

# Sulgrave News



June 2008

## Déjà Vu! (to quote CSNY - am I showing my age?)

Enough said about the weather, just re-read last months introduction!

My apologies to Sulgrave Manor, as inside last month's Newsletter you should have found a Renaissance Heritage Awards voting form, which I meant to introduce and explain. However in spite of my oversight, I hope you felt able to support the Manor in its bid to win this prestigious Award, by completing the form, and returning it to the Manor, or to the Shop.

This one seems to have been particularly difficult to put together, as at first I was thinking there was little to go into it, and then, at the last minute (well after the deadline there was a deluge of stuff). While I try to be flexible and accommodate any rush items it would be appreciated if it arrives just in the nick of time.

I would like to thank Crissy Kellett for all her work over the years for photocopying the Newsletter, but her departure has left other problems, and may take a couple of months to optimise things for the new print routine, and I hope you will excuse any slight drop off in quality until this is sorted.

The usual a reminder about the email address for the Sulgrave Newsletter.

**newsletter@84f.com**

## Deadline for the July newsletter - 20th. June.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER CAN BE LEFT AT THE VILLAGE SHOP.**

*Could I remind all contributors to provide a name and contact number with their articles- Thanks*



**Tom Cockeram**, editor

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This Newsletter is an independent publication, edited and compiled by Tom Cockeram. It is delivered free of charge to all houses in Sulgrave and Stutchbury by Jill & Anthony Barrett, George Metcalfe and Vera Smith. Costs are met by Sulgrave Parish Council. It is provided as a service to the community and those involved in its production cannot accept responsibility for omissions and errors, or necessarily agree with its contents.

## Regular Events

BB&C Service	2nd Sunday of the month at Culworth Church, 11:00 am
Book Club	4th Monday of each month at the Star Inn, 8:00 pm
Circle Dancing	3rd Thursday of the month at Culworth, 7:30 pm
Mums & Tots	Please ring Lis Stuart on 768840 or Claire Purves on 760640 for further information
W.I.	2nd Wednesday of each month at the Church Hall, 7:30 pm

## Sulgrave Village Fete ~ Midsummer Madness

Thanks to all of you who have offered support on the day, I will be confirming details with you all over the next 2 weeks.

Anyone can also help by donating items to the various stalls..... please.

Libbie & Susie have already asked for donations for the very popular Auction of Promises, but could you also donate any items for the following:

- Raffle prizes – to Sally Harding, Greenfields, Spinners Cottages, Magpie Road. 768412
- Home made cakes & biscuits for the cake stall– Jo Powell, Hill Cottage, Helmdon Road, 768243.
- There is also a list in the shop for the teas and refreshments offers.
- Tombola items – Valerie Henn, The Cottage, Park Lane
- Good condition children's toys & books – Sue Waite & Jo Gregory , Lowick, Manor Road, 760080
- Bottles of all descriptions – Digby & Alison Lewis, Threeways, Little Street, or to Pete Mordaunt, The Old Farmhouse, Manor Road.
- DVDs, Videos and CDs – David Kellett, Willow House, Helmdon Road, 768255
- Pink & White items – Shrimp – Wisteria Cottage, Helmdon Road, 760214
- Bric a Brac – Lis Stuart, Eagles Court, Helmdon Road, 768840

Or you can hand items into the shop from June 1st. onwards.

This year the funds will be split between the Pocket Park & St James the Less.

Many thanks I'm sure the day will be a great success. Have you bought your ticket for the pig roast yet?

*Chris Kellett (01295 768255)*

## LOCAL WALKS

There will be a Village Walk to Culworth and back on  
13 July, meeting at 10:45, at the Village  
Shop.

*Christina Shillito*



**DID YOU KNOW:**  
PETER MOORE  
OVERPAID  
TIENTICE

### Life Expectancy....

The countries of the world with the highest life expectancy are Japan, Iceland and Switzerland where the average is 80-82 years.

The lowest life expectancy is in Swaziland, Botswana and Lesotho where the average is frighteningly low at 32-36 years.

Average life expectancy in the UK is 78.4 years.

## Culworth Village Fete

Friday 4th July; 6.00 p.m.

