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Chalfont St Peter Village Voice – March 2012

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www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice



CHALFONT ST PETER Community Library is gradually developing its new identity and the volunteers are being trained to be able to provide the excellent service that we received from those who ran it in the past. There will be some reorganisation, but all the usual provision will be there, as well as maybe some community based activities that will use the space fully. It's early days, but there's a lot of enthusiasm and goodwill already being put in by the volunteers. Opening times are: Tuesday 10-5, Wednesday 1-5, Friday 10-7 and Saturday 10-1. Do please support this valuable resource.

FREE Film Night: The Crisis of Civilisation (77 mins) Friday 9th March 8pm in the Parish Church Hall, Church Lane, Chalfont St Peter

This powerful documentary investigates how the global crises of ecological disaster, financial meltdown, terrorism and food shortages are converging symptoms of a single, failed global system. Incorporating an imaginative montage of archive footage, newsreel and animation it offers us a stunning wake-up call as well as a manifesto for constructive social change. Free admission. Wine, coffee, tea, savouries and home-made cake are served.

Change4Chalfont is a group of local residents who aim to work with our community by helping to reduce our impact on climate change and our dependence on fossil fuels. For more information about us and our events visit www.change4chalfont.org.uk

NEARLY NEW SALE- Top quality baby and children's clothes and equipment at bargain prices.

Saturday 10th March 1.15 - 2.30pm. (1pm for NCT members with an NCT membership card.

Curzon Centre Beaconsfield. Admission £1 in aid of NCT Charity.

Help on the day and shop first at the sale! Items to sell? Email: seller.nctbeaconsfield@gmail.com

Want to help? Email: helpers.nctbeaconsfield@gmail.com www.nct.org.uk/nns

AN HS2 display is available at a temporary 'cafe' by the pedestrian crossing in Sycamore Road, Amersham on the Hill, opposite W H Smith. Not only can you see large updated maps of planned routes that have been changed, but also lots of information about HS2 and people who will talk you through what is now on the agenda. Also information about the possibility of it going to Heathrow.

It is open Monday to Saturday from 10am-4pm and there are refreshments available as well.

The HS2 Action Group is also busy fund-raising to pay the cost of legal representation to fight against this going ahead.

There is more information on what is taking place at Drake Hall, Amersham Community Centre, Chiltern Avenue HP4

6AH on Sunday 18th March at 7.30pm. There is also a Murder Mystery evening - £25 for a three course dinner.

It is worth looking at the website hs2amersham.org.uk to get all the latest information and how to book for the murder mystery evening.

CHALFONT ST PETER W.I. meets for the Spring Group Meeting in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre on **Tuesday, March 13, at 2pm.** The Regular monthly meeting is on **Wednesday March 14,** in the Church Hall at 2pm, when Mrs Ruth Potts will present - Welcome Women Worldwide.

ARE you a mum who wants to have a family-friendly, but fulfilling, job? Do you want a career change but don't know where to start? If so, you can join a 2 hour workshop that is both fun and practical. During this time you will define your career goals, uncover what motivates you at work and identify your core skills. A course takes place on Tuesday 13th March – 9.30-11.30am at the Greyhound Inn, High Street, Chalfont St Peter, SL9 9RA. Cost is £35. Workshop delivered by Fiona Clark and Clair Dent, Qualified Career Coaches. Limited places available so don't leave it until the last minute to book your place. More information from 07789 597209 or email Fiona@inspiredmums.co.uk.

VILLAGE Older Person's Action group (VOPAG) has been set up as part of Chalfont St Peter Village Appraisal to give the over 55s of Chalfont St Peter the opportunity to meet together and exchange views, news and information. VOPAG meets once a month and speakers talk on various topics of interest. There is also an information point in Budgens, the dates of which are displayed on their notice board. The next meeting is on **Tuesday, March 13**, at 10am for coffee and the meeting begins at 10.30, in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. Further information from 01753 884729

BETTER Healthcare in Bucks. The NHS in Bucks is proud of its services and wants to continue to change and develop them in a way that delivers safe, high quality care and meets the needs of patients. They are doing this through the "Better Healthcare in Bucks" programme and have some proposals they want to discuss with patients and the public. From now until 16th April 2012, they are running a consultation programme to give you a chance to hear these proposals and to give feedback. The number to phone is 01494 552256 to obtain literature on the subject.

