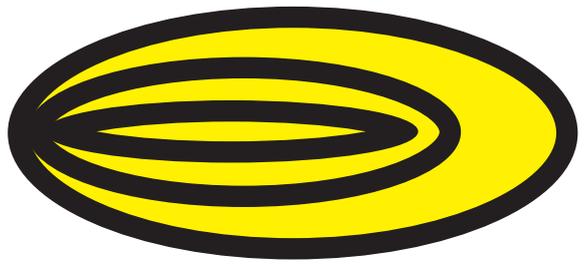


Hamstead Hornet



Issue no. 78

Hamstead Marshall's quarterly newspaper
published since 1996

June 2016

Can the White Hart be saved?

Planning committee confused themselves and us

The council chamber was packed to capacity with villagers who turned out on 30th March to hear the WBC planning committee's decision on the White Hart. They left the meeting believing that the campaign to save the pub had been given six months' grace. Even the journalists present gained this impression, and both the Newbury Weekly News and the Newbury and Thatcham Observer subsequently reported a reprieve on their websites.

Following presentations from the parish council chair John Handy and Tom Lane representing the campaign to save the pub, the owner Stella Coulthurst and her adviser Alan Smith spoke in support of the application. Hamstead's two local councillors, Anthony Stansfeld and James Cole, argued against and for the application respectively.

It was clear that the committee wanted to give the campaigning villagers more time to get their finance and business plans together. The committee expressed its intention to look again, and possibly more favourably, on a more developed proposal in six months' time.

*However, it seems that the councillors were in error. A query the next day to Michael Butler, WBC's chief planning officer, established beyond doubt that the councillors had **refused the application for change of use***, but **that they had no power to delay the applicant's going to appeal**, which Stella Coulthurst, the White Hart's owner, has since announced her intention of doing. So far, however, there is no evidence of this online. She gave this statement on 7th June:*

"The situation regarding the White Hart Inn is, sadly, almost completely unchanged from the March Planning Committee, other than a violent attempted break-in last week (now in the hands of the police). The pub has continued to be marketed through Christie & Co, with some further viewings. No commercial operator has made an offer for the lease. No proposal has been received from the "Save" campaign. As owner, I intend to pursue a change of use through all available avenues."

***An extract from the council's decision letter is reproduced overleaf.**

The campaign progresses

Supporters of the Save the White Hart campaign gathered at the village hall on 14th May to hear presentations from Anne Budd, Peter Chaffey, Kathrin Luddecke of the Plunkett Foundation, which advises and makes grants to community co-operatives, and two representatives of community-run pubs, Graham Shelton of the Red Lion in Northmoor and Chris French of the Plough in West Hanney.

There was strong support, from those present and some that couldn't make the meeting, for setting up a the Save The White Hart Community Enterprise Committee to develop a business plan and raise funds. The priority is to develop an operating model by:

- creating a start-up and five-year budget;
- establishing funding to support the venture until it is self-financing;
- creating a fund for legal and other setting-up expenses;
- continuing the search for a commercial buyer (that is not on Christie & Co's mailing list) for the White Hart;
- getting the White Hart listed as an Asset of Community Value, to provide protection.

In a written statement Pete Evans, facilitator of the steering committee, has said:

"The team will continue to address and resist any appeal, should there be one, against the refusal of the West Berks Council to grant planning permission for change of use, unless the leasehold and the freehold have been offered for sale on the open market on reasonable terms at a reasonable price and for a reasonable length of time.

"We still need volunteers from the village. Please contact me at info@savethewhitehart.org if you can provide any help, no matter how small; it is all greatly appreciated."

