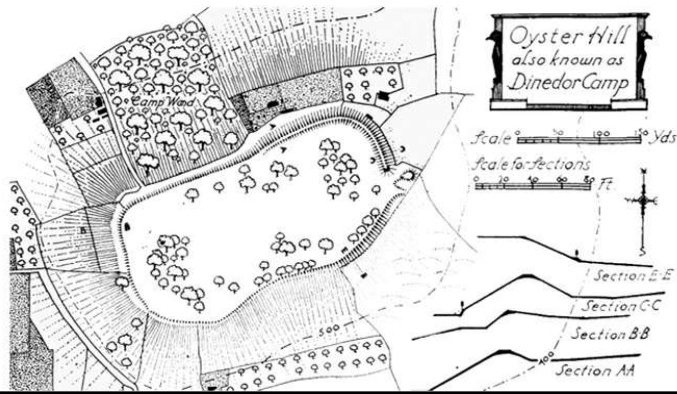


Dinedor Newsletter

MARCH 2024



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April 6	10.30 am Coffee Morning
April 13	12-2 pm Jumble sale - St Martins
April 13	2.30 -4 pm Rotherwas Chapel - Spring Awakening
April 18	6.00 pm Parish Council Meeting
April 20	10.00 am Repair Café
April 21	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Camp working party
April 26	7.00 pm Pub Night
May 2	7.00 am-10.00 pm Police & Crime Commissioner Election
May 14	7.00 pm Talk by Paul Vicary
May 16	6.00 pm Parish Council Meeting
May 18	10.00 am Repair Cafe
May 22	2.00 pm Ian Stead Memorial walk
May 24	7.00 pm Pub Night
May 25	9.30 am Little Play World

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday April 6 - call in any time between 10.30 am and Noon
Another opportunity to meet up with friends and neighbours in an informal way and to show support.
Many are experiencing health issues at this time.



Everyone is invited.
All donations go to the Village Hall

ADVANCE NOTICES

DINEDOR SPORTS

Please note that we propose to hold the Dinedor Sports Planning Meeting for this years Sports on **Wednesday June 5 at 7.30 p.m.** in the village hall.
Please join us as your input, support and ideas are greatly valued.

Further details from Chris Over on 07443 221846

THE BIG LUNCH

Suzanne is once again opening her home and garden to host **The Big Lunch**.
This will be held at The Laurels, on **Sunday June 9 from 12.30** to continue what is now a regular summer fixture.
This is a great occasion and is open to all to come together and share food, drink and good company. Please give Suzanne a call on **01432 873170 or 07971 544889** if you want to know more.



**THE DEADLINE FOR
THE NEXT EDITION IS
MON MAY 20**

PARISH COUNCIL

There have been 2 Parish Council meetings since our last edition, so this update will cover both the February and March meetings, where we had a total of 9 members of the public plus our Hereford Ward Councillor, David Davies.

As you will have read in our last edition, the budget for 2024/25 was set in January, when we agreed not to increase the Parish Council precept. For the current year, which ends on 31 March, we anticipate spending being within budget.

Once again, we have discussed the ongoing drainage problems in the parish, particularly around the village hall and the road to Dinedor Cross. Unfortunately, these problems are difficult to resolve because of the exceptional rainfall levels and of course because this area is at the bottom of the hill. Comments from 2 residents were discussed and will inform our plans. We are continuing to fund the lengthsman work and are hoping for a small grant from Herefordshire Council to support his work. However, Herefordshire Council is the highway authority responsible for all adopted roads, not the parish council, and there are financial and statutory limitations on what we can do. We do urge local landowners to ensure that they fulfil their responsibilities too.

Unusually we did not have new planning applications to consider in February or March. The proposed new agricultural dwelling for the Wye Stud Farm manager which we commented upon last year, has now been agreed by Herefordshire Council, with 15 planning conditions. Full details of the planning consent and the conditions are on Herefordshire Planning website.

The Camp Steering Group, a parish council sub-group, reported to our March meeting that they had carefully looked at the Heritage England (HE) proposals for the site, including essential safety felling of some of the older trees. We are expecting grant aid from HE but the Steering Group are to meet the local HE officer to clarify his proposals. Work can then start as tenders for the felling have already been received.

Local volunteers make an essential contribution to overall maintenance of the Camp area. As you will see elsewhere in this newsletter, more volunteers are needed for the monthly working party. All welcome - work ranges from litter picking to more heavy-duty tasks such as cutting back overgrowth.

You may have been following the continuing issue of what to do with the redundant telephone box at Upper Cross which is owned by the parish council. We have now been told that there is some support for it to house a defibrillator. There are practical things, including electricity supply, maintenance etc to be sorted. However, there is no provision in our 2024/25 budget to fund the estimated cost of about £2,000.00, as this suggestion was too late to be included in the budget. We agreed that more information was needed, including any alternative sources of funding.

