

Sparsholt Community Newsletter 2024

Village Calendar - at a glance

November

Fri 8	19:00	Shop: Trivia Event	Memorial Hall	Katie Simpson
Sun 10		FOSS: Remembrance Sunday Lunch	The Plough	Mark Himbury
Thu 14	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Mosaic Room Memorial Hall	Nicky Breen
Sun 24	15:00	Music Concert	Memorial Hall	Sparsholt Music
Sun 24	19:30	The Plough Quiz Night	The Plough	The Plough

At the time of writing, tickets are still available for the Remembrance Sunday Lunch.

December

Fri 20	18:30	Sparsholt 100 Club Draw	The Plough	Malcolm Hewson
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Sparsholt Christmas Trees



Order your Nordmann Fir Non-Drop Tree by Wednesday 27th November for delivery on Sunday 8th December.

SPARSHOLT CHRISTMAS TREES 2024

EMAIL
FRIENDSOFSPARSHOLTSCHOOL@GMAIL.COM
FOR AN ORDER FORM.

All money raised will be shared between Sparsholt Village Shop and Sparsholt Primary School.

[See later in the Newsletter for the Order Form](#)



Sparsholt Village Shop Presents

Trivia Night

with dinner

FRIDAY NOV 8
7:00 PM
SPARSHOLT MEMORIAL HALL

TICKETS ON SALE IN THE SHOP.
£15 PER HEAD TO INCLUDE
TWO COURSE DINNER. CASH/CARD BAR.

Hedge Cutting Reminder

Landowners should please make sure that their hedges:

- Don't overhang the highway or footpaths
- Don't obstruct the highway or footpaths
- Don't block the visibility of road signs
- Don't create a hazard with clippings

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on **14th November 2024** at 7.30pm.

Council meetings will take place in the Mosaic Room at the Memorial Hall Sparsholt.

New Parish Councillor

There is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor please contact Sue Wood the Chair of the Council for further information

chair@sparsholtparish.org

Village WhatsApp Group

Sign up if you haven't already joined the group. See last page for details.

Sparsholt Traffic Meeting 29th October - Summary Report

Around 50 residents met in the Memorial Hall for a Residents' meeting to discuss traffic and related concerns/problems/issues, possible solutions and the extent of support for some of these solutions.

John Little chaired and opened the meeting thanking everyone for attending. He said that the meeting would be summarised in the Newsletter (this article) and that contributions from residents would be anonymous so that everyone could make their views known openly at the meeting. However, those parish councillors organising the meeting would be named.

There is funding available for some, if not all, feasible and supported solutions:

- HCC Highways funding was now available for immediate repairs including to the pinch points;
- approximately £25K is available in Parish Council reserves received from the community infrastructure levy on new developments completed in the village. More could be made available given sufficient support from residents.

The parish council group working on traffic issues consists of Sue Wood, Jon Walthoe and David Brown.

David was unable to attend, Sue took notes and Jon led the discussion at the meeting under the following headings.

Sparsholt Traffic - Problems?

Residents expressed road safety concerns across a range of traffic related issues throughout the whole parish.

Having pinch points with priority arrows was mentioned several times as well as having additional pinch points.

Equally, concern was raised that certain improvements could have unintended consequences of increasing traffic volumes or speeds.

All of the issues/solutions raised are summarised in the table at the end of the article.

20mph in the Village

There is a process for implementing changes to speed limits or other road classifications and one of the requirements is for broad support from the residents.

For a 20mph zone there needs to be sufficient frontage and a current average speed less than 26mph

For example: the stretch between Ham Green and The Plough is likely to meet the criteria. Although some residents spoke for the zone to reach Dean Lane this may not have sufficient frontage.

A range of views were expressed both for and against having a 20mph zone. Feedback from the nearby Micheldever pilot were that driver speeds had increased.

On a show of hands a majority (34) were in favour of a 20mph zone Those (5) against tended to oppose on the grounds that reduced speed limits were not expected to be enforceable and yet may prove costly.

30mph in the village

The implementation of 30mph (rather than national speed limit) on approach roads to the village (Watley, Westley and Dean lanes) was discussed and whilst no show of hands was requested residents broadly spoke in favour.

