

Maiden Bradley Parish News

379 January 2021



Part of the magical illuminated after-dark trail at Sourhead

January Diary 2021

3	Sun	Parish Communion	10am
4	Mon	No Household waste collection	
5	Tue	Household waste collection	
10	Sun	Plough Sunday – Memorial Hall car park	3pm
11	Mon	Green recycling	
13	Wed	Blue and Black bin recycling	
17	Sun	A Service of the Word	10am

A week of prayer for Christian Unity. There will be a discussion in Zoom every morning at 9.30am. For a link contact :

c_a_blay@hotmail.com

18	Mon	Household waste collection	
21		COPY DEADLINE – TO PAT: pat@visa-office.com	
24	Sun	Christian Unity Service at St. Michael's Church And via Zoom	10.30am
25	Mon	Green recycling	
27	Wed	Blue and Black bin recycling	
31	Sun	Communion at All Saints'	10am

Useful Telephone Numbers

Speed Watch Co-ordinator	Simon Wager	simon.m.wager@gmail.com
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Derek Stevens	01985 844428
Community Garden	Kate Moore	katemore@silkmillstudios.co.uk 01985 844305
Book Club	Jessica Johnson	01985 844174
Pilates		01985 511693
Cookery Demonstrations	Rosie Brown	01985 844236
Luncheon Club		01985 844779
Welcome Club Outings		01985 844779
Scrabble Club		01985 844919
Memorial Hall bookings		01985 845303
Dr Andrew Murrison MP		01225 358584 murrisona@parliament.uk
Mere Link Scheme		01747 860096
Rev. Carol Wilson-Barker		01747 861859



The shop is open in the Village Hall on Mon, Wed and Fridays 9-11.30am

The post office is open in the Village Hall on Tuesdays 1-3pm

Bell Ringing Tuesday 7 pm in the Bell Tower at the Church, beginners welcome 844475

Coffee Mornings every Friday in the Hall 10 am till 12 noon

Maiden Bradley Parish News – contributions are preferred in editable text format.

Email pat@visa-office.com

Magazine available online on the village website:

www.maidenbradleyvillage.org.uk

EDITORIAL

As we enter the New Year and after many years of negotiation, we are now fully out of the European Union. Whatever your politics may be, let us look forward to the opportunities this new era will bring to the whole of the United Kingdom.

Life in Lockdown is very different to our normal amount of activities. I have never watched so much TV in my life before nor done so much gardening (weather permitting) or food shopping, the result being the dreaded increase in weight which I am assured is true for many of us. Loneliness is a big problem for many, so inside we are featuring a charity that brings contact to those who would like a phone call or receive a letter.

The News Team wishes you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year and if you are called – get the vaccine!

Pat Kennedy 845397 pat@visa-office.com

NEWS FROM THE HALL

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS DECORATION COMPETITION

Congratulations and Christmas hampers go to Kate Moore, Fiona Russell and Pat Kennedy who achieved 1st, 2nd & 3rd place in the Village Decoration Competition – well done.



Bruce Munro, our judge, was so impressed with the overall standard of displays that he has offered his book 'Light' as a consolation prize to ALL entrants. These can be collected from Sheila Foley at the Old School Cottage or she will drop them off to those who entered as soon as she can.

HUGE thanks go to you all for taking part in the competition. All money raised (£165.00) will go the Memorial Hall to help us through these uncertain times.

Thanks also go to Bruce Munro for being such a wonderful judge on such a dark and dismal evening!

THE VILLAGERS VOTE

Congratulations also go to 'Greystones' on High Street for winning the Villagers' Vote as the most popular decorated house in the village.

Well done and thanks to everyone for voting.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The Christmas Raffle this year was a great success and raised £140.00. Thanks go to everyone who contributed prizes and bought tickets. A list of winners is available in the Old Kitchen Store in the Hall (open Mon, Weds & Fri 9am – 11.30am).



HAPPY NEW YEAR! AND LET'S HOPE FOR A HUGE IMPROVEMENT ON 2020!

We should all give ourselves a pat on the back; the village has made real progress with environmental issues over the past year. There is always more to do but I don't feel that we are a head in the sand backwater thanks to you!

An area that a few of us may still need to work on is one that is not particularly close to my experience as we do not have a dog in our family.

I have been looking into the best way to deal with that which our beloved 4-legged friends deposit, daily, for our delectation!

It is quite a minefield. The first thing to say is that if you are using biodegradable poo bags then that does **not** mean that it is OK to leave the bag in the hedge. Even bags which are made of starch do not rot down fast enough to make that an acceptable strategy.

(The shop now sells corn starch bags in rolls of 12 for £1).






So what should we be doing?

A single 75lb dog may produce 500lbs of poo a year! It is important not to contribute to pet waste that ends up in landfill, taking centuries to rot down and giving off methane in the process.




