



# Newsletter for King's Thorn, The Birches & Aconbury

A newsletter for the villages of King's Thorn, Little Birch, Much Birch & Aconbury.

June 2018. First published 1977..

**Little Birch Village Hall**  
Richard Bean's laugh-out-loud satirical romp of slapstick and one-liners

# ONE MAN TWO GUVNORS

Based on  
*The Servant of Two Masters*  
by Carlo Goldoni  
including songs from the original  
National Theatre Production  
by Grant Girding  
and Richard Bean

**28th, 29th & 30th  
June, 2018  
7.30 pm**

**Tickets: £10  
(Includes Supper)**

**Contact:  
Margaret (01981) 540374  
Liz 01981 540479**

## Church Services June 2018

Sunday 3rd June (1st Sunday after Trinity)  
Little Birch Communion 11.00 a.m.

Sunday 10th June (2nd Sunday after Trinity)  
Much Birch Family Communion 9.15 a.m.  
Little Birch Morning Worship 11.00 a.m.

Sunday 17th June (3rd Sunday after Trinity)  
Much Birch Communion 9.15 a.m.  
Little Birch BCP Communion 11.00 a.m.

Sunday 24th June (St. John the Baptist)  
Joint service at Llanwarne Old Church 11.00 a.m.



## Diary Dates

### May 2018

25th Village Market MBCH  
30th Gardening Club LBVH

### June 2018

6th Parish Council Meeting LBVH  
7th Coffee Morning LBVH  
10th June Parish Walk  
12th Whist Drive LBVH  
13th Duchy Walk  
16th Book Exchange Methodist Chapel  
19th WI Meeting MBCH  
20th Gardening Club LBVH  
21st Walking Festival  
28th-30th Summer Show LBVH

### July 2018

7th LB Church Summer Fete

## Much Birch WI

Much Birch WI meets on the third Tuesday of each month in Much Birch Community Hall, just off the A49. The Hall is next door to the surgery and both are signed from the road.

Visitors and potential new members are always welcome. Please contact Sallie on 01432 340069 for further details.

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

Please send copy for the July Newsletter to  
[editorial@birchesnews.org.uk](mailto:editorial@birchesnews.org.uk) or written  
contributions to John Bryant at Bramley Bungalow,  
Aconbury Close, King's Thorn.

—by 18th June please.

## Local News for June 2018.



### FREEMAN OF CHESTER

Last month Aconbury resident, Jennifer Jones, became a 'Freeman of Chester' – that's right, FreeMAN, not WOMAN. Her father and his two brothers were made 'Free' in 1979 by right of birth but daughters were not eligible, as it was passed down from father to son. The Jones brothers only had daughters so it was thought, then, that the family link would die out but in 1993 the Guilds decided to admit women for the first time. The Jones cousins decided to continue this link with history by also applying to be made 'Free'.

Chester's Lord Mayor, who is a woman, officiated at the ceremony, in all her splendid regalia, supported by the Mace Bearer and Sword Bearer – and a host of existing Freemen in Blue Gowns and Ceremonial Hats. There were 22 applicants in total and each had to swear an oath "to be faithful, profitable and true to the Queen of Great Britain and the Commonalty of the City of Chester".

Asked why she wanted to become a Freeman, Jennifer said that it was to honour her father and support the Guilds and she was thrilled to be given the opportunity. When asked if it conveyed any privileges she said if she were a military man she could march her militia through the city with fixed bayonets!

Her Great Great Grandfather was the first Jones to be granted the Freedom of the City after serving a seven year apprenticeship as a linen draper. Jennifer has now joined the Cappers, Pinners, Wierdrawers and Linnendrapers(sic) Guild.

*Congratulations to Tammy Shears and Ben Esthop of 2 Park Gates, Wormelow on the birth of their beautiful baby boy Eli born 4th May 2018.*

### Little Birch Gardening Club

Meets on a regular basis at  
Little Birch Village Hall  
For further information contact  
*Lesley Chapman - 01981 541370/*



artv alive FLICKS IN THE STICKS

at Much Birch Community Hall PRESENTS

A fundraising screening of  
**Les Misérables on BASTILLE DAY**

Come and 'HEAR THE PEOPLE SING!'

