

July
2025

The main title 'SUMMER FETE & DOG SHOW' is rendered in large, bold, white 3D block letters with blue outlines. Above the word 'SUMMER' is a semi-circular banner with the text 'GREAT HORWOOD VILLAGE'. The entire title is set against a background of a blue sky with white clouds, several colorful balloons (red, yellow, pink, purple), and a string of multi-colored triangular bunting flags.

GREAT HORWOOD VILLAGE SUMMER FETE & DOG SHOW

SATURDAY JULY 5TH

1PM - 4PM

GREAT HORWOOD VILLAGE GREEN, MK17 0RH

SOMETHING FUN FOR EVERYONE

**RAFFLE - TOMBOLAS - GAMES - FACE PAINTING - FOOD -
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MUCH MORE!**

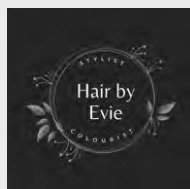
**£2.50 ENTRY FOR EACH DOG IN THE DOG SHOW.
CLASSES: WAGGIEST TAIL, CUTEST PUPPY, GOLDEN
OLDIE AND MANY MORE TO ENTER!**

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT BOTH
GREAT HORWOOD VILLAGE AND ST JAMES CHURCH**

PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF PARKING WHEN VISITING THE SUMMER FETE

Advertising and copy deadline for next issue : 15 July 2025.
To advertise or submit articles email: editor@ghfocus.com

SUMMER FETE RAFFLE



**DON'T MISS OUT ON WINNING ONE OF OUR
FABULOUS PRIZES...**



£50 VOUCHER ~ 30 MIN TREATMENT



AFTERNOON TEA FOR 4 ~ CUT & BLOW DRY

MICROFLIGHT OVER GREAT HORWOOD

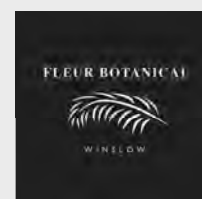


BIRTHDAY PARTY WORTH £160 ~ TOUR FOR 2

ENTRY FOR 4 ~ BUNDLE OF HAIR CARE



TO NAME A FEW!



ONE OF OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS WILL BE KNOCKING ON YOUR DOOR SOON

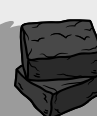
DONATIONS NEEDED ...

BOTTLES, JARS OR UNWANTED GIFTS FOR OUR MUCH LOVED TOMBOLAS

**WHOLE OR INDIVIDUAL CAKES FOR THE CAKE STALL
OR REFRESHMENTS IN THE CHURCH**

DROP OFF POINTS:

THE SWAN INN OR LEAVE INSIDE ST JAMES' CHURCH



Church Times

Dr Stephen O'Connor

Church Wardens:

rector@winslowbenefice.org.uk

Ian Lamberton

715968

www.winslowbenefice.org.uk

Carolyn Bayliss

715814

St James Church

PLEASE NOTE ALL SERVICES WILL COMMENCE AT 11.15 unless otherwise stated.

JULY

Sunday 6th - Communion Service - Traditional Service with hymns - lasting 1 hour

Sunday 13th - Come & Praise - more informal worship with live instrumental music - lasting 45 mins

Sunday 20th - All Age Communion - a more informal communion service

Sunday 27th - Communion Service - as above

AUGUST

Sunday 3rd - Communion Service

Sunday 10th - Come & Praise

Sunday 17th - All Age Communion

Sunday 24th - Communion Service

Sunday 31st - Communion Service

Church Key Holder - July - Rita Essen - tel: 714424. August - David Moore - tel: 713281

