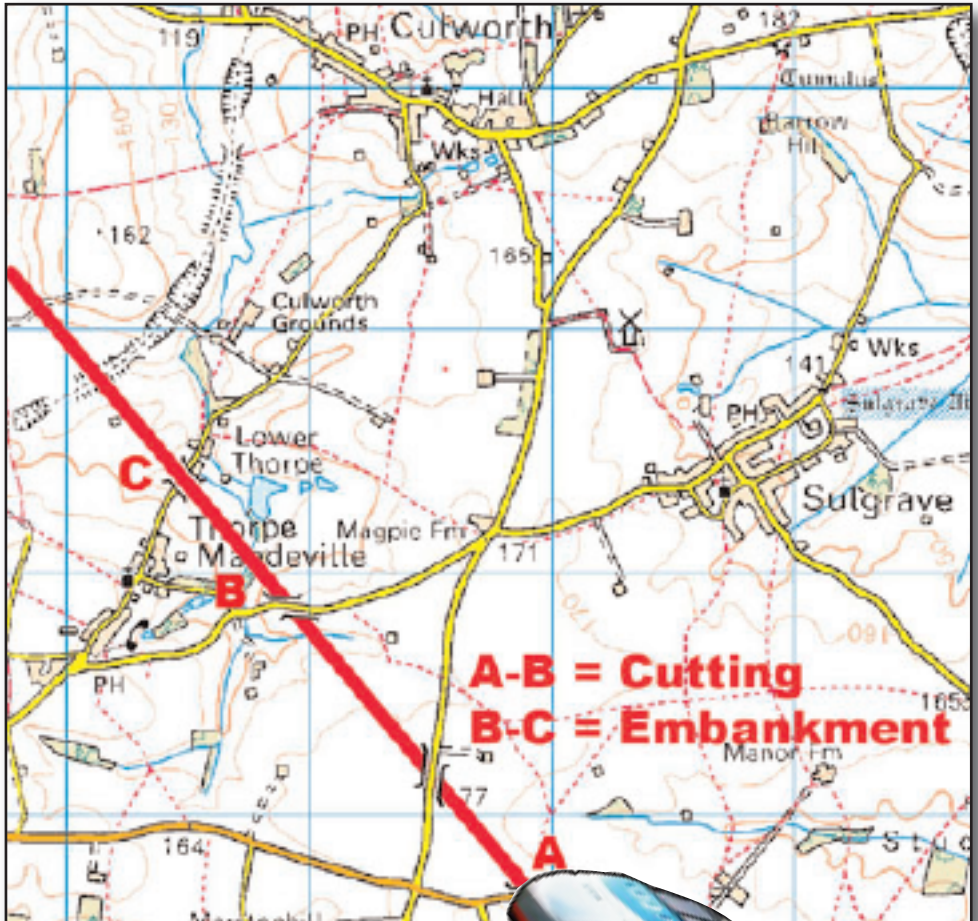


Sulgrave News



April 2010

Between some Turbines and a Railway!

It seems that Sulgrave and the surrounding villages are being steam rolled into the 21st century, with turbines to the right and HS2 to the left. As a rail enthusiast I half expected the line to come somewhere close, but I didn't realise how close, yards from houses in Greatworth! Sulgrave village should avoid the worst of its physical impact, it being over the brow of the hill, and in a deep cutting at its nearest point. However, as proposed, it will split the two villages, effect the countryside in between, and cause a reduction in property values.

I would say that this is a 'Preferred Route' and not set in stone, and although difficult to challenge, a case could be made that a route further west would serve the community better. Such a route could allow an intermediary station near Bicester, providing access from the M40, A34, and connection with the proposed reinstated East West rail route between Oxford and Cambridge. If the people of Kent, on the EuroStar route can have High Speed commuter trains stopping at Ashford, why cannot those in Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire get some access to this line which is going to plough through their countryside. From Bicester, the line could then run northwards in the M40 corridor, where an occasional HST would add little to the existing noise levels.

I would also say that Arup, the engineers whose report forms the basis of this proposal are not infallible! Take a look at their drawing for this part of the line, HS2-ARP-07-DR-RW-03117, and you will notice that on the cross section, there is an 'Overbridge' where the line crosses the B4525 Welsh Lane (correct), while the plan of the line indicates an 'Underbridge' (a bridge below a cutting; I think not)! A silly little mistake, but what other mistakes and false assumptions lie deeper in the report on which the case for this route is based?

