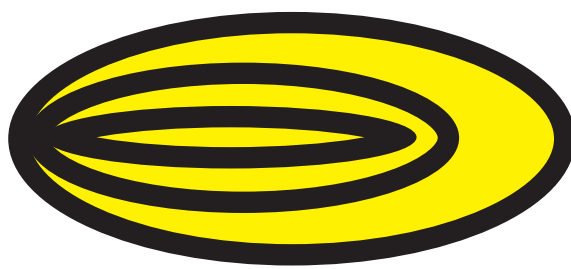


Hamstead Hornet



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December 2015

White Hart: application for change of use opposed by many villagers

Following a meeting in the village hall attended by around 25 villagers, a campaign has been launched to persuade WBC to refuse the owner's application for change of use to residential premises.

A petition of around 100 signatures was collected, comprising 56 village residents, 22 from adjoining villages and Newbury, 17 from further afield including east Berkshire and Kent, and 4 which were illegible and/or without addresses.

This petition was submitted to WBC and has been posted on <http://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk>, together with letters of objection from 26 named individuals, mostly village residents. The parish council has also registered an objection.

Objectors to the application cite the importance of the pub as a community centre, and point to its earlier history as a viable business. At the village hall meeting several first and second-hand accounts were given of poor service experienced at the pub under

its most recent management.

Objectors recognised that nobody could be forced to run a pub, but they claim that not enough time had been allowed for a buyer to be found, and it was hoped that WBC would reject the application at least temporarily for this chance to be given.

A minority view in the village, held by a number of long-standing regular patrons, regards the change of use as inevitable, given that this is the second time that the pub has failed in five years. Furthermore, had it not been for the present owner buying the pub in 2011, and making a substantial investment, the White Hart would almost certainly have become housing four years ago.

When first published by WBC, the application was to close to comment on 9th November, but the planning department says submissions can still be made, up to the committee hearing date which, as of 26 November, had not been fixed.

Broadband: another promise

Gigaclear has recently been leafleting HM homes with the promise of ultrafast broadband (50 to 1000Mbps) by fibre to individual rural homes and businesses. The Abingdon-based plc, formed in 2010, claims to have already enabled 25 communities in Rutland, Kent and Oxfordshire, with 50 more by the end of this year, and double that planned for 2016. The company is now working with Superfast Berkshire and WBC to do the same for Berkshire. (Superfast Berkshire has now upgraded its target from 90 per cent of premises to 95.6 per cent.)

However on 24 November the company's Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/gigaclear> showed no mention of Berkshire other than a meeting to be held in Hungerford on 19 November. There are several user comments from other areas.

Entering RG20 0HW into the postcode checker on www.gigaclear.com generates the information that Gigaclear is currently "*finalising the address data and works schedules with your county council [sic]*", but with the proviso:

"There may be a small number of premises inside the project area, that due to access issues, or their geographic location, may not be able to be served by Gigaclear. If your property is eventually identified as one of these we may have to cancel your order."

Can Gigaclear achieve for Hamstead Marshall what BT has so far failed to do? There's nothing to lose by registering interest on Gigaclear's website.

What's on in the village

19.00 - 21.30 Thu 3 Dec	Circle of Friends	Village hall	Sue Watts
10.30 Thu 10 Dec	Ladies who brunch Bauble party £15 (booking essential)	Halfway Inn	<u>Lanie Allen</u>
10.00 - 14.30 Sat 12 Dec	Christmas Community market <i>bread cheese preserves gifts crafts</i> <i>tombola refreshments</i> <i>See ad opposite page</i>	Elm Farm	<u>Lanie Allen</u> Sue Watts
12.30 Thu 17th Dec	Kintbury Christmas lunch <i>See ad on opposite page</i>	Coronation Hall	01488 657119 01488 658168
10.00 - 13.00 Sat 9 Jan	Community market	Village hall	<u>Lanie Allen</u> Sue Watts
10.30 Thu 14 Jan	Ladies who brunch <i>speaker from local charity</i> £16(booking essential)	Halfway Inn	<u>Lanie Allen</u>
19.00 - 21.40 Thu 4 Feb	Circle of Friends	Village hall	Sue Watts
10.30 Thu 11 Feb	Ladies who brunch <i>speaker from local charity</i> £16 (booking essential)	Halfway Inn	<u>Lanie Allen</u>
10.00 - 13.00 Sat 13 Feb	Community market	Village hall	<u>Lanie Allen</u> Sue Watts
19.00 - 21.30 Thu 3 Mar	Circle of Friends	Village hall	Sue Watts
10.30 Thu 10 Mar	Ladies who brunch <i>speaker from local charity</i> £16 (booking essential)	Halfway Inn	<u>Lanie Allen</u>
10.00 - 13.00 Sat 12 Mar	Community market	Village hall	<u>Lanie Allen</u> Sue Watts

A quiz and supper night is being planned for January in the village hall.
Keep watching www.hamsteadmarshall.net/noticeboard for further details.

regular events in the village hall		
13.30-16.00 Mons termtime	Oil painting classes for beginners & improvers	Chris Turner 01488 658587
19.00 and 20.00 Mondays	Suzi Moores' exercise class £5	Suzi Moores 07900 518652
weekdays termtime	Little Sunflowers nursery school	Teresa 01635 253201 Trudy 01635 255363

Carol singing around the village 2015

Tuesday 22nd December

Meet at 7pm at Chapel Corner

Everyone welcome

**Please wear bright coloured clothes
and bring a torch**

**For further information contact Sarah and
Mick Ward on 01488 658817
or sarahward1000@hotmail.com**

Walbury Computer Group

Wednesday mornings at:

Blandys Room, Inglewood 2 December;
Methodist Church Rooms, Kintbury 9 and 16
December;

Inglewood 13 January

*To book an hour at 10am or 11am with one of four
experienced volunteers phone Patricia Poyton on
01488 668901.*

*Tuition is free, but small donations are
always welcome*

Planning applications taken from <http://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk> 24 November 2015.