Hog roast, bar, live music, plenty of games, classic cars and lots of stalls to spend your money on!!

JULES WILLIAMS

## Please Shut that Gate!



If you are walking the Public Footpaths in the area and across fields that are grazed by livestock please make sure gates are fastened behind you.

Ian Cherry has had 2 occasions recently where a gate has appeared closed and not latched and also a gate that was partly open. Fortunately on both occasions livestock had not wandered off.

If you see any stock wandering or problems with gates please give Ian a ring on 01295 768278

### Sulgrave Parish Council 2008 - Public Consultation Questionnaire Magpie Road Sulgrave - Environmental Improvements

Questionnaires returned 37;		Letters received 1;		Total Response 38	
<b>Q1.</b> Where do you live?					
a.	Spinners Cottages, Magpie Rd	8			
b.	Mag pie Road	4			
c.	Elsewhere in Sulgrave	25			
<b>Q2.</b> As a resident of Sulgrave do you experience difficulty in finding a space for parking your vehicle?					
		Spinners	Magpie Rd.	Elsewhere	Total
a.	Yes	2			2
b.	No	2	4	23	29
c.	Sometimes	2			2
<i>2 residents of Spinners who responded do not own a car and did not complete Q2.</i>					
<b>Q3.</b> Do you believe that something should be done to provide additional space for parking vehicles on Magpie Road:					
		Spinners	Magpie Rd.	Elsewhere	Total
a.	Yes	6	4	23	33
b.	No			1	1
c.	Not sure			1	1
d.	Comments				
<b>Q4.</b> The Parish Council could investigate the potential for change and form a working group to pursue this matter:					
		Spinners	Magpie Rd.	Elsewhere	Total
a.	The Parish Council should make this a high priority	5	2	14	21
b.	The Parish Council should pursue this matter but not give it special priority.	2	1	10	13
c.	The Parish Council should not pursue this matter.		1		1
<b>Q5.</b> If additional space is to be found for parking vehicles, it is likely to be at the expense of existing green space within the conservation area. Do you believe this could be justified?					
		Spinners	Magpie Rd.	Elsewhere	Total
a.	Yes	3	1	16	20
b.	No	4	3	7	14
c.	Not sure			1	1
d.	Other comments				
<b>Q6.</b> Sources of funding would need to be investigated: a potential project to improve the area might be funded through a combination of grants, private donations and Parish Council Funds. Do you believe this is appropriate?					
		Spinners	Magpie Rd.	Elsewhere	Total
a.	Yes	4	1	17	22
b.	No	1	3	2	6
c.	Not sure	2		4	6
d.	Other comments				

## Comments from Questionnaires

- Q3.** Do you believe that something should be done to provide additional space for parking vehicles on Magpie Road?:
- 'I have not much confidence that however much money is spent on Spinners that there will not be problems. However, if it is decided to embark on improvements there I suggest you study enclosed picture. Cars would be better placed parked facing the road for the complete length of Spinners Cottages. No trees, the enclosed picture shows what happens when trees are planted close to parking areas (picture shows knocked down tree).'
  - 'A longer and deeper area of grass could be tarmaced and cars parked on end'.
  - 'Visibility as you come into the village isn't good, exacerbated by cars parked on the road.'
- 
- Q4.** The Parish Council could investigate the potential for change and form a working group to pursue this matter:
- 'What other priorities are there?'
- 
- Q5.** If additional space is to be found for parking vehicles, it is likely that this would be at the expense of existing green space within the conservation area. Do you believe this could be justified?
- 'I believe that the only 'green space' which should be 'lost' is the grass verge outside Spinners Cottages in Magpie Road. As the land is owned by SNCC, and the fact that Sulgrave is a conservation area, South Northants should be responsible for Magpie Road and so do something about it'
  - 'Yes to landscaping but no trees'
  - 'Yes, provided that it does not entail sacrificing some (of) the 'stocks green', OK, if its using the grass area on the Spinners cottages side (which is being used for parking by some residents in any case).'
- 
- Q6.** Sources of funding would need to be investigated: a potential project to improve the area might be funded through a combination of grants, private donations and Parish Council Funds. Do you believe this is appropriate?
- 'Not to be undertaken if Council tax is to be increased. Funding to come from elsewhere'.
  - 'Why not reinforce and regrass the verge so it is strong enough to take vehicles without being churned up.'
  - 'Funding should be from grants and county council'
  - 'County Council should pay and do parking, not Parish Council'
  - 'Use of Church Hall car park (sectioned) at certain times at a small charge if necessary.'