MICK WOOD

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RECTORS THOUGHTS

One of the best and most enjoyable parts of my role as parish priest for Winslow, Addington, and Great Horwood with Singleborough is my involvement in the activities of the local schools, where the resilience, creativity, and openness of the students to spiritual things never fails to surprise and impress me. I am often asked more prescient, interesting, and challenging questions about God and the important moral and ethical issues of our day by them than by many adults. Not, I suspect, because the adults are older and have managed to sort the answers out for themselves, but because they probably seldom think as deeply about these issues as most children do, encouraged by a series of school curricula which really do seek to prepare them for life in a rapidly changing, and at times, a difficult and challenging world. There has been much interest in the media lately about the openness of young people to spiritual things, by which I do not necessarily mean formal religious observance, but a willingness to engage with the big questions in life: who am I?, why am I here?, what is my life's purpose? and, where do I find the resources to meet my full potential as a citizen of the world and leave it in a better state than I found it? Their sense of responsibility and genuine desire to make the world a better place is no mere idealism, and my school visits often do more to affirm my faith in the future of our communities, our nation, and our planet than almost any other meetings I have to attend. I always leave feeling refreshed and encouraged by their openness, and at times, the alarming honesty of their questions, which help keep me on my toes, and force me to regularly consider those questions for myself as well.

In June I attended the three-day diocesan clergy conference in Swanwick where a number of children from schools all over the diocese (which covers Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire) came to lead us in our worship one day, and joined us in small groups afterwards so that we, as clergy, could listen and learn from them what kind of support they wanted from their local churches, and what their hopes and fears for the future were. True to form, they were alarmingly honest and deeply insightful about the way in which much which passes for religion and religious observation these days passes them by, or worse still, steadfastly ignores both they and their needs completely. They spoke about feeling alienated from institutions they perceive to be deeply racist, homophobic, lacking in social conscience and conservative with a small 'c'. They also talked about their social isolation and boredom in communities where services for children and young adults have been completely denuded by cuts to local government spending, and yes, they talked about cyber bullying and the other problems they experience too, and above all, they wanted safe spaces where they could share their concerns, feel supported, and be helped by others. I do hope that the Church and those responsible for leading local communities will listen increasingly to their words, because without a vision the people perish, and what greater vision can there be, but to create a better world for our children and grandchildren? It was a salutary lesson, and one which I am mindful to think and reflect upon further. It is one of the reasons why the rainbow flag flew over St Laurence's last month, because more than one of them asked, 'how can we know that the Church is a safe place for those of our friends who are gay or trans, or neurodivergent, or different in some other way?' and their question was an apt and appropriate one. The Church is often perceived to be a cold and unwelcoming place for young people, but it should not be. Young people are not tomorrow's Church or even tomorrow's local community. They are a part of today's Church and of our local communities right now, and should be able to play a full and active role in them, and have their voices heard. And more than that, they should be respected and listened to when they have the courage to speak, because they have a lesson to teach us all!

On a similar note, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who helped make a successful application to Variety, the Children's Charity, for one of their 'Sunshine Coaches' on behalf of Furze Lane School. The application was successful, and the school will be taking proud possession of a new minibus to help support their truly inspiring work with children and young adults with special educational needs. I am proud to be associated with the school and the work they do with children and young adults who are often excluded in the mainstream, or whose needs are poorly understood and inadequately met elsewhere. I am sure that they will put the minibus to good use in the months and years ahead, and cannot wait to hear all about it from the students themselves. The school is an

integral part of our community and probably the largest employer in the town, so I am delighted to learn that members of the Lions Club will be hosting a charity event to support its work there on Sunday the 13th of July. See <https://www.northbucksbikeride.info/> for more information, and if you would like to contribute cakes and other home-baked goods for the day, contact Tara on torme@furzedownschool.org.uk There will be space aplenty for families to bring along their picnic blankets and baskets, and there will also be a BBQ and other stalls available. Do go along if you can to help raise funds for the school, enjoy its wonderful setting, and meet the governors and staff on what promises to be a fun-filled and exciting day!

Reverend Steve





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Vacancy for a Call Handler – Work from Home

The National Careline is a small, not-for-profit business that runs a freephone helpline and a website. It provides an information hub of charities, products and services that support older people or those caring for an older person.

