

Horspath Parish Council

Newsletter

October 2001 Issue.

Edited by Martin Harris and Shirley Woodcock

From the Chair of Horspath Parish Council:

Welcome to the third issue of the re-styled Newsletter – and a very special welcome to the many newcomers now living in Horspath!

A few weeks ago I visited our oldest resident, Nellie Munt, on her 100th birthday. I am sure that she has seen many changes in her lifetime, and so have we, if we stop to think about it! I now have access to the Horspath Village Scrapbook up to 1956, and if anyone would like to see it, do please give me a ring and we'll make the necessary arrangements.

A date for your diary: Wednesday 31st October – Yes – it's Halloween – but at **7.30 pm** in the **Village Hall** we are holding a **Parish Meeting** to discuss the two options available to us for locating the **new Burial Ground** which the village now requires: either along Cuddesdon Road near the allotments, or in a field off Manor Farm Road. Each site has its various 'pros' and 'cons' as you would expect, so a presentation of the two proposals will be given, and some open discussion invited to assess peoples' feelings.

Later items on the agenda for this Parish Meeting will be the desirability of extending the **Neighbourhood Watch** scheme to include all the houses in the village, and possibly also an explanation of the value of a **Tree Preservation Order on trees on the Village Green**, one of which was maliciously damaged recently, and may possibly die. Over the last few months, we have been through a spell of mindless vandalism in the village, and I feel that we now need input from village residents as to how to move forward to improve the situation.

For those of you who use the "bottle banks" and the "plastic carton bank" near the Village Hall, please, please squash your plastic ones so that other people can also get theirs in, and when these bins are full, please take your recyclable refuse home and try to deposit it when the bins have been emptied. It is very important to recycle whatever we can, and plans are afoot at SODC to make the collections more reliable than they are now!! Dates for the collection of waste items by the SODC lorry will be posted on the notice board, when they are known.

To those of you who contact your Parish Councillors, to inform, to request, to comment, or even to moan, I say "Thank you." We are here for your benefit, so please let us know your views. I hope to see you on Wednesday 31st October at 7.30 pm.

Shirley Woodcock (Tel: 876823 after 4 p.m. and at weekends, & Fax: 876810)

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL: AREA FORUMS

The Council has recently agreed to introduce 5 Area Forums in the District, covering the Henley, Thame, Didcot, Wallingford, and 'Oxford Fringe' areas. **Your local Forum will be the 'Oxford Fringe' Forum, and the first meeting will be held in:**

HORSPATH VILLAGE HALL on Wednesday 17 October 2001 at 7.00 p.m.

The Forums will provide an opportunity for District Councillors, Town and Parish Councillors and representatives of other public bodies to discuss issues of local concern. Members of the public are welcome to attend and add their views, and time will be set aside at each Forum meeting for a public question time where you can raise your own matters of concern.

For further details, contact Sally Truman at SODC: 01491 823046 e-mail sally.truman@southoxon.gov.uk

Horspath's need for a new Burial Ground

The Parish Council has received a request from St. Giles' Church to obtain an additional burial ground within the Parish. The present churchyard has less than ten burial plots remaining, therefore it is the responsibility of the Parish Council to secure a suitable site as soon as possible. A survey has been undertaken, and two sites which meet the criteria have been identified:-

A] Cuddesdon Road – left hand side from the village, near to No.145 and the allotments. This area measures 0.6 of an acre, and has an access lane on one side. The site is owned by the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance.

B] Manor Farm Road – access between No.5 (College Farmhouse) and No. 11, leading to a field at the back of Manor Farm Road. The area of this site is one acre, and it is reached through a lane with no parking facilities. The owner of the site is Mr. R. Walker.

There are several points for and against the use of each site. The Cuddesdon Road site has no parking facilities, and as it is some distance from the church,

we would need to provide at least fourteen spaces for cars. There is a vacant plot of land between the proposed burial ground and No.145 Cuddesdon Road, and this is the only nearby private residential property which would be affected. The Manor Farm Road site is very close to the church, and therefore we are proposing to provide parking only for the hearse and two other vehicles. The access lane is narrow, and no parking is permitted there. There are private houses on either side of this lane, and the actual site sits within a 5-acre field. The nearest part of this proposed burial ground would be 50 metres into the field, because there is already an existing footpath across the field to be avoided. This site would be surrounded by open field on all four sides, but it would have an effect on more properties in the lane and in College Way.