**Tickets £10 (£5 under 16s)**  
To include glass of wine  
and cheese during the interval  
Licensed bar also available

**Saturday 14th July 2018**  
7pm (doors open 6.30pm)

Tickets available in advance and on the door -  
Call 01981 540097 or 01981 540095

Raising funds for Much Birch Community Hall



Little Birch &  
Aconbury  
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

### Little Birch & Aconbury Joint Neighbourhood Development Plan

#### Draft Plan

At a meeting of the Steering Group on 16 May our consultant Dr. David Nicholson drew attention to the **responses to our Consultation Draft Plan**. There were replies from various departments of Herefordshire Council and various other authorities. These were The Coal Authority, Environment Agency, Highways England, Natural England, Welsh Water and Woodland Trust – and 17 responses, many of which were appreciated, from residents of Aconbury and Little Birch using the **Reponse Forms** supplied with the copy of the **Consultation Draft** given to all households in the two parishes.

This has resulted in a small number of amendments to the Plan, which were discussed at the meeting and approved by the Steering Group. The revised version of the NDP is now being prepared by David and will be returned to Herefordshire Council for another round of environmental assessments. When finalised this will be returned to Little Birch Parish Council and Aconbury Parish Meeting for approval.

Anyone interested in further details please contact Sophie Glover – Clerk to LB&A Steering Group  
[littlebirchpccclerk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:littlebirchpccclerk@hotmail.co.uk) for notifications of future meetings or check out the website –  
[www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org](http://www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org).

The final stage of the **Aconbury and Little Birch Neighbourhood Development Plan 2011 -2031** will be a **Referendum**. A majority of those who vote need to agree with the Plan for it to be finalised and come into use.

### 'Herefordshire Walking Festival' Walk 29

#### Exploring Little Birch

Thursday 21st June 2018 2.00pm to 4.45pm approx  
*An informative history tour around Little Birch. Starting in the Parish Field, passing points of interest along green lanes to Athelstan's Wood, returning by way of the Church and Higgin's Well.*

Tea & cakes in the village hall (donations on the day).

Distance 3 miles

Meet Little Birch Village Hall

Cost Adult £5.00 Child FREE

**Bookings** - contact [walking@walkingfestival.com](mailto:walking@walkingfestival.com) or 01432 352287.

**The Much Birch Parish Council Meeting dates for 2018 are as follows: July 5th, no meeting in August, then September 6th, October 4th, November 8th and December 6th.**

Put your kettle on

for St Michael's Hospice



St Michael's Hospice  
Always a place of light and love

Hosting a Big Tea is a great reason to get together and raise money for your Hospice by doing something we all love - drinking tea and eating cake.

To get your Big Tea pack, call Gaynor on 01432 852 630 or visit [st-michaels-hospice.org.uk](http://st-michaels-hospice.org.uk)

Over the next few months. I'll be sending out area-specific Open Gardens information: keep your eyes peeled if you know you have one in the vicinity, and do let me know if you'd like information about any of our gardens in advance. If you'd like to have a look at what's coming up in the season, go to: <http://www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/event-type/open-gardens/>

Many thanks,

**Rachel Entwisle**

Communications Assistant

Direct tel 01432 852 655 Fax 01432 851 022

Email [rentwisle@smhospicehereford.org](mailto:rentwisle@smhospicehereford.org)

web [www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk](http://www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk)

### Duchy Walk

Geraint Richards, head forester of the Duchy of Cornwall, has kindly agreed to lead a walk around Aconbury Woods on **Wednesday June 13<sup>th</sup>** from Little Birch Village Hall. We will leave at 6pm so please gather from 5.45 onwards.

As before, Geraint and Ed Clark will introduce us to the management of the wood and we will wander round to some areas where they have just been felling. We will be walking on – hopefully not muddy! – paths.

Please come and join us for refreshments afterwards in the hall, a contribution of £3.00 is requested. You will then have an opportunity to question Geraint and Ed. Do come and join us

### June Parish Walk

Sunday 10 June - Meeting at LBVH at 1.45pm

Come and join in a circular walk through Aconbury Woods to Twyford Common about 4 miles

All welcome

Angela Middleton  
01981 540377

Voluntary Footpath  
Officer



### Ceilidh

On Saturday evening, 12<sup>th</sup> May, in Little Birch village hall, we enjoyed a wonderful ceilidh held by the Silver Branch Ceilidh Band, with Harriet Berenger as the caller. The evening, full of energy, joy and laughter, was enjoyed by people of all ages.