We are looking to recruit a local person who can work from home, to answer calls to the helpline between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday. We will consider a job share arrangement if applicants are interested in working fewer than five days a week.

Experience within the care sector/NHS/Local Authority would be useful but not essential. Our callers are often unsure about sourcing information via the internet and prefer the reassurance of speaking with a person; therefore empathy and patience are needed. Full training will be given on the type of calls we receive and information that we regularly provide.

Most of the information and support we provide can be found on our website – www.thenationalcareline.org

We offer a competitive local salary and a mobile phone will be provided. You will need to provide your own device for access to the internet.

Please send your application to
office@thenationalcareline.org.

We very much look forward to hearing from you!

THE HORWOOD SHOW



WHEN
Saturday 6th September 2025
 STAGING FRI 7-8.30PM & SATURDAY 9-11AM
 DOORS OPEN FOR VIEWING SAT 2.30PM

WHERE
Little Horwood Memorial Hall
 Mursley Road

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www.little-horwood.co.uk/village-life/horwood-show

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PHONICS WITH ROBOT REG - BUCKINGHAM

Becky Jacques, a qualified primary school teacher and resident of Great Horwood, has recently launched Phonics with Robot Reg in Buckingham and from September, will also be teaching classes in Winslow and Stewkley.

With many parents wanting to give their children a head start when it comes to reading, Phonics with Robot Reg offers classes suitable for children aged 1 – 4 and aims to do just that.

Owner and class teacher Becky has a passion for igniting an early love of learning and supporting the development of language. These high-energy and interactive phonics classes combine singing, dancing and play with a curriculum that's centred around providing key skills for preschoolers that can be built on as they start school. In addition to this, sessions are also offered to nurseries, pre-schools and childminders, with complimentary tasters available.

Join Becky and Robot Reg on an adventure into the world of phonics and equip your child with the skills they need to begin their learning journey with confidence and enthusiasm.

For details of your nearest class, or to arrange a taster session, please contact becky@robotreg.co.uk for more information.

MEN IN SHEDS

I've heard a rumour that Winslow Sheddners are mostly retired gents who get through a lot of tea and make a lot of sawdust. There is a grain of truth here but, in reality, Sheddners come from all walks of life and bring a rich variety of knowledge and experience to share on Shed Days. But not all Sheddners are retired.

Tom Georgeson is a local, professional artist who has built a strong reputation in the field of 'art-copies'. This might sound unusual (dodgy even!) but Tom's work provides a solution for owners of valuable or rare pieces who find they can no longer allow the work to be on public display. This could be about security, preservation or, maybe, to allow the original to be mortgaged to fund repairs to an ancestral home. We were delighted to welcome Tom to the Shed last year and provide space and carpentry facilities to make his, often enormous, framed canvases. Earlier this year, Tom needed to move studios at short notice and had to find a temporary space to complete work on his copy of Van Dyck's near life-size study of Lady Anne Carey. We were happy to let him use one of our otherwise empty upstairs rooms. It has been a rare treat to have our very own artist-in-residence for the last couple of months. If any Shedder has yet to venture upstairs, chat with Tom and admire his work then grab your chance before he moves to his new studio.

Please save Tuesday July 15th to help celebrate the Shed's 10th Birthday with a free barbeque lunch! All Sheddners past and present are invited and after ten years that's a lot of sausages. For that reason, please let us know if you are coming and, apologies, but it's Sheddners only this time.

The Shed is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 – 4:00
Unit 4, Station Road Ind. Estate. www.MenInShedsWinslow.org.uk

Or for more info call Tim Elderton 07746 194163

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**OPENING A WORLD OF LITERACY TO
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Classes available in Buckingham, Winslow & Stewley

Taught by a qualified primary school teacher, our classes are suitable for children aged 1-4 years and focus on promoting an early love of reading and learning. Trial sessions are available - please get in touch for more information.

High-Energy, Fun & Educational!

