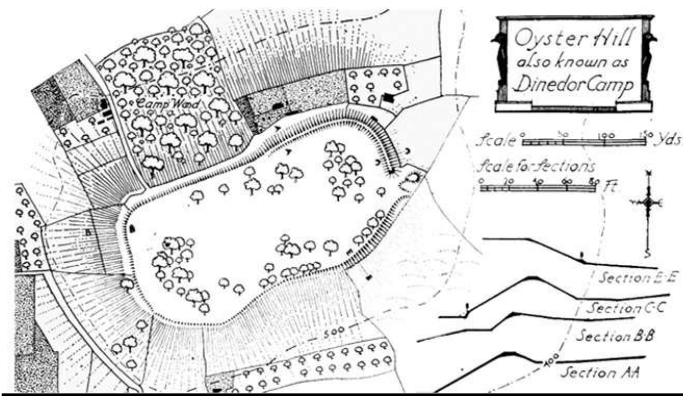


Dinedor Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2024



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat	Nov 30	Dinedor Christmas Fair	10.00 am
Sat	Dec 7	Coffee Morning	10.30 am
Sat	Dec 14	Christmas Celebrations	6.00 pm
Thurs	Dec 19	Carol Service	6.30 pm
Tuesday	Jan 14	January Jackets	12.30 pm
Saturday	Jan 18	Repair Cafe	10.00 am
Friday	Jan 24	Pub Night	7.00 pm

Saturday, November 30th is the first ever Dinedor Christmas Market!

Doors open at the Village Hall at 10 am and the market is on until 1 pm. There are a wide variety of stalls so there's bound to be a gift or two to buy. And once you've finished shopping you can take a seat with a hot drink and some homemade cake. Father Christmas is interrupting his busy schedule to meet the children so do come along and have fun.



VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING



Saturday 7th December
10.30 - 12 noon

Do join us at any time that suits you, for our last Coffee Morning of the year.

Everyone will be most welcome!

All donations go towards the Village Hall funds.

THE DEADLINE FOR
THE NEXT EDITION IS
MON JAN 21

PARISH COUNCIL

This write-up covers both our October and November meetings. We had members of the public and our local Herefordshire Councillor, David Davies, join us at both meetings.

In November, we were surprised (and pleased) to be joined by 2 local Police Community Support Officers. They reported that there were no major incidents or thefts to report, but did ask that we remind people to be careful to lock up and secure plant and equipment during these darker winter months. They are hoping to make an annual visit to our meeting.

In October we considered the planning application for two large houses on part of the land between the Hill View and the entrance to Dinedor Hall. You may remember that Hereford Council had given permission for six houses on this parcel of land and the new application by the new landowner was to vary this. We looked at the plans and after due consideration decided to oppose the application as we did not consider it to be in line with the parish's Neighbourhood Development Plan, particularly the large and overbearing nature of the proposed development.

There were no planning applications to be considered at our November meeting.

In our last newsletter in September, we mentioned that drainage along the road through the village is a constant topic and this week has proved that once again. We met on Thursday after the snowfall and today as this is being written we have heavy rain, so the problem is obvious to all who drive through. We have received a small grant from Hereford Council to fund some of the lengthsman work which will help to resolve some of the issues. But we do remind drivers to be vigilant and avoid damaging the verges as the damage makes the flooding worse. We also remind landowners that it is essential for them to ensure that their ditches are clear.

In November we received a report of an obstruction on the Turnpike Road and as a result, we have written to Herefordshire Council to ask them to take action to remove the obstruction.

We also had a report from the Camp Steering group and were very pleased that volunteers are continuing their good work which is very much appreciated. As you will see elsewhere in this newsletter, more volunteers are needed and they will be given a warm welcome!

Also, in November we looked at the precept for the financial year 2025/2026 which we will finalise at our January meeting. The precept is collected on the Parish Council's behalf by Herefordshire Council when they collect the Council Tax. Our precept rate has not increased for a few years, but it is very likely that we will have to increase it next year. The precept income is currently £9,500 which is approximately £70.00 per year for a Band D house.

The parish council does not meet in December, so our next meeting will be on **16th January 2025 at 6.00 pm**. Everyone welcome - if you are unable to make it but want to raise something with us, just contact any parish councillor.

See overleaf

And finally - we are still one parish councillor short. Would you consider joining us? If you might be interested, please contact any of our four councillors who would be delighted to chat about what being a councillor is all about, without any obligation on your part. The Parish Council wishes all residents a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.