Crab Wood

Concern was expressed about the damage to this SSSI and the need to preserve it.

A range of measures were discussed (summarised below).

Next Steps & Meeting Close

The Parish Council Traffic Working Group will prioritise actions that can make best use of the HCC Highways 'repairs' funding and develop proposals for improvements in line with the contributions at the meeting before arranging further consultations with the residents. If changes to speed limits are proposed a formal and thorough consultation will be required.

John Little closed the meeting just after 9pm and once again thanked everyone for attending.

continued...

Summary of Issues and Measures

The team have done their best to capture everything fairly. If you feel something is missing, please email sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org. The possible measures have been colour-coded to give an indication of what may be involved in agreeing/achieving them. (See next page for Colour-code key.)

Issues	Measures	Engagement
Regular Volume	Movement Strategy	Winchester City Council (WCC)
M3/A34 Peak Volumes	Movement Strategy	WCC
- Sat-nav re-routing when problems on arterial routes	"Access for Residents" or other signage at Sarum cross roads in order to deter "irregular" traffic	Hampshire County Council (HCC)
Speed in Village	Pinch Points – Repair Existing	WCC/HCC
- village centre	White Lines – Repair Existing	
- approach roads	Village Gateways Ham Green / Lainston	HCC
- "triangle" at junction of Watley Lane	White Lines – New (Dean House/Plough)	
	Pinch Points – New (Dean House/Plough)	
	Pinch Points – Implement Priority Direction	Residents Support Needed
	Woodman/Watley Junction – Build Out?	HCC
	20mph – [Ham Green to Plough / Dean Lane]	Residents Support Needed
		HCC
	Signs – Enhance School Sign	HCC
	Repair Verges	Residents Support Needed
	Flowers / Planting	Farmers and Landowners
		HCC
		Village Community
Speed on Woodman Lane	Pinch Points – New	HCC
- narrow stretch near vineyard	White Lines – New (Dean House/Plough/Crab)	HCC
	White Lines – Repair Existing	WCC/HCC
	Repair Verges	HCC
		Village Community
Speed on Road to Crab Wood	30mph	Residents Support Needed
- pedestrians, cyclists, riders	Pinchpoint – New	HCC
	Markings to Protect Walkers and Riders	
	White Lines – New	HCC
	Footpath on Verge	Identify Landowner
Speed on Westley Lane	30mph	Residents Support Needed
- college traffic		HCC
	College Students, Staff, Suppliers, etc	Engage Sparsholt College
Speed on Watley Lane	30mph	Residents Support Needed
- "triangle" at junction of Watley Lane		HCC
Speed on Dean Lane	30mph	Residents Support Needed
		HCC
Size of Traffic	Restore / Upgrade Signs Sarum Cross	HCC
- Damage to verges and trees	Farm Vehicles and Lorries	Farmers
		Landowners
		Southern Water
		Highways Agency
Lack of Enforcement	Community Speedwatch	Village Community
	Other speed scheme	Hampshire Police
		Other Providers [TBC]
Crab Wood Damage	30mph in Crab Wood	HCC
- Damage to verges and trees	Repair Passing Points	Forestry Commission
- SSSI	Fill in Unofficial Passing Points	Natural England
- Safety	No Parking Measures in Passing Points	Land Owners
	Enhance Signage at Sarum Cross	HCC
	Repair Banks	Forestry Commission
	Wooden Barriers to protect banks	Natural England
	One-way	Village Community Initially
	Close to through traffic	
Flooding Dean and Watley Lanes	Reinstate Ponds	Landowners

Colour-Coding Key

Subject to a wider process
Expected to be attainable via HCC Highways funding
Expected to be attainable using SPC funds
Change to Status Quo – Resident Support, Additional Time Needed. Likely to be More Expensive
Principally an Outreach Exercise
Outreach and Village Direct Action
Significant Village Community Support Likely Needed

NB: Colour Coding (for information only -prepared after the meeting - not formally discussed at the meeting)

Road Safety - Pedestrians and the Highway Code

Shortly after the meeting we received an email regarding Road Safety from one of the attendees. This is an extract from that email:

"I walk quite a lot on the roads around the village. It is quite alarming to see the number of people who insist on walking on the wrong side of the road, putting themselves at increased risk from traffic. It is common sense to walk on the right-hand side of the road facing on-coming traffic (if there is no footpath) as one can see approaching traffic well in advance and take whatever precautions are necessary to move to a place of safety, or wave to alert drivers of one's presence, well in advance of the vehicle passing. This is clearly emphasized in the Highway Code, Rules for Pedestrians that makes this very point quite clearly."