Every class is packed with singing, dancing, and games - all designed to support key early literacy skills. Your little ones will be so busy having fun, they won't even notice they're learning.

Boost Early Learning!

Support your child's speech and language development while building strong early phonics awareness through our fun, play-based, engaging sessions. The benefits are endless, from building confidence and developing social skills to turn-taking and strengthening fine motor skills.

📧 becky@robotreg.co.uk 🌐 www.robotreg.co.uk/buckingham ☎ 07725915765

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★★★★★

Winslow Community Bus

July 2025



Aylesbury Market Bus - runs every Friday and Saturday morning — from Winslow, through Gt Horwood, Little Horwood, Mursley and Swanbourne, arriving in Aylesbury just after 10am and departing 12.15pm. FREE with a bus pass, otherwise only £4.50 return. Drop offs at Sainsburys and Broadfields on request.

Winslow Market Service 54abc - runs every Wednesday morning.

This service picks up in the surrounding villages and then into Winslow, (Swanbourne, Mursley, Great Horwood, Whaddon, Nash and The Claydons). Pick up times vary according to village. Bus passes accepted, otherwise £3.00 return.

Buckingham Bus Service – Picking up in Winslow and surrounding villages. 1 hour in town then 1 hour in Tesco, or 2 hours in Tesco. Door to door service. Bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return.

Tuesday 1st July

Tuesday 5th August

Tuesday 2nd September

Westcroft Shopping – Picking up in surrounding villages. Morrisons, Boots, Aldi, etc. Bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return. Ring to book.

Thursday 10th & 24th July

Thursday 14th & 28th August

Asda — travel £5

Bus passes are not accepted on this trip and will cost £5.00. Picking up in Winslow and surrounding villages. Asda Shopping with the option to drop at Stadium MK1 for M&S, Primark, Next and more.

Drop off at Westcroft on request.

Monday 28th July

Eastbourne, Sunday 13th July – Travel £23 Day out to the seaside.

Bell Plantation Garden Centre, Towcester, Tuesday 22nd July - £25 Traditional Afternoon Tea

Please contact the WDCB Coordinator for more details.

Timetables can be found online www.winslowbus.com

On notice boards outside the Town Council offices, Winslow Library or calling the WDCB Co-Ordinator 07483 336440



Winslow & District Community Bus Needs Volunteer Drivers

The Winslow & District Community Bus relies on volunteer drivers to run all our services, excursions and hires.

We are always in need of volunteer drivers, especially at the moment! So, if you have a D1 on your licence, and have some spare time, please consider becoming a driver for your local Community Bus.

All of our scheduled routes start at around 9.00am and finish around 1.30pm. We pay out-of-pocket expenses.

We also run our own outings visiting all kinds of places, including garden centres, stately homes, shopping centres and countryside drives. The use of the bus is also available to local non-profit groups

We offer certificated training to MiDAS standard

MiDAS is the Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme and is administered by the Community Transport Association. The scheme provides a nationally recognised standard for the assessment and training of minibus drivers and has been designed to enhance minibus driving standards and promote the safer operation of minibuses.

WDCB provide free training to "MiDAS" standards for all our drivers. A certificate is awarded after successful completion of the course, which is valid for four years and is recognised UK-wide. Candidates must be aged over 21 and have category 'D1' on their licence. The course is usually completed in a day, the time being divided between classroom and practical work. The latter comprises coaching and assessment of driving skills plus a briefing on the use of the minibus wheelchair lift.

For more information, or to find out other ways you can volunteer your help, please visit the Volunteering page on our website www.winslowbus.com or call 07483 336440.

GREAT HORWOOD & SINGLEBOROUGH WI

A few weeks after the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe, also known as VE Day, Great Horwood & Singleborough WI invited Andy Tennet to speak about the war from the personal experience of his father. Like many of his generation his father didn't like to talk much about what he had been through, but after his death in 1998, Andy found a box of letters sent to his mother during the war which ignited an interest to learn more about what happened and piece together his life. With research into war records Andy built a fascinating account of just what so many of his father's generation battled, and not just what they had to face in enemy lines but also treatment by over zealous army serjeant majors. It was a fascinating talk and listening to Andy, prompted many memories for WI members of what they knew about their parents' experiences of the terrible WW2 years.