Herefordshire Council is consulting on its new strategic plan. If the current proposals go through, Dinedor Parish will be classed as an area of open countryside. **Continued overleaf**

Parish Council report continued....

This would mean that the parish Neighbourhood Development Plan, which was passed with a large majority of local votes in 2021, would remain in place. You can find the plan on the parish website and there is a copy available in the village hall.

Please do come along to one of our meetings - it makes a big difference to us. We are elected to represent residents and to do this properly we need to know your views. If you are not able to come to a meeting, you are always welcome to contact any parish councillor - details on the parish notice boards and the website.

Next meeting - **Thursday April 18 at 6.00 pm** in the village hall.

UPDATE FROM THE PARISH FOOTPATHS OFFICERS MARCH 2024

Unfortunately, the very poor weather has limited activities recently in relation to the Parish Footpaths. However, some maintenance activities have been undertaken. Also, finger post signs and other decals for several of the Parish Footpaths, where they are missing or damaged, have been requested and we are now awaiting them being put in place.



Rural Services Delivery Grant for Public Rights of Way

Herefordshire Council has allocated £250,000 from a National Government Rural Services Delivery Grant for work needed to be done on Public Rights of Way in the County. This will be used for such things as repairs and replacements of

stiles, gates, and bridges.

Herefordshire Council will be giving more details during April and we are preparing to put in applications for funding for various remedial and upgrade works for some stiles and gates.

Volunteers Development Officer for the Public Rights of Way Team

Herefordshire Council has recently appointed a Volunteers Development Officer for the Public Rights of Way Team. He is Steve Organ and along with other local PFOs, we have had a couple of meetings with him which has been most helpful and Parish Footpaths Officers now have a dedicated contact within the Council.

Malcolm Louch and Peter Keyse, Dinedor Footpaths Officers.

DINEDOR CAMP WORKING PARTIES

We are very lucky in Dinedor to have our own iron-age hill fort. It's a really nice green space to walk around with fantastic views on all sides and is a great habitat for wildlife.

Maintenance of the area is important to avoid it being overtaken by brambles and saplings. This is done by volunteers from both Dinedor Outdoor Centre and from the Parish. On **April 21st from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm** (subject to weather), we are planning to have our first maintenance session of the year. We'll then be running them regularly at the same times on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

If you are interested in joining our group of volunteers, you would be most welcome. Please contact Chris at admin@dinedorvillagehall.org.uk if you are interested.

DINEDOR HERITAGE GROUP

You may or may not be aware that Ian Stead (the former chairman of Dinedor Heritage Group) was also a well-respected member of The Hereford Guild of Guides.

The Guild is arranging a walk on May 22 which they have entitled:

The Ian Stead Memorial Walk

They have invited members of Dinedor Heritage Group to join them. This will be led by Professor Keith Ray.

We are to meet at the top of Dinedor Camp in the car park at 2 p.m. (near the Outdoor Centre). Please be aware that parking on site can be rather limited so car sharing would be a good suggestion. Please let me know if you hope to join us.

Chris Over, Secretary, Dinedor Heritage Group. 07443 221846 or chrisover@btinternet.com

THE ROTHERWAS ANGEL



A sculpture honouring wartime munitions workers was officially unveiled in March of this year. The 2 metres tall Rotherwas Angel now has a permanent home at the former site of The Royal Ordnance Factory in Rotherwas, Hereford. The sculpture was created by art students in the city and commissioned by Hereford City Council in 2019.

The structure now stands as a permanent memorial for those people whose families worked in the munitions production. The Rotherwas Factory was one of Europe's biggest explosive filling sites during World War

One and went on to be an integral part of providing munitions for World War Two.

ROTHERWAS CHAPEL

ENGLISH HERITAGE FREE TO ENTER SITES TEAM
WELCOME ALL TO

ROTHERWAS CHAPEL

SPRING AWAKENING

ENGLISH HERITAGE VOLUNTEERS AND DINEDOR HARMONY SINGERS
SING OUT STRONG
STORIES AND SONG - ALL WELCOME - FREE ENTRY -
FREE EVENT PARKING COURTESY OF THE GOODWIN FAMILY
DONATIONS WELCOME
INFO TEL 01432 8790696 OR EMAIL BARBARAFERRIS1506@GMAIL.COM
CHAPEL RD, HR2 6LD

Come and hear the stories of the Chapel's recent past and enjoy the harmonies in Pugin acoustics. This event marks the start of an English Heritage programme to raise the profile of the Chapel. 6 booked tours for EH members over the 3 previous days will prepare present volunteers to get our stories honed. An opportunity to appreciate the growing awareness of this hidden treasure. **Barbara Ferris**

KITCHEN PROJECT

Our next project for refurbishment within the village hall is the kitchen and as I write, the first stage is taking place with the existing electrical consumer supply unit being replaced with a new unit meeting current standards and being relocated from ceiling level to approximately shoulder level in the middle of the same kitchen wall. This will make access very much easier and avoid the need for anyone wishing to check the consumer supply unit to climb a ladder or to stand perilously on the sink unit adjacent to the back door!

