  
ocrat amendment being re-  
jected.

DCC saw a £53.10 [Band D] increase

up to £1,384.29. As last year pro-  
vision was in the DCC budget for  
Adult Social Care and council tax  
bills will have a 1% increase for  
this element. SHDC also saw an  
increase on a Band D property of  
£5 a year to £165.42 for the year  
and the Police precept saw a £24  
increase. JB mentioned if any  
individuals were affected by the  
budget measures to let him know.  
RC noted there had been more  
younger people move into the  
village.

JB also advised that the A379 in  
Frogmore would be closed for [at  
least] a week from 26<sup>th</sup> February  
to undertake flood prevention  
works. This is a DCC flood allevia-  
tion scheme which would see a  
storm ditch constructed and a  
pipe would be run under the main  
road.

The recent decision by the Devel-  
opment Management Committee  
on 8 Crestway [1940/18/HHO] [to  
reject the revised application]  
was also discussed. The applicant  
can appeal the decision to the  
Planning Inspectorate and has a  
12-week period from the date of  
notice to do so. However, they  
must pay for this step but may be  
awarded costs if they are success-  
ful in their appeal. Interested par-  
ties will be contacted by the the  
Inspectorate if an appeal goes  
ahead. JB also commented the  
Neighborhood Plan for Strete will  
have more effect on planning

decisions as it progresses. IC wondered if a revised plan would be better with a ground floor extension rather than upstairs.

RC asked about the £600,000 available toward the works to the back roads [1018/5 et seq]. JB noted this depends and KG explained this is in hand with plans at Strete Gate car park involving Lisa Edmonds and John Fewings. RC then noted the buddle hole just beyond the Fuge turning was blocked up again. JB stated the Community Enhancement Fund had £100,000 available toward these works and Lisa Edmonds knows about available monies.

**The report was received.**

#### **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Foss had given his apologies and no report was received.

**0219/1 APOLOGIES** - Cllr Richard Foss (RF); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr Mark Hanson (MH), Cllr John Valance (JV).

#### **0219/2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2019**

The above minutes were AGREED as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

#### **0219/3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Parish Councillors were invited to declare any unregistered or other interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any

items to be considered at this meeting. **None were declared.**

#### **0219/4 CLERK'S REPORT**

Highways matters. Lisa Edmonds confirmed she will check the drain/rubbish at The Laughing Monk when she comes through next week.

The laurel hedge. The Clerk asked if Lisa could have a look at the hedge and give her opinion on what still needs to be done to ensure the highway is not impeded. Lisa advised that Highways won't react until the hedge is out a metre and pushing cars into the white centre line. She asked if we could let her know the response of the owners to the latest visit. Richard Jackson at DCC had advised the height should be at most 750mm above the wall. Resolved that IC offered to visit the householder again and the draft letter would be amended as noted before being sent out.

Greenspace contract. The Clerk sent round a draft contract letter to Greenspace for comments. The Clerk is now notified every time works are done by the contractor. Councillors discussed what the contract should include. It was decided the contract would commence in April 2019 for the next year and JV would manage it. 18 cuts had been agreed originally between the council and the contractor and councillors were happy with a schedule of 18 cuts as follows:

July and August 3 cuts per month	April – June, September 2 cuts per month
February/March, October/November 1 cut per month	December/January no cuts required

Councillors also discussed whether the current billing arrangements of £152.85/month average across the year should remain or itemised billing as the contractor was sending notification each time work was done. **It was decided to retain the annual contract figure but pay on the basis of how many cuts are done a month. Resolved the Clerk would draft a contract to Greenspace to include amendments from the meeting.**

Other contractors were discussed briefly. **It was resolved the council is happy with Terry Hallet at £65/time and to request Chris Ellis as and when works were required.**

**Grants and funds.** At the last meeting RF advised the parish approach Cathy Aubertin for grants toward the play-park fence. RF’s Sustainable Community Locality Fund was recommended as it has unspent funds in 2018/19.

RC read from The Totnes Times [15th February 2019] which noted SHDC will

spend up to £520,000 by 2021 on playparks they own before transferring these to towns and parishes to manage.

