

IBSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

You might not be aware but Ibstone is home to one of the oldest trees in the country. The yew tree in the churchyard is thought to be more than 1000 years old. A few months ago the bark of the tree was badly damaged by a stag rubbing its head against it. They sometimes do this when their antlers are coming through. The village tree warden is applying for a tree preservation order to protect it and is looking at ways of preventing further damage.

The PC invited Mike Smith, a governor of Ibstone School to talk to the council about the school's planning application for a new school hall. The council had objected to the school's first application because of the precedent that could be set by using agricultural land for building. Mr Smith explained that the outline planning application was for educational purposes only and that the planning application had been withdrawn to deal with the objections raised by the PC and BCC Highways department. The new application will be reviewed by the PC when it is sent out for consultation by Wycombe District Council.

Garsington Opera continues to prepare for its move to the Wormsley estate next year and to build links with the village. They are already talking to the school about programmes they can provide for the children and have come up with an idea for the local adults too.

Their proposal is to invite people to join them for an informal rehearsal session with four opera singers and a vocal coach to form an impromptu choir for the evening that could then potentially sing some of the rehearsed carols in a central venue in the village. If you are interested please let us know through clerk@ibstone.org.uk.

The village enjoyed a soggy but spectacular fireworks display on the Common. Many thanks to Tim Felstead for giving up his time to organise the event and to Ted Howard-Jones for managing the bonfire.

Our next meeting will be held on the 10th of January in the cricket pavilion at 7.30. We hope to see you there and in the meantime, Happy Christmas from Ibstone Parish Council!