Because of the complexities involved in choosing the right location, the Parish Council has scheduled a **Parish Meeting for 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 31st October** in the **Village Hall**, to enable parishioners to hear the views of both the Parish Council and representatives of St. Giles' Church, and then to express their own views on this issue.

Update on Horspath's Railway Bridge over the Village Green

Over the past twelve months, the Parish Council has attempted to reach a satisfactory conclusion to the issues surrounding the old Railway Bridge crossing over the Village Green.

We have been in debate with the owners, Rail Property Ltd., regarding the future of the bridge. Rail Property's initial (verbal) response was that it was their intention to remove the arch and leave the two pillars *in situ*. The Parish Council stated that the bridge as it stands is a natural traffic calming measure, and therefore should remain as it is. It also helps to prevent large vehicles (articulated lorries) using this route as a short cut to the M40. It was also pointed out that by removing the arch, the remaining structure might become weakened and unsafe, and could precipitate the eventual removal of the pillars due to unsustainable ground pressure.

If this happened, the banks would then have to be graded back, which would open up the road for use by more traffic and heavy vehicles. Rail Property's (verbal) reply was sympathetic, and they do support the Parish Council, and therefore in these circumstances, they would not demolish the arch of the bridge, but would be prepared to maintain the bridge in a safe condition for the near future.

Although we have written to them on numerous occasions about the future of the bridge, to date their responses have only been verbal, and the Parish Council has received no guarantees from them. Several alternative proposals have been made to them, including the transfer of ownership of the bridge to Oxfordshire County Council, but as of yet, no decision has been made.

Local Police News

The team operating from the Wheatley Police Office is now led by Sergeant Stewart Dunbar, and consists of Police Constables Andrew Clark, Paul Gregory, Brian Price, Richard Pribyl, Adrian Russell, and Clive Wedlock. Non-urgent routine messages for this team can still be left on the answering machine on **01865 875568**, but when there is a need to report a crime actually in progress, or when any kind of emergency situation develops requiring an immediate response, please dial the emergency number - **999**. The telephone number for the Control Room is still **01235 776000**, and this can be used for reporting priority and routine matters, which are not emergencies requiring an immediate response. Because of the large geographical extent of the Thames Valley Police Authority, the Control Room telephone may be answered by police a long way away from Horspath, and they may therefore need to take very full details from you in order to hand on your report to the local police. When you make any report of a crime to the police, it is very useful to obtain the “**Unique Reference Number**” or “**URN**” for the incident at the time you make your report, and then by quoting this URN in any further contact with the local police team, they can quickly access all the relevant information to follow this up. A good way of keeping the local police team informed of any crime reported to the Control Room is to briefly repeat your report onto their telephone answering machine and quote the URN.

The local police are well aware of the great concern felt by people in Horspath about the **recent spate of mindless vandalism** experienced in this village. To combat this, **the police require information** about the criminals to be telephoned to them as soon as anyone is aware of this type of crime. If anyone prefers to report criminals anonymously, this is possible by telephoning the registered charity “**Crimestoppers**” on **0800 555 111**. You may even qualify for a reward if your information helps to solve some kinds of crime. The police service depends on receiving information from as many people as possible in the community.

In recent months the statistics for reported crime indicate that Horspath has not experienced much serious crime. However, not far away from Horspath there have been some worrying burglaries where criminals have **entered houses to steal the car keys of the cars parked outside**, and have then driven off in them. Please keep all keys secure against theft. There have also been some **confidence tricksters calling at front doors** pretending to represent a service agency requiring the householder to open the door to them, and then leave it open while they carry out a theft from inside. The plausible stories given out by these same ‘conmen’ tend to vary, as does their general appearance, but anyone can help to end their activities by asking to see their **identification documents which must include a photograph and the name of their organisation and its telephone number**, BEFORE they leave any door open for them, AND by telephoning the correct number for the organisation listed in the telephone directory to verify that the callers are genuine. Back gates, back garden sheds, and side way gates need to be secured with locks. If you are responsible for old or disabled people, please make sure that their premises are secure. It is better to be safe than sorry. **Car crime continues**, with a steady stream of stolen cars being burned out to destruction on Shotover. **Mobile phones are also being stolen frequently** in the Oxford area, and much more care should be taken to keep these highly portable high value goods away from criminals, as well as always “locking” them by always using a secret personal access code, and security marking them with your own postcode and house number. Members of the local police team will explain this further if you ask them.

