



CAST YOUR VOTE

Thursday 6th February 2020



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IN THE REFERENDUM

BARKHAM &
ARBORFIELD GREEN

Village INFO

February/March 2020

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Contents

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See web site for the Council's meetings (every month except August) at the Arborfield Green Community Centre.

www.barkham-parishcouncil.org.uk

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Highlights



Residents decide

Voting in the Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan referendum will take place on 6 February.



Relief road on target

Seen from the air it is clear that considerable progress has been made on the Arborfield Cross Relief Road. Being built on a virgin site, construction on the road is faster than on Barkham Bridge where existing services are being replaced.



Speedwatch campaign gets a boost

The addition of new volunteers and state-of-the-art equipment bodes well to help reduce speeding in the area.



Recycling food waste

More people are trying to waste less food, but some waste is inevitable.

But recycling not only produces electricity but fertiliser as well!



What can I put in my caddy?

You can recycle all your food waste, including the following:

Remember to recycle your mouldy and out of date food (including ready meals) removed from their packaging.



- ✓ All uneaten food and plate scrapings
- ✓ Leftover pet food

food waste



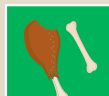
- ✓ Cheese
- ✓ Eggs
- ✓ Yoghurts

dairy



- ✓ Bread
- ✓ Cakes
- ✓ Pastries

bread & pastries



- ✓ Raw meat
- ✓ Cooked meat
- ✓ Bones

meat & bones



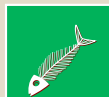
- ✓ Tea bags
- ✓ Coffee grounds

tea & coffee grounds



- ✓ Raw vegetables
- ✓ Cooked vegetables
- ✓ Fruit
- ✓ Peelings

fruit & vegetables



- ✓ Raw fish
- ✓ Cooked fish
- ✓ Bones

fish



- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Beans

rice pasta & beans



- ✓ Pour your leftover oil into a plastic bottle, seal it and place inside your outdoor container

cooking oils

Please do not put any of these materials in your caddy

- ✗ Packaging of any kind
- ✗ Liquids such as milk
- ✗ Pet waste
- ✗ Garden waste

Top tip Use our app 're3yclopedia' to check for recyclable items.



NEWS

Future plans for the borough

The news story that follows is the text of a press release issued by Wokingham Borough Council on 9 January.

Residents should note that the Wokingham Borough Council Local Plan Update for the whole borough is not to be confused with the Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan and Referendum (see pages 11-16). The Neighbourhood Plan, developed over the past few years, solely concerns the two Parishes and the referendum is for residents to decide whether it should be implemented by WBC.

"The fear of mass housing development has been hanging over the majority of our communities like a Sword of Damocles for too long; at last, we may have a way to remove it for them," said John Halsall, leader of Wokingham Borough Council, of the draft Local Plan Update to be unveiled on 15 January (the day this issue went to press).

"If it is approved and supported by government funding, we would be able to produce a Local Plan that meets a need for good homes in the borough, including genuinely affordable ones, while safeguarding our quality of life, protecting our green belt and relieving many of our villages from the fear of inappropriate development," he said.

The council's draft Local Plan Update (scheduled to be discussed at the extraordinary executive meeting on the 15 January and if approved public consultation on it launched in February) would put protection of countryside and the environment at the heart of its strategic vision for the future. This new strategic direction follows the council's declaration of a climate emergency and the overwhelming public opposition to the government imposed housing target - which could have been more than 900 homes per year.

The draft Local Plan would include:

- A lower housing target for the borough than would have been enforced by the government's standard methodology
- No house building on the green belt
- A new Garden Town at Grazeley designed and built to cutting-edge environmental standards with sustainable transport links into Reading and massive upfront investment in facilities such as schools and community, sporting and health facilities
- An enhanced commitment to resist random development outside of the few areas allocated for new communities
- Protection of local green space
- Provision of genuinely affordable housing

Local Plans set out the land to be protected from development across the borough and, under Wokingham's Plan, these 'no-go' areas for development would include all land designated as green belt as well as the overwhelming majority of the 300-plus sites developers have been eyeing-up across the borough.

"This could be a new dawn for Wokingham Borough with a commitment to a fully-fledged Garden Town where people will be able to live the sort of environmentally-aware, sustainable lifestyles that are becoming the 21st Century ideal," said Cllr Wayne Smith, executive member for planning and enforcement. *Continued over...*

"This is an ambitious vision. If approved and funded as we are proposing, Grazeley Garden Town would have the sort of upfront investment in infrastructure that is normally only dreamed of in the UK – we are talking about getting things like the transport systems, schools, health hubs and community and sporting facilities built ahead of the housing.