In July we have an outing to Rousham Gardens and a lunch at a nearby restaurant. More trips and events are planned for later in the year. We also look forward to meeting villagers at our popular 'every ticket wins a prize' at our tombola at the Village Fete on Saturday, 5th July.

Great Horwood & Singleborough WI meet every second Tuesday each month in the Village Hall, with doors opening at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. If you'd like to join our friendly group or would like more information, please contact

Ann Biggins at ghorwoodandswi@gmail.com.

HORWOOD SHOW

Good morning Great Horwood!

On Saturday, September the 6th Little Horwood will host the 45th Village Show at the Memorial Hall on Mursley Road.

So What (!) I hear you say.

Well here's what....

For the first time in its history the show will be open to the good folk of Great Horwood, and not just the residents, but also any children who attend the school or go to Scouts or Brownies (or Beavers or Rainbows) in Great Horwood.

What's it all about?

Well it's a traditional village show with classes covering vegetables, flowers, fruit, preserves, cooking, crafts and photography as well as a section for children. There's a friendly atmosphere and although the judging is taken seriously, it really is about the taking part and not the winning (although there are cups to be won, so it's not all about the taking part!)

If you need advice or want to know more please just contact any of the numbers below or alternatively you can talk to our "inside agent" Lynda Syrett who will also have schedules nearer the time.

After the public viewing (2.30-3.15) prizes are given out and then any items left by the exhibitors are auctioned off, proceeds going to the Memorial Hall.

The classes you can make a start on now are preserves, crafts, children's and Photography. So to get you started, here are the photography classes in this year's show

67. A photograph of Village Life

68. A photograph of Wildlife

69. A photograph "It makes me Laugh"

70 A photograph "my Best Friend"

Is that it?

Yes, for now, but we'll keep you updated as the date speeds closer.

Thank you for your time

The Horwood Show Team, over and out!

Contacts

www.little-horwood.co.uk/villagelife/horwood-show

Charlotte Simpson - 07790 586522

Lorna Duggleby - 07950 976698

Lynda Syrett - 07843 441010

PARISH PUMP

LIDEN PARK (OFF LIDEN WAY)

The title transfer deed has been signed and returned to the legal team to get to a completion date for the above Open Space to be transferred from High Street Homes to the Parish Council. The first action is to get the grass cut which will be responsibility of the Parish Council once this transfer has gone through. It will look less than it's best this season simply because it wasn't kept cut before the transfer.



**Great Horwood
Parish Council**

COUNCILLORS

We have two vacancies on the Council. If you think you might be interested in volunteering

to serve your local community in this way, please get in touch and we can arrange to have a chat about the role and see if it is suited to you – email the Clerk at clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk.

PETITION FOR THE 20MPH SPEED LIMIT IN THE VILLAGE

There is an online petition currently being run with its aim to reduce the speed limit through the village to 20mph. The Parish Council will be writing to Buckinghamshire Council with this petition and we need support from the residents of the village to move this forward.

This petition has already been advertised on social media - if you wish to sign this online petition, the link for this is listed below – thank you.

<https://chnng.it/xHcDSjtNSM>

DOG WASTE

Another reminder that if you are taking your dog(s) for a walk in the village please remember to pick up after them. With the warmer weather on its way more people will be out and about in the various green spaces in the village - please remember to pick up as you go.

Thank you.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

As you may have seen the Parish Council are asking for your help on future planning applications. As mentioned before, Buckinghamshire Council no longer display comments from members of the public to any applications. In order for the Parish Council to be kept informed of resident's comments/objections can you please provide a copy of your comment/objection AFTER you have submitted your response to Buckinghamshire Council.

