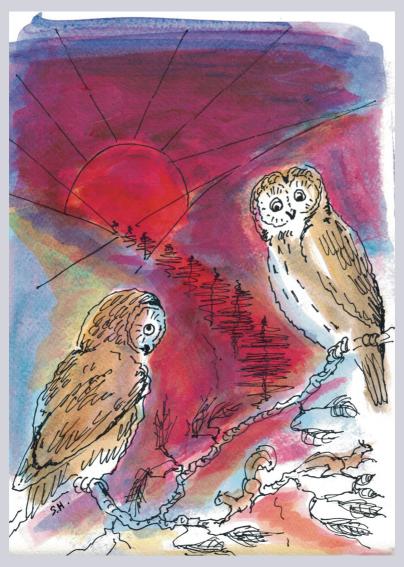
## **LUPPITT PACKET**



December 2020 & January 2021

### THE LUPPITT PACKET

2020 has been a very strange year for all of us and producing a village magazine in the absence of village events has been challenging. Let us all hope that the unprecedented spirit of co-operation between countries that the Covid crisis has engendered will continue, not least as the even greater challenge of Climate Change looms. We cover both these topics in this edition

As we go to press we do not know yet what lockdown measures will be in place for us this Christmas. But whatever they are we hope that you will all be able to enjoy the festive season whether in person or virtually.

We wish our readers, contributors, distributors and advertisers a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Nigel Hurst & Claire Stevens

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### COPY DATE FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE 20TH JANUARY 2021

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#### DISCLAIMER

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### CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE CHILDREN OF LUPPITT

Due to Covid-19 Restrictions we are unable to have a Children's Christmas Party this year.

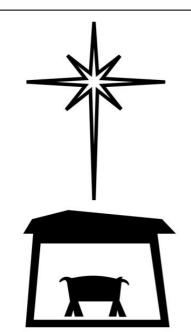
On Saturday 12th December
Father Christmas (restrictions
permitted) would like to drop off a little
gift for the children of Luppitt.
If he is unable to deliver the gifts
his helpers will do this for him.

If you would like a gift dropped off at your home on this date please text or email

Mandy Riley on 07817 517425 or mandyrileydevon@gmail.com

by 7th December latest with the child's name & address.

Gifts will be dropped off between 10 am and 1pm



### Christmas at St Mary's

Our Christmas celebrations have to be a bit different this year, but **Jesus will still come!** 

Please join us for ...

Sunday, 20 December at 11:00 am outdoor lessons and carols an interactive shorter service for all to enjoy

Christmas Eve at 3:00 pm for the little ones (mostly) a short service around the outdoor crib by the kissing gate

> Christmas Day at 10:00 am Holy Communion (in church)



I SHALL NEVER GO ON A BLIND DATE AGAIN

### THANK YOU

### **LUPPITT CALENDAR 2020**

A very big thank you to those who took part in this year's calendar and to all who bought copies.

I am pleased to report that we raised £326.50 for Devon Air Ambulance.

Jacky O'Malley



Olive would like to wish her many friends
A very Happy Christmas and
a healthy and less stressful 2021

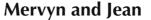


A donation will be made to Luppitt Church in lieu of cards and postage.

### Christmas Greetings

Brian and Pearl
Would like to wish all our friends and neighbours a Happy
Christmas and a Peaceful New Year





.

wish all our friends and neighbours a Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year

### **REMEMBRANCE 2020**



On 8th November our service of Remembrance was held in the Churchyard near the War Memorial.

The weather stayed dry, despite some threatening clouds over Honiton during John White's address. Nearly 50 people attended to remember the fallen of Luppitt in the first and second World Wars with many present, no doubt, remembering fallen friends, family and comrades from these and other conflicts.

Thank you to everyone who attended and donated so generously on the day and online. The sum of £300 will be sent to the Royal British Legion.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them

### TOAD

Stop looking like a purse. How could a purse squeeze under the rickety door and sit, full of satisfaction, in a man's house?

You clamber towards me on your four corners - right hand, left foot, left hand, right foot.

I love you for being a toad, for crawling like a Japanese wrestler, and for not being frightened.

I put you in my purse hand, not shutting it, and set you down outside directly under every star.

A jewel in your head? Toad, you've put one in mine, a tiny radiance in a dark place.

Norman MacCaig

### **MOBILE LIBRARY**

The mobile library will call at Mount Stephens on Wednesday 6th January from 10:45am until 11:15am.

The van is now open for you to select books but face coverings must be worn.

If you are not a member of the library you can join on the day.



### CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR THE HONITON FOOD BANK 8TH TO 13TH DECEMBER 2020

If you are able to support donations to the Honiton food bank the Village Hall and St Mary's Church will be open to receive them on the following dates and times:

### Village Hall

Tuesday 8th 2pm - 5pm Thursday 10th 10am -1pm Saturday 12th 11am - 2pm

### St. Mary's Church

Sunday 13th 10am - sunset A covered collection box will be placed in the porch each day.

Please only donate non-perishable items with a use by date beyond December 2020 and consider including Christmas treats and items for children.

Your donations will be delivered to the food bank in good time to allow distribution in time for Christmas.