In addition to the Horspath Traffic Calming measures, which appear to have cut the maximum speed of cars within the village, **additional radar speed checks will soon be carried out by the police**, and the police speed check warning signs will be regularly displayed on the approaches to the village to reinforce the perception by motorists that Horspath is never a place to risk driving through at speed.

Neighbourhood Watch Schemes should cover all houses in Horspath.

While some parts of the village, such as Blenheim Road, have every single house covered by membership of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, it is puzzling and worrying that some other roads have not yet taken advantage of this form of protection against criminal activity. All that is asked of members is for them to display a small Neighbourhood Watch sticker in one of their front windows, and to agree to report any suspicious activity to the Police whenever they see it. In return, they receive notification by the Police of local criminal activity, by fax, phone, or e-mail, and may even get a 10-15% reduction in their House and Contents insurance premiums. **For information, please contact Alison Smith at the Neighbourhood Watch office on 01235 556937.**

Report from our South Oxfordshire District Councillor

The planning process at S.O.D.C. is unaffected by the new “Cabinet” system, and I remain a member of the main Planning Committee. I am Vice-Chair of Northern Area Planning Sub-Committee and as such I am very willing to listen to residents’ planning concerns and views. I am Vice-Chair of the Policy Development Panel dealing with Housing and Environment. This panel is currently reviewing “Affordable Housing” as a priority and with a view to making recommendations on future policy to Cabinet and Council. I am supporting the initiatives of Horspath Parish Council in its aim of obtaining more **affordable housing for our village**. The process is not easy or quick but I am hopeful that things are moving forward towards achieving these aims.

You will all have been affected at times during the past months by the unreliability of the refuse and recycling collections. Measures are being taken at S.O.D.C. to improve the situation in the short term. However, in the long term, as detailed in the centre pages of “Outlook”, the government has set new recycling targets which require all local authorities to **reduce the amount of waste materials being sent to landfill sites**. Although I’m sure we all support this aim, it does involve us in making important choices. An important part of the S.O.D.C. response to this directive is to consider **your views on changes to the Refuse Collection Service**, and I therefore urge you to complete and return the questionnaire on **page 5 of “Outlook”**, using the

Freeport address: S.O.D.C., Freeport OF439, Crowmarsh, Wallingford, Oxon. OX10 8BR.

I am sad to report that among other acts of vandalism in the village recently, a mature chestnut tree on the Village Green has been damaged. Sarah Cleveland, S.O.D.C. Forestry Officer, visited and advised on how best we might save the large damaged chestnut. She also attended the September meeting of the Parish Council, advising on procedures necessary to obtain **Tree Preservation Orders on Village Green trees**. Such orders do not incur any costs by the Parish Council and leave the management of the trees entirely in the hands of the Parish Council. However, Tree Preservation Orders have the advantage of S.O.D.C. taking the practical and financial responsibility for any legal action to protect the trees from damage. Without doubt, the Tree Preservation Order on the belt of mature trees lying between the bridge on the Green and the Butts Road bridge, initiated in 1994 by the previous S.O.D.C. Forestry Officer at the request of village residents, has played a significant part in their retention as a ‘green corridor’ of wildlife within the centre of our community.

An important **Parish Meeting** is to be called on **31st October** at which important issues will be raised:- (1) provision of a Burial Ground, (2) setting up of more ‘Neighbourhood Watch’ areas within the village, and possibly also (3) Tree Preservation Orders for Village Green trees. I do hope that many of you will be able to attend, to give your opinions on these important issues.

Stella Edwards. District Councillor. Tel. and Fax: 873266

Hygiene in Streets and other Public Places – the need to reduce Fouling by Dogs.