"We are also proposing homes that are designed to protect the environment, provided within communities designed for sustainable lifestyles. People living in a future Grazeley Garden Town would have the jobs and 'big city' buzz of Reading to the north and the natural beauty of West Berkshire

and our borough to the west and east – a set-up that matches the original vision of garden towns perfectly."

With Grazeley able to provide a large part of the additional housing that is needed across the borough in the years up to 2036, and potentially to the mid-2050s, the borough council would be better able to resist potential housing sites elsewhere that have been put forward by developers. There would still need to be some smaller scale growth in towns and villages where agreed locally, but most of the 300-plus potential sites put forward as part of the Local Plan process would be rejected.

Arborfield relief road takes shape

Work on the the Arborfield Cross Relief Road (ACRR) made great progress over the course of last summer and autumn according to the contractors, Balfour Beatty. The annotated, aerial view (seen opposite) shows the whole length of the road from the Eversley Road at Arborfield towards the point it rejoins the A327 Reading Road along from the River Loddon.

The location of the new green bridge is now clearly visible, along with the alignment for the entire 2.3km route.

Foundations for the new roundabouts at Reading Road and Eversley Road are largely complete, along with the new ponds which will become a key feature of the new road.

Further works at the two new roundabouts at both ends of the road are planned for Spring/Summer this year and the next key milestone will be the installation of the green bridge.



New Arborfield Cross Relief Road Corridor

Speedwatch campaign underway

Sophisticated new equipment and additional volunteers gives Speedwatch a boost

The appeal for more volunteers in the last issue of Village INFO resulted in eleven residents joining the team. The Parish Council has also bought radar-based, Morelock Speed Watch equipment which has already been proving its worth.

Residents may have seen the sophisticated Speed Watch sign at work. It can be used as a semi-permanent fixing to display speeds and capture traffic data, or used by the volunteers as a mobile unit to identify speeding motorists.

When used as an advisory sign, the dot-matrix display can not only display a drivers' speed approach speed but also display a range of messages. **Thank You** in Green may appear if within the limit, or **Too fast** in Red if exceeding the limit by more than 10%. Other messages can also be programmed including: **School - Slow Down.**

Mounted on a tripod the display can be used for speed watch sessions. Volunteers can use a handheld device to check speed and record speed statistics.

In between Speedwatch sessions the equipment isn't lying idle. It can be attached to a lamp post or a pole to collect traffic data over a set period, typically a week or two.

The device records speed statistics in both directions that can then be analysed and used to identify any **hot spot roads**. This information is vital if there is to be any chance of changing limits or introducing traffic calming measures.

Where problems are identified the data will be reported to WBC and can also be used to persuade the police to carry out speed checks in defined trouble spots.

During the winter months the Speedwatch team have been deploying the device to check traffic speed on roads around Barkham. Starting this Spring regular

Speed Watch sessions will focus on problem areas identified over the winter months

The main aim of Speed Watch is to encourage drivers to reduce their speeds and improve driver behaviour. It's not an enforcement exercise.

Volunteers are always visible in their **Barkham Speedwatch jackets**. There will normally be four volunteers for each hourly session. One has the task of manually recording the time, speed, registration number, make, model and colour of the speeding vehicle. The other volunteers share the job of calling out the speed and all the other vehicle details. Volunteers also carry out a brief risk assessment recorded on a police document before starting a session.



The team at a briefing on the new equipment

The team needs as many volunteers as possible to ensure that regular sessions can be undertaken. New volunteers are given appropriate instructions and training.

The aim is to reduce speed on our local roads and to provide a safer and even more pleasant environment. If you can help please contact Ellen, the parish clerk on clerk@barkham-parishcouncil.org.uk She can also put you in touch with existing volunteers who will be more than happy to meet with you to answer any questions.

Spring is on its way with skittles and Easter eggs



Cathy Whittington has two family friendly events for your diary as the BVRA looks forward to better weather.

Wherever you live in Barkham or Arborfield Green, Cathy says you are welcome to join in the Family Skittles evening on 14 March and the Children's Easter Egg Hunt on 14 April.