Poo from one dog being collected three times a day with plastic bags can put over 1,000 bags a year into landfill. Estimates suggest that poo bags, even some of the biodegradable ones, can take anywhere from ten to 1,000 years to fully decompose when they are in landfill. The right strategy varies according to where you and your 4 pawed friends are but here is a summary of what I have discovered:

DOS:

-  **PICK UP**, wrap in newspaper and bury in a hole in your garden away from any veg you may be growing or where children may investigate. Let nature do the rest.
-  **STICK & FLICK**, but do not do this in village, this is only suitable in the countryside. Using a stick carefully flick the mess from the path, into undergrowth. Also good is to then cover it with leaves. The Forestry Commission backs this method, but the National Trust does not; make of that what you will.
-  **DIGESTER**, a unit that can be sunk into the ground. They are not too costly - and we might make an application to the Parish Council to have one in a suitable spot in the village.



DON'TS:

-  Leave it on the road/path, bagged or otherwise
-  Bag it in plastic and put it in general waste heading to landfill
-  Put it in a compost heap that will be used on food growing beds

I hope that helps? It is a sign of how much more we are thinking about this kind of issue that there is a lot about it on the web. Please let me know your thoughts.

Please contact Kate on katemoore@silkmillstudios.co.uk or 844305

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Church Railings Damaged Again!!



In the early hours of Monday 30th November at approximately 06:45hrs a vehicle collided with the Church railings at the Mere end of the village, demolishing the section at that end. Reason unknown other than that it was extremely foggy at the time and the driver lost direction. Sadly the vehicle was not identified other than it must have had considerable amounts of green paint on the bonnet and the bumper assembly missing. As these remains were left at the site of the incident.

On the following day a Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineer visited the site and carried out an inspection to establish what is required to replace the railings damaged and a work request put in and agreed. Again we have to be a little patient with the timing of the repair as three of the cast iron posts had been broken off and therefore replaced. These have to be cast at the foundry and will take a little time to produce. As soon as the said posts are available the work will be carried out and the railings replaced and painted.

In the meantime if anyone has information or knowledge of the incident please do let the Parish Clerk know so that the costs can be properly allocated rather than carried by council regardless.

Simon Wager

Simon Wager

Vice Chairman Maiden Bradley with Yarnfield Parish Council



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LOCAL WALK No2 -MAIDEN BRADLEY HALL TO SHEARWATER

JANNINE BARRON

This is my favourite walk since I arrived in the village this year. I take it often to reflect and unwind and feel immense gratitude for the beauty of this area. It has lanes, woodland tracks, villages, some byways and farmland and lovely views all the way. Only a few uphill sections, but an easy to medium walk for most.

ROUTE TITLE: Maiden Bradley Hall to Shearwater.

One Way but many places to turn around and make this a loop walk back to the hall if you prefer.

TIME: 2 + hours leisurely or fast in 90 minutes . I prefer to stop at many spots along the way including Heaven's Gate to enjoy the magnificent trees, homes and views. 9.5km

STARTING POINT: Maiden Bradley Village Hall

FINISH POINT: Shearwater lake and Cafe: I recommend refreshments at the cafe to celebrate your walk. I call home to be picked up but if you are with a group, you could leave one car at Shearwater and one at Maiden Bradley. Or return back the same way. This could also be a loop walk if you turn back at Huntley's Gate or Heaven's Gate which I mention below.

Walk down High Street along lane until you get to the first road on your left. The road sign will say to Horningsham.

Walk along the lane for half a mile and you will come to a farmhouse on your right. Immediately after is a BYWAY sign. Take this track.

Track will bring you out on a lane where you turn right

This lane almost immediately has you at the intersection of 'Chapel St' and 'The Corner' but stay on the main lane to walk towards the war memorial look out at Horningsham.

As you almost reach the end of this lane, near the house which is at the bottom of the last climb to the war memorial, pause and opposite the house is a walking track, not very well posted.

Step inside this small, overgrown woodland, just a few metres to find a huge western red cedar and clear spring pool. It is a mesmerising place for reflection.

Back on the lane, turn right and reach the war memorial for great views.

Turn right on to Water Lane/Church St after the war memorial

Walk along footpath to Church past thatched roof cottages and the primary school.

You will soon come to St Johns Church. Turn left at Church and take time to explore Churchyard if you have time or need a break.

Follow the lane down and then up the hill past many thatched cottages and farmlands.

There is a step rise at the top of the hill which has beautiful trees overhanging the road. It's a short and special part of the trail.

Once at the top, there are many ways to take you to Heaven's Gate, I prefer going straight ahead on the first footpath which runs along the back of some houses.

This brings you past the Longleat forest and brings you to a very special left hand turn.

Turn left on the first track you come to and take the short path leaning downhill which takes you through a magical piece of forest.

You come out at the side of a cottage and find yourself on a small lane with a few thatched cottages.

Turn right on to the short path you see through woodlands which soon comes out at Huntleys Gate.

At this point, decide if you are looping back or going all the way to Shearwater.

