

Diary Dates for Events in the next two months

DEC

Sun 24th	Christmas Eve - Crib Service	St Andrews Ch.	5.30pm
	Pay Day at the Duck	Duck	
	Midnight Service	St Andrews Ch.	11.30pm

Mon 25th time	Christmas Day Service	St Andrews Ch.	check
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Thurs 28th	Duck Jamming	Duck	
Sun 31st	New Years Eve with Second Nature	Duck	
	New Years Eve - ticket only	Sports Club	

JAN

Wed 3rd	Evergreen Club	V.Hall	2.30pm
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Mon 8th	Parish Council	St A School	7.00pm
Mon 8th	Ladies Open Group	V.Hall	8.00pm
	<i>A talk by Giles Gould of award-winning Britford Farm Shop</i>		

Mon 15th	WI	V Hall	7.45pm
	<i>Tales of the Ambulance Service</i>		

Mon 22nd	Garden Club	V.Hall	7.30pm
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FEB

Wed 7th	Evergreen Club	V.Hall	2.30pm
Fri 9th	BFRA AGM	Greentrees Sch.	7.30pm
Sat 10th	Scouts: Hot Supper & Entertainment	V. Hall	7.15pm

Mon 12th	Parish Council	St A School	7.00pm
Mon 12th	Ladies Open Group	V.Hall	8.00pm
	<i>Jewellery Making with locally renowned Jane Churchill</i>		

Mon 19th	WI	V Hall	7.45pm
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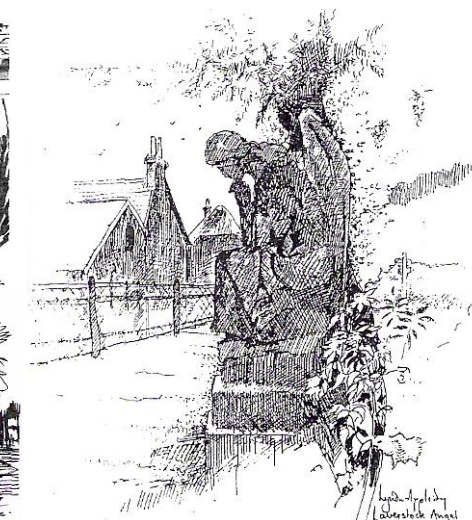
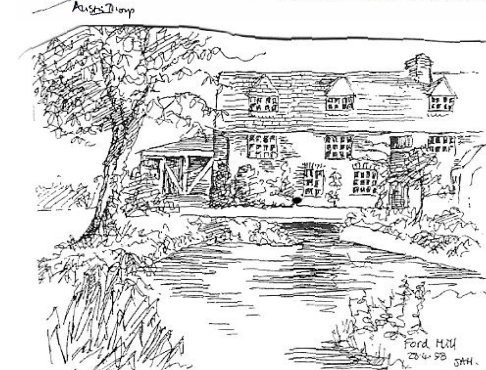
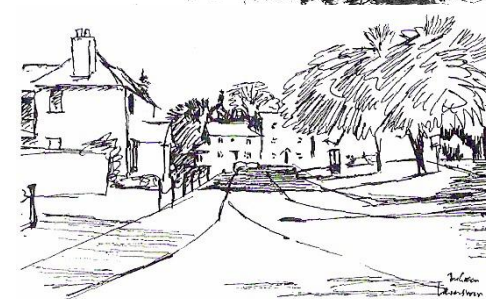
	<i>'The Corkscrew - A thing of beauty'</i>		
Sun 25th	Water Meadow & Downland Trust	Sports Club	2.30pm

Mon 26th	Garden Club	V.Hall	7.30pm
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Laverstock, Ford, Old Sarum & Hampton Park

Parish Newsletter

January & February 2007 #101



The newsletter needs club News - Potential members need to know about YOU

This newsletter is produced on your behalf by the Parish Council and distributed to over 2,500 households and local businesses.

CONTENTS

COVER	A selection of cover art from past five years
FRONT INSIDE	News, Parish Council News and related articles.
CENTRE	From the Editor and Small Advertisements
BACK & INSIDE	Diary; Contacts & Church News

SPECIAL & GENERAL NEWS

Farewell interruption from the Ex-Editor John King

NEW EDITOR required NOW!

The newsletter needs a new editor. This is a fascinating job with the opportunity to be involved in a wide variety of parish activities & discussions. You get to know what is happening and what might be happening soon. You get to pass on the readers' views to 2,500 houses and local businesses.

If you can't help with Editing perhaps you can help with Articles or News Collection as assistance is always welcome; Advertising, Distribution and Web-Display remains unchanged.

Contact Tony Markham, Parish Council Chairman on 01722 329151
or John King (Ex-Editor) on 01722 334337 to find out more.

The November/December Newsletter was the first ever with 40 pages.

This issue - number 101 - is the first to have **48 pages**. Much of this is due to the greatly increased format of the Parish Council Minutes as Parish Council News takes up 5 - 6 pages. With Steve Hannath's help as the new Parish Clerk, it has been quite easy to produce reports that cover the important facts as well as having enough of the extra detail that makes stories of interest to the general readership (*but which is often so well known to the councillors that it does not need to be repeated in their reports and discussions*).

THE COUNCIL IS nearly FULL

After a long and worrying shortage of Councillors for Ford, Old Sarum and Hampton Park, especially now that the Parish Plan is moving onwards, it is wonderful to announce that the Council is now only ONE short of a full count.

As has been said before, the duties are not onerous and the major work is in assessing planning applications. Many councillors do also take on a specific responsibility and, overall, it is an interesting way to make a difference to the community. Perhaps next time, there may even be competition to join for the first time in many years.

OTHER CONTACTS AROUND THE AREA

Village Hall Secretary	Ian Haldane	Tel 320879
Bookings	Eileen Gedge	Tel 323491
Laverstock WI	Thelma Green	Tel 320179
Ladies Open Group	Sue Mason	Tel 322990
Evergreen Club	Jill Kay	Tel 323407
Line Dancing	Mike Sainsbury	Tel 01980 610126
Fitness League & (Extend/Exercise)	Sheelagh Browne	Tel 324202
Rosemary Conley Fitness	Susanne Rawle * NEW	Tel 320339
Bonsai	Rita Molland	Tel 336401
Tai Chi	Cheryl Beeney	Tel 337870
Scouts	Dave Waspe	Tel 421287
Cubs	Kate Knight	Tel 01980 622495
Beavers	Jane Waspe	Tel 421287
Brownies	Marilyn Owen	Tel 322833
Flora Mundi	Mrs D Stevens	Tel 335770
Garden Club	7.30pm 4th Monday of each month - visitors welcome	
St. Andrews Toddler Group	Mandy Beavan	Tel 501635
Little Kickers	Sarah Warrington* NEW	Tel 0870 874 6566
MiniMovers Playgroup	Susan Downie	Tel 01980 611433
Pilates	Sandra Walgrove	Tel 412749
Duck	Debbie & Malcolm Purvis	Tel 327678
Laverstock Sports Club	Mrs Vincent (Secretary)	Tel 327401
Weightwatchers (at Wyvern)	Zoe Lambard *NEW	Tel 332270
Old Sarum Residents Assoc.	Vikki Davies	Tel 349119
Air Cadets		Tel 320634
Bish. Farm Residents Assoc.	John Seymour bfra.info *NEW	Tel 337869
BFRA News	Ian Froude * NEW	Tel 506728
Bish. Farm Pre-School	Carol Dorrington	Tel 340225
Bishopdown Pavilion	Derek Kilner, Chairman	Tel 504854
St Andrews - Head/Newsletter	Karen Walker	Tel 503590
Friends of St. Andrews	Jane Williams	Tel 321476
St Josephs - Head	Mr P Hughes	Tel 335380
Friends of St. Josephs	Mr Barry	Tel 504775
Wyvern College - Head	Mr Richard Butler	Tel 500700
Friends of Wyvern	Neil Wressell	Tel 330432
St Edmunds - Head	Mrs J Goodall	Tel 328565
Friends of St Edmunds	Juliet Brain	Tel 01980 611203
Greentrees - Head	Mrs Jan Bennett	Tel 340596
Police	Jane Willis-Newman PC1727	Tel 435256
Neighborhood Watch etc	Barry Strange	Tel 435213

