

# Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## ALL REPORTS

### Report from the Pangbourne Neighbourhood Team- Thames Valley Police

The past year has been incredible busy for the neighbourhood team with regards to the Covid 19 pandemic and the ever changing restrictions that we have had to advise the public on and enforce with fines where necessary. We are fortunate to have a lot of nice areas to walk and exercise in, along with parks in our area so we have received lots of calls regarding possible breaches of covid legislation that we have responded to.

More recently as lockdown ends, whilst crimes are down, we are seeing spikes in anti-social behaviour calls (ASB) particularly around Theale, Tilehurst and Mortimer. We expect this spike to move towards Pangbourne and Purley in the summer months particularly around the river area. We are planning several events in Pangbourne to tackle ASB during the school holidays with use of the police horses again and we are currently in the planning stages with the Royal Berkshire Fire & rescue service to see if we can host some joint events on water safety and anti-social behaviour in Pangbourne.

We have looked through our crime recording system to give you a picture of the types and frequency of crimes reported in Pangbourne over the past year (from 19/04/20 to 18/04/21).

Criminal Damage	18
Theft	15
ASB reports	8
Theft from vehicle	6
Theft of Vehicle	3
Burglary non-Dwelling	3
Burglary Dwelling	6
Assault with injury	8
Assault non injury	16

This does not take into account the few calls over the year that we have received in the Pangbourne parish for suspicious activity and unauthorised encampments.

The Pangbourne neighbourhood team are moving from Pangbourne police station to a new base in Theale Community fire station where we will be co-located with the fire brigade and the south central ambulance service. We are due to move there in October 2021.

You can email the team on "PangbourneNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk"

You can email myself on [Daniel.lond@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Daniel.lond@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

Pangbourne NHPT

## Pangbourne Youth Football Club Report



Pangbourne Youth Football Club / Pangbourne Parish Council AGM

Club Update

April 2021



### CLUB UPDATE

100+

Registered Junior Players

10

Teams

7

Age Groups – U8 to U15

20

Key volunteers

1

External coach supporting

8

Floodlights



Increasing Community Presence & Initiatives



Sound and affordable operating model

150

Footballs!!

# THE FUTURE

Continue to increase community role and presence



Short Term – establish storage solution at Recreation Ground

Medium / Long Term – push for modernisation, improved, new facilities to support club and community. Work with other local community clubs.



## FURTHER INFORMATION

### IMPACTS OF COVID-19

- All teams playing seasons curtailed from March 2020, training resumed through the summer & leagues matches from September 2020, stop / start in line with lockdowns
- Full risk assessments took place, "Club Covid Officer" appointed
- Planned all club presentation day in July 2020 unfortunately cancelled
- Investment in floodlights given no external training venues available
- Support from Bowls / Tennis club for storage
- Fundraising / Challenge activities took place across teams to keep them engaged when we couldn't train (primarily in lockdown 1)
- PYFC Sub committee formed March 2021 to pursue short term storage solution / accelerate discussions on long term vision





## PANGBOURNE COMMUNITY SPORT CHANGING ROOM / STORAGE – IDEAS



Windlesham Community FC Hub



Modular football buildings



Raglan Junior FC

**HILLWOOD Community Trust** have drawn up plans for a sports pavilion and community space.

The building is proposed for a site beside the pitches at 2 Priesthill Road in Greater Pollok, to the south of Silverburn shopping centre.

The facility, to be used by Hillwood Football Club, would include changing areas, a multi-purpose room and warm-up kitchen. Twelve parking spaces would be provided.



Scottish Changing Containers



**NEW DAYN:** A large crowd attending the opening of the changing rooms, and a new era in the life of Boscastle Football Club. Picture: David Flower, Tintagel.