For a list of priority items, to deliver a donation at a different time or to make a cash donation please call Sara Gordon on 07717 222404 / 01404 891140 or Lucy Murray on 07968 900349

The Food Bank has a surplus of: Baked beans, pasta and soup

### **About the King's Centre**

The Food Bank is a local store of non-perishable food operated by volunteers from churches and the wider community in and around Honiton. It is made available to those who are in 'food crisis'. That is, they have no food and no money with which to buy food. Need is assessed by professionals from local agencies and local church leaders.

Many of those who access the food bank are either families or homeless/ rough sleepers.

www.thecommunitychurch.co.uk





### We need volunteers!

TRIP needs new volunteer drivers in our area to help take people to vital medical appointments

### For more information call 01404 46529 Or visit www.tripcta.org

Our volunteer drivers are a vital part of our service

- No minimum commitment
- 45p per mile
- PPE supplied

### CONSERVATION ON DUMPDON HILL

Dumpdon Hill with its quiff of beech trees on the summit is an iconic Luppitt landmark. The Iron Age hill fort is a scheduled monument and is visible from most areas of the village, from Honiton and the Otter Valley.

On the top with a clear day the views are outstanding. The Wellington monument can be seen far away on the northerly edge of the Blackdowns and from a carefully selected spot the sea can be seen to the south.

As is evident from the signage, the hill is today owned by the National Trust. What may not be so widely known is that it is a Common much like Hartridge, Luppitt and Hensemoor with many Luppitt farmers owning common rights to graze cattle and/or sheep on the hill.

Serious conservation on the hill started around 1995 when the then NT Ranger, Arnold Fenner, started a yearly program of topping the dense bracken on the western facing slope. Before Arnold started the bracken was so tall and dense I remember that it was difficult to even walk through. Before the World Wars the slopes of Dumpdon were grazed and bracken was cut annually for winter bedding. Since WWII farmers had to abandon labour intensive land and the bracken has returned with a vengeance covering all but the grass plots on the top which have been mown regularly.

Without constant control bracken spreads rapidly and then creates a monoculture that smothers all other plants. It is also poisonous to grazing stock and the spores are a health hazard to humans when the fronds are fully out. However with serious and constant topping (or crushing with a roller) the bracken can be gradually reduced with a consequent increase in sward plant species diversity. Increasing sward diversity has a knock on effect for insects, birds and small mammals resulting in an overall increase in biodiversity.

The conservation efforts got a major boost in 2006 when the Commoners joined with the NT to sign a 10 year Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) agreement for the hill. This had the combined objectives of improving the habitat, the wildlife and protecting the underlying archaeology. This also linked in well with the Whitehall



Farm HLS agreement and the adjacent Devon Wildlife Trust "The Rough" Nature reserve to form a triangle of contiguous conservation management.

With more funds available the topping and scrub clearance on Dumpdon was extended to the ramparts and round to the steeper southern slopes. The HLS agreement supports conservation grazing by native breeds such as Whitehall Farm's Ruby Red Devon cattle. The Devon breed is hardy and ideally suited to the task of grazing on this marginal and often steep land where more mainstream breeds would not do well or achieve the conservation objectives.

Grazing with the Devon cattle has proved to be an essential management tool, helping the acid grassland sward to recover and improve the plant diversity which in turn provides a better habitat for the wildlife. This is why you can see the Devon cattle up there grazing in the autumn when the grass has grown back after the summer hay cuts. In the early years the cattle had to be restricted but now with the scrub clearance largely complete and the bracken under control they are allowed to work their magic over the whole hill.

Today on the once bracken monoculture slopes diverse plant life has returned with a splendid display of Bluebells in the early spring followed by Foxgloves. Bell heather is becoming widely established together with Dog-violet, Mouse-ear-hawkweed, Cat's-ear, Tormentil and Gorse. Unimproved grassland is ideal habitat for Field voles and this has encouraged the return of Kestrels that can often be seen hovering over the western slopes of the site. More open space has encouraged Brown hares to re-colonize the hill. Yellowhammers nest in the remaining scrub and their iconic song can be heard throughout spring and summer.

With our departure from Europe and the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) the Countryside Stewardship Schemes are set to be replaced by the Environmental Land Management Scheme ELMS (by the end of 2024). I just hope that this new scheme will help the Commoners and the NT continue the conservation progress on our beloved Dumpdon Hill.

David Barlow

## CLOSURE OF LUPPITT COMMONS TO PUBLIC ACCESS - NOTIFICATION OF DISCRETIONARY "28 DAY" RESTRICTION UNDER THE CROW ACT 2000

Please note that the Commons (Hense Moor, Hartridge, Luppitt Common) are **CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS** on the following dates;

3rd, 10th, 17th 24th & 31st December 2020 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th January 2021 1st February 2021

These closures are to permit rough shooting to take place over these Commons. Further information about open access land can be found on the following Natural England website; www.naturalengland.org.uk/openaccess Kevin Lockyer

Trustee and Honorary Secretary, Luppitt Commons Trustees Committee

### GOOD NEWS ON COVID - LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

### **IMMUNISATION**

The good news is that the Pfizer vaccine against Covid-19 is over 90% effective.