The folk singing from Alana and Alice was beautiful, and their choice of songs was lovely.

The band enjoyed themselves too - they found it a pleasure playing for such a great bunch of dancers. Well done all you enthusiastic dancers.

Many thanks to all those who helped make this event happen, and we hope to bring you more similar events in the future!

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## About Us

Carrot&Wine Stores is brand new to the Hereford area.

Our family run company aims to offer all the convenience and family friendly service of a local store with the added benefit of locally sourced produce.

We stock local groceries, meats and cheese to local award winning cider, wine and all the daily essentials such as bread, milk, eggs and newspapers.

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# CARROT & WINE STORES



# WORMELOW



# Little Birch Village Hall Committee

Newsletter notices for June 2018

## Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

**10:30am - 12:30pm at Little Birch Village Hall.**

Join us and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, some cake or a biscuit. Make new friends or catch up with old friends, have a chat and find out more about the local community and let us know your thoughts and suggestions as to how we can develop these regular meetings.

If you need help with transport please contact Margaret: 01981 540374

## Whist Drive

We guarantee a warm welcome and a fun evening with good company at our monthly whist drive whatever your ability. Excellent prizes and refreshments too.

Our next **Whist Drive** is on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June** at Little Birch Village Hall. We start at **7.30 pm** and the entrance fee is just £2.00.

## Little Birch Village Hall Committee AGM

All members of the community are invited to join us at our 2018 annual general meeting.

We look forward to welcoming you at **7pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June** at Little Birch Village Hall.

## Community Book Exchange/Lending Library

The next Book Exchange will be on the morning of **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June** at the former Methodist Chapel opposite the Village Hall **10am – 12pm**.

All members of the community are invited to join us for this enjoyable monthly event which offers not only a wide range of books and DVDs (to suit all ages and interests) but also an opportunity to meet others and exchange recommendations for a good read.

There is a charge of just £1 per adult towards the cost of the hire and refreshments.

## Drama Group

The next production by the Drama Group of "One Man, Two Guvnors" will be on Thursday, Friday and Saturday 28th to 30th June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Tickets available at £10 to include a "themed" supper from Margaret on 01981 540374 or Liz on 01981 540479

*Linedance classes in MBCH on Wednesday evenings. 7.30pm-9.30pm...£4.00 Not suitable for absolute beginners*

*Contact Jean Harris on 07506718907 for further details*



## Fundraising for Much Birch Church

The Fundraising Committee for Much Birch Church has been working hard to raise the necessary funds required for the repair and restoration of windows in Much Birch Church at a total cost of around £36,198. So far, 4 windows on the south wall and some stonework around them have been repaired to the tune of £18,697.56. This was achieved by small grants and kind donations, as well as fundraising events organised by the committee and supported by the community. We now need to repair and restore the East Stained Glass window, which has been in place since about 1850 and has had no repair work carried out since then. We want to preserve this beautiful window; so to prevent further bowing of the panes and damage to the lead work, it needs to be specialist repaired in the very near future. The estimated cost of this part of the project is £17,500 and so far the total sum raised for this phase is £10,440. Again this has been achieved by kind and generous donations from one or two people as well as further fundraising events. We need help now to achieve our objective! We are therefore appealing to members of the community to support us, either by joining our Fundraising Committee, or putting forward ideas on how to raise the rest of the money needed, by fundraising themselves, or by simply donating.

The Fundraising Committee not only raises funds for the Windows project but also contributes to the general running of the church e.g. by the cake stall and refreshments at the Village Market, and therefore intends to continue its existence after the window project is complete. The present members have worked very hard over the last 2 years but would very much welcome new members to share the load. You would be met with open arms! If you are willing to help in any way though, please contact Sylvia Jones, tel: 01981 540980.

There is a very colourful chart located in the church, based on a picture of the stained glass window, the idea of, and cleverly put together by Dr. Peter Garlick, which indicates the progress of the fund raising. The coloured sections denote the money raised and the white areas identify the money still to be raised. We need to convert those white sections to coloured sections!

The Committee hopes that we can look forward to hearing from you.

## **Send Ecards Online**

Send birthday greetings, thank you cards, Christmas greetings and other messages to your friends and family using our electronic cards (ecards) platform.

