

IBSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

You might have thought that with the beautiful weather we've been enjoying recently, winter snow would be far from our minds but the subject of grit bins has been high on the agenda at the July meeting of Ibstone Parish Council. We have decided to purchase one bin (£450) from Bucks County Council to be placed next to the school. If there is a demand for more in other parts of the village we will be happy to look at all requests. Let us know now rather than in November. Please remember that the grit is intended for public paths and roads and not our private drives. Any volunteers spreading grit from the school bin or the existing bin in Grays Lane will be covered by BCC insurance as long as they have used it 'competently'. Obviously incompetent grit spreaders need not apply!

Some markings have appeared on the road opposite Crown Cottage. BCC will be digging a ditch there to stop water draining from the road into the Twigsides fields. This work has been arranged by the Twigsides estate but hopefully it will also benefit the path used by children on their way to school. There have been problems of flooding in bad weather and this drainage work should help to ease that situation.

As you may have already heard, Garsington Opera is moving to the Wormsley estate next year. They will begin setting up in May 2011 and the productions take place from about the 3rd of June to the first few days in July. The new Garsington stage will be placed near the lake and there will be marquees with picnic tables on the edge of the cricket ground. They will be using the car park that is already used for cricket matches and expect just over 300 cars for each production.

A meeting has taken place with the Garsington team and the PC has emphasised that all Garsington literature should advise the use of the A40 and M40 for getting to the site. They have said that they will also advise guests to ignore Satnavs which might direct drivers along narrow and potentially dangerous local roads.

GO is very keen to build links with the village including providing workshops for the local school. They will also be looking for accommodation and in Garsington many villagers have provided 'paying rooms' for production staff for 6 weeks or perhaps for a performer for a couple of nights. They will also be looking for young people to sell programmes and more mature people to act as ushers who can then enjoy the performances. There will be an open invitation for villagers to attend the dress rehearsals free and they are welcome to take picnics and use the picnic tables on site. If you would like to contact GO, the website is www.garsingtonopera.org or phone 01865 368201. There is a possibility that GO will be at Ibstone Village Show but that is still to be confirmed.

Unfortunately we have had some thefts in the village recently so please do be vigilant and close gates and lock sheds etc. NHW has distributed leaflets about forensic solution kits for marking property that are now available for about £20 but has had little response. If enough villagers buy these we can have signs to put up in the village showing the area is covered by this technology. Please help by contacting Councillor Grimsdale through clerk@ibstone.org.uk.

Our next meeting will be held on the 13th of September in the cricket pavilion at 7.30. We hope to see you there.