The Parish Council will, of course, be lodging their own comments, but residents' comments need to be submitted to Buckinghamshire Council and then a copy provided to the Clerk – thank you.

FIX MY STREET

Just a reminder to everyone that "FixMyStreet" is an online facility where anyone can make a public report for things like graffiti, fly tipping, broken pavings slabs, and potholes that they see in the Village. This information gets passed to Buckinghamshire Council for them to action.

The website address is <https://www.fixmystreet.com>

WELCOME PACK

If you are new to the village and have not yet received a Welcome pack, please email Cllr Gilbey with your address and one will be delivered to you

johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com

FOCUS ONLINE

Did you know that there is an online edition of Focus with every copy from February 2012?

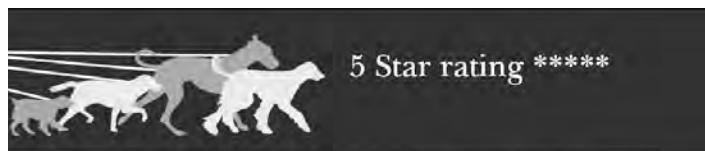
So, if you have mislaid your copy and can't find the information you need, just log onto

<https://e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/focus-magazine/>

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will be held on Monday 14th July at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There is always a public participation period when members of the public can have their say – please feel free to attend. The Notice of the meeting is advertised on the Parish Council website and the noticeboard in the High Street. Minutes of meetings can be found on the noticeboard and the Parish Council website. e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/



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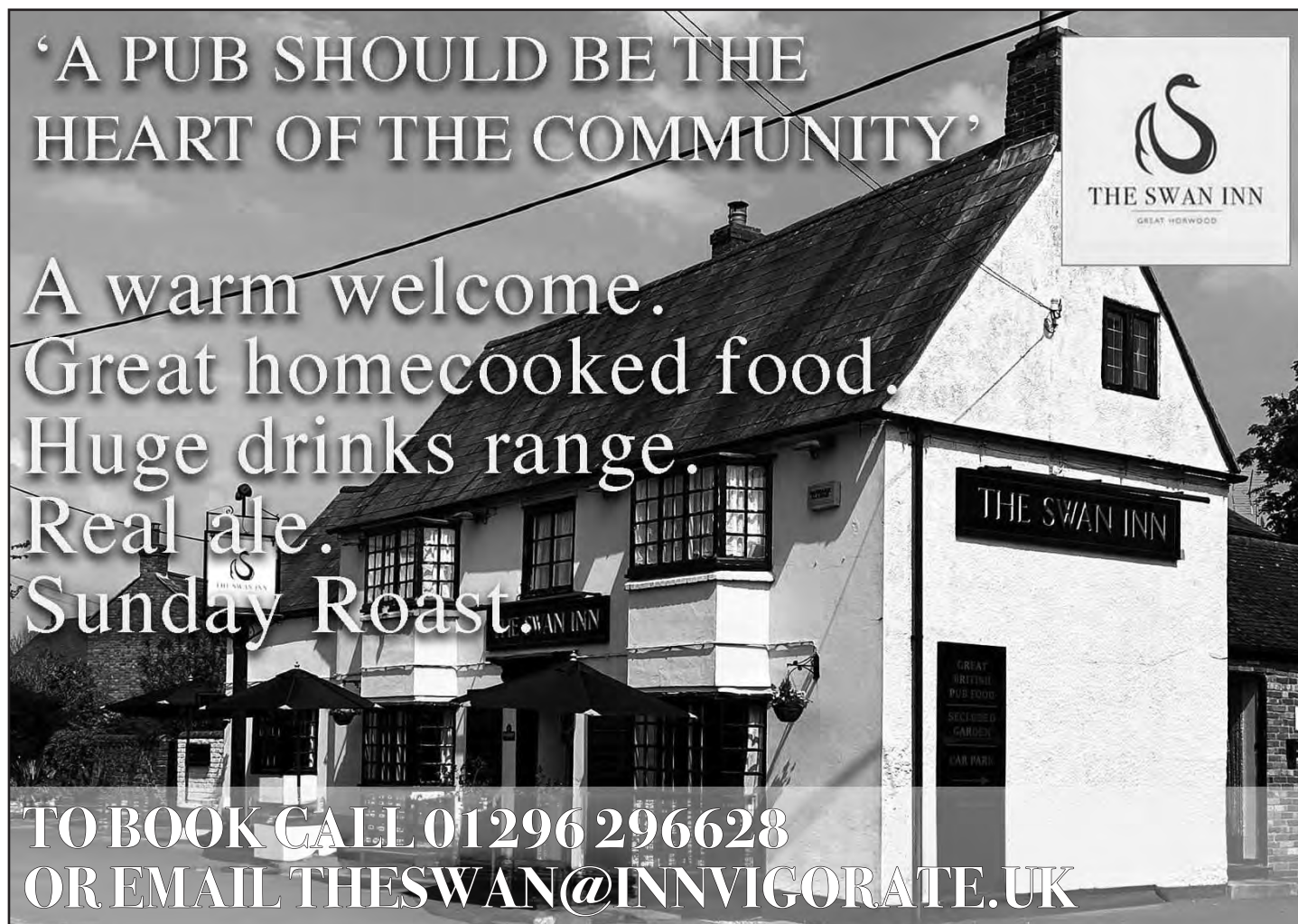
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GREAT HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL



**Great Horwood
Parish Council**

Useful contact details

Members of the Parish Council:

Please note that councillors now have a dedicated Parish Council email address. This is in order to comply with UK Data Protection Regulations 2018. From 1 January 2021 this is now referred to as the UK GDPR. It is good policy to keep council emails separate from private emails.

Caroline Cousin	Chairman	07903 549339	carolinecousinghpc@gmail.com
Thomas Lee	Vice Chairman	07901 994996	tlee.ghpc@gmail.com
Jonathan Evans		07470 298324	jjevans.ghpc@mail.com
Jackie Goss		01296 713135	jackiegossghpc@gmail.com
Mary Saunders		01296 713610	marysaundersghpc@gmail.com
Clerk to the Council		01296 715803	clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk

Parish Council Website www.e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/

Great Horwood Village Hall Booking	01296 715968
Winslow and District Community Bus	01296 715786
3W Health (Winslow Health Centre)	01296 711150

Community Police Officers

PCSO Andy Piotrowski	Tel: 101	Andrew.Piotrowski@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
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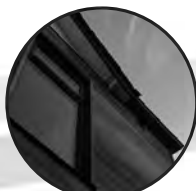
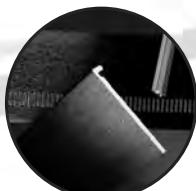
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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

The Parish Council is always notified by Buckinghamshire Planning Department of any planning application for which it is a Statutory Consultee. When preparing our response to the application we have always considered any comments made by you, the parishioners, when putting our response together. However, at its Cabinet meeting on 11 March 20215 Buckinghamshire Council agreed that in future only comments made by Statutory Consultees will be posted on the Website. This has been implemented with immediate effect and all comments made by any of you on, for example, the Croudace application, have now been removed from their website.

We have written to complain, as has the North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium, but they will not change their stance.

So please, for any future applications you may comment on, could you copy your comments to the Parish Clerk clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk That way we can continue to take your views into account when commenting on planning applications.

This is particularly important for major applications such as the one just received for 35 dwellings on land off Weston Road. 25/01623/APP

Thank you

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Great Horwood reserves pulled off an amazing victory in this year's League Cup Final. Grid City FC (a team from Milton Keynes) had already won the league and were looking for the double. However, the Great Horwood team showed grit, determination and skill and finished the season as League Cup Champions with a 3:2 score line.