

## Highlights



*Snowy sunrise over Quarndon Photo Ros Grum*

We didn't have a January newsletter because there was not much happening so this is the first newsletter of 2021.

After the problems of last year let us hope that this year will be more cheerful. Perhaps, we might even be able to get away on holiday!

One benefit of the recent cold weather and snow is that walking

in the area has become much easier as the previous muddy footpaths have become firm again. The website (see later) has an excellent selection of walks in the area.

We do have some events to look forward to this year and more are being planned. If you have any ideas or are willing to organise an event then please let us know.

It is hoped that the Repair Café will start sometime this year. It will an opportunity for residents to get in contact – and meet up socially as lockdown restrictions are eased.

There has been some confusion about the newsletter - whether Parish Council (QPC) or Quarndon Community Group (QCG). The QCG operates alongside but independently of the QPC. The newsletters provide their combined news and updates about the village.

The website [www.quarndon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.quarndon-pc.gov.uk) is for those looking for Parish Council information and its alias [www.quarndon-village.org.uk](http://www.quarndon-village.org.uk) is village oriented. In fact, both take you to the same website so it doesn't matter which you use!

## Blooming Quarndon 2021 – Appeal Results and Plan



A huge thank you for all the donations that have been made to fund the Blooming Quarndon 2021 floral displays following the appeals made in the December 2020 QCG Newsletter and by email in January 2021. The contributions made, including a modest donation from the Parish Council, were sufficient to fund the 2021 plan fully and leave a little in the kitty to carry over to 2022.

It is intended to repeat the same floral displays that we had in 2020 with the addition for 2021 of a three-tier "planter" at the start of Woodlands Lane opposite the water tower, and a couple of tubs of pollinator-friendly plants by the Human Sundial on Church Road.

The lampposts on which flowers will be mounted, using the existing brackets, need to be re-tested for structural integrity. This is a Derbyshire County

Council requirement to grant a licence for lamppost attachment. We expect this testing to be carried out by the end of February. The flowers themselves should be installed in June.



## Possible Events in 2021

Quarndon Events have been thinking about possible events for 2021 following the success of the Scarecrow Trail last summer and the Christmas Lights in December. So far, we have come up with footpath walks, a Treasure Hunt and a Spring Flowers Trail or Virtual Spring Gardens (with photos on the website).

Another idea is a "Poetry Trail" (idea from various local railway bridges) for Quarndon in the Spring.

If you have any ideas or queries then contact Isobel via [gcg@quarndon-village.org.uk](mailto:gcg@quarndon-village.org.uk)

## Repair Dating Service!

We still intend to open a Repair Cafe once people can meet in person. In the meantime, we are planning a 'dating' type system. So, if you had something to repair, we would put you in touch with the appropriate fixer to make arrangements in a covid-safe way.

There are still a few logistics to sort but watch this space.