**Elections.** Parish and local government elections take place on 2nd May. The Electoral Commission has published a timetable for events. **KG asked for a copy of this from the Clerk.** Councillors discussed the need to stand and how vacancies would be advertised. The council has 7 councillors. The Clerk is booked onto an election training course with the SLCC on 6th March at £60 plus VAT. **The Clerk will confirm what needs to be done in the next month in connection with notifying vacancies and starting the election process. She will contact the SLCC for advice**

**0219/5 CHAIR’S REPORT**

**21.02.19. Slapton Line.** Is this month’s major issue. We shall be discussing four items this evening with regard to the Line and its environs. All items are

important and will need extra-careful thought. They are items 8 -11 inclusive: War memorial, parking, toilets, access to the beach and dog poo bins.

**Annual litter picking.** Louise has kindly organised our Spring Clean for Saturday 9th March as you know – you have her email. It would be good if each one of us could recruit at least one other person to join the group. If you contact Louise, I'm sure she will make sure you have the correct gear for the job. This she obtains from SHDC at Torr. Refreshments at mine!

**Strete Gate.** Tidying up at Strete Gate is still on Lisa Edmond's horizon. I reminded her and John Fewings at the Slapton Line Partnership meeting on 25h January last. At that meeting as negotiations are still in progress Vicky Croghan our minute taker was asked to issue the following statement on our behalf:

*Hi all,*

*Following today's meeting; here is the agreed brief statement about the policy status of the Slapton Line:*

The Slapton Line Partnership is developing a draft policy agreement, yet to be formalised, on the future of the Slapton Line. Once formalised, this information will be shared with the

public during consultations later in the year.

Kind regards

Vicky

Whilst on Strete Gate I would like to thank Phil Cruse and Ralph for reinstating the parking sign/notice. It looks good and in just the right spot.

**Finally, planning.** We have had a difficult few months. As you know we as the Parish Council do not actually make any decisions – we just advise. We have had one recommendation denied and the second one gratefully granted. We have another close on the horizon with regard to Blindwells.

Once more an unashamed advert – its Parish Hall fund raising night again tomorrow. The Games Evening with a Ploughman's supper will be served.

**The Chair's report was received.**

## **0219/6 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS**

SHDC reminded parishes on 15th February that the consultation will change from paper to online from 1st April 2019. Major applications will continue to be sent out by paper but these are limited to [any of] 10 or dwellings, 0.5 hectares or more in area, living space 1000m squared or more,



area.

**Blindwells [3400/18/FUL].** RC updated the meeting on recent correspondence which had taken place between SHDC and the developer/agent in connection with the number of houses on the site, their position and the planner's stance on recommendation. The parish had objected to the plans for the development in November [minute 1118/6]. Other points were raised on the length of the proposed properties and their proximity to existing dwellings. IC noted the council needed to keep an eye on the plans for this development. RC had written to the planning officer on a number of the points in this correspondence. All documents are on the planning portal. **RC offered to email his submission to all councillors. He also offered to contact RF on this matter.**

RC noted local reporting on affordable housing initiatives and provided a newspaper clipping to the Clerk.

## **0219/7 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

### **NP Report for PC – February 2019**

#### **Submission Version of Strete NP**

The submission version of Strete SNP was submitted to SHDC on 10/01/2019 together with the Statement of Basic Conditions, Statement of Consultation, Strategic Environ-

mental Report, Screening Report for a Habitats Regulation Assessment, Monitoring Framework, Sustainability Appraisal and the Response Report in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 15.

SHDC advised no record of consultation with Natural England could be located in respect of the HRA Screening Report provided by SHDC in July 2017. This was amended by SHDC and submitted to Natural England with a request to check and approve. This requirement is an essential part of the Statement of Basic Conditions. Natural England confirmed their consultation was complete on 04/02/2019. SHDC confirmed the HRA Screening report could be included as part of Regulation 15.

SHDC issued a Public Notice advising Strete Neighbourhood Plan had been received and is subject to a six-week consultation phase commencing 08/02/2019 to 22/03/2019. This is displayed in the two Public Notice Boards in the village and in the Post Office as well as Strete website.

SHDC have contacted the Neighbourhood Planning Independent Examiner Referral Service (NPIERS) who will aim to make an examiner referral within four weeks.