Editor If you are interested in helping - please ring John King

Advertising **John King** john@bytewyse.co.uk Tel / Fax 334337

The Ancient Rectory, The Green, Post Office La., Laverstock, Salisbury SP1 1QR

Deliveries **Robin Dinniss**

12 Westfield Close, Laverstock Tel 329902

W H O' s W H O - LAVERSTOCK & FORD PARISH COUNCIL

Mr Anthony Markham AFC Chairman; Recreation areas;
13 Woodland Way, Laverstock, Salisbury, SP1 1SB Tel 01722 329151

Mrs Virginia McLennan Vice-Chair; Recycling; St.Andrews School
47 Church Road, Laverstock, Salisbury, SP1 1QY Tel 01722 332233

Mr Steve Hannath Parish Clerk stevehannath@talktalk.net Tel 01722 326 714
Chaldon House, 83 Church Road, Laverstock, SP1 1QY

Please address ALL correspondence to him

Council Members Special Duties (esp. Planning) & Repres.on Other Bodies

THERE IS NOW ONE VACANCY

Mrs Ruth Boyes Laverstock Ward S.D.Hospital Tel 01722 323748
24 Riverside Close, Laverstock, SP1 1QW

Mr Ron Champion Tel 01722 320408
3 The Steadings, Ford. SP

Mrs Sarah Champion Tel 01722 320408
3 The Steadings, Ford. SP

Mrs Pat Chilton Hampton Park Greentrees Primary School Gov.
2 Sycamore Drive, Hampton Park, Salisbury, SP1 3GZ Tel 01722 415503

Mr James Dean Milford Tel 01722 335040
Milford Farm, Milford, Salisbury, SP1 1RJ

Mr Ken Gross Southern Area Planning Ctee Village Hall Tel 01722 329796
Tralee, 18 Elm Close, Laverstock, Salisbury, SP1 1SA

Mr Derek Hayes Transport Tel 01722 332109
Meadow View, The Green, Laverstock, SP1 1QS

Mr Pat Houston Flooding etc; Police Consult. Gp Tel 01722 334692
1 Bishopmead, Laverstock, SP1

Mr Peter Maffey Old Sarum Tel 01722 332884
Karibuni, 120 Greenwood Ave, Lav. SP1 1QF

Mr Ray Thomas JP Laverstock (Old Sarum) Tel 01722 503913
45 Silverwood Drive, Laverstock, Salisbury, SP1 1SQ

SALISBURY District Councillors; WILTSHIRE County Councillors & MP

SDC

Mr Frank Bissington BEM (Laverstock/Clarendon Ward) Tel 01722 337012
Mr Ian McLennan see above (Laverstock/Clarendon Ward) Tel 01722 332233

Email ian@letsgo-show.com

Mrs Penny Brown (Bishopdown Ward) Tel 01722 504525

Mr Kevin Cardy (Bishopdown Ward) Tel 01722 339791

WCC

Mrs Mary Douglas Wilts.County Councillor (H.Park etc) Tel 01722 503260

Dr John English Wilts.County Councillor (H.Park etc) Tel 01722 410406

Mr Kevin Wren Wilts.County Councillor (Bourne Valley) Tel 01980 610603

Robert Key MP Member of Parliament Tel 01722 333141
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

OUR NEWSLETTER A Summary from John King

There is now a vacancy for a new Editor as I am standing down after this issue after 5 years. I have found the role both interesting and rewarding. I have discussed key issues with the local decision-makers; I have talked with many organisations, clubs and social groups too. I have been present when new topics come to light and I have been there when solutions have been found. In addition, by voicing the concerns of the readership the newsletter has probably influenced some of the decisions too. I can only echo (and edit) one of my son's Superheros "with a little power comes some responsibility". I do have the considerable satisfaction of being told that the job has been well done while providing a service to the community. There have been frustrations & difficulties but I heartily recommend the task to anyone who wants to take it on.

As Editor, I am extremely proud of what our Newsletter has achieved.

I took over in December 2001 with issue 73. Since then the newsletter has grown from 16 pages to a recent total of 40 and even now 48, with a similar rise in the number of advertisers from 10 to over 50. This contributes significantly to the budget of the Parish and brings in nearly £3,000 a year. The costs of producing the newsletter are eased greatly due to the generosity of Press70.

Enough of the bare statistics - our Newsletter has done its most important job in helping to find **replacement Councillors** - mostly by telling the Parish loudly and frequently that there is a need. Sadly there is still an ongoing need at Old Sarum and until recently also at Ford. The second most important job has been to make the whole readership aware of what the Parish Council actually does.

One other important job has been **keeping the readership informed** of issues which are often too local to get enough of a mention in the Salisbury Journal - the Cemetery; Development at Duck Lane; Development at Old Sarum; Green Lane; School Traffic and the Old Sarum Conservation Area - these are just a few of the problems that have been dealt with in the Parish magazine.

Since Spring 2002, our Newsletter has also carried **important articles** about Getting Grants; Affordable Housing; History of Laverstock; Speeding; ReCycling; Funding for Saint Andrews Church; Cockey Down & River Bourne; Freedom of Information and Parish Boundaries.

The Parish Plan is the most recent long-term topic - it is important that readers get busy asking 'what can the Parish Plan do for them?' and 'what they can do for it?' as well as 'what sort of village do we want for the future?' Obviously there will also be changes to the newsletter and I am very willing to assist with the transition. Thank you all for reading, contributing & commenting and thank you especially to those who have helped in any way with the magazine.

John King

The newsletter has done some excellent work and, with a new team, should continue to inform and make a difference. There are recent and new topics which will, no doubt, be of concern for some time to come. Some of these have full-page articles or are dealt with as Parish Council news :-

- Parish Plan - 2 page centrespread + 4 page annex
- Old Sarum Airfield 'Conservation Area'
- Government White Paper - Proposed changes to Parish Council duties
- Development at Duck Lane (Bloor Homes) and Old Sarum
- The Proposal for a 'city-overflow' Cemetery at Cow Lane
- The pressure on Rural and semi-rural Post Offices

SORROW and SADNESS - PRESS 70 has closed

and they have been with the newsletter from the very first issue until issue 100. They have been very kind in dealing with a varied quality of incoming layout and they have always given us a very reasonable price. However there lies the rub - the replacement printers will cost more, but on the other hand we will be able to press harder for a more defined timetable. As a result of the quotes already obtained, it has been decided that prices for adverts will have to rise for 2007.