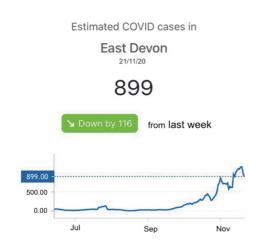
The even better news is that the Oxford-Astra Zeneca (O-AZ) vaccine is also effective. Two regimes were tested; "two high doses" versus "low dose followed by high dose". The combined results of these regimes showed 70% effectiveness, but the "low-high dose" regime was 90% effective. In the vaccinated group, even those who did become infected had very mild disease. A third vaccine (Moderna) has also reported excellent results although is unlikely to be available before next April.

Approval should come soon from the medicines regulator. The Pfizer vaccine is much more expensive than the O-AZ vaccine and, whereas the Pfizer vaccine has to be kept at -70C, the O-AZ vaccine can be stored in an ordinary fridge. Production of the O-AZ vaccine is underway and there are already enough doses to start immunising vulnerable groups before Xmas. We must not forget that immunising the population with two doses will be a formidable logistic problem for the health service.

There is generally optimism about the longevity of immunity generated by these vaccines, but this will not be confirmed for many months to come. Obviously success in defeating this "bug" also requires people to turn up for immunisation and, because of efforts of the "anti-vaxxers", some may be discouraged from attending. For Covid to be well and truly stamped out we need a high level of vaccination; otherwise it will become endemic and just keep coming back.

### **COVID INFECTION RATES:**

During the first wave of infection, East Devon got off relatively lightly with a small number of excess deaths (~50). However, as we all know, in recent weeks the



situation had deteriorated with estimated case rates for East Devon rising and tracking the UK average at over 700/100,000. The good news is that rates may have now peaked and since April there have so far been no excess deaths.

The difficulty we will continue to face for many months is that we do not know who might be carrying the virus and we must therefore continue to follow basic precautions — good hand hygiene, face coverings and social distancing. It is also important to emphasise that Covid should not discourage us from contacting our GP in the usual way about other health problems.

Data from Kings College Covid-19 (ZOE) monitoring study.

### GARDEN JOTTINGS

There are plenty of apples on our tree this year. Some of them are quite red and look very eatable. The only thing is that birds have been pecking holes in them. It could be the pigeons in the cherry tree. You don't see the holes until you've climbed up and taken them off. By the gate quite a few pears are ripening in the sun. Some of them have been eaten too, but not by birds. It looks as though mice have been having a nibble despite the best efforts of ICS and Little Cat



the best efforts of JCS and Little Cat. The pears must be ripe then, I suppose, though it's difficult to tell before you've cut them open.

With all the gales and wet weather we've been having recently the ground under the tree is littered with fallen apples. There are plenty of holes in them, big and small, and plenty of slugs and wood lice in the holes. Everything is feeding on a feast of food freely offered. Many of the apples are rotten and turning into mush. So it's not just slugs and insects and worms that are feeding on them. Fungi and smaller unseen creatures must be going for the food and energy in them. The earth is full of tiny living things too small to be seen. They all need food. Most of it comes from plants like my apples and the grass in the field next door.

Eons ago living things were just tiny cells with a skin and bits inside. Some hit upon the trick of using sunlight to make food. Some lived on their own and still do, some joined together to form groups that have become red woods and elephants, some got inside each other. The ones that fed themselves with sunlight were welcome immigrants. They bartered their sunlight skills for a cosy home inside their hosts. There are others inside you and me. They still have their own DNA. Viruses were around too, but they are much smaller. If there's any life smaller still it is yet to be discovered.

Just how small anything can be is a good question. Some physicists reckon there's a small limit, ten to the minus I can't remember just what at the moment. Nothing can be smaller. Nor the other way does anyone know how big the universe can be, or how many dimensions we exist in. It's difficult enough to visualise a four dimension hypercube or tesseract, let alone the eleven dimensions some astronomers claim. Anyway no one has any idea what most of the universe is like except the small part we can see.

Somehow I've wandered away from rotten apples. The squirrels in the oak tree don't seem to eat apples. I'd better go down and see what they're up to. There are a lot acorns lying around this autumn. The squirrels must be eating them. They're certainly not eating their usual peanuts. These are beginning to rot in their container. Soar Mills will be having a smaller order this time. I shall have to see what happens when colder weather arrives. The Garden Jottings will be back then too. So for now Merry Christmas to all from Catkins.

David Street

### **MEMORIES OF A HAPPY SUMMER**

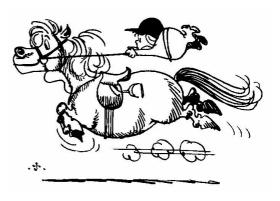
When my son was a teenager he was booked for a school trip to the Brecon Beacons. Part of the itinerary was pony trekking. Unlike our friends, Margaret and her two daughters, Karen and Helen, Paul had never been interested in riding, so was a little concerned.

We arranged to go with them to their favourite riding school so Paul could at least "break his duck" with a quiet pony ride. So, as arranged, we were introduced to a little "Thelwell" type pony. Quite small, with a long mane and tail. "Ginger" by name and colour. He stood quietly while Paul was mounted and I noticed he bowed his head and shut his eyes.

