



THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

March 2015 – May 2015

Published
bi-monthly by the
Long Itchington
Parish Council
Clerk: Liz Bonney
(Phone: ~ 815216)

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Diary Dates

The next LI Diary will
run from:

Sunday 17th May –
Saturday 18th July

Please send any
contributions by:

Monday 27th April

to the Editorial Team:

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liparishcouncil@btconnect.com

Or phone:
~ 815216

Public meeting gives resounding support to Parish Council

On February 4th the Community Centre was full as nearly 100 residents listened to presentations regarding next year's Parish precept as well as an update on the current housing situation. There was resounding support for a modest increase in next year's precept, which is the part of the Council Tax bill controlled by the Parish Council.

This means that for each household living in a band D house there will be a modest increase in the precept of about £13 per year.

The Parish Council would like to thank all those who turned out to give practical and moral support to them and to the community.

Your Parish needs you!!

New Parish Council chosen in May

Prospective parish councillors are invited to put themselves or others forward to serve in the next Council.

The Parish Council is made up of nine councillors. In recent years we have been very proud to hold an election for these posts. So we need at least 10 prospective candidates to make this happen.

If you are interested to know more PLEASE contact **Liz Bonney ~ 815216**. Applications must be received by Stratford District Council by 9th April, so time is running out.

It is a very worthwhile and interesting position to hold in a community which is vibrant and forward thinking.

To learn more please come along to the Annual Parish Meeting on 21st March.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual meeting of the parish will take place on **Saturday 21st March at 10:00am** at the **Community Centre**. It is an opportunity for everyone in the parish to attend, meet their neighbours and hear about the activities of the Parish Council and the village over the last year and discuss plans for the future.

Any organisation wishing to speak or have a display stand can call Liz Bonney on: ~ 815216.

Website up and running

www.longitchington.org.uk

Our re-vamped website goes from strength to strength and so far we have had very positive feedback.

Please take a look and tell us what you think.

There are opportunities to advertise your business for free on the website as well as a *Noticeboard* section where you can off-load unwanted possessions and ask for help from the community.

The more people who visit the site the more useful it will become.

If you have suggestions or wish to use it please contact:

liparishcouncil@btconnect.com

Proposed Solar Farm at Bascote Support Needed

TGC Renewables now plan to build a solar panel farm on both sides of the Bascote Road between Long Itchington and Bascote where it will be visible from Bascote, Bascote Heath, Long Itchington, Southam, Model Village and surrounding countryside.

The decision to revise the original proposal at Manor Farm, Long Itchington, was made after the public consultation on the 26th January.

There will be another public consultation and exhibition on the revised proposal at **Long Itchington Community Centre on 23rd March from 3.00 pm to 7.00 pm**. A group has formed, "nosolarfarm", and urges all residents to attend and make their views known to TGC Renewables. It will influence their decision, as was proved on 26 January.

If you would like more information contact Liz Bonney, visit the website www.nosolarfarm.org or search for *Stop Bascote Solar Panel Farm* on Facebook

If you cannot go to the meeting please send your views to liparishcouncil@btconnect.com and the Parish Council will make sure they are heard.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

Wed	18 th	WI: Members' Night. Community Centre, 7.30pm
Sat	21 st	Annual Parish Meeting, Community Centre, 10.00am
Sat	21 st	Handel's Messiah, Church, 7.15pm
Mon	23 rd	Bascote Solar Farm Consultation, Community Centre, 3.00-7.00pm
Thurs	26 th	District & Parish Council Surgery, Church, 2.00 – 4.00pm

APRIL

Wed	1 st	Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Wed	8 th	Wednesday Club, Yukele Group Community Centre, 2.30pm
Wed	8 th	History Group: History of Stage Coaches, Community Centre, 7.30
Wed	15 th	WI: History of Johnson's Coaches, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Fri	17 th	Film Night – "Grand Budapest Hotel", Community Centre, 7.30pm
Thurs	30 th	District & Parish Council Surgery, Church, 2.00 – 4.00pm