## **PAWS Report to Pangbourne Parish Council for the Annual Meeting Tuesday 20 April 2021**

Our programme for this year has been set by two International Meetings that will take place in 2021. The first, hosted this summer by China, will be the UN COP 15 Meeting on Biodiversity. The second, the UN COP 27 on Climate Change hosted by Britain, to be held in Glasgow in November. Both problems need prompt action by national governments, local governments and individuals to stop the degradation of our planet to enable our children and grandchildren to live on a planet somewhat similar to the one that we have been so lucky to have experienced.

Thanks to Zoom, PAWS have been able to hold regular meetings on various subjects from the complexities involved in wilding gardens and villages to the best way to heat homes using renewable energy.

Apart from our regular meetings, PAWS has worked with various sustainability/environmental groups in the area to promote the use of insulation for reducing energy loss in homes and public buildings, and has been involved in discussions on promoting cycling as a benefit for the individual and the area. On promoting cycling, we have also cooperated with West Berks Council and The Parish Council. At the beginning of this year we had the idea to run a Questionnaire to find out what the local residents of Pangbourne and the surrounding villages think is important about cycling, and what needs to be done to increase the use of bicycles. The questionnaire finished last weekend. We had 143 respondents, far more than we envisaged when we started the project. The results of this questionnaire will be shared with residents through the various village magazines, and we will forward the information directly to the Parish Council and West Berkshire Council.

PAWS has used the Pangbourne Magazine as a way of communicating with residents for the last 10 years. Heather Thorne has written an article for every publication over this period. This year we added to the magazine by opening a new website and a new Facebook Page. We have been delighted with the response to the Facebook page and I strongly recommend using that to find out all that PAWS is involved in.

Another of our successes for this year has been the PAWS interaction with the Parish Council. We have been in discussions about carbon reduction, insulation of public buildings, cycling, tree planting and village wilding to increase the local biodiversity. We were delighted when Councillor Phil Hawkins found the time to join us at our April meeting on Village and Garden Wilding. Following this meeting we are hoping to roll out various projects on garden and village wilding as well as community tree planting over the coming year. In the last two of these, we look forward to collaboration with the Parish Council. We have already started work on a hedgehog interactive map so that we can note where, in the area, there are hedgehogs and then we can promote actions to hopefully increase their numbers.

Perhaps when we are at last able to move on from the Covid 19 pandemic the residents of Pangbourne and Whitchurch will be ready to build back better, with less carbon, fewer cars, reduced pollution, and an increase in numbers and a wider variety of plants and animals present in our two villages.

## **Action for Pangbourne Toilets Community Trust (APT)**

### **Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 20 April 2021**

It has been a very successful year for APT. The Station Road Toilets have been open 24h/day throughout the year, despite Covid and lockdowns. They have been cleaned every day, and the Trustees have inspected them every week. The Ladies and Gents facilities are open from 7am to 7pm, the Out-of-Hours from 7pm to 7am, and the Disabled facility all day (with a Radar key). We have received many messages of thanks, particularly during the lockdowns, from essential workers and others. The usage this past month has been at record levels of about 95 per day.

The Disabled Facility has been completely refurbished & brought up to the current standards. This necessitated the shifting of a wall to increase the space available for wheel-chairs. It was re-opened in December, having been closed for 5 weeks whilst the work was undertaken.

A drinking fountain + water bottle filler has been added to the outside of the building (funded by PAWs & the Drinking Fountain Association).

We are hopeful that we will have sufficient funds to refurbish the Ladies later in the year. We applied for a CIL grant from W Berkshire CC which would have enabled us to modernise/refurbish the Gents and Out-of-hours at the same time. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful with this.

The Trustees are grateful to Pangbourne and other local Parish Councils for their support for running and maintaining the Toilets. This is the basic funding that is essential for us. We are grateful to the Good Exchange, the Co-op, the Pangbourne Rotary, our Supporters and Toilet users for their grants and donations this year for running the toilets and for refurbishing them. It has been a difficult year for fund raising as the usual activities have not been possible and donations in the toilets have been reduced. However, the support we have received has enabled us to remain in a sound financial position.