Organised by the BVRA social committee, the Family Skittles evening begins at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start at Barkham Village Hall. Tickets cost £10 (£5 for those of primary school age) and include supper.

"It's a popular and fun event" says Cathy. "We invite you to come as a team of six or else make new friends as you join with others to form a team on the night. It is a great evening with plenty of time to chat with friends and neighbours. There is a licensed bar selling beer, wine and soft drinks at very reasonable prices.

"Two wooden lanes are set up in the hall and everyone gets three balls to throw at the wooden pins. Teams of six take turns to step up and do their best to knock all the pins down. There are prizes for the highest scoring team and there is also a prize for the highest individual score.



"Part way through the evening we will stop the games for a ploughman's supper. Then back for a game called 'killer' - entry fee of £1.

"For those that don't know how this works, this is a knock out game where each person takes turns to throw a ball at the pins. If they knock a pin down, they are in for the next round. If not, they lose a life. Everyone starts with two lives. The next person throws their ball at the remaining pins. When all the pins are down, we move to the next lane and start again. There is a little treat for everyone when they are knocked out of the game. The winner gets rewarded with half the pot. It gets very exciting with the tension building when it gets down to the last few."

Interested? Then book your tickets by calling Gill Powell on **0118 9783373** or email **social@barkham.org.uk**. "It is lots of fun!!" says Cathy.

"Our next event is the Children's Easter Egg hunt on Easter Sunday, 14 April at 3.00pm. This is held at the Junipers Field*, Barkham, near the play area. Entrance is on the day for just 50p per child.

"How it works is that the children line up behind the rope and then when the whistle is blown, they set off to find the tokens that scattered over the wooded area. There is a section for the smaller children and a bigger area for the older ones. The tokens are exchanged for little eggs. Parents can buy raffle tickets for a giant egg. After your Easter Sunday lunch, come out and get some fresh air while your children enjoy the fun of the Easter Egg hunt!"

*Junipers playing field and play area is accessed via Barkham Road/Sandy Lane/The Woodlands and The Junipers. There is extremely limited parking, so best to walk, or drop off participants (with adults!) nearby.

BARKHAM VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Skittles Evening



Saturday 14th March 2020
7:00pm for 7:30pm—11:00pm

Barkham Village Hall

Ploughman's Supper Included

Tickets available from Gill Powell

Email: social@barkham.org.uk

or Tel 9783373

Adult £10, Primary School Children £5

LICENCED BAR & RAFFLE

BARKHAM VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY 12th APRIL 2020

3 pm

THE JUNIPERS



50p per child



Raffle for large egg £1



CAST YOUR VOTE

Thursday 6th February 2020



Arborfield Village Hall
& Barkham Village Hall



SEE GUIDE



If you voted in the recent election you will be familiar with the local polling stations.

They are given on your ballot card. But for reference:



Arborfield residents:

The Village Hall in the centre of Arborfield (A327)



Barkham residents

(inc. those in Arborfield Green) Barkham Village Hall, Church Rd, off Barkham Street.

Another reminder

Polling stations will be open from 7am until 10pm on Thursday 6th February.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

The plan is a statutory document carrying significant weight in local planning applications and appeals.

Neighbourhood Plans were introduced by the government in 2011 with the intention of giving communities a greater say in planning for their local area:

‘Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area.’ Source: www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning-planning-2

In parishes with a neighbourhood plan that has secured the consent of local people in a referendum, the parishes become entitled to a higher percentage of revenue from the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Once a neighbourhood plan is in force, it carries real legal weight. Decision makers are obliged to consider proposals for development in the neighbourhood against the neighbourhood plan.

Finding your way around the Neighbourhood Plan

The Arborfield & Barkham Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036 includes the main document and a number of annexes.

The Plan document begins with an introduction to the area and the Plan’s vision and objectives. Also set out are the four Policy areas: *Identity and rural setting; Thriving communities; Appropriate Development; and Getting Around.* There are 14 detailed Policies.

The annexes are supporting documentation. These include the existing *Arborfield and Newland Village Design Statement* and the *Barkham Village Design Statement*. Other documents include the 2016 residents’ survey results and papers covering landscape and important views, community facilities, flood risk and greenways.

