

The Parish Post

Number 75
Oct 2016

for Beambridge Clunbury Clunton Coston Cwm Kempton Little Brampton Obley Purslow The Llan & Twitchen

Clun Surgery Safe

Plans for the future of The Meadows GP Practice in Clun were finally agreed by Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on September 21 after an extended period of consultation over arrangements for around 1600 patients in Wales. The branch premises in Knighton will close on December 24 and the practice boundary will be redrawn along the county border with Wales and Herefordshire for new patients wishing to register with The Meadows.

Existing patients affected by the closure - predominantly in Knighton and the surrounding mid-Wales areas - will be encouraged to register with their nearest convenient GP practice for practical and safety reasons, but will be allowed to continue to use The Meadows surgery if they are prepared to travel to Clun.

This may mean, however, that the Clun based doctors may have to drive as far afield as Llandrindod Wells for home visits to patients reluctant to change. It may also mean finding more consulting room space to accommodate increased numbers of patients attending the Clun surgery.

The crisis at The Meadows has been caused by the national shortage of GPs and the inability to recruit a new doctor to replace Roger Davies who is retiring at the end of this year. It would have been impossible for the remaining partners, Drs Bennett and Walton, to safely cover the two surgeries in Knighton and Clun - especially with the proposed transfer of care from hospitals into the community and the substantial increase in GP workload this will involve.

In order to ease the transition of Welsh patients changing to the alternative Knighton practice and alleviate any extra workload at Clun, Dr Davies has put his retirement plans on hold for two years and offered to work as a locum at both surgeries.

The Shropshire CCG Primary Care Commissioning Committee last week paid tribute to Dr Davies for his loyalty to his patients and recorded a vote of thanks for his continuing work to help resolve a difficult situation in local healthcare.

Sylvia Jones



Clunton Scrumpers Apple Juicing Day

October 15, 10am - 4pm

Clunton Village Hall

Light refreshments available

Please book your place

All information 660309



Harvest Celebrations

Friday 14 October

St Swithin's, Clunbury

Service at 7pm

followed by supper from 8pm in the Village Hall

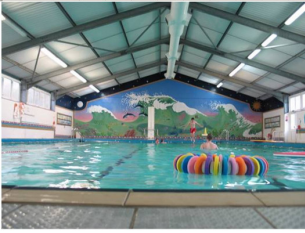
Tickets on door - £6 children under 14 free.

Licensed bar

Please send your contributions by the 20th of each month

Vote for SpArC

Votes are needed now for the Bishop's Castle Save the SpArC Campaign. Shortlisted for an M&S community energy award, which could secure a grant award of £13k for a new pool cover, the Save the SpArC application is facing stiff competition in the central west region. A new pool cover for SpArC would reduce heat loss and water evaporation and reduce running costs by up to 15%. The SpArC action group who submitted the bid would like as many people as possible to **vote before the closing date on the 10 October.**



A spokesperson for the group said 'over 6000 people have seen our face book pages on this important vote, we now need all these people to take one more step and vote, as well as sharing the page, this would give us a real chance of success'. Anyone who would like to vote can do so by visiting <https://www.mandsenergyfund.com/projects/dont-let-the-sparc-go-out>

SWSGC October Meeting

Winter Containers

Paul Williams

Wednesday 26 October

Lydbury North Village Hall 7.30pm

The talk is free to members of the Club; visitors are also welcome at £5 per person including refreshments. Any queries to Carol Clarke 660753 or Allison Walter 620055 or please look at www.gardeningshropshire.co.uk

Clunbury 100 Club September Draw

Trevor Wall £20: Lorna Goodwin £15:
Mary Price £10: Gill Deakin £5: Sarah Marie Bailey £3

Mammoth Weekend

8 & 9 October 10am - 5pm

Join us for a weekend of family fun and talks to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the discovery of our mammoth.



Meet the Condover mammoth.

Free exhibition entry.

Workshop - Fascinating Forensics: piece together a rodent skeleton from an owl pellet.

Mammoth Facts Trail.

Workshop - Munchable Mammoths: decorate your own mammoth biscuit.

Go mammoth tracking - find footprints, fur and droppings!

Saturday 8 October

'The Shropshire Mammoth' a talk by Dr Adrian Lister



Sunday 9 October

'Bones and what they can tell us' a talk by Stephanie Bellows

Visit our website:

www.shropshirehillsdiscoverycentre.co.uk for more information, prices and workshop timings. Book in advance to secure your place.