Here are the two relevant sections of the Highway Code:

- If there is no pavement, keep to the right-hand side of the road so that you can see oncoming traffic. You should take extra care and
 - be prepared to walk in single file, especially on narrow roads or in poor light
 - keep close to the side of the road.

It may be safer to cross the road well before a sharp right-hand bend so that oncoming traffic has a better chance of seeing you. Cross back after the bend.

- Help other road users to see you. Wear or carry something light-coloured, bright or fluorescent in poor daylight conditions. When it is dark, use reflective materials (e.g. armbands, sashes, waistcoats, jackets, footwear), which can be seen by drivers using headlights up to three times as far away as non-reflective materials. *[Ed - especially with shorter daylight hours and in a village with no streetlights]*

Sparsholt 100 Club

The Sparsholt 100 Club autumn draw was made by Reverend Kevin Rogers at the Harvest Supper held in the Memorial Hall on 12th October.

First prize of £200 was won by Simon Inglis.

Winners of the second prize of £50 each were Rosa Jones, Guy Cameron and Alistair Lang.

The Christmas Draw will be held at the Plough on Friday 20th December 6.30 pm. All welcome.

The 100 Club Committee is also delighted to report that Jeff Steer has kindly agreed to join them and has taken on the role of membership secretary. Jeff has already recruited our 70th member, a Club record!

If you have yet to join the 100 Club please do get in touch with Jeff on 07443 781686 or 01962 863671 or email jeff.steer@btinternet.com

The 100 Club members provide valuable funds to Friends of St Stephen's Church and Sparsholt Parochial Church Council in support of our parish church. The monthly subscription is £10 and will enter you into our quarterly prize draw.

Sparsholt Music

Tickets are now available for the next concert which will be held in the village hall on Sunday 24th November at 3pm. Please see the tickets page of the website for details: www.sparsholtmusic.org. Or you can purchase tickets from the village shop. Deadline for ticket purchase is Friday 22nd November - no tickets on the door. The price is £10 and includes tea and a slice of cake.

We look forward to seeing you there for what should be an enjoyable and varied musical afternoon including classical and music theatre styles and a chance for the audience to sing.

The first concert in 2025 will be on Sunday 18th May.

Sparsholt Christmas Market

SPARSHOLT CHRISTMAS MARKET

Sunday 8th December 2024

10am - 2pm

Christmas markets, festive eats and drinks,
one of a kind gifting and more



Christmas tree delivery the same morning

Winchester City Council - Newsletter

<https://mailchi.mp/winchester/your-council-news-8-march-15071252?e=7f3e66cc0e>

Littleton and Harestock Gardeners' Club

The secrets of the stunning Winchester Cathedral Flower Festival will be revealed to local gardeners on November 20.

Littleton and Harestock Gardeners' Club invited award-winning florist Pip Bensley to give a talk at the November 20 meeting in Littleton Memorial Hall.

Pip's expertise has taken her all over the world, but she will be focusing on her work as creative director for Winchester Cathedral during her talk.

Next year there's an exciting programme of talks starting with advice on Creating a Winter Garden.

Anyone interested in going to a gardening meeting and finding out what it's all about will be warmly welcomed. It costs £5 on the door and club hosts will introduce newcomers to other members. Meetings start at 7.30pm and generally last a couple of hours.

The gardening club – which is actively seeking new members – has its annual Christmas party on December 11. It's another chance for members to exchange ideas and meet friends. And a fun Quiz is also on the agenda.

