



## AFFORDABLE HOUSING EXHIBITION

On 19th May 2011, the Parish Council in co-operation with Chichester District Council and The Hyde Group held the Affordable Housing Exhibition.

The Parish Council would like to thank everyone who took the time to attend in the afternoon.

Sam Irving the Chichester District Council Rural Housing Enabler advised the members of public present at the Annual Meeting of Electors also held on 19th May that 82 householders with a local connection are currently on the housing register .

The working Party continue to investigate sites in the Parish to ascertain the suitability for the project .

There are a number of factors that influence the choice of a site.

- On closer investigation, is it suitable?
- Are there any access issues?
- Is it subject to any covenants?
- Do local people like the idea of housing on that site?
- It is likely to get planning approval?
- And perhaps most significantly, is the owner willing to sell it, at a price we can afford?



All these factors have a bearing on negotiations for the purchase of any one of the possible sites. Our reluctance to discuss details of which site or sites are the favorites might be interpreted to mean that we haven't got anywhere with evaluating the sites. But actually it means were that we are actively investigating one or more of them. It's not that that project isn't progressing. The affordable housing working party which is made up of representatives from North Mundham Parish Council, Chichester District Council, The Hyde Group and Residents of the Parish continue to work on the project and will update you as soon as we are in the position to do so.

## NEW WEBSITE

On the 19th May 2011, the Parish Council launched a new community website:

[www.northmundham.org](http://www.northmundham.org)

Which is proving very popular, if you have not had the opportunity please take the time to have a look around.

As part of the new website we are now able to provide newsletters by email... If you wish to receive this newsletter digitally in future please email subscribe to [clerk@northmundham.org](mailto:clerk@northmundham.org). The more residents we are able to provide via email the less copies will have to be printed and will reduce the cost for the parish council.

## VILLAGE HALL

The village hall booking form and conditions of use is now available to download from [www.northmundham.org](http://www.northmundham.org) alternatively you can contact Terry Reed on 01243 264028



## Safer Crossing at the Walnut Tree

**Have you signed the online petition to get a safer crossing at the Walnut Tree?**

**If not you will find it at [http://epetition.westsussex.public-i.tv/epetition\\_core/community/petition/1520](http://epetition.westsussex.public-i.tv/epetition_core/community/petition/1520)**

**North Mundham Parish Council fully supports the campaign to protect the residents of the parish on this busy road. If you do not have the internet a paper copy is also currently circulating in the village.**

# Annual Chairman's Report

Each annual report affirms the commitment of the councillors to the wellbeing of the parish.

This report, covering April 2010 to April 2011, once more shows the work of the dedicated band who have tried to monitor, develop, improve the well-being of the area, and in some cases resist changes which they consider undesirable. Our Quality Status, formally recognised by a presentation in October, and achieved by all those taking courses during the year, reflects the increased professionalism now expected of us. Explaining democracy and in particular the listening, reflecting process was shown during the demonstration of the Council's procedure in a formal session with the primary school in October.

This open approach will become more visible when our new web site [www.northmundham.org](http://www.northmundham.org), grant aided by the County Council, is up and running. It will give new opportunities for interaction and ways to follow the council's progress during the year.

Planning has dominated considerations during this period with the Anaerobic Digester application in November provoking residents to respond with over three hundred letters of objection and leading the Parish Council to speak at the County Council meeting when it was rejected by nine votes with three abstentions. Several other recent decisions have prompted the Council to open a dialogue with the District Council to examine the Horticultural Development Area Policy, seeking a closer scrutiny and clearer definition of the terms which at present define the policy. Displaying plans of proposed developments before each monthly meeting has given more time and public access for informal discussion, on smaller applications, while looking at any possible impact on the neighbours.

Any possible impact of the L.D.F. (Local Development Framework) will not be apparent until late August when a six week consultation period follows before any final publication. Delays have occurred and may continue as the Localism Bill shows its impact on the region though restrictions on development are still likely given the limitations of the sewerage capacity and the congestion on the A27 system with improvements not even to be considered before 2015.

Admirable dedication to fund raising, including the splendid 'Dining Experience', Parish Council financial support, and support for the planning application, have given the Playing Field Trust a push to achieve the development of the Pavilion. As plans have been passed building could begin soon.

The working party on Affordable Housing continues to search for a site. The principle of subsidized housing was publicly endorsed in June 2010 but an area abutting existing developments, an exception site, has not been found. Several councillors visited Portal Close in West Ashling to see just how well the quality of build with several ecological features would possibly fit into this environment. Environmental considerations led to the instigation of Tree Preservation Orders on the line of horse chestnut trees next to Wheatlands close to the B2166 and endorsed the replacement of the Brookside hedge. Our Litter Picking Day in November yielded several sacks but the problem remains while 'fast food' wrappers are thrown from passing cars.

Increasing traffic flow throughout the day and stacking up at peak periods has become more noticeable while adding to concerns particularly for those close to the B2166. While the County Councillor reports 28% reduction in grants from central government and a need for sav-

ings of £79m to be made from the budget of £520m over three years, any possible traffic amelioration will probably be delayed. North Mundham has been selected to join a cluster of parishes to monitor just how such cuts and the impact of the Localism Bill will affect services in the area. One such service is support for the Youth Club. The threatened withdrawal of funds and staff taken from this thriving centre used by both Hunston and Mundham could contribute to its demise.

The Village Hall remains very busy with regular bookings and healthy finances, even giving away £1500 to the Pavilion Extension Fund from various fund raising activities. Finding reasonable quotes to plaster the walls is a current project. Giving this lift could attract more demand for wedding receptions.

