

Newsletter

Parish newsletter

Week commencing 11 November 2013

This week we are talking about land drainage byelaws, adoption, training courses available to councillors and young people speaking out about online bullying among other things

County of Wiltshire Carol Service



The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mrs. Jane Scott, OBE, and the Chairman of Wiltshire Council, Councillor Mrs. Christine Crisp would like to extend an invitation to all town and parish councillors to join them at the County of Wiltshire Carol Service to be held on Tuesday, 10 December at 7pm in Malmesbury Abbey, Malmesbury.

The service will be conducted by The Reverend Neill Archer, Area Dean of North Wiltshire and The Venerable Christine Froude, Archdeacon of Malmesbury and be held in candlelight. Following the service, seasonal refreshments will be served in the Town Hall.

Please e-mail Mrs. Jean Potter, Chairman's Office (jean.potter@wiltshire.gov.uk) to confirm who will be attending from your town/parish council. Thank you.

Warning over telesales campaign

The trading standards team at Wiltshire Council is putting out a warning regarding a telesales call campaign which is currently targeting Wiltshire homeowners. The caller offers domestic alarm systems which appear cheap, but then buyers are required to sign up to a monitoring service which can cost up to £6,000. It is also claimed the alarms are linked directly to the local police. These claims are untrue and calls should be reported to Consumer Direct on 08454 040506.

Anyone agreeing to buy anything from a trader who visits them at home must be provided with a written notice of the right to cancel within seven days; it is a criminal offence for them not to provide this.

Funding for future Olympians and Paralympians



Supporting Wiltshire's talented sports people

No one can forget the sense of pride and celebration when Wiltshire's athletes won medals at last year's Olympic and Paralympic Games. Now in its fourth year, Wiltshire Council's Funding Future Olympians and Paralympians Grant is open for applications.

As part of building on the success of 2012, the council is working with local businesses to support rising sports stars by awarding grant funding. The funding will enable access to training and competitive opportunities as well as purchasing equipment and covering transport costs to regional and national events. The council allocates a total of £5,000 to support elite athletes, but hopes that by working in partnership with local businesses significantly more money can be raised.

Previous recipients of the grant include Olympian Francesca Fox and Paralympian Aaron Moores. Francesca competed at the London 2012 Olympics as part of the Team GB Rhythmic Gymnastics squad. Aaron competed at the London 2012 Paralympics in the S14 category and won a silver medal in the backstroke.

People of any age who are competing at a national level, or above, in any sport recognised by Sport England are invited to apply. The deadline for applications is 5pm on Monday, January 20 2014. For more information, the criteria and the [application form](#) visit the council's website.

People in Wiltshire encouraged to consider adoption



Families who have adopted children from the county have been speaking about their own experiences to help Wiltshire Council's campaign to "help our children find a family."

Wiltshire Council wants to encourage more people to come forward, and to help dispel the myths that people may feel prevent them from adopting a child.

Since April this year, 27 children or young people have been adopted in Wiltshire and there are currently 16 more waiting for adoption. The council's "help our children find a family" campaign was launched in August this year helping to raise public awareness.

Many of the Wiltshire children in need of adoption have been unable to remain with their birth family because of neglect, abuse or because their parents have been unable to cope. They have often had difficult and sometimes traumatic starts to their young lives.

To find out [more about adoption](#) visit the council's website or speak to one of the Wiltshire adoption team on 0800 169 6321.

Exhibition for army personnel relocating



Exhibitions are being held so local people can find out more about plans which will see Army personnel and their families relocating to Wiltshire.

In March 2013 it was announced that approximately 4,000 additional troops will be located in Wiltshire over the next five years as part of the Army's Basing Programme.

Wiltshire Council has been working closely with the Ministry of Defence's Defence Infrastructure Organisation (MOD DIO) and agencies from across the county to ensure key facilities and infrastructure will be in place for both the local community and incoming troops and their families.