DINEDOR SPORTS

On a very cold Tuesday evening on November 21, a hardy group of 11 villagers came together for the Annual General Meeting for Dinedor Sports and to review this year's event. It was agreed that Dinedor Sports this year had been a great success with a lovely feel and brought together those in the village that wanted to be there.

The profit on the day of over £1400 was an increase over recent years and we were able to agree donations of £100 to 11 charitable organisations. We added 'We are Farming Minds' to our existing list as follows:

We are Farming Minds, Hereford Young Carers, Herefordshire RDA, Midlands Air Ambulance, Acorns Children's Hospice, SSAFA Herefordshire, Little Princess Trust, St Michael's Hospice, Vennture, Dinedor PCC and St Martin's Foodshare

We concluded the evening by reflecting on the fact that many who 'make the Sports happen' are increasingly getting older and we need new blood! Many in the village do not support this once-a-year event at all.

So, did your kids enjoy Dinedor Sports in the past?

Do we still want our Dinedor Sports to continue?

This is an opportunity to meet your neighbours, enjoy some good old-fashioned fun and keep up a tradition that has been going on for nearly 80 years, which will be celebrated very soon. Many villages are dying, and we don't want this to happen in Dinedor.

A visitor to this year's Sports has made the following comment:

'This is a lovely community event, like we all used to have. Well done for retaining the feel, local history and community involvement of times gone by!'

We would love to receive comments, good or bad about what you think about the Sports and please consider how you can help in the future to keep this unique event happening.

Chris Over, Chairman Dinedor Sports 07443 221846

DINEDOR HERITAGE GROUP

A couple of weeks ago we held our AGM followed by 'The Ian Stead Memorial Talk'. This was given by Professor Keith Ray of Cardiff University and was entitled 'Neolithic Causewayed Enclosures in Herefordshire and the Wye Valley.'

The meeting was very well attended and enjoyed by all.

We were reminded at the AGM of the fact that we needed suggestions and volunteers to join the committee. The existing team is not getting any younger and fresh blood would be very eagerly welcomed. Please get in touch if you are interested!

We have just booked a speaker for February next year. Andy Tatchell will be presenting an illustrated talk about his renovation of Mordiford Mill. Further details will be circulated nearer the time.

Chris Over 07443 221846

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

Thank you to everyone involved in decorating St Andrew's church and giving generously in the produce auction at the Harvest Service on Sunday September 22. The Harvest lunch held in the village hall afterwards was enjoyed by all, with the food provided being of the usual Dinedor renowned high standard. The amount raised for church funds was £634.

Services in Dinedor in December

Thursday 19th 6.30 p.m. at St Andrew's Church, Dinedor – Carols and Readings for Christmas

Sunday 22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent

11.00 a.m. at St. Andrew's, Dinedor – Holy Communion

Church services at St Andrew's are held on the 4th Sunday of the month and the time and type of service is always displayed on the church notice board adjacent to the road.

Yule never walk alone – a good pun is never wasted!

Over the years, Christmas has changed significantly. From watching the TV adverts and all the things that pop up on Facebook and TikTok and such like, you could almost miss what the holiday was about. Of course, it is not just about turkeys, presents, perfumes and snow!

A lot of our current mythology is shaped by Dickens and his remembrances of Christmas as a child added to the need to sell you something – anything!

But we are drawn back to the story in the Bible, of a child being born and laid in a manger, in whom the hope of the world is made real. The Jews were looking for the Messiah, the anointed one of God, and his alternate name Emmanuel – God with us.

And here, is this little child, so helpless and so vulnerable, God comes to dwell with his creation. This is a great counter to the hustle and bustle, the enforced jollity and all the other things we struggle with about Christmas.



So take a few moments, as you decorate the tree, to remember the story – and if you can't remember all of it – just look it up. It is all there in the opening chapters of the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. God came to be with us, walk our path, share our joys and sorrows and offer us a present that will last to eternity, not just until the middle of January! **Revd Mark.**

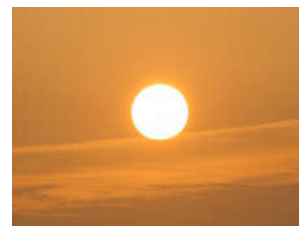
THE POWER OF THE SUN

We are told the sun is getting stronger and particularly in summer to apply ample sunscreen and cover up. However, on a recent sunny morning I was astonished to find that the sun reflecting on a mirror onto a UPVC window frame actually caused the UPVC to burn creating an unpleasant smell which alerted me to what was happening and leaving an unsightly black mark on the frame.

If it had not been UPVC but wood or textile I fear the consequence might possibly have been far more serious.

After a week or more of cloudy and gloomy days, the sunshine was very welcome, but I have certainly learnt to take care on what it may reflect!