To send an ecard please visit

<https://ecards.hopespring.org.uk>

Donations to Hope Spring ecards supports

[www.hopespring.org.uk](http://www.hopespring.org.uk) . Registered charity number: 1165468.

## Wanted

Much Birch Community Hall Management Committee is looking for a Cleaner for the Community Hall. The position is paid and would be for 4 hours per week at the moment. If you are interested and would like more information about the post please call John or Sylvia Jones on telephone number 01981 540980. The closing date for applications is 9<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## Much Birch Community Hall 100 Club

The May draw took place on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018 in Much Birch Community Hall at 10.30am and the results were as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> prize – 43

2<sup>nd</sup> prize - 32

Mrs. J Hardy  
Sellack

Mr. & Mrs D. Wiseman  
King's Thorn

Brecon and District Male Voice Choir and Grace Notes Ladies Choir will perform in concert at Kingstone Church on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> July. The ticket only event will begin at 7 pm. Tickets are £10.00 and will include a light supper.



This will be the second time that these choirs have sung at an event together and they enjoy the opportunity to sing both as individual choirs and as a powerful joint choir.

The Brecon choir was founded in 1937 and sings at local eisteddfodau as well as many other events, including in the Millennium Stadium before a Rugby International. They also join with other choirs at the Albert Hall for the "London Welsh, Festival of Welsh Choirs"

By comparison the Grace Notes Choir is a "new kid on the block" having been formed five years ago. It performs a number of concerts each year for charitable events, most recently at the River Carnival, Hereford and Wellington. The members enjoy the camaraderie and challenge of belonging to the choir and new members are always welcome.

Tickets are available from Beverley on 01981 251844, from Kingstone Food and Wine, and Janet on 01981 250135

The next draw will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018 in Much Birch Community Hall.

## LITTLE BIRCH GARDEN FETE

THIS YEAR THE GARDEN FETE HAS A  
NEW VENUE

AT THE HOME OF  
KATE AND JOHN DILLON  
CASTLE NIBOLE  
LITTLE BIRCH.

**SATURDAY JULY 7<sup>TH</sup> 2PM**

WE ARE LOOKING FOR HELPERS ON THE  
DAY AND RAFFLE DONATIONS, CAKES,  
BOTTLES FOR TOMBOLA, PLANTS, JAMS  
AND CHUTNEYS ETC, BOOKS.

PLEASE CONTACT JOHN CATON ON 01981  
540415.

SPECIAL THANKS TO CHRIS ATKINSON  
FOR HIS CONTINUED SUPPORT ON  
PREVIOUS EVENTS.



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# Birch Band Night

'FEATURING'

'CROCKERS ASH SCRATCH' BAND' & 'MY TIN MONKEY'

CHILD  
£5

SATURDAY 9TH JUNE... 7PM TILL LATE

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Two-Course Supper Included, Plus Donations Bar

Camping available £5 a pitch!

All proceeds to Little Birch Church, in need of urgent repairs.



### Not the Archers....but the Masons at Merrivale

Having been on the various village walks recently, people have been wanting to know what we have been up to on the farm so I thought I'd set about explaining some of this.

As a quick introduction, Merrivale Farm is a 400 acre organic dairy farm. Bob and myself (Sue) took on the tenancy at Merrivale in 1981 and moved with our children and 60 cows from Staffordshire. We now have around 180 milking cows and 180 youngstock of various ages that provide us with our replacements for the herd. The farm is now run by our son Ben and daughter Lucy with two other employees. Bob and myself, reluctant to retire, still turn up and annoy everyone and do various jobs....because there is always something to do. One thing I can be certain of over the years is that if you cross one job off the list two more are added.

The farm belongs to the Duchy of Cornwall's Hereford Estate. We did have a visit from our Landlord, Prince Charles in 2000 when the Duchy purchased the estate from Prudential Insurance.

So what have we been up to lately? After a grim, dark & wet winter, spring at last arrived and it was finally dry enough for the cows to go out to graze in mid April. Since then, we have steadily been putting all the younger cattle out to grass in various groups. The groups consist of close to calving, far off calving and then younger cattle that are not yet ready to be put in calf. Two weeks ago we cut 200 acres of grass and made it into silage, ready for next winter. Crazy that with winter just over we

are already preparing for the next one.