Give a sheep for SpArC



An appeal to all local sheep owners to donate one (or more!) of their flock to sell at the breeding ewes and store lamb sale at Love Lane, Bishop's Castle on Saturday 1 October.

To be sold in aid of Save The SpArC Campaign

Contact: David Bryan Jones at Halls:
bishopscastle@hallsgb.com or 638 755

A Social Climber?

In each issue this year we have featured a wild plant flowering at that time in the parish, but as winter approaches we are fast running out of candidates! The one we'll latch on to this month is ivy, buzzing now with bees, for which the plant's nectar and pollen can be a vital resource at an otherwise lean time. The flowers (the petals are yellow-green, the stamens yellow) are inconspicuous, as are the black berries, which are savoured by birds in late winter. It's a woody climber (though it may also carpet shady ground), which flourishes throughout the parish, nourishing livestock lucky enough to gain access to it, softening the profiles of trees and buildings, and providing year-round character and winter greenery.

Ornament or pest? Few plants fuel such contrary opinions. Generally ivy will not damage a healthy tree: it will compete for water and nutrients in the ground, but it is not parasitic. However its extra weight may occasionally lead to storm damage, and on walls where drystone construction or weak mortar invite its fast-growing shoots to penetrate and then thicken, damage may result. On the other hand, ivy provides valuable shelter for birds, mammals and insects, particularly in winter, and nesting sites too. Furthermore, whereas each spring the holly blue butterfly (the little blue butterfly seen most commonly in our gardens) lays its eggs on holly, the summer brood does so mainly on ivy, including perhaps on the leaves of the impressive old specimens growing up two of the five huge oak trees on the lane from Kempton to Purslow.

Favoured on occasion by flower-arrangers, ivy is said, what's more, to have been woven into a diamond-studded decorative wreath adorning the head of the recently married Queen Victoria; how's that for social climbing? Watch your screens to see whether the producers of the TV series have included this alluring headpiece in their heroine's wardrobe.

Dave Simpson and Tom Wall

Shropshire Hospitals – Latest News

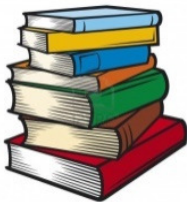
A single A & E for the whole of Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin and Powys should be based at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital (RSH), according to local health chiefs examining the clinical needs of the area. A financial assessment of this plan will be made in early October before an official scheme is submitted to NHS England and the government. Formal public consultation on this reorganisation of hospital services is scheduled to begin in December and last for at least 12 weeks.

The proposal is likely to mean that A & E and trauma facilities will remain at the RSH, with planned care such as routines surgery for cataracts, hip and knee replacements, diagnostic tests, and even radiotherapy, chemotherapy moving to a downgraded Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) at Telford. Women's and children's services are expected to move back to RSH despite the £28million centralisation at PRH just two years ago.

Although residents in rural areas like Clunbury will be relieved if A & E services remain at Shrewsbury and they will not face potentially life threatening increased ambulance journeys in time-critical emergencies, they will still have significantly increased travel to Telford for other essential care that will cost them much more time and money.

Reaction to the plans has been furious in Telford and Wrekin where the Town Council are threatening a Judicial Review. Many councillors - who had felt confident the central Emergency Department would be sited at PRH - will now join forces with Shropshire Defend Our NHS campaigners to fight for the retention of both existing A & Es. However local NHS bosses are facing a financial black hole of more than £147million debts and are under severe pressure to balance the books. Unless they can get more money from the government - something they privately think is unlikely - then they plan to impose a raft of 'unpalatable' cuts across a wide range of services that will impact particularly hard on frail, elderly and vulnerable patients in areas like ours.

Sylvia Jones



The Charity Bookshop

Craven Arms will be holding a book sale at the Community Centre, Craven Arms on Saturday 29 October from 9.30am-2.00pm. Come and pick up a bargain.

No Fish and Chips at The Crown!!

There will be no fish and chips on Wednesday 19 October or 26 October. No food at all will be served from Monday 17 October until normal fish and chip service resumes on Wednesday 2 November. The bar will be open for drinks from 5 o'clock every night during this time. Some of us may miss our weekly 'fix' and suffer withdrawal symptoms but we hope Della, Andy and family enjoy their well-earned holiday!

Clunbury Churchyard - Help Wanted

Calling all would-be tree fellers, (on a very small scale), and weeders. We are having a bit of a blitz on the Churchyard to add to all the good work already done by Alister Thompson, and the regular mowing gang.

Anyone who can spare an hour or two of help on Saturdays 15 and 22 October between 10am and 2pm, would be most gratefully received into our working party.

