

ENSTONE ENSIGN

Number 434 March 2021

Newsletter for Enstone Parish

THE CHASE BENEFICE - MARCH

Dear Friends,

Lent is an important time in the church's year. It gives us the opportunity to pause and take stock. On Ash Wednesday, we are reminded that, despite our best intentions and best efforts, they are just not enough. Perhaps there are things that we have done that we regret or things that we could have done that we haven't. We need to be forgiven. We need some help.

If that is a lesson that we learn every Lent, this year it arrives with trumpets, drums and flags. It is a year now since we began conversations about Covid and the risks to our health and our way of life. A year of being challenged in ways we did not imagine, a year of being thrown back on our own resources. A year of adapting and then adapting again. A year of hoping and waiting then hoping and waiting some more. A year of dislocated relationships, absences and loss. A year of having more of our own company than we wanted. A year of decisions. If ever we needed help it is now.

But Lent will end, as will this pandemic. We have our sights set on Easter: of better days and a different life, of change and transformation. The Prime Minister's roadmap gives us some hope and we will plan carefully to make the return to worship in the Benefice safe.

In the meantime, we continue our Lenten journey, as we respond to Jesus calling us, to take up our cross and follow him.

With every blessing.

Mark Abrey

ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, FISHERS LANE, CHARLBURY

There will be no Mass in Enstone in March.

The Parish Priest is Fr Tony Joyce, at Holy Trinity Rectory, London Rd, Chipping Norton OX7 5AX. holytrinityrcchippy@gmail.com 01608 642703

All items for the April Ensign in by 27th March (or sooner, if you have it ready) please, to Hillside (blue door opposite Artyard Cafe) or ring 677231 for shorter items. You can also email me at info@andreabates.co.uk

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:-

- **Flat 3, Kenelm Court, Cleveley Road, 21/00026/S73** - Variation of conditions 5 & 7 of planning permission 06/1674/P/FP to allow replacement windows to be recessed 125 mm from the face of the building and colour changed to dark green. *No objection*
- **Methodist Chapel, Chapel Lane, Enstone, 20/03580/FUL** - Conversion of Methodist chapel to a single residential dwelling. *No objection but concerns raised regarding insufficient car parking spaces*
- **Land East of The Drive, Enstone, 21/00087/FUL** - Construction of two detached self-build custom-build carbon-neutral houses, together with associated works and formation of vehicular access. *No objection for concerns raised regarding insufficient car parking availability and acknowledgement that The Drive is a busy road*

Decisions Received:-

- **The Cottage, Chapel Lane, Enstone** - Single storey rear extension - *approved*
- **Orchard House, 2 The Square, Church Enstone** - Erection of two storey and first floor extensions to detached garage to create office above - *approved*

PARISH SURVEY

A second report regarding areas that have been identified for improvement is included in this month's Ensign, as well as a report on social media/facebook page/website and how to obtain the Ensign electronically.

RESIDENTS WISHING TO JOIN PARISH COUNCIL ZOOM MEETINGS

All residents are welcome to attend the meeting but must inform the clerk beforehand so that she is aware you will be joining. Details are below on how to contact Beth. You will need to show your face during the meeting.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE, A44, ENSTONE – TUESDAY 13TH APRIL – Oxfordshire County Council

Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice – S14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984; Temporary Road Closure and “No Waiting” restriction at Enstone, A44 Oxford Road. In the interests of public safety, it will be necessary to **close the road and impose a ‘No Waiting’ restriction as detailed above to facilitate carriageway surface dressing works.** A temporary Notice is being made to implement the temporary closure and will operate from 13 April 2021. The anticipated completion date is 16 April 2021, times of the closure are 05:00 to 07:30, 09:30 to 15:30 and 18:00 to 20:00. A Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice is being made to implement the temporary closure and restriction and will operate on the days shown above. Access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for those frontages within the closure area, subject to the progress of the works and liaison with the works supervisor. SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE ROUTE: via A44 - A361 - B4022 and vice versa

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE, Spelsbury, B4026 Charlbury Road – Friday 9th APRIL to facilitate carriageway repairs. The anticipated completion date is 13 April 2021 (date included)

ACCESS: Limited access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for frontages within the closed section of road, subject to the progress of the works. The “No Waiting” restriction means that wherever there are in place yellow “No Waiting” cones, you will not be able to park vehicles on the highway. SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE ROUTE: via Charlbury Road – Burford Road - A361 – A44 – B4022 – Nine Acres Lane – Charlbury Road and vice versa

CENSUS

The Census is coming on 21st March. Information from the digital-first Census will help decide how services are planned and funded in our local area. Census outputs inform where millions of pounds of public funding is spent on services like transport, education, health, cycle routes, schools and dental surgeries. Everyone will receive a letter with a unique access code in the post, allowing them to complete their questionnaire online. Paper questionnaires will be available on request. For more information visit [Census.gov.uk](https://www.census.gov.uk)

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This has been arranged for **Thursday 22nd April via zoom at 7.15 pm.** All are welcome to join the meeting and hear from the District and County Councillors as well as the Parish Council and local organisations.