POST OFFICE

Many residents will be aware that rural post offices are under threat. Fortunately, the Post Office in Laverstock is not in the first group of outlying, occasionally used, non-profitable branches - so is safe for the moment. Because it acts as a distribution centre to several more rural sites, it is probably not at risk until the majority of those have been closed down. It is clear that the service delivered by the Post Office is now being assessed in strict business terms rather than as was the duty when it was a monopoly of 'being a service to the community'. Sad. But then exactly the same arguments will allow the destruction of any community service i.e. *The twig is not profitable - cut it - and now the branch is not profitable, cut it - now the tree is not profitable... (British Rail for example).*

The issue of rural Post Offices has caused the largest recorded petition to be delivered to Downing Street - over 4 million names. Wiltshire has 99 such and many are unprofitable. Post Offices and Pubs are so often the hub of a village. Laverstock has the Duck; Hampton Park has the Bishopdown - if that is actually a pub; Ford and Old Sarum have none and few amenities at all.

Quality Status: The Community First News writes about Durrington Parish getting 'Quality Status'. *"It meets a series of criteria proving that it is very active, performing to a high standard and serving the community by the provision of services, information, communication & consultation"* A question then to our Council - What do we have to do to get Quality Status? Would it gain us any bonuses or grants?

Why the floods came

And the Lord asked Noah, "Where is the ark which I have told thee to build?" And dark-haired Noah said unto the Lord, "Verily I have had three carpenters off ill. The gopher wood supplier hath let me down. Yea, even though the gopher wood hath been on order for nigh on a twelvemonth. The damp-course specialist hath not turned up and thy altar doth require much altering. What can I do, Lord?"

And God said unto Noah, "I want that ark finished by the dawn of the seventh morn. If thee but ask, I will supply burning bushes to light the night." And Noah said, "It will be so." And it was not so.

Again the Lord said unto Noah, "What seemeth to be the trouble this time?" Noah saith unto the Lord, "Mine subcontractor hath gone bankrupt. The pitch which thou commandest me to put on the outside and the inside of the ark hath not arrived and the plumber hath gone on strike."

Grizzled Noah rent his garments and said, "The glazier departeth on holiday to Majorca - yea, even though I offered him double time. Shem, my son hath even formed a pop group with his brothers, Ham and Japhet. Lord, I am undone." The Lord quipped, "Thou art not undone, thou art rent asunder."

And Noah said unto the Lord, "The gopher wood is arrived in the warehouse. Verily the gopher wood merchant waiteth only for his servant to find the invoice before he delivereth the aforesaid unto me."

And the Lord grew angry and said, "What about the animals? Every creeping thing of the Earth after his kind; two of every sort have I ordered to come unto thee to keep them safe. Where are the gnu, the newer gnu, the wildebeest, the wilder wildebeest and the bewilderbeast? What of fowls of their kind in sevens."

And grey-haired Noah said, "They are expected today. I have been promised." "And where are the clean beasts, the male and the female, to keep their seed alive upon the face of all the Earth? As yet I ask not of the unclean beasts." "The van cometh on Tuesday. I believe Jehu and his team drive like fury. Yea, and Yea again, it will be so. I have been promised unto speeding fines."

"How about the unicorns?" Noah waved his hands, tore his hair and wept, saying, "They tell me that they are a discontinued line. Thou canst not get unicorns for love nor money." "Again, now what of the missing beasts, both clean and unclean. I definitely want enough elephants. And again I ask about the fowls of the air by sevens."

"They have been delivered to the wrong address but should arrive on Friday, save the fowls of the air by sevens for they are only sold in half-dozens." Bald Noah kissed the Earth and shook his head in dudgeon, high and low, "And thou knowest in thy wisdom what it is like with delivery dates."

"Noah, my son, I knowest. Why else dost thou think the flood was booked to descend three weeks ago. Make haste before the sun doth set in the east."

CHURCH INFORMATION

Several churches are listed as the civil boundary overlaps the church boundaries. The details given here have been simplified; please ring for extra information.

St. Andrew's, Laverstock

Vicar	Revd Keith Robinson	(via 01722 503123)
Parish Office	Barry Makin	Tel/Fax 503123
Churchwarden	Mr Brian Evans	Tel 320129
Churchwarden	Mrs Sue Gallagher	Tel 332619

Sun 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday BCP)
(2nd & 4th Sundays at St. Martins)
(3rd Sun. Common Worship)

Sun 9.30am Sung Eucharist *except 1st Sunday*

Sun 9.30am Family Eucharist (1st Sunday in the month) **CHANGED TIME**

Sun 11.00am Kingfishers (other Sundays except Summer Holidays)

Sun 6.30pm Evensong

Wed 9.30am Holy Communion (said)

OTHER Churches - St. Marks Parish Church,

Vicar	Revd Tom Fisher	Gen.Enq. Tel 01722 323767
Sun 8.00am	Holy Communion	(BCP said)
Sun 10.30am	Parish Communion	(1st Sun. - All-Age Service for everyone)
	Common Worship with Creche and Sunday School	
Sun 6.00pm	Evensong	(BCP sung)
Wed 10.00am	Holy Communion	(BCP said)

St. Mary's - Winterbourne Gunner - service at 9.30am except 5th Sunday

St. Michael's - Winterbourne Earls - service at 11.00am

also 1st Sun Holy Communion 6.00pm. also Wed Holy Communion 9.30am

Vicar **Revd Stuart Burns** Tel 01980 611350

Catholic Church Services at Holy Redeemer, Bishopdown

Until further notice services will only be as follows - **Sat** Mass 7.00pm

Fr Barnaby Dowling & Fr Andrew Goodman Tel. 01722 333581

Bourne Valley Methodist Church, Winterbourne Dauntsey

Sun 10.00am includes Junior Church

Contact **Revd Rosemary Richter** Tel. 334833 or Tel 01980 611274

Orthodox Church - Fr Columba Graham Flegg Tel 01722 340520

holds services at Sarum College Chapel on Saturdays at 11.30; approx monthly.

Community First - continues to pass out information about ways to enhance the community - and so it should on a budget of £1.8m or £4.50 for every inhabitant of Wiltshire (actually a little more than a typical Laverstock household pays for its Village Precept.) Amongst the sort of things they do is the Village Hall 'Management Kit' available from 01380 722 475. They also push 'wiltshirecommunityweb.org.uk' for club dates & news.

CYCLING into the city - If you go up to St Marks roundabout then take the footpath on the opposite side from Estcourt Road then, for a fifty yard section, the path is high above the road separated only by a very steep grass slope - unfenced at top or bottom. In autumn when there are leaves and debris this looks and feels very unsafe. If there have been no accidents with people or cyclists falling into the road then I think that this has been very fortunate. I will be asking for some risk-assessment on that pathway; and the cost must be known so we can make a judgement.