HAMPSHIRE MEDICAL FUND CHRISTMAS FAIR

14th – 15th November
Black Chalk Winery, Nr Stockbridge,
SP11 7JX

Come and enjoy two days of festive shopping at the Hampshire Medical Fund Christmas Fair on 14th - 15th November at Black Chalk Winery!

Browse a fantastic variety of stalls offering gifts for everyone on your Christmas list, whatever their age, ranging from home and garden finds to gadgets, toys, pampering treats, clothing, jewellery, art, quirky treasures, and accessories. There is also a delicious on-site cafe, so you can shop and eat with friends!

Visit <https://www.hampshiremedicalfund.org/> for tickets and further information..

The Women's Land Army in Hampshire



John Lander's latest book, "Don't Delay - Enrol Today" The Women's Land Army in Hampshire has just been published by The History Press.

John knows of many current Hampshire residents, including some in Sparsholt, with ancestors who were "land girls" in the 2nd World War and who may be interested in buying a copy of the book.

It has been claimed that Hampshire recruited, trained, and placed more land girls on the county's farms than any other English county.

The book charts the history of the Women's Land Army in both twentieth century world wars, and copies can be obtained from John at jandplander@btinternet.com.

Crawley Charity Gift Fair

CHARITY GIFT FAIR 2024



Sat 16 November, 10.30 –16.30

Crawley Village Hall, SO21 2PR

Admission £1.00 (per adult)

Come along and find

Wood turning Ceramics Willow basketware
 Knitted accessories Stained & fused glass
 Lampshades & cushions Greetings cards
 Home textiles Mosaics gifts Jewellery
 Contemporary art Home produce Hamper raffle

Tea, coffee and homemade cake available all day!

Light lunches served 12.00–2.00pm

All in aid of a range of charities and good causes

For full details, visit [Facebook.com/CrawleyCharityGiftFair](https://www.facebook.com/CrawleyCharityGiftFair)



Hampshire County Councillor Report

Hampshire County Council has formally responded to the government's proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. These changes could significantly increase the number of homes we need to provide locally, and we've raised several key concerns:

- **Infrastructure Matters:** It's crucial that any plans for new homes come with the necessary infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, GP surgeries, and pharmacies.
- **Housing Targets:** We believe the new housing targets for Hampshire are overly ambitious, with the proposed increase from 5,884 to 10,071 dwellings per year feeling excessive.
- **Environmental Constraints:** A significant portion of our county—45%—is covered by national parks and other environmental sensitive area, which limits land for housing delivery.
- **Sustainable Transport:** We welcome the shift towards active travel and sustainable transport planning.
- **Health and Well-being:** We're advocating for a stronger connection between climate change adaptation, health, and mental well-being, alongside addressing air pollution as a public health issue.
- **Climate Change Policies:** We support strengthened climate change policies and believe strategic planning is essential for managing its impacts.

Protecting Your Services

This month, Hampshire County Council's Cabinet made some important decisions aimed at reducing costs while keeping essential services intact. Many residents participated in our consultation on proposed savings, and I'm pleased to share that:

- **School crossing patrols** will remain in place.
- We will **not** be closing our **Waste Recycling Centres** or ending early contracts for **homelessness** grants.
- We will conduct a detailed review of Community Transport options

County Council Leader, Cllr Nick Adams-King, reassured us that we will continue to provide high-quality core services, including those for schools, children's and adult social care services. You can read more at

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20241410FutureServicesfinaldecisions>

Hampshire Pantry Update

On a lighter note, I want to highlight the Hampshire Pantry café and shop at Bushfield Farm, which has had its first summer season. The café and shop are looking good, and I encourage you to check out their opening hours and offerings at

<https://www.hampshirepantry.com/>

We also very lucky to have the excellent local Hiltonbury Jersey farm shop just off the Otterbourne Road in Compton offering a some wonderful products from their Jersey herd.

Flooding: Community Toolkit

As many of you know, the past year has brought record storms and significant flooding across our communities. To help everyone prepare for potential flooding, our Flood and Water Management team has created a **Community Toolkit**. This resource is designed to help individuals and communities understand and manage their flood risk. The toolkit will be regularly updated, and you can find more information at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/managing-risk>

Thank you for staying engaged and informed about these issues. If you have any questions or feedback, please do get in touch with me.

