

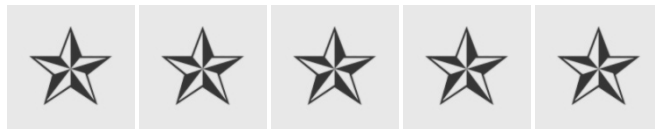
Sulgrave News

March 2012

Regular Events

- BB&C Service 2nd Sunday of the month at Culworth church - 11.00am
Book Club 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Star Inn - 8.00pm
Circle Dancing 3rd Thursday of the month at Culworth - 7.30pm

This newsletter is an independent publication, edited and compiled by Janet Smith. It is delivered free of charge to all houses in Sulgrave and Stuchbury by Maureen Jeffery, 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.



Deadline for the April newsletter is 23rd March

If you have information, articles or stories for the newsletter telephone Janet on 01295 760397 or e-mail janet_m_smith@btinternet.com.

As always, articles can be left at Sulgrave Village Shop

Church News

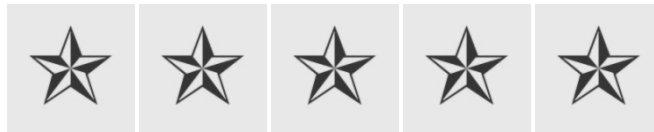


Safari Supper

Don't forget to inform either Anne (760634) or Shrimp (760214) if you wish to attend the Safari Supper on March 24th. Closing date is Friday 16th March.

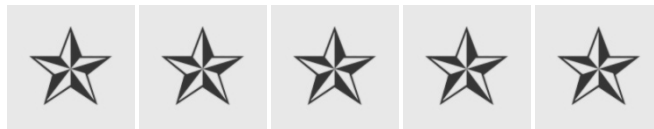
Flower and Cleaning Rota for March

March 3 rd & 10 th	No Flowers, cleaning only, Ms C Shillito
March 17 th & 24 th	No Flowers, cleaning only, Mrs J Bates
March 31 st	Easter, all to decorate. Alter flowers Mrs C Constable



I would like to say a huge thankyou to everyone in the village who sent cards and messages following my knee operation at the beginning of February. I am now feeling much stronger and getting about well and looking forward to the summer ahead.

Susie Mason



Christopher Beck

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of Major (retd) Christopher Beck. For many years he held the position of church warden, first with Kenneth Tattersall and later with Shrimp Christy. He was a great fount of knowledge regarding the church and was always ready to enlighten groups and individuals on the history of the church and the Washington family.

Christopher had led a fascinating life and was always willing to import stories of his military career with anyone who would listen! Latterly he joined the Book Club and brought his own perspective to the discussions. As the only man in the group, this brought him great kudos!

We shall miss him.



Janet & Maureen would like to invite you to our

Soup Kitchen

at Sulgrave Church Hall on
Tuesday 6th March at 12.30pm



Leek & Potato Soup (v)

or

Pea & Ham Soup

Both served with croutons, bread rolls and butter

Treacle Roly Poly with
Custard or Cream

Cheese & biscuits, celery & grapes

Cafetieres of freshly brewed coffee

£7.00

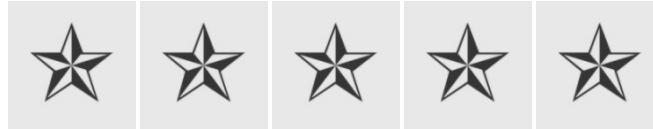
Booking is essential
To reserve your place please call

Janet Smith
01295 760397

Maureen Jeffery
01295 768268

Red Cross Needs You

Red Cross will regularly be making appearances at markets and car boot sales this year and would value your donations. When you are spring cleaning and find items surplus to requirements Pat Thomas will happily pick them up or drop them off at The Blades, Helmdon Road Sulgrave. Phone number 01295 760432



SULGRAVE BOOK CLUB

8.00pm The Star Inn

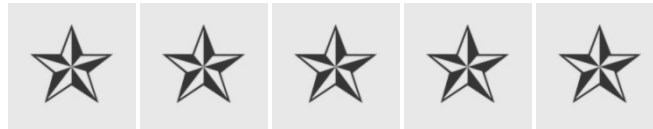


March 21st

April 18th

Before I Go To Sleep" by S. J. Watson

"One Day" by David Nicholls



Mini Meadows Preschool

Charity Number: 1027711

Mini Meadows Preschool located at Culworth school is delighted to announce ***New Extended Opening hours!***

Now open all day Monday-Wednesday (9am-3.30pm)

Closed Thursdays

Open Friday 9am-12.30pm

We would like to thank Trish and Steve Humphreys at Paddocks Products Farm shop in Culworth for sponsoring us over the coming year.