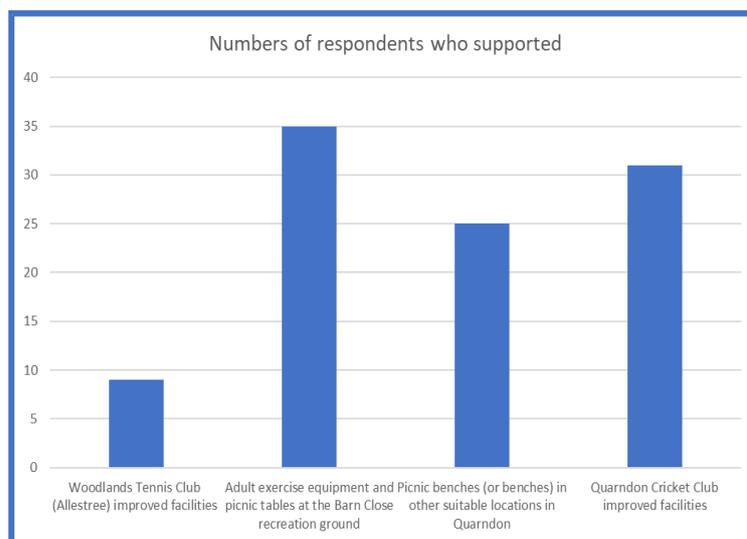


## Poppyfields "Section 106" Outdoor Recreation Funding

Quarndon Parish Council (QPC) were told by Amber Valley Borough Council (AVBC) late in 2020 that £41,644 is available from the Poppyfields Meadow developer's "Section 106" funding for "the enhancement of recreational open space in the area within which the development is situated."

A survey was conducted of the 287 email addresses on the QCG email circulation list in January 2021 to assess the level of community support for four specific ideas put forward and gain additional input.

53 people completed the survey. Support for each of the four ideas proposed is shown on the bar chart to the right. The most popular idea was to provide additional equipment at the Barn Close recreation ground, which was supported by 65% of those who responded.





There were 33 comments or additional suggestions, which included the following themes:

- Football pitch on the field at Barn Close.
- A tennis court/badminton court/table tennis on the Barn Close recreation ground.
- Better children's play equipment on the Barn Close Field
- Add ground drainage to Barn Close recreation field.
- Purchase Barn Close recreation ground.
- Community Garden ideas
- Various Footpath & Cyclepath ideas (unfortunately not a permitted use for "recreation funding" according to AVBC's guidelines)
- Recreation facilities in the meadow adjacent to Poppyfields

The most popular suggestions on where in Quarndon would most benefit from a picnic area in order of popularity (most popular first) were:

- Bunkers Hill (landowner approval for this is unfortunately unlikely)
- Barn Close recreation ground
- By the Millennium (Human) Sundial on Church Road
- On the cricket ground
- In front of the Church Hall

After discussions it was agreed that two bids, shown below, would be prepared on behalf of the village. The bids have now been passed to AVBC for consideration and we await the result. It should be understood that neither bid is guaranteed to be successful.

### 1. Barn Close Play Area improvements (Parish Council)

The field at the eastern end of residential Barn Close in Quarndon has been in use as a recreation ground since the 1960s. The recreation ground has been rented by Quarndon Parish Council since the 1960s from a Trust comprising of several generations of members of a local family, who are content to let it continue as a recreational area for the village for the foreseeable future.

Quarndon Parish Council has submitted a bid for a large portion of the S106 money to carry out improvements to the recreation ground. The bid was worded in general terms because detailed plans are still under discussion and a site survey is yet to be carried out. The important point is that the improvements would accord with the Quarndon Neighbourhood Development Plan 2018 – 2033. The aim is to provide a range of facilities for both children and adults.

There are other competing bids for the money so there is no certainty that the bid will be accepted in full or even in part. If in part then we would have to revise the proposal.

It is recognised that parking on Barn Close is very limited and the Parish Council will encourage all those visiting the recreation area to do so on foot or by bike. Appropriate signs would ask those visitors who do come by car to park elsewhere.

#### **Provisional Proposal (under discussion)**

- Install a wooden Trim Trail aimed mainly at adults and older children
- Improve football pitch
- Enhance the younger children's play area with additional equipment
- Improve the seating area with picnic tables and a bench
- Litter bins, dog waste bins and signage
- Drain the bottom part of the recreation ground to keep it dry



## 2. Community Garden (QCG)

The location is adjacent to the Futures Housing bungalows 139-144 Church Road and the Millennium sundial. The purpose is to create a seating area with soft landscaping and bird, butterfly and bee friendly planting for the enjoyment of everyone living in or passing through the village. Again, the proposal accords with the Quarndon Neighbourhood Plan in respect of improving recreational facilities.