As for the quality of the road-surface at many places along Church Road, it seems amazing that nothing is being done to improve this in view of the number of children cycling along it each day.

SCOUTS - 100th Birthday of SCOUTING: To ANYONE who has been part of Laverstock Scout Troop since it began in 1911, as Beaver Scout, Wolf Cub, Cub Scout, Scout, Rover Scout, Venture Scout, Akela, Scout Master, Scout Leader, Chairman or Treasurer or any other official position; the Troop would like to invite you on Saturday 10th February 2007 to a 100th Birthday Party for Scouting (to be done by Top-Line Catering). Tickets £10 - call 01722 501513 for details. As regards the proposed 'History of Local Scouting' call Dave Waspe 01722 421287.

DUCK LANE – BLOOR HOMES: Bloor Homes tell us that they already have reservations for 10 homes and the first Show Home was ready during November.

THE DUCK: Shocking news to hear that Debbie and Malcolm are moving on. Apparently after the initial success with their two Hopback pubs, there were eventually some personality conflicts with a senior Hopback person. As a result, for example, the Back Garden Beer Terrace was never fully used during the past marvellous summer; this and other problems meant that eventually they have decided to leave us. The pub is still owned by the Hopback Brewery - wait & see.

Young Voices - Yeah But: It was really excellent to have the article from Lottie M-T in the November issue. More comments of this sort will make the newsletter much better.

ENDORSEMENT - *This newsletter is prepared on behalf of the Parish Council. However, articles and features not clearly 'by or from the Parish Council' are not the responsibility of the Parish Council nor is there any endorsement of services or products advertised here.*

Parish Council - Meetings are every Second Monday of the Month at 7.00pm in St Andrews School. All members of the Public are welcome to attend and also to put questions to the Parish Council prior to the commencement of any meeting.

November Parish Council Meeting: There were 7 members of the public present - from the Old Sarum Flying Club, Living Rivers Project (2), prospective Councillors (2), Bishopdown Farm Residents Association and one resident of Duck Lane.

Old Sarum Flying Club & the Conservation Area: Lesley Maynard's comments occupy a full page elsewhere. The Parish Council reiterated that they sought to have no houses within the Old Sarum Conservation Area (OSCA) as they foresaw that such houses would be blighted. There was a discussion as to the accuracy of the minutes of the OSCA meeting.

Living Rivers Project: Martin Gilchrist gave a brief overview printed elsewhere. He made it clear that Whitebridge Spinney and the Sports Club were the two sites of interest as offering potential for funds and resources.

BFRA: John Seymour persuaded the Parish Council to allow a one year trial period during which those 300 Bishopdown Farm houses not actually in the Laverstock area would get our newsletter. They could have a page of news and would supply some adverts to defray the cost. Any extra costs incurred would be paid for by BFRA.

New and Departing Councillors: Mike Whitty and Mark Uffindell were both thanked for their efforts. Mike has been particularly helpful for his constant efforts in monitoring and working on the local footpaths and tracks. Both of them represented Ford and it is very pleasing that both Mr and Mrs Champion have offered to come and replace them on the Parish Council as they too come from Ford. They have already done sterling work on two new items regarding Ford.

Duck Lane Development 'Pilgrims Way': the Parish Council had a meeting with Alan Madge of SDC Planning and the major issues were well aired. Bloor Homes are not off the hook. There is considerable and increasing concern at their attitude to the contract they have agreed. Also new concerns about kerb damage, noise and dust have been noted. Despite this, it seems that the first house may well be occupied during December. Ian McLennan has been active on this topic.

St Andrews Church News

St Andrew's Day Festival - this began with the children from St Andrews School coming into church for their special service. In the evening, the Bishop Steven of Ramsbury, newly installed in September, came to preside over the Communion Service and join in the Fish & Chip Supper at the Village Hall. He amazed several in the audience by knowing the words to many of the songs done to entertain by the choir and Kingfishers. This year, there was also a very speedy rendition from Gilbert & Sullivan's Yeoman of the Guard. Well over 50 people turned up; a huge effort of preparation had been done by Ray, as usual, and by Sue and Brian and by a host of others too. Thanks also to the Pinewood Way Fish & Chippy in Bemerton 'award-winning, the best around'.

November is also the month for the Festival of St Martin, St Edmund; All Souls Day; All Saints Day and Remembrance Day too. A time for reflecting and renewal.

CHURCH HISTORY: renewed efforts are being made to update and enlarge what is known about St Andrews Church in time for the 150th anniversary of this building built in 1857/8- and the 600th anniversary of the old church built in 1410. Tony Male is in charge and there will be a meeting in March; more details in the next newsletter.

WILDLIFE and the GRAVEYARD: an advisor from Wiltshire Wildlife has met with Churchwardens to discuss the options for making the graveyard a quality site for local wildlife

CHRISTINGLE: apologies for the double error - neither 9.30 nor 1.00 was correct. The inside error of 9.30 was taken from the next line - and the 1.00 on the Diary page was a typo error from the correct and accurate 11.00.

MUSIC at ST MARTINS: My wife went to a concert of Bach's St Matthew Passion and came back stunned. She said, "it was so good that at the end I just sat at the back until I was all alone in the church. I was awestruck at how wonderful it was." There is a wide variety of music performed at St Martins and every one that she has been to has been excellent - often there are spare seats.

MOTHERS UNION & ALABARE: The afternoon group had a talk from the Alabare founder, David Proctor. Founded in 1984, it became a company in 1992 with a turnover of £50,000; this has grown now to over £3m. The charity is one of the leading providers of Care within the Community. There will be a full report in the Spring newsletter on how the MU 'Isle of Wight Holiday' works to give several local families a deserved break. The group celebrate 25 years of this remarkable effort next summer and welcome any help. Next summer's break is from Saturday August 18th for a week.



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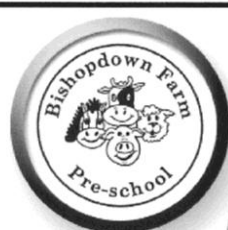
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Duck Lane: Concern was expressed about the newsletter quote, from the previous minutes, as to 'the status of Duck Lane'. It became clear that this was another area where the Parish Council wanted to be pro-active and preserve the bridleway and walkway aspects of Duck Lane. The Parish Council has decided to investigate thoroughly.

The Parish Plan was discussed in general terms. A Steering Group was set up of 5 - Ian McLennan, SDC Councillor, 2 Parish Councillors, Derek Hayes, Ray Thomas and the Parish Clerk, Steve Hannath and John King, the newsletter editor. See centre-pages for a Summary.

A Community Fit For Our Children – A Profile of “Downton”

Community Area and its Villages This glossy report initiated much heated discussion as to its usefulness and relevance to parishes like Laverstock & Ford. The Clerk was asked to write a letter to Kevin Wren to express our concerns at this misdirected waste of funds and irrelevance to our community. A key point is how hard both our SDC councillors lobbied to get the Area name changed to 'Southern Area' - apparently to little effect. Andy Jack of WCC said that *'as far as WCC were concerned the areas were Downton, Amesbury, Mere etc. Although at SDC level they could be Northern, Southern and in the Community Plans they could be Four Rivers, Nadder Valley etc; WCC would continue to refer to the Downton area.'* Once again, our SDC Councillors will press for this to be amended.