## Miscellaneous

- 'Why is it that Magpie Road and Manor Road are always kept tidy and neatly mown when streets etc, not on the route to the Manor are often left overgrown and neglected'.

**Letter** 'from resident of Spinners Cottages, Key Points:

- Continuation of layby a waste of time because of double parking.
- Would like a driveway across the existing grass and within the bounds of each property. Allowing for more than one vehicle and prevent disputes. This will not remove any more of the grass verge than the layby and still allow for improvements. Will need alterations to stone walling but worthwhile to solve parking probs.
- Surprised whole village consulted as only directly concerns Spinners Cottages residents.
- Concerned that illustrations on front and back of questionnaire showed an obvious plan for parking – questionnaire or PR exercise?

## Apples and Pears: Got any Spares?

The beautiful blossom on the fruit trees this spring, most of which seemed to escaped the sharp frosts in April, augurs well for this year's fruit crops. You will remember that last year in general trees bore bumper crops, with the result that many of us just didn't know what to do with the surplus, once we'd given away lots to friends and neighbours. This meant that many of the apples, plums, pears and damsons remained unpicked until eventually they fell off and rotted – a feast for the birds, perhaps, but even they couldn't dispose of all the fruits.

Isn't it a pity, therefore, to have fruit wasted in this way, at a time when we are being urged to buy locally-grown produce? Think of the environmental consequences of transporting from all parts of the world the fruit and vegetables which are offered for sale at most outlets. You will know that it is the policy of our village shop to provide locally-sourced goods, as far as it is possible.

So here is a suggestion. If you anticipate having a surplus of fruit from your garden – apples, pears, plums, damsons or even soft fruit – perhaps you will be willing to offer it to the village shop for sale. We can probably find volunteers to help pick the fruit! Locally-grown, fresh, full of flavour, organic – it should find a ready market. We can arrange for any windfalls, too, to be pressed for juice.

We'd like to hear your reactions to this idea. Any enquires or offers, please, to George Metcalfe – 768103.





## Additional notes from the Parish Council meeting

### Castle Green Restoration Project

The Chair noted that there had been a number of meetings between the Castle Green Committee (CGC), himself and the Rhodes Partnership (RP).

A letter had been sent to RP on 13th May, expressing concern about delays, and pointing out that it is 5 months since the official Completion date. There had been bad weather but work should have restarted.

The letter raised a number of issues.

1. At a site meeting in April the handrails on the steps had been found to be defective, and the contractors had accepted responsibility for this. It was agreed that the Contractors would remove defective mortar from the wall, and the Parish Council and CGC would produce a drawing of the Handrail design required.
2. The contractors had subsequently removed the Handrails and damaged the steps.
3. CGC and SPC had then decided that the Contractors must provide a new design for the handrails that would comply with NCC Highways and the Disabled Access regulations, which they had been given at the start of the project. We would provide an illustration for guidance, but not a design.
4. RP were urgently requested to ask the Contractors when work would recommence on the wall.

On 15th May RP replied that SPC and CGC had been well aware of the reason for the delay because frost could still occur in May.

They explained that the Contractors had removed the rails for safety reasons and had agreed to rebuild them when a new design was provided. They were pressing RP for instructions, but RP had been unable to provide any, as they were awaiting our drawing of the steps & rails.

Members of the Council then discussed the situation.

The Chair concluded the discussion by noting the CGC should respond to this letter quickly, listing what needs to be done to move the project forward.

### STOP PRESS

Keep Sunday 31st August free for the Officail Opening of the Castle Green Restoration Work and Family Fun Day! Watch out for further details.

Mrs Pauline Walker of The Junipers, School Street, Sulgrave.

I would like to thank all my friends and neighbours for their kind words, cards, letters and flowers on the occasion of Arnolds passing from this life. Your kindness has helped to support myself and our children during this sad time. Many thanks to those who attended Arnold's service of thanksgiving and for joining us at the Manor. Kind regards Pauline and family

### Women's Institute

This month we look forward to a cookery demonstration by Ali Templeton. Vegetarian Cooking is the theme - do come along - vegetarians and carnivores most welcome.