"Is he tired?" I asked the stable girl. "Probably, a little" she answered. "He had a trek this morning." She instructed Paul how to gently kick with his heels to encourage Ginger to walk forward. Paul gently practised. Nothing moved. "He'll be OK" she reassured us, as she led Ginger into the stable yard.

Ginger and Paul waited quietly for the others to join us, and I noticed Ginger still had his eyes closed. Karen and Helen rode up, mounted on their favourite ponies. Karen was on a largish brown animal and as they came up behind Paul, her pony leaned forward and bit Ginger on the rump.

All four of Ginger's hooves left the ground simultaneously. He landed, Paul gave a sort of wordless "Aaaahh" but dropped back safely into the saddle. Margaret and I rushed forward, but we were laughing too much to speak. I gasped out "it's OK Paul, that pony bit Ginger." Paul glared at Karen and the stable girl grabbed her pony's reins and pulled him back. 'I'm so sorry' she cried "this pony does not like anyone in front of him."



Well now she tells us!

Eventually everyone calmed down and they all rode quietly round the paddock. Karen's pony was in front. I noticed Paul and Ginger were lagging behind, moving quite slowly with Paul urging Ginger on all the time.

Paul later told me that it had been a strange but good experience of pony riding. No future pony he could ever meet was going to be like Ginger.

He had to urge Ginger forward every inch of the way, so I hope poor Ginger was able to have a good rest later after all the excitement.

Happy Days!

Joan Beckett

### LUPPITT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

### **Progress Report**

The Luppitt Neighbourhood Plan (LNP) has advanced well this year and we are now near the end of the consultation process. Much of this year has been spent on the amendments put forward by the sub-groups and also in improving the format to make the document easier to understand and navigate. Many hours have also been spent in consultation with EDDC to ensure that the new LNP policies are compliant with those in the Local Plan and we have also ensured that all relevant text is compatible with the current AONB management plan.

The fully amended draft is now being considered in detail by the Parish Council. Parish councillors have attended a series of in-depth briefing meetings (via Zoom!) to ensure they have a good understanding of the detail. The Parish Council will then either accept the draft in its current form or propose further amendments. Thereafter the final stages, which will include a programme of publicity and parishioner awareness, will lead to a parish referendum, expected to take place in 2021 (Covid-19 permitting).

As those who have been involved in the process will know, the LNP represents the majority view of parishioners resulting from a lengthy consultation process which commenced with the 2018 Parish Questionnaire. The main thrust of the document is protection of the character of Luppitt and its unique landscape and habitats. To that end, the draft contains 37 new planning policies to protect the parish from inappropriate development and 17 community actions intended to benefit the community at large.

The final document will shortly be available but in the meantime if anyone, especially those new to the parish, would like more information at this stage please contact:

Christine Ryder
Roger Hicks
Rosalind Buxton

Parish Councillor
LNP Steering Group Chairman
Parish Clerk

01404 892 880
01404 891 579
01404 861 565

### WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO BRITISH WEATHER?

Met Office records\* show that average temperatures over the UK have risen by 2C since 1800. One predicted consequence of increased air temperatures is an increase in atmospheric water leading to more episodes of heavy rain.

Our climate is indeed getting wetter. The Met Office reports that the amount of rain from extremely wet days increased by 17% in 2008-2017 compared to 1961-1990. In addition, there has been a slight increase in the longest sequence of consecutive wet days for the UK.

A local resident (John Maunder) has been measuring daily rainfall at his home in Mid Devon for the last 15 years. He has checked his data to see if there is evidence of an increase in the frequency of episodes of heavy rain.

His figures show that the total number of days with more than 20mm rainfall in

each of the last 5 year periods has steadily increased, in line with Met Office reports:

One cannot draw general conclusions from limited observations in Devon but these are "straws in the wind" consistent with predicted effects of climate change.

\*(Met Office www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/maps-and-data/uk-temperature-rainfall-and-sunshine-time-series).

### **DEVON CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE GROUP**

Last October (2019) **Devon County Council** set up a **Net-Zero Task Force** (a group of fifteen experts in areas including renewable energy, transport, planning and the built environment) which has developed an evidence based plan for creating a net-zero Devon www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk. The purpose is to raise awareness of climate change and encourage everyone to act. The aims are to:

## IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS GET COMMUNITIES READY

**Public call for evidence:** The DCC group organised a public consultation which ran from **October 2019 to January 2020** and received over 893 submissions. Submissions were from community organisations, local and parish councils, local interest groups and passionate individuals, providing some detailed, insightful ideas of how Devon can reach net-zero carbon.

The interim **Devon Climate Emergency (DCE) report will be available for 10 weeks from 7th December for public comment** on the website, and paper copies can be requested. Residents will have the chance to shape the county's roadmap to creating a net-zero Devon, where people and nature thrive. This is the pivotal next step towards producing the Final Devon Carbon Plan, which will follow a Citizens' Assembly, now in 2021 due to Covid-19.

The **Devon Climate Emergency (DCE)** partnership, which is made up of 25 organisations, wants to hear your views on the key actions in the plan that are deemed necessary to create a thriving net-zero Devon. All the actions are based on the latest evidence and address the suggestions from the public call for evidence. The topics range from active travel, renewable energy, and improved air quality to better insulation and warmer homes, reduced fuel poverty and eating more balanced diets. These actions will help to create a fairer, healthier and stronger Devon.