M3 Junction 9

The Highways Agency have started preparatory work around Junction 9 of the M3 at Winnall. You may notice several offsite areas that are being used for storage of construction materials and plant. The main work programme should start in early 2025 and take around two years to complete.

Cllr Jan Warwick

Deputy Leader, Hampshire County Council

jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk

Police and Crime Commissioner



The Commissioner's new Police and Crime Plan 2024–2028

The Commissioner's new Police and Crime Plan 2024–2028 was formally approved by the Police and Crime Panel on 18th October and has officially launched today.

Titled 'More Police, Safer Streets 2', this plan builds on achievements from her first term with a focused strategy to address the crimes and issues most important to the public.

The Commissioner's priorities for the next four years are based on feedback from an extensive public consultation, with over 10,300 residents contributing their views to help shape policing in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Key areas include increasing police visibility and engagement, tackling business and retail crime, addressing rural crime, targeting serious violence and its root causes, improving road safety, and reducing anti-social behaviour.

You can read or download the Police and Crime Plan More Police, Safer Streets 2 at <http://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/commissioner/police-crime-plan>.

Printed copies are also available on request by emailing opcc@hampshire.police.uk, calling 01962 871595, or writing to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, The Long Barn, Dean Estate, Wickham Road, Fareham, PO17 5BN.

Monthly report:

<https://mailchi.mp/hampshire/ask-a-question-iulys-news-donna-jones-17722718?e=9c332550fa>

M3 Junction 9 Improvements Start

M3 junction 9 improvements – early works

We're planning to start our early works which will allow us to start main construction next year. The works will commence on Friday 11 October 2024, and will include:

Compound construction and vegetation management

We'll be carrying out necessary vegetation clearance to prepare for the site compound. We'll do this carefully, with thorough checks to protect wildlife. In some areas we'll plant new vegetation to support habitats for species like dormice. For the site compound, we'll begin installing services, foundations, and parking for offices and welfare facilities. The site entrance on the A272 Spitfire Link will also be improved for safer access. Most work will take place during daytime hours on weekdays, away from roads. Occasional night work will require lane closures, we'll issue advance signage with more information.

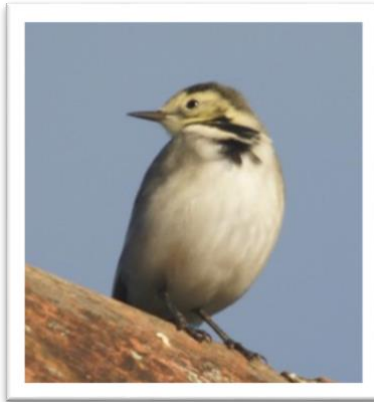
Archaeological surveys

From mid-October 2024, we'll be undertaking archaeological investigations in the areas being used for the site compound. This will involve some stripping and replacing of the top layers of soil to allow mapping. All work will take place during daytime hours on weekdays away from the road. Please note, the Transport Secretary has commissioned a review of the Department for Transport's spending portfolio, including current and future road schemes. While the review is ongoing, we're continuing with the preparatory works and remain committed to the project.

Update Information







Please do visit our website: <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/south-east/m3-junction-9-improvements/#panel-id-2c03bbe5-ecc5-424c-aab9-6a461c0a357d> for more information.

Around Sparsholt



photos: Howard Annesley

St Stephen's Church

Date	St. Stephen's Church, Sparsholt	
3 rd November	6pm – All Saints	
10 th November		10.55am – Remembrance Service, starting at the War Memorial
17 th November	8am – Holy Communion (BCP)	
24 th November	10am - Morning Worship	
8 th December		6pm – Candlelit Carol Service
15 th December	8am – Holy Communion (BCP)	
22 nd December		10am - Christmastide Prayers and Readings
24 th December		4pm – Crib Service
24 th December		11.30pm – Midnight Mass
25 th December		10am – Christmas Day Family Service
29 th December	10am - Sung BCP Eucharist for Patronal Festival	
19 th January	8am – Holy Communion (BCP)	
26 th January	10am - Morning Worship	

Christmas with Southern Voices

Two Sparsholt residents and a regular pianist in the Sparsholt Music concerts sing with this choir - please do join us for a magical Christmassy evening of carols. It is always a sell-out occasion.....