In May we discussed and voted on the National Resolutions as outlined here last month. These will go forward to the National AGM this month which I'm fortunate to be attending as delegate for four local WI's.

*Ann Mackness*

### Thanks

Kenneth & Janet Tattersall would like to extend a most sincere thanks to all friends & neighbours for their commiserations and great kindness following their recent burglary. It has been greatly appreciated and has been most comforting.

*Janet Tattersall*

### Sulgrave Parish Council

**Chairman:** Mr G Robert, Westfield, Park Lane, Sulgrave, Oxon, OX17 2RX

**Parish Clerk:** Mrs C Coles, 55 Gillett Road, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 0DR,  
Tel No 01295 276229, Fax No 01295 276658,  
Email colesnccj@btinternet.com

In addition to the above, the Parish Council is made up of the following members:

Vice-Chairman – Cllr David Kellett (07747 808574) Cllr Clare Pollak (01295 768224)

Cllr Jane Osborne (07879 624375)

Cllr Jo Powell (01295 768243)

Cllr Andrew Waite (07787 502260)

### Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 15th May 2008

#### Introduction

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held on 13th March 2008 and Annual Assembly minutes of 19th April 2007

The minutes of the previous Annual Assembly meeting held on 19th April 2007 were agreed and signed as a true record. The minutes of 13th March 2008 were amended slightly. A change was made to paragraph 3 on page 5, Clive Gilmore should read Clive Nicholls. These were then proposed by Cllr Powell and seconded by Cllr Pollak.

#### Matters Arising

*Water leak in Stockwell Lane* – The Clerk had spoken to Chris Reynolds of the Building Control office to find out the latest progress. They have visited the site and produced a report. The Clerk will chase them again for a copy. Cllr Pollak noted that there are two sources of water. Water is coming from the retaining wall via the new pond that has been built and the earth is turning into liquid mud. She suggested that the matter is raised with the landowner.

*Litter Pick* – The recent litter pick held on 5th April was very well attended and thanks was given to everyone who helped on that day.

## Sulgrave Parish Council (Continued)

### Councillors Reports

#### Community Speedwatch

Cllr Powell had received a letter from PC McQuaid regarding the training. Names, telephone numbers and postcodes are needed for the ten volunteers which Cllr Powell will put together. She only has nine volunteers so far. Cllr Pollak volunteered to be the tenth. A Deputy Co-ordinator is needed and Cllr Powell will ask the volunteers first. Training will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> August from 10am-12.30pm and other dates can be arranged if needed. Cllr Powell has contacted Halse about sharing the camera. Sulgrave will first have it on 17<sup>th</sup> August for one week and then every other week sharing with Halse for three weeks. A poster will be displayed asking for more volunteers.

#### Pocket Park

Cllr Osborne is looking into suitable signage for Pocket Park. County Cllr Ben Smith has a pot of money to be shared between villages and Cllr Osborne has approached him about using some of this for signage. She will get more details and prices for the next meeting.

#### Parking outside Spinners Cottages

Cllr Waite has collated the results of the questionnaire sent around the village about parking outside Spinners Cottages. 38 replies were received which was a good mixed response. Six people have signed up to join a working party. A meeting will be arranged with these volunteers and Cllr Waite will produce tabulated results.

#### Underground Cabling

Cllr Roberts noted there had been more communication from Central Networks since the last meeting. Work will take place from the Park Lane junction to 14 Magpie Road between 4<sup>th</sup> August and 29<sup>th</sup> September 2008. New LV mains cables will be installed close to the existing footpath to allow for a possible future parking bay scheme. New underground services will be installed to eight properties (routes to be agreed with property owners). Jointing work to connect mains and service cables will be carried out. The properties will be transferred from overhead to underground supplies. Overhead lines and poles will be disconnected and removed. Remaining excavations will be reinstated. The work in Helmdon Road will not start until the above work is complete to minimise disruption to residents.