Additionally, they highlight issues that are more challenging to implement. These will be prioritised for discussion at the Citizens' Assembly in 2021 to ensure the recommendations in the Final Devon Carbon Plan reflect the views of Devon's citizens.

The more people who take part in the consultation, the stronger our argument becomes, the more momentum we create and the more likely we are to realise our goals. Together, we can build back better and create a net-zero Devon where people and nature thrive. From December 7th, have your say at <a href="https://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/">www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/</a> interimcarbonplan or request a paper copy and consultation questionnaire from your local library from January 1st.

### DO YOU KEEP CHICKENS, DUCKS, GEESE...? Help protect your birds from risk of #birdflu

A number of Avian Influenza cases have been reported in the UK, one of which is in Devon. This has resulted in a National Protection Zone being put in place for all poultry keepers, including those who only keep a few birds in their back yard.

**Did you know?** There is a constant risk of bird flu in the UK from wild birds. As it is highly contagious take action to protect your birds from catching it.

**Remember** Any very sick birds or unexplained deaths, must be assessed by your vet. By law suspicion of bird flu is notifiable and can affect poultry movement or trade.

**Tip 1: Cleaning** Clean footwear before and after visiting your birds. Keep areas clean and tidy and regularly disinfect hard surfaces. Humanely control rats and mice.

**Tip 2: Feeding** Place your birds' food and water in fully enclosed areas that are protected from wild birds and remove any spilled feed regularly.

Tip 3: Fencing Keep your birds separate from wildlife and wild waterfowl

**Tip 4: Register** Register your birds online and get alerts on any outbreaks of birdflu. **www.gov.uk/guidance/poultry-registration** 



### NFU SAYS REWARD OUR FARMERS FOR BEING CUSTODIANS OF OUR COUNTRYSIDE

The NFU's new report into the role farming plays today states that the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELM) must be accessible to all farmers.

NFU's Minette Batters said "We are at a pivotal time for the future of farming and the countryside. We are already doing so much for the environment, but with the right policies we could do so much more. Whether it's incentives to conserve carbon through the soil, manage bigger hedgerows or plant more woodland we do need policies that work together to support the delivery of agriculture's net zero ambition and thus ensure we have a farmed environment that can both feed the nation and thrive with wildlife."

Contributed by Heather Plummer

### THE RECTOR'S LETTER

It does seem that a month is a very long time in a pandemic, it is certainly very wearing – when I wrote my last letter for the parish magazines, on 13th October, we were waiting for news about the three tier lockdown scheme; as I write this letter we are now in a full nation-wide lockdown, hoping and praying that it will be lifted on 2nd December as promised by the Prime Minister. By the time the magazines are published we should know. Perhaps we Christians will be coping with our festivities as the Muslims had to cope with Eid al Adha at the end of July and as Hindus are coping with Diwali at the moment, 14th November.

These festivals commemorate very important events in the stories of the three faiths – for Muslims it is the occasion when they remember Ibrahim (Abraham) taking his son Ishmael to be sacrificed, in the Jewish and Christian version of the story it is the second son Isaac; in both versions Ibrahim passes the test and God gives him a ram to sacrifice instead. At Diwali Hindus celebrate the victory of light over darkness and at Christmas Christians remember the birth of Jesus in a stable in Bethlehem, 'the true light ... that was coming into the world'.

Central to the celebrations in all of these festivals, as with the major Jewish festivals as well, is the gathering of the community – yes, to participate in the actual commemorations, but also to come together as community, as families of faith, as people who are in relation. I reflected on that at the end of my last letter – Christians believe in a relational God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and they come together at Holy Communion to share in a meal, as we do at Christmas. People of all races and faiths share meals as part of their celebrations, but this year we cannot. The end of year Office or Works parties just won't be happening.

So, as they say, 'what to do'? Fortunately I think that we do all know 'what to do'. I am certain this year, for Eid al Adha and for Diwali, Muslims and Hindus made the very best of the situation in very many ways. We, as predominantly Christian communities, will reach out over the fence and garden gate to share mince pies and Christmas Cake, perhaps some mulled wine too, with neighbours who, like each one of us, will not be meeting all the members of their families. We know that we will need to share the love and joy of Christmas in every imaginable way and we will rejoice in the love and joy we receive from our neighbours too. In the meantime – please keep safe!

John Hayhoe johnhayhoe@me.com

### CHURCH CLEANING



With the resumption of Church services Pearl would like to set up a new Church cleaning and flower rota. The Church can be opened on Wednesday afternoons so that this can take place. If you would like to help please can you call Pearl on 891324 Thank you.

### **WANTED: CHURCH ORGANIST**

We are seeking an organist, or pianist, who is willing to play the organ for our Church services when Pearl is unavailable. The organ is available for practice on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons. For more information please call Pearl on 891324



Covid-19 continues to affect our lives. If you are lonely and would like a friendly chat, are facing hardship, or are in need of any kind, we are here to offer help and support. Please do not hesitate to contact our clergy, John Hayhoe or Jane Penn, the Churchwordens, PCC secretary or Administrator. Contact details may be found inside the back cover.

This year we have planned two outside services to include those of you who are not comfortable with being inside the Church during the pandemic. Plans will change if the ban on public worship continues after 2nd December.

