KILMERSDON PARISHNEWS



New Housing Estate Planned in Kilmersdon Parish



image from Persimmon Homes Design and action Plan document

Outline planning permission for 180 new homes is being sought in our parish. When this was proposed early in 2022 there were a large number of objections and it was hoped the idea may have been dropped. However new updated proposals have recently been received. So, if you have any strong opinions on this development, either for or against, it is important that you let Somerset Council know ASAP as the deadline for consultation is in September.

For more details see the report from Kilmersdon Parish Council on page 10 or visit the Somerset Council Planning Website and search for 2022/0614/OUT.

New website for Kilmersdon Parish News www.kilmersdonnews.org

We have secured the domain name kilmersdonnews.org and are working on a new website where we can make the latest edition of the newsletter available. We also have a new email address: editor@kilmersdonnews.org The old gmail address will still work for the time being but please update your address book with the new address.

Cinema in Kilmersdon REEL PEOPLE FILMS

at Kilmersdon Village Hall 2023-2024 Season

We are delighted to present our new season on the Big Screen at Kilmersdon Village Hall. Everyone is welcome - all films are shown at 8pm but the doors & bar open at 7.15pm for a drink and a chat. Come along as a guest for £6 on the door or join us for the whole Season of 8 films for £30 (£25 'Early Bird' at our first film only).



8pm Friday 20 October 2023
DREAM HORSE (PG) UK 1hr 42mins
A real 'feelgood' film to open the season.
Set in a Welsh Mining Village, the film tells
the true story of Dream Alliance, an unlikely
racehorse owned by a syndicate of villagers.



8pm Friday 10 November 2023 LUNANA (PG) 1hr 50min Subtitled The heartwarming story of a young teacher who dreams of being a singer but is sent to a school in a remote village in the Himalayas where there is even a Yak in the classroom!



8pm Friday 8 December 2023
BENEDICTION (12) UK 2hrs 17m
A vivid and moving exploration of the turbulent life of the WW1 poet and war hero by the British director, Terence Davies.
Sassoon is buried at Mells.

And to follow in the New Year...

8pm Friday 12 January 2024 SOMETIMES, ALWAYS, NEVER (12)
8pm Friday 26 January 2024 COMPARTMENT No 6 (15)
8pm Friday 9 February 2024 THE QUIET GIRL (12)
8pm Friday 8 March 2024 LIMBO (12)
8pm Friday 12 April 2024 TO BE ANNOUNCED

www.reelpeople.org.uk Tel: 07947325950

From the editor ...

Dear Readers

Once again, thanks to everyone who has sent items in for this edition of the newsletter

Hopefully by the time we go to print our new website will be up and running. We also have a new email address: editor@kilmersdonnews.org. The old gmail address should still continue to work for a while, but please update your address books with the new one.

As you will have seen from the front cover the big news at the moment is the proposed new housing development. Please take time to read the details of this from our Parish Council and let Somerset Council know if you have any strong opinions for or against the proposals.

As it has been the summer holidays and people have been away, some of our local groups have not been doing so much. However, we still have reports in this issue from a few of them, including Kilmersdon Gardeners and The WI with details of their upcoming events.

Good news also, that the film club Reel People are all geared up for another season in the village hall. There is a new management team in charge, so please give them your support.

Sadly, the Village Shop & Café project and also the Village Day Event organisers are both struggling to attract new committee members to enable them to keep going. Local projects like this have the potential to bring great benefits to the village and surrounding area. So if you support any of these projects, please consider if you can spare a few hours a month to help make these things happen.

As I have mentioned in previous editions. I am also looking for a volunteer or two to help out with Kilmersdon Parish News. There are lots of ways you may be able to help without having to commit a huge amount of time. So please do get in touch.

> Phil Preen editor@kilmersdonnews.org

The copy date for the next issue is 20th October. Please restrict articles to 350 words and notices to 100 words. Items for inclusion to be sent by email to editor@kilmersdonnews.org — We reserve the right to edit any item submitted.