The above is personal point of view, and I have avoided the debate about whether the line is worth building at all.

If you wish to contribute to the discussion and have your opinion heard, look out for information on the village website, and elsewhere, about the many meetings that are going to take place in the coming months.

For those with internet access, the report and maps are available on the Department of Transport website: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/rail/pi/highspeedrail/> It is also possible to obtain a free CD containing all this information at the same site.

As usual a reminder about the email address for the Sulgrave Newsletter. It is:-

newsletter@84f.com

Due to holidays the deadline for the for the May newsletter is 16th. April.



PLEASE NOTE THAT ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER CAN BE LEFT AT THE VILLAGE SHOP.
Could I remind contributors to provide a name and contact number with articles- Thanks

Tom Cockeram, editor: Telephone 01295 711326, or email newsletter@84f.com

Sulgrave with Culworth Women's Institute

At the monthly meeting held on the 10th March, David Walsh gave a most interesting talk about his involvement in Iganga in Central Uganda. He also spoke about "Tools for Self Reliance" based in Northampton. Here disadvantaged people restore rusty and broken tools to their former glory. Some of these tools were sent to Iganga to enable the youth to be taught carpentry and other skills. Our next meeting is at 7.30pm on the 14th April at the Church Hall when a cookery demonstration will be given by Carrie O'Regan. If you would like to join us please contact:-

Jane Lockwood 760865 or Jo Coverley 768369

2010 Community Speed Watch - Volunteers needed please.

This year Sulgrave will have the Speed Watch equipment during the following weeks:

May 22 - 29

June 5 - 12 and 19 - 26

Any volunteers who have not previously taken part will be given full training.

This will be provided by the Casualty Reduction Team on Saturday 1st May from 10.00am - 12.30 pm at Brackmills, Northampton.

If you can spare a few hours and would like to help please contact Jo Powell on 768243.

Many Thanks

Kenneth and Janet Tattersall wished to thank all their kind friends and neighbours for their enquiries and help following Kenneth's recent fall. Kenneth is making steady progress in hospital and looks forward to his return home in due course.

Janet Tattersall

THE STAR INN - New opening times

Monday to Friday, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, and 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday 11:00 am to 11:00 pm

Open 11:00 am to 11:00 pm Easter weekend Friday to Monday

Introducing our new Head Chef - At the Star we are always looking to improve our service to customers and to this end we have recently employed a new head chef. Gaston hails from France and brings with him a vast amount of experience from within the restaurant industry having been head chef at the various hotels and restaurants in both France and England. We welcome Gaston to the village and intend to keep our menu affordable whilst retaining the traditional classic dishes alongside our special board.

Diary Date: **The Star Beer Festival, June 25-27**

Sulgrave Parish Council

Volunteers Wanted

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Spring 2010 Litter Pick on

Saturday 10th April from 10.00 am, starting at the Church Hall.

This year we have once more registered our event as a part of the national Big Tidy Up campaign and our contribution will be included in the overall target for South Northamptonshire.

To join in, simply turn up at the Church Hall at 10.00 am to collect your personal tidy up kit to get you started.

Tea and biscuits will be served in the Church Hall after the event

Thank you for your support

VILLAGE SHOP – ROTA ORGANISATION

Jane Lockwood has agreed to take on the role of volunteer rota co-ordinator for the next twelve months. There will be a handover period during May before she takes over on 1st June.

I would like to thank all volunteers for the tremendous support given to me over the last few years and I am sure that you will now do all you can to help Jane. If you keep a regular eye on the list of shifts needing to be filled and also telephone her to see when you can help, this would prevent the endless calls necessary to ensure that the shop is always staffed. If all volunteers knew that they had a date in their diaries for another shift it would help a great deal.

More volunteers are needed - inevitably people leave the village, start new jobs, fall ill etc. - so please think about joining the rota as a regular or irregular volunteer and telephone Jane on 01295 760865. You can work as little or as much as you like and all offers are much appreciated. Training on the till is a short procedure and volunteers work in pairs.

Jan Prior

Culworth Safe 'n' Sound Community Connections

Wednesday 14th April 9.30 - 11.30 pm in the Culworth Village Hall.

