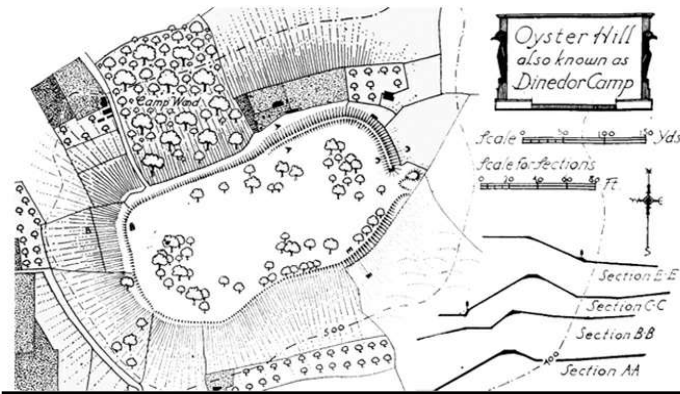


Dinedor Newsletter

JANUARY 2026



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PARISH COUNCIL

Saturday Feb 7	Coffee Morning DVH	10.30 - 12
Tuesday Feb 10	Richard Gibson Talk	7.00 pm
Tuesday Feb 17	Parish Council DVH	6.00 pm
Saturday Feb 21	Repair Cafe DVH	10.00 am
Sunday Feb 22	St Andrews communion	11.00 am
Tuesday Feb 24	Dinedor Heritage Group	7.30 pm
Tuesday March 17	Parish Council DVH	6.00 pm
Saturday March 21	Repair Cafe DVH	10.00 am
Sunday March 22	Service at St Andrews	11.00 am
Tuesday March 24	Dinedor Heritage Group	7.30 pm

This month's report covers just our January meeting, as we do not meet in December.

At our meeting on January 20, we were pleased to have a police representative, Lewis Evans, at the meeting, as well as parishioners and our Herefordshire councillor, David Davies.

ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY

Lewis Thomas who is a Police Community Support Officer, part of the local police team, confirmed that fortunately Dinedor still has low crime. We did raise, yet again, speeding through the village, which is particularly concerning as the traffic increases. We have applied for a village speed restriction to Hereford Council and are in touch with the police traffic department to gain their support too. Progress is slow, but we emphasised how important this is to all residents.

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday February 7

Escape the gloomy weather and join friends and neighbours for a lively chat. Enjoy tea or coffee and some lovely cake.

Call into the village hall any time between 10.30 and 12 noon where you will find a warm welcome.



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

You may be aware of the application for a small housing development of 10 houses in the centre of the village to replace some of the old farm buildings at Glebe Farm. The proposal was generally welcomed. After a detailed discussion and contributions from parishioners, we decided to make several comments about the proposed position, layout, and design of the dwellings. There was also concern about the potential for worsening the existing drainage and road problems along that stretch of road and the potential for excessive lighting. You can see our detailed response on Hereford Council's (HC) website.

FAREWELL



Mair and Brian Granthier from The Hill Farm have been faithful stalwarts of the coffee morning from the beginning - as well as being involved in and supporting many other village events over the years. We have always appreciated Mair's baking

at the coffee morning, her skilled judging at Dinedor Sports and Brian's wise counsel at the Heritage Group as well as being supportive and caring neighbours.

The time has finally come for their long-awaited move from Dinedor. They are leaving behind many memories and happy times spent in their beautiful home up on the hill and although we will miss them, we wish them well. We look forward to a visit to a future coffee morning once they are settled.

THE DEADLINE FOR
THE NEXT EDITION IS
SUN MAR 22 2026

It is likely that Section 106 will apply to this development, meaning that the Parish Council can apply to Hereford Council for the parish to receive some contribution to local amenities. We will discuss this in more detail at our February meeting.

In our last edition we mentioned the further proposal from Wye Stud Farm to expand its operations to include vehicle preparation. We did not support the application and were disappointed that it has been granted, with some conditions. We had reported to HC the signs on the verges, erected without permission, and the owner must now make a separate application for them.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

We are still waiting for the consultant's report commissioned by HC about the road up to the top of Dinedor Hill and we have raised a Freedom of Information request (FOI) asking how much this report has cost the Council. We are concerned about the cost, the time it is taking and, in the meantime, of course, the road itself is still deteriorating.

Please take care when driving through the village. Several very large potholes have emerged. These have been reported but we are still waiting for the repairs.

DRAINAGE

Dinedor's funding application to HC for lengthsman work was only partially successful as there were so many applications. This is very disappointing but we will make best use of the money on work that has to be completed by March 31.

Continued overleaf

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Continued

PARISH PRECEPT

The parish precept reflects the small number of houses (142). After a detailed discussion at the meeting, we have decided to raise the precept for the next financial year from £11,000 per year to £15,000, equivalent to £2.03 per week for a Band D property. This is to make sure we have sufficient reserves to enable us to deal with unexpected issues. Whilst this is a larger percentage increase than usual, it will still be towards the lower end compared with other Herefordshire parishes.

