



SODC turned this option down 3 times in 9 days: at Scrutiny Committee: at Cabinet: at Full Council. North Moreton Parish Council was represented at all 3 meetings.

The battle is not over yet. A further round of consultation is due to begin in early December and will last 7 weeks. Further details will be published on [www.southoxon.gov.uk/corestrategy](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/corestrategy).

The evidence presented by both your District Council and your Parish Council will be examined by an independent planning inspector during the summer of 2011.

*Keith Hutchence, Vice-Chairman, North Moreton Parish Council*

Although NMN does not normally publish articles that could be considered ‘political’, we feel that the potential impact that the Core Strategy will have on North Moreton is such that it should be brought to the attention of parishioners. *Ed.*

## North Moreton Parish Council

### The Recreation Ground and Rushcroft

To follow up on my comments in the October issue of North Moreton News, some further decisions have been made and actions taken regarding the Rec and the Rushcroft.

- On the Rec., some further clearance has been made and bare areas reseeded with grass.
- It has been agreed to install some grass reinforcement mesh in the Rec. inside the Bear Lane gateway and along the boundary of the Rec. with Bear Lane. This will be to make the grass surface less liable to damage by car parking in wet weather.
- A hedge will be planted to give a clearer demarcation between the Rec. and Rushcroft. We have requested a free pack of 105 “year round colour” trees from the Woodland Trust and hope to have them in time to plant in the spring. When the time comes, the Recreation Ground Warden would certainly welcome help from parishioners with the planting – and such cooperation is strongly encouraged by the Woodland Trust.

A small area of the Rushcroft will be planted with wild flowers.

## Dates for your Diary including Forthcoming Events

### DECEMBER

- 8 Infants’ Nativity South Moreton School 2pm
- 8 W I Meeting 7.30pm North Moreton Village Hall
- 9 Infants’ Nativity South Moreton School 6pm
- 16 Carol Concert South Moreton School 7pm
- 19 Service of Nine Lessons & Carols All Saints’ Church 10.30am
- 24 Crib Service All Saints’ Church 4pm
- 24 Christmas Mass All Saints’ Church 9.30pm
- 25 Parish Eucharist **South Moreton Church** 10.30am

### JANUARY

- 5 South Moreton School Term Starts
- 6 Toddler Group Village Hall 9.30 - 11.30am (weekly thereafter)
- 12 W I New Year Dinner at The Bear
- 16 Christingle Service All Saints’ Church 10.30am

### FEBRUARY

- 5 MCC Quiz Village Hall 8pm - TBC
- 9 W I Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
- 18 Brazilian Carnival South Moreton School 2pm

### MARCH

- 5 North Moreton Black & White Masked Safari Supper

**A very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and  
Prosperous New Year to you all**

## Local Transport

OCC is currently consulting on its draft blueprint for transport improvement in the county over the next 20 year.

To have *your* say visit [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ltp](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ltp) or call 01865 815093. The consultation closed on Sunday 9th January 2011.

With effect 1st April 2011 Oxford County Council will be taking over responsibility for concessionary bus passes from SODC. Details of current holders will automatically be transferred so there is no need to take action yourself.

If you need advice on transport in the area, you can call the Oxfordshire Travel Advice Line on 01865 323738 9am - 5pm Monday - Friday or email [oxtail@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:oxtail@oxfordshire.gov.uk).

## Oxford Advocacy

Oxfordshire Advocacy is a charity that works all around Oxfordshire providing a **free** advocacy service. They provide advocates for people who are having difficulty getting their voices heard about matters concerning them. Their schemes help those with short-term issues, those with learning disabilities, those with dementia or those who lack capacity.

They are always looking for new volunteers, each receiving training and expenses, and ask for a one year commitment. The time constraint is not large and there is continual support throughout. The next training is being held on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> February.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer call 01865 741200 or email [oadg@oadg.org.uk](mailto:oadg@oadg.org.uk). You can also download an information leaflet from their website: [www.oadg.org.uk](http://www.oadg.org.uk).

## North Moreton Website

Visit [North-Moreton.com](http://North-Moreton.com) for news of events, Parish Council information, village history and links to many useful local sites. Don't forget to use the Events Calendar when planning events to avoid clashes. Contact Sonia Willson - [Admin@North-Moreton.com](mailto:Admin@North-Moreton.com)

## 2011/2012 Budget and Precept.

The Parish Council has been considering its budget and Precept for the next financial year. On the one hand, we have an unusually large cash reserve because anticipated litigation was settled out of court. But we have many things which need money spent on them, particularly ground maintenance, including some expensive "once-off" items. On the other hand, when Government and local councils are making dramatic cuts to budgets and services, it may not seem appropriate to be increasing spending.