The event brings together Safe 'n' Sound service providers (like the Police, Fire & Rescue, NHS, South Northants Council...) with other organisations and local groups that contribute and enrich the lives of residents in Culworth and the neighbouring villages. The Safe 'n' Sound service providers are keen to show the support, information and advice they offer residents and their families - they also have FREE equipment on offer!

Sulgrave Village Shop Quality, Value and Service

New products

This month we are relaunching the shop deli to offer improved choice & value. Why not come in to see what's new and also let us know the products you would like to see stocked. Remember it's your shop!

Asparagus season starts soon

April is the start of the asparagus season. Sulgrave Village Shop asparagus is locally grown and comes straight from the farm to ensure freshness and quality. Keep an eye on the notice board for date of first arrivals and follow links on Sulgrave website for some great asparagus recipes for you to try.

Keep up to date with shop "Special Offers"

Keep up to date with special promotions, new products and latest shop news on the Sulgrave website www.sulgrave.org including the "offer of the week".

NORTHAMPTON ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

A Mobile Information Unit will be at

Brackley Town Centre

Near the Town Hall, Market Place

7th April, 10.30am - 1pm

to provide information and support to the many visually impaired people and their carers within the community.

Pheonix Trading

(Lis Stuart)

Invite all to an

Open House

Wednesday 7th April

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

for a Coffee and Chat and to view her Spring Range of Cards, Papers, etc.

Eagle Court, Helmdon Road

01295 768840

Come and Talk to **ANDREA LEADSOM**

The prospective Conservative
Party Candidate for South

Northamptonshire at a

COFFEE MORNING

Culworth Village Hall

Friday 16th April 11 am

ALL WELCOME

Anyone for Cricket!

Calling anyone interested in playing, or supporting cricket. Marston St Laurence Cricket club run two Saturday 11s, a Wednesday evening team and under 17, under 13 and under 11 union 11s. Contact Martin Sirot-Smith, on (01295) 710340 if interested in playing, supporting or indeed helping out in anyway.

Lack of space means this is a much reduced article, please contact Martin for info - ed.

Baroness Knight of Collingtree, DBE



Mrs L Foster,
Yew Tree House, Manor Rd.,
Sulgrave, OX17 2RZ

17.3.10

My dear Libby,

I would be most grateful if you could transmit this message to the good people of Sulgrave. Being a member of the Advisory Council of the Manor Trust, you are well aware of the strong feelings we all have for the beauty of your village, and the need to ensure that nothing is done to mar that in any way.

For many months now, we have been most anxious about the state of the roof of the two houses in Sulgrave owned by the Trust – Kiln Farm and Manor Cottage. It is a matter of very great concern to us all that the tenants in both properties should not suffer from damp, or rainwater, due to the thatches leaking. The estimates for complete re-thatching of both properties were enormous, and the truth is that we do not have anything like the amount needed to get the jobs done. As Chairman, I spend a great deal of time trying to get donations to meet the running costs of the Manor; in fact, I am shortly off to America, where I shall spend the whole of April speaking at events aimed at fund-raising for Sulgrave. Board members are determined to do everything possible to keep the Manor open – this is of great historical importance, and the one visual embodiment of the special link between Britain and America.

Thus we have been torn between determination to protect our tenants, and the fact that the most acceptable solution (re-thatching) is at present impossible to afford. Using temporary darkish strong green plastic was, according to the expert advice we sought, the best way out of the difficulty. We know this is not ideal. We are very sorry if this offends any residents of the village, and indeed would be extremely grateful if anyone there could come up with suggestions as to how we could do better.

Kindest regards,

Jan Knight

You are invited to

THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

To be held on
THURSDAY 8th APRIL 2010, 7:30 pm.
in
Sulgrave Church Hall, Magpie Road

**THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION AND
FIND OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND YOU!**

Speakers/Reports will include:

Parish Council Review and Plans for the Year Ahead

A Report from Sulgrave Charities

An Update from Northants County Council & South Northants
Council on their work during the last year

An Update from Local Police Officer

An Update from the Castle Green Committee

A Report on the Village Website

We look forward to seeing you there

Snowdrop Theft!

