

HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
www.henstridgeparishcouncil.org.uk

HAVING YOUR SAY

As always, the Parish Council are keen to receive input from parishioners and would remind you that, while a discretionary public forum is held at the beginning of every meeting, lawful items for discussion and decision have to be listed on the Parish Council or Committees Agendas. Therefore, if there is something that you feel the Parish Council should consider, please put your concern or query in writing to the Parish Clerk. Planning applications are considered at the beginning of each meeting and public opinion on planning applications is always welcomed either at the meetings or in writing. Copies of meeting Agendas are posted the previous week on the Parish Council's Henstridge & Yenston notice boards.

MEET THE COUNCIL!

The Parish Council in Henstridge is made up of 13 Councillors.

Adam Temperton—Chair, HACC Representative
Dave Nichols—Full Council Vice Chair, Planning Vice Chair
Simon Cullum—Planning Chair, Footpaths rep
Pete Crocker—Highways representative
Paul Brighten—HALT Representative
Sue Place —Youth Representative
Jean Oswick—VHMC Representative
Carolyn Nichols
Caroline Rowland
Micky Vincent
Jim Fitch
Geoff Jarvis
Paul White

Administration for the Council is dealt with by the Clerk and Proper officer to the Council, Zöe Godden.

In the first instance all queries should be made to the Clerk.

The District Councillors are Tim Inglefield and William Wallace.

The meeting dates for the remainder of 2012 and first quarter of 2013 will be:

MAIN COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Monday 5th November
Monday 3rd December
Monday 7th January
Monday 4th February
Monday 4th March

INTERIM MEETINGS, ONLY IF NECESSARY

Monday 22nd October
Monday 19th November
Monday 17th December
Monday 21st January
Monday 18th February
Monday 18th March

HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3 OCTOBER 2012



*O sun and skies and flowers of June, Count all your boasts together, Love loveth best of all the year,
October's bright blue weather. Helen Hunt Jackson (1831-1885)*

Welcome to our slightly belated newsletter.

We will take a look back at the activities of the summer and forward at events to come this autumn.

George Edwards, one of the parish council's groundsmen, has, as always, done a sterling job of maintaining the cemetery and allotment area throughout the summer. George also regularly empties the bins at the skate park, picks up litter and broken glass that doesn't make it to the bins and

generally keeps an expert eye on all the hedges, verges, edges and so on in the parish. George can always be relied on to proactively care for the parish and the council values his work greatly.

The council is very proud of its outdoor spaces and will be aiming to improve them further over the autumn. We will soon be looking for volunteers to help plant bulbs in the parish. Read on for more information on how you can get involved.

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BULB PLANTING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The council has applied to South Somerset District Council for 1000 free flowering bulbs. SSDC offers the bulbs to parishes every year. Parishes have to arrange for the bulbs to be planted, ensuring that before and after photographs are taken.

Following the success of the litter pick earlier in the year, the parish council is planning to organise a bulb planting day and hopes that the community can once again pull together. The date will be announced soon. Volunteers will be needed on the day to actually do the planting, but first, we need to identify locations in the parish that would benefit from some spring colour. We have some areas in mind, but would like to hear from anyone who knows a public space within the parish that they would like to nominate. Please contact the clerk with your suggestions—contact details on the back of this newsletter.



VILLAGE HALL FIRE—by Jean Oswick

As you are probably all aware in the early hours of Monday the 23rd of July, someone set fire to the village hall causing a considerable amount of damage. This means that the hall has been out of commission since July and we have no idea as to when it will be up and running again. This has caused a lot of disappointment to the various groups in the village who use the hall on a regular basis.

We now have a schedule of work from the insurance company. They will then obtain 3 quotes and then work will start, probably in about a month. It is estimated that repairs will take approximately 12 weeks.

The Village Hall Committee will keep the villagers informed as to when the village hall will be up and running again.

Thanks to our vicar Peter Hallett some meetings have been held in the church.

Are you at a **Loose End** on Friday mornings?

Loose Ends coffee morning is usually held at the village hall every Friday from 10.30am to 12pm. Since the hall is currently out of use, several of the regulars have generously opened up their homes to provide alternative venues.

Everyone is most welcome. Tea or coffee and a biscuit is just 50p, with free refills and priceless conversation!

The clerk and a councillor regularly attend. Get in touch with Zöe (details on the back of this newsletter) for information on the location of the next Loose Ends.

RECOGNITION FOR THE RECREATION GROUND— by Simon Cullum

As part of the normal business of council, an invitation was received from the playing Fields Association asking us to enter the village recreation ground into a competition to find the best "Recs" in the county. As the rec has trees, and as I am the tree warden, the council, with dubious logic, asked me to undertake the necessary legwork.

This task was, in fact, very easy, as the Rec is a very attractive area, with great facilities for children of all ages, and cricketers and footballers also, and brilliant trees, and it came as no great surprise to receive an Email inviting us to a special meeting of the SPFA in Woolavington.

One thing I will say about being a councillor is that you get to see parts of the county you might otherwise have missed! We arrived at the meeting to be greeted by minor members of the aristocracy and councillors of all persuasions, from County to Parish, and the odd BBC personality. After a suitably short meeting the winners were announced; Henstridge had been "Highly Commended" in both the Play Area and Playing Field categories.

The party was not overly wild and crazy, but the good folk of Woolavington were determined to show us a good time, and showered us with titbits of food, tea, cake, and soft drink reminiscent of earlier times, for which we thanked them before making our weary way back home.