CHALFONT COMMON WI's preparations for the **ATTIC SALE on 17th March, 9.30-noon, in the CSP Community Centre**, are in full swing so do go along and peruse the many stalls and have cup of coffee and piece of cake. There will be something for everyone including children and book lovers. All the tables have been booked so there will be a great variety of stalls in the main hall. 7th March at CSP Community Centre, 9.30-12 noon.

The February meeting was very well attended including a couple of new members, despite the very cold weather. After the business of the evening they had delicious home-made refreshments. The bring-and-buy and book stalls were very busy and there was plenty of chatter around the notice board with people signing up for future outings. Jane Dunsterville turned up for her talk in the full dress of a working person of the Industrial Revolution. She had made it all herself and gave a delightful talk interspersed with well-known songs that were relevant to that period of time. It was very interesting as she told about every-day people that history doesn't often record and about and how the merchant classes became the new middle class. She also played an auto harp which was a typical instrument of the time. Only 4 members made it to Denman College on Monday despite the weather and they had a great day. They heard a talk about the college and were shown round the inside – including the bedroom dedicated to Buckinghamshire. They then went into the beautiful grounds and looked at the cottages, the cookery department and lecture and craft theatres. Lots of members visited the snowdrops in West Wycombe last Sunday. The next main outing is a visit to Windsor Castle Kitchens and they are looking forward to a walk in the Chess Valley. The March 1st meeting is about the history of Pinewood in the Tony Graham room at the Community Centre 7.30 for 7.45. Ladies you will be very welcome. For further information call Chris on 01494 872133

ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET last month donated £500 to Thames Hospicecare and £300 each to Catholic Free School for the Chalfonts & Gerrards Cross Appeal and to National Kidney Research Fund. The Market is open behind the Church each Saturday from 9am-12.30. furnituremarket@hotmail.co.uk

THE Chalfonts Friendship Club is for people who are retired/of retirement age to meet to share company. It is focussed on reaching out and promoting companionship and sharing amongst people in our local Community. We get together every month at the Chalfont St Peter Community Association and have regular Outings, Theatre Trips, Sunday Lunches, Quiz Evenings, Talks on Art, Days Out & Visits to Stately Homes & Seaside. All welcome. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please contact Pat Kelly 01753 885534 or Mary Cross on 01494 875264.

THE GERRARDS CROSS Flower Club Meets in the Colston Hall Memorial Centre at 2.15 on March 21, when the speaker will be Charmaine Grace-Woodham , on the subject “ Awash with Vegetables” . Visitors are welcome : entrance £5.00.

CAREERS SPRINGBOARD THE CHILTERN, SOUTH BUCKS & HIGH WYCOMBE SELF HELP GROUP FOR MANAGERS AND PROFESSIONALS SEEKING WORK

Mar 5 Networking in Action - Polishing your telephone networking skills in live practice sessions.

Mar 12 Handling the Interview Itself - Focussing on what happens during the interview & how to handle tough interview questions.

Mar 19 Psychometric Testing - Understanding personality and ability assessments.

Mar 26 Working independently - Exploring a career in interim management or consultancy.

Careers Springboard meetings take place 7.15 for 7.30pm each Monday at St Andrews's United Reformed Church Hall, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross, SL9 7 QE. Free Membership. **New Members Welcomed.**

IN SPITE of only having organised Saturday's Ant-HS2 Piano recital single-handedly in under three weeks, David Meacock is celebrating its success all round. David said afterwards that he sensed that people were really listening as you could have heard a pin drop in the silences, and there has only been positive feedback afterwards. The church looked pretty full, and while it would have been nice to have had even more there, the recital still raised just over £1,300 towards the costs of the Judicial Review, and there has already been interest in the idea of doing other similar fund-raising recitals further up the proposed route. In the meantime, Meacock is preparing for the A40 Choir *Passion Music* Concert, again in St. Mary's Amersham on 10 March.

Passion Music has been inspired by the emotions of the Easter story: the despair and sadness of Christ's crucifixion and the joy and hope of His resurrection.

The choir will be joined by professional soloists Celena Bridge, soprano, and Rupert Reid, bass (photos attached), Malcolm Hicks, who is often seen playing the organ at the *BBC Last Night of the Proms*, as well as David Meacock's wife Kate who will be singing in the choir.