> If you would like to receive your Parish News as a pdf, please get in touch: editor@kilmersdonnews.org or visit the website www.kilmersdonnews.org

Organic Gardening - working with nature

In July, Oliver Jones promoted organic gardening and looked at ways to work with nature. Oliver is an organic gardener working in local gardens, including at Ammerdown. He also offers consultancy. He avoids synthetic chemicals and tolerates imperfection. Using an observant and proactive approach the key is: 'little and often'.

Synthetic pesticides and weed killers can be indiscriminate with unintended consequences, harming the helpful species as well as those being targeted and staying in the soil for a long time. Many of the headline claims on labels do not stand up to scrutiny. Having a low maintenance regime benefits the gardener and the wider local ecosystem.

The best way to add nutrients to the soil is homemade compost. This is free and the nutrients are bioavailable! It contains fungi and insects which help to improve the soil structure. Keep the heap moist and get it to a sufficiently high temperature to kill the weed seeds. Commercial compost brands do not have weeds but are expensive and lack insects and microbes. Leaf mould can be added to the compost heap or used as a mulch. An arborist will often give free bark chippings for mulch or brown matter to mix with the green grass cuttings of summer.

Some species and pot plants may need concentrated organic food to thrive. These do not improve the soil structure. Animal manure can be free and improve soil structure if rotted down before use.

Ollie is in favour of 'no dig' and endorsed the plan of a Coleford resident with an organic plot in the new village allotments. She plans to wet the area, cover with cardboard, then compost, finishing off with wood chips. Cardboard is very useful in supressing weeds and making compost.

An environment where ladybirds can help with the control of pests like aphids or nematodes, and kill the slugs, is ideal. Hidey holes in log piles, wildlife ponds and wild spaces with longer grass and seed heads within the garden

KILMERSDON GARDENERS

can all be attractive to insects and their predators such as birds and hedgehogs. There were lots of questions about compost



making and pest control. Gardeners examined compost samples and received advice.

Finally, Ollie chose Claire Hicks' Mammillaria Elongata cactus as winner of the 'Potted Plant' Cup.

Upcoming events:

'Trug Making – by a miserable old trugger' Carl Sadler - Wednesday 13th September

'The Bishop's Palace Gardens, past present and future'

James Cross - Wednesday 11th October

We meet ar 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start at Kilmersdon Village Hall. Refreshments and raffle on arrival. Visitors are very welcome, see website for further details.

www.kilmersdongardeners.org Trisha Jordan

CINEMA AT KILMERSDON VILLAGE HALL

Reel People's season of films starts again on Friday 20th October 2023 with the wonderful 'Dream Horse'. Everyone is most welcome to come along - £6 as a guest, payable on the door, or you may wish to become a member for £25 for 8 films ('early bird' offer). We are a new committee this season and have chosen a selection of films that we hope will tempt you to join us. Over the Summer we have updated the equipment and now have an even better quality picture to go with our giant cinema screen. We don't show any trailers or adverts but what you do get is a warm and friendly atmosphere (yes, we will have the heating on!) So please give us a try and if you haven't been for a while - we'd love to see you again.



'Dream Horse' (PG, 1h 42 m)

Set in a Welsh mining village, the film tells the true story of an unlikely race horse Dream Alliance, raised by a local bartender with very little money and no experience who needs to convince the local community to support her. Starring Toni Collette and Damian Lewis in this comedy/drama, feel good film. Doors and bar opens at 7.15 pm for a drink and a chat, film starts at 8 pm.

For information on the other films we will be showing, please visit our website www.reelpeople.org.uk

All films are shown at Kilmersdon Village Hall, BA3 5TD, parking available.

Tel: 07947325950 for information on tickets

VILLAGE GROUPS

KILMERSDON ART GROUP

Roz Wilkinson 01761 434452.