Allan Simnett



Saturday 14th December – Christmas Celebrations at Dinedor Village Hall – from 6:00 pm



We shall be very pleased to welcome all residents and all those who regularly attend events at our hall to our Christmas Celebrations on December 14th.

Join us for mulled wine, mince pies and seasonal entertainment provided by our local choir, the Harmony Singers, and begin your celebration of Christmas with this gathering of friends and neighbours.

Tuesday 14th January – January Jackets – at 12:30 pm

Banish January blues by joining us for a light lunch of a jacket potato with toppings, a mince pie and cream, and a hot drink all for £5.00 p.p., and once again enjoy the company of friends and neighbours

For both events, to assist us with catering, please let us know if you are coming either by e-mail to hub@dinedorvillagehall.org.uk or text to mobile 07721 377245

For one or indeed both events we may arrange a raffle for which we should greatly appreciate prizes (but for those of you who remember previous raffles please no red handbags!).

If you should have a prize to kindly give us, please e-mail or text us as above and we will arrange to collect it.

Covid and Flu

To help to keep each other and especially the more anxious and vulnerable amongst us safe, please do not enter the hall if you should have Covid or Flu symptoms or have tested positive for Covid, and by using the hand sanitiser provided and keeping the hall well ventilated. Many thanks.

SOUTH HEREFORD REPAIR CAFÉ

In November we held our 17th and final session of 2024. Over those 17 sessions we have received some 500 items for repair of which we have successfully repaired three quarters. So instead of some 375 items possibly going to a skip at Hereford Recycling Centre, they have been returned to their owners in working order.

We throw away vast amounts of stuff – even things with almost nothing wrong which could often after simple repair get a new lease of life. People have simply forgotten that they can repair things and especially younger generations no longer know how to do so. Knowing how to make a repair is a skill quickly lost, and this is a threat to our sustainable future, and to the circular economy in which raw materials can be reused again and again.

This is why Repair Cafés are so vital. Invaluable practical skills are passed on, and things are used for longer and don't have to be thrown away. At the same time, the volume of raw materials and energy needed to make new products is reduced – cutting CO2 emissions.

South Hereford Repair Café will next meet on Saturday 18th January, 2025:

and, in the meantime, we thank you for having given us the opportunity in 2024 to examine and hopefully repair your items in need of attention, and we wish you a Happy and breakage-free Christmas and New Year.



We are so lucky that Dinedor Parish Council owns Dinedor Camp, a listed ancient hill fort with some fantastic views enjoyed by dog walkers, ramblers, nature lovers and history buffs.

This autumn, we have been quite busy. Following an expert review of the trees on the camp, we hired in some tree surgeons to work on several of them.

We have also been doing some mowing. Unfortunately, our flail mower promptly broke down near the start of the mowing season, so we've failed to complete this as yet. We aim to mow late summer and early spring to encourage wild flower growth and diversity. We have now repaired the mower so hopefully we will get a dry window before Spring to complete it.

Having been rained off in October, our band of volunteers met in November for our monthly maintenance session. 6 of us cleared brambles and saplings from the east corner of the hill fort, which is the site of its original entrance.

Why not join our band of volunteers who meet every 3rd Sunday of the month (except December) from 2 pm to 4 pm. If you're interested, email Chris on admin@dinedorvillagehall.org.uk and we'll keep you informed about what we're planning to do and if weather causes us to cancel.

PARISH FOOTPATHS OFFICERS REPORT

Despite the inclement weather since the last Newsletter update, we have been able to walk some footpaths and undertake some undergrowth clearance. There has been a lot of vegetation growth this summer and if you are out on the footpaths and can clear any of this, especially around stiles and gates, this would be most helpful.

However, the Footpaths Officers activities extend beyond this and include liaising with Herefordshire Council to get repairs undertaken – and unfortunately having to chase this up sometimes with the Council if agreed work does not get done.

This month we are reporting to the PROW team at Herefordshire Council two stiles on Footpath DD8 which goes from the western edge of Dinedor Village towards Holme Lacy across Tarr's Brook.



We also meet with Footpaths Officers of adjacent Parishes, members of Ramblers and others every few months and pooling our knowledge and experiences is most helpful.

We continue to work on the longer-term project, funded in part by Herefordshire Council using a National Grant, of upgrading some stiles to gates, and adding some dog-gates, to improve accessibility. This will now continue into 2025 as the timeframe for accessing the Grant has been extended.

There has been further follow up related to the DMMO (Definitive Map Modification Order) for M325 the Turnpike Road which has suffered many delays but does seem to be progressing although far more slowly than is acceptable so the Parish Council is now itself following up with those involved in dealing with it.