The PC is minded to take a compromise course. The draft budget is higher than in most years but we are proposing to reduce reserves and cut the Precept (what you pay as a small part of the Council Tax) from this year's £7000 to £6000. A final decision will be made in January. Please note that £6000/year is below our anticipated long term requirement and that at some point the Precept may have to increase again.

## Dog Fouling.

In the October edition of North Moreton News, I asked for views on installation of Dog Poo bins in the village. This is clearly a subject which is of little interest to parishioners in general as we received only four comments in total - all supportive of buying bins. The PC will consider what to do at a future meeting.

*Roger Haycock, Chairman NMPC*

## Remembrance Day Collections

The house to house collection in North Moreton this year raised a total of £226.06 with a further £42.69 from The Bear and £138 from the Church collections making a total of £406.75 - a fantastic result for a village of our size!

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed so generously and particular thanks to the collectors: Elsie Harrison, Penny Busby and Caroline Affleck.

## Moreton Cricket Club

Needless to say, it's all quiet on the cricketing front at the moment. However, we wish all North Moreton News readers a very Happy Christmas and New Year. If you fancy a game of cricket next year, we are always on the lookout for 'talent' at all levels so please get in touch - The Bear at Home is always a good place to start; you will undoubtedly find a few members at the bar building up their strength in preparation for next season!

Don't forget the MCC Village Quiz will be taking place again in early February, so look out for details early in the new year.

*Trevor Denning, President MCC*

## South and North Moreton Women's Institute

The Harvest Supper in October was a very successful evening, in spite of fewer people than usual being able to attend. Members enjoyed a delicious supper and had the chance to catch up on village events. In November Russell Cherry gave a fascinating illustrated talk about his travels along the Ridgeway. "Scenes of Crime" is the theme of the December meeting, the speaker being Ken Wells, whom we have met a couple of times during this last year and always proves to be very popular with members.

The New Year Dinner will be on 12th January at The Bear, North Moreton and Mais Appleton will talk about The Associated Country-women of the World in February. The Annual General Meeting is in March.

We welcome visitors and new members to our meetings, which are held on the second Wednesday of the month at North Moreton Village Hall. Please contact Sue Harrison 817042 or Liz Elliot 812562 for more information .

*Penny Busby*

## North Moreton Toddler Group

meets in North Moreton Village Hall, from **10am - 12 noon on Thursday** (term time only).

The session is **£2.00** per family. This includes

- tea and coffee and biscuits for you,
- a healthy snack for the children and general play,
- weekly art/craft activity and a sing-along.

Babies, toddlers and pre-school children are welcome.

The last session in 2010 will take place on **16th December** & we start again on **6th January 2011**.

For more information, please contact Cath Pagnillo 07984611007 [cpagnillo@btinternet.com](mailto:cpagnillo@btinternet.com).

## Keep Fit Classes

Helen Murphy will be starting a new series of Keep Fit classes for mature ladies in January at South Stoke and Goring Primary School. For more details call 814728 or email [hej.murphy@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:hej.murphy@ukonline.co.uk)

## Brightwell Post Office

Please note that, in addition to their normal opening hours (9.30 - 12.30, Monday to Friday), they will be open on Saturday morning on **11th & 18th December**. They are situated at the rear of Brightwell Village Hall .

## Christmas Trees

St Peters Farm now has Christmas Trees on sale at last year's prices as well as Dexter beef from their own herd.

Open daily 10am-4pm until the last tree sold!

For more details call 07855951388 or [info@stpetersfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@stpetersfarm.co.uk).

## Two Piano Concert

Standing on the outside of Melhuish Farm it would be hard to imagine that it could boast an 'auditorium' large enough to accommodate two pianos and sixty people. However, at the end of September and the first weekend in October that is exactly what it did! Polly and Peter Vacher kindly turned their home into an arena for a series of three concerts for two pianos played by Polly and her longstanding friend and duettist Patricia.

The music that was played was wonderful and included the world premier of Variations on the Theme of Little Donkey. These variations had been written especially for Polly by students at the Royal Academy who ranged in age from 14 to 18, in celebration of her two donkeys Muffin and Wizard.

The concerts were the culmination of months of practice and Polly kindly invited the children of South Moreton Primary School for a sneak preview and to witness the dress rehearsals of the Little Donkey pieces. The children were enraptured and listened attentively to the music and were treated to a stroke of the donkeys afterwards.

The concerts on the Friday and Saturday were a sell out. The audience were royally treated to music followed by a delicious meal provided by Polly and a band of willing volunteers. Not only were the evenings for pleasure but also to fundraise for CLIC Sargent, a children's cancer charity that supports children and their families during their treatment. On each evening the audience heard from individuals who had direct experience of CLIC Sargent and the marvellous work it supports.