Cllr Roberts has written back to ask for more exact dates and to ask how the traffic flow will be controlled. Cllr Roberts will advise the dates of when Community Speedwatch will be in the village in August as the cabling work could clash with it.

#### Permissive Path on Castle Green

Cllr Roberts noted that Lewis Thomas has drawn up a legal document and it has been discussed clause by clause. It will be finalised in two weeks time and circulated to every councillor for their agreement. It can be seen in draft format if requested before then.

#### Renewal of General Council Insurance Policy

The Clerk had received the renewal notice from the existing insurers Allianz Cornhill which is due for payment on or before 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008. The annual premium is £788.47. She had also obtained another quotation from a company called Came & Company who are a broker of the Norwich Union. They had received a copy of the old schedule and quoted against it. The cost is either an annual premium of £638.66 or £606.73 if the council wish to enter a three year

## Sulgrave Parish Council (Continued)

binding agreement. The clerk felt it was good to have healthy competition and suggested that if the council try the new company they sign up for a year to start with. It would be a saving of £150.00. A few of the levels of cover have been increased also.

**The Chair proposed that the council use the new company and pay the premium of £638.66. This was seconded by Cllr Powell and all the councillors voted in favour.**

#### Photocopying of newsletter

Up until now the Parish Council have been very fortunate as the newsletter copying has been carried out by Chris Kellett free of charge. She is about to move departments at work and there will be no facility to do free copying. Sulgrave Manor have offered but Cllr Waite needs to speak to them again to get more details. Cllr Kellett suggested that the copying is carried out by the Manor and the Parish Council pay for the cartridges as there is money in the budget. Cllr Waite agreed to speak to the Manor before the next meeting.

#### Appointment of new trustee for Sulgrave Charities

A fourth trustee is needed for Sulgrave Charities in order to have a quorum (three) of people at each meeting. It is the Parish Councils responsibility to appoint trustees. Paul Crowley had volunteered to be a trustee and the Chair proposed that the Parish Council accept his offer and he be appointed as a trustee. This was seconded by Cllr Waite and all the councillors voted in favour.

#### Finance Report

The following payments were approved and cheques raised accordingly. They were proposed by Cllr Osborne and seconded by Cllr Powell.

£252.97	to Parish Clerk (hours)
£21.08	to Parish Clerk (mileage)
£208.75	to EON
£638.66	to BNL/Came & Company (insurance)

#### Update on Planning Applications

*The council had received two new applications to consider:-*

*S/2008/0474/P, Single Storey extension to side and rear. Porch to front at Red Brick House, Banbury Lane, Culworth. This is currently in circulation within PC.*

*S/2008/0271/P, Extension to front of garage at Coombe Cottage, Helmdon Road. This has been approved by the Parish Council.*

*Decision notices had been received from SNC on the following applications:*

*S/2008/0282/LB, Partial removal of internal ground floor partition wall to create a larger living space and replacement of existing window to garden elevation with a timber single-glazed casement window at Dove Cottage, Church Street. This has been permitted by SNC.*

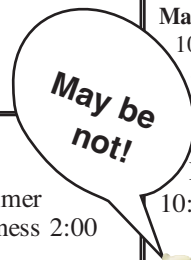
*S/2008/0212/P, Single storey extension to rear (retrospective) at Stone Court, Helmdon Road. This had been permitted by SNC.*

#### Date and Time of next meeting

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at 7.30pm in the Church Hall.

**June 2008**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30						1 <b>Benefice Holy Communion</b> 10:00 am Edgcote
2	3	4	5 <b>Parish Council</b> 7:30 pm Church Hall	6 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b>	7	8 <b>Holy Communion</b> 8:15 am Sulgrave
9	10	11 <b>W.I. Meeting</b> 7:30pm Church Hall	12	13 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b>	14	15 <b>Evensong</b> 6:00 pm Sulgrave
16	17	18	19 <b>Circle Dancing</b> 7:30 pm Culworth	20 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b>	21	22 <b>Mattins</b> 10:00 am Sulgrave
23 Book Club 8:00 pm The Star	24	25	26	27 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b>	28 Mid Summer Madness 2:00	29 Local Walk 10:45 am Shop



*Tom Cockeram, Appletree Cottage, The Close, Greatworth, Banbury, Oxon, OX17 2EB*