NPIERS have provided CVs for two potential examiners. SHDC have requested the preferred choice of Steering Group members be advised asap.

Once the examiner has completed the necessary checks a date for the referendum can be confirmed. One month before the referendum hard copies of SNP are to be made available in public places for members of the community to read together with a letter drop to inform and encourage members of the community to vote in support of the plan. It has been suggested that the examination and referendum is likely to take two to three months to complete.

### **Consultants On-Going Involvement**

Any comments that may be received from the examiner may require the assistance of Lee Bray to provide an appropriate response.

### **The NP report was received.**

### **0219/8 UPDATE ON THE SLAPTON LINE AND PLACING OF THE WAR MEMORIAL**

The Slapton Line Partnership [SLP] has discussed the new home for the monument once the 2019 anniversary had passed. It is planned to move it before 2020. Stokenham PC does not want to adopt the monument and

Slapton PC offered to relocate it across the line up Sands Road. According to RF Slapton PC has applied for planning permission to relocate the monument. The new site landowner is willing to open up the land but only for anniversary dates. RC noted he had stopped looking into grant funding because of these developments. **To clarify with RF what is the latest status of the monument. Also, to find out from Alan Denbigh what Slapton's plans are.**

KG remarked the monument was given by the US military for all the villages that were evacuated. She was also doubtful on the suitability of the proposed site for reasons which include car parking and access by visitors. KG recommended the area up by Strete Gate would be more suitable [minutes October and November 18 refer] and councillors commented on a number of factors such as visibility from the main road, existing carpark, distance from the beach and coordination with the Ley Centre on wildlife. RC remarked the site does need to be somewhere around Slapton ie near where it currently stands.

**0219/9 PROVISION OF EXTRA PARKING ALONG THE SLAPTON LINE**

A proposal to enlarge the carpark at Strete Gate was discussed. If the monument is moved, its carpark will be lost to the Line. Torcross is too small to open up so the only other carpark area in the area is Strete Gate. IC noted trees would probably have to be cut down for the extra land but KG remarked there was nowhere else to offer up extra land. A field to the right of the lane was cultivated; maybe this could be used. IC suggested the east fence might be extended and then the road widened near the toilet block. This would mean taking out a line of trees.

**0219/10 SLAPTON LINE PUBLIC TOILETS AND REVISED CAR PARKING CHARGES**

The Clerk reported on this. SHDC took the responses of the parishes to the Executive on 7<sup>th</sup> February [*minutes 0119/10 refer*]. The Executive agreed the revised charges [per the original consultation] and after Council, there will be a public consultation phase [21 days] from the end of next week. Also, Cathy Aubertin's response to the council's comments from the last meeting are:

There is a set amount of income that will transfer from the car parking budget to the public toilet budget at the year-end irrespective of what income the machines collect. SHDC are looking at other machine providers as well.

The 'all day' fee will be in effect a 10-hour tariff so that customers will have a clear expiry time on their tickets.

Councillors asked if the £1 car parking would be available all day or only at certain times. **Agreed the Clerk would ask for confirmation from Cathy Aubertin.**

**0219/11 ACCESS TO THE BEACH FROM THE PUBLIC TOILETS**

This item was taken before item 10. Two issues were discussed: the provision of steps and widening the road into the carpark. The damaged steps at Strete Gate need to be replaced [minutes 1018/5 and 1118/9 refer] and the existing road widened. DR noted tourism is a factor in particular at Strete Gate and the site needs to be improved.

The issues of replacing the steps and widening the road involve consultation with a number of interested parties and agencies. Thus, The Strete Gate Estate as the owners of the land. Then SHDC, who manages the land on behalf of the Estate, needs to be consulted on whether there is a health and safety issue with the absence of steps and that they are happy with the PC recommendations on the replacement steps. DCC to comment on proposals to widen the road and Natural England on the site overall as it is a SSSI.

IC was concerned that people now use the slippery path and this is dangerous. He recommended the steps be made up as [14-15 steps] pole steps with tannalised wood and a timber frame to suit the SSSI environment. **It was resolved IC will draw up a spec to replace the steps and the three quotes will be obtained for the work. These can then be given to SHDC and the relevant permissions sought from the agencies as above.**

The road is narrow and congested with only 1 car at a time able to pass. **This is a highways issue and DCC need to be contacted to address it. RF could be approached to sort it out.** KG noted large vehicles need to be prohibited from using the site and Highways could be approached to put an enforcement notice at the entrance.