If looping back, turn left into the Longleat grounds and stay on the track which will bring you to the ornate Longleat Gate and then to the 'Bath arms' and then you can walk back up the road with glorious woodlands either side, back to High St, Maiden Bradley.

If going on to Shearwater, turn right at Huntley's Gate to up the hill, go through the stiles, stay on the track up hill and you arrive at Heaven's Gate after a very short woodland walk. Spectacular views and sculpture park there and great spot for a 2/3 of the way picnic if you brought your thermos.

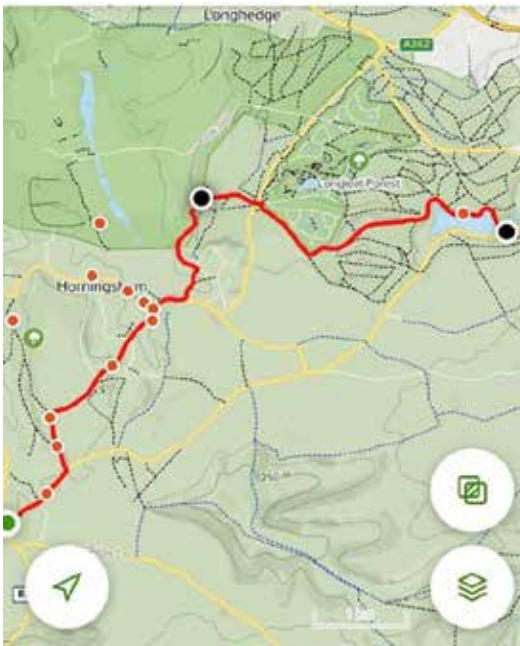
From Heaven's Gate, walk to Shearwater by following the obvious and only path behind the sculptures to Heaven's Gate Carpark.

From the carpark, the forest trail to Shearwater Lake is just to the left as you face the carpark.

Stay on the main fire trail, do not take any branches and you will arrive at the lake.

Reward yourself at the Shearwater Cafe or jump into your waiting car. Or call to be picked up like I do!

ENJOY :)



Elizabeth Gittoes

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Parish Council 8th December 2020

S137 Grants – The Parish council approved a Grant for £300.00 to the Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall. The hall will use the grant to re-locate electric cooker and breakfast bar in kitchen thus rendering safer access to fire exit in addition to facilitating safer working practices.

Planning Decisions - received planning applications decisions made by Wiltshire Council. Application Ref: 20/08981/FUL Application for Full Planning Proposal: - Proposed rear extension and alterations. At: Foxlease, High Street, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7JG Decision: approved with conditions.

Communities Prepared Wiltshire Winter Weather Webinars - Councillor Simon Wager, attended virtually the Snow Wardens Course on the 25th November as part of the Wiltshire Council initiative, training community organisations and those working in community resilience or related sectors within the area. He has confirmed that the Community Emergency Plan is adequate for the Community's needs.

Items for the next Agenda: Reserves and Contingency, General Reserves, Budget/Precept and Grants.

Date of the next meeting. The Council agreed that the 12th January 2021 would be the date of the next Parish Council meeting. As always, the Parish Council meeting will be open at the start with an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or make comments on any matter. The website www.maidenbradley.org can be accessed to read a copy of the Agenda and Minutes electronically or copies are displayed on the Millennium Notice Board at the Bus Stop.

Mrs Sarah Jeffries can be contacted by email on maidenbradley@virginmedia.com, by phone on 01985 213436, or post to Parish Clerk, 9 Beech Grove, Warminster, BA12 0AB

VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

NOVEMBER

1 st	Amy Hobson	£26.25	2 nd	George Jones	£13.10
3 rd	Sheila Foley	£7.95	4 th	P. Dean	£5.20

DECEMBER

1 st	Julie Knight	£26.25	2 nd	Richard Holmes	£13.10
3 rd	Ali Higgins	£7.95	4 th	Sam Higgins	£5.20

A MEMORIAL HALL THANK YOU FOR ALL THE SUPPORT DURING LOCKDOWN

To all those contributors to the Hall Lottery, a very big thank you for helping maintain this vital social hub. Over this year alone £600+ has gone to you in prizes and £600+ to the maintenance of the Hall.

If you would like to help support your Village Hall, please get in contact with John Priestner on 844244 who has some spare numbers. Only 50p per number per month, you can have more than one number. Half the draw's income goes to the Village Hall and half goes in prizes.



Chatterbox Action Against Loneliness Programme

Do you need to talk?

We want to support more lonely and socially isolated caregivers, bereaved people, and those dealing with life-limiting illnesses or end of life challenges.