A spokesman for the A40 Choir enthused: "The A40 Choir performed Liszt's nowadays rarely heard dramatic setting of Psalm 13 in the late 90's and we liked it so much then that we asked our conductor David Meacock to programme it again - this time with him singing the tenor solos himself and with the piano accompanied version, which works really well. It will be most interesting to hear Celena and Rupert singing a couple of Fauré's relatively not so well-known songs alongside two of his most popular pieces in the whole of the choral repertoire: his *Requiem* and *Cantique de Jean Racine*; both of which are frequently requested and broadcast on *Classic FM*."

The performance is on **Saturday 10 March at 7:30 in St. Mary's Church, Amersham**. Tickets - Adult £12, Student £6 - are available in advance via 01753 886005 or via www.a40music.com or on the door at Adult £15, Student £7

FORTHCOMING shows at Little Missenden Village Hall, HP7 ORF.

SHERLOCK HOLMES: The Death & Life... Saturday 24th March 8pm

In this wryly humorous tale of murder, mystery and the occult...the World's Greatest Detective refuses to leave the stage! **Tickets are £15 from Hamilton Pike Productions Ltd Hazeldene, Weedon Hill, Hyde Heath, Amersham. HP6 5RN 01494 786220 0777 573 6879**

RIPPING RHYMES: World Premiere Sunday 29th April 3pm & 7pm

Tristram

Blake, itinerant poetry professor from the 'University of Life', calls into Little Missenden on his mission to 'spread the poetry gospel'. He takes us on a thrilling multimedia journey as he brings an epic theatricality to some of our greatest narrative poetry. Michael Elwyn regularly appears on *Poetry Please* and is one of the finest speakers of verse around. In this one-act play, he breathes new life into these old favourites with his evocative story-telling. **Tickets are £12 from Hamilton Pike Productions Ltd Hazeldene, Weedon Hill, Hyde Heath, Amersham. HP6 5RN 01494 786220 0777 573 6879**

GERRARDS CROSS Scottish Country Dancing Club would warmly welcome any newcomers, especially beginners. Classes Tuesdays at 7.30pm at GX Memorial Centre. Keep fit and have fun! For further information please phone GX 884217.

CAMERA enthusiasts may be interested in joining the Chalfonts and Gerrards Cross Camera Club.

<http://www.candgxcameraclub.org.uk/section321554.html> - If so, the person to contact is Dave Trotter Phone: 01628 524332 E-mail: dave-trotter@tiscali.co.uk

Silver Training, a new computer-training venture for the over-50s, is launching in Buckinghamshire A new business aimed at helping the over-50s learn about computers and the Internet is expanding into Buckinghamshire this month after a successful start in other areas. Silver Training offers a unique service by providing 1-to-1 home-based teaching through a network of its professional tutors. The business first launched in Oxfordshire and is already helping people across a number of other counties.

Silver Training can teach an all-round understanding of how to use a computer (both PCs and Apple Macs are catered for), as well as particular topics like using the Internet, research, digital photography, music, shopping, word processing, Skype and more. The service also includes buying advice, installation, WIFI setup and technical issues. As well as 1-to-1 training, the company is also offering "mini-group" lessons, for a maximum of 8 people, in local village halls, churches and retirement homes. Silver Training uses experienced and vetted tutors who are all patient, friendly and capable with the latest trends and computing issues. Even if you have never switched on a computer before or simply have an interest in a particular topic, or a problem you need to solve, this will keep in touch with friends and family, help you to learn new skills, save time and money, and have some fun."

The over-50s are increasingly being left on the wrong side of the digital divide, due to their lack of knowledge on how to use computers. There is almost a whole generation that has missed out on computers and the growth of the Internet, so this training can have a genuine effect on people's lives. It is never too late to start: their oldest client is 93 years old!" **A one-hour lesson costs £30 including travel costs and course material. For more information call 0845 862 0495 or visit www.silvertraining.co.uk**

IT'S MAGIC! You are invited to join members of Oak End Wayfarers and their wives for a special visit to The Magic Circle in London on Tuesday March 20. This follows a very successful visit ten years ago. A coach has been booked to collect from Gerrards Cross to go to the venue in London. The cost is £44 per person (including the cost of the coach). People will be welcomed at the Magic Circle headquarters with either a glass of sherry or soft drink, before watching some close-up magic. A short presentation follows on the history of magic and The Magic Circle. During the Interval a round of sandwiches and coffee will be served, before guests take their seats in the theatre for the show. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 start and the show closes at approx. 10.30, after which the coach returns to GX. Places are limited, but there are a few tickets left. Please telephone 01753 885874.

