

# ITCHENOR NEWS

Brought to you by The Itchenor Society

Winter 2012

## Update from the Chairman

Christopher Mead-Briggs

### Old Haven

The Society raised an objection to the demolition of Old Haven which is the last house next to the water on the east side of the Street, with a frontage to the harbour, and its replacement with a contemporary design on a new site closer to the Harbour.

In doing so, it joined the Parish Council, The Harbour Conservancy and the Historic Buildings Officer at Chichester in addition to many village residents in taking this action. All three applications for demolition have now been refused by Chichester. Old Haven was identified in the Conservation Area Character Appraisal as both a 'positive and focal building' and as having an important impact on the setting of the Street. We recommend that anyone interested in its history should read the 'Heritage Asset Assessment' produced by the Architectural History Practice ( the link is: <http://pawam.chichester.gov.uk/WAM/doc/Objection%20Letter-1648493.pdf?extension=.pdf&id=1648493&location=NewVolume4&appid=&contentType=application/pdf&pageCount=18>) which is still on the Chichester District web site and which was commissioned by a number of local residents and for which we are very grateful.

In its Rules of Association the Itchenor Society is charged

with the duty 'To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in the area of benefit'; we do not normally comment on planning applications but in this instance your committee felt that this was a duty.

### The possibility of a 20 mph speed restriction along part of Itchenor Road and the Street.

Shortly before our AGM, we were asked by our Parish Council if we would ask those attending whether residents would support the introduction of a 20 mph limit along the northern stretch of Itchenor Road from the barn conversions as far as the Harbour. This proposal was raised as a possibility at the AGM and received overwhelming support as did the second proposal to offer Society funds towards the project if the County Highways Authority were unable to fund the cost of signs. A meeting has now taken place with the Highways Authority and the request has been made to them. It will take some time for them to consider and to consult before we hear whether we have their support and we will keep you updated.

### Church Field

Events have moved forward over the last 12 months since we last reported to you

that the field to the west of St Nicholas Church was purchased on behalf of St Nicholas by a benefactor as a Christian act of kindness to our community. Access was denied by a gate that was erected as many of you know but in June this year a second gate was installed into the field which has now been renamed Church Field by our benefactor. This gives direct access into the field for the congregation of St Nicholas Church and is opened before each service commences. It was erected with the agreement of Chichester District Council (CDC). When it was erected our benefactor asked the Committee of the Society for help. This was because CDC had asked that its use for parking by the Church congregation be formally approved by way of a Lawful Use Certificate. This needed community assistance to compile. Your committee met on 20th July and carefully reviewed this request. They decided to give their support by a unanimous vote. The reason for this is not perhaps clear to everyone. It is this:- The field was bought so that it is saved for St Nicholas congregation to park in when attending St Nicholas. Research shows that over the last 14 years attendances of over 20 people take place 49 days of the year. Most of these will be on a Sunday. On Remembrance Day, Christmas Day and at Easter, St Nicholas is often attended

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by 100 or more people. Similar levels of attendance occur when weddings, funerals and memorial services take place. The limited parking on the verge and in the lay-by is insufficient. The field has been used in this way for overflow car parking for over 20 years, perhaps 30. CDC were not aware that it has been used in this way for so many years. They were unhappy that the use was not recorded and felt that the method to adopt was by way of a Lawful Use Certificate. They wanted evidence from the previous owner but also from the clergy and churchwardens and those who have parked in the field. Our benefactor therefore needed help. Before agreeing to help we explained to our benefactor that the field was in one of the more sensitive locations in the village lying as it does within the AONB, the Conservation Area adjoining our historic church and that it is protected by policies in our Village Design Statement . We received the following assurances from our benefactor:

- That it is to remain as an overflow car park for those attending St Nicholas.
- That its rural character will not be changed.
- That it is remaining as a grass field.
- That the gate will in due course be changed to a wooden gate.