### **OUR SERVICES IN DECEMBER**

6th	09:30 AM	Holy Communion	Revd J Hayhoe
13th	11:00 AM	The Nativity	Revd J Penn
20th	11:00 AM	Special outdoor Christmas service	Revd J Hayhoe
24th	3:00 PM	Blessing the outdoor crib	Lay led
27 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 AM	Family Service	Revd J Hayhoe

### **CHURCH SERVICES IN JANUARY**

3rd	09:30 AM	Holy Communion	Revd J Hayhoe
10th	11:00 AM	Family Service	Revd J Penn
17 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 AM	Holy Communion	Revd J Hayhoe

Please remember that face coverings must be worn inside the Church building

John and Jane will continue to provide recorded and live services, via Zoom with dialin, for everyone within the Mission Community. They would love you to join them.

**Sunday to Friday at 8:30pm**: Night Prayer with Jane from 8:15pm onwards for a chance to chat beforehand.

Dial 0131 460 1196 **OR** 0203 481 5237 Meeting id: 470 394 716#

Personal id: # Password: 029755#

**Sunday Worship at 5pm**: Pre-recorded Sunday service with John. Dial 0203 481 5237 **OR** 0131 460 1196 Meeting ID: 871 281 3717# personal ID: #

**3rd and 10th December at 7pm:** "Faith in the time of Covid-19" Bible study with Each session stands alone and will last around 45 minutes. Dial-in as for Sunday Worship.

For dial-in telephone details or more information please contact Sara on 01404 891140 or visit www.dunkeswell.org.uk and find us on Facebook @sixworshiptogether

### LUPPITT VILLAGE HALL AGM held on 29th October 2020

The Chairman welcomed all those present – 10 people in all.

**Apologies** – were received from Mrs Mary Hill and Mrs Shirley Crabb

<u>Minutes of the Last AGM</u> Mr S Berry pointed out that the problem with the bank accounts, under the heading Constitution, has not yet been resolved as stated but is ongoing. With this comment removed the minutes were then signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**Matters Arising** 

**Constitution** This matter is still on-going.

**Treasurer's Report** Mr S Berry said that income was down because of the closure of the hall under Covid-19 restrictions, so it only really covered half of the year. We were, however, greatly helped by a £10,000 grant from the government.

Fundraising figures comprised: Autumn Bingo £180

Quiz Night £610 St Patrick's Night £920

In addition, the Christmas Dinner raised £789.

I SaraGeneral Repairs included £821 for the plastering in the hallway and £218 for fire extinguishers. A dishwasher was purchased at a cost of £2,334 and this appears in fixed assets.

**Adoption of the Accounts;** The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Mrs J Hooper and seconded by Mr P Pulman.

**Chairman's Report** Mr S Smith reported that the year had started well, with four good events: Autumn Bingo, Quiz Night, Christmas Dinner, and St Patrick's Night.

With lockdown in place the entrance hall was plastered and decorated – thank you to Mr S Berry for doing the decoration. The kitchen roof space was planned to be treated for woodworm, but the company asked to do this went broke.

In July bowls started, followed by yoga in September. It is hoped more events will follow, keeping to the Covid-19 guidelines.

There have been three management meetings during the year.

**Entertainments Sub- Committee** –Mr P Smith said that the sub-committee had met three times, with four well-attended events raising £2,500.

#### Election of Committee for 2020/2021

Elected by their organisations:

Parish Council Mrs C Ryder Parochial Church Council Mrs P Pulman Wives Group Bell Ringers Mrs J Gardiner Parochial Church Council Mrs P Pulman Mr B Clapp Mrs J Gardiner Cricket Club Mr S Berry

Election of five more people from the floor

Mrs S Crabb has decided not to stand this year, but it was suggested that all other current members of the committee should be voted in en bloc, as nobody else at the meeting was prepared to stand for the committee; this was proposed by Mrs J Gardiner, seconded by Mr S Berry, and unanimously agreed.

### **Appointment of Auditor 2020/21**

Batchelor & Co was proposed by Mrs P Pulman & seconded by Mr B Pulman

Date of the next AGM – Thursday 28th October 2021 at 7.30pm.

### CLERK'S REPORT OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF LUPPITT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 8PM

**Present**: Cllrs John Thorne (Chairman), Paul Prettejohn, Brian Pulman, Christine Ryder, Andrew Tucker, Michele Turner, David Key and Colin Brown (EDDC), Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)

**Receive apologies for absence** Apologies were received from Cllr Beth Hooper.

**Minutes of previous meeting** The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 6 October 2020, were unanimously agreed and signed\* as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Prettejohn).

**Declaration of Interest** Cllr Prettejohn declared an interest in the planning application 20/2203/COU, as he repairs machinery for the applicant.

#### **PLANNING**

### Applications (for comment, support or objection)

**20/2058/MFUL** – Otter Falls, Old Spurtham Farm, Upottery, Honiton, EX14 9QD – construction of 12 no glamping pods and 3 no holiday lodges together with associated access, parking, landscaping and drainage works

Cllrs Thorne, Pulman, Ryder and the clerk carried out a site visit on Monday, 3 November. The new development will blend in with the existing lodges and cottages. The 12 glamping pods are, in fact, tree houses some of which will be on stilts but still shielded in woodland. Questions and concerns were addressed satisfactorily by the applicant and architect. Care has been taken to ensure that the development fits in well with the surroundings. The Parish Council supports this planning application.

