

Anson Trust – Public Meeting

At the public meeting on 17 March, approximately 80 people came to the school to hear reports from the Anson Trust Directors, Jane Hanna (who heads the Anson Trust Working Party) and Jim Asher who gave an outline of a Marcham Community Proposal. The meeting was chaired by Malcolm Denton as a neutral observer and not in his position as Chair of Marcham Parish Council.

Mike Hoath opened the presentations along with the other directors of the Anson Trust to outline the current situation and give an overview of different options which are discussed in depth in the document available from the Secretary to the Trust and the MADWeb.

Jane Hanna spoke briefly to say the Working Group welcomed the document from the Anson Trust. The Group had met to discuss the issues and that they also welcomed the formation of a new Community Group which was represented at this meeting by Emily Nicol and Jim Asher. The Working Party will undertake the public consultation at a time when there are firm proposals to give our views upon.

Jim spoke at length about a proposal from the Community Group – which as yet is still in formation – giving historical reasons as to why it would be difficult for the Anson Trust to continue to represent Marcham’s interests in building new facilities, but how they could continue to hold the land as part of the trust.

The floor was then opened up to the audience with contributions from approximately 10 people. The comments included a welcome to the Community Proposal as a possible way forward, a query as to whether the Parish Council could underpin the Trust’s finances (they are unable to consider this until they are presented with firm figures), how new housing could be limited on the Anson Field were it sold (this is dependent on planning permission being granted and the Vale would apply a restriction on density of development in accordance with its current policy. Therefore the maximum number of houses which could be built would depend upon the amount of land sold (one-half of the field in the Trust’s proposal)), school roll issues with increased population and a question about if the Institute could be sold with the Ex-Servicemen’s Club still as leaseholders (yes it could, and their lease expires in 2010 but under the Landlord and Tenant Act they could seek a new lease).

A question was also asked about the aims of the new Anson Trust Company and how they differed from the original Trust as it was endowed by the Anson sisters. The Trust undertook to give details of this and
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also to answer a list of questions that had been posed to them before the meeting, but due to timing had been unable to formulate answers in time.

There are various documents on the Anson Trust website (www.ansontrust.org), the MADWeb (www.madnews.co.uk) and I will undertake to provide a printed version of as much of the documents as possible in the Post Office.

MERIEL LEWIS, EDITOR

Dear Editor

Marcham Community Group

A new Marcham Community Group is being formed to work with the Anson Trust to develop the right plan for future village facilities to meet the needs of the wider community. The time available to Anson Trust to consider alternative options is fast running out due to their dwindling finances. We will need to move quickly and there is much urgent work to be done. This new initiative will need support and effort from the whole community to make it effective. I have agreed to act as a point of contact - if you are able to help, please let me have contact details so that you can be kept up to date about forthcoming meetings where you will be able to contribute your ideas and experience. Your active support will be vital.

JIM ASHER (391727)

jim.asher@btinternet.com



Dear Editor

The Directors of the Anson Trust would like to thank all those who came to our meeting on 17th March and those who spoke from the floor. In particular, we would like thank those who proposed and supported a Community Group to research the feasibility of an extended scheme on the Anson Field. We would like to reiterate our offer to help the Community Group with its investigation. Our only concern is one of time. As we noted, our financial resources are limited and we have to make a decision on the future of the Trust sooner rather than later. If anyone would like to talk to us about any matters arising from what was said at the meeting, please contact us on through our web-site www.ansontrust.org or through the Company Secretary at 8 Hyde Close, Marcham OX13 6PT. We will be replying formally to the questions raised at the meeting or in advance of it both directly and by placing questions and answers on our web-site.

ANSON TRUST DIRECTORS

Dear Editor

A Good Deed For Cyclists

Last Saturday, 6th March the sun was shining so I decided to get on my bike and cycle along the Marcham Road into Abingdon. I couldn’t help noticing a man

NOTICE OF MEETING

The 117th Annual Garford Parish Meeting will be held in The Village Hall, Garford on Thursday, 13th May, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

For details of the Agenda, please see the Village Notice Board.

It is hoped that as many village residents as possible will endeavour to attend.

Clerk, Garford Parish Meeting

clearing the encroaching soil from the cycle path and sweeping away the accumulated gravel. I stopped and had a quick chat with this good citizen who turned out to be a volunteer working for SUSTRANS a national Cycling group. It lifted my spirits to see someone working so hard to improve things for the benefit of all.

WELL DONE THAT MAN.

ALISON YOUNGMAN,

22 Anson Close, Marcham

Dear Editor

Parking on Pavement

As a registered childminder living and working in the village I have a problem with cars which are parked on the pavement.

I walk to school and pre-school numerous times during the day, with a double buggy and with the maximum of ten children.

The children and I have great difficulty passing cars which take up the majority of the pavement. I am aware it is not an offence to be parked in this way, but I would like to point out, if I have to squeeze past a vehicle parked on the pavement and any damage occurs, I am not legally liable to pay for damaged caused.

I will not place the children in my care at risk, by having to walk into a busy road at a very busy time of the day, so when you park your car on the pavement, please give a little thought for pedestrians who have to put themselves and others at risk by having to step into the road.

JEN FRENCH

Response from Laura Schmid, PCSO

As the local PCSO, I have read the letter of concern about parking problems in the Village of Marcham. When parking anywhere, you need to give consideration to other road users and pedestrians, this means giving enough space on the pavement for a buggy or wheelchair to pass without a struggle. If this is not the case and I can evidently see an obstruction to the footpath I will issue a £30 fixed penalty notice for this. I am treating this with a zero tolerance attitude as the safety of children and pedestrians in the area is paramount.

PCSO LAURA SCHMID C9932

Abingdon Outer Neighbourhood Team
NAG7 Marcham, Wootton, Shippon and Boars Hill Call 0845 8 505 505