Omega, the National Association for End of Life Care | Registered Charity No. 1120322

Chatterbox

This is a telephone befriending scheme. Our volunteer befrienders are matched with clients and are happy to talk about anything as well as offering emotional support. You can see more information at -

<https://www.omega.uk.net/chatterbox-action-against-loneliness-programme-p-173.htm>

A Letter from Louise

This is a penpal befriending service. As with Chatterbox our volunteer befrienders are matched with clients with similar interests so they can share stories and experiences. All post is directed

via our office using a freepost system, so clients addresses are confidential. Many of our befrienders include photos and pictures with their letters. You can see more information at -

<https://www.omega.uk.net/a-letter-from-louise-p-214.htm>

Long Knoll by Adi Roche



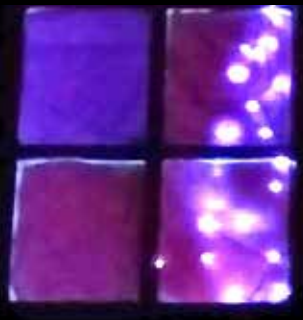
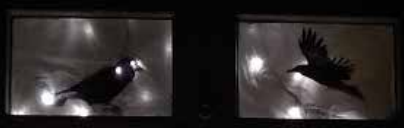
**Second prize
in the Christmas
Decoration competition -**

**Peter and
Fiona Russell**





The winning entry :
Kate Moore





**Third Prize goes to
Pat and
James Kennedy
for
'The Night before
Christmas'**

**The Villagers' vote
went to
Greystones
on High Street.**



VanVenture

2020
(part 3)

Mark Lucas-Phillips



After 3 days we left the lovely narrow lanes of the Lakes district and headed north again to Scotland. We were all filled with utter excitement at the prospect, Scotland being a regular destination for us for walking, it's rugged landscape and friendly down to earth people have been a firm love of ours for many years, it is a place where we feel very much at home. We cheered as we drove over the border past the large Scottish Flag sign on the M74 just before passing Gretna Green and commented on the lack of England signs when driving home. The Scottish display a strong pride in their Nationality, something that I feel we can be a little lacklustre with, and for no reason as England too is stunningly beautiful and varied.

On to Glasgow and the Erskine bridge and we were soon in the West Highlands, I have always loved driving the A82 and the shores of the beautiful Loch Lomond and remembered previously commenting how I wouldn't want to drive this in a motorhome as it is quick, narrow, winding and lined with rockface, and here we were doing just that. Another challenge to keep my eyes on the road and not the view and splendour of the Loch. We did however pick out our favourite beach on the opposite shore where we have picnicked and swam more than once whilst walking the West Highland Way. We passed through Inverarnan, Crainlarich and then stopped at the Green Welly Stop in Tyndrum, a must experience for any journey into the West Highlands, it's general store sells everything you can think you might need, from Midge nets and Smidge repellent to socks, penknives, Scottish Shortbread and tablet and of course Malt Whiskey. We bought a bottle of Old Pultney to savour on the summit of Ben Nevis, having drank Pendyrn, the only Welsh single malt, on the summit of Snowdon.

We were all in high spirits, even though the bottle was yet to be opened, as we knew the best of the roads were yet to come on this epic van trip, I could feel my heart beating in anticipation of Rannoch Moor and Glen Coe. We passed the Bridge of Orchy where we have cooled our hot feet in the Byrnie previously and drank Irn Bru sat outside the pub. As we approached Rannoch Moor we drove through huge clouds of midges, it was early evening and they were out in force and armed with teeth! We



stopped at what is known as the Pipers layby, just beyond Loch Tulla where the view of Rannoch Moor flows beneath, I was the only one brave, or foolish enough to step outside to take a photo and despite a pre-treatment of repellent the little midgies soon smelt my blood and were upon me in moments. A hasty retreat was made to Jonny and on we drove to what is the most thrilling road I have ever driven. The A82 past the Glen Coe ski mountain resort and the newly refurbished Kings House Hotel gives me shivers, lifts the hairs on my arms and never fails to bring a tear to my eye. The landscape is rugged, wild and barren and changes from the vast expanse of Rannoch Moor to the foreboding peaks either side of the road. Bauchaille Etive Mor, probably one of the most photographed mountains in Scotland stands at the head of the pass into Glen Coe itself and is a fitting natural monument to the history of the massacre that occurred in the Glen on February 13th 1692 when the MacDonand clan were slaughtered by the soldiers of the Monarchy. The very landscape seems to echo the battle cries & bravery of the Clansmen. When I first walked into Glen Coe after 20 miles hard walking on the Drovers road from Tyndrum it was as if I could sense the history, the sound and vibration of many soldiers feet on the hard ground below, the feeling of fear and adrenaline, the earth seems to hold

that memory and it is as if the earth itself is charging upwards in combat. It is a very masculine feeling, an energy, a force beyond words and it rocks me to the core every time I am there and yet despite the history it is without doubt my favourite place in the world as it makes me feel so full of life. We switched places in the van and Todd sat up front with me as we



drove through, this was a Father and Son moment as we both felt the hard energy of the land, and with Audioslaves, 'I am the Highway' playing loud on the van stereo we leaned forward with tears in our eyes at the splendour of the Glen, passing the 3 Sisters and the Devils Staircase without a word, and lumps in our throats, yet a wry smile at the shared exhilaration of this epic landscape. Inside we were both roaring!

