

BARNWELL PARISH COUNCIL

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

28 MAY 2022

THE ROYAL VISIT AND TREE PLANTING

On 24 May we were honoured to welcome HRH The Duke of Gloucester to plant a tree in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee. The Duke spoke with a group from the preschool, answering questions including "What does the Queen like for Breakfast?" and "What games does she like to play?". His eyes lit up, recalling the games he used to play when he was young with just some string and a tin can.



The Duke spoke fondly of his time in Barnwell and the unique character of the village. After topping off the soil around the tree, he did not mind getting his shoes muddy giving it a good pressing down and it's not a surprise that, having trained as an architect, he was keen to check that the supports were sturdy and well built (they passed the test!).

He took time out to speak to all the residents who had come out to recognise the event. In addition to members of the Parish Council, the village hall committee, and local Councillor Geoff Shacklock, a good number of the village also attended. Some long-time residents chatted to the Duke about their memories of years past and he was pleased to see new residents arriving in the village and its continued evolution.



The warmth he felt for the village and its residents was clear and was remarked on by many. Council chairman David Brown warmly thanked the Duke on behalf of the village for his continued long term support of, and interest in, the village in so many ways.

Following the tree planting, the Duke was shown the location for the proposed orchard along the border of the village hall field. We will be hoping to include the aptly named "Duke of Gloucester" apple tree in the plantation. We then held a light lunch for the Duke, kindly arranged by Julie Dunn and the Montagu Arms, and the Duke shared more stories and thoughts about his time in the village and its future.

Special thanks must go to Catriona Forrest for organising the whole event behind the scenes - making the arrangements with Kensington Palace, the preschool and organising the plaque. Thank you, Katie, for ensuring it went smoothly and was such a memorable occasion for all those who attended.



Thank you to Tina for her photos, George for the grass cutting, and those other who helped or attended!



The Parish Council meets bi-monthly, usually on the third Tuesday of the month, at the Village Hall at 7pm. The public are welcome to attend. Minutes of the meetings can be found on the parish council website: www.barnwellparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Councillors:

David Brown (Chair). Jeanne DeBock. Catriona Forrest, Heather Hanlon, Tim Herring, Chris Soans, Graham Wise

Contact Details

For items requiring attention of the Council, please contact Nicki Phillips, the Parish Clerk: barnwellparishclerk@gmail.com