The deposition of dog mess on the pavements, verges, and on other public open ground, including the Recreation Ground and the Wildlife Conservation Area, in Horspath continues to be a general health hazard, and a very specific serious health hazard to our children who go there. **The Dog (Fouling of Land) Act 1996** makes it an offence “...if a dog defecates at any time on designated land and a person who is in charge of the dog at that time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith...” The Environmental Health Department of S.O.D.C. has advised the Parish Council that this offence is now punishable by the imposition of a **Fixed Penalty of up to £1,000**. The Parish Council is providing bins for the disposal of dog mess by dog owners at places in the village where persistent nuisance has been reported, at present: outside the School, outside the Wildlife Conservation Area and near the Village Hall, so that dog owners can put their own dog’s mess into these bins, which are then emptied regularly by S.O.D.C. Dog owners who need a supply of small plastic bags with edges stiffened with cardboard (sometimes referred to rather over-optimistically as “pooper scoopers”), to be able to do this hygienically, can obtain these **FREE** from the S.O.D.C. Public Amenities team, by telephoning Julia Leppard on **01491 823124**, or may prefer to buy other types from pet shops, but a lot of people simply use double plastic bags to protect their hand.

SODC Tree Preservation Order No. 7 [1994], protecting the trees on the disused railway embankment between the bridge over the Village Green and the Butts Road bridge.

A criminal and socially very irresponsible attempt was made this summer to set fire to these trees on the disused railway embankment near the railway bridge over Cuddesdon Road. The Oxfordshire Fire Service was called to extinguish the fire before it spread to neighbouring property, but some serious damage was still caused to three trees. **The Police are treating this as a case of arson, and asking for any additional information from anyone in the village which can be used to successfully prosecute these criminals.**



An aerial photograph of the protected woodland corridor in the village, looking SW over the trees in the Wildlife Conservation Area, (the cutting in the foreground), and then on over Butts Road to the lines of trees on the railway embankment between Gidley Way (left) and Manor Drive (right) and extending beyond the Cuddesdon Road bridge (top).

This Tree Preservation Order was established in 1994 by S.O.D.C. at the request of nearby residents in Horspath who live in the 'square' on the street plan, bounded by lower Gidley Way, Manor Drive, Butts Road, and Cuddesdon Road, who value this line of trees as a natural feature at the ends of their back gardens. **These trees form a visually attractive and typically rural screen at the ends of all these back gardens, and provide privacy in these back gardens, and for the back bedrooms of the houses,** so that they are not overlooked by people living in the houses on the opposite sides of this 'square'. This line of trees undoubtedly also adds significantly to the market value of all the houses nearby. The Tree Preservation Order was imposed to prevent the private owner/developer of the disused railway embankment from developing this land for more building, which would have

replaced the embankment of trees with an access road to new houses or bungalows, which would have been overlooked by everyone already living around this 'square', whose existing residents would also have been overlooked by the occupants of the new houses planned for where the trees are standing today. Partly because of the Tree Preservation Order, and partly because a large majority of Horspath residents living nearby wrote letters of objection, the prospective building developers withdrew the scheme.

This line of trees on the railway embankment also has great value to the village as a corridor for wildlife moving between Shotover, Horspath Common, Horspath Wildlife Conservation Area further up the disused railway line, and the open fields of the Green Belt between Horspath and Cowley. Roe deer, Muntjac deer, badgers, foxes, squirrels, hedgehogs, voles, moles, mice, bats, frogs, toads, slow worms and other smaller forms of wildlife all use this woodland corridor. The trees and bushes are also home to many typical local woodland birds – such as thrushes, blackbirds, tits, robins, jays, magpies, woodpeckers, and is a regular hunting ground for owls and for passing herons. It is therefore obviously worth protecting as a village amenity, and the **Tree Preservation Order No.7 1994 states that ALL the trees and bushes are protected on the embankment,** and that anyone found guilty of illegally removing or damaging any one of them would risk a possible fine up to a maximum of £20,000. The SODC Forestry Department would like to be informed by telephone if there ever appears to be anyone endangering these trees again, and they will take swift and appropriate action to stop it. Permission must also be requested for any routine tree trimming. The routine telephone number is **01491 823774** to speak to or record a message for Martin Gammie or Sarah Cleveland, but **if more urgent action is required, in or out of office hours, please telephone the SODC emergency number: 01491 824033, and phone the Police.** The Chair of Horspath Parish Council holds a copy of this Tree Preservation Order, but if any property owner near the embankment would also like to have a full copy of the original legal document and map designating this Tree Preservation Order, to keep for reference with their own property deeds, this can be ordered from Sarah Cleveland for a pre-payable nominal fee of £7.46.