One immediate reaction was "That response from WCC is appalling!" The community areas were set out by the South Wilts Strategic Alliance years ago. Hence the Downton, Mere etc. For the new plans, our councillors were successful in changing the name to Southern Area – so all communities could feel part of the community! The new main SWSA plan, containing much for Laverstock & Ford Parish, is so named.

One constituent of the SWSA is Wilts County Council. They previously employed part-time community planners to draw up these new plans...on behalf of SWSA. We had David Bunting – a good local chap, who listened - and who has now moved away. They were all given the boot and a central organisation is now in place. The new organisation has, it seems, not grasped the fact that these are accepted and adopted names...and therefore not for them to decide.

Newsletter: Tony Markham said that he would make extra efforts to meet with Juliet Brain and would discuss with her the newsletter's future & her involvement.

DISTRIBUTION: With the inclusion of an extra 300+ houses in Bishopdown, and more especially because of the inclusion of the draft Parish Plan - it has been decided to increase production from 2,100 to 2,500 to ensure that every business in the area gets a copy. It will also be possible to have more copies at the pubs, clubs, schools and shops for casual distribution. If you know anyone who does not get a copy then please ask for a spare.

Porton Down Masterplan: A 'Stakeholders' Forum was held on 24th October 2006 regarding this major nearby expansion. As part of the public consultation, the Parish Council were invited (2 places) to attend a 'stakeholders' forum at Porton Down. Cllrs Ray Thomas and Virginia McLennan attended. Salisbury District Council Forward Planning Officer John Meeker spoke about this very large plan and in particular, the Porton Bio-Science and Technology Centre.

The three bodies occupying Porton Down are: DSTL (Defence, Science & Technology Laboratory)(MoD); HPA - Health Protection Agency; and Tetricus Ltd – The Porton Down Science Park Operator.

The Parish Council has already been made aware of the DSTL consolidation plan, which includes upgrades to the road infrastructure, valued at approx £6m in total. 800 jobs will move to Salisbury as a result, although not every job holder will move home initially. HPA are also carrying out a site review. Staff numbers could rise or fall. It is possible that 1,000 additional staff could be employed, if expansion is chosen.

John Meeker largely spoke of the SDC allocation of an initial 5 hectares of land to develop a Science Park. This aspect is being driven by Tetricus Ltd, a commercial company, who already have some customers. If successful, an extra 5 hectares of land could be provided to continue the growth. All occupants would be leaders in the bio-science field. The intention being to centralise 'like' sciences and expertise at Porton Down.

The local residents and Parish Councillors raised infrastructure questions, mainly transport, housing and education based. The WCC transport representative did not attend, which led to much frustration. It was agreed that re-opening of a rail halt would be essential. The SDC local plan already anticipates the DSTL growth, however, new housing will be contained in the new Local Development Plan. Our SDC Cllr Ian McLennan, raised the Secondary Education issue and again suggested that this was a golden opportunity to relieve Laverstock and, at the same time, create a new science 6th form school with input from personnel at Porton Down.

SDC have stated: The site development offers the single greatest long term opportunity for the South Wilts economy. It also represents Government long term commitment to thousands of local specialist jobs in the area.

The closing date for any public input is 2nd November. This is too late for our Parish meeting and for the Newsletter. However, as the education issue is already the policy of Laverstock & Ford Parish Council, it is suggested that we commend the project and restate that this opportunity should be viewed as the catalyst for the school move to the Portway.

Northern Area Planning – which deals with every village on the River Bourne except Laverstock – is interested in the quality of the Master Plan for Porton. There are three defence-related bodies involved so there is already considerable opportunity for poor communication.

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There will be an Open Meeting solely to discuss Porton on the 8th February 2007 at 4.30pm at the Glebe Hall in the Winterbournes.

Whitebridge – Community Service Volunteers visited the Spinney and did excellent work. Then the Air Cadets visited and worked very hard on the riverbank. As regards White Bridge itself – the railings should be removed and clean-blasted back to a paintable state BUT the Highways want to delay until the Bridge is rebuilt to carry the proper weight and that job keeps falling off the urgent priority list. Oh, and the railings cannot be painted on site because some Health & Safety ruling requires full-width scaffolding, perhaps to prevent drowning in 12 inches of water. The Parish Steward will be asked to assess the task as a stopgap effort. The Steward is doing very good work around the Parish each month. Please keep finding jobs for him.

Local Government White Paper: *NB. This item is abbreviated and is therefore somewhat oversimplified.* The White Paper details efforts by the Government to simplify the structure of Local Government. The present system of Parish, District and County will be replaced by Parish and County BUT each County Councillor will represent a smaller number of constituents; 275 area councillors would become 80 and each would represent about 4,000 each rather than their current larger number. On the other hand, the local factor would reduce for each councillor. There are 200 District Councils in the country and, as I understand it, WCC/SDC is one such selected for this test. Despite the complexity of the subject, responses are required after a startlingly short consultation period ending in January 2007. Kevin Wren made it quite clear that 'doing nothing is not an option – a decision as to the SDC preference must be made'.

There is no decision by SDC as yet as to what will happen. SDC is able to put a view – it may go for self rule – 'Unitary Authority' (unlikely to succeed). SDC may join with the other District Councils or WCC. WCC may also decide, all by itself, to go it alone and become the one 'Unitary Authority'. When the Government has all the bids in, it will decide which option will deliver the best results.

If this version of the White Paper went on to become law, always a doubt at this stage of a Government's life, one sure thing is that Parish Councils will have more responsibility for local services

Petersfinger Road: the problem with European Sat-Nav and large lorries continues. A large capstone on the medieval bridge has been shifted. Clarence has been informed [0800 232323 between 8.30am and 17.30pm] and the stone has been replaced. Duck Lane also suffers from Sat-Nav errors. Temporary Bollards have been suggested.

Park & Ride at Petersfinger: This was objected to and the reasons were read out at the meeting. There are significant concerns about the proposed access, the extra roundabout, the rat-run options and the general approach for this particular Park-and-Ride site. There are still concerns about the unwillingness to allow local pedestrians to use PnR buses at a reasonable rate. There is no objection any longer to locals using the service but the price, at Old Sarum for example, is so high that it is cheaper for a small group to get a taxi - which does not benefit traffic flow at all.

Cow Lane Cemetery: When the planning application notice went up just outside the Laverstock boundary, Ian McLennan was asked to check the situation. The application has been withdrawn until the application takes proper note of the agreement made when Cow Lane became the likely new site. The then-suggested option, agreed by City Area Committee) would preserve the green space and horse grazing for many, many years and also clear the derelict and unsightly buildings. The cemetery would be screened from public view and so preserve the rural entrance/exit to Laverstock/City. The problem is that the agreement then was first to use the area around the buildings at the middle of the site.