The public is invited to find out more about this work at a series of exhibitions in South Wiltshire. The MOD and Wiltshire Council is welcoming local input at this early planning stage to ensure the additional troops and their families can integrate smoothly with existing communities. The exhibitions are intended to encourage widespread engagement and raise awareness of future plans prior to formal consultation through the planning approvals process, which is likely to take place in early 2014.

There will be an opportunity for people to make comments at the exhibitions as well as by e-mail or by sending their views by post.

The exhibitions will be open to the public at Wellington Academy, Tidworth from 7.30pm to 9pm on 27 November 2013 when there will be opportunities to speak to DIO staff who are delivering the work, representatives from the Army as well as Wiltshire Council's elected members and officers. From 28 November 2013 to 6 December 2013 there will be exhibitions at Amesbury Library, Durrington Library and Tidworth Leisure Centre.

Your Wiltshire magazine – Winter 2013 edition



The latest copy of Your Wiltshire magazine is now being distributed to every household in Wiltshire. This issue includes a seven day free leisure pass for use in any Wiltshire Council run leisure centres valid from 25 November 2013 to 28 February 2014.

The magazine also includes a reusable voucher for one hour's free parking, allowing local people to have one extra hour free parking added to their parking ticket they have purchased.

Land Drainage Byelaws

Flooding is considered to be a serious issue in Wiltshire, and the council has had to respond to a number of significant flooding events which have affected communities in recent years. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 amended section 66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 to allow local authorities to make land drainage byelaws. These byelaws also create criminal offences which can be prosecuted in the Magistrate's Courts. The council is now intending to use its powers to make byelaws to help it carry out its duties effectively and in doing so assist with reducing flood risk for local communities.

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 allows local authorities to make byelaws for the following purposes:

- To secure the efficient working of a drainage system in its area;
- To regulate the effects of a drainage system on the environment;
- To secure the effectiveness of flood risk management work

The proposed byelaws for Wiltshire are based on the Defra set of model Land Drainage byelaws which are broadly similar to the byelaws which have been used for many years by the Environment Agency.

The first stage of this process is to forward the proposed draft byelaws to Defra which is followed by a formal consultation with Natural England and the Canal and River Trust (the local navigation authority in Wiltshire). Although not required to do so, the council has also chosen to informally consult with parish and town councils through the parish newsletter before the proposed byelaws are considered by the council. Subject to the outcome of the consultation with Natural England and the Canal and River Trust and having considered any responses received to the informal consultation, a decision on whether or not to make the byelaws will be taken by the council. Under the council's constitution a decision on the making of byelaws is reserved to Full Council. If the council so decides, the byelaws will be made and the formal (statutory) consultation will then be undertaken, before the byelaws (and any unresolved objections) are forwarded to the Secretary of state for confirmation. Please note that the byelaws cannot come into operation until they are confirmed by the Secretary of State.

The draft byelaws may be viewed on the [consultation area](#) of the council's website where comments may be made:

You will need to inform the council if you also wish for your comments to be forwarded to be considered as part of the formal consultation which is anticipated will take place in spring 2014.

You can also comment by writing to:

Parvis Khansari
Associate Director Highways and Transport
Wiltshire Council
County Hall
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

The deadline for responses to this informal consultation is 10 December 2013.

Wiltshire teenagers campaign against on line bullying



#BREAKTHECYCLE

Wiltshire teenagers have masterminded a campaign which is launched this week to encourage young people to speak out against online bullying.

Eleven young people from across the county have produced a film and sent out posters with key information to schools challenging young people to recognise when people are being bullied online and how to do something about it.

Wiltshire Council has co-ordinated the campaign which was launched during national anti-bullying week from November 18 2013 with a special event at County Hall. Local schools, the police and other key agencies viewed the film the 13-17 year olds have made and saw how young people can stay safe while being online. The campaign will be using the twitter hashtag #breakthecycle. The teenagers are members of the Wiltshire Young Commissioners who help advise Wiltshire Council on issues affecting young people.

The [anti bullying film](#) can be viewed on YouTube.