Horspath C of E Primary School



Horspath C of E Primary School
Blenheim Road
Horspath
Oxford
OX33 1RY
Tel: (01865) 872702
Fax: (01865) 872702
e-mail office@horspath.oxon.sch.uk

This year, we are very happy to be setting out with a full complement of staff and a healthy school role. Mrs Briggs has left us to become the Headteacher at Watlington School, but we are pleased to welcome back Ms. Cumming and Ms. Buchanan.

The school building and grounds continue to be developed, and this year we are creating a new school garden. The children will be designing and setting out pond, woodland and hedgerow habitats, as well as paths and seating areas. We want an area, which will be safe, as well as stimulating, a place to sit and think as well as to explore and learn. The pupils will be taking part in a number of initiatives as part of this project, including Alan Titchmarsh's 'Gardens for Schools', David Attenborough's own 'Wildlife Safari', and Oxford University's 'Bug Research'. In addition to all of this, we would welcome your expertise. Please contact us if you would like to be involved in any capacity.

The summer term saw our annual visit to the Yenworthy Outdoor Education Centre on Exmoor. This is a centre run by Oxfordshire County Council for outdoor and adventurous activities. Each year

we take our 9-11 year olds for a week of learning about themselves, developing their strengths and



confidence, working as a team, and having a truly memorable time. Our visit this year included canoeing, surfing and climbing, and saw many pupils achieve things that they thought were impossible.

**Finally, a date for your diary –
our Grand Autumn Bazaar is on
Saturday 10th November at 2.00 p.m.**

Lorraine Kingsman, Headteacher

Bonfires – advice from SODC Public Amenities Department – a need for restraint.

Apart from the fire hazard, bonfires can be a real health risk to sufferers of asthma, bronchitis and the very young and old, due to the dangerous particles contained in bonfire smoke. For neighbours, it is most unpleasant to find acrid smoke filling the house and garden and even soiling the washing. Each autumn and winter many hedgehogs hibernating in accumulated garden waste die or receive serious burns as a result of careless garden bonfires. Move such waste before burning it, to check that there are no small animals in it. There is actually no law governing bonfires, except that persistent bonfire smoke can be classed as a 'statutory nuisance' under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, so please be reasonable, and think of your neighbours. Take proper fire precautions before lighting up, ideally checking first that the wind is not going to blow smoke into houses, burn only dry material to burn as quickly as possible, and supervise the fire at all times. Restrain your pyromania!! As an alternative to bonfires, consider using composters, which can now be bought at reduced prices (£10, or £15 for large) at Waterperry garden centre, or buy SODC Garden Refuse Bags @ 65p each from Shirley Woodcock.

Wildlife Gardening

Local wildlife gardening expert, Jenny Steel, will give a talk entitled "Wild about Gardening" on **Tuesday 9th October** in the **Village Hall** at **7.30 p.m.** Charge is £1.50 per person at the door (50p per child or pensioner) to cover costs. This talk will show you how to make your garden more wildlife-friendly, including information about wildflower meadows, nectar borders, making a pond, and encouraging beneficial insects in your garden.