To make silage, the grass is mown, wilted for 24 hours, then picked up and chopped by a forage harvester. The harvester blows the grass into trailers which then tip it into a pit where it is heaped, rolled and finally sheeted to keep out the air. The sugars in the grass then ferment to produce acid down to a pH or around 4 which then preserves the grass.

At the same time we mowed more grass. We baled and wrapped it in plastic – the same process of preservation but in bales rather than loose in a pit. With the grass cut, the ground is then fertilised using farmyard manure and slurry from the cows. This makes the grass grow ready for another cut in 4 to 5 weeks time.

Many people in the village who have visited the farm on one of our various open days, will know that our cows are milked by three Lely Robots. If you haven't seen these and want to see how they work, do an internet search for Lely A4 Astronaut and you will find a video. The nice thing about milking cows through robots is that the cows are more free to roam but tend to put themselves into a routine of being milked every 8 hours.

In the summer the cows go through the robots and are let out to grazing from 9.30pm. When we turn up in the morning all but 3 or 4 have gone out so we send them through to make sure every animal is milked at least twice a day. Everywhere is then cleaned and bedded and we let the cows in again to get milked and go out onto the day grass paddocks.

By 3pm all the cows have gone out again. We then repeat the process of cleaning and bedding everything and at 4pm the cows will start bringing themselves back in. By 6pm all the cows are in and eating a mixed diet of silage and organic concentrates that we feed them on to keep them full while they're in the shed. At 9.30pm the whole process starts again and the cows start to go out on the night time grass paddocks.

We have an opportunity between 8am and 5pm to check any cows that need attention. The computer that controls the robots and takes information from the cows when they are milking will highlight any problems.

So that's an introduction to what we get up to. If there is enough interest, I can do regular update, focussing on a different topic each time. This would mean I can give a more detailed insight into what goes on.

Hope you're enjoying this beautiful weather as much as we are!

### The Masons

#### Much Birch Village Markets

The dates for 2017 are as follows:

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, July 27<sup>th</sup>, August –no market, September 28<sup>th</sup>, October 26<sup>th</sup>, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

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+  
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£12.95

BOOKING ADVISABLE

**KILPECK EVENTS:**

Our ART CLUB has been running in a beautiful setting in Kilpeck for over thirty years.

We meet in the Kilpeck Village Hall on Monday afternoons from 2-4 pm and each year we have an autumn and spring/summer session.

We are always pleased to see new members. We don't have formal tuition but help and encourage each other. Please come along for a free taster session. We will be holding our biennial exhibition and sale in September.

**This year our first meeting is on 12 February, and will continue until the early summer.**

**For more information contact**

**[jen64davies@gmail.com](mailto:jen64davies@gmail.com)**

\*\*\*\*\*

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# Open Garden Events

## Hellens Garden Festival

**WHEN:** Friday 9 June through Sunday 10 June 2018 | 10am-5pm **WHERE:** Hellens, Much Marcle, HR8 2LY

Adult £7, u16 £2.50, family £16 (two adults and up to four children).

A discount is available for two-day tickets.

### Water, the Life Force

A two-day summer spectacular awaits in the beautiful surrounds of one of Herefordshire's most stunning venues.

Hellens Garden Festival will feature exhibitors and demonstrations, all helping you discover the joy of gardening and how to attend to the earth and environment.

Whatever the size of your plot, you will discover how working with nature gives you so much in return.

This year, the focus will be on the pure and invaluable asset that is water and how best to sustain it for generations to come.

Throughout the two days, visitors can explore the priceless commodity which has nourished countless generations since the dawn of civilisation.

Herefordshire's fine blacksmithing heritage will also be on show with demonstrations by those who excel in the traditional skill.

County-based Say it with Wood are also set to entertain crowds with a display of their work, alongside many other artisan demonstrations.

Stretch your legs while walking around the sculpture trail, and play your part in creating interactive community artwork such as a Mandala pattern using recycled and natural items, an exhibition which was such an eye-catching highlight last year.

Hellens will continue to build on and develop the ecological and sustainable green approaches to everything it showcases, bringing innovative and inspiring practices and interactive activities to all.

For more information, visit our website: <http://www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/event/hellens-garden-festival-3/>

## Yew Tree Cottage

**WHEN:** 8th July 2018 | 11am-5pm  
**WHERE:** Yew Tree Cottage, Welsh Newton, NP25 5RT

Adults £5, u12 free

Refreshments – Plant sale

Dogs on leads welcome

Parking available

**Set just off Welsh Newton Common, Yew Tree Cottage lies in about 5.5 acres of land.**

From the medley of flower beds just outside the property there is a glorious view eastwards across southern Herefordshire as far as the Malvern Hills.