I would personally like to thank Polly, Peter and Patricia and all those who attended the concerts as £2816.71p was raised for a cause that is dear to my heart and I know that the money really does make a difference.

*Susannah Stobart*

## North Moreton Village Hall

Anne Silvester has retired from the village hall committee after seven years as booking clerk, and the committee would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work.

Heather Skevington of Thimble Cottage has kindly volunteered to take over this role. Heather's contact number is 01235 818231 but she would prefer to be contacted by email - [heather@skevington.org](mailto:heather@skevington.org) - as this will enable her to respond more quickly, and send you a booking form via email.

Since the last issue the committee has been busy with fundraising events and we would like to thank everyone who came along to support us. The Autumn Book Sale proved as popular as ever and raised the fantastic sum of £900 of which £400 went to the Tower Fund. As always, many thanks to Kate & Gar Evans and their team.

The Charity Card Sale and Soup Lunch was not quite as well attended as last year but still raised £162 for hall funds and, more importantly, the charities involved were happy with their takings.

Over fifty people attended the Pudding Evening which proved to be a really convivial event - not sure if it was the dessert wine or the alcohol in some of the puds! Whichever, everyone enjoyed themselves and we raised £295.50 which included £49 from the excellent tombola and food quiz organised by Val and Brian Bates.

In the new year the Committee will be using some of the funds raised to improve, amongst other things, the hall lighting.

Don't forget that the hall is an excellent venue for parties and that the tables and chairs are available for hire at reasonable charges.

The committee wish you all a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year and look forward to seeing you at events in 2011.

*Nora Haycock, Chairman NHMC*

## South Moreton School

We have much to celebrate this term at South Moreton School.

The pupils and staff are delighted to have received the news that, having been re-assessed, the school has managed to maintain its **Green Eco Flag** status for the third time. This highest of achievements requires a consistent level of commitment demonstrated in for example recycling, energy conservation, growing our own vegetables, as well as developing a deep understanding about eco issues. Well done to the whole school community!

Pupils have been enjoying a wide variety of **Extra-Curricular Activities** such as Greek and Bridge as well as having great fun trying out Street Dance in some of their PE classes! We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to offer this diverse range due to occasional funding or the generosity of specialist volunteers.

Below are some thoughtful poems written by **Class 2 pupils** who have been studying the poem 'The Magic Box' by Kit Wright and then using their senses to think of things they would like to capture and put into their own magic boxes:

*I will put in my box  
The cheer of the crowd when Ipswich scores  
The smell of roast chicken cooking  
The taste of the salty sea*

*I will put in my box  
The sight of a football ground  
The touch of a ghost  
A pair of cart-wheeling tongues.*  
Jake

*I will put in my box  
A shining dolphin diving into the sea  
The strong smell of white lavender  
The chime of church bells ringing*

*I will put in my box  
The smoothest carved stone  
A delicious taste of vanilla milkshake  
A pair of walking eyes*  
Bea

You are warmly invited to attend our forthcoming **Nativity and Carol Concert** and looking ahead to the spring, please put the date of our Brazil carnival in your diary as we would love as many people as possible to join us and share the carnival atmosphere!

Infant Nativity	2.00pm	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December
Infant Nativity	6.00pm	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December
Juniors' Carol Concert	7.00pm	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December
Brazil Carnival	2.00pm	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February

*Susan Gopall*

## BT Infinity - Superfast Broadband

The new BT box in Long Wittenham Road has now been wired up and is due to be commissioned soon. Speeds of up to 28.9Mb (downloads) and 6.2Mb (uploads) should be available from 31st December at, of course, a price....

If you are interested, log on to [BT.com/infinity](http://BT.com/infinity), type in your phone number and press the 'register your interest' button and BT will contact you.

## The Black & White Masked Safari!

The popular Safari Supper returns to North Moreton on **Saturday 5th March 2011** - put the date in your diary NOW! The theme will be Black and White with a Mask of any type. Let your imagination flow - be your costume glitzy, stylish, plain or simply stripey (no real zebras, please) it's sure to be a night to remember!

The evening will begin and end at The Bear with starters, main course and desserts taken in-between at different houses. Tickets will be again be £20 and will be available in the New Year.

The Safari Supper is always a great evening but it does depend on enough people volunteering to host a course, for which you will receive a contribution towards the cost.

Profits will be shared equally between the Air Ambulance and the Tower Fund.

Sponsorship towards production costs of this event and prizes would be welcomed.

If you are able to contribute in any way please contact Libby Macdonald. 01235 812273. [libbymac5@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:libbymac5@hotmail.co.uk).