FINANCE

Spending is in line with our budget and we expect to end the financial year on target.

FOOTPATHS

Good news from our footpath volunteers, Malcolm Louch and Peter Keyes. With support from the local landowners, Malcolm and Peter have organised the replacement of stiles with gates around the Camp footpaths, making access far easier. A full report of what has been achieved, with pictures, will be in the next edition.

Many thanks to all involved.

NEXT MEETING

This will be on **Tuesday, 17th February at 6.00 pm.** Please do come along - we are always keen to hear people's views.

If you are unable to do this, please contact Liz Kelso, our clerk, or any parish councillor. Details are on the Parish Council website.

The March meeting will be held on March 17th at the usual time.

NEWS FROM ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

The Carol Service, held on 22nd December was well attended with forty five people in the congregation. Thanks to those involved in decorating the church for the occasion. We were treated to readings telling the Christmas story which were given confidently by Dexter, Walter and Isla Cleland. The service was followed by mulled wine and mince pies being offered. An enjoyable evening.

A five yearly Quinquennial inspection of the church building has recently been carried by an appointed architect. The report has yet to be completed and passed to the PCC. One feature that was apparent during the inspection was a hole in the tower roof which will likely need scaffolding to be erected to allow repairs. Birds have been able to enter the tower from under the eaves and build a number of nests which will require removal.

Future Services at St Andrew's.

Sunday 22nd February at 11 am Holy Communion.
 Sunday 22nd March at 11 am. Morning Prayer.



From Rev'd Mark

In the Church Calendar, February is very much a month of transition. We begin the month with the Feast of Candlemas – more properly known as the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. It marks the time that the baby Jesus is taken into the Temple in Jerusalem and Simeon utters the lines that may be heard in Evensong (or at a funeral) “Lord, now lettest thou, thy servant, depart in peace.” We move then into the countdown to Lent and Ash Wednesday, with pancakes on Shrove Tuesday to use up all the dairy in the house before a time of fasting. Well, not so much a time of fasting, these days, but I’m sure some of you will give up chocolate for the 40 days leading up to Easter. We end the month well into the season of Lent – purple vestments in church as a sign of our repentance, and hymns which aren’t always the most cheerful!

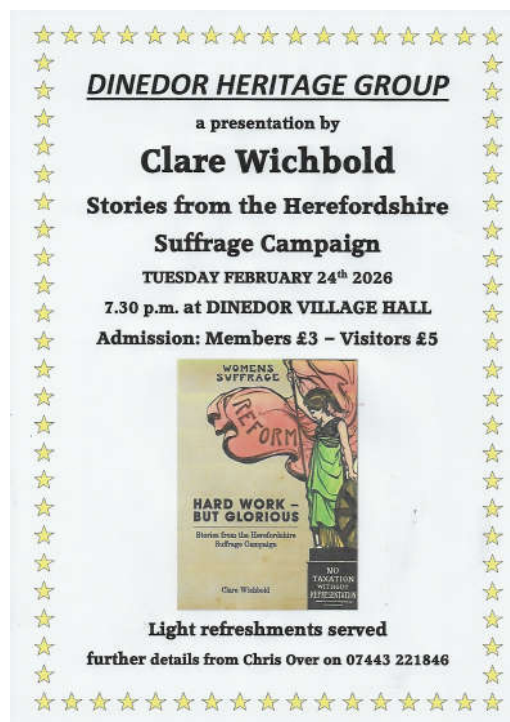
You could argue that the church calendar is of no relevance today. We don’t really do the fasting thing any more, and we don’t come to church on Candlemas to have the candles in our house blessed. And yet, I would argue, that these things are important. They tie us into a rhythm of life that is very

Continued

old, tied to the seasons and has survived all sorts of challenging times, from civil war to the Black Death, and carried people with it. Because there is something else here, too. They are not just empty rituals of a bygone time; they are reminders that God is with us. At Christmas we remember Jesus coming among us as a baby; fragile, vulnerable, living the human experience. Now, as we move through the church calendar, we remember that there are some grown-up themes that we must wrestle with, and faith gives us a way in, helps us to understand the big questions – like why are we here? And what is life for?



So as the days lengthen and spring approaches, we give thanks for the light and the light of God that shines in our lives.

DINEDOR HERITAGE GROUP

Future meeting

Tuesday March 24 2026 7.30 p.m.
Steve Wheeler
"Remember the Milkman"
(A Journey Through Milk Bottle History)

Meeting to be held in Dinedor Village Hall
Members £3.00 Visitors £5.00
Light Refreshments Served

DINEDOR SPORTS

At the AGM in November we reported a profit of £1246 from this year's event.

It was decided to donate a sum of £100 to the following charities- St Michael's Hospice, Acorns Hospice, Hereford Young Carers, Herefordshire Vennture, Herefordshire RDA, We are Farming Minds, St Martin's Foodshare, SSAFA , Midlands Air Ambulance and Dinedor PCC.