When SDC identified extra costs, it was felt 'better' or perhaps 'easier' to use the greenfield section nearest the road first (thereby delaying any need to spend significant brownfield money for some 20 years). And this was not in line with the original agreement. Also the local undertakers would like a wide and easy access road through the middle of the site!

The Parish Council is firmly in support of retaining a "green feel" to the entrance to the new cemetery for as long as possible. Interestingly, the Environment Agency seems now to be interested in conducting more tests regarding the water table. Wait & See!

Noticeboard in Ford: to ensure compliance with Parish Council publicity, a site is required in Ford. The two main suggestions are at Boswell / Roman Road corner (a death trap waiting to happen) or at the corner of Green Lane (where the eastern end of Ford would miss out). Suggestions please. Once again, the Parish Council is trying to get Highways to answer why the priority at that potentially deadly corner cannot be altered, or at least assessed. Can local residents tell us how many accidents there have been recently?

Adverse Weather Leaflet: It was noted that the map for roads to be salted in bad weather does not include Church Road! The Clerk was asked to write and enquire why such a very busy school route has not been included.

CCTV in Parish: It was decided to take up the offer to visit the Salisbury CCTV Control Centre during January 2007 to discuss the options & issues.



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Cement Works, St Thomas Farm: surprisingly if not rather strangely, the planning application for this does not ask for it to be retrospective. It is known that there are several objections to this application mentioning noise, dust, pollution and traffic amongst the reasons.

Bishopdown Farm - Vandalism has occurred to the Parish noticeboard on the Surgery wall; it will be repaired. This act of vandalism has been reported. The SDC 'ASBO' officer has supplied a special form for reporting any graffiti, vandalism and suchlike. If reports are not made then there will be no record of the event for budget or protection purposes. History - Several items have been received on which to base a Bishopdown Farm history.

Late News - The Asda site has apparently been sold.

Vandalism on the Green - after some unfounded accusations it soon became clear that the branch had been cut down very inadequately by the Electricity Board and left as a piece of rubbish. Both SEB and Powergen deny that it was them or their agents.

Partridge Way Payphone - BT have asked to be allowed to remove the public payphone. Our SDC response form stated "no comment", but several councilors noted the need for a telephone there for social reasons - especially as the shop closed last May.

WebSite - The Clerk will talk to Cllr Ian McLennan as to the possible use of his website www.laverstock.org as key component of Laverstock webbery.

Access for Ford, Old Sarum and Hampton Park must be considered too.

Schools - Several Councillors met informally with the WCC Education Officer in November. They reiterated the Parish Council belief that removing one school was seen as a worthwhile option. It was agreed that some of the schools at the Laverstock Campus were urgently in need of improvement.

CLARENCE again - If you find a piece of dangerous kerb, pavement, verge or road - then try Clarence on 0800 23 23 23 when you get an answer make sure you also get the reference number. If the problem is not sorted properly and promptly it is this reference which will cause most embarrassment.

PRECEPT - By the time the newsletter comes out, the Parish Precept for the year will have been set. For the last few years it has been about £14,000 or about £7 per house. It covers expenditure such as admin., insurance, playgorunds, grass, subscriptions, elections, litter bins and some public lighting. If any new projects are planned then plans should have already been sent in for discussion in the budget.

OLD SARUM CONSERVATION AREA

Lesley Maynard of the Old Sarum Flying Club (OSFC) came to address the Parish Council in November in response both to the newsletter comments in the last issue and also to update the council regarding the letter being widely circulated by a Stratford-sub-Castle resident which made comments about the Flying Club which she wished to answer.

As regards the Conservation Area, English Heritage and the Flying Club want the whole area of grassland, airstrip, hangars and houses to be included as this comprises the whole World War 1 and World War 2 site. Limiting the CA to the airstrip and hangars would eventually permit development that would destroy the 'green lung' which it represents. The Parish Council think that no houses should be included. Mr Labouchere argues that even the airstrip and the hangars should be excluded while SDC appears to argue that some houses should be in with the airstrip, hangars and grassland. It is unclear what the final decision will be.

As regards the circulated letter; this makes statements such as '*Aircraft movements would double*'; '*unrestricted night time flying would be allowed*'; '*flying hours would be extended and unlimited*'; and '*there would be no constraints on flying*' - are these all made with insufficient knowledge of the CAA rules and the overall state of small aircraft flying in the UK.

OSFC respond and state that - Parking and Hangarage at Old Sarum are limited and could not sustain a large increase in activity - General Aviation is in decline in Europe. OSFC would have to invest massively in infrastructure in order to allow night flying. The nighttime runway would have to be reduced for safety reasons and would then actually be inadequate. There is little demand for night flying. There is no commercial case for extending the current hours; unsocial hours and extra costs make doing so unattractive. The relationship built up over 14 years with local residents would be jeopardised. The Local Flying Forum (OSFC and SDC and local councillors) meets twice a year. Finally, all flying is regulated by the CAA whether from an airfield or farmers strip.

The letter also states that Old Sarum was never intended for intensive flying training. OSFC say that throughout its life it has been used extensively for training and, until recently, with larger and noisier aircraft.

The letter suggests that Blanefield, the owners of the 154 acre site, must be motivated by making money on the flying activities. It should surprise no one that flying clubs do not make a lot of money. What is true is that the land would be valued at at least £500,000 per acre if planning were to be approved. Blanefield Investments is a Dutch Antilles company.

OSFC says that the Conservation Area would protect the site from development. Plans for as many as 1,250 houses have been proposed. OSFC say that Salisbury needs the airfield as a 'green lung'.



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Bishopdown Farm Residents' Association NEWS

Thanks to the Laverstock Parish Council agreeing to the BFRA Newsletter being incorporated into the Parish Newsletter. We hope this will prove of benefit to both parties.

The BFRA Halloween Party on The Green: proved an astounding success with over 200 parents and children attending. Publicity for this event was low key yet the turnout was fantastic. This is in complete contrast to the summer Fun Day that was publicised to every house on the estate and was met with nearly zero response (despite the 2005 event being very well attended). The only difference between the two events being that the BFRA committee asked for some help with the summer event. We had hoped to raise funds for the Youth Club for children of local families – there was significant support from the younger element but none from their parents. The Youth Club is still looking for assistance – funds are available but more adults are required to ensure the Club can function.

Next Events. By the time you read this we will hopefully have seen a number of you at the Greentrees School Christmas Fayre on 8th December.

The BFRA AGM will be at the school at 7.30 pm on 9th February 2007 - we need a good turnout from Bishopdown Farm residents, particularly as there are a number of changes occurring in our area (see below).

Other news. There appears to be action around the 'ASDA' site, which the committee are investigating. It has apparently been sold again.

- The promised double yellow lines on Pearce Way are being chased. We are also chasing the extension of the white lines on St Lukes Close.
- The commercial vehicles in St Clements Way are still a nuisance and we are hoping that the Bye-Laws may provide a solution.
- Discussion continues on the local boundaries.
- We are applying for additional benches for the Green to improve the enjoyment of this area.
- The committee have been trying to improve the take-up of Neighbourhood Watch – it is free and can reduce your insurance premiums – but while there is interest no one is yet available to act as a co-ordinator (which only takes a few minutes every month or so).
- There is concern about minor vandalism - such as at the Doctor's Surgery.