The Open Gardens Day was once again a delightful experience with eight places open on June 19th, between 2pm and 6pm, which demonstrated the skill and knowledge within the parish.

Our thanks go to the dedicated group with the supporting District and County Councillor plus the residents for their continuing support. Regrettably Stephen Quigley, our District Councillor has retired. We thank him for his diligent support and guidance to the parish council during his tenure, and we look forward to working with Paul Jarvis.

*Denia Turnbull*

Chairman North Mundham Parish Council

## Your District Councillor

Following Stephen Quigley's decision not to stand for election on the 5th May. Mr Paul Jarvis (Conservative) was elected to represent the residents of the Parish of North Mundham.

Unfortunately, during the election campaign Mr Jarvis was involved in a serious road traffic accident and is currently in hospital in London. The Parish Council wish him and his family all the best and look forward to working with him in the future.

## Parish Council Election Results

**On the 5th May 2011, the Parish Council for North Mundham was elected uncontested, with eight members. As a result the Parish Council co-opted a further member onto the Council at its meeting on 10th May 2011 to ensure the Parish Council met its full compliment of Parish Councillors.**

## Message to Oil Tank owners from Sussex Police

With Heating Oil costs being so high, the temptation for a thief is equally high and the result is that they are now targeting domestic fuel tanks in addition to the farms and transport depots.

Many tanks can hold hundreds and even thousands of pounds worth of fuel so where you would take every available opportunity to protect a case of cash in the open, you should take the same precautions when it comes to your tank, especially when many people will see their heating oil bills rise.

Unfortunately there is no fail safe method for protecting your oil tank from thieves but by adhering to some of the tips below you will at least make it extremely hard work for them to get anything and let's face it, the easier the task the more likely they will target you!

1. Fit an Oil Level Gauge

to your tank to alert you to an unusual drop in your oil level. This will then allow you to switch on a light or sound your burglar alarm to deter any thieves in action. You can also connect this to an alarm system should you wish. There are current alarms on the market products to deal with this.

2. Install locks on tank filler caps and manual fuel dispensing nozzles
3. Think about where your tank is situated. You may not have a say on where your tank is positioned but possible re-siting to an area where it is more secure or out of site if it is visible from a road side would prevent the opportunists. Also if it is overlooked by a window or close to occupied property, most thieves will not take the risk of wanting to be seen.
4. Consider placing a shed

or construct an out-building over the oil tank. Ensure all out-buildings that contain tanks are kept locked at all times and remove any empty oil drums / canisters from plain view to avoid drawing attention to an oil tank being on the premises.

5. Consider investing in CCTV technology or security lighting to cover your tank and surrounding areas to illuminate any suspicious behaviour.
6. Deter thieves from entering your property by installing security fencing around your property or having locks on all access gates.
7. A cheaper option is to plant shrubs around your tank as a natural defence. Thieves will not want to risk blood shed which will later identify them and they will also act a decorative disguise.
8. Regularly check your

tank for any signs of tampering.

9. Make note of any unfamiliar vehicles looking suspicious. It has been known that thieves are following Oil Delivery vehicles around different households knowing that they may potentially have a full tank.
10. Check to see if there have been heating oil thefts in your area by checking the local news. Criminals seem to be targeting certain areas and so if one home has already been hit then it increases the chance that your tank may be next.
11. You should never attempt to approach criminals on your property because things could get nasty. You should call the police instead. No amount of heating oil is worth risking your life for.

**If you see anything suspicious please report it immediately.**

### OPEN GARDEN EVENT....

The Parish Council would like to thank everyone who helped make the open garden event so successful, not only the kind people who opened their gardens but also those who took the time to visit them.

Currently the money raised for the pavilion extension stands at £430.50, but more important than the money raised is the community spirit an event like this fosters.

Please let us know if you have any ideas that could improve the event or if you would like to open your garden the please let us know at [clerk@northmundham.org](mailto:clerk@northmundham.org). We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

**NORTH MUNDHAM PARISH  
COUNCIL**

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**YOUR COUNCILLORS....**

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**District Councillor**

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# Summary of Council Accounts 2010/11

	Expenditure 2009/10	Expenditure 2010/11
General Administration	6421.29	5547.71
Parish Clerk	7163.37	7905.77
Chairman's Allowance	137.93	74.16
Section 137 Grants	968.98	0.00
Grants and Other Powers	5412.95	7429.76
Bus Shelter Maintenance & Repair	1115.00	1008.00
Waste & Dog Bin Clearance	106.08	110.24
Village Hall Running Costs	8336.55	7988.75
Caretaker	4423.31	4640.00
New Equipment for Village Hall	345.04	48.50
Return Deposit	0.00	1000.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>34430.50</b>	<b>*35752.89</b>
<i>Subject to Audit *</i>		

**CALENDAR OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

5th July 2011, 6th September 2011, 4th October 2011, 1st November 2011,  
6th December 2011, 3rd January 2012, 7th February 2012, 6th March 2012,  
3rd April 2012

All meetings will commence at 7.15pm at North Mundham Village Hall unless ad-  
vertised to the contrary. Planning application papers are available for inspection in  
the Village Hall from 7pm.

The first ten minutes of the meeting is available to the public to make representa-  
tions to the Parish Council—Please come and make the Parish Council aware of  
your concerns.

**DIGITAL SWITCH OVER  
IS COMING TO YOUR  
HOME .....**

TV across the UK and the rest of  
the world is going digital. The  
existing analogue TV signal will be  
switched off and replaced.

This area is due to be switched off  
February—June 2012. check your  
dates on www.digitaluk.co.uk