Bringing their ruby anniversary season to a close on Saturday 21st December in the Chapel of St Cross, Winchester at 7.30pm, **SOUTHERN VOICES** look forward to celebrating in style with their traditional, festive feast of Christmas carols.



To make it really special, this year they are thrilled to welcome former royal harpist [Alis Huws](#) who had the honour of playing at the Coronation. She will accompany them in **Benjamin Britten's** iconic *A Ceremony of Carols*. This will be a real treat and the perfect way to round off a superb year of music-making for the choir. Booking is essential and tickets are now on sale.

Tickets: £19 (Age 21 & under, £10)

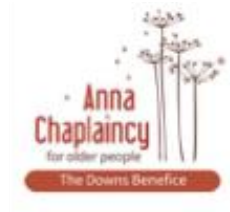
from: southernvoices.co.uk/christmas or telephone 0333 666 3366 (booking fees apply). There will be a retiring collection in aid of the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.

Anna Chaplain - Job Advertisement

St Catherine's Church, Littleton, Winchester

Anna Chaplain

(P/T 16 hours per week, 3 years fixed term)



St Catherine's Church serves a semi-rural population on the edge of Winchester. An important part of that service is our ministry to the older members of our community and their families and carers, including those living and working in the nursing homes situated within the parish. Seeking to develop this ministry further, we appointed our first Anna Chaplain in 2022. The position is now vacant and we are now looking to the appointment of a new part-time, paid Anna Chaplain.

The Anna Chaplaincy is a pioneering role offering spiritual support to older people and their relatives and carers. It supports the wellbeing of people of all faiths or none, and encompasses a wider role within the community as an advocate and champion of the contribution older people make to society. At the same time, it encourages the wider church to celebrate and cherish older members of the congregation, as well as other members of the community.

The successful candidate will work in collaboration with the Rector and Ministry Team as well as the network of Parish Visitors for the parish and the wider Downs Benefice. He or she will also be part of the growing Anna Chaplaincy network, part of The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF).

It is an occupational requirement for the person appointed to be a professing and practising Christian (Equality Act 2010).

For an application pack please contact: office@downsbenefice.org.uk

To apply, please submit cv and covering letter. Closing date for applications: 18th November 2024

Interviews to be held on: Wednesday 4th December 2024

St Catherine's Church, Littleton is affiliated to Anna Chaplaincy. The **Anna Chaplaincy**[®] name and logo are registered trademarks of Bible Reading Fellowship, a charity (233280) and company limited by guarantee (301324), registered in England and Wales.

The Plough Festive Menu



FESTIVE MENU

STARTERS

Roasted Butternut Squash & Red Pepper Soup - vg/gf*
with crusty bread

Breaded Baby Camembert - v
with cranberry puree

Crab & Smoked Salmon Parfait - gf*
with dill mayo & crackers

Smoked Duck Breast - gf/df
with a blackberry & orange salad

MAIN DISHES

Turkey Paupiette - gf*
stuffed & wrapped in bacon

Roasted Hake Fillet - gf*
creamed sprouts, bacon lardons & chestnut white wine sauce

Venison Fillet - gf*
maple roasted heritage carrots & port jus

Wild Mushroom Wellington - vg
sweet potato, spinach & cranberry

All served with garlic & thyme roasted potatoes, button sprouts,
maple roasted parsnips & carrots

DESSERTS

Spiced Sticky Toffee Pudding - v
toffee sauce & ice cream

Lemon Posset - v/gf*
blackberry compote & shortbread

Praline Chocolate Brownie - vg/gf
vanilla ice cream

Cheddar cheese board - v/gf*
local cheddar with grapes, chutney & crackers

2 COURSES £31.95 / 3 COURSES £34.95

A discretionary 10% Service Charge is added to all bills.