KMR BRIDGE CLUB

Mike Bradbury Tel: 01373 455645

KILMERSDON VILLAGE HALL

Danielle Forrester 07527 693937 managerkilmersdonhall@outlook.com

COLES GARDEN MEETING ROOM

Cherry Gilham 01761 436767 www.kilmersdonmeetingroom.org

KILMERSDON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/Kilmersdon

KILMERSDON VILLAGE DAY

enquiries: kilmersdonvillageday@gmail.com www.kilmersdonvillageday.org

KILMERSDON C of E VA SCHOOL

Head Teacher Stephen Bamford 01761 432283 school.office@kilmersdonprimary.co.uk

KILMERSDON GARDENERS

Chairman Judith Stanford 01761 233045 www.kimersdongardeners.org

KILMERSDON VILLAGE SHOP

John Clayton 07974 440468 john.clayton@outlook.com

PARISH COUNCIL

clerk@kilmersdonpc.co.uk www.kilmersdonpc.co.uk

REEL PEOPLE - FILM SOCIETY

www.reelpeople.org.uk reelpeoplefilms@outlook.com 07947325950

PARISH CHURCH (East Mendip Trinity)

clarissacridland@hotmail.co.uk 01373 812705

www.eastmendiptrinity.co.uk

PARISH NEWS

Phil Preen 01373 813441 Penny Hutton 01761 435193 editor@kilmersdonnews.org

WOMENS INSTITUTE

President - Viv Love 01761 414419

THE LOCK-UP OR BLIND HOUSE



Continuing our history of Kilmersdon, this time we are looking at the Lock-Up which was sometimes called the Guard House or Blind House. It was called a Guard House because it was where the Parish Constable would lock up felons to guard the society against them. It was sometimes called a Blind House because it had no windows and a solid door, so when it was locked it was pitch black inside.



The Lockup was originally built into or against the Church wall as this map of 1760's shows. Originally it would have had a door like this, made most likely of elm or oak with iron strap hinges.

We know from the Churchwardens Accounts that it was built in 1785. Luckily, we have these accounts so we can see



that the original lock-up was built for £20.13.2.

1785	
For quarrying of stones to build the	
Guard House adjoining the Churchyard	£1.16.5
Hauling said stone	£4.10.0
Lime and carriage	£3. 8. 6
Abraham Hobbs and his sons for	
building the said house	£6. 9.11
Joseph Cox's bill for work done at	
said house	£4. 8. 4

There are a couple more entries in the Churchwardens Accounts with reference to the Lock-Up

1786 11 th June	
For beer for putting Charles and	
John Abraham in the Guard House	£0.0.5
September Expenses for putting a	
Soldier in the Guard House	£0.0.4
1796	
1770	
Amending the lock of the Blind House	£0. 2. 0

In 1835 the building was removed from the Church wall, I have not discovered the reason why, however it was rebuilt by Colonel Jolliffe who in the same year rebuilt the Inn and with it the Courtroom. Maybe it was for the convenience of holding persons awaiting trial over the road at Kilmersdon Assizes. The building was erected on the site of the Village Stocks But more about that in the next Parish News when we look at Law and Order in Kilmersdon.

Martin Horler

SOMERSET WILDLIFE TRUST



Hedgehogs are easily one of the most popular species in the UK. In fact, in 2016 the hedgehog was voted the UK's most popular mammal by an overwhelming number. Sadly though, these charming little creatures have struggled with changes in both urban and rural landscapes that have severely limited their ability to migrate and have impacted on many of their food sources. These changes have caused hedgehog populations to reduce by as much as 75% in some areas since the millennium, according to the State of Britain's Hedgehogs 2022 report.

But don't despair, we're here to tell you that all is not lost. You, our happy cohort of hedgehog heroes, have an opportunity to make a real difference to the hedgehogs in your local area, and over the next three months we'll be giving you lots of hedgehog friendly hints and tips to help hedgehogs in your area. We'll also be telling you about some of the things that are happening in local communities to support hedgehogs, good news hedgehog stories from across the county and some info on what we're getting up to here at the Trust. Lastly, we're encouraging everyone to get involved in gathering hedgehog data across the county so that we can get a more complete picture of the state of Somerset's hedgehogs.

https://www.somersetwildlife.org/homes-hedgehogs

KILMERSDON WI

We meet every 2nd Thursday of the month 7 15 for 7.30pm start in Kilmersdon village hall.