This year's event is on **July 25th** and we look forward to seeing you there. All offers of help are gratefully received.
Chris Over 07443 221846

SPECIAL EVENT - 'In tribute to a gallant crew from a grateful British subject'

On **Tuesday February 10th at 7.00 pm**, we have a talk presented by a local resident, Richard Gibson, in which he will describe the story of a wartime poem, a missing Lancaster bomber crew and the efforts to deliver the poem 80 years later. Please consider joining us to support Richard.

HIRE CHARGES

We are pleased to advise you that we shall be maintaining our 25/26 tariff into 26/27, and therefore from April 2026 our hire charges will return to our 2025 summer rate. Winter has so far been wet rather than very cold and oil prices have not peaked: so, heating and power charges have not been as high as they could potentially have been.

EICR

In December SES Hereford undertook a 5-yearly electrical installation condition inspection on the hall and have provided us with a satisfactory report. This followed an inspection by HFAS on our emergency lighting and fire alarm system both of which are also deemed to be satisfactory. Anyone using our disabled toilet will perhaps notice that it is now equipped with a visual alarm device which will activate with the fire alarm system with a flashing light warning anyone who is profoundly deaf that the alarm is going off.

FIRE ACTION

May we remind you that in case of fire you should follow the following procedure while at the hall:

Raise the alarm

Leave the building by the nearest exit

Report to the Assembly Point (which is at the farm gate in the rear car park)

Do not return to the building until authorised to do so

Do not take any risks

Ring 999 when it is safe to do so

Only try to put a fire out if it is safe to do so and you have been taught to use the fire fighting equipment

VESTING THE PROPERTY WITH THE OFFICIAL CUSTODIAN OF CHARITIES

This has now been done and with the support of Gabbs Solicitors we are re-registering the property with Land Registry in the name of the Official Custodian. We should like to express our thanks to Ann Edwards and David Price for the role they have played as Holding Trustees for Dinedor Village Hall and for the help they are currently giving us.

KITCHEN

We have faced an unexpected problem with our plans to refurbish and re-equip the kitchen. We had requested SES to assess what changes were necessary to the wiring in the kitchen to accommodate the new equipment, and we were regrettably advised that the mains fuse to the building was inadequate for the task. We obtained a quotation from National Grid and SES to upgrade to three phase but at a cost approaching £15,000 we found this prohibitive. It was suggested to us by SES that by changing the range to dual fuel (gas hob and electric ovens) we could get around the problem, but we question whether this is an acceptable solution to the users of the kitchen. Accordingly, we are currently reviewing equipment and how it is installed, with the replacement of the kitchen and servery flooring remaining as a priority for us.

YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU!

Since 1993 the village hall has been managed by a committee of up to 5 elected members and 6 members representing parish groups and users of the hall – all drawn from the local community.

At present we are 6 members but only 4 regularly attend committee meetings. To say that we are thin on the ground and increasingly restricted in what we can put on at the hall because we are so few is perhaps an understatement – a situation which will not be improved when our Treasurer and Secretary step down in July. Accordingly, in true Kitchener style, our message to you is that your village hall really does need you. Please do contact either secretary@dinedorvillagehall.org.uk or treasurer@dinedorvillagehall.org.uk if you will help to maintain this important parish institution and the work that it does. Many thanks



We really do have some very skilled volunteers at our repair café who can apply their expertise to a very wide range of products and problems. Take our 28th session in January at which our repairers were faced with a Nespresso Krupa coffee machine that was leaking together with Grind coffee capsule machine that was also leaking, a table lamp that needed rewiring and a Christmas tree lamp with a faulty connection, Dyson Henry and Shark vacuum cleaners which were failing to pick up properly, a Cuisinart pepper mill which would not grind and a Victorian vase in pieces, a coat and a pair of trousers each with a tear, dolls and a puppet in need of dressing or reassembly, and a succession of axes, knives, scissors and secateurs for sharpening.

Brenda Louch did an amazing transformation on a much loved orangutan - the before and after pictures are evidence!



Over 27 sessions from April 2023 we have investigated 784 items and repaired 582 of them (or more than 70%) which, I am told, equates with a saving of more than 14,000 kilos CO₂.

In plainer language, again I am told, this is equivalent to what 666 mature trees will sequester in a year.

So, if you have not as yet taken advantage of our services and have a personal or a small household item needing attention, do book it in with us at www.repaircafesouthhereford.org.uk by 19th February in time for our next session on **Saturday 21st February** at 10.00 a.m.

Or if you simply would like some company, a coffee and a cake do drop into our café.

You will be very welcome!

64. TRIG POINTS| HEREFORD & LEDBURY

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DINEDOR HILL
CAPLER CAMP
THE FRIARS
MOORHAMPTON HILL
MARCLE HILL
- BLAKEMERE HILL
BUNKERS HILL
ACONBURY CAMP
LYDE CROSS
BURGHILL
WHITE HILL RESERVOIR
- BROAD GREEN
WINDMILL HILL
UPPER NORTON FARM
BATCHLEY FARM
LOWER HEGDON
FLAGGONERS GREEN