Where to get more information

The Plan can be inspected at Arborfield & Newland Parish Office, Arborfield Village Hall and the Barkham Parish Office, Arborfield Green Community Centre. Hard copies of the specified documents are also available to be viewed at: Wokingham Borough Council, Shute End and Wokingham Library, Denmark Street during normal hours. The Neighbourhood Plan, plus all the other documentation is available at: www.arbarplan.com

Some key policies of the Neighbourhood Plan

■ **Helps preserve separation of settlements, the countryside appearance, its distinctive landscape and outstanding views**

■ **Stresses importance of public open spaces, protecting valued natural and heritage assets such as The Coombes**

■ **Supports local business appropriate to our rural location. Helps protect our best and most versatile agricultural land**

■ **Current development exceeds local parish needs. Any new housing only supported within current development limits**

■ **Any new proposals need to minimise additional traffic on our already busy rural and residential roads**

■ **Encourages implementation of the Greenways network and viable public transport improvements**

■ **Promotes sustainable solutions not just for the planning period, but for the generations to come**

Residents provided photographs of their favourite views of the area.



The journey towards the plan

In the early part of 2012 a working group of parish councillors investigated the feasibility of a Neighbourhood Plan and reported back to the Parish Councils. In May 2012 a steering group was formed. A preliminary residents' survey was then undertaken. The combined parish boundaries were designated as the Plan Area by Wokingham Borough Council on 31 July 2014. There was slow initial progress while the plans for Arborfield Garrison were in a state of flux. The neighbourhood plan was re-launched in the summer of 2016.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group initially involved parish councillors and then developed to include residents of the two parishes. Public participation has been a key concept under the theme 'A plan for the community by the community'.

Residents' participation

- **Residents' surveys in 2012 and 2016.**
- **Focus groups of residents examining key issues.**
- **A website at www.arbarplan.com** which since October 2016 has carried information and documents.
- **Email updates to those residents registering interest in regular news.**
- **Social media:** Bulletins have been posted locally on Facebook pages, including those of the Arborfield Community, Arborfield Green Village Community and the Finchampstead & Barkham Community.
- **Parish and Residents' Newsletters:** Progress reports and explanation of planning issues have been included regularly in 'Arborfield News' (Arborfield and Newland Parish Council); the 'BVRA Newsletter' (Barkham Village Residents Association) and, since 2018 in **Village INFO** (Barkham Parish Council).
- **Public Events:** The Steering Group has organised a number of public drop-in events. These include 'Shaping Our Future' in September 2017 and introducing the draft plan in June 2018.

All these avenues have been used as opportunities to explain the issues to residents and to obtain feedback.

Preparing the Plan

After a consultation by the Steering Group in the summer of 2018 an amended draft Plan was submitted to Wokingham Borough Council in May 2019. This was checked by officers to ensure compliance with the legislation and conformity of the plan with existing national and local plans.

A second public consultation was then carried out by the Borough Council in the summer of 2019. Following the second consultation, the Plan was reviewed by an Independent Examiner.

Examination

The Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan took an important step forward when it successfully came through the examination process. The Examiner reviewed the documents and, subject to some modifications, agreed that the Plan meets the basic conditions and may proceed to referendum.

In her report, the Examiner complimented the local community volunteers on a plan 'well tailored to their requirements'

At their meeting on 28th November 2019, the Borough Council's Executive approved these changes and granted permission for the Plan to proceed to a referendum.

Referendum

The referendum will take place on Thursday 6 February 2020. Voting will take place at the usual polling stations at Arborfield Village Hall and Barkham Village Hall.

The Referendum version of the Plan, is available at the offices of the two parish councils and via the Steering Group web site: www.arbarplan.com

The Neighbourhood Steering Group would like to say a big thank you to the numerous volunteers who contributed to the Plan through participation in focus groups and for their feedback at the public events and through consultations. Also the Group would like to thank residents – over 1,000 of them – who participated in the various events and surveys.

Timeline

- **Sept 2012**
Initial residents' survey
- **Feb 2013**
Public event
- **July 2014**
Parish boundaries accepted as Plan Area
- **May 2016**
Re-launch of Plan
- **Oct 2016**
Website launched
- **Oct 2016**
Public event
- **Oct-Dec 2016**
Residents'survey
- **Mar 2017**
Survey results released
- **Aug 2017**
Vision & Objectives published
- **Oct 2017**
'Shaping Our Future' public event
- **June 2018**
Draft Plan published
- **Jun-Aug 2018**
Consultation on Draft Plan
- **Sept 2018**
Draft plan submitted to WBC
- **May 2019**
Formal submission to WBC
- **Jun 2019**
WBC approve consultation
- **Jun – Aug 2019**
Consultation
- **Sept 2019**
Independent Examination
- **Nov 2019**
WBC agree Plan can go to referendum
- **Feb 2020**
REFERENDUM

// The question on the Voting paper is:

*Do you want Wokingham Borough Council to use the **Neighbourhood Plan for Arborfield & Barkham** to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?*

You will be asked to vote



YES or NO
YOU DECIDE!

