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# Ellisfield Parish Council

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## Parish Newsletter November 2010

### Broadband – Please Vote for Faster Speeds

Are you fed up with slow broadband speeds? You may be aware that BT has set up a competition of sorts for upgrades to its exchanges. Although the site suggests Herriard (any 01256 number starting with 381) is too small to win the race, if 75% of the exchange registers to vote, BT will engage with the community to consider something. So far 116 votes have been cast out of a total of 400, representing <30% of those registered with the Herriard exchange. It is vital that everyone votes or we will find ourselves left behind. This can be done by visiting the BT website <http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com> . If you need any help voting contact Jacqui Matthews, Parish Clerk.

### Two New Parish Councillors Co-opted

We now have two new parish councillors, both co-opted as there was no request for an election.

Welcome to Glen Horgan and Andy Webb who were co-opted to join the parish council in October.

Glen came to Ellisfield in 1999 and lives with his wife Angela and 4 children at Greystones, Green Lane. Glen is a Chartered Accountant and has taken on the role of Treasurer and will provide financial oversight of both projects and of the council business generally.

Andy came to Ellisfield in 2009 and lives with his wife Theresa and son Oliver at Dragon's Holt, Green Lane. Andy is a Chartered Engineer.

Ian Seagrave resigned in June as his job had taken him abroad, Ian and family recently moved to Switzerland. Peter Hopwood, who retired in July had been a parish councillor for 5 years and will be remembered for his hard work masterminding the restoration of Hill Farm Pond and for securing a 30mph limit on Axford Road. Peter continues to encourage Hampshire Highways and Hampshire Police to actively enforce the speed limit.

### K6 Jubilee Phone Box

You will be aware that in recent months BT has been decommissioning Public Phone boxes that have little or no usage; our phone box fell into that category and the Parish Council was given the opportunity to adopt the box rather than see it removed. In the last newsletter we asked for suggestions for how to make best use of this new village asset. There were many and various responses some of which are listed below.

We are now looking for an enthusiastic individual or small group of people to take care of our iconic red phone box and give it a new lease of life. At the very least there would need to be a cleaning rota and two yearly re-paint. Please contact Jacqui Matthews, Parish Clerk if you would like to help give our phone box a new lease of life.

Some suggested uses: Art Gallery for local work, Local advertising, Public Shower Cubicle! A cyclists attraction, cycle routes/walking routes, Illuminated Information Point, with solar lights and glass with country scenes perhaps designed by village people, A mini garden centre – donations of seedlings to sell through honesty box, Mini library/book swop, Recycling centre instead of people's houses, A small museum – history of the village with old photos and a short history of the area.

## Wanted

Someone to help keep the lanes of Ellisfield free from litter. You will need to be over 14 and available weekends/summer evenings; approx 1½ hours per week £30 per month. Please contact Jacqui Matthews, Parish Clerk for more information.

## Affordable Housing

Your parish council continues to work towards meeting the needs of those with local connections. Despite a number of setbacks we continue to discuss options with Portsmouth Estates as we look for a suitable site.

## Christmas Fayre

This year's Christmas Fayre which promises to be better than ever, will be held in Ellisfield Memorial Hall on Saturday 27 November from 2.00pm. See enclosed flyer for full details.

## Traffic Calming

Following the introduction of a 30mph speed limit, PC Reid and a colleague carried out a speed enforcement check on Axford Road on Wednesday 28 July; six Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) of £60 + 3 points on licenses were issued for speeds between 40 and 45 mph. Also one motorist was sent for Driver Awareness Training (DAT). All the vehicles stopped were commuters who drive through on a regular basis, except a van doing 45 mph from Truro. PC Reid has said he and his colleagues will come as often as they can to monitor speeds.

Meanwhile, Peter Hopwood has sent a number of emails to HCC regarding civilians monitoring traffic speeds. HCC have decided this is not appropriate; the activity in other areas had resulted in claims for compensation by drivers who said their concentration had been affected. It is understood that PC Reid has requested speed monitoring equipment to use within his beat; these requests are still being considered.

## Parish Council Contact Details

The six parish councillors are (in alphabetical order):

Caroline Cazenove, Vice- Chair Brocas, The Green	381279
Tim Guinness, Chairman Widmoor Farm, College Lane	381348
Glen Horgan, Greystones, Green lane	381886
David Richards, September, College Lane	381771
Rose Taplin, 2 Hill Farm Cottages, Green Lane	381417
Andy Webb, Dragon's Holt, Green Lane	381045

The parish clerk is Jacqui Matthews (Mayfield, Green Lane, Ellisfield RG25 2QL) and she can be contacted on 381149 or at [clerk@ellisfield.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ellisfield.gov.uk).

For further information on the Parish Council (including the Meeting Minutes) visit [www.ellisfield.gov.uk/council](http://www.ellisfield.gov.uk/council).

## Planning

The following planning applications have been approved since the last newsletter:

High Meadows, Green Lane	Erection of double garage, following demolition of existing
Copper Beeches, Axford Road	Construction of pitched roof over double garage to create first floor office involving the insertion of roof lights to front elevation, construction of dormer window to rear elevation and windows to side elevations, conversion of ground floor to games room/workshop and erection of a single storey side extension forming car port
Sylvers, Green Lane,	Erection of a front porch