Wildlife Conservation Area – Progress Report



Thanks to the enthusiastic efforts of many volunteers from the village, who helped to tidy up the Wildlife Conservation Area when the drier summer weather at last arrived, the site has now become accessible enough for us to take stock of its wildlife potential. The drastic scrub clearance and earth-moving necessary during the winter brought to the surface the **dormant seeds of many interesting plants**, and by July all the bare areas were green with new growth. In August a group of our volunteers ‘posed’ on a very hot day for some publicity photos to be taken for our sponsors, the Community Fund - for use in their advertising brochure as an example to show other applicants how a little grant money can be made to go a very long way! As the efforts of our Horspath volunteers are currently regarded so very highly, the **Parish Council will now certainly apply to the same fund again for some more money, to pay for a lot of native wild plants, which we want to plant in the spring of 2002.** We are also currently applying for another grant so that we can start some **small-scale pond building and path-laying in November**, according to BTCV guidelines, which we need to do using a tracked mini-digger while the water level in the stream is low. Although we have opened up the circular path around the Area as recently as September 1st, it still needs quite a lot of work to make it safe for people of all ages and abilities, and for Health & Safety reasons, **we advise that children under 12 years old should only visit the Area when supervised by a responsible adult, and never alone.** The very enthusiastic Class 5 from Horspath Primary School made a supervised class visit on September 14th, and were able to see signs of various animals resident in the Area, investigate where the various streams come from, check on the very low temperature of 7-8 degrees C in the bat tunnel, cross the half-built log bridge, and see how the ponds were already busy with damsel flies, freshwater shrimps, dragonflies, and just a few of the hundreds of frogs and toads which had successfully spawned in there earlier in the spring. We now have some excellent advice available from various specialists on how best to develop the Area, and we are currently helping the County Council to calculate the cost of restoring the bat tunnel so that more bats can use it. As soon as we get the next money, we will start work on the ponds, and meanwhile, we will take down a few dead trees, build up the log bridge, and keep the bushes cut back near the entrance to make it a more inviting place to visit. This unusual conservation project will continue for several years, to eventually create a valuable and really attractive village amenity, and **anyone can become a volunteer just by coming along on at 10.00 a.m. on the first Saturday of any month** when we organise the conservation work. If it is raining, we would normally postpone to 2.00 pm on the Sunday, again, if it is not raining. A notice is posted on the notice board by the gate with a few more details and a map, and when there is any variation from this routine. More information from Martin Harris: 01865 872327 or e-mail: 101451.1226@compuserve.com.

‘A’ Clean Valet Service

Quality Carpet, Rug, Curtain and Upholstery cleaning.
Pressure Steam “Dry Clean” of
Ovens, Tiles, Blinds, Windows,
Garden Furniture and lots more!!!



Special Offer (for October):
3 Items cleaned for the price of 2

Contact Mark on (01865) 873890

Editors’ Note

The **deadline by which contributions for inclusion in the April 2002 Newsletter** must be received by either Martin Harris or Shirley Woodcock is **Monday 20th March 2002.** Advertisements this box size cost only £10 to reach the 600+ Horspath households, but they are included only if there is sufficient space.

Shorter News Items

Oxfordshire County Council has now taken responsibility for the **Horspath Traffic Calming scheme**, and after the breakage of some of the plastic reflective marker posts on the chicanes, it was decided that these are no longer necessary, and so will not be replaced in future. Any other deficiencies should be notified to **O.C.C.**

The Community Waste Collection Lorry will visit the Village Hall car park to collect any items of domestic waste at **08.00-10.45 a.m. on 24th October 2001**. A new schedule starting in November will be publicised later.

Wheatley Library, from October 1st, will be open at these **new times**: Monday: closed; Tuesday: 2.00 pm –7.00 pm; Wednesday: 9.30 am –1.00 pm and 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm; Friday: 9.30 am – 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm; Saturday: 9.30 am- 1.00 pm. The Library has Internet, e-mail and photocopying services available. On Tuesday 23rd October, 11.00 am to 12.00 noon, the Library is holding **a storytime for 4-8 year olds**, for which free tickets are available at the Library. Contact: by telephone: 875267 and e-mail: whlib@hotmail.com

The Parish Council has endorsed the proven need for 8-10 new **Affordable Houses in Horspath**, and further negotiations are now underway between the landowner of the chosen site in **Cuddesdon Road**, adjacent to Butler Close, the South Oxfordshire District Council planners, and the housing association.

The **Parish Council meets in the Village Hall at 8.00 p.m. on the first working Tuesday of every month**, and village residents are invited to attend these meetings, and to raise any matters at “Question Time” at the end.