AMERSHAM Festival Chamber Orchestra, *Conducted by Ian Ledingham*, is celebrating 30 years offspring Concerts, with The Marriage of Figaro by W.A.Mozart. **THURSDAY, 12th and SATURDAY 14th April at 7pm in The Great Hall, Royal Masonic School for Girls, Rickmansworth, WD3 4HF**

For many people the Marriage of Figaro is the greatest and most lovable of all Mozart's operatic masterpieces. Based on Beaumarchais' play *Le Marriage de Figaro* the opera depicts a day in the life of the Count and Countess Almaviva in some of the most memorable and life-enhancing music ever written, with great ensemble scenes and Finales, which never cease to astonish us by their richness and variety. Directed by the hugely talented Katherine Bond who has worked for English Touring Opera, the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester, and at the Royal Opera House, and an outstanding cast of very talented young singers from the Royal Academy of Music join our splendid Amersham Festival Chamber Orchestra.

Tickets: £30 front three rows of Hall and front two rows of balcony, £25 Hall rows 4-8 or Balcony rows 3-5 £20 Back five rows of Hall

Tickets: The Box Office, AFoM, 67 Deanway, Chalfont St Giles, Bucks, HP8 4JX Tel: **01494 874884**

The Record Shop, 5 Woodside Road, Amersham, Bucks. Tel: **01494 433311**

For more information: www.amershamfestival.org

SOUTH BUCKS CHORAL SOCIETY As part of the Amersham Festival presents Elijah by Felix Mendelssohn
Saturday 21st April 7.30 pm The Great Hall, Royal Masonic School for Girls, Rickmansworth
Soprano Fiona Howell Alto Emma Carrington Tenor Trystan Griffiths Bass Alistair Ollerenshaw
Conductor: Iain Ledingham Together with the Amersham Festival Chamber Orchestra
Leader: Charlotte Edwards
Tickets £20 & £16 Available from Steve Wilcock 01494 722122, choir members or Amersham Festival Box Office 01494 874884 Registered Charity No. 287743

VILLAGES and towns across Buckinghamshire are gearing up for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with celebratory beacons, bunting and balloons. Buckinghamshire County Council, which is helping communities with celebration resources, has seen a high demand for its celebration toolkit and around 2,000 hits on its Jubilee website. 53 beacons to mark the celebration have been officially registered. And that only leaves 7 more to make it the full number. Around 30 community Jubilee events have been registered on the County Council's online events calendar. More than 110 parish and town councils have requested discounted bunting at £1 per 10 metres, making sure that the streets are decorated and ready to party, and there has been a total of 27 applications for road closures for street parties. To get involved you can download the celebratory toolkit from:
http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/leisure/street_parties.page
For more information please contact the 2012 Programme Team by emailing buckscc2012@buckscc.gov.uk or by telephoning 0845 3708090.

ARE you between the ages of 30 and 60? Have you never been provided with the chance to learn how to swim? Then these sessions could be for you!!

GLL Nexus have been awarded funding from the ASA Kellogg's Swim Active Fund to provide adult non-swimmers with the opportunity to learn how to swim.

This project will provide 6 weeks of new learn to swim adult taster sessions (particularly for 30-60 year olds) for non-swimming individuals. These sessions will lead into 6 weeks of low cost lessons.

These sessions will be running at a leisure centre near you from the beginning of February:-

Chalfont Leisure Centre, Chalfont St Peter, Nicol Road SL9 9LR

Chesham Leisure Centre, White Hill, Chesham, HP5 1BB;

Chiltern Pools Leisure Centre, Bensheim Way, Chiltern Avenue HP6 5AH

Times are as follows:

Chalfont Leisure Centre: Thursdays 9-9.30am

Chesham Leisure Centre: Monday 12-12.45pm

Chiltern Pools Leisure Centre: Friday 11.30am-12.15pm

These sessions start the w/c the 6th Feb so secure your place now, places are limited!

Please call Natalie Davis for more information on: 01494 732177 or 07787245680 or email ndavis@chiltern.gov.uk

Chiltern District Council, King George V Road, Amersham, Bucks, HP6 5AW www.chilternactive.co.uk

www.nexuscommunity.org

THE Chalfonts Friendship Club's aim is to facilitate the opportunity for people who are retired or of retirement age, whether living on their own or couples, to meet to share company.