We need especially to remove the many small trees that are sprouting before they become a forest and ivy on the church walls, so please bring along suitable tools you may have - but not trimmers and remember your safety: suitable footwear, safety goggles, etc.

Refreshments will be provided, coffee, tea, cake etc, possibly even buttered scones for tea for our more intrepid lumberjacks!

NHS Trust 'Requires Improvement'

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has published its final report on Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust's services, following their inspection in March 2016. Overall, it has produced a rating of 'Requires Improvement'. Currently, about 62% of all NHS Trusts and Foundations Trusts have been rated in this category.

In the 5 quality domains of - Are services Safe, Effective, Caring, Responsive and Well-led, only Caring was rated as 'Good' in Shropshire.

Jan Ditheridge (Chief Executive at Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust) writes in the Trust's Staff Newsletter - I have to be honest, I'm a bit disappointed by some of the results and that we weren't able to demonstrate we are better than we could evidence in some areas, such as Minor Injuries and End of Life Care. I believe this report is a fair reflection of where we were in March 2016. 'Requires Improvement' means we have to do more and sometimes different, to ensure all our services are rated at least 'Good'.

You can find the full inspection report on their website at: www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/cqc
In the light of all that is happening in our local NHS services this does not make encouraging reading. We will continue to monitor the situation and report developments. PP editors

Operation Christmas Child - Shoeboxes

Time to hit the pound aisle and fill up your boxes. Leaflets will be available soon in churches or from Pat Harding. Boxes will need to be ready by mid November.

If you cannot fill a box - but have a few suitable items, let Pat know. Tel. 660169



Gardening Club Show Success

You have to have faith in your garden club members to put on a show each year! That faith was tested this year as we waited for entries to arrive (hopefully) while watching the torrential rain pouring down outside. Would people stagger out into their gardens to pick fruit, veg, flowers etc or would they put the kettle on and say "maybe we'll enter next year instead"? Thankfully our members and the inhabitants of Lydbury North are hearty souls and we had wonderful entries which enabled the show to be as successful as ever. The rain was chased away by the glorious bright colours of the floral displays, plants, fruit and veg. The handicrafts were exquisite and the cookery, preserves and produce were as impressive as ever. I love looking at the variety of interpretation in the photography classes and this year was no exception. The homemade cakes were delicious and the plant stall did a roaring trade. On behalf of the committee, I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who entered and helped on the day. Next year, I am organising the show (which is pretty daunting having to follow in Sandy's hyper organised footsteps) so please, keep my faith and remember to enter!

Angela Salmon



Prizewinning floral displays



Show winners - back row: Allison Walter, Sara Metcalfe, Nick Howell, Derek Matthey, Greta Howell, Mike Wall, June Jones, Gill Harris, Hannah Jones. Front row: Phoebe Jones, Pauline Owens

Parish Council Meeting 22 September

Eight councillors present plus Shropshire Councillor Nigel Hartin and 14 members of the public.

Apologies: none.

Minutes of previous meeting: approved and signed as correct.

Matters arising: *Kempton AED Unit:* still not working. Cllr Hoskins will contact Cliff Medicott, Community Response Manager.

Clunbury footbridge: repairs still outstanding.

Dog fouling around Black Hill: Cllr S. Jones is to enquire if it is still a problem.

Planning: *Broiler sheds at Hurst Barn.* Shaun Jones, of Halls, attended to give a presentation and answer questions, on behalf of Richard Jones and family, about the proposed plans to erect two broiler sheds.

The Shropshire Hills AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) Partnership has objected to the application on landscape and biodiversity grounds.

Landscape: the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), submitted in support of the application, predicts that the overall effect on the landscape would be minor and

beneficial but the AONB state that the impact of any large industrial development in the heart of the Shropshire Hills AONB cannot be considered either minor or beneficial. They also state that the LVIA should classify the Landscape Value as 'high' and that the plan, if passed, would make a substantial change to the footprint of the farm and along with previous developments on other sites could contribute to a creeping industrialisation of the Clun Valley.

In response to these objections Shaun Jones referred to a report by John Campion (Landscape Architect) that cited other applications, which had been granted permission, for similar poultry farms where, like Hurst Barn, the development was not isolated or set in open fields but contiguous with an existing small farmstead. In his opinion the proposed development was neither industrial in scale or appearance.

Biodiversity: the proposed development is upstream from the River Clun Special Area of Conservation (SAC), designated for its freshwater pearl mussels and is of international significance. Nitrogen-rich poultry manure, spread on the land, may compromise the river's condition. Similarly increased atmospheric ammonia from poultry manure on fields may have an impact on the river and the Clunton Coppice SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest).