### Outline proposal:

- Seating - long-life, low maintenance, sustainable seats
- Street furniture - planters, noticeboard, bins etc
- Edging to paths and slope retention behind seats
- Planting (e.g. apple trees, perennial plants, wildflowers, bulbs)

### Website

Quarndon Village website brings you in one place a poetic bridge, gorgeous photos of the village through the seasons, information about community groups and services, up-to-date news about planning issues and applications, plus Parish Council documents, Minutes and Agendas to keep you au fait with events affecting all of us in the village. If you haven't visited our website, at [www.quarndon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.quarndon-pc.gov.uk) recently then it's worth taking a look.

**Quarndon Parish Council** provides your local services, and our aims are to make Quarndon a better place to live, work and play. The website and Community Newsletter, both highlighting resources and opportunities for residents, are vital means to achieve these aims.

Regularly updated, the website provides a wealth of information, not just about what the Parish Council does and how we do it, but, particularly valuable in these strange times, information about **Quarndon Community Groups** and help available for residents. To find out more or to contribute to a group see the Community and COVID-19 Quarndon Support pages or email [gcg@quarndon-village.org.uk](mailto:gcg@quarndon-village.org.uk)

Information, suggestions, ideas, photographs, drawings about village events; in fact, contributions from residents - of all ages - are warmly welcomed. Contact us at [web@quarndon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:web@quarndon-pc.gov.uk)

And that poetic bridge? In the *Walking around Quarndon* pages of the website, at [www.quarndon-pc.gov.uk/uploads/banks-of-the-derwent-final.pdf](http://www.quarndon-pc.gov.uk/uploads/banks-of-the-derwent-final.pdf)

### Broadband Update

You will probably have seen Openreach vans around the village over the last few months. Work is going on to install fibre along the roads – both strung between telegraph poles and, where there are no poles, along ducts underground.

Many of the poles have been equipped with a black box called a CBT (Connectorised Block Terminal) near the top. The CBT is used to split the signal in the main fibre into separate fibres going to individual houses. The wire to each house is hybrid – containing both the fibre and the copper telephone line.

If you are interested in upgrading to FTTP (fibre to the premises) and speeds upwards of 100MB/sec then it is worth contacting your internet supplier.

### Kedleston Grange – Flood Risk

The Kedleston Grange development site slopes downwards from Kedleston Road to the Markeaton Brook. Surface water from the site flows down to two newly constructed attenuation ponds and thence to the brook. After the recent heavy rain one of these ponds was breached



and there was limited flooding in the Somme Road area. There is understandable concern from local residents that future flooding incidents could be more serious.

The Parish Council (QPC) has repeatedly expressed its reservations about management of flood and waste water on the site to Amber Valley Borough Council (AVBC). QPC has supported the Somme Road residents with their questions and concerns, drawing AVBC's attention to points raised by the residents who have considerable local knowledge and expertise. The Somme Road Residents Group is in frequent contact with the authorities to explain their concerns and ask for answers.

The development had planning permission and all associated drainage conditions were discharged. To achieve planning permission, the Flood Risk Assessment, drainage strategy and hydraulic calculations were approved by the Local Planning Authority (AVBC) and Lead Local Flood Authority (Derbyshire County Council). However, a potential flooding incident so early in the development indicates that something has gone wrong.

QPC requested that both our Borough and County Councillors attended our January QPC meeting to report as fully as possible on the incident and asked what was being done to avoid any recurrence. Following that meeting we constructed a comprehensive list of questions for our County Councillor to take to the responsible officials. Initial answers have been received which the QPC are following up.

### Why do planning matters matter?

A simple answer is because the purpose of planning laws is to ensure that, as far as possible, all of us can live in our homes in peace and security; with our neighbours, our community and with our environment.

So, if you want to build or extend a house, planning laws should ensure that you end up with something fit for purpose, so that for example it has adequate off-road parking or that any potential risk of the property flooding is properly assessed and, if required, measures put in place to deal with that risk.

if you are a neighbour, planning laws should ensure you are not plunged into darkness by an overbearing proposed development nor have your privacy invaded by it overlooking your private amenities.