Fittingly, visitors can take in the stunning vista from this spot while enjoying the appropriately-named Malvern Hills roses draped over a pergola.

Walk through a gate onto a delightful wildflower meadow beside a three-acre paddock where you can walk your dogs. This area is also home to a beehive which has a viewing window should visitors wish to peer in.

On your return, gaze at the grapes and tomatoes grown in the green house, which also boasts a show of geraniums, including some more unusual varieties and colours.

Visitors to Yew Tree Cottage during the Open Gardens season of 2015 will notice of couple of changes this time, most notably the addition of a large wildlife pond nestled in the lawned area and sheltered by mature trees beyond the property.

There is plenty of seating in the garden, giving people the opportunity to enjoy the rambling roses, salvias and peonies, among others.

*Turn off the A466 Hereford to Monmouth road at Welsh Newton, signposted to Llangarron. Turn right at the staggered crossroads then keep the phonebox on your left, before turning left into Yew Tree Cottage.*

Laughter Yoga, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June at St Michael's Hospice,  
11am-12:30pm

Laughter Yoga is a combination of laughter and breathing exercises which are good for the body, mind, spirit and soul.

Research has shown that laughing frequently strengthens our immune system, boosts mind, diminishes pain and protects us from the damaging effects of stress. By seeking out more opportunities for humour and laughter, we can improve our emotional health, relationships with others and find greater happiness/contentment. St Michael's Hospice is running a session for adults on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June in the Education Centre at St Michael's Hospice, 11am-12:30pm. All sessions run from 11am – 12.30pm and will be held in the Education Centre. Follow the signs for parking. You may attend one session or as many as you wish. Sessions are free but a donation to St Michael's Hospice would be welcome.

Please note, pre-booking is essential.

Email Elaine at [epawley@smhospicehereford.org](mailto:epawley@smhospicehereford.org)

Email [rentwise@smhospicehereford.org](mailto:rentwise@smhospicehereford.org)

web [www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk](http://www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk)

## Ross Meetings for June 2018

Ross Library Development Group (RLDG): Our June Meeting on Tuesday 19th June 2018, in Ross Library, will include the AGM starting at 7.00 p.m. and will be followed, at 7.45, by a Talk by a spokesman on the work of the SEVERN FREEWHEELERS; this is a free, out of hours service, delivering essential services, including blood, between NHS facilities in Hereford and Worcester.

All are welcome; light refreshments will be available, for donations, but there is no charge for the evening. For further details see the website: [www.rldg.org.uk](http://www.rldg.org.uk) or ring the Secretary on 01989 562424

ROSS ARTS APPRECIATION SOCIETY: All are welcome to attend an illustrated Talk on Friday evening, 1st June, 2018, at the Larruperz Community Centre. 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. The Speaker will be historian David Whitehead and his topic will be the painter JAMES WATHEN. David's book on Wathen will be available. Entry for Members is £2.50 each and for non Members it is £4.50.

For details ring the Chair, Jan Falkiner, on 01989 720539 or the Secretary on 01989 562424.

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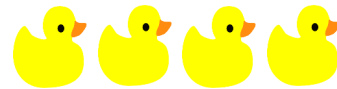
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## Little Birch Parish Council

Your Little Birch Parish Council Councillors are:-

CLlr Ben Roberts	Chairman	01981 540100	b3nroberts@gmail.com
CLlr Steve Naylor		01981 541323	steve.naylor5@btinternet.com
CLlr Mike Morley		01981 541027	morley04@globalnet.co.uk
CLlr Annette Wissler		Contact through the clerk	
CLlr Janet Gwinnett		01981 540651	janetgwinnett@hotmail.com
Angela Middleton	Volunteer Foot Paths Officer	01981 540377	ajbmiddleton@hotmail.co.uk
Sophie Glover	PC Clerk	01432 270499	littlebirchpcclerk@hotmail.co.uk

The May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was attended by all of the councillors. CLlr Ben Roberts was elected to be the Chair for his fourth year, and CLlr Steve Naylor is now his Vice Chair. The LBPC would also like to thank Margaret Scrivens for agreeing to be their internal auditor once again, and Angela Middleton, who continues to be our voluntary footpaths officer.