MAY

Fri	1 st	Beer Festival starts
Thurs	7 th	Parliamentary, District & Parish Elections
Wed	13 th	Wednesday Club, Talk by Mrs Clutton, Community Centre, 2.30pm
Tues	19 th	Parish Council Meeting & AGM, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Wed	20 th	WI: Resolution Meeting, Priors Marston, 7.30pm
Wed	27 th	Community Centre Management Committee AGM, 7.30pm
Thurs	28 th	District & Parish Council Surgery, Church, 2.00 – 4.00pm

Regular events:

Long Itchington Young Farmers - every Wednesday at 8.00pm in the Green Man.

Zumba Fitness – every Tuesday at the Primary School at 7.30pm.

Yoga – every Monday at the Primary School at 7.30pm.

Pilates – every Wednesday at the Primary School at 7.30pm.

HOLD THE DATE....

MAY

Mon	25 th	Carnival. Procession from The Square at 1.00pm and Fete at Community Centre at 2.00pm
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JUNE

Sat	20 th	Brownies teas in the Church, 2.00 – 4.00pm. All welcome, as are cakes
Sat	27 th	Summer Show, Community Centre, 2.00pm www.longitchington.org.uk/the-community-centre/shows/

Church and Chapel events

Regular events at Holy Trinity Church

1 st Sunday	Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am
2 nd Sunday	Family Service, Holy Trinity, 9:30am
3 rd Sunday	Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am
4 th Sunday	Morning Worship, Holy Trinity, 9:30am

See: www.thefeldongroup.org.uk/longitchington for more details

Regular events at the Chapel

Evening Worship – 6.15pm every Sunday

Women's Hour – 2.30pm on Tuesdays 17th March, 7th/21st April, 5th May

Family Communion Service – 10.00am on 5th April – Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday Evening Service – 5th April at 6.15pm

PILOTS for children aged 4+ meets each Wednesday at 6-15pm in Term Time

See : www.longitchingtoncongregationalchurch.org.uk for more details

Summer Show 2015

Saturday 27th June the
Community Centre, 2.00pm

Get cracking now...

More details can be found on the website. It's time to prepare entries for the art and photography sections. The schedule will be distributed with the May Diary, but we wanted to give photographers a few months' notice of the Photography categories:

- *Colourful Moments*
- *The Elements*
- *Rural Life*
- *A Ruin*
- *Long Itchington Village Highlights*

Within children's categories we are asking all young people aged 18 and younger to **design a road name-plate for Long Itchington** like those you see all over rural Britain. If you want some inspiration go to the website and look at the shows page.

And finally... volunteers to help on the day would be very welcome. Please phone: ~ 814921 to offer your time.

YOUTH CLUB

Every Monday from 7.30 – 9.00pm (term time) in the Community Centre for children aged 9 years and over - £1. Activities include X-boxes, table tennis, snooker, crafts, games and music.

We have a wide choice of sweets, crisps and drinks at the Tuck Shop.

More details from Nicky: ~ 815988

Long Itchington Tennis

Friendly club sessions every week (Monday evenings from spring) new players always welcome.

Membership works out at less than £1/week for adults (or £16 / year for juniors), which includes access to play any time.

Professional coaching available.

See www.litca.co.uk for details, or call Christine on: ~ 811143.

Can you help?

We hear on our televisions that there continues to be a great need for Food Banks. We have a Food Collection at the Chapel and most weeks are able to deliver bags of food to the Southam Food Bank at the Graham Adams Centre. This food is then given to the various villages in the area where it is needed most. If you can help supply the food it can be brought to the Chapel at any time when we are open, not just on our Coffee morning which, by the way, all are welcome to come to. If you are unable to come to the Chapel but have food to donate, you can contact me on 07812 804 924.