The report by John Campion rebuts the biodiversity objections on the grounds that Natural England has declared that it is satisfied with this proposal.

Other issues raised by members of the public

Odour: Shaun Jones stated that the anticipated odour levels would be below the levels recognised by the Environment Agency. However, members of the public said that poultry manure, imported from off the farm at present, has caused some problems for people in the village, including migraines and headaches, due to the smell when it is spread on the fields.

Mr Harding was concerned that serious public health issues had not been taken into consideration. The levels of ammonia that would come out of sheds, which would be at the side of the road, might impact on drivers' concentration. Also the large lorries exiting straight onto what has been described as a 'hazardous' road is a matter of concern. No mitigation methods against ammonia eg scrubbers were being proposed. Shaun Jones said that fans would shoot the air out of the sheds at high velocity so no treatment was necessary.

Manure: Mr Harding asked why no Manure Management Plan has yet been submitted. Shaun Jones confirmed it would form part of the final application but he could state that there would be a net reduction of fertiliser and nitrogen spread on the fields to the south of the development in accordance with the conditions for approval of Natural England.

Cllr Croxton asked about the transport of manure. Shaun Jones said the sheds would be cleared every seven weeks and the manure would go by tractor and (covered) trailer via Clun to Acton and other places and would amount to 500 tons/year. The current importing of manure would cease. Members of the public expressed concern on public health grounds about this movement.

Environment: Shaun Jones said work on an Environmental Permit and a Habitat Regulations Assessment was in progress and the development could not be approved until these were in place. Questions were asked about the impact on the River Clun both from run-off from the fields and the possible overflow of dirty water from the sheds in times of exceptionally heavy rain – it was stated that several houses in Clunton suffered from water coming up from below into their cellars. Shaun Jones said the authorities would have to be satisfied that water would be contained on the farm.

Number of birds: this application is for 100,000 birds in two sheds but it was pointed out by Mr Harding that the ammonia impact assessment covered 180,000 birds – does this mean more sheds might be applied for in the future?

Dead birds: Cllr Croxton asked how dead birds would be dealt with. Shaun Jones said the dead birds would be stored in metal wheelie bins, the siting of which was still to be

decided, but they would be on the Clun side of the sheds.

The dead birds would be collected by lorry and taken to Knighton, probably via Clun. The mortality rate is expected to be 4-5% of each crop ie 2,500-3,000 birds and they would be collected twice during each crop.

Live birds: Shaun Jones said the crop would be removed every 33-37 days in about 13 loads (26 lorry journeys), over a 2-4 day period mostly at night. The articulated lorries will go through Clunton to Craven Arms.

Other issues: the lack of any planning gain, apart from 1 job, and the lack of consideration that had been given to the impact on B & Bs and tourism was raised. Access for Fire Brigade vehicles was questioned but Shaun Jones said other similar applications had been approved. Cllr Davies asked why screening by hedges and trees was included in the plans when this was not seen as best practice generally because of proximity of the birds to wildlife and possible disease. Was it in mitigation because of the landscape of the AONB? This was denied.

The planning timetable: SC Nigel Hartin thought the proposal would probably go before the planning committee in November, preceded by a site meeting. He said that although he is on the Planning Committee he would not be allowed to vote in this matter but could make representations to the Committee. The public can attend to ask questions and can be questioned but they must register at least a week in advance. (For more info. about the application, search for 16/03334/EIA on the Shropshire Council planning website.)

Richard Jones, the applicant, wished it to be known that not all local inhabitants were against the proposal, in fact his two adjoining neighbours have spoken in favour of it.

Parish Council vote: Cllr S Jones proposed that the application should be rejected on the grounds of its unsuitability for the village. Five voted in favour, one against, one abstention and the Chairman didn't vote. Cllr Croxton will write to Shropshire Council to inform them about this decision.

Other planning: Cllr Hoskins observed, and SC Cllr Hartin agreed, that communications between Shropshire Council and Parish Councils seem to be taking an inexplicable length of time which could result in the Parish Councils not being able to consider planning applications in time.

South West Shropshire Local Joint Committee: *Shropshire Council funding gap:* Cllr S Jones reported there would be more cuts - £4million in 2017; £28million in 2018 and £40million in 2019. There will be barely enough to cover the statutory services and town and parish councils will be expected to provide other services (but it is still not clear what those are), and, as the government has started consultations to cap the precepts of town and parish councils, how they could be funded. Shropshire Council would need an increase of 12% on the Council Tax to continue to maintain services.