It is focussed on reaching out and promoting companionship and sharing amongst people in our local Community. Its Membership is drawn from a wide area encompassing the Chalfonts and extending from Fulmer to Latimer and from Beaconsfield to Denham.

They get together every month over a lunchtime meal on 2nd Wednesday of the month – and we also hold Regular Outings, Theatre Trips, Lunches, Quiz Evenings, Talks on Art, Days Out, Visits to Stately Homes and Seaside.

The C.F.C aims to be self-sufficient and self-reliant through its members and welcomes new members being introduced; are you alone or in need of company or know somebody who is?

If you are interested or know someone who might be, or you would like further details, please contact Mary on 01494 875264 or Pat on 01753 885534.

RESIDENTS' USED COOKING OIL GETS TURNED INTO ELECTRICITY

Buckinghamshire residents have helped to recycle over 28,000 litres of used cooking oil since 2009 at the county's 10 household waste recycling centres, which when converted to electricity is enough to make nearly seven million cups of tea.

Buckinghamshire County Council teamed up with Living Fuels, a renewable energy producer, to install used cooking oil containers at the recycling centres. Living Fuels recycle the collected oil into bio-liquid, which is used to generate green electricity and heat for customers all around the UK.

Throwing used cooking oil down the sink can cause damage to drains and sewers and is a wasted resource. It can also be dangerous to wildlife if oil finds its way into lakes and ponds.

Steven Adams, Cabinet Member for Environment, said: "I would like to thank residents for making use of this service. They have made a very valuable contribution to saving precious resources from going to waste. The more we use these services, the more we can do to improve our environment for future generations."

For more information on how to recycle used cooking oil and many other things, visit our webpage at:

http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/sites/bcc/waste/dispose_or_recycle.page

BOOKLOVERS can escape to another world at home or on their travels with free audio book downloads straight to the PC, mobile phone or MP3 player, from Buckinghamshire libraries.

The service offers users more than 600 unabridged titles to choose from, with new titles added each month. The current list of e-audiobook download titles includes the new 2010 Man Booker Prize for Fiction from Howard Jacobson 'The Finkler Question', Stieg Larsson's 'The Millennium Trilogy', Hilary Mantel's 'Wolf Hall', Sophie Kinsella's 'Twenties Girl', Dan Brown's 'The Lost Symbol', plus many others.

Up to 10 audio books can be downloaded for free at any one time. All residents need is a library card and PIN number. If you do not have a Buckinghamshire library card, it's quick and easy to join. Just pop into your local library or go online at www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries.

To find out more about this new service visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries.

BOOK your Birth and Death Registration Appointments Online

Starting from today (October, 19), people in Buckinghamshire can book their appointments for registering a birth or death online at www.buckscc.gov.uk/registration.

Buckinghamshire Registration Services is introducing the new system, to enable residents to book their appointment at any time by going online at www.buckscc.gov.uk/registration. Bookings can be made at a date, time and location to suit you in, Aylesbury, Wycombe, Amersham and Buckingham.

Anyone interested in the history of Buckinghamshire can also order and pay on-line for copies of certificates, which date as far back to the year 1837.

TRADING Standards' scam emails warning - Incidents of scam emails being sent from hacked email accounts is on the rise, says Buckinghamshire's Trading Standards team, who are reminding members of the public to be aware.

The fake emails, which look like they have been sent from the genuine email address of a friend or a family member, are sent to all addresses in the address book of the hacked email account. The email will usually be titled "I need your help" or "I'm in trouble", and will ask the recipient to send a 'loan' in excess of £1,000. The cause of these types of emails is usually that the sender's email address has been hacked into by a cyber criminal.

Martin Phillips, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, said: "If you receive an email of this nature, we advise you to try to establish if your friend or family member really is in need of help. If it's your email account that has been hacked into in this way, contact your email service provider who will be able to restore your email address for you."

All major web-based email service providers are aware of the problems with account hacking and now offer a system to quickly restore email addresses if they are hacked.

For more help on email scams check with your email service provider or visit the Trading Standards webpage at:

http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/trading_standards/coldcalling/scams_cons.page?

COUNCIL Tax in Chiltern frozen for the second year running

In 2012/13 the Chiltern District Council element of residents' total council tax bill will be £159.50 for an average Band D property – which is the equivalent of just 44 pence per day. This helps pay for a wide range of services including housing support, planning, refuse and recycling services and street cleaning.