The Chapel singing group is now called UNITY and will be giving a concert followed by tea on Saturday April 11th at 2.30pm. All are welcome.
Happy Easter to you all

Marion

Photos from the past wanted for village calendar 2016

This year's calendar was a sell-out! Profits from calendar sales have contributed to the Wednesday Club Christmas Party, to Pre-School and this year to the set-up costs of the newly formed Film Club.

In 2016 we hope to publish a nostalgic calendar with pictures from years gone by. If you have any suitable pictures lurking at home we would be really pleased to include the best ones. So get searching...

Please phone: ~ 814921 with any offers

**Spring Bank Holiday Monday 25 May 2015
The Long Itchington Carnival**

In aid of Long Itchington Clubs and Organisations.

Please assemble floats in The Square for 12noon.

The results of the judging of floats and fancy dress will be announced at 12.20pm followed by the prize giving. The procession will begin at 1pm and our Carnival Queen will open the fete at the Community Centre at 2.00pm.

Some roads in the village are likely to be closed for periods up to a maximum of 90 minutes: Church Road, Short Lane, Leamington Road, the A423 and Stockton Road will be most affected as well as roads adjoining them. We apologise for any inconvenience but would be grateful for your understanding and co-operation with our village tradition.

The fete this year will include steam engine, fairground attractions, mini land-train, games and challenges together with **Marching Band** and our **Village Raffle Draw**. We have children's entertainment and **Birds of Prey!** See the Programme which will be available soon for approximate timings.
Do come along and make this a special day for all of us to enjoy!

Anyone wishing to help on the day should contact James on: ~ 811613

www.thefeldongroup.org.uk

Tim's Retirement - Tim and Frances have now retired to Cromer in Norfolk, and we are in interregnum, church-speak for something like "between vicars". The process for seeking a replacement for Tim is in its early stages. In the meantime, it is the intention of the Church Council to maintain the current pattern of services in the village.

Mothering Sunday - We have taken the opportunity to swap our usual second and third Sunday services in March, so that Tim's last service is a Communion, and Mothering Sunday is a family service, looking at "What is a Mum?"

Palm Sunday - Palm Sunday falls on a 5th Sunday this year, and we will have a joint Feldon group service at Offchurch on 29th March.

Easter Day - We welcome Rev. Martin Butt as our celebrant on Easter Sunday.

Messy Church - The anticipated date for the Easter messy Church is Sat. 25th April, 10.30am – 12.30pm.

Thursday Teas - The last of the monthly Winter Thursday Teas will be on 26th March, and the weekly Summer Thursday Teas will start on 9th April.

Weddings, Baptisms & Funerals – The first point of contact is now Rev. Craig Grocock on: ~ 612377

LI Cricket Club news

www.cotswold-hills-league.org

Our junior cricket section plan to hold their first training session and registration day on Sunday 19 April at the ground in Stonebridge Lane; under 11's from 9.30am and under 13's and under 15's from 11.15am. For further information on the junior cricket section please contact Clive Haywood on clive@fwhaywood.co.uk or 07967 830173.

For any further information regarding the Cricket Club please contact Steve Crosthwaite on sandjcrosthwaite@btinternet.com or 07540 969547.

Senior cricket HOME fixtures:

Saturday 2nd May 1st X1	Broadway
Saturday 9th May 2nd X1	Tanworth & Camp Hill II
Sunday 10th May	Bishops Tachbrook
Saturday 16th May 1st X1	Bidford on Avon
Sunday 17th May	Cemex
Saturday 23rd May 2nd X1	Cookhill
Sunday 24th May	Willow
Saturday 30th May 2nd X1	Earlswood II

Indoor practice:

This will be held at Princethorpe College for 4 weeks from **Tuesday 17 March** to **Tuesday 7 April** inclusive, starting at 7.45pm.

All potential new players are welcome. Contact Steve Crosthwaite for more information.