With these clear understandings your committee voted unanimously to offer its assistance to firstly secure the Lawful Use Certificate and then support the need for shingle under the gate. We joined with members of the Parochial Church Council and shared out the work. The Lawful Use Certificate was applied for in September.

The Parish Council have now recommended approval of the amended application and we await the decision of Chichester District Council on the application.

## The Village Design Statement

*by Peter Arnold, Honorary Secretary*

In our November 2010 Newsletter we explained why the 2004 Village Design Statement (VDS) required updating and in our Spring 2012 Newsletter we outlined all the major changes that we had made including the dates for the public consultation. We received very useful feedback from the consultation which we sent to the District Council, the Harbour Conservancy, and the Parish Council for final comments. Having completed the revision of the VDS 2nd Edition, it was submitted to

Chichester District Council and on 4th December it was approved as a material consideration in planning decisions by the Council's Cabinet. This means that in future when planning applications are made in the village, its guidelines will be considered by the Planning Authority (and a Planning Inspector if there is an appeal) before a decision is made. Our thanks go to all those who committed so much time to this project.

The District Council, the Harbour Conservancy, The Parish Council and your Society Committee all wish to see printed copies rather than just an electronic copy. A number of members raised the question of the cost of printing at our last AGM especially as our Chairman gave the figure of £6000 which was the cost of the 2004 publication.

We are pleased to tell you that based on our latest quotations the Society's contribution to publishing and printing will be approximately £2000. Printing costs have been reduced to about £3000 and layout and design costs are about £1000 (a free service from the Harbour Conservancy in 2004).

We have contributions of £1000 from the Parish Council and a £1000 from the Sustainable Development Fund run by DEFRA. This leaves the Society's contribution at £2000 or thereabouts. We plan a print run of 600 copies. Fewer copies saves very little as the bulk of the cost is setting up the print run. The 'shelf life' of the 2nd Edition will be considerably extended by placing all national, district and local planning policies in a loose leaf folder at the back of the VDS so that it can be updated when new policies are adopted.

The Committee is conscious of the very strong body of opinion particularly from those who produced the original document that they wish us to produce printed rather than electronic copies. To this end we have let the village know through our Newsletters over the last two years and you have already contributed to the printing costs through raffles and by other fund raising. The contribution of £1000 from the Sustainable Development Fund run by DERFA must be drawn down before Spring next year and therefore it is necessary for us to complete the project as soon as possible. We hope the above helps to explain the justification of this project.

We have been asked by the Chairman of the Itchenor Memorial Hall Committee, Alan Stedman, to convey his thanks to everyone who responded so generously to the Chair Appeal. In future we can look forward to a comfortable squeak free chair when attending events in the Village Hall.

# Choir, Club and important December dates

by Mike Goddard, Membership Secretary

## Village Voices

Village Voices was created earlier this year having been introduced to the village by three families, Trevelyan, Fawcett and Pudney. It is run by two very bubbly young ladies Kaytie Harding and Louise

Shaw who organise various singing groups and choirs throughout Sussex under their banner 'Voice from the Coalshed'. We meet at the Itchenor Memorial Hall on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 am to 12.30pm and sing a variety of songs. We have a lot of fun and you are encouraged to join us. You need no previous singing or musical experience at all just come along and sing with us. £6 a session - amazing value.

## Winter Membership at Itchenor Sailing Club

Free winter membership is offered to all residents of Itchenor and the Itchenor Society for the period 1st November 2012 to 31st March 2013.

Just simply register with the sailing club either by phone 512400 or email office@itchenorsailingclub.co.uk or in person at the office or bar.

You will be able to use the bar and buttery. Opening hours Friday evenings for bar and supper, Saturday all day including supper, and Sunday from brunch to lunch. You can pay with cash or debit/credit card or apply for a club prepayment card which gives you a 12.5% discount on your purchases. A minimum prepayment amount applies.

## Important December dates

Friday 15th

Erection of Christmas trees at St Nicholas's Church and The Hard

Sunday 16th

St Nicholas Church at 6.00pm 'Carols by Candlelight' with Village Voices

Sunday 23rd

Carols at The Ship at 8.00pm (ish)

Friday 21st

'Village Carols'.