Dates of next meetings:-

- Thursday 25th March 7.15 pm
- Thursday 22nd April 7.15 pm – Annual Parish Meeting
- Thursday 29th April 7.15 pm

Mrs Beth Sinclair, Enstone Parish Clerk, Briery Cottage, 9 Alexandra Square, Chipping Norton, OX7 5HL. Tel: 01608 641051: Email:-

enstoneparishclerk@gmail.com

Website address for the Parish = enstoneparish.org

Facebook Page = Enstone Parish

ENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

In February, the Parish Council published the priority areas identified by parishioners, following the recent survey. Following this, the Parish Council is currently in discussion with Oxfordshire County Council concerning the plans for improved signage and speed indicator devices at both ends of the village, along the A44.

The following is a list of areas also identified as of significant concern and these will be considered, subject to funding.

Improved footpaths:-

1. To consider the continuation of the footpath from Coxs Lane to the Sports & Social Club and onwards to the junction of Charlbury Road.
2. A new footpath along the Charlbury Road, from the A44 crossroads to the Hoar stone.
3. A new footpath along Clay Hill Close.

Road Safety:-

- a. To consider introducing a speed limit from the Hoar Stone down the Charlbury Road to the A44 crossroads.
- b. To continue to review the A44/Worthington crossroads. Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) and Parish Council have been working together on this for several years – a roundabout is too costly (circa £1 million) and the staggered layout means it is unsafe for traffic lights to be installed and would be too costly. The OCC has undertaken an audit of the junction and very few accidents have occurred over several years without police presence.

Other survey results:-

There were other concerns and comments made in the survey, which will be reviewed over the coming months. The full survey is published on the Enstone Parish website (enstoneparish.org) under “Local Info”.

COMMUNICATING WITH YOU - ENSTONE WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

The recent survey highlighted a number of questions about how news is communicated to parishioners:

1. A desire to have a digital version of the Ensign available.

- A large button ‘**ENSIGN click here**’ has now been placed on the top right hand side of the Enstone Parish website. When clicked a pdf version of the latest Ensign can be viewed and downloaded.
- Consideration was given for people to sign up for the Ensign to be delivered by email but it was felt that this was an unnecessary admin burden for a publication that is published and delivered as a hard copy to every household in the parish by a group of volunteers. The Ensign is paid for by contributions and advertising, therefore it will continue to be delivered to your door.

2. A desire to view visitor posts on the Enstone Facebook Page.

- The Enstone Facebook page was created a number of years ago and now has over 500 followers. It is a Facebook Business Community page and behaves differently from a Facebook Personal page in that visitor posts

are only seen when released by the editors of the page. There are three editors.

- Anyone can post on the Enstone FB page in the 'create post' section but there has been criticism that visitor posts have not been viewed by others. The editors have agreed that all visitor posts will be shared with the viewing public unless they are considered to be inappropriate. The editors will endeavour to look at the page every day in order to action posts ASAP, respond to messages, and answer queries.

ENSTONE W.I

Enstone Women's Institute launched in 1921 with sixty members. Since that time past and present members have been involved in many village events, from the annual Village Show to campaigning to have white lines and a 30mph speed limit installed on the Oxford Road. Obviously our March centenary celebrations have had to be scaled back but each member will celebrate with a party bag full of goodies. We have also been busy using our varied crafting skills to produce our contribution to a commemorative patchwork sampler. We are all looking forward to getting together in July with an actual party full of memories, thankfulness and of course cake.

ENSTONE FOOD MARKET

Two Jolly Cooks brings you Enstone Food Market. To be held in the car park of the Enstone Sports and Social Club, Cox's Lane, Enstone OX7 4LF on Sunday 21st March . **PLEASE NOTE EARLIER START TIME**

It will be open from 0930 - 1pm, with parking. It is a flat surface and a toilet is available.