As we approached Ballahulish and Loch Leven the sun had blushed the sky and the water a rich amber gold and burnt orange and we detoured into the tiny village of Ballahulish to show the family where Wendy and I stayed as part of our honeymoon, in a guest house that was still there and still looking exactly as it did 20 years ago. Next stop was Fort William and crossing the bridge with Loch Linnhe on our left the view across the Loch stretches as far as the Isle of Mull. From this viewpoint the mountains seem to step back one at a time, fading in contrast as the distance increases, adding to the mystery of their majesty. We arrived at Fort William late, and headed to our campsite with an Indian takeaway. It was dark when we pulled up in a pitch facing the Loch and thankfully with a wee breeze in the air the midges had all gone to bed. Tomorrow we were heading to Ben Nevis for our final challenge. It was gone midnight before I turned in, the rest of the van already asleep as I researched parking in the Glen for motorhomes.

We set out early in the morning to ensure a parking space at the Glen Nevis visitor centre and arrived



just before 7am, showering and making breakfast whilst watching the car park fill with cars and vans both spilling out with faces filled with sleepy anticipation, walking poles, backpacks and hiking boots. These were our kind of people and I felt at very much at home with my kin. The carpark was a bit midgy as we left and it didn't really get any better as we climbed, the heat of the morning was already apparent at 0800, the morning sun warm and the air thick and humid. As we walked through the deep heather that lines the path from the Ben Nevis Inn up to the big slab path any stop attracted the wee midges. A Father and Daughter were clearly getting bothered by their relentless attack as they paused, showing the distinctive midge dance of waving arms and hands and the regular neck slap. I stopped and handed them a bottle of Smidge and reassured of it's efficacy as well as the fact that a bit of sun, altitude and some breeze would see them gone and that the climb was well worth a few tiny yet annoying insects. The midges continued to pester us at every stop to take a layer off or wait for one of the party and we made each pause very brief and in sunshine. We ascended in a steady but measured pace. I knew this one was a relentless slog of step up after step up and was concerned that Poppy may peak too early if we rushed past the midges. It was also only 2 days ago that we ascended Scafell Pike and an 8 hour day of ascent, pacing was therefore key to ensure we all enjoyed this brute of a Mountain and I was excited to be climbing our Islands highest peak with Wendy, this being her 3rd attempt.

We first set foot on the Ben back in 2015 after walking the West Highland Way with our friend Martin the Mountain Goat, otherwise known by our walking group as the Dead Slovakian as he would add in numerous extra peaks to a days walking on the Way and by evening would eat and then crash and sleep without moving for hours but then rise before dawn for the next epic days walk. I still remember how he walked, gliding over the terrain as if his feet didn't actually touch the ground, like some



kind of mythical or holy man, it appeared effortless and he seemed at one with the path. This attempt however myself and Wendy turned back from, just past the Lochan, due to very high winds of over 65mph. Martin of course continued on and we hugged and waved goodbye with a parting gift of our flask of coffee and my hipflask of

Malt whiskey for him to enjoy on the top. Sad and deflated we descended that day but knowing it was the right decision for us. Another plan to hit the Ben was also thwarted, again after walking the WHW 3 years later as Wendy suffered a bad stomach on the last day. This was to be my first ascent, an incredibly hot day with a very large end of the Way hangover and 2 friends with the same! This time however we were both fit, fresh and the weather full of promise. Wendy would have her summit.

.....FINAL PART NEXT MONTH!



Maiden Bradley Weightwatchers

We have been made aware of a proposal by Hansons Aggregates that they are proposing to reopen/expand 2 quarries north of Nunney and we are concerned about the impact this may have on HGV traffic through our village.

Following is our response to their online documents and consultation which closed on the 5th December. We await their response.

Maiden Bradley Weightwatchers Hanson's consultation submission :

1. What comments do you have on our plans to re-open Westdown Quarry?

Maiden Bradley Weightwatchers is a civil society group in Maiden Bradley, formed to represent the interests and concerns of our village regarding the adverse and cumulative social and environmental impacts of HGV traffic on our village. The B3092 is routinely used by Hansons and other business partners in the quarry and construction industry as a 'short-cut'. Convoys of HGVs are a blight on the well-being of our community. Our goal is to enforce the Weight Limit agreed in 2011 for the B3092 and for HGV traffic to use the designated strategic freight routes in Wiltshire or Somerset.

On 1 July 2020, we wrote to Hansons as well as other firms in the quarry and construction industry explaining the cumulative, negative impacts of HGV traffic on our community well-being. We asked these businesses to use the designated strategic routes only. Hansons has yet to reply to the concerns we set out in our letter.