The Parish Council received Elaine Godding's resignation in January, and they would like to pass on their thanks to her for her many years of service as a Parish Councillor in Little Birch, as well as sending her and her family best wishes for their new life in West Wales. We now welcome a new Parish Councillor, Janet Gwinnett, who I am sure many of you know as she and her family have been in Little Birch for many years.

Parish Council meetings usually happen at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of the month and all parishoners are very welcome to attend. Agendas are posted on the Parish notice board at least three days in advance and are also on our web site.

Mrs Sophie Glover, Little Birch Parish Clerk, The Orchard, Ridgehill, Hereford HR2 8AG

Website: [www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org](http://www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org)

Please see the following from Angela Middleton, our Voluntary Footpath Officer:

### PLEA TO LANDOWNERS AND FARMERS

As crops and grass begin to grow, please be aware and keep all footpaths clear on your land.

*For cross-field public rights of way: a minimum width of 1 metre for a footpath, and 2 metres for a bridleway.*

*For field-edge footpaths: a minimum width of 1.5 metres, and 3 metres for a field-edge bridleway.*

*Info from Gov.uk*

Attention may be needed more than once during the growing season as crops and brambles/nettles grow.

When the way is apparent walkers will know exactly where they can go. It is very enjoyable and encouraging to walk on a good path.

Thank you for your help with this.

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## Little Birch Parish Facebook Group



Find the latest news, events and business listings all in one place.

You are welcome to promote your local business, advertise a local event or post news or information of interest to the village and surrounding area.

Search for *Little Birch Parish Group* on Facebook

**Much Birch Parish Council**  
Parish Clerk Mrs Alison Wright  
Longfield House, Gooses Foot, Kingstone, Herefordshire HR2 9NE  
Tel. 01981 250860  
Email: [muchbirchclerk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:muchbirchclerk@hotmail.co.uk)

16th May 2018

**PARISH MEETING** - at the Parish Council Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 at the Much Birch Community Hall. Those present heard about local concerns regarding HGV use of a tiny lane in the Parish during a recent diversion exercise. The Parish Council heard the concerns and would be looking into various signage options to help deter HGV from using the lane and possibly becoming unable to proceed.

The Parish Council said goodbye to Councillor Tim Jones who has resigned from the Parish Council after a number of years service. He will be much missed and a big thank you is recorded for his work as both parish councillor and Footpath Officer. A vacancy will now be advertised for a new parish councillor. Please see the website and notice boards for details or contact the Clerk, or one of the councillors, for more information about the role.

The future Much Birch Parish Council Meeting dates for 2018 are as follows: June 7<sup>th</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup>, no meeting in August, then September 6<sup>th</sup>, October 4<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup>.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June from 7.30pm** - at The Much Birch Community Hall.

Please see notice boards and website for agendas. As always the public and press are more than welcome to attend and will have the opportunity to speak directly to their representatives.

A reminder that:-

**Your Much Birch Parish Councillors are:-**

Cllr Alison Cook (Chair) Jasmine Cottage, Wrigglebrook Lane, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AW, e mail [thecooks@wyenet.co.uk](mailto:thecooks@wyenet.co.uk) Tel. 01981 540703

Cllr Steve Turner (Vice Chair) The Underhills, Hollybush Lane, Much Birch, Hereford, HR2 8HX, e mail [turnersofcrossways@btinternet.com](mailto:turnersofcrossways@btinternet.com) and Tel. 01981 540090

Cllr Andrew Crum Anfield House, Barrack Hill, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AX, e mail [a.crum@btinternet.com](mailto:a.crum@btinternet.com)  
Tel. 01981 540002

Cllr Roisin Burge The Old Hall, Barrack Hill, Little Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8AX [roisinburge@hotmail.com](mailto:roisinburge@hotmail.com) Tel. 01981 540724

Cllr David Baldwin The Granary, Much Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8HS [baldwin79@btinternet.com](mailto:baldwin79@btinternet.com) Tel. 01981 541198

Full minutes of the meetings and information etc. can be found on the Parish Council website following the link found in this summary. [www.muchbirchparish.org.uk](http://www.muchbirchparish.org.uk).

You can also find us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/MuchBirchPC> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Much.Birch.Parish>

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## South Hereford Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)

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