Malcolm Louch and Peter Keyse PFOs Dinedor.

MR EDGAR MOSS

It is always good to receive news of Dinedor residents who have been celebrated and to be able to share it within the community. Edgar Moss of Rannoch, Dinedor was presented with The Order of St Ethelbert in Hereford Cathedral by the Bishop of Hereford for his 50 years' service at the Church of the Holy Rood, Mordiford.



The citation which highlighted just some aspects of his dedicated service read as follows:

For 50 years' service as Churchwarden, and his commitment to the local community. He sat for many years on the Parish Council, including a period as Chair, and continues to prepare the church for services, thereby enabling its ongoing regular worship.

The Order was founded in 2015 as a means of recognising and honouring women and men from the parishes of the diocese and beyond who have supported and nurtured the Christian ministry of the diocese in many and devoted ways. Each recipient receives a signed certificate from Bishop Richard, a St Ethelbert medal and ribbon and a copy of the book *St Ethelbert, King and Martyr*.

OUR HERITAGE - THOUGHTS FROM BARBARA FERRIS

Keith Ray was the County Archaeologist when national news revealed the 'Dinedor Serpent' to the world. His department of 12 archaeologists and 1 administrator allowed the Dinedor Heritage Group to have their own Project Officer. Just one member of the audience at the recent DHG meeting vaguely remembered the launch of the Lottery bid on Dinedor Hill.

Phil Rickman - author of the book set around Dinedor and the controversy over the Rotherwas Ribbon, as it was later called, was a dedicated supporter of heritage in general, our group and Rotherwas Chapel. He died suddenly on 29 October. Particularly sad as we still miss Ian Stead following his death last year. Ian's passion was the Dinedor Hill fort, a description of which was co-written with Tim Hoverd and featured on the display board erected before the Asset Transfer to Dinedor PC and the transformation achieved as Chair of the Management Committee of the Hill fort. Ian became a City Guide and a committed Arthur's Stone Volunteer.

Joe Davey, a Dinedor resident and Portsmouth University lecturer is particularly interested in social history and is a member of Herefordshire Histories Festival steering group. He has had a positive response to his suggestions for local sites and events in May next year.

Rotherwas Together and Rotherwas Chapel will soon be discussing their own programmes for next year.

We will all have the benefit of sharing our enthusiasms, spreading information, and pooling resources in the months to come.

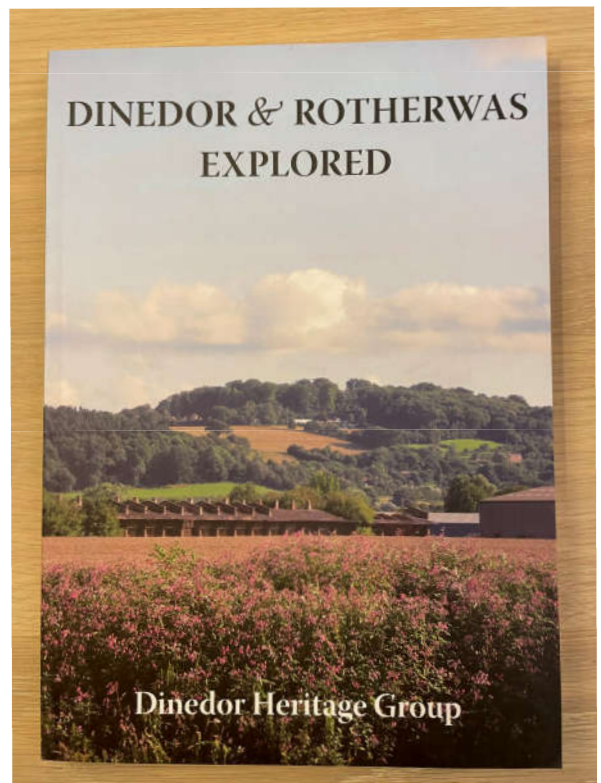
Keith Ray could speak about all this - people and events - from his unique experience of this area and over 60 years directly involved in archaeology. He made Neolithic human connection relevant to present day Dinedor.

We have much to talk about and look forward to getting together in the New Year; Chris will keep us all in touch. Please feel free to contact anyone you wish if you have any ideas or questions.
Happy Christmas everyone.

Barbara Ferris, President of Dinedor Heritage Group.

Are you stuck for an idea for a Christmas present? There are still a few copies of our book left at a special price of £10.

Please contact **Chris Over on 07443 221846** if you would like a copy. Delivery can be arranged.



Dinedor Newsletter is published by Dinedor Parish Council

Production Team:

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

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