We are extremely concerned about the impact of Westdown Quarry on the numbers of HGV journeys on the B3092. Our key requests in response to the consultation are as follows:

1. Explain clearly how the additional stone extracted from Westdown will be distributed without requiring additional vehicle movements. Give clear data on tonnage distribution by road and rail, the number of HGV journeys anticipated and the regional routes they will use and any increase. Provide this information in a Transport assessment and Travel Plan as part of the planning process.
2. Look beyond the local communities and assess the cumulative social and environmental impacts of the quarry industry and construction industry on affected communities living along transport routes across Somerset and Wiltshire.
3. Commit to using the strategic highways to distribute stone. Avoid using the B3092 for HGV journeys sending stone from Hansons quarries to other supply chain partners, such as Hopkins in Wincanton, and/ or using this route to supply other buyers or partners.
4. Invest as an industry (together with other partners) in the strategic highways of Somerset and Wiltshire to ensure that stone can be distributed using strategic highways rather than inappropriate B-roads.

2. Do you have any comments on how we should manage the effects of our proposals on the environment and your community?

We refer you to our other comments.

We recommend that Hansons and supply chain partners and buyers develop a long-term plan with Wiltshire Council to invest in strategic highways to enable the distribution of stone without causing adverse impacts on affected communities.

3. Do you have any comments on the proposed restoration plan?

No comment

4. Do you consider that there are sufficient public access opportunities within the restoration plan?

No comment

5. Do you have any comments on any of the information or documents provided as part of this consultation?

Based on the information provided in the consultation documents we understand the following:
A maximum of 4 million tonnes will be distributed by road per annum:

- Hansons states that it will extract 2 million tonnes of limestone aggregate a year from Westdown quarry between 2022 and 2042.
- Hansons also states that it will move no more than 4 million tonnes per annum by road from both Whatley and Westdown quarries combined.

Please confirm, exactly how much extra tonnage will be distributed by road?

Despite extracting an extra 2 million tonnes of limestone from Westdown, Hansons anticipates no additional HGV movements:

- Hansons notes that stone from Whatley quarry will continue to use the Mendip rail line to deliver product to national markets (currently estimated at around two-thirds of production)
- No information is given regarding the current tonnage and vehicle movements by road from Whatley to enable consultees to establish the increase of distribution by road
- No information is given to explain what proportion of the additional tonnage will be distributed by rail and whether Mendip rail has the capacity to distribute more tonnage.
- No information is given about the anticipated number of HGV journeys associated with distributing 4 million tonnes of stone per annum (e.g. 1 million tonnes delivered in 25 tonne trucks would be 40,000 lorry loads per year)

Please confirm exactly how the additional tonnage will be distributed by road without requiring extra vehicle movements?

There is no current planning restriction on HGV movements at Westdown and therefore the commitment to restrict distribution by road to 4 million tonnes per annum is not binding, and is a voluntary commitment by Hansons, based on existing restrictions at Whatley. The EIA Scoping report states:

“The existing planning permissions for Westdown Quarry provide no indication of any restrictions on the volume HGV movements or any restrictions on the quantity of material leaving the site. Notwithstanding this, the existing July 1995 planning permission on the neighbouring Whatley Quarry (reference 109/22/002) states at condition (30) that no more than 4 million tonnes of the total output from the site in any one calendar year shall be transported by road.”

“As the resumption of working at Westdown Quarry would be to complement existing operations at Whatley Quarry, and allow the latter to focus on the despatch of aggregates by the on-site rail head facility (see Chapter 2 of this Scoping Report), it can be confirmed that it is Hansons’s intention that moving forwards, Whatley and Westdown combined would operate within the limits of the existing condition (3) i.e. no more than 4 million tonnes per annum would be transported from the sites via road.”

Please confirm whether the Whatley restriction will be mandatory also for Westdown or remain a voluntary commitment?

Hansons has designated routes for HGVs to reach the A361 and makes a commitment to highway improvements. No information is given about onward routes for HGVs after leaving the A361, and when delivering to national buyers or supply chain partners.

Please confirm whether Hansons and partners commit to using only strategic routes for distribution.

Hansons predicts that hours of operation, including haulage, will be Monday to Friday, 06.00 – 20.00; and Saturday and Sunday, from 06.00 – 12.00. No specific commitment is given to ensure that haulage occurs during social hours and without use of convoys.

Please confirm whether Hansons and partners commit to haulage only in social hours and not in convoy.

The Consultation documents and the EIA Scoping document focus on “local communities” who live near the quarry sites. Neither document considers the potential impact of HGV movements on “affected communities” who live along Hanson’s selected distribution networks and who are subject to cumulate HGV impacts from Hansons, their supply chain partners and other actors in the quarry and construction industry.

Please confirm whether Hansons will broaden its EIA to include a cumulative impacts assessment on affected communities along distribution routes.

The consultation documents do not include a Transport Assessment and Travel Plan. Such a plan is required by the Somerset Minerals Plan, where significant transport movements are anticipated. According to this plan, adopted in 2015, proposed mineral developments must demonstrate the road network is of a suitable standard to sustain the volume and nature of traffic without having adverse impacts on the landscape, countryside and settlements, including for example, disruption to communities, highway safety, proximity to buildings and air quality.