Leader of Chiltern District Council, Nick Rose said: "Due to reduced government funding we have a reduction in revenue over the last two years of almost £1.2 million or 30% - a not insignificant figure for a small council to manage. Yet despite this we have been able to avoid cuts to frontline services by focussing on reducing back office costs and streamlining processes, coupled with prudent financial management."

In balancing it's a budget for the 2012/13 financial year, the council has had to offset reductions in income and increases in unavoidable costs plus save almost half a million from its £10.4 million net revenue budget. Over the next four years CDC will need to find in excess of £1 million savings, with over half of this needed in 2013/14.

To ensure we achieve these savings over the next three years the council will:

1. Continue to work with South Bucks District Council to find opportunities for savings by sharing services whilst at the same time protecting and improving service delivery. This will realise shared savings of over £500,000 per annum for the two councils once the new structure is in place in 2015.
2. Award the joint waste contract with Wycombe District Council which will result in estimated savings for Chiltern of £300,000 per year from 2013.
3. Launch its new website which will bring greater take up of services on line, reduce transaction costs and improve service delivery and accessibility for our customers and deliver £50,000 of savings over the next five years.
4. Continue to invest in energy savings measures that will reduce both costs and carbon emissions.

One of the ways in which the council can offset cuts is to increase its income, so some fees and charges for services will increase from 1 April. There will be modest increases in car parking charges in the off-street car parks across the district to help minimise the impact of reduced government funding on key services.

The budget setting process has been long and detailed and included an opportunity for residents to express their views. Although CDC collects the council tax, 90% is passed to Bucks County Council, the Fire and Police Authorities and parish and town councils.

TRANSPORT for Buckinghamshire (TfB) is planning to carry out highway maintenance repairs to the North Orbital Road (A412), Denham, as part of its 'We're Working on It' programme. The work is being done to improve the condition of the road and prolong its life.

Phase Two - is due to start on Thursday 19 April 2012 and should be completed by Saturday 21 April. This work will be carried out during the day between 9:30am to 3:30pm.

All access to properties and businesses will be maintained during the works and every effort will be made to carry out the works with the minimum disturbance. Attempts will also be made to keep noise levels on the site as low as reasonably possible at all times. However, due to the nature of these works, noisy activities may occur at times throughout the period.

TfB apologises for any inconvenience that may be caused. It also seeks your cooperation of road users during the course of the works. The work is highly weather dependent but it is necessary to maintain a safe condition for road users.

Should programming issues result in significant delays in rescheduling this scheme, then a revised notice will be issued. In the event of any query concerning the works, please contact Buckinghamshire County Council's Contact Centre (Tel: 0845 230 2882) or visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport.

STREET Light Energy Saving Trial- Consultation on results from Buckinghamshire County Council's final nine streetlight energy-saving trial sites starts today (Monday, February 20).

A successful three-year street light energy-saving trial took place at 46 locations across Buckinghamshire and finished at the end of last year. The consultation on the proposals for the initial 37 sites came to end on December 11 and decisions are currently being finalised.

The data for the three-year period for the remaining sites is now being analysed and Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) is now seeking final comments on the recommendations for these sites. The trial runs until April 15.

The trial has been successful in saving energy, reducing CO2 emissions, saving money and reducing light pollution.

Peter Hardy, Cabinet Member for Transportation said: "The trial has been carefully monitored and Tfb has considered the data collected and feedback received during the three year trial which has been presented to me. There will now be one final opportunity for the public and interested parties to view the summary information collated for each of these remaining sites prior to a decision being made."

At all trial sites a number of factors were considered when making the recommendations for the permanent solution including:

Collision history

Community safety issues

Accessibility issues

Feedback from the public and other parties during the trial.

THE public consultation will be found at http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/sites/bcc/about_your_council/Have_your_say.page

Leader welcomes government's broadband support

Government funding of £1.96 million to support the development of superfast broadband in the county was welcomed today (Thursday February 16) by Buckinghamshire County Council Leader Martin Tett.

A joint bid for funding, led by Buckinghamshire Business First in strategic partnership with Hertfordshire County Council, was submitted last autumn to the government's Broadband Delivery UK initiative, which is investing £530m nationally.

Martin, announcing the successful bid at a meeting of the county council, said: 'This is fantastic news, and essential for making Buckinghamshire a place to start and grow a business in the 21st century. There's still work to do in getting match-funding, but I hope we'll soon be moving forward to invite bidders to supply what is undoubtedly critical business and social infrastructure for the decade ahead.