Get more on these brief headlines from the Chairman John Seymour on 337869 or JASeymour@compuserve.com. The BFRA website www.bfra.info is being refreshed so log on for information about your local community.

Young Voices

Christmas: A time for getting giving

Dear Santa,

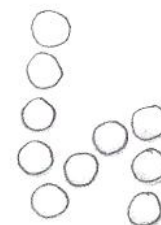
I hope this letter finds you well. This year I got good marks in my exams and am still speaking to my best friend despite the fact she's moving away from Salisbury. I am going to be in the Fencing Squad, I've joined the school council and I've stacked the dishwasher and washed my step-fathers car at least a zillion times this year so I think I've been pretty good (honest!).

For Christmas, please could I have a top-up card for my mobile and one for i-Tunes and could you make sure Annie makes friends quickly in Oz? In fact could you do the same for all young people who are somewhere new this Christmas? Thanks. Also, could you make sure Mr. King gets something nice, like a new pair of socks, or a replacement Editor, because he printed my article in the newsletter and my Headmistress pinned it up in the Staff room (which was not cool) and she gave me a card! It was just an article, it wasn't even my idea, my mum made me do it! She said I had to put my money where my mouth is... I think that's what she said, it may have been my foot? So obviously all my teachers need a treat this Christmas. I guess you don't stretch to new school buildings with heating that works and no rats in the pipes? Oh, and could you give Mr Grimsley, a big cake for Christmas, so we can help him eat it during 'Maths Mechanics' next term?

Dear Santa, I know you're busy, but in my parish they're looking at plans for the future to make it a better place, could you make sure they speak to the all the young people - I'd like some swings and a Village Hall in Ford, so we could have parties and disco's and get touring Plays in. Also, if you could have a word with the Bus Company so I could get in to town and back to see my friends at normal times for under £1 a journey? Actually we've had a new bus driver for the school run this term and he probably needs a nice present too, perhaps a timetable and a map? because he wasn't sure where to go and left us at the bus-stop in the rain because some cheeky boys told him that the bus didn't usually stop at our school! - minus them a present for that one, Santa!

I think that's it, I've sorted out my family's presents so don't you worry about them, Mum will love her new tea towel and my three year old sister will really love her 'painting with oils' set and my step-dad will really love the flashing tie I've got him to help jazz up his work suit and as for my friends, well if I could put in a word for them - they just want to be happy and have a good time this Christmas, no stressy parents and no arguments over who SHOULD have ordered the Turkey and who DIDN't get the carrots. Thanks Santa, I promise to leave out something nice, that my mum hasn't made herself

Lottie x



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CREATING A PARISH PLAN (PART II)

from Tony Markham - Parish Chairman

In the last edition of the Parish Newsletter I explained that we would present residents with a framework for discussion. We have prepared this in the form of six **Vision Statements**. **Action Points** have then been prepared which deliver the Vision Statements. It is around these Action Points that we expect to have further discussion. Adding new ideas as they come forward and also scrapping others which after discussion do not serve to advance the Vision Statements.

It is essential that the Parish Plan, when finally agreed, fully represents the overall views of the residents living in the communities within our Parish - Laverstock, Old Sarum, Ford, Hampton Park and Milford. We anticipate little dispute with selection of the Vision Statements, however there will be a difference of emphasis between and within the communities. By far the greatest amount of comment from residents came under the heading of Roads and Road Safety and we have tried to reflect this in the draft.

Open Meetings will be arranged at a later date so that we can be sure that the final Plan will be seen as a credible, realistic document firmly expressing the views of our residents. If we demonstrate a clear ownership of our plan then the District and County Councils will take notice and where appropriate use it to the benefit of the Parish, for example when considering future planning applications.

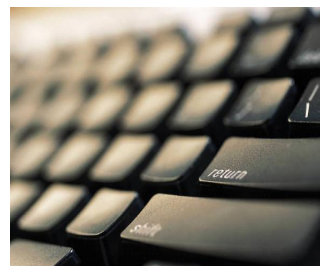
Vision 1.

Parish Roads are as safe as it is possible to make them for all users. All traffic will drive at a safe speed and with consideration for the residents. Special arrangements will be pursued to safeguard schoolchildren.

ACTION POINTS

- Continue use of the recently introduced Parish Steward scheme and set up effective liaison to ensure that suitable tasks are always available for his monthly visit.
- Councillors will make regular reports on the areas of the Parish assigned to them.
- Create a new Standing sub-committee of the Parish Council. The remit yet to be defined but it will make recommendations to the full Parish Council on matters related to the general maintenance and safety of roads, paths, and rights of way.
- Parish Council to engage with Salisbury District Council Highways Agency to discuss and formulate plans to reduce traffic speed at accident blackspots throughout the Parish.
- Establish/strengthen formal liaison with the local Police Officers.
- Parish Newsletter to routinely report accidents and known hazards

From the Editor



NEW EDITOR REQUIRED

Contact Tony Markham 329151 for discussion
or John King 334337

John King: john@bythewyse.co.uk is for
ADVERTISING only.

Jackie McFadden: jackie@jmcadden.fsnet.co.uk
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Full-page	per issue	£32.00;	3 issues	6 issues / 1 year
Half-page		£16.00;	£14.00 each;	£13.00 each;
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Advertisements which do NOT arrive in the proper size will incur artwork costs of between £5 and £20 as necessary to correct the format and wording.

The requested sizes are as follows :-

Full page 130mm x 180mm; ½ page 130mm x 85mm; ¼ page 60mm x 85mm

The next issue (Mar/April 2007 # 102) will require information and articles by 5th February 2007 and new advertisements to arrive by 1st February.

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- Regular liaison with schools to encourage and promote positive relationships between the schools and the communities.
- Encourage all residents to report dangerous road and pavement hazards to CLARENCE (0800 23 23 23)

Vision 2.

The Parish to have a Flood Plan with Flood Wardens to be appointed. (if appropriate)

ACTION POINTS

- A working group to be set up to prepare a flood plan.
- The group will liaise with Salisbury District Flood Steering Group
- Vulnerable flooding areas will be routinely monitored
- Parish Steward will keep drains and ditches clear

Vision 3.

Make it possible for residents of the Parish to walk safely by footpaths or pavements around the Parish and in to the City of Salisbury from all communities within the Parish.

ACTION POINTS

- An environmental Access Working Group will be convened to prepare a plan to identify the routes required.
- Work to enable residents living close to a Park and Ride to use the Park and Ride transport free of charge to access the city centre.
- Consult with Laverstock Watermeadows and Downland Trust and other groups to consider feasibility of a Bourne riverside nature walk through the Parish
- Improve childrens' play areas and encourage schools to open their facilities for community use.
- Keep footpaths in good and tidy order

Vision 4.

Enable residents of the Parish to have improved local facilities for re-cycling waste and disposing of heavy/bulky refuse. Work towards a litter free Parish. Take steps to prevent Fly-tipping.

