

December 2024

#### In this newsletter you can expect:

# Everyone at the Apmort Parish Council Would like to Wish you all a merry christmas and a New Year filled with peace and happiness. Stay warm and safe!



# Village Hall Progress!

November was a month of real progress with the new Monxton & Amport Village Hall. Specifically:

- The internal build of the WC and kitchen walls is complete
- The installation of the plaster work on all ceilings and walls, skimmed, ready for painting shortly using local tradesmen is complete

- Installation and testing of the full fibre broadband circuit is complete and up and running with 550mb download speeds

- First fix electrics are complete
- Installation of light fittings has commenced
- The Air Source Heat Pump has now been installed

On the finance side, we have received:

- £2,500 in Gift Aid payment from HMRC (for which we thank villagers for their generous donations)

- A grant from the Rural England Prosperity Fund of £7,600 towards the Air Source Heat Pump

- A generous donation of £5,000 from a local family

- A further donation of £750 from Breach Farm Brewing, following their very successful Oktoberfest event

- A grant of £17,235 from Scottish & Southern Electricity (SSE) for the Solar PV system, which covers 100% of the cost (no matched funding required). This is a significant development as, using solar power, the hall has the potential to be cost neutral to run and may even generate a profit from the sale of excess power to the grid. In addition, in the event of a power cut in the villages, the system will switch automatically to battery power meaning it will be totally resilient and have heat and light for home workers or to simply be a warm place for convening or shelter for anyone without power

In summary, great progress has been made and we are close to raising the funds to complete the fit out but we still need some local funding to finish the job.







# WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH



#### Hawk Inn - December Events

HAPPY Mere year

7 December - Christmas Market - from 10am 8 December - Forces Family Festive Breakfast - 9am - 11am 22 December - Charity Dog walk & Breakfast - from 10am 24 December - Christmas Eve Prosecco and Pizza Party- form 7pm 31st December - Unforgettable New Years Eve - Dress to Impress - £69.95



#### Don't Forget the Joyful Christmas Festival!

Date: 7th December - St Marys Church Amport In Aid of the Womens Refuge and St Mary's Church Amport Time: 1:30pm - 7pm There is a lot on: ginger bread decortating, wreath making, mulled wine, hot chocolate, Letters to santa,Christmas stocking crafting



Hawk Conservancy Trust

<u>Christmas Carols and Owls</u> - Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 December Sing along with Christmas carol sunder the night sky accompanied by live music and beautiful owls in flight!

Father Christmas: Back in Flight

Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 December

Father Christmas and his magical team of owls will be stopping at the Hawk Conservancy Trust for a magical family event!

Winter Woodland Lights

Friday 17 January – Sunday 2 February 2025

Start 2025 with a sparkle at Winter Woodland Lights, a mesmerising display of lights, music and beautiful owls in flight.



Monday 23 Dec - Closed, Tuesday, 24 Dec - Closed, Wednesday, 25 Dec - MERRY CHRISTMAS - Closed Thursday 26 Dec - Open 1 - 8pm Boxing Day - Mug Club all day - Dog Walk 2pm Food by Aneke Friday 27 Dec - Desi Express- Indian Street Food

Saturday 28 Dec - The Funky Pickle- Canadian street food

Sunday 29 Dec - TBA , Monday 30 Dec - Closed , Tuesday 31 Dec - Closed





JINGLE BELLES Andover Ladies Choir

- St Peters Church, Over Wallop on the 14th december at 3pm £12 (in aid of funding Freedom From Abuse)



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*Love Singing Carols?* Come and join our friendly choir for the annual Carol Services in December Rehearsals on Thursday evenings Contact: Julie 07784 575 722



# **Neighbourhood Plan**

The final draft of the Amport Neighbourhood Plan has now been submitted to TVBC and will then be sent out for input from over 100 stakeholders which include organisations such as English Heritage and The National Trust. A Neighbourhood Plan is a way for communities to have a say in the future of the places where they live and work. It gives us the power to produce a plan with real legal weight that directs development in our local area. It helps us:

- choose where we want new homes, shops and offices to be built
- have a say on what those new buildings should look like
- grant planning permission for the new buildings we want to see go ahead

An enormous amount of activity has been undertaken by our formidable working groups representing the parish in the areas of Weyhill, East Cholderton and Amport. Thanks to Clare Hemmings (Weyhill) Robert Talbot Rice (Amport) Geraldine Grimshaw (East Cholderton) for their leadership and time in coordinating this complex and time consuming task. Huge thanks must also go to our Steering Group Secretary, Tim Grimshaw, whose project management skills have been invaluable and without whom we would not have been able to complete the NP. The plan is over 120 pages long and addresses all the issues and concerns our parishioners have fed back to us about the development of our parish.

There will be changes as a result of the new government and we have been told that housing targets are like to increase by up to 80%. Our quota at the moment is for 10 extra dwellings across the parish by 2030.

There will be a statutory 6 week consultation period once the pre submission document has been presented. The plan will be available on line and we will make sure that anyone who wants to see a hard copy has access to one. Any comments and issues that parishioners wish to make can be addressed during this period. After this consultation the plan will be submitted to the examiner. The plan will then be subject to a referendum at which all parishioners will have the opportunity to accept or reject the plan.

This plan has been shaped by the people of this parish to create policies around how we want future development to look and feel.

Councillor: Diana Stephenson

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED – NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION AND UPCOMING SPEED AWARENESS SIGNS.

GET IN TOUCH!



## Hants Air Ambulance Clothing Bank



There is now a clothing bank in aid of the Hampshire Air Ambulance at Robertsons Butchers in Weyhill. We know that this is not in our parish but we all see and hear the helicopter go over us all the time so it would be great to support them in any way we can!

### WHO IS WHO ON THE AMPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Chris Harris - Chairman & responsible for the Village Green & The Fen, Southern Water, Highways, Village Hall & local Crime
Stephen Coke - Vice Chair & responsible for finance, principle & process & Speed Awareness
Sally Baker - School liaison & resilience plan.
Alan Montagu - Solar Farm liaison & Fox Farm Liaison
Tessa Hawkings-Byass - Projects , footpaths & communications - newsletter and Face Book
Peter Harvey - Projects & children's play area
Diana Stephenson - Neighbourhood planning/Village design statement/parish plan.

Peter Waller- Resilience plan including flood planning

**Clare Hemmings** - Weyhill representative and Neighbourhood plan

Howard Dix - Dauntsey Lane representative & Local crime

Heather Bourner - Our Amazing Clerk!

### AMPORT PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

CLERK: clerk@amportparishcouncil.org.uk

CHAIRMAN: chris@amportparishcouncil.org.uk

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Tessa@amportparishcouncil.org.uk



# Any suggestions for news or events for 2025 please get in touch! Any local business events are welcome!

### **MEETING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2025**

The Parish Council meets on a Monday at 07:30pm at the Amport School. Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings.

20 January 17 February 17 March 14 April 19 May 16 June 21 July 15 September 20 October 17 November