'Undoubtedly, this supports our commitment to make the county a great place to do be.

The government's aspiration is for at all parts of the country to have access to 2Mbs speeds and at least 90% of the country to have access to superfast broadband (24Mbs or above).

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protection of front line services, investment in roads and a council tax freeze were supported by Buckinghamshire County Councillors today (Thursday, February 25) when they approved a £327.7 million budget for 2012/13.

PRESENTING the budget to full council, Leader Martin Tett said it was set against a difficult global and national outlook, which meant tough times locally. The budget for the coming year anticipates savings of £21.7 million.

'The way we deliver services has been changing and must continue to change,' he said. 'There will be an increasing need for strong member leadership and clear priorities for the council as a whole.'

Outlining those priorities, Mr Tett said the county council would:

** Protect services to the most vulnerable

** Increase investment in roads

** Make significant capital investment in school buildings and property

** Maintain grant funding for the voluntary sector

** Give a strong focus to encouraging jobs, particularly for young people

'While we will continue to value excellent standards of service for our residents, we are increasingly moving away from direct service delivery ourselves to delivering with and through others,' he said.

The 2012/13 budget of £327.7m was prepared in the light of a 10.4% (£8 million) reduction in core Government funding and accounted for service pressures such as an ageing population, an increasing number of looked after children,

inflationary pressures and increasing landfill tax. It ensures the county council can meet financial challenges ahead, protect grants to the voluntary sector, and continue support for the most vulnerable.

Total Capital investment in 2012/13 will be £106m to spend in areas like improving schools, repairing buildings, and investing in new technology to bring down running costs.

The Capital programme also provides for an additional £5 million investment in road maintenance, the highest priority area identified by residents and businesses. The county's current £30m two-year road programme will be supported by £15m investment in the following two years.

In the coming three years revenue reductions of £42m must be found, on top of the expected £26m saved in 2011/12, said Mr Tett. Of these savings 85% will be service efficiencies rather than cuts, meaning a minimal impact on the level and quality of services provided to residents.

IF YOU enjoy gardening or are looking to refresh your garden this year then the **Newbury All About Gardening Show** might be a great day out for you. The event features lots of show discounted products, thousands of beautiful plants and inspirational ideas.

You are currently able to book 4 tickets for the price of 2 for this event (see simple steps below) for more information on the Newbury All About Gardening Show,

click here http://www.aztecevents.co.uk/allaboutgardeningnewbury_home.htm

If you are not into gardening then perhaps the **All About Dogs Show** will be your preferred choice? Bring your dog to the showground for a great day filled with quality entertainment, 'have a go' fun dog shows and shop from the countries leading 'doggy' exhibitors.

Once again 4 for 2 tickets are available. For more information on the Newbury All About Dogs Show, click here <http://www.allaboutdogsshow.co.uk/Newbury-dog-show-attractions.htm>

We would like to offer you 4 tickets for the price of 2 for either event so your whole family can have a great day out at the showground!

1. Simply visit your preferred website.
2. Add any 4 tickets into your basket.
3. Type 442 in the 'special offer code' box and click apply.
4. And on payment the 2 lowest priced tickets will be FREE!

TRANSPORT for Buckinghamshire will be undertaking highway maintenance works to the carriageway of the A4 Bath Road between Lake End Road and Hitcham Road as part of the 'We're Working on It' programme. This work is being undertaken to improve the condition of the road in order to prolong its life.

The work will involve removing and replacing the existing surfacing to provide a sound surface. This work is expected to start on Wednesday 7th March 2012 and it is anticipated to take 8 weekday nights to complete, subject to disruption due to inclement weather. If the works are delayed, the advance notice signs at either end of the site will be updated to reflect any change in dates. The works are being undertaken overnight due to the volume of traffic using this road during the day.

In order to minimise the impact on residents we will endeavour to keep the noise levels on the site as low as reasonably possible at all times. However, due to the nature of these works, noisy activities may occur at times throughout the period.

This work will be undertaken utilising temporary traffic signals which will be in operation between 19:00 and 06:00 hrs each weekday night. Every effort will be made to maintain access for residents, although there may be some delay as the resurfacing works pass individual properties, and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Further information about this work can be found on Transport for Buckinghamshire's Service Information Centre at <http://www.bucksc.gov.uk/transport> or alternatively you can call Buckinghamshire County Council's Contact Centre on 0845 230 2882 with any queries concerning the works.