The Parish Council awarded the village hall management committee a grant of £400 towards the cost of this work, and we are very appreciative of this. There will now also be a 32 amp supply to sockets adjacent to the sink, and this will enable us to install a commercial dishwasher which should ease the burden of washing up after events which involve catering.

The extent to which we refurbish the kitchen is still subject to discussion and we shall welcome any comments and ideas you may have on how we may improve the existing facility. We know that, on occasions, the hall would benefit from freezer capacity: but is there any other new equipment you consider we should introduce to meet our own catering requirements and of event organisers using the hall?

Please speak to a committee member or e-mail your ideas to hub@dinedorvillagehall.org.uk

PUB EVENING (Now to be called PUB NIGHT)



A few days ago we held our first "Pub Evening". Numbers were limited, but those who attended have advised us that they thoroughly enjoyed the event, and hope we will repeat it. The concept was simple: everyone would bring along their own drinks and snacks, and warm and relaxed would enjoy each other's company and conversation, perhaps playing a game of table tennis, or dominoes, or Connect 4, and next time perhaps something else. One suggestion that was made was that the evening should be switched from

Wednesday to Friday, a traditional pub night and perhaps bringing with it a weekend vibe.

Accordingly, you will find on the calendar Pub Nights on **Friday April 26 and May 24 from 7 pm**. Do come along and bring your neighbours!

LITTLE PLAYWORLD

Little Play World, Hereford's first pop-up role play sessions for children aged 0-8 years, is coming to Dinedor on May 25 with sessions beginning at 9:30 am and 11:15 am. Offering children a range of imaginative play scenarios, we expect these sessions which will each be strictly limited to 25 children and 2 adults per family to attract participants not only from Dinedor but also from surrounding parishes.



Bookings will be on-line: so, if you should want to book in your child or grandchild, please do not delay.

Website: <https://www.littleplayworld.co.uk>

Bookings: <https://bookwhen.com/littleplayworld>

If this proves to be popular, we will certainly try to make it a regular event.

WEEKLY EVENTS AT DVH

Monday	7.30 pm	Short Mats Bowls
Tuesday	10.00 am	Arts & Craft Group
Wednesday	10.45 am	Move & Improve (fitness group)
Thursday	10.00 am	Harmony Singers Out Strong Choir (except 2 nd May)
Thursday	7.00 pm	Line Dancing (except 2 nd May)

Paul Vicary describes himself as a Soldier, Adventurer and a Speaker, a Mental Fitness Coach, a Published Author and an Educator. According to his website, he has led a discreet military career spending 21 years with a Specialist Military Unit and he is Co-founder and Director of a Mental Health Training Consultancy.

His talks are packed with tales of exploration, adventure, and danger, walking his audience through real-life scenarios from hazards on the battlefield to being at the mercy of extreme environments. From this, you will probably agree that this is a talk not to be missed, and one in which there is likely to be great interest.



As we may possibly be obliged to limit audience size, please either e-mail hub@dinedorvillagehall.org.uk or text **07721 377245** as soon as possible with your name and the number of seats you would like us to reserve to help us manage this event.

THANKS

Many thanks go to Barbara Ferris for organising a 'Get Together' at DVH to see how we can extend the pleasure we all get from attending the various activities at the Hall to the wider community. Sixteen people attended the informal meeting.

There are numerous activities which are each well attended and enjoyed. The Choir, Bowls, Move and Improve (keep fit), Art and Craft, Line Dancing and the Repair Cafe were highlighted and new ideas were discussed.

Dinedor Village Hall and all its activities are accessible and we would like to encourage a wider age group to get involved to maybe extend and increase communication and activity skills whilst introducing new ones.

Do you have any suggestions? Do family or group activities interest you? What days and times are suitable for you?

Are there any tech savvy teenagers who would like to share their knowledge with someone older or younger than themselves how to get better use from their iPad, phone, camera, or laptop?

Do you have a favourite item of clothing or toy that needs a repair? Perhaps you would like to visit the Repair Cafe to see how to do these repairs?

Your ideas could help the community and work for you too.

Please email hub@dinedorvillagehall.org.uk

CHRISTMAS ADVANCE NOTICE

Calling all Artists, Crafters and Cooks!

We are inviting you to come to our Christmas Fair full of locally made produce on **November 30** at **Dinedor Village Hall**.