NHS: *Clun Surgery:* Cllr S Jones reported that the Primary Care Commissioning Committee have agreed to a plan to close the Knighton surgery. The 1,600 current patients will remain registered with The Meadows practice but will be able to choose to move to another practice if they wish. Dr Davies has agreed to postpone his retirement and will work as a locum in the practice for two years. The Knighton surgery will close on 24 December. (For more details see front page article.)

Future Fit: Cllr S Jones reported that clinical decisions about the location of the A & E, and community hospitals were due to be made at a meeting the next day.

Roads etc: *Clunton:* all lights working. Cllr Harding is still trying to get a police presence to monitor speeding.

Kempton: Cllr Hoskins is still trying to get a meeting with Glynn Shaw about speeding through Kempton.

AOB: in view of the increase in the number of horses being ridden on the roads in the Cwm area Cllr S Jones has been asked if it would be possible to have a 'Horses' warning sign installed.

Next meeting: Thursday 17November, 8pm, Kempton Village Hall. *Lin Brown and Sue Hill*

Events Diary for October 2016

Sat 1	From 9am	Flu Immunisation Day - 672309 for appointment	Craven Arms Surgery
Sat 1	7.30pm	Flicks - Florence Foster Jenkins - 660545	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sun 2	11.15am	Morning Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sun 2	6pm	Songs of Praise in four-part harmony. Tel 661171 for info.	Kempton Village Hall
Mon 3	9-11.30am	Parent & Toddlers - every Mon in term time. Just turn up	Clunbury Village Hall
Tue 4	7.30pm	Flicks - Money Monster - 680302	Lydbury North Village Hall
Thu 6	7pm	Australian Ballet - Sleeping Beauty	SpArC
Sat 8/Sun 9	10am-5pm	Mammoth Weekend	Discovery Centre, Craven Arms
Sat 8	5pm	New York Met Opera - Tristan and Isolde	SpArC
Sat 8	6pm	The Shropshire Mammoth - Dr. Adrian Lister - 676060	Discovery Centre, Craven Arms
Sat 8	7.30pm	Flicks - Love and Friendship - 640254	Clun Memorial Hall
Sun 9	9.45am	CW HC Order 1 (Teaching)	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Tue 11	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Wed 12	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society - Khodorkovsky	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Wed 12	7pm	RSC Live King Lear - 630321/630038	SpArC
Thu 13	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Fri 14	7pm	Harvest Festival	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sat 15	9am-4pm	Clunton Scrumpers Juicing Day - 660309	Clunton Village Hall
Sat 15	10am-1pm	Craft & Collectables Market	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sun 16	6.30pm	United Evening Prayer	St Mary's, Clunton
Wed 19		Tim's Travels A Tale of Two Cities - 640506	Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton
Fri 21	8pm	Flicks - Brooklyn - 660727/660781	Clungunford Hall
Sat 22	5.55pm	New York Met Opera - Don Giovanni	SpArC
Sun 23	11.15am	United BCP Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Clunbury
24-28 October	Clunbury School Half Term Holiday		
Mon 24	7.30pm	Live Acoustic Folk Music	The Crown Inn, Clunton
Tue 25	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Tue 25	7.30pm	North Country Theatre - The Wish House - 680302/680366	Edgton Village Hall
Wed 26	7.30pm	SWS Gardening Club -Winter Containers & Colour + AGM	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 26	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society - Miss Julie	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Thu 27	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 27	7.15pm	Branagh Theatre Live - The Entertainer	A-o-C Village Hall & SpArC
Sat 29	9.30am-2.30pm	Big Book Sale at The Community Centre Craven Arms	
Sat 29	7pm	Pipeline Theatre live show - Spillikin	SpArC
Sat 29	7.30pm	Flicks - Chicklit - 660545	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sat 29	7.30pm	Flicks - Our Kind of Traitor - 640254	Clun Memorial Hall
Sun 30	9.30am	Benefice United HC then 11.15am Youth led service	Newcastle

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If you (or family or friends living outside the parish) would like to receive The Parish Post by email please contact us at theparishpost@gmail.com

The editorial team does not accept responsibility for any opinions expressed by contributors and reserves the right to edit contributions if deemed appropriate.

PROMISE AUCTION

at The Hundred House, Purslow
 Friday, 18 November 2016, at 7.30 pm
 (Viewing from 6.30 pm)
 In aid of Church Funds
 If anyone has items or promises for the
 Auction, please contact
 Mary Jones - 660316 - or
 Maddy Matveieff - 660458 - with details