Here are details of our speakers for the next three months:

September 14th: We have a visit from a milliner explaining how she makes the hats. She will be bringing samples (we can have some fun trying them on)

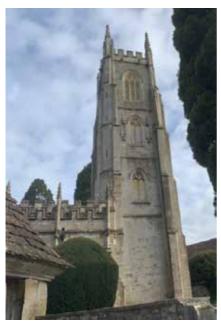
October 12th: The air ambulance representative will give a talk on their amazing service.

November 9th: The scrap lady, Margaret Hiscox will give a demonstration on crafting with recycling with a Christmas theme.

If anyone would like to join us for the evening, you will be very welcome. Visitors charge is £5 and includes tea and cake.

> President: Viv Love: 01761 414419 vivlove@uwclub.net Secretary Angie Cook 01761 752215 angilacook@gmail.com





KILMERSDON PARISH CHURCH

As I type this, I am very much looking forward to our first wedding this year in Kilmersdon Church. It is always a joy when a couple choose to get married here, and so long as you live anywhere in East Mendip Trinity it is very easy to do so. Later in the month, on Saturday 23 September, we have our autumn Coffee Morning, starting at 10.00. Do please come and join us so that you can have a chat with friends and meet new people. As ever, there will be seriously delicious cakes as well as coffee and tea and a raffle.

Harvest Festival is on Sunday 8 October at 11.15. Please bring either items for sale or monetary gifts which will be going to the Ripple Effect (the new name for Send a Cow which does such great work helping those in real need, especially in Africa). Kilmersdon School will come into church at the end of the previous week.

On Saturday 28 October, we shall be holding another Ouiz in Kilmersdon Village Hall, starting at 7.00. Dave will, as usual, be asking the questions and as always it will be a fun evening with a chance to test your brains, enjoy light refreshments and participate in the raffle. To book, please contact Rosie Kane on

01761 438062 or rosie@kane.at

Is there anyone who could help us by opening the church and closing it at the end of the day? You may remember that I mentioned woodworm and damp last time. One of the main causes of this is lack of ventilation in the church, and so we need to have it open more than we do now. This was not helped at all by Lockdown when of course the church was shut for several months at a time. So, if you can help (we will let you have a key) then please contact me. You can commit to a regular day or an occasional day.



This comes with love and prayers, Clarissa Revd Clarissa Cridland, Vicar, East Mendip Trinity clarissacridland@hotmail.co.uk 01373 812705 www.eastmendiptrinity.co.uk www.facebook.com/eastmendiptrinity

In the last edition we included the OR code which acts as a link for people who wish to donate to help the church raise funds necessary to fix the damp / woodworm problems. For some time the link was not working correctly. It seems to have been fixed now so we have included it again.

KILMERSDON IN BLOOM



Many of you may not remember or know about the birth of 'Groundforce' way back in 2001, when a group of villagers got together to discuss the possibility of displaying baskets of flowers around the village.

Anthony Dutton was a key player, having just moved to Charlton from London, where he ran a landscaping and plant display business. It was he who set up the irrigation system that we still have around the centre of the village, so that baskets of flowers are watered automatically. He was also key in collecting them from Garden Centres and hanging them up!

Time moved on and when he took over Archers Marquees, which he ran successfully for many years, he became less involved with the baskets, although he was always ready to help out or give advice when needed! Once Covid-19 came onto the scene. we had accepted that we would no longer be able to decorate the village. However, Anthony had different ideas and offered to

find garden centres still prepared to sell plants, make up the baskets himself and then hang them up in the village! This was a huge relief for those of us who are 'in the team'!!

Anthony displayed a totally unselfish attitude at a difficult time for us all. This year a small group of us helped with filling the baskets, but Anthony still insisted on hanging them himself, despite having had a bad fall several days before which led to surgery!

We are so very grateful for his generosity -Thank you so much Anthony, you're a star!!! In order to keep this project going we do need donations from villagers. So, if you enjoy having the beautiful baskets, please could you make donations to either Martin Horler at the Old School House in Ames Lane, or to Penny Hutton at Wilscombe, Hoares Lane.