Donations in aid of Oxfordshire Mind, a Mental Health charity.

Stalls will include Two Jolly Cooks /The Indian Orchard / Flower Granola / It's A Chocolate Thing/ The Curiosities Company/ The Lost Farm / Cotswold Salad / Tess' Brilliant Cakes / Chillis 2 U/ Swedish Sandwich Yumminess / North Aston Organics' vegetables (*cash only for Charity*)/ Sweet Berts /Barrow Coffee and maybe a few more. Don't forget to bring empty containers to refill and the Refill/Reuse stall.^[L]_[SEP]

Debbie, **Two Jolly Cooks, Organiser of Enstone Food Market**
07928 057722

I know how challenging 2020 was for all of us and that, in some ways, 2021 feels all too familiar. However, though we may be in lockdown now, there is light at the end of the tunnel. With three vaccines now approved for use in the UK, including our own local Oxford/AstraZeneca jab, we are now well on the way to vaccinating our top four priority groups in record time. At the time of writing, over 10 million people have been vaccinated and this grows every day. This is a hugely significant achievement which is testament to the inspirational leadership that has been shown by local NHS organisations', GPs and health coordinators. This, along with longer days, lighter evenings and the beginning of a beautiful West Oxfordshire spring is sure to lift spirits in this challenging time. I have seen the excellent work of everyone at our local vaccination hubs for myself. The professionalism and efficiency they are showing is proving everyone's dedication to this vital cause. I am also encouraged that so many people across West Oxon are taking up the vaccine when offered. It is this dedication and resolve which speaks to me in these challenging times and shows me that we will overcome this. We are also once again seeing the huge outpouring of community spirit and good will that warmed us all in 2020. I would encourage everyone to check in on family, friends and neighbours, particularly those who may live alone, the vulnerable and those separated from their loved ones. Sometimes even just a phone call can do the world of good. My team and I continue to work hard from home on your behalf and we remain accessible throughout lockdown. Please do not hesitate to get in touch at robert@robertcourts.co.uk if there is anything at all we can do.

ENSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

It has been an interesting term so far at Enstone Primary School, with approximately one third of our pupils in school and the other two thirds accessing remote learning. Once again everyone has risen to the challenge, and staff and pupils have worked hard to keep learning going, keep spirits high and keep everyone in touch. We were delighted to hear the good news of the full reopening of the school from March 8th and are looking forward to welcoming all our pupils back in. We shall then cram in as much fun and as much learning as possible before the Easter break, including World Book Day and some of our traditional Easter celebrations.

Many of our usual activities have had to go on hold this term, but we were delighted to be able to hold a Virtual House Festival in February, in place of the usual face-to-face event. Our pupils created entries in a range of categories

which included: make a model or collage of an endangered bird; produce a poster promoting the concept of “Mindfulness”; create an artwork on the theme of kindness; send in a photograph of yourself engaged in a physical activity or sport. We received so much lovely work from the children, which made the judging very difficult. Fire House eventually emerged triumphant to take the festival trophy. If you would like to see pictures of the children’s entries, please visit the House System page on our school website at:

<https://www.enstone.oxon.sch.uk/house-system/>

We look forward to happy weeks and months ahead, as we move into spring and summer and hopefully a version of school which looks and feels a bit more normal.

Sarah Mann, Headteacher

KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE NEWS

As the temperature drops, why not turn up the fundraising heat by taking part in our fire walk to help support people facing life-limiting illness in our community. You'll be walking over embers burning at a temperature that could melt aluminium - without any injury or pain. You'll receive all the training needed to take part on the night during a 1 hour motivational session. To find out more head to www.khh.org.uk/firewalk

Take part in our virtual balloon race - the perfect gift for everyone to enjoy this Easter. Enter the race for just £3, and you're in with a chance of winning £500! It's a great way to celebrate Easter, whilst supporting those affected by life-limiting illness. Find out more www.khh.org.uk/balloon

ENSTONE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB FACILITIES FOR HIRE GROUND AND CLUB



ENSTONE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

New members welcome

Barclays Premier League Live on Sky ,plus other sports too.

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01608 677823

ALL SUBJECT TO CHANGE TO GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES

The club will remain closed until further notice.

Will update on our Facebook page.

Thank you all for your support and be safe.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March 21 Enstone Food Market Sports and Social Club 9.30am-1pm
 25 Parish Council Meeting 7.15pm via Zoom
 27 FINAL DATE FOR COPY

St Kenelm's