What's on in the village

10.30 Thu 9 Jun	Ladies who Brunch £16 (booking essential) <i>speaker: Anne Munby of Mary Hare Foundation</i>	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen
10.00-15.00 Sat 11 June	Summer community market <i>artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts</i>	Elm Farm	Lanie Allen Sue Watts
19.00 Tue 14 Jun	Concert by Elstree School Choir	St Mary's Church	Sarah Stevenson
7.30-22.00 Thu 23 June	EU referendum	Village hall	01635 519463
19.00 Thu 23 June	Jazz night in aid of St Mary's Church <i>BYO picnic; suggested donation £10 pp</i>	Park Lodge garden	Sarah Stevenson
19.00-21.30 Thu 7 Jul	Circle of Friends <i>informal ladies' group</i> <i>Summer strawberry & Prosecco evening</i>	Village hall	Sue Watts
10.00 - 13.00 Sat 9 Jul	Community market <i>artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts</i>	Village hall	Lanie Allen Sue Watts
15.00 onwards Sat 9 Jul	Party in the parish <i>food, bar, games, music, dancing</i>	Village hall & recreation ground	Katie Wallis
13.00 - 15.00 Wed 13 Jul	Sunflowers closing-down sale of preschool books and play equipment	Village hall	
10.30 Thu 14 Jul	Ladies who Brunch £16 (booking essential) <i>speaker: Julia Philipson from the Alexander Devine Hospice</i>	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen
10.30 Thu 11 Aug	Ladies who Brunch £16 (booking essential) <i>speaker: Trevor Goodall from the charity New Life</i>	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen
10.00 - 13.00 Sat 13 Aug	Community market <i>artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts</i>	Village hall	Lanie Allen Sue Watts
19.00-21.30 Thu 1 Sep	Circle of Friends <i>informal ladies' group</i> <i>Art-based craft</i>	Village hall	Sue Watts
10.30 Thu 8 Sep	Ladies who Brunch £16 (booking essential) <i>speaker: Rebecca Bruce from the Bruce Trust</i>	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen
10.00 - 13.00 Sat 10 Sep	Community market <i>artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts</i>	Village hall	Lanie Allen Sue Watts
19.00-21.30 Thu 6 Oct	Circle of Friends <i>informal ladies' group</i>	Village hall	Sue Watts
10.00 - 13.00 Sat 8 Oct	Community market <i>artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts</i>	Village hall	Lanie Allen Sue Watts
10.30 Thu 13 Oct	Ladies who Brunch £16 (booking essential) <i>Birthday party: no speaker</i>	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen
19.30 Thu 13 Oct	Comedy night in aid of St Mary's Church <i>BYO food & drink; suggested donation £10 pp</i>	Elm Farm	Sarah Stevenson
19.00-21.30 Thu 4 Nov	Circle of Friends <i>informal ladies' group</i>	Village hall	Sue Watts
Sat 5 Nov	Bonfire party <i>details tba</i>	Recreation ground	Sue Watts
10.30 Thu 10 Nov	Ladies who Brunch £16 (booking essential) <i>speaker: Gemma Gittins of Daisy's Dream</i>	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen
10.00 - 13.00 Sat 12 Nov	Community market <i>artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts</i>	Village hall	Lanie Allen Sue Watts
19.00-21.30 Thu 2 Dec	Circle of Friends <i>informal ladies' group</i>	Village hall	Sue Watts
10.30 Thu 8 Dec	Ladies who Brunch £16 (booking essential) <i>Bauble party: no speaker</i>	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen
10.00 - 15.00 Sat 10 Dec	Christmas community market <i>artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts</i>	Elm Farm	Lanie Allen Sue Watts

Planning applications taken from <http://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk> on 8 June 2016

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

White Hart Inn RG20 0HW

15/02727/FULD validated 1 Oct 2015
Change of use from public house to 4 no. dwellinghouse (Class C3) and associated external alterations, landscaping and car parking.

Refused 21 Apr 2016 (see front page and below)

Rickety Gate Farm

16/00019/COND3 validated 15 Jan 2016
Approval of details reserved by Conditions 5, Planting Scheme and 9: Arboricultural Statement and Tree Protection Plan, of Appeal Decision ref APP/W0340/A/13/2206830.

Approved 4 Mar 2016

Enborne Equestrian

16/00305/FULD validated 1 Feb 2016
Retrospective application for siting a mobile home (staff accommodation) for 12 months from 1 Jan 2016

Approved 23 Mar 2016

Rickety Gate Farm

16/00433/COND4 validated 4 Mar 2016
Application for approval of details reserved by Condition 4-8

Approved 18 May 2016

Plumbs Farm

16/00985/FULMAJ validated 11 Mar 2016
Section 73 - Variation of condition (2) Plans
Approved of planning permission 14/03366/FUL-MAJ

Awaiting decision

Enborne Equestrian

16/00775/FULD validated 22 Apr 2016
Dwelling to replace existing mobile home.

Awaiting decision

Holtwood Farmhouse

16/00465/HOUSE validated 4 Apr 2016
Retrospective application for single-storey extension to existing dwelling to provide boot room, utility room and additional storage space

Awaiting decision

Extract from the WBC letter refusing the White Hart change of use application

"...The Council considers that, in the light of the advice contained in West Berkshire Council's Supplementary Planning Guidance 19 - Public Houses, the White Hart Public House may be potentially viable for use as a licensed premises in the future. In addition the Council is not satisfied that the marketing exercise undertaken by the applicant has been adequately undertaken, having regard to current market expectations and valuations for public houses in West Berkshire. Accordingly the true redundancy of The White Hart is in question and so this fails the test of criterion 2 in Policy CS4 of the countryside policies contained in the West Berkshire Council Housing site allocations Development Plan Document - November 2015 on countryside policies. Given the fact that The White Hart is a valued local facility, important for community cohesion as identified both in the NPPF and policy ADPP5 in the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006 to 2026, the application is unacceptable..."