RC recommended someone take photos of the site and get landscaping contractors to provide estimates. The intention is to request monies from the district or county councils. He also wondered if some funds out of the £600k for back roads would be available to widen the road here. A number of related issues were also discussed including the installation of a dog-bin which is held in KG's

barn. The current red dog-bin belongs to Slapton PC. KG and IC would decide the best place to put the bin. **RC would ask Phil Cruse if he could install this bin.**

#### 0219/12

#### VILLAGE PUMP

MH has emailed to say he would look at removing the greenery around the pump. IC said what was needed was to pick out the pointing and replace broken bricks. Maybe it could be 'heaved' back into place [RC] as long as it is not a health and safety issue. **Resolved that IC and MH would look at this and report back.**

#### 0219/13 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS

**Playpark.** Peter Tanner confirmed all works have been done and the goal mouth seeded. KG thought the goal mouth was dangerous with bits of spike. IC thought it was okay and has had spoken with Peter Tanner. The post on the outside is still there. This was all noted. IC to confirm all works had been performed before payment is made.

The localities manager confirmed with the Clerk that the report from their insurer, Allianz, which listed a number of issues is not urgent but will have be dealt with over time. **The Clerk offered to copy the report**

Fencing. JW Wicks has been chased on progress. The works were requested to start early to avoid nesting in mid-March. They have come back to confirm their quote and a provisional start date of February.

**WIFI.** The Clerk has written to the Parish Hall committee to inform them of our work on this. She has also let KG know as rep what the current play is. After the last meeting the Clerk rang BT given a lead by RC but they will not quote unless there is a postcode to locate the property and get Openreach to run a line in. The clerk also spoke with Actionwest who will do a survey to assess broadband availability COST £42 inc VAT and then recommend whether an aerial is the best route. Correspondence has been copied round. Agreed that the Clerk would go back to Actionwest to commission a site survey at a cost of £42 inc VAT.

## **0219/14 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

KG (Chair) Playpark. Reported on in **0219/13.**

**LN Transport and Roads.** There was no report given.

**DR Health and Safety.** The defibrillator training was successful with over 20 attendees. The application for consent for works to a listed building

for the defibrillator in the telephone box is being prepared. The owner of the land has made contact with DR and it might be courteous to keep the owner informed. RC suggested using the land registry to obtain details for the owner. Clerk to obtain information from the Land Registry for the consent form.

## **IC Rights of Way, tree warden and**

**Strete Gate.** Strete Gate has already been discussed. Rights of Way mostly walked except Prideaux Lane to Severns Lane. IC noted buddle holes were not his responsibility but he could take them on. Some of the ditches into farmland haven't been cleared out. Ditches by Philip Knight and Chris Sutton need to be cleared out. It may be local candidates might take this on. KG suggested an advert in the Shop for someone to take on cleaning out the buddle holes for a small sum.

The felling of trees at Tallis Rock had caused some concern in the village and IC rang SHDC planners who advised there were no Tree Preservation Orders [TPOs] in place on these trees. Also, they were not in the conservation area so the trees couldn't be protected. IC commented people should be more vigilant about what is going on with trees

and seek to put TPOs in place. RC

offered to speak with John Kingsley-Smith about the Monterey Pine [minutes 0119/12 refer] as there is a concern over damage beneath the road if the roots grow down.

RC Planning and Neighbourhood Plan.

The property 'Abingdon' opposite Landcombe is now for sale as a plot.

JV Village Green. There was no report given.

MH The VAS sign. There was no report given.

**0219/15(a) FINANCE**

The Clerk supplied the meeting with a list of cheques for payment

**0219/15(b) FINANCE**

A monitoring report to the year end 31/3/19 had been circulated already. The latest projection to the year-end is DRE717.86 at the year end. If the VAT reclaim which was paid into the Reserve account is transferred across, projected cash is £539CR at 31st March 2019. RC asked the provision for Lee Bray of £1,500 be taken to 2019/20.