Whilst on the site visit, the applicant showed the councillors a field that will be used by guests for exercising dogs. The field will need to be fenced securely as it borders other property where there are sheep and is also next to a public footpath.

**20/2203/COU** – Unit 2, The Dutch Barn, Woodhayes, Luppitt, Honiton, EX14 4TP – change of use from Art Gallery (Class D1) to a retail use within commercial, business and service use (Class E)

This unit will be used for sales and appointment-only demonstrations of high-end audio equipment. The Parish Council supports the application for change of use.

**20/1088/FUL** – Old Spurtham farm, New Road, Upottery – erection of hay storage barn The Enforcement Officer has asked Cllr Key to monitor the situation.

#### **Neighbourhood Plan**

The first meeting to discuss the final draft of the Neighbourhood Plan, before approval and acceptance by the Parish Council, took place on 27 October via Zoom. The Parish Council was considering pages 1-24 and the Chairman of the Steering Group, Roger Hicks, explained the background discussions he has had with EDDC and the processes going forward. Consideration of the Plan will take place over four meetings, the last one being held on 8 December. It is then envisaged that there will be another meeting to finally agree on any amendments. At the end of the process, the Parish Council must be satisfied that it is happy with the contents and will then be in a position to approve the document. The clerk has established that there is still grant money available which must be spent by the end of the financial year.

#### **HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC**

#### Parish Highways programme - update on Items to Report:

 Loose kerbstones at Millrise – DCC has confirmed that it is EDDC's responsibility to carry out the work. Cllr Key will keep the Parish Council informed.

- Cllr Thorne will look at potholes in School Lane to see if they meet the criteria for repair.
- Clerk will re-report severe edge of road deterioration from Maple Cross to Pound Farm and will take photos.
- Clerk will report potholes from Barn Cross to Beacon if it is thought the potholes meet the criteria for repair.

**Road closures 14-18 December 2020** – Luppitt Common to Dolish Farmhouse and Dolish Farmhouse to Barnfield Farm The clerk has been assured by Gigaclear that the roads will not be closed at the same time. Parishioners affected by the road closures should receive a letter from Gigaclear nearer the time.

School Lane Cllr Thorne will investigate the broken slabs.

#### **Parish Maintenance**

**The Mill** At the last Parish Council meeting, Cllr Thorne had suggested carrying out additional work to take the water off the road and at the time this suggestion had not been followed through. It was agreed that Cllr Tucker will meet Cllrs Thorne and Pulman on site to discuss Cllr Thorne's alternative solution so that Cllr Tucker can provide another quotation for comparison.

**Grass Cutting** The clerk had nothing to report but is continuing to follow up with other contacts at DCC. **Salt requirements** Cllr Pulman has checked the grit bins and has counted 14. He will liaise with the clerk about those that need to be filled. The clerk will liaise with Cllr Tucker over salt requirements.

Cllr Tucker was asked to free the blocked gutters at Shelf Lane, Coombeshead and Shaugh towards Ford Bridge. It was agreed that Cllr Tucker would clear gutters around the parish as and when the opportunity arises (proposed by Cllr Pulman, seconded by Cllr Prettejohn).

#### **FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS**

Replacement footpath warden Cllr Nancarrow has resigned as a Parish Councillor and Footpath Warden. It was agreed that the clerk should put an advertisement in the Luppitt Packet for a volunteer to take up Footpath Warden duties.

There are overhanging trees at footpath 14 near Turf House that have rotted off and are laying across on branches and are dangerous. Cllr Tucker was asked to carry out the necessary work.

#### **ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The clerk had received an email from the organisers of the children's Christmas party asking for a donation. This year it will not be possible to hold the Christmas party in its normal format and the organisers listed alternative suggestions to replace the usual party. The Parish Council would like more information and Cllr Turner agreed to speak to the organisers.

#### FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

#### Parish Council resignation

Cllr Nancarrow has resigned as he has moved away from the area and does not feel he can commit as much time as he would like to Parish Council meetings, especially with the extra time that needs to be devoted to discussion on the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Thorne said that he fully understood the reasons for Cllr Nancarrow's decision and that the Parish Council would miss his contribution in the future. Cllr Thorne was grateful to Cllr Nancarrow, in his capacity as Vice-Chairman, for chairing meetings in his absence. The clerk will follow procedures and will advertise in the Luppitt Packet.

**Quarterly check – internal financial control** The clerk will liaise with Cllr Ryder over checking and signing the relevant papers. There may be some delay with the second lockdown due to start.

### Agree S137 payments (donations) for 2021/22

The following \$137 payments were agreed: TRIP £55.00; Citizens Advice Bureau £55.00; Royal British Legion £20.00; Devon Air Ambulance £100.00; Devon Freewheelers £100.00; British Heart Foundation £50.00 (proposed by Cllr Pulman, seconded by Cllr Tucker).

**Agree meeting dates for 2021** It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue to meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 8 pm.