## **Pangbourne Twinning Association**

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

**2021**

Alison Hill has had to step down as Chairman because of ill health, so I speak as Interim Chairman of the Association.

The 2019 Twinning exchange saw 47 members from Houdan visiting us, the highest number ever. The weekend was very successful, the highlights being a boat trip on the Thames and a visit to Englefield, hosted in person by Richard Benyon.

In 2020, in the absence because of Covid of our planned visit to Houdan, we held a Zoom party with the Houdanais to celebrate VE Day. It was so successful that we held another for the New Year, and a further one is planned for Saturday 1 May, when we should have been in Houdan.

In the meantime, the quality of our spoken French has been maintained with *Marcher et Parler*, the excellent 'Walk and Talk' initiative, where small groups walk in the local countryside talking French. In inclement weather this became *Marcher et Manger* ('Walk and Eat') in a local pub, until Covid intervened. Allied to this initiative are the Beginners and Improvers French lessons, which are proving popular. For details see our website at [pangbourne-twinning.org](http://pangbourne-twinning.org).

Other activities in the past two years included our usual appearance at the Village Fête, our Film Nights held on the last Sunday evening in October, November, January, February and March, two fully subscribed Epiphany dinners at The Ferryboat, and a number of Art Café coffee mornings. During the summer holidays we ran a Village Quiz, with the aim of providing some fun for the village during Covid.

Looking ahead, there will, alas, be no visit to Houdan in 2021, but in 2022 we are hoping to include tennis players, joining us over our Twinning weekend in France to compete against their French opposite numbers. Before then, all our other activities, including the Art Café and the Film Nights, will restart just as soon as the Covid restrictions allow.

## Allotment Annual Report 2020/2021

This year has been a difficult year generally, but a good one as far as the allotments are concerned, because many people have had more leisure time during the lockdown. More activity and a longer waiting list are the result, as well as the physical and mental benefits of being outside in the garden or on the allotment.

Several things had to be cancelled – such as last year's AGM, the May plant sale and the Village Fete, where we always take a stall.

But we also managed to **hold** several events in between-times.

1. The usual spring skip and working party took place in March just before lockdown;
2. the Open Morning for the National Allotments Association in August went ahead successfully,
3. and a second working party with skip (funded by the Parish Council) took place in October before the second lockdown. A very neglected corner of the allotments was cleared up, and is now looking very different.
4. We also managed to hold the annual barbecue in September, and it was a very happy occasion, well-attended with absolutely perfect weather.

Over the winter, Helle Bond put in two orders with King's Seeds at a healthy 40% discount for NSALG members. Because of Covid restrictions, we couldn't help with the sorting and delivery when the seeds arrived – so thanks to her for all her hard work.

This February, volunteers also took part in a tree-planting initiative by the Woodland Trust and Parish Council round the allotments, with mostly extremely small saplings, and they are now coming into leaf. Let's hope they don't get lost in the undergrowth! They are planted round the edges so in future will not affect allotment plots with shade, roots etc. A couple of families with children were involved in this, and we hope they will continue to be engaged in the growing process. This did not meet with 100% approval, but we hope there will not be a problem in future.

We plan to hold the plant sale again this year outside Garlands, by kind permission of the Thorne family. We may have to follow strict guidelines, wear masks, or whatever, but as it is in the open air, we hope it can be conducted safely. The PAA now has a Sum Up machine so that we can take contactless payments. This should help with things **like** the Plant Sale as so few people carry cash at the moment.

I am told that the 2021 Village Fete has been cancelled.

Let's hope that we will be "unlocked" this summer, but that people will continue to appreciate time spent on their allotments. I believe that prices of imported fruit and vegetables are almost certain to go up, so our plots will be a vital part of the family budget.

Happy gardening, and thank you for your support.

To end, here are a few dates for your diaries: Saturday 15 May – Plant Sale; NSALG Open Morning 14 August; Barbecue – 4 September