So where do you turn for information to avoid pitfalls in dealing with what are often complex issues? I think approaching Amber Valley Borough Council, Department of the Environment and Planning (Tel 01773 841571) should be top of your list. Their Case Officers have both the professional training and local knowledge and are very ready to share it with you, whether you are considering a building project yourself or have a concern about a proposed development. See [Amber Valley BC Planning](#)

Secondly, Quarndon's Neighbourhood Plan, formally adopted in 2019, and available on the website has masses of helpful detail and defines specific local policy. See [Quarndon Neighbourhood Plan](#)

The Parish Council are not professional planners, but dealing with about 30 planning applications every year, have a wealth of experience and local knowledge, which they are happy to share. If you would like the opportunity to have an informal chat about an existing or proposed planning application, whether your own or a neighbour's, then contact Laura Storey (Parish Clerk) by phone on 07941 052009 or via email [clerk@quarndon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@quarndon-pc.gov.uk) with your details

Note: This is a shortened version of a longer article by Dr Paul Hodson on the website. See [quarndon-pc.gov.uk/planning-applications](http://quarndon-pc.gov.uk/planning-applications)



## Give your favourite clothes a new lease of life

If you are fed up of returning clothes you have ordered on line because they don't quite fit or your favourite clothes need mending, you will be pleased to know you can now get things altered or repaired in Quarndon by Doreen Morley.

Doreen has the fabric and gift shop (Early Times) on Blenheim Parade. She makes a range of gifts from bags to patchwork quilts by sewing or knitting. She also does repairs and alterations and stocks a small amount of haberdashery. At the moment the shop is closed due to the Coronavirus lock down but Doreen is able to work from home. She can be contacted by email [doreenmorley55@gmail.com](mailto:doreenmorley55@gmail.com), phone 07855 105747 or Facebook (Doreen's Crafts).

## St Paul's

Becky Mathew, the vicar at St Paul's would really like as many people as possible to know that the Church is still very much 'in business' despite the building being closed.

St Paul's has a 10am Zoom service every Sunday. The order of service, prayers, readings and hymns/songs are shown on your screen. If you are comfortable with being seen on the screen it is a good way of feeling together whilst remaining in our separate homes. Everyone is welcome to join in, whether as a one off or on a regular basis.

For those who prefer to watch without being seen this is easy to control. It is also possible to telephone in to the service and to join in this way for those who do not have a smart phone, tablet or computer. In such cases the order of service and so on can be obtained from the vicar. For contact details please see [stpaulsquarndon.org.uk/who](http://stpaulsquarndon.org.uk/who). Alternatively you can phone her on 01332 550224.:

The service is also recorded so it can be accessed later in the day/week.

After the service some people stay to have an informal chat on the screen-a pleasant way of catching up with others. Recently there has been a lot of chat about the vaccine program and who has been vaccinated with which vaccine, and where! The feedback on organisation has been so positive.

At present there is no information about Easter services.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have written an open letter inviting all people, of faith and no faith, to join together in their homes by saying a prayer or lighting a candle at 6pm every day (from February 1st) in memory of the many lives lost to COVID 19. The Church of England website [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org) gives the full details.

*Contributions to the next edition are welcome – please contact [QCG@quarndon-village.org.uk](mailto:QCG@quarndon-village.org.uk)*

## Contacts:

[www.quarndon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.quarndon-pc.gov.uk) (alias [www.quarndon-village.org.uk](http://www.quarndon-village.org.uk)) - website

[QCG@quarndon-village.org.uk](mailto:QCG@quarndon-village.org.uk) - contact the Quarndon Community Group

[web@quarndon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:web@quarndon-pc.gov.uk) - information for the website

[clerk@quarndon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@quarndon-pc.gov.uk) - contact Quarndon Parish Council