**Commoners page on Parish Council website** Cllr Tucker confirmed that the Commoners do not require a page on the Parish Council website.

**Zoom** As virtual meetings appear to be continuing indefinitely, it was agreed that the clerk should take advantage of a 20% discount which Zoom offers from time to time for an annual subscription (proposed by Cllr Ryder, seconded by Cllr Turner).

#### CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

- A resident had advised the clerk that there would be a short, private firework display on Thursday, 5 November.
- It appears that 55% of the new Covid-19 cases in Devon are in the 16-39 age group.
   The Director of Public Health for Devon has asked the public to maintain strict adherence to the guidelines.
- Cllr Tucker mentioned the work being carried out by contractors from the Village Hall to Dolish. Cllrs Thorne and Pulman will monitor the situation.

There were no questions from the public and the meeting ended at 9.38 pm.

Dates for next virtual meetings to be held at 8 pm: Tuesday, 1 December 2020 Tuesday, 5 January 2021

\*Minutes will be signed when Parish Council meetings resume.

### **FOOTPATH WARDEN FOR LUPPITT**

This is a voluntary post for someone who loves the countryside and is an enthusiastic walker. All pathways should be inspected at least once every year. The duties of the Footpath Warden include making sure that pathways are kept clear, route signs are clearly visible and stiles, gates etc, are in good order.

The Footpath Warden reports directly to the Parish Council with any concerns or actions that need to be taken. The Parish Council, Footpath Warden and the Public Footpaths Liaison Officer at Devon County Council work together to make sure that any necessary work is carried out.

This is a great opportunity to combine a love of walking with ensuring that the network of footpaths are kept in good order and accessible for the public to enjoy.

Please contact the clerk, Rosalind Buxton, on 01404 861565 or 07944 625025, or by email at luppittclerk@yahoo.co.uk

### CASUAL VACANCY ON LUPPITT PARISH COUNCIL

Due to the resignation of Tom Nancarrow, a vacancy has arisen for a Parish Councillor on Luppitt Parish Council. This is an opportunity for anyone interested in parish affairs to help shape and support the local community.

Luppitt Parish Council meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Our meetings are informal and friendly and last for approximately 2 hours. A variety of issues are discussed at these meetings including responding to planning applications and working to improve the quality of life in the parish. Luppitt Parish Council is particularly proactive in all aspects of parish maintenance with special emphasis on the many lanes throughout the parish. Due to Covid restrictions, Parish Council meetings at the moment are carried out via Zoom.

A Parish Councillor serves for a four-year period. However, as we are part way through an elected term, this casual vacancy will last until May 2023 when full elections will be held.

### To stand for election on a Parish Council, you must be:

- at least 18 years old;
- a British citizen, a qualifying Commonwealth citizen, or a citizen of any other member state of the European Union;
- for the whole of the 12 months before nomination, you must have occupied (as owner or tenant) land or other premises in the parish; or
- work in the parish as your principal or only place of work; or
- live within three miles of the parish boundary.

### You cannot stand for election if you:

are bankrupt and an Order or Interim Restriction Order has been imposed;

- have been convicted in the United Kingdom, within 5 years before the day of the election, of any offence and have had a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of over 3 months without the option of a fine;
- have been convicted or reported guilty of a corrupt or illegal practice by an election court, or have been disqualified from standing for election to a local authority.

Please telephone the clerk, Rosalind Buxton, on 01404 861565 or 07944 625025 if you have any questions. Alternatively, any of our Parish Councillors will be happy to speak to you and let you know first-hand what is involved.

If you wish to apply to be co-opted to the vacancy, please write a brief summary about yourself to include:

- length of residence in the parish
- membership and involvement with any community associations within the parish or elsewhere
- particular interests and concerns relating to the parish
- any professional or work-related experience which could be utilised for the benefit of the parish
- confirm your eligibility to stand in line with the rules above

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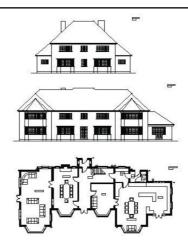
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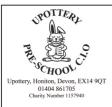
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Village Hall Chair	Stonbon Smith	01404 892839
Secretary	Stephen Smith Mary Hill	01404 891160
Bookings Commoners' Secretary	Jean Hooper Kevin Lockyer	01404 892969 07827 309229
Luppitt Neighbourhood Plan	www.luppittneighbourhood.	.org.uk
Chair Consultation	Roger Hicks Christine Ryder	01404 891579 01404 892880
Luppitt Wives	Mrs Joan Beckett	01404 891308
Rector	Rev John Hayhoe	01404 515083
	johnhayhoe@me.com	07864 048575
Associate Priest	Jane Penn	01404 841523
PCC Secretary Church Administrator	Sue Lauzier-Piechowiak Sara Gordon	01404 891924 07717 222404
Charch Administrator	admin@dunkeswell.org.uk	-
Church Wardens	Brian Pulman	01404 891324
	Wendy Watson	01404 891959
Luppitt Entertainments Cttee		01404 892720
Captain of Bellringers	Pearl Pulman	01404 891324
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Hartridge Buddhist Monaste	ry	01404 891251
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	Honiton Medical Centre	01404 548544
	Honiton Minor Injuries Unit	01404 540540
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