This year the event is being run jointly by Itchenor Society and Itchenor Sailing Club and again will be in support of The Sussex Snowdrop Trust which supports and cares for terminally ill children. The event will start at 6pm at 'Stop Tide House' (corner of Glebefield Road). Processing to St Nicholas's Church at 6.30pm, The Ship at 7.15pm, Itchenor Sailing Club at 7.30pm. Upon arrival at the sailing club you will be offered complimentary mulled wine and entertained by the 'Village Voices' with a selection of carols. You are encouraged to stay for a one course supper adults @£8 children under 10 @ £6.50. Please book your supper tickets in advance direct with the sailing club on 512400 or e-mail office @ itchenorsailingclub.co.uk.

Monday 24th

4pm St Nicholas Church 'Children's Carols by Candlelight'  
11.30 pm Midnight Communion

Tuesday 25th

8am St Nicholas Church Holy Communion (BCP)  
11am Family Communion

# Diary of Events 2013

**The Itchenor Society Winter Lunch** will be held at the **Sailing Club on Sunday January 20th 2013**. Bookings in advance only from the Treasurer, details and booking form will be delivered early January.

**Rounders Match**, next year we hope to try and arrange a date around the Easter Period.

**Wreath Laying Ceremony, Itchenor Hard Friday 7th June 2013**

**The Itchenor Society Summer Party** will be held on **Saturday 8th June 2012 at Harbour House** Spinney Lane courtesy of Glynis and Peter Lansdale

**Itchenor Society AGM Friday 8th November 2013 Memorial Hall**



A huge thank you to all those who responded to the invitation to join this years 'Itchenor Society Green Gym' held at the village pond.

The session started with some hedge cutter wielding maniac flattening the Island of anything over 2" tall (except the trees of course).

This was followed by a fashion parade of the latest Pink T shirts, jumpers and wellies, unfortunately the winner could not be identified because she insisted on hiding behind dark glasses, the knobbly knees competition was won by the guy in the middle with the cap. On show was an example of the latest transport available in Itchenor which seemed to meet the approval of a member of the WIPC. Throughout this our pyromaniac was stoking his inferno to meltdown temperature, nothing could have survived the heat generated that day!

*Peter Arnold Honorary Secretary Itchenor Society*

## Itchenor Society Committee

### Officers

<b>Chairman</b>	Christopher Mead-Briggs	511092	<a href="mailto:christophermead-briggs@itchenor.plus.com">christophermead-briggs@itchenor.plus.com</a>
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Jim Hartley	512612	<a href="mailto:hartley546@btinternet.com">hartley546@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Hon Secretary</b>	Peter Arnold	513721	<a href="mailto:secretary@itchenorsociety.com">secretary@itchenorsociety.com</a>
<b>Hon Treasurer</b>	Ian Christmas	512509	<a href="mailto:ianchristmas@btinternet.com">ianchristmas@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Membership Sec</b>	Mike Goddard	511134	<a href="mailto:sunnybrow@gmail.com">sunnybrow@gmail.com</a>

### Executive

Chris Blevins	514279	<a href="mailto:cblevins@seh-ltd.co.uk">cblevins@seh-ltd.co.uk</a>
Philip Edwards	512157	<a href="mailto:philipvedwards@btinternet.com">philipvedwards@btinternet.com</a>
Emma Purcell	514495	<a href="mailto:emma@emmap.co.uk">emma@emmap.co.uk</a>
Alex Webb	514766	<a href="mailto:alexwebb833@btinternet.com">alexwebb833@btinternet.com</a>
Tony Offredi	512882	<a href="mailto:toffredi@btconnect.com">toffredi@btconnect.com</a>
Glynis Lansdale	512374	<a href="mailto:glynislansdale@hotmail.com">glynislansdale@hotmail.com</a>

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Please send any comments to the Secretary address as above