The council is also sending information to schools about [being safe online](#) with information from key national organisations including the [Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre \(CEOP\)](#) on internet

Help for parents looking for childcare

Parents and carers can now search on the Wiltshire Council website for childminders, nurseries, pre schools, after school clubs and holiday clubs in their area on the council's new directory.

Searches can be made for Ofsted registered childcare providers who pick up from particular schools, who have experience caring for children with a particular need and who are able to take the two, three and four year old funding. Visit [the directory](#) on the Wiltshire Council website.

National award for County Hall



The County Hall building in Trowbridge continues to receive national recognition and was recently awarded the Society for Construction and Architecture in Local Authorities (SCALA) Civic Building of the Year 2013 Award in the Regeneration category.

Workshops available to town and parish councillors

Courses on offer in November/December:

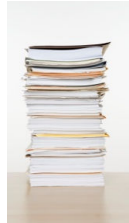
Making meetings work 28 November 9.30am - 4.30pm Trowbridge

Courageous conversations 28 November 9.30am - 4.30pm Trowbridge

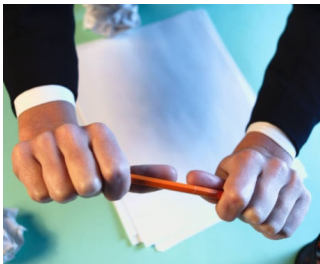
Effectively Managing Your Workload 3 December – 1.30-5pm County Hall Trowbridge

How to:

- systematically review your use of time
- prioritise and effectively organise and balance your workload
- recognise your time management strengths and weaknesses
- produce an action plan to improve time management



Dealing with Challenging Situations 18 December - 1.30pm-5.30pm Salisbury



How to:

- identify what makes situations difficult
- understand how our own communication can be distorted through misconceptions
- effectively use verbal and non verbal skills to handle a challenging situation
- recognise emotion in yourself and others and how to apply strategies to diffuse a situation

Coming up in January:

Working effectively with stakeholders and partners 8 January Salisbury

Effective business writing 14 January Trowbridge

Effective report writing 14 January Trowbridge

Media Skills- understanding the media and how to make an impact 15 or 22 January Trowbridge

Social Media and how to use it effectively 16 January Trowbridge

Electronic Speed Reading 21 January Trowbridge

If any of these dates aren't suitable there may be similar sessions running at a later date. For further information, or to book a place please contact Judith Cooper judith.cooper@wiltshire.gov.uk 01225 712732

St Stephen's Place Leisure Complex



The official opening of St Stephen's Place Leisure Complex took place on 19 November 2013. The development, comprising a multi screen cinema, hotel and a number of restaurants will create more than 200 jobs and encourage more businesses and investment to the area.

Why not Get Fit for Christmas



The last date for people to join a Wiltshire Council-run gym and make full use of the six week membership is Monday, November 25 2013.

The £40 membership includes a free gym induction and training programme, unlimited use of the pool during all appropriate sessions and unlimited use of the gym during publicised opening times.

People can visit the [Get Fit for Christmas](#) pages on council's website or contact the leisure centre direct for more information.

Writing competition

The Wiltshire Forum of Community Area Partnerships is running a free writing competition for residents of Wiltshire. People can either write about local folklore or history, a short article about a favourite place in Wiltshire or a report on a project that has benefitted a local community.

Visit the [Wiltshire Forum of Community Area Partnerships](#) website for more information. The deadline is November 30 2013.

Quick links

- Area Board information - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areaboards.htm
- All the latest news releases - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/latestnews.htm
- Community virtual noticeboards - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/ourcommunitymattersblogsites.htm
- Recycle for Wiltshire - www.recycleforwiltshire.com
- Roadworks - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/roadshighwayspavements/roadworks.htm
- Tree wardens for Wiltshire – www.wiltshiretreewardens.co.uk
- What's on in Wiltshire - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisureandrecreation/whatson.htm
- What's on at City Hall in Salisbury - www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk

The latest news from the council is available on the [full news listing](#) pages of the website.