Please confirm that Hansons intends to conduct a traffic assessment that includes, as noted above, the cumulative industry impacts on affected communities on distribution routes.



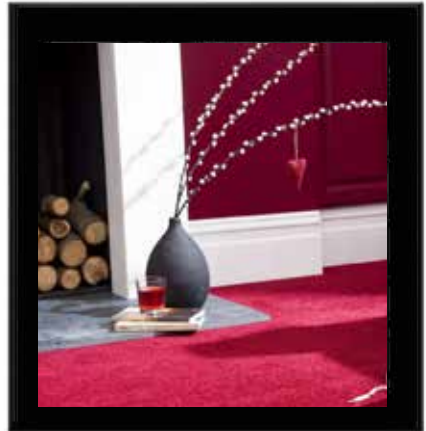
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Maiden Bradley Weightwatchers

Maiden Bradley Weightwatchers have been corresponding with Wiltshire Council regarding the non implementation of the agreed weight limit on the B3092 for many many months. We have asked the Parish Council for their support to effect a temporary solution to the delay in improving the A350/A303 junction which needs to be done before the weight limit will be introduced.

We have written to the Parish Council and they have endorsed our approach and themselves written to the Leader of the Council regarding this matter.

We still await a response.

The letter sent to the Parish Council follows and outlines the temporary solution we have proposed.

Dear Maiden Bradley Parish Councillors,

On August 4th 2020 we received a letter from Mr. Parvis Khansari, Director of Highways & Environment at Wiltshire Council (attached) in response to the Maiden Bradley Weightwatchers letter campaign to HGV companies driving through the village.

In Mr. Khansari's response he explained that the implementation of the environmental weight limit on the B3092 is dependent on significant improvements at the A350/A303 junction to improve road safety. He noted that he would not support our campaign because the unintended consequence could 'shunt' problems onto other communities.

We would like to bring the following points to the attention of the Parish Council:

1. Many hauliers in their response to our letters have noted that they could safely access the A303/A350 if the B3089 entry-point at Willoughby Hedge did not have a weight restriction on it.

2. On February 5, 2003, WS Atkins submitted document "Agenda Item 10" to the Regulatory Committee, "East Knoyle/West Knoyle: Amendment to the Weight Limit on the B3098 between Two Mile Down and Willoughby Hedge.

As a solution to address accidents at the A350/303 junction, WS Atkins recommended allowing HGVs to access the A303 at Willoughby Hedge via the B3089, by revoking the weight limit in the westbound direction. They noted:

"As the B3089 is a County Road it is for the County Council as Highway Authority to promote the change to the weight limit. The Highways Agency has indicated that they will cover the County Council's expenses in dealing with this."

Their proposal was supported by the police, but opposed by West Knoyle parish council. In their final conclusion, WS Atkins noted:

"The proposals put forward are a practical way in which to deal with the turning accidents taking place at Furze Hedge. The accident record at Willoughby Hedge does not back up the perceived problems raised by West Knoyle Parish Council. Furthermore, the improvements put forward by WS Atkins at Willoughby Hedge should to some extent help the situation."

3. We note from the link that Mr.Khansari shared that Council did consider lifting the restriction on the B3089 but that this option was rejected in 2011. It is not clear why this option was excluded – although the record notes this option was opposed by the Member for Tisbury.

The decision states:

"The TROs in western Wiltshire with amendments (i.e. exclude B3089 One way Weight Restriction

Order and A350 Furze Hedge Prohibition of Right-hand Turn for HGVs Order) be made but implementation be deferred until the Highways Agency's preferred road safety scheme at the A303/A350 junction at Furze Hedge has been implemented. Implementation of the TROs would also be subject to the availability of funding."

4. In 2011, when Wiltshire Council decided to defer implementation of the weight limit, the member for Warminster had argued:

"The Highways Agency are unlikely to find sufficient priority for the A350/A303 improvement for some considerable time; the more modest - and affordable - modifications to the A303/A3089 junction could permit the weight restrictions to be implemented in the near future.

According to latest reports, work on the A303/350 improvement is unlikely to start until 2029 at the earliest, given postponements to work around Stonehenge. This is approximately 20 years after Wiltshire Council's decision to defer.

5. Given this known delay, and the decades of adverse environmental and social impacts this entails for our village and many others, we would be grateful if Wiltshire Council could review its exclusion of revoking the west-bound weight restriction on the B3089 /A303 at Willoughby Hedge – on a temporary basis until such time as the improvements are made to the A350/303 junction. This would enable a safe access route for HGVs between the 303 and A350, thus enabling the swifter implementation of the weight limit in Maiden Bradley.

We would be grateful if the Parish Council could share this letter with Martin Rose the chief engineer at Wiltshire Council, in order to inquire about the feasibility of the option we have set out.