To see more details visit this site and search on the application number.

Craven Keep RG20 0JQ

15/02723/COND1 validated 14 Oct 2015

Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 5 - Surfacing of access and 6 - Access construction before development of approved reference 15/01969/FUL: To create a new driveway entrance and remove the existing. Requires the creation of a new entrance onto a classified road.

Approved 5 Oct 15

Plumb's Farm RG20 0HR

15/01769/COND1 validated 2 Jul 2015

Approval of details reserved by Condition 8:

Landscape plan of planning permission:

14/03366/FULMAJ - Demolition of existing kennel buildings and erection of new kennel building. Erection of new exercise areas, paths, ditches, retention pond, drainage, car parking. Extensions to existing buildings. Subdivision of existing house into two for staff use only.

#Retention of existing flat reduced in size and with amended layout for overnight accommodation for staff only.

Approved 3 Sep 15

Craven Keep RG20 0JQ

15/01969/FUL validated 10 August 2015

Removal of existing entrance and driveway to

create a new one, eight metres further uphill, to allow access to new building.

Approved 5 Oct 15

Craven Keep RG20 0JQ

15/02723/COND1 validated 14 Oct 2015

Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 5 - Surfacing of access and 6 - Access construction before development of approved reference 15/01969/FUL: To create a new driveway entrance and remove the existing. Requires the creation of a new entrance onto a classified road.

Awaiting decision

White Hart Inn RG20 0HW

15/02727/FULD validated 1 Oct 2015

Change of use from public house (Class A4) to 4 no. dwellinghouse (Class C3) and associated external alterations, landscaping and car parking.

Awaiting decision (see front page)

Lamellion RG20 0HH

15/02502/LBC2 validated 23 Sep 2015

Construction of a greenhouse within the garden, not be connected or adjacent to the house, no demolition will be involved.

Decision 9 Nov 15: planning application not required

Property

Harvest Cottage at Chapel Corner is currently under offer, having been advertised by Jones Robinson at a guide price of £500,000.

Millstream Cottage, behind Hamstead Mill, was advertised on Hampton's website on 22 October for a guide price of £635,000, but appears now to have been taken down.

Christmas Community Market

10am–2.30pm Saturday 12 December
ORC Elm Farm Barn

refreshments, locally-made bread, cakes and pastries, cheeses, preserves, plants, cards, candles, scarves, buttons, bags, festive wreaths, picture frames, children's clocks, Christmas decorations, ornaments, quilted stockings, Japanese purses, mistletoe, woodwork, leather, jewellery, skin care products, knitted toys, blankets, clothes, cushions, lampshades, ceramics, silk & glass

Parkinson's stall and tombola

free entry

more info from 01488 658168

The Kintbury Christmas Lunch

at the Coronation Hall, Kintbury
12.30pm on Thursday 17th December

sherry and nibbles, followed by a three course meal, glass of wine or juice and coffee for £8.50

All welcome, from Kintbury and surrounding villages

To find out more or to book a place, ring the Volunteer Office on 01488 657119 or Lanie on 01488 658168

Kintbury lunches are held on the third Thursday of each month, and a warm welcome is extended to all who live in the nearby villages



In memory of Dorothy

fundraising for mesothelioma research

Regular patrons of the White Hart before 2004 will remember the stylish illustrations which with Dorothy Aromando used to embellish the menu blackboard. These were but the tip of an iceberg; Dorothy produced a large number of artworks, which her daughter Susie is now using to benefit research into mesothelioma, the disease which struck Dorothy without warning just over a year ago.

An informal charity event held at White Hart Cottage on 8th November featured greetings cards and reproductions using Dorothy's work. Around 50 people attended the event, and it generated around £1,000 to kick-start Susie's venture. A charity is being set up, and a formal launch is planned for February 2016.

Anyone who would like more information should contact Susie on dorothyartfund@gmail.com.



Raising a laugh for the church

The comedy night at Elm Farm on 22 October, featuring Jollyboat and Lynn-Ruth Miller, was a sell-out, with over 90 people attending. The organisers, Johnny and Sarah Stevenson, reported that with sponsorship from Strutt & Parker around £1,500 was raised to help keep the doors of St Mary's Church open. This is the second such fund-raiser that they have organised this year.

Bonfire night heroes

Despite the weather, the evening was a great success, and the organisers would like to thank:

- * those who gave up their Sunday morning to collect wood, build the fire and protect it from the elements;
- * those who turned out on a foul day to organise food, drink, generator, barbecue and gazebos;
- * those who worked hard to ensure the fireworks and bonfire were safe and successful;
- * those who stirred soup, heated mulled wine, cooked and served the food;
- * those who helped to break camp at the end of the evening, wash up, clear up and return everything to whence it came;
- * and of course those who came along to drink the drink, eat the food, say "ooh" and, "aah" in the right places, applaud the guys who let off the fireworks and tend the bonfire, and then very generously put money in the collecting buckets or made donations privately. From the proceeds of the evening £400 was donated to the Felix Fund, a charity set up in 2011 to look after the men and women involved with bomb disposal.

Hamstead Hornet

The *Hamstead Hornet* is published quarterly online at www.hamsteadmarshall.net/hornet.htm.

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