Villagers quizzed

The quiz and ploughman's supper evening at the village hall on 21st June was heavily over-subscribed, with several teams being turned away because of the limited capacity of the hall. Eight teams totalling 42 people took part, the winners being "We Three Kings" (John, Margaret and Anna).

Tickets cost £5 a head, and included a meal of French bread, brie, cheddar and ham, with pickles and mustard donated by Lanie Allen, followed by fruit salad prepared by Trish Tandy. Teams brought their own drink, enjoyed with nibbles donated by Sue Watts. The evening made a profit of £65 for the village hall.

There will probably be a similar quiz and supper evening in the autumn. Watch the village noticeboards and www.hamsteadmarshall.net/noticeboard, and move fast if you want to secure a place.

regular events in the village hall

13.30-16.00 Mons termtime	Oil painting classes for beginners & improvers	Chris Turner 01488 658587
Sat 9.30 - 11.30am to 16 Jul	Latin and ballroom dancing classes for 4 - 16 year-olds	Leanne Herdman 07787 504123
Mon 19.00 - 21.00	Sports therapy classes (5-week courses)	Clare Chamberlayne 07887 525689

Church fundraisers



An Evening of Choral Music



Elstree School Choir
To perform at St Mary's Church, Hamstead Marshall



On Tuesday 14 June 2016
At 7pm



Drinks will be served after the performance

All donations will go towards St Mary's Church Hamstead Marshall

Space is limited, kindly **RSVP** to sarah@johnstevenson.biz / 0780 223 5169 to reserve your place

Sunflowers Pre-school is closing down at the end of this term due to a fall in the number of local pre-school children. A sale of books and play equipment will be held at the village hall on Wednesday 13th July, 1 to 3pm.

Suzi Moores' fitness classes have also stopped, but may return at some future date.

New bookings at the village hall include Latin and ballroom dancing for 4 to 16-year olds with Leanne Herdman on Saturday mornings 9.30 to 11.30, and sports therapy with Clare Chamberlayne on Monday evenings, 7 to 9.

Anthony Stansfeld, one of Hamstead's two WBC councillors, has been re-elected Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner for a further four years. Three other candidates stood for the post, and turnout was 29.14 per cent, up from 15 per cent in 2012.

Walbury Computer Group is taking a summer break. Free one-to-one computer tuition in Kintbury will resume in September.

Sarah Stevenson has announced sponsorship of the Jazz in the Park evening by Private Property Search, Strutt & Parker, the Briars Dental Centre and Dickins Hopgood Chidley Solicitors, whose generosity has provided a tent. Click on the JustGiving link below to pre-pay for your ticket(s) and ensure speedy entry.
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sarah-Stevenson11>

Lara Buxey of Chapel Corner has launched a dog-walking business under the name of Lara's Fetch & Stretch. See details on <http://www.larasfetchandstretch.co.uk/wp>.

The Rev Rachel Lewis is leaving the benefice of Hamstead Marshall, Enborne, Inkpen, West Woodhay, Combe and Kintbury at the end of June. She is returning to her native Wales to work as a hospital chaplain. She came to the area in February 2012.



Jazz in The Park




Featuring **'The Valentinos'**, a superb four piece Jazz Band & **William Tapley**, as Lead Vocalist



(William has starred in West End musicals including Mamma Mia & Dirty Dancing)



Thursday 23 June 2016
from 7pm

Picnic in the grounds of Park Lodge, Hamstead Marshall



If the weather is unkind **'The Show Will Go On'** in a marquee



Suggested donation of £10 per person
All proceeds to St Mary's Church, Hamstead Marshall

Sorry, no children under 16 ... Free parking - RG20 0JD

FREE ENTRY

COME AND JOIN IN THE

PARTY IN THE PARISH

SAT 9TH JULY
3 TO 7PM AT
THE VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND

OLD FASHIONED GAMES + TUG O'WAR +
EGG CATCHING + WELLY THROWING +
BOTTLE TOMBOLA + FACE PAINTING +
BEST CAKE COMPETITION
MOST STALLS 20P A GO

St Mary's Church now has its own website on www.hamsteadmarshallchurch.co.uk, where service times, events and contacts are listed.

Hamstead Hornet

The *Hamstead Hornet* is published quarterly online at www.hamsteadmarshall.net/hornet.htm. Readers who have supplied their email addresses to the editor receive notification with a link as soon as each issue is posted. Printed copies are produced only for those with no internet connection. News stories are updated between issues on www.hamsteadmarshall.net/noticeboard.htm. The *Hamstead Hornet* is edited and published by Penelope Stokes at The Holding, Hamstead Marshall, Newbury, Berks RG20 0HW
01488 658759 admin@hamsteadmarshall.net