Revised List: Telephone Contacts for an A-Z List of Horspath-based organisations

Bell-ringing – every Tuesday evening at St. Giles Church – contact Brian Lowe: 873342

Bingo – held every 2 weeks in the Village Hall – contact Marie Heritage: 874970

Boys’ Cricket – 5 teams playing in various leagues - contact Max Eason: 01844 237790

Boys’ Football – for 8-16 year olds – 8 teams playing in B/Line League, on Oxford Marathons’ pitches at Oxford Road, Horspath - contact Peter Roberts: 873136

Churchyard Conservation – a highly commended scheme in St. Giles’ churchyard - contact Sheila Frankum: 872793

Cycle Speedway – excellently maintained track near the Village Hall - contact Robyn Carter: 875858

Men’s Cricket – 1st Team play in Division 1 West of the Home Counties League, and 3 other teams play in the Cherwell League – good social facilities including a licensed clubroom – contact Max Eason: 01844 237790

Men’s Football – 2 teams playing in the Oxford Senior League use the pitches of Oxford Brookes University – contact Chris Gray: 437487

Methodist Church – Minister: Revd. Linda Wisheart, 9 Ramsay Road, Headington, Oxford: 763676

Mothers’ Union – meets on the 4th Thursday in the month – contact Ella Garrett: 873584

Nursery – Michelle Lidbury (Chair): 873197 or Katy Henderson (Teacher) at the Nursery phone: 876750

Parish Council: Chairman: Mrs Shirley Woodcock, 25/27 Manor Farm Road, Horspath: 876823 & 872589; Fax: 876810
Clerk: Mrs Hayley Kogel, 63 Bowyer Road, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2EP: Fax/Phone: 01235 534710

Parochial Charities – Chairman: Norman Bowley: 872797; Clerk: Mrs Sheila Dandridge: 873631

Police – Wheatley Office for non-urgent contact with the local police team lead by Sergeant Stewart Dunbar: 875568
For urgent contact phone 01235 776000, and for emergencies only, don’t delay, phone 999

Post Office - & Horspath Village Stores: Postmistress: Mrs Barbara Lewis: 872903

St. Giles’ Parish Church – Vicar: Revd. Richard M. Cowles, The Rectory, 17 South End, Garsington: 361381
Churchwardens: Mr. Brian Lowe: 873342 and Mrs Barbara Lewis: 872903

School: Horspath C.of E. Primary School: Headteacher: Mrs Lorraine Kingsman and
Secretary: Mrs Sue Rees-Ackland : Telephone & Fax: 872702; e-mail: office@horspath.oxon.sch.uk

Senior Residents’ Club – for those aged 55 years and over – meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month – outings, talks, coffee mornings, lunches, quizzes etc. – the actual times vary according to the event – for details, contact Ella Garrett (Club Leader): 873584

Shotover Preservation Society – founded in 1974 to preserve Shotover in its natural state, against development, for free public access – now monitoring wildlife at E. end of Shotover - contact Martin Harris: 872327.

Shotover Wildlife – a voluntary organisation founded in 1999 to research and communicate the importance of Shotover for wildlife – very full details on the website: <http://www.shotover.clara.net/wildlife> - contact Ivan & Jacqueline Wright: 874423; e-mail: ivan@shotover-wildlife.fsnet.co.uk

Temple Cowley Health Centre holds a **Doctor’s Surgery** in the Village Hall every Wednesday from 10.00 am for its registered patients, who must make their appointments to be seen in Horspath by first telephoning 777024.

The Royal British Legion – welfare matters for the attention of the local (Chalgrove) branch: Mrs Sheila Dandridge: 873631

Toddler Group – meets on Tuesday mornings in the Village Hall- contact Tracy Fletcher: 875370

Village Hall –to make bookings for the use of the main Hall or the smaller Morgan Room – please contact John Trinder: 0796 082 3415

Women’s Institute -meets in the Village Hall on the 2nd Wednesday in the month - contact Valerie Ives: 873124

Youth Club - meets on Thursdays in the Village Hall – for details, **AND especially to offer some help**, contact Rosemary Goss: 874574