On

Thursday 6th February 2020
Between 7.00am and 10.00pm

At

Arborfield Village Hall
& Barkham Village Hall

All registered voters will be sent polling cards which will explain if they are to vote at a nominated polling station or will receive a postal vote

Designed & published by the Arborfield & Barkham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on behalf of Arborfield & Newland Parish Council and Barkham Parish Council. Printed by Solopress Ltd, 9 Stock Road, Southend on Sea SS2 5QF

www.arbarplan.com

Sam Hosgood (left), a former chairman of BPC, with Ali (centre) and her coach, Matt from Bracknell and Wokingham Swimming Club



Recognising sporting excellence

The BPC Sporting Endeavour Award fund was set up in honour of past chairman, Sam Hosgood. Over the past years it has helped many young people to help achieve their dreams.

This latest recipient is Ali Castle who is a member of the Bracknell and Wokingham Swimming Club. It is the second time that Ali has been helped by the fund and Sam Hosgood came along to present a cheque to Matt Tuff, her coach, at a council meeting late last year.

He congratulated her on her success during 2019 when Ali, aged 15, competed at the National Championships and made the finals.

It is all a result of hard work. She trains 14 hours a week over six days on top of her school work. The club will be using the award to ensure that Ali can build on her success.

"There was only one award last year but we are now looking for this year's recipients" says Pam Stubbs, BPC chairman. "Those put forward for an award must be passionate about their sport and compete at County level or above. We are sure there must be more young people resident in Barkham who deserve support," she says.

Applications for this year's awards are available from the Parish Clerk. Applications need to be made through the sporting club to which the applicant belongs. So if you know of a young sports person, please contact the Clerk with the name of potential recipient and their club details: an application form will be sent to the club to apply for an award.



Your food powering energy and fertiliser



The raw material ready for de-packaging

Since Wokingham residents started recycling food waste last April, 3,343 tonnes have been sent to a facility in Oxfordshire to be processed into electricity and liquid fertiliser. On a cold, wet day, late last year BPC parish clerk, Ellen Tims, and two councillors, Pam Stubbs and Ken Lane, went to have a look at how it is done. Ellen takes up the story . . .

The Severn Trent Green Power Facility in Wallingford is out in the countryside and barely visible from the main road. The only real clue to its use is the constant flow of waste delivery vehicles from Oxfordshire and other local authorities.

The flow into the site was interrupted briefly for our visit when we joined others from across Wokingham to see what happens once the contents of our caddies make their weekly journey.

In a nutshell, once the food waste arrives on site it is **de-packaged**, macerated and digested anaerobically in large sealed tanks. Think of a cow. The process is very similar to a bovine digestion system and produces two products: biogas (methane and carbon dioxide) and digestate (a nutrient rich liquid fertiliser).



The technical bits

The collection lorries are weighed on an automated weighbridge on entering the facility and on exit. Once over the weighbridge, they enter an enclosed, odour-controlled waste reception building where they deposit the waste ready for it to go into the bunker to start the process.

The building is subject to negative pressure and is equipped with a wet scrubber and a biofilter on the ventilation system. This ensures there is a little external odour. Before leaving the building, the lorries are washed down to ensure no waste leaves the site; minimising the risk of contamination. Actually, it wasn't too 'smelly' inside, but we were visiting on a cold and wet day, the summer heat might have been different.

A bunker stores the waste and transports it to a macerator. The macerator separates the plastic bags from the food waste, a little liquid is added (usually waste liquid sourced from food and drink manufacturers) to wash the food away from the packaging to turn it into a pumpable consistency, known, not surprisingly, as soup.

The waste packaging is diverted through squeezers which remove the liquid and the plastic is then sent to be processed at another facility to produce energy. It seems counterintuitive that a recycling plant should welcome plastic but not 'compostable' packaging for the waste. The reason is that compostable bags require oxygen to decompose and the process at Wallingford is anaerobic. Any compostable bags getting into the system become 'gloopy' and a problem for the process.