ACTION POINTS

- Investigate the possibility of locally based re-cycling facilities.
- Discuss with SDC arrangement for heavy waste disposal.
- Work with the schools to discourage litter.
- Organise a Fly-tipping hot line.
- Extend the number of litter bins and use the Parish Steward and voluntary groups eg Community Service Volunteers to keep us litter free.

Vision 5.

Work towards a safe and crime free environment for all residents of the Parish to make people feel safer in their communities.

ACTION POINTS

- Aim to encourage more areas to participate in the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Make the police bulletins more available.
- Consider having Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators meetings.
- Consider what more can be done to help the very elderly and vulnerable members of the community (Good Neighbour Schemes).
- Use the Parish Newsletter to publicise good practice initiatives, procedures for getting emergency assistance and publicising potential and current risks.
- Encourage people to report all anti-social behaviour.

Vision 6.

Laverstock Parish comprises the diverse settlements of Old Sarum, Hampton Park/Sarum Ridge, Ford and Laverstock and Milford. We will work to ensure every settlement retains its own individual characteristics and distinct identity. The Parish will retain its rural origins and outlook.

Rural and historic areas are protected for the use and enjoyment of residents. Conservation and protection of wildlife, open spaces and woodland will be made a priority

ACTION POINTS

- Each community within the Parish is invited to prepare a design statement (like a village design statement it will allow the community to be clear about what styles of new development are suited to their locality)
- Special areas of historic and cultural significance to be identified and action taken to ensure they are accessible and preserved.
- Establish links with other interested organisations in adjacent parishes eg Milford Preservation Group.

HAVE YOUR SAY....

As we continue to consult with you the Draft Plan grows. More detail is steadily being added to the Action Points.

It is expected that there will be an open meeting arranged for March 2007; this will be fully publicised and I urge you to come and make your comments. Without the active involvement of a full cross-section of the community this plan will not gain full acceptance.

The Parish Plan team is identifying projects and targets in which it is worth investing. The Parish Council will make the maximum effort to identify grants and funds which may be used on specific Action Plans.

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

The pricing for 'Small Ads' has been simplified to £1.20 per line per issue.

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2nd in month	Ladies Open Group	8.00pm to 10.00pm
3rd in month	WI	7.45pm to 9.30pm
4th in month	Garden Club	7.30pm
Tuesday	Taoist Tai Chi	10.00am to 12.00noon
	Pilates	6.00pm to 8.00pm
Wednesday	Mini-Movers Playgroup	
1st in month	Evergreen	2.30pm
	Cubs	6.30pm to 7.30pm
	Scouts	7.30pm to 10.00pm
Thursday	Toddler Group (term-time only)	10.00am to 11.30am
	Line-Dancing	2.30pm to 4.00pm
	Tai Chi `	7.30pm to 9.30pm
Friday	Little Kickers	am
	Fitness League	2.00pm to 3.15pm
	Brownies (term-time only)	6.00pm to 7.30pm
Saturday	Beavers	9.30am to 10.30am

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Please Note:

Elsewhere in the newsletter there is a summary of the proposals already made by your Parish Council to the South West Strategic Area.

Please tell us what you think about these proposals. What other Action Points can you suggest which will help deliver the Vision statements. We have provided you with a tear-off slip and the plan is that you will be able to post your comments in a special box provided in the ONE STOP Church Rd Laverstock and the Bishopsdown shop.

Alternatively you may email to Parish Clerk stevehannath@talktalk.net

Thank You

Anthony Markham,
Chairman, Parish Council

----->><>>----->><>>-----

Parish Plan - FEEDBACK and SUGGESTIONS

Name Contact Details

Address

I would like to suggest that the following items are added to the Parish Plan or I want to comment about an item and these are the reasons why:

Traveller's World

independent travel choices



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steve.hannath@talktalk.net

Laverstock Parish Plan

The last newsletter talked about the Parish Plan and the different sections to it. These sections will be : Introduction, Maps, Facts and Figures, History, then the key sections of Vision Statement and Action Points. ALL the statements made so far are suggestions ONLY and need to be discussed thoroughly and ratified so that the whole Parish comes to agreement about the package.

The Parish Plan which is summarised in the centre pages is, of course, considerably more detailed. The full version will be available and be circulated to the different community areas and interested local groups. They are each invited to respond as soon as possible.

Although bordering the Salisbury City boundary, the Parish is determined to retain its rural origins and outlook in each and every section of the Parish. In total there are approximately 1,700 dwellings. An additional 630 houses are being developed at Old Sarum and 120 in Laverstock, thus increasing the number of dwellings by 44% by 2007. This will impose considerable strain on the existing community and current infrastructure.

The Parish Council is very concerned about the local infrastructure including schools, housing, roads, drains and so on. It raises the issue with the planners at every opportunity; for example at the November 2007 meeting of the Porton Down Master Plan and Development Brief.

Laverstock Parish Community Plan - submitted to SWSA in 2004

SWSA is the "South West Strategic Alliance" - a group of WCC, SDC, Government, near-Government and other bodies which offers support and grants for projects which are assessed as valid and worthwhile.

Topics put forward to SWSA requiring exploration, resolution and work plans include:

Traffic management in all the Parish Communities: Concerns include School traffic, schemes for limiting & calming through traffic, as well as pedestrian & emergency vehicle safety

Travel: Schemes are required to improve Bus, Cycle and Pedestrian facilities, school travel plans and community car sharing.

Road & Pavement Improvements : Resurfacing of many of the Parishes roads has been highlighted, dropped kerb provision, anti-skid surfaces on sharp inclines, lighting improvement and the safety provisions listed above.

Rural Environment / Green Space retention

The Parish is keen to secure the future for its remaining rural environment including sensitive areas such as downland (inc SSSI) and sites of historic importance. In addition to develop the small supply of green community areas for use by all sections of the community. Projects include a tree survey, footpaths, and walks, play areas, bridge painting, sports and youth amenities

General Amenities / Local Organisations:

The 3 secondary schools and 2 village primary schools and MoD and the sports & social club, all have facilities that are currently restricted from general use by the local Community. Wider access and usage is to be encouraged. The current and proposed village/community halls at Hampton Park, Laverstock & Old Sarum should also become valued community facilities. Hampton Park benefits from a doctors' surgery and this would be welcomed at Old Sarum and Laverstock. The Parish Council and residents are working with developers and SDC to provide facilities at Old Sarum and Laverstock. The Duck Inn and The Bishopdown are the only two public houses in the Parish and are valued assets.

The Park & Ride at Old Sarum (and the proposals at London Road and Petersfinger) are assets currently excluded from local pedestrian use by prohibitive pricing and a restrictive agreement between SDC and Wilts & Dorset Bus Co. The Parish wish to see this element of social exclusion overcome.

Old Sarum Airfield, the oldest WW1 grass airfield in the UK, is perceived as a welcome asset and, in addition to its history, creates a natural division between Ford and Old Sarum.

History:

The Parish has a rich history, which would benefit from further research with some sites opened up for general use.

Future Development:

The past and planned expansion of the Parish has eaten into the rural landscape and the Parish will develop a policy statement concerning future developments. Retention of the "strategic gaps" offering a natural separation of the settlements of Hampton Park/Sarum Ridge, Ford and Old Sarum is an imperative.