Regards

Maiden Bradlev Weightwatchers



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COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH NEWS

Police Community Volunteers working on behalf of
the Wiltshire Police and Maiden Bradley



Welcome to Community Speed Watch News, compiled and produced by the Maiden Bradley Community Speed Watch Volunteers to keep the village aware of our activities.

Sadly we are again not able to operate until the beginning of this month, December because of the imposed lockdown regulations which have been lifted for the moment.

However weather permitting 3 sessions are planned up to the 25th December and the results will be published in the January Newsletter.

It is very noticeable that since we have not been able to carry out CSW activities the general speed of traffic through the village has increased considerably. Which shows the value of CSW in reducing vehicle speed to the designated limits set.

Rest assured CSW will be active again from the beginning of January onwards to continue the good work already carried out by dedicated and very proactive teams.

Therefore a very big thank you to the community for supporting CSW in our activities in the village. Your support makes it all worthwhile.

A very Merry Christmas and a Happy Peaceful New Year.

Thank you for all your support in the CSW activities and for your support in the future.

Simon Wager

Simon Wager. Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator.
Vice Chairman Maiden Bradley Parish Council

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Highways and High Street Petition

12th November 2020 Community Action Group meeting.

On the 12th November the Community Area Traffic Group approved both parts of the above project.

Highways B3092 Frome Road. Phase 1 Part 1 2020/2021

To upgrade the 30mph limit into the village with a set of Village Boundary White Gates appropriately signed, The Hedge to be cut back to give a clearer sight line and view into the village and up to the crossroads. Upgrade the white line signage to include the 30mph speed limit. Pedestrian signage where applicable.

Implementation of this work will be carried out in the 2020 financial year.

Phase 2 2021/2022

Evaluate the effects of phase 1 and carry out a feasibility study to establish what else can be done to improve traffic in this area if anything..

High Street Partition. Phase 1 Part 2 2020/2021

To implement the 20mph Speed Limit on High Street from the start of the now 30mph limit to the cross roads with the B3092. To include Back Lane to the Tee Junction with Kingston Lane. Kingston Lane from the start of the 30mph to the T junction with the B3092. Again this work will be carried out in the 2020 financial year. Please note no further signage will be applied other than the statutory 20mph signage. As laid down within the government's directive to reduce the amount of sign clutter on the network as it has become a big problem. The supplementary guidance to the **TSRGD 2016**

White Gates.

Further to the installation of White Gates in Phase 1 Part1 Frome Road. It is planned to keep continuity that White Gates will be installed on High Street at the beginning of the 20mph during 2021 subject to final budget approval.

Further again White Gates will be installed at the Mere end of the Village on the B3092 30mph limit 2022 again subject to budget approval.

Simon Wager

Simon Wager

Vice Chairman Maiden Bradley with Yarnfield Parish Council

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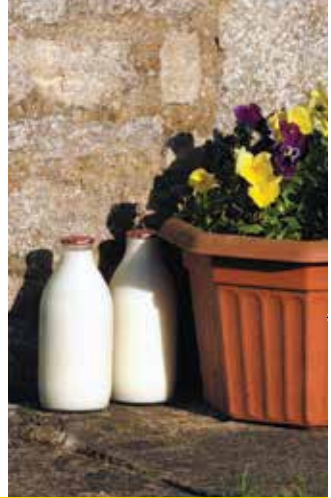
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CRANBORNE CHASE AONB DARK SKIES FESTIVAL

STARFEST

15TH-20TH FEBRUARY 2021



OUR WEEK-LONG DARK SKIES FESTIVAL TAKING PLACE OVER THE FEBRUARY 2021 HALF-TERM IS TO CELEBRATE OUR DESIGNATION AS AN INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY RESERVE. THE FESTIVAL IS OPEN TO EVERYONE AND THERE IS SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES.

The events, most of which will be held online range from basic astronomy, through star tales for children and adults, to light pollution reduction.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE EVENTS TAKING PLACE TO WHET YOUR APPETITE BUT YOU CAN FIND FULL DETAILS ON THE EVENTS PAGE OF OUR WEBSITE:

INTRODUCTION TO STARGAZING WITH STEVE TONKIN. This is a beginner's guide to stargazing with tips on good apps to use as well as how to use a simple 'planisphere' to help you understand the night sky. Tickets are free. Monday 15 February at 19.30pm

GROW YOUR BUSINESS WITH DARK SKY TOURISM WITH RICHARD DARN. Astro tourism is booming. Since Cranborne Chase became an International Dark Sky Reserve in 2019 there is a real opportunity for businesses in the area to make the most of new markets thanks to this new status. This is a free session for businesses. Join Richard online on Tuesday 16 February at 19.30pm

HALF-TERM STAR ART ACTIVITY FOR KIDS WITH MARY MCINTYRE. Learn how to draw the moon and make your own star constellations with this fun, online art activity, suitable for ages 7+. Mary is an amateur astronomer and is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. Join Mary on Wednesday 17 February for this free online activity at 4pm

BOOK ONLINE AT - www.cranbornechase.org.uk/events