

Green light for eco-classroom

Planners approve £500,000 building at Lowbrook

A UNIQUE project to build an eco-classroom at a school in Cox Green has been given the green light by the Royal Borough.

Councillors on the Maidenhead development control panel unanimously approved the development at Lowbrook Primary School, in The Fairway, at a meeting in the town hall on Wednesday last week.

The £500,000 building is set to transform the site, with the new facility to be used to provide space for a new class at the school next year and to house a Royal Borough Extended Services department.

It will feature a unique environmentally-friendly roof made from grass and wood and a wall that can be opened out so children can be taught outdoors. The building will be split into two sections and insulated through natural light and resources.

Work will start on the eco-classroom in February next year and the school hopes to have it finished by May.



ECO-STUDYING: An artist's impression of how Lowbrook Primary School's new eco-classroom, complete with a grass and wood roof, will look.

Headteacher Dave Rooney welcomed the borough's decision to approve the application.

"We are absolutely delighted that it has been accepted," he said.

"It is hugely exciting for the staff and pupils at the school.

"It will enhance our facilities and give us the space we so need.

"The fact that it is something different is superb.

"We are all excited about the future for the school."

The project is being jointly funded by the school and the Royal Borough. They will each put up half of the cost.

Gates can go up

CONTROVERSIAL plans to build gates, pillars and walls at a house in Shurlock Row were given the go-ahead at the planning meeting in the town hall.

Last Wednesday, councillors on the Maidenhead development control panel rubber-stamped the application for the property in Martins Lane, despite strong opposition from villagers and members of Waltham St Lawrence parish council and borough councillor Maureen Hunt (Con, Walthams ward).

Cabby takes over the parish paths

A TAXI driver with a passion for horse-riding is the new parish councillor in Waltham St Lawrence.

Mother-of-two Sandy Quinn, 54, of Milley Bridge, takes over from Cllr Nicola Cassar, who left for personal reasons.

Cllr Quinn, who has lived in the village for nine years, will have responsibility for the parish's bridleways and footpaths.

"I love the village and it will be nice to join in and do my bit for the community in different ways," she said.

"I am in the village a



Cllr Sandy Quinn

lot and know many people. I am very passionate about the environment and the countryside, which is all very important here.

"I want to do all I can for people in this lovely community."

When she is not riding horses, Sandy loves her half-pint of beer in the Bell pub.

Dumping 'is not civil'

AN online petition organised by Waltham St Lawrence councillor Simon Shaw is calling for a change in the law on illegal dumping on greenbelt land.

So far, more than 50 people have signed the petition, which finishes today (Thursday).

"The petition states that dumping in the greenbelt should be a criminal offence and not a civil issue," said Cllr Shaw.

To sign, visit <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/Illegal-Dumping>



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Bonfire do is a sparkler

THE annual Wessex fireworks bash on Friday, November 7, has been hailed by the organisers as the best-ever.

Pyrotechnics lit up the sky high above Wessex Primary School in St Adrian's Close, with rockets soaring into the sky at breakneck speeds throughout the evening.

A record crowd of more than 1,000 people turned up to the sixth fireworks event at the school, which raised £3,140 for the PTA fund.

Organisers said they had their biggest crowd ever at the display, which featured an extensive firework display, the Green School Band, a fairground, floodlit bouncy castle, go-karting and a pipe organ.

School governor Clive Haines said: "We had record-breaking numbers and the amount we raised was the highest ever.

"It was an amazing success again, a great community event.

"The weather was great, and what we do with the money will be discussed at the next PTA meeting."

■ FIREWORK FRENZY: A colourful display of fireworks was on show at the event. Pictures courtesy of Wessex Primary School PTA



Diary

TODAY (Thursday): Woodlands Park Village Centre: Pilates for Beginners, 9.30-10.30am; SMILE, 1-2.30pm; Age Concern, Lunch and Chat, 10am-2pm. Cox Green Community Centre: FLAP after-school club, 3-6pm. Weight Watchers, Lowbrook Primary School, The Fairway, Cox Green, 7pm.
Tomorrow (Friday): Woodlands Park Village Centre: SMILE, 10am. Cash Bingo, 7.30pm. Cox Green Community Centre: Jo Jingles, 10-11am; Judo, 6.30-7.30pm.
Saturday: Woodlands Park Village Centre: Weight Watchers, 8.45-9.45am. Shottesbrooke & St Mary's Christmas Bazaar, noon-3pm.
Sunday: Cox Green Community Centre, church service 10-11am. Maidenhead Deaf Church, 3pm.

Woodlands Park Village Centre: Karate, 10.30am-12.30pm; Kick Boxing, 3-4pm.
Monday: Woodlands Park Village Centre: Mobile Library, 10am-1pm and 2-5pm; SMILE, 1-3pm; Weight Loss Challenge, 7-8pm.
Tuesday: Cox Green Community Centre: Luncheon Club 1-2.30pm; Get Together Club, 2.30-4.30pm. Woodlands Park Village Centre: Louise's Aerobics, 9.30-10.30am.
Wednesday: Baby and Toddler group, Cox Green Community Centre, 1.30-3pm. Cox Green Girl Guides, Woodlands Park Village Centre, 7-9pm. Holly Cottage Bridge Club, White Waltham Village Hall, 7.30pm. 46th Ever Welcome Club AGM, The Royal British Legion, Sawyers Crescent, 2-4pm.

Charity gig

A CHARITY concert at the 900-year-old parish church in Waltham St Lawrence on Saturday will raise funds for its choir, and other causes. Tickets are available from Jim Humphreys on 01189 342747.

Scout fair

A CHRISTMAS Fair will be held at the 21st Maidenhead's troop's scout hut in Cox Green Road, on Sunday November 30, from 2-4pm. Stalls, entertainment and Santa will be there.

"My wife went out for eyeliner. She came back with the Eiffel Tower."

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