> Penny Hutton 01761 435193



Contact us

Nic Edwards

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www.somersetagents.org or

www.ccslovesomerset.org

OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR ERECTION OF UP TO 180 DWELLINGS ON LAND SOUTH OF FOSSEFIELD ROAD

PLEASE LET YOUR COUNCIL KNOW WHAT YOU THINK AND COMMENT ON THE SOMERSET COUNCIL WEBSITE

An Extraordinary Meeting of Kilmersdon Parish Council was scheduled at the Coles Garden Meeting Room at $5.00 \mathrm{pm}$ on Monday 14th August 2023 to consider a planning application with a deadline for comments of 18^{th} August 2023. Subsequently the Council became aware of amendments to the outline planning application for erection of up to 180 dwellings on land south of Fossefield Road (2022/0614/OUT) with an original deadline for comments of 24^{th} August 2023 and added that to the agenda.

Six members of the public attended, which was excellent recognising due to time constraints, there was little notice of the meeting, and it was not possible to advertise it widely. They provided a unanimous mandate to the Parish Council to object in the strongest terms to the proposed development. The public requested that the Council seek an extension to the date for comments to enable a wider representation of the parish feeling and that **deadline has been extended to 29th September 2023.**

Prior to being granted an extension, the Council needed to make a decision in order to meet the original deadline and it was unanimously agreed to recommend refusal of the 2022/0614/OUT for the reasons set out:

- Insufficient consultation Kilmersdon Parish Council only became aware of the amendments from another Parish Council and the offer of a site visit by the developer could not have been held until after the original deadline for comments. This has undermined the ability of Kilmersdon Parish Council to act on behalf of the community it represents, and it also undermines the structure of local democracy.
- Traffic Generation the proposed development would typically have two cars per dwelling. The recent developments have seen traffic on the A367 slow down to walking pace during rush hour. The impact of some 360 additional cars (minimum) on the A367 will mean it will not be viable for through traffic. Drivers will take the B3139 through Kilmersdon for routes to Bath and beyond. The effect on Kilmersdon will be devastating and is outlined further in Highway Safety below.
- Traffic Survey Kilmersdon Parish Council is not aware of any Traffic Survey in Mendip for 20 years, yet the National Planning Policy Framework requires sustainable development. The proposed development is not sustainable in terms of the existing road infrastructure. The lack of data via a Traffic Survey speaks of a system which is developer driven and fails to engage with the real impact on residents' lives. Informal monitoring of traffic via the Speedwatch system has seen traffic increase threefold on the B3139 in the period to February 2020.
- Highway Safety as traffic increases through Kilmersdon there is absolutely no safe means for children and other pedestrians to cross the B3139 to reach Kilmersdon

Primary School. Recent years have seen the 30mph limit signs moved closer to the village meaning that traffic hits the centre of the village at speed, coming downhill to a bend and immediately past a pub where parking restricts the width of the road at busy times. This constitutes a fatal combination of elements.

- Capacity of Physical infrastructure the existing B3139 through Kilmersdon Parish suffers from speeding, poor road surface at the Red House Farm which leads to multiple accidents on the bend, lack of Armco barriers on the approach to Ammerdown with cars regularly going off the road onto a steep incline and a history of accidents at the Terry Hill crossroads, despite recent attempts to improve this junction.
- Deficiencies in social facilities the 2014 statistics for schools show that Hemington is the only primary school with capacity to take pupils. Although the new primary school at Silver Street (Midsomer Norton) has been built, it is our understanding that this is for families primarily living in Bath and North East Somerset and not necessarily for those in Mendip. Furthermore, there is no corresponding capacity for secondary schools in this area. Similarly there is not the capacity within the exiting hospitals, doctors, dentists and public transport to accommodate the new dwellings.
- Adverse impact on nature conservation and biodiversity the existing land is farmed by tenant farmers for the production of food. It is our understanding that this is Grade 3 Agricultural land and according to National Planning Policy should not be used for development. The land forms natural sponges for water drainage which is vital for the existing A367 which suffers from severe surface water flooding. Biodiversity is being eroded as this natural corridor for wildlife disappears.
- Economic sustainability the lack of sufficient local work means that new residents would predominantly commute out of the area.
- Character of Kilmersdon Kilmersdon is a unified, historic rural parish, with a village of around 260 dwellings at its centre. The new development would divide the parish into two main settlements, with a third of the population living separately in a corner of the parish, with completely different needs and history.