Over 12 different species of snowdrops were taken from Evenley Wood Gardens, Evenley village Brackley, between the hours of 17:00 on Wednesday 17 March 2010 and 08:00 on Thursday 18 March 2010. Over £1000 of snowdrops were taken and range from £20 per bulb to nearly £200

If you have any information regarding the above please contact the police on 03000 111 222 and ask for Brackley Police Station.



SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Graham Robert, Westfield, Park Lane, Sulgrave, OX17 @RX (07778 584108)
Vice Chairman: Vice-Chairman – Cllr David Kellett (07747 808574)
Parish Clerk: Mrs Christine Coles, 55 Gillett Road, Banbury, OX16 0DR (tel. 01295 276229; fax. 01295 276658; email colesnccj@btinternet.com)
Cllr Clare Pollak (01295 768224)
Cllr Jane Osborne (07879 624375)
Cllr Jo Powell (01295 768243)
Cllr Andrew Waite (07787 502260)

Draft Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 11th March 2010

Introduction

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held on 18th February

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

Councillors Reports

Community Speedwatch

At the last council meeting a discussion took place about a pole being placed on the Stocks Area and it was agreed this was not the best place for it. The pole then appeared in the ground on the following Monday. Cllr Powell had been told the flashing sign would be in place from 5th April to 2nd May but had not been told the pole would be erected five weeks beforehand. Cllr Powell contacted Pc John McQuaid who then spoke to Steve Barber at NCC and there seems to have been a lack of communication between both of them. Two other places were suggested for the pole, outside Eagles House or on the driveway of Hill Cottage but it was felt these are not suitable either. It was agreed the Clerk should write to Steve Barber at NCC to advise the pole must be removed as soon as possible. Cllr Powell has agreed to continue with the speedwatch activity.

Pocket Park

There is a meeting on 18th March with the facilitator to complete the second part of the application form. A meeting has been held with George Metcalfe (GM) to discuss the changes that are going to be made and funding opportunities for the pond.

This will include a walkway around the pond, disabled access, a dipping area and new fencing. GM was happy about the suggestions that were made.

A note will be put in the next newsletter asking for villagers to join a working party on a regular basis as GM is unable to do the work on his own now. Chris Coverley has spent 5 hours cutting hedges and thanks was given to him. There will be drawings on display for everyone to see at the Castle Green open day in May.

Castle Green

In November Cllr Pollak reported that the Castle Green Committee (CGC) had accepted practical completion for repairs to the wall round the Green and Underwood and Weston had been paid the remainder of the contract sum, less 2.5% retention. The wall will be inspected thoroughly in April and any defects will have to be put right by the contractors before the final payment is made. The figures for the extras have not yet been agreed

and discussions are still ongoing between CGC, the Rhodes Partners and Underwood and Weston.

Plans for the May Fair Event on 2nd May are underway and it should be an enjoyable day. Representatives from all the funding bodies, district and county councils and all those who have contributed to the success of the Restoration Project will be invited. The Wildlife Trust will be helping children to make nest-boxes for the Green, 'Saxon' Historical Enactors will attend, and the traditional Historical Treasure Hunt will take place on the Castle Mound. Other attractions will include the Eydon Mummers, Morris dancers, a beer tent, a barbecue and teas and cakes. Several stallholders have come forward already.

There is an increasing problem with dog fouling on Castle Green and the Committee is working what can be done to prevent it.

Undergrounding

The Chair advised that white lines have appeared in Church Street but it is not known who has put them there. The Chair has asked Central Networks if they are planning any more underground work and they have advised they are not.

Action: The Clerk to contact MGWSP to see if they know what work is to be done.

Dog Fouling

The problem is still continuing. From the floor, Mrs Prior noted that dog mess was found on Castle Green the previous weekend. There are several solutions being considered. An exclusion control order could be placed on Castle Green but this is not a preferred solution as many people use the area. Alternatively dog waste bins installed. Dog waste bins cost between £200 and £300 (installation is extra) and collection is £2.50 per week to empty each bin. The grass cutter also experienced problems last year with dog mess. A leaflet was distributed around the village two years ago to consult on the installation of Dog waste bins and the results showed most people are against bins.

Action: It was agreed there will be a clean up operation on Castle Green as soon as possible and the Castle Green Committee will put notices up at each side of the park. Another note will be put in the newsletter.