Have a large stall for £5 or a small stall for £3 or why not share with a friend. Any money you make you keep! Let everyone see how crafty you really are!

Willing volunteers are also wanted to help with refreshments and the raffle.

To find out more and to reserve a stall please contact Delyth 07768645041

REPAIR CAFE

Broken Something? Please Don't Bin It! Let Us See If We Can Repair It!

While we at South Hereford Repair Café are about to celebrate our first birthday, Repair Café International will turn 15 later this year and celebrate having created a worldwide movement currently of some 3,054 repair cafes manned by more than 45,800 volunteers and undertaking an estimated 54,900 repairs each month. Having grown from a single repair café in Amsterdam in 2009 that really is quite an achievement!

With a prime objective of reducing the amount we throw away, we clearly have - with a successful repair rate of more than 70% - had a positive impact on the number of broken items being binned. Also, we have created a real "good feel" factor - among owners who see the life and use of their broken items extended and among repairers who taking up the challenge of trying to repair a broken item when successful derive a considerable amount of satisfaction from what they have achieved. As a result, we find at a repair café session that the atmosphere is refreshingly positive and friendly with an abundance of skill and creativity always on show. Of course, the hot drinks and refreshments available at our café also tend to boost that good feeling!

If you have not yet come along, please do so either on Saturday April 20 or May 18 and if you should have broken something book it in with us as soon as possible but no later than the Thursday before each session at www.repaircafesouthhereford.org.uk. Please note that either in May or June we hope to also arrange a special "Cycle Clinic": so do look out for our publicity!



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Since the last Newsletter work has been carried out on the church roof and bell tower to replace loose and missing slates, along with damaged guttering.

Such work is costly and there is always a wide gap between income and expenditure, particularly when at the last church service in February there was a congregation of three.

The PCC is grateful for the support received from the Parish Council, local charities, and community groups.

Joyce Nicholls will be organising a Jumble Sale at St Martins Church Hall on **Saturday April 13** between 12-2 pm in aid of St. Andrew's and would be grateful for any assistance. Joyce can be contacted at... joycenicholls@sky.com 07801292393

Future Services:

Sunday March 31 at 11 am. Easter Sunday Service.

Sunday April 28 at 6.30 pm. Holy Communion.

Sunday May 26 at 6.30 pm. Evensong

From Rev Mark:

Over the winter, we have moved a couple of our church services into village halls. One reason was that the halls were warmer, and the second was that they had a loo!

Although this might seem nothing special, it does raise the question of sacred spaces. The church of Christ has always recognised that it was the people who made the church, not the building. But that didn't stop the early Christian missionaries to this country from taking places that had already been used for pagan worship and making them their own. You will often find that an ancient Yew tree in a churchyard is older than the records for the church, implying that the site may have been used by Druids in pre-Christian times.

Although the worship in the halls was warmer and spiritually uplifting, something was missing. It is very difficult to put your finger on exactly what that was, but perhaps it was a sense of the prayerfulness of a place. Village halls are not known for their stillness! Churches, used for services and celebrations, for lamentation and private prayer, seem to absorb something of the prayerfulness and re-radiate it. In the end, we return to the church, yes it is a little more formal, or perhaps you see only the backs of peoples' heads rather than their faces, but there is a sense of returning home, of following in the footsteps of the many generations who have gone before us, and of sinking into that prayerfulness and peacefulness of a place, in which worship had been held for generations.

A poster for the 'Much Birch PTFA presents NATIONAL FESTIVAL CIRCUS'. The poster features a tree logo on the left and a QR code on the right. The text includes 'Saturday 11th May', ticket prices (£10 a ticket, Under 2's FREE), showtimes (1.00pm, 2.30pm, 4.00pm), and the sponsor 'CENTRAL ENGINEERING'. The website 'https://www.ticketabo.co.uk/much-birch-school-ptfa' is listed at the bottom.

A poster for the 'Dawn Chorus Walk'. It features a photograph of a bird at sunrise. The text states: 'This year's Dawn Chorus Walk will take place on Sunday 7th April At 5.30am for a 5.45am start.' It mentions that the walk will be led by bird enthusiasts Adrian Hodges and Bob Mason, who will share their knowledge as they walk for a few miles in Athelstan's Woods. It also notes 'No dogs please.' and provides meeting details at Little Birch Village Hall or Merrivale Farm. Contact information for Chris Fowler is provided at the bottom.

Dinedor Newsletter is published by Dinedor Parish Council

Production Team:

Suzanne Penny, The Laurels, Dinedor, Hereford HR2 6PD - t: 01432 873170 - e: suzannepenny@aol.com

Julia Over, Birchan, Dinedor, Hereford HR2 6LQ - t: 01432 870320 - e: julia.over@me.com

