Dursley Rugby Club – Tree Planting

Dursley Rugby Club – hedge / tree planting on land behind Village Hall

As you know, the rugby club purchased some land behind the village hall in late 2019 to allow us to improve our training facilities. Since then its development for sporting use has been delayed due to the pandemic, but we are now making progress with some of the things that we communicated with you at that time.

These are the plan to plant trees (that will develop into a hedge system) around part of the perimeter to improve the aesthetics, encourage more biodiversity, and provide greater privacy for neighbours; the plan to place underground the power lines that cross the land to improve the visual outlook, and also to make the area safe for sporting use; and to provide access to our land from the road down the track next to the Village Hall (this to provide access to the field behind Townsend Farm for the owner via our land, and also for us to be able to access our land safely).

We can now update you on these issues as follows:

- **Tree / hedge planting:** a condition of our permission to remove some old and poor quality hedgerows was that these be replaced around part of our perimeter (predominantly nearest the properties in Coombe Gardens and nearby).
  These have been secured from the Woodland Trust and elsewhere according to the correct species mix, and we

expect delivery of them in late February / early March. The intention is to arrange several planting sessions to take place during March – Sunday 20th March is the first planned date – using club members as well as any other volunteers who may be interested. If you or anyone you know would like to take part, please contact us. Any further details including dates will be shared when these are finalised.

- **Power lines:** we have now agreed a plan with Western Power to place the power lines underground, and we hope that the work for this will take place in late spring. This will result in some noise as we dig the trench and they bring machinery in to lay the lines, but we will minimise this as much as possible.
  We will also arrange appropriate signage and safety measures for people using the footpaths that cross the land. We will let you know when we have details on dates and other arrangements.

- **Track:** it was also a condition of our permission that we should provide access to the field behind Townsend Farm via the track to the side of the Village Hall and then around our perimeter to enter that field.
  We also need to be able to provide safe access and exit from our own land for any machinery needed for the above work, and also for any occasional overflow parking (as per our application this is allowed up to 10 times per year, and is part of our plan for managing car parking problems on a Sunday morning). To do this, we will be improving the surface of the track from the main road to behind the Village Hall. This work is planned to commence on Monday 7th February.

If anyone would like any further information on any of the

above items please contact ***Simon Bilous***, former Club Chair, who is now our Land Project Manager.

Regards and best wishes,

Phil Sprague, Club Chair, Dursley Rugby Club



Dursley Rugby Club – Rugby for all.

The Lump

From the Stinchcombe WhatsApp group, an innocuous post:

Whilst digging the small trench for the new planter at the beginning of the Avenue, I struck this lump of metal. It is very heavy metal (not radioactive – at least I hope not…). Trudy is trying to discover what it is, or was. Any guesses? It measures 110 x 80 x 35mm.

So far…

- Early lead weight hand food grinder
- Medieval Shoe horn ?!
- An Iron Man's lost Tooth
- The remnant of a former Stinchcombe sign?
- A lump of iron that you heat and put in a smoothing iron…
- Part of a Lorry coupling?

If you know what it is, or have one just like it, please put it in the comments below.

Time to get walking again!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Gloucestershire ***https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/glos*** has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Gloucestershire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris

Editor's Note: *On John's website, you can find and download all the Stinchcombe walks!*

Rugby Club Parking issues – Jan 2022

Rugby Club parking issues over the last few weekends



Extreme Parking
We had a constructive meeting on Friday 28th January between the ruby club, village hall committee and parish council to discuss the parking issue.

Firstly, Phil Sprague (the new Chair of the club) offered his apologies on behalf of the rugby club for the issues caused by cars parking in the grounds of the village hall, along the grass verges in the village and also down The Avenue, which led to difficulties and inconvenience for many residents over the last few weeks.

There were a number of last minute cancelations and changes to fixtures that had caused the rugby club some unforeseen problems. The rugby club does not charge for any parking (other than at the October minis festivals) and so those parking in the streets were doing so entirely because of the rugby clubs car parking capacity, not to avoid paying.

The rugby club is taking a number of steps to prevent a recurrence both in the short and medium term:

1. The fixtures and playing schedule is being optimised to ensure that parking space is available. Post Covid, the club has seen an increase in cars as people are less willing to share.
2. Communication with visiting teams prior to the day is stressing that parking in the hall carpark or on the avenue/street is not an option.
3. Parking stewards will be on hand to maximise the number of cars in the rugby club car park.
4. Any late cancelations of away fixtures that would put an additional load on parking would be diverted to the Norman Hill grounds.
5. The rugby club will communicate in advance with the residents through the PC website and eNews should there be weekends with potential overload.
6. The rugby club is in negotiation with the village hall for use of village hall facilities.
7. Creation of a temporary overspill carpark, should it be needed. The track to the field behind the village hall will commence on the 7th February and should therefore make this temporary car park available from late

February.

In the medium term:

1. Planning parking for fixtures and in particular the October minis festival.
2. Publishing out the fixture to the village residents (which can also be found at www.dursleyrfc.co.uk) .
3. Further meeting between rugby club, village hall committee and parish council is planned before the October festivals.

If anyone has anything they wish to raise or discuss, feel free to give me a shout

Regards

Simon

Small Beginnings

Saturday 22nd January:

Have you noticed yet that there have been small beginnings to the Open to All project? A tree has been removed outside church, with planning permission, and a piece of furniture moved inside…all very exciting and thank you to the team who have started. A tree will be planted in lieu too after the disability path has been completed.

Fiona, your excited and grateful Vicar.

Timber!!
No, it's not a coffin…!

Clearing the back of the church in preparation for work to commence.

PC 2022 Accounts

PC 2022 Minutes