Film Night

The Community Centre is hosting a new venture on **Friday 17th April**: a village Film Night. Our opening show is "**The Grand Budapest Hotel**" (rated 15) - which won four Oscars and had nine nominations in the recent Oscar event. The show will be at **7.00 pm** for a **7.30 pm** start. It lasts 1 hour 45 minutes. It will be professionally presented by the *BigPictureShow* - with large screen, surround sound, etc. However there is a strict limit on seats with only 60 available - so **please buy tickets in advance**. Any remaining tickets will be on sale at the door.

Admission £5 per adult. Wine, beer and snacks will be available to buy. Phone Barbara 814921 / Wendy 812751 for tickets or they are obtainable from the Parish Office.

Handel's Messiah Holy Trinity Church Saturday 21st March at 7.15 pm

Mr Keith Smith will conduct an orchestra and members of the Leicester Philharmonic Choir in a performance of Handel's Messiah.

Tickets are limited, so please book to avoid disappointment.

Tickets at £12 are available from Mark and Sharon at The Green Man: ~ 01926 812208

Community Centre Deputy Caretaker Vacancy

There is a vacancy for the deputy caretaker of the Community Centre. The deputy will stand in when necessary to fulfil the caretaker's duties which include keeping the Community Centre and the areas shared with the school clean before and after an event. The caretaker is also responsible for opening and closing the Community Centre when events occur at the times agreed with the event organiser.

Please contact the chairman, Chris Hancock: ~ 815217 or email chrisjhancock@btinternet.com for more information if you are interested in filling this vacancy.

Long Itchington Pre-school

Places are available in "Pre-school" for children aged 2 yrs 9 months up to school age. Please contact Pre-school for more information on: ~ 811400 or email: preschoollongitchington@gmail.com

More information at: ~ www.longitchingtonpreschool.org

Farming Notes by Tony Grimes

This autumn & winter have been much drier than last year's, when the meadows were flooded numerous times.

Winter ploughing has been completed and we are preparing to plant spring barley, weather permitting.

We have had a large flock of Fieldfares and Redwings all winter who will soon be preparing to return to northern Europe to breed.

In late winter / early spring a large flock of Lapwings (Peawits) have been in the area; very pleasing to see as numbers, we are told, are declining.

Other birds in the area of interest have been Long-tailed tits and Linnets.

Perhaps the most unusual sight has been Swans grazing our Oilseed Rape crop near the river in Bubbenhall.

Approximately 18 swans have been there most of the winter. The swan, when on the water is one of our most elegant and regal birds, gliding gracefully and effortlessly, but on land extremely cumbersome. All our efforts to move them have come to naught; gas bangers etc have all been a failure; the small number, although a nuisance have been manageable.

A plea for more consideration...

Three residents have been in touch to request more consideration from their neighbours.

Blocked Drains

Recent blocked drains in Stockton Road / Leigh Crescent have been the result of baby wipes and other non biodegradable matter. Sewage very nearly entered homes!!!

Please can all householders be aware that such products MUST NOT be put down the toilet.

Golf on the playing fields is dangerous

This activity is banned as it is extremely dangerous to other users who may be hit by stray balls and causes large divots in the football field. Offenders may be prosecuted.

Parking on grass verges

Please do not park or drive on the many grass verges around the parish. This is not only unsightly and expensive to restore damaged turf; it can also be dangerous and obscure the view for drivers.

If you suspect criminal activity dial 101

It is perfectly acceptable to dial 101 if you suspect criminal activity – it helps the Police to build up a picture and evidence for the future. Dial 999 in an emergency.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LONG ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL:

The address for Long Itchington Parish Council is The Community Centre, Stockton Road, Long Itchington, Southam CV47 9QP. The office is open on **Monday – Thursday between 9.00am and 11.00am** and all planning applications relating to the village can be viewed there, although making an appointment is advisable to ensure the plans are on site.

Phone: ~ 815216

email: liparishcouncil@btconnect.com

Website: www.longitchington.org.uk