Most of our dishes are adaptable, so please do talk to your server about any allergies, intolerances or dietary requirements before placing your order.

gf - gluten free / df - dairy free / vg - vegan / v - vegetarian.

If there is an * above the gf/df/vg/v it means it can be made to be gluten free etc, but isn't as standard.



KIDS FESTIVE MENU

STARTERS

Garlic Bread - v

Soup of the day - v/gf*

Hummus & crudites - v/gf*

MAIN DISHES

Roast Turkey - gf

Cheeseburger, chips & slaw - df/gf*

Pork or vegan sausages, chips & peas - vg*

DESSERTS

Judes ice cream

Vanilla, strawberry & chocolate - v/gf

Chocolate brownie - v/gf

salted caramel ice cream

Churros - v

cinnamon sugar, chocolate & toffee sauces

2 COURSES £13.00 / 3 COURSES £16.00

A discretionary 10% Service Charge is added to all bills.

Most of our dishes are adaptable, so please do talk to your server about any allergies, intolerances or dietary requirements before placing your order.

gf - gluten free / **df** - dairy free / **vg** - vegan / **v** - vegetarian.

If there is an * above the **gf/df/vg/v** it means it can be made to be gluten free etc, but isn't as standard.

Lainston House



Hot off the press, and after an exceptional summer of business and activities including Season Cookery Schools, live music, weddings, BBQ Masterclasses with Big Green Egg, we are very excited to announce the re-launch of **The Avenue** restaurant at Lainston House.

Just a year on from winning BBC's MasterChef: The Professionals 2023, we're delighted to share the news that Tom Hamblet is the new permanent Head Chef at The Avenue restaurant, within the Lainston House estate.

We're currently giving the restaurant a fresh makeover, whilst Tom and the team are finessing all the details of the menu, service, wine lists and staff preparation, ready for the relaunch on 27th November. We apologise for any inconvenience to any guests coming in the next few weeks, but promise it will all be worth it.

The tantalising tasting menu offers a fresh take on flavour, which you can enjoy in the new look restaurant or private dining room, or to see Tom and the team in action, our Chef's Table seats up to six, overlooking our kitchens.

Working closely with Exec Chef Phil Yeomans and his team, many of whom have been at Lainston for many years, Tom's menu will be celebrating seasonality with the finest quality produce, much of which is British, and even as local as our very own kitchen garden. Guests will be taken on a flavour exploration through a multiple-course tasting menu featuring snacks, starters, mains, desserts and even some extras if you can squeeze them in.

In the meantime, guests and visitors can dine in our fabulous restaurant fuelled by fire, The Wellhouse. If you haven't tried the Sunday lunch yet please consider giving us a try. The team are looking forward to welcoming you.

Bookings for the Avenue can be made through our new exciting website – in which we are very proud to show off the glorious look and feel of this fabulous estate.

<https://www.exclusive.co.uk/lainston-house/>

Looking a little further ahead, we are taking bookings for **New Year's Eve** where we are looking forward to celebrating in style and would love for you to join us.

We are offering 1-night packages to guests which include a decadent cream tea in the afternoon of the 31st, followed by an incredible dining experience. For the main event, enjoy a champagne reception and delicious six-course dining experience in The Avenue, before making your way over to the Drawing room to dance the night away to our DJ and toasting to 2025.

We fully appreciate that staying over at a hotel located so close to home may not be top of the agenda, but we hear so many residents of the local area tell us that they haven't visited for a long time and really want to try something new. Perhaps this is the chance. We welcome the opportunity to meet you and your families and showcase all the amazing development that has happened on the estate in recent years.

<https://www.exclusive.co.uk/lainston-house/festive/>

Thank you once again to everyone from Sparsholt who has visited us this summer, we really appreciate your support and we look forward to continuing to be an active member of the local community.

Yours in hospitality

Steve Lewis

General Manager



SPARSHOLT CHRISTMAS TREE ORDER FORM 2024

Now in our 12th year, Sparsholt Village Shop and Sparsholt Primary School have teamed up with our reputable Christmas tree supplier to provide beautiful **Nordmann Fir non drop trees** at a reasonable price. The quality of the trees is excellent – if you want to know more, please ask around – we have provided hundreds of trees to the village and school over the last eleven years.