Finance Report

Cheques for approval

The following payments were approved and cheques raised accordingly:-
£50.00 to Parish Clerk (float)
£26.40 to Colin Wootton (renewal of domain name for website)
£254.75 to Parish Clerk (hours)
£31.62 to Parish Clerk (mileage)
£100.00 to Sulgrave Parochial Church Council (church clock maintenance)

Mr Prior advised that major repair work is needed to the Clock Face and major fund raising will be needed. More details will be in the next newsletter.

Planning Applications

A decision notice had been received for:-

S/2009/1292/FUL, single storey rear extension at Blackbird Cottage, Little St.

Approved by SNC.

Two new applications had been received since the last meeting:-

S/20100190/FUL, two detached dwellings with outbuildings and carport. (revised scheme to planning permission S/2009/1276/FUL) at Dial House Farm, Magpie Road.

S/2010/0075/FUL, 60M high wind monitoring mast (temporary for two years) on land between Greatworth and Helmdon. The Parish Council had objected to this as there is no provision for a boundary fence around the perimeter of the installation. From the site map the guy line anchors are shown within 10-12M of a public footpath which may be used by the public at night. There should be a boundary fence with adequate warnings or the mast be relocated to a point further from the public footpath.

Broadview Energy Ltd held a public exhibition on 2nd March 2010. Details were given about a community benefit fund and a sum of money which is given for the duration of the wind farm. The money will be of community benefit and a local charitable trust is set up to manage the fund.

From the floor Mr Wootton advised that Helmdon have formed their own action group and are meeting on 12th April in the Reading Room at 7pm. Presentations will be made by Broadview Energy, CPRE and the Local Planning Authority.

Enertrag Planning Application

Enertrag have provided an update on their application. They have advised their public consultation will be at the end of April. They have set up a community fund for each project that is developed and the set amount available to the community each year is approximately £15-20K. Any community group or organisation can apply to the scheme for an amount. The closest villages such as Sulgrave and Weston will be given priority although all surrounding villages approximately 5km from the site will be considered. The money is always allocated to community schemes for wider benefit rather than individual projects.

It is expected that a planning application will be submitted at the end of the year (approx Nov 2010). Enertrag are aware of the Broadview development proposal and will be working with the LPA and developer to co-ordinate the cumulative assessment in all respects including noise/landscape and visual assessment. A full consultation will be undertaken with all parish councils surrounding the site. In respect of photomontage locations, viewpoints will be agreed with the District Council. Enertrag have agreed to discuss any noise concerns in the future with the Parish Council.

The Chair concluded the discussion by referring to the briefing note from Daventry District Council on large scale wind turbines and wind farms. If more than half of the councillors declare an interest the Parish Council has to seek dispensation from SNC so that they are allowed to respond to the wind farm application on behalf of the community despite their interests. This is something for the councillors to think very seriously about.

Correspondence

The Chair spoke about the proposals for the High Speed Rail Link from London to Birmingham and the route which will pass very close to Sulgrave and the surrounding villages. The route has just been published and it was agreed the links to the internet site would be set up on the village website for everyone to see more clearly.

Open Forum

Mr Prior spoke about the current transformer behind the shop which serves the properties in Magpie Road. 2 more houses have been built behind the shop and 5 at Dial House Farm and the question was asked if the power supply from that transformer is still adequate. The Chair agreed to email Central Networks and ask them for advice.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Annual Assembly on 8th April at 7.30pm in the Church Hall

April 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2 Good Friday Prayer Service 2:00 pm Sulgrave	3	4 Holy Communion 10:00 am Sulgrave
5	6	7 NAB Info Unit 10:30 am Brackley	8 Annual Assembly Meeting 7:30 pm Church Hall	9	10 Village Litter Pick 10:00 am Church Hall	11 Holy Communion 8:15 am Sulgrave
12	13 Soup Kitchen 12:30 pm Church Hall	14 Safe 'n' Sound 9:30 am Culworth W.I. Meeting 7:30 pm Church Hall	15	16 Newsletter Deadline Andrea Leasom 10:30 am Culworth	17	18 Evensong 6:00 pm Sulgrave
19	20	21	22 Circle Dancing 7:30 pm Culworth	23	24	25 Mattins 10:00 am Sulgrave
26	27 Book Club 8:00 pm The Star Behind the Scenes at the Museum. Kate Atkinson	28	29	30		