The next stage for the food waste is digestion. The soup is fed into the three digester tanks where it is gently heated (using waste heat) to body temperature and stirred to prevent any crusts or sediments forming inside the tanks.

The digester tanks are connected by pipes. The soup is fed every four hours, 24 hours a day, through special feeder tanks, using waste coffee granules and crops such as maize. This is needed to balance the biology in the digesters.



One of the three digester tanks

- Three days of food waste deliveries can be stored in order to deal with peak waste deliveries.
- The site is virtually self-sufficient in energy as well as exporting energy.
- Buildings have been constructed from 30% recycled aggregates.
- The site processes 50,000 tonnes of food waste a year; enough to fill 20 Olympic sized swimming pools!



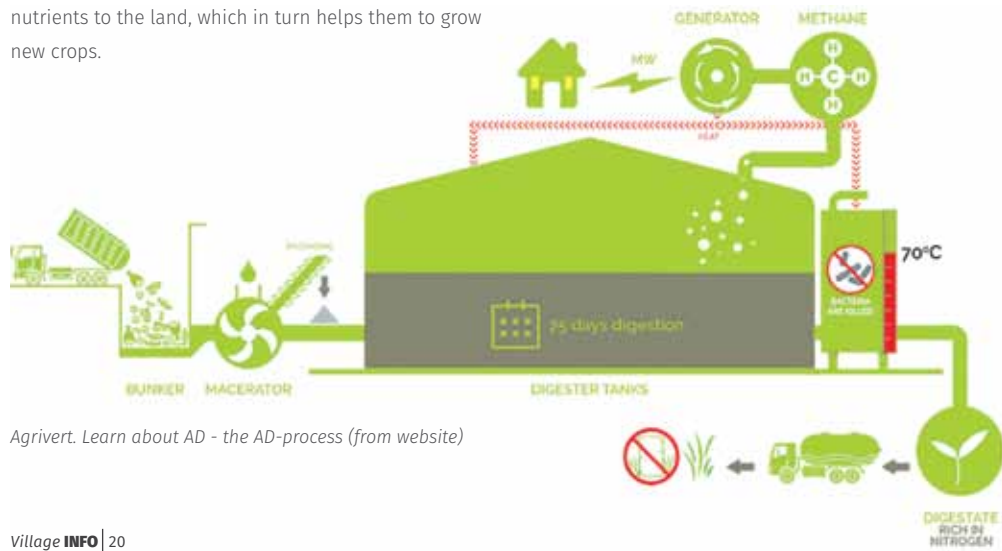
Since 2019 the simple act of filling the kitchen and outside caddies has added up to 3,343 tonnes being recycled



The gas engine drives a turbine

The waste spends approximately 75 days in the digesters, during which time it produces methane gas, which is collected in gas chambers in the roof space of the digestion chambers. The methane gas goes to a combined heat and power gas engine. The engine burns the gas and uses the energy to create electricity that is sold to the national grid.

Once all of the gas has been harvested from the food substrate, the remaining product is a rich bio-fertiliser known as digestate. The digestate is fed into a pasteuriser, this process heats the digestate to 70 degrees Celsius to ensure that the fertiliser produced doesn't contain any harmful bacteria which could affect the soil that it is used upon. The Digestate is supplied to local farmland, which adds valuable nutrients to the land, which in turn helps them to grow new crops.



Agrivert. Learn about AD - the AD-process (from website)

Environmental benefits:

- Diverts solid waste from landfill.
- Diverts liquid organic waste from water treatment works.
- Generates enough renewable energy to power over 4800 homes.
- The digestate produced replaces fossil-fuel derived fertilisers on around 2,500 acres of farmland.



- Waste heat from gas engines is recycled into the digestion and pasteurisation processes.
- The facility is the equivalent net green house gas benefit of taking 71,000 cars off the road according Severn Trent's web site.

NEWS



Members and guests during the Arborfield and Newland WI 100th anniversary celebration at Arborfield Village Hall

After 100 years local WI rests on its laurels

It was a bitter sweet time for members of the Arborfield and Newland WI when, having had a very successful 100th anniversary celebration traditional tea last October, members voted unanimously to suspend the group because of diminishing numbers and no volunteers for the committee.

The Village Hall had looked at its best last year when members and guests recalled events over the time since the local WI for Arborfield and Barkham was established in 1919.