**Budgets:** The Clerk had sent KG on request examples of different types of budget including that of Salcombe's precept for 2019/20 as an example of how budgets are allocated across categories rather than individuals and how a budget for the public was drafted. **Resolved the Clerk would send the example of Salcombe's budget to all councillors with equivalent figures for Strete to be discussed and agreed at the next meeting.**

1628 – Neo Traffic Data Services Ltd £300 to replace cheque 1623 cancelled	1629 – Strete Parish Hall hires for January [PC, defibrillator session and NP] £60.00
1630 – Kingsbridge Websites £60 annual hosting of website for Strete	1631 – M Hanson repair of fence at playpark £442.69
1632 – Clerk salary February £233.50	1633 – Phil Cruse £147.88 for works to sign at Strete Gate car park
1634 – Clerk expenses to the end of February £13.84	

**It was proposed and AGREED by all present to authorise payments as enumerated**

## 0219/15(c) FINANCE

Cash at bank – £4,609.10CR Current account at 11/02/19, £14,268.86CR Business Reserve account at 11/02/19.

## 0219/16 CORRESPONDENCE

A late letter from the Parish Church on the issue of increased costs for grass cutting and whether the council could assist by increasing our grant to them was discussed. The council grants £200 annually to the Parish Church toward the upkeep of the churchyard. **Resolved the Clerk would write to the Parish Church to inform them that the council would continue their existing grant at the current level.**

## 0219/17 REPORTS

Councillors were asked if there was anything else to add. KG noted the air ambulance is still scheduled for the field at Manor Farm but the field needs to be cleared. RC passed on local comments on the visits by the road sweeper to Strete which is an environmental health matter being off the main highway. It was decided a large sweeper would be needed on a regular basis. **The Clerk offered to make local enquiries. RC offered to provide the Clerk with names and quotes from local contractors with road sweepers contacted in the past.**

**0219/18 THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 21 MARCH 2019 IN STRETE PARISH HALL AT 7.PM.**

**THE MEETING WAS CLOSED at 10.15 p.m.**

### **ACTION POINTS:**

**Clerk:** to amend the draft letter on the laurel hedge; to draft a contract to Greenspace to include amendments from the meeting; to confirm what needs to be done in the next month in connection with notifying vacancies and starting the election process including to contact the SLCC for advice and send a copy of the Election Commission timetable to KG; to ask for confirmation on the £1 car park charge from Cathy Aubertin; to copy the report from Allianz to IC to read; to go back to Actionwest to commission a site survey at a cost of £42 inc VAT; to obtain information from the Land Registry for the listed asset consent form; to send the example of Salcombe's budget to all councillors with equivalent figures for Strete to be discussed and agreed at the next meeting; to write to the Parish Church to inform them that the council would continue their existing grant at £200; to make enquiries on local road sweepers; remove £1.5k provided for Lee Bray.

**plans are; to place an advert in the Shop for someone to take on cleaning out the buddle holes for a small sum; to resolve the narrow**



KG: to clarify with RF what is the latest status of the monument; to find out from Alan Denbigh what Slapton's plans are; to place an advert in the Shop for someone to take on cleaning out the buddle holes for a small sum; to resolve the narrow road at Strete Gate with DCC who need to be contacted to address it or RF could be approached to sort it out; to approach Highways to put an enforcement notice at the entrance.

IC: to visit the householder with the laurel hedge again and the draft letter would be amended as noted before being sent out; to draw up a spec to replace the steps at Strete Gate and three quotes will be obtained for the work; to

look at the Village pump along with MH and report back; to confirm that play-park works have been done prior to payment.

MH: to look at the Village pump along with IC and report back.

RC: to email his submission on Blindwells to all councillors and to contact RF on this matter; to ask Phil Cruse if he could install the dog bin at Strete Gate; to speak with John Kingsley-Smith about the Monterey Pine; to provide the Clerk with names and quotes from local contractors with road sweepers contacted in the past.

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Should you wish to become a volunteer to provide this service to others; please simply call and we can meet and discuss; we do indeed need volunteers as well as readers. Thanks.

## HAPPY EASTER NEWS



***The Monk** is now re-opening from Easter for Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. New menu etc etc.*

*So, sign back up this afternoon, Ben Handley on the right, Dean Small on the left, and supplies of lots of cups of tea and advice on how to hang a sign.....*



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