This year the trees will be available for collection outside the Village Hall on **Sunday 8th December**. Time to be confirmed (by WhatsApp the day before). Simply fill in the form below and give it back to the shop or school office with either cash, a cheque (made out to FOSS) or bank transfer by **Wednesday 27th November**. Please use your surname as reference and email friendsofsparsholtschool@gmail.com when done so we can trace it.

All money raised will go to the school and the shop.

Name: _____

Telephone Number (Mobile & Home if poss) _____

Email address: _____

Premium grade Nordmann Fir (non drop)	Price per tree	Quantity required	Total amount (£)
3 – 4 ft	£30		
4 – 5 ft	£34		
5 – 6 ft	£41		
6 - 7 ft	£51		
7 – 8 ft	£60		
TOTAL			

FOSS Bank Details: Account name: Friends of Sparsholt Sch Bank: Santander
 Sort code: 090153 Account no: 35353282

SPARSHOLT COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Parish Councillors

Sue Wood	Chair & Transport & Highways	chair@sparsholtparish.org transport@sparsholtparish.org highways@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776255
Mark Himbury	Memorial Hall	memorialhall@sparsholtparish.org	07956 371433
John Cooper	Footpaths & Ham Green	footpaths@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776753
John Little	Deputy Chair & Communications	deputy@sparsholtparish.org communications@sparsholtparish.org	07887 540218
Nigel Reid	Sparsholt Shop	shop@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776244
Jonathan Walthoe	Security	security@sparsholtparish.org	07752 390536
David Brown	Playground	playground@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776182
Sam Culhane		councillor2@sparsholtparish.org	07957 804618
Nicola Breen	Clerk	clerk@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776909 07714614662

Please note there is a vacancy for a councillor please contact Chair or Clerk for further information.

City Councillors

Caroline Horrill	CHorrill@winchester.gov.uk	01962 776844
Stephen Godfrey	sgodfrey@winchester.gov.uk	01962 884477
Patrick Cunningham	pcunningham@winchester.gov.uk	01962 883887

County Councillor

Jan Warwick	jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk	07717104236
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Member of Parliament

Danny Chambers	danny.chambers.mp@parliament.uk	01962 868586
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WHATSAPP: SUPPORT GROUP VOLUNTEERS

To join the Sparsholt Parish WhatsApp group please contact communications@sparsholtparish.org

Please provide your mobile number to be added to the group.

Police Contacts

PCSO 15075 Michelle Wilkinson – 07901102292

PCSO 13466 Kerry Croutear – 07976962677

PC 28364 Victoria McCallum – 07795454351

The Winchester Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team email address is winchester.rural.police@hampshire.police.uk

WEBSITES

Sparsholt Parish: <http://www.sparsholtparish.org/>

Sparsholt Shop: http://www.sparsholtparish.org/Our_Shop

Downs Benefice: <http://www.downsbenefice.org/>

VILLAGE CALENDAR

The Calendar can be viewed at:

<http://www.sparsholtparish.org/Calendar>

Please send updates to:

sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org

Ham Green Conservation Group

Malcolm Hewson malcolmhewson@btinternet.com

Sparsholt Oil Syndicate

John Wesley johnr.wesley@btinternet.com

Neighbourhood Watch

Sparsholt Neighbourhood Watch coordinator is Jonathan Walthoe. Please contact: security@sparsholtparish.org

Aluminium Recycling Bin

Bin is located by the side of the shop behind the phone box.

Note:

Only Aluminium (no tin or plastic) and please crush cans.

New to Sparsholt or if you have a New Neighbour

If you are new to Sparsholt or have a new neighbour, please let Sally Wesley know so that a Sparsholt Welcome booklet can be delivered sally.wesley@btinternet.com

Copy Deadline next Edition

This is your newsletter so please contribute items of interest, news of events, offers to help and/or photographs. The deadline for the next edition is **24th January 2025** please submit all items to sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org