With the extended deadline, we would encourage you to let your Council know what you think about the proposal, attend the September Parish Council Meeting on 20th September 2023 at 7:30 pm where we hope a representative of the developer will be present, or comment on the application which can be done at the Somerset website: https://tinyurl.com/2022-0614-OUT-COMMENT

> Kilmersdon Parish Council Contact: Robin Moss (parish clerk) clerk@kilmersdonpc.co.uk www.kilmersdonpc.co.uk

Ammerdown

September

1 - 3 - 50th Anniversary Weekend

4 - 7 - Embodied Parayer Using the Alexander Technique and Centering Prayer

6 - Taize Prayer Service

8 - 10 - Interfaith Youth Weekend - Living with Difference

11 - 15 - Autumn Break

12 - Refreshing Day for Carers

14 - TLC Day for the Retired

24 - Book Club Relaunch!

25 - Cuppa and a Chat

25 - 29 - Chinese Brush Painting - Pagados and Temples

28 - Quiet Day

30 - 1 - Tall Arch Mixed Media

October

2 - 8 - Bobbin Lace

2 - 6 - New Testament Read-a-thon

6 - 8 - Mindfulness and Yoga for Doctors

14 - Extraordinary Women Part 3 - Julian of Norwich

15 - Myths, Music and Magic in Autumn

16 - 18 - Hospitality & Sanctuary for All

23 - 27 - Illumination Calligraphy

24 - Refreshing Day for Carers

25 - Caring for Creation Zoom

26 - TLC Day for the Retired

30 - Cuppa and a Chat

Find more information on all of our courses on our website www.ammerdown.org/WhatsOn

The Ammerdown Centre Ammerdown Park BA3 5SW



www.ammerdown.org admin@ammerdown.org 01761 433709

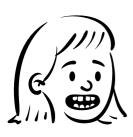
QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 28th OCTOBER
7pm
Kilmersdon Village Hall

To book contact Rosie: 01761 438062 rosie@kane.at

SUDOKU Level: Easy

Place each of the digits 1 – 9 in each row, column and box. The same digit may not appear more than once in any row, column or 3x3 box.



	2	1	4			7		
		8		9		1		
				9 7				3
				7		5		
	4							2
	4 6		8	3	9			
		5			1	3		
					5		9	6
3								

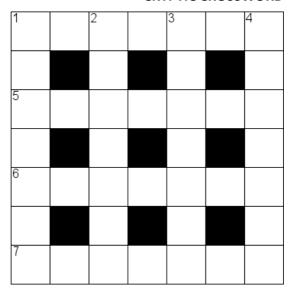
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

Across

- **1.** Six must come in to plant something to eat (7)
- **5.** A character from Greece to perform a song for fun (7)
- 6. I'm a race cross country (7)
- 7. Clean up bringing in Eastern journalist for added colour (3-4)

Down

- **1.** Something to stop two animals getting together (7)
- Useless knitted underwear leaks, even Lidl eventually starts to make something with strings (7)
- **3.** Potential as one by one books brought in (7)
- 4. National team when in the second half add something that produces adrenaline perhaps? (7)



Solve online: http://www.philpreen.co.uk/kilmersdon-cryptics

DON'T FORGET TO JOIN US AT THE JOLLIFFE ARMS PUB FOR SKITTLES! EVERY 3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH AT 8PM.



AIR AMBULANCE DIARIES

Ken Hutton has been in touch to let us know that he has diaries for sale from the Air Ambulance service. They are only £4 and help contribute to this excellent good cause.

So, if you would like to buy one (or maybe several for Christmas presents) please pop round to see Ken at Wilscombe on Hoares Lane.

For more information on the air ambulance service take a look at their website:



www.dsairambulance.org.uk





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