In the early years of the 20th century, WI groups sprang up all over the country, attracting members from all walks of life, and by working together, they broke down existing social barriers.

When women were granted the right to vote, the National WI began organising members to champion many different causes. One of the most memorable was the campaign that led to 'Keep Britain Tidy', a slogan still remembered and relevant today.

Vena Restell, 90, the longest serving member of the group, cut the Celebration Cake which was provided by Phyllis Wickes, a local resident.

Pam Stubbs, the last president, said that "It was a really sad outcome after such a long time. The final decision taken by the members was to arrange for an Oak tree to be planted at Arborfield Park to commemorate 100 years of the Women's Institute in the Village."

There is still a separate group at Arborfield Green serving the local area.



John Kaiser, Barkham Ward Councillor and an Arborfield Parish Councillor (centre) with committee members Pam Stubbs (left) and Mary Lane (right) at the anniversary event

Two yummy treats

This will be the last in our series of recipes from the Arborfield & Newland WI. Sadly, after celebrating their 100th anniversary last year, members decided to suspend the group (see news on previous page). But here are two yummy recipes from those late days of winter and early days of spring



Lavina (Vena) Restall, 90, had the honour of cutting the 100th anniversary WI celebration cake, accompanied by Pam Stubbs

Grandma's Apple Cake

Ingredients

- 225gms self-raising flour
- 1tsp. baking powder
- 225g golden caster sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. almond essence
- 140g butter (melted)
- 400g apples (cooking or eating) peeled and sliced

Method

1. Sieve dry ingredients into a bowl.
2. Beat the eggs and almond essence together, stir together with melted butter into the dry mixture.
3. Spread half the mixture into a greased cake tin.
4. Cover with the apples and the cover these with the rest of the mixture. Sprinkle a little demarara sugar on top.
5. Bake at 150°C for approx. One hour 15 minutes until crusty on top.
6. Can be served warm or cold.



Lemon Surprise pudding

Ingredients

- 2 oz (57g) butter
- 4 oz (113g) caster sugar
- zest and juice of 2 large lemons
- 2 eggs (separated)
- 2 oz (57g) self-raising flour sieved
- 5 fl oz (142ml) milk

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas 4.
2. Grease a 1 1/2 pt (850ml) deep baking dish.
3. Beat the butter, sugar and lemon zest together until well softened (it won't be light and fluffy because of the amount of butter).
4. Beat in the egg yolks: a little at a time.
5. Fold in the flour, alternately with the milk and lemon juice.
6. Whisk the egg whites and fold them into the mixture (the mixture will look curdled at this point).
7. Pour the mixture into the baking dish.
8. Bake for 40 – 45 minutes.

NEWS



New Activity Centre underway at Dinton Pastures

Dinton Pastures Country Park, just over the A329 at Winersh, is a favourite spot for walking and leisure for many Barkham residents. In fact it attracted over 20,500 visitors from across the borough last year and there are now plans for a new £1.8m Activity Centre.

The plans were revealed late last year for a two storey building with state-of-the-art facilities, an activity hall, and a coffee shop with a viewing gallery overlooking the lake.

Work is due to start this Spring and the current Dinton Activity Centre will continue to operate as normal whilst the new centre is constructed.



Village INFO

www.barkham-parishcouncil.org.uk has a host of information about police, Drs contacts, etc under local information and directory. A few of the contacts are reproduced here. Let Ellen Tims (Parish Clerk) know if you would like a local organisation, club etc, to be highlighted here in a future issue.

Barkham Parochial Charities

providing help to those in need - Malcolm Clark via Parish Clerk

Barkham Pre School

www.barkhampreschool.net

Barkham St James Church

www.achurchnearyou.com

BVRA residents' association

www.barkham.org.uk

Barkham Village Store

01189 799131. barkhamvillagestore@hotmail.co.uk

1st Wokingham Beaver, Cub and Scout Group

www.firstwokingham.org.uk

The Bull at Barkham

www.thebullbarkham.com

The Coombes CE Primary School.

www.thecoombes.com

Wokingham Job Support Centre

www.wjsc.org.uk

Wokingham Citizens Advice Bureau

www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk

Wokingham Cancer Care Trust

www.wdctt.org

Shine WBC activities for the over 50s

www.wokingham.gov.uk

Reach Wokingham

www.reachwokingham.com



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