For more information concerning the above please visit our website:

minimeadowspreschool.org.uk



**Village Shop News Update
Telephone – 01295 760066**

We're now well into the New Year and performing well so another big thank you from David & the Management Committee to our Customers for your continued support & to our willing volunteers who make it all possible!

Our accounts for 2011 also reflect that in these difficult economic times, we delivered a sound set of results with the highlights being shown below:

Overall sales for 2011 were up by just under 4% on 2010.

We delivered a profit before tax (versus a loss in 2010) on sales of just under 4%.

So what does 2012 have in store for the shop's operation? Three things ...

First, we want to make it easier for people to buy the goods that they want when they visit us so we'll be looking hard at what we stock paying particular attention to fresh, seasonal products which will be locally sourced wherever possible; purple sprouting broccoli is in stock now! David is also keen to let you know that if you have ANY special needs for goods not currently stocked, then let him know & he'll make every effort to get what you need, when you need it! New products always add a bit variety so why not try the new 'Grumpy Mule' range of ground or whole bean coffee (having tried it myself, I can tell you that it really is a treat for the taste buds on a Sunday morning!). Now's the time to be thinking about ordering your bedding plants (hard I know when there's snow on the ground as I write this!) but the spring will be with us soon & we can help add some colour; have a chat to David when you're next in the shop.

Second, our computer system needs updating & your Committee is looking at a number of affordable options for not just updating it but allowing us to accept debit cards for payment. This will not only make life easier for customers from outside the village to buy or for those who do not currently make use of our 'reverse credit account' (talk to David on this for more details; it makes life a lot easier especially when the younger members of the family are sent on errands), it will also make analysing our sales performance & reporting much easier too.

Finally we're completing plans to create a broader awareness of our Shop & Post Office beyond Sulgrave. Our community enterprise can benefit the residents of other local villages & help improve our performance still further but we need to tell that we're here & what we can offer them! We're also keen to capture information about what you, our Customers think about the shop, the service that you receive & any improvements that you think should be made through our Customer Service Feedback. Peter Pollak would be delighted to hear from you either in person, via our feedback forms in the shop or through his e-mail address (peterpollak@fsmail.net); we don't have the patent on good ideas so we will listen & respond to ideas & feedback directly (thank you in advance for this).

Positive results from 2011 & focussed improvement plans for 2012 will help develop our service to you further. Thank you for your continued & valued custom.

**'Mac' Macdonald
01295 760470**



Sulgrave Produce Show

Just to let you know , we have added an extra class - Jar of jelly - in the "Cookery Classes"



Why not spend a day in Sulgrave Pocket Park

With spring coming and the new hedge laying to the boundary completed the outlook from the children's play area is totally different, with light streaming into the park and long views across the rising ground towards Barrow Hill the park will be a relaxing and enjoyable venue for a picnic, relaxing on the bench in the woods, watching the children play or searching for life in the ponds.



Pocket Park Warden Wanted,
(Not an arduous duty !)
Please contact any Parish Councillor for details



Village Networks

Minibus and driver for hire

SNVB (South Northants Volunteer Bureau) are pleased to announce that as part of Village Networks, a new Lottery funded project, we have taken delivery of a brand new 16 seater minibus which is available for hire by community, voluntary and non-profit groups. Community groups can apply for membership (£10 annually) and once approved can hire the minibus for trips, excursions and events. Terms and Conditions apply - mileage and driver's time.

Details on www.snvb.org.uk - click on the minibus

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr G Roberts
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

The Parish Council is made up of the following members and they can be contacted as follows:

Chairman - Cllr Graham Roberts (07778 584108)

Parish Clerk - Mrs Christine Coles (01295 276229)

Cllr Clare Pollak (01295 768224)

Cllr Jo Powell (01295 768243)

Cllr Andrew Waite (07787 502260)

Cllr Sally Harding (07711 5564123)

Introduction

The Parish Council were welcomed by Wendy Barnes and the new Chairman of the Manor Board, Mr Nicholas Ward. Cllr Pollak would be taking the minutes due to the absence of the Clerk because of the winter weather conditions.

Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held on 5th January 2012

An amendment to page 2, paragraph 2. Last sentence to read: "Cllr Waite to ensure the specification for the hedge laying in the Pocket Park stipulates the hedge should be childproof". The minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2012 were then agreed and signed as a true record. This was proposed by Cllr Waite and seconded by Cllr Powell.

Matters Arising

Laying of hedge in Pocket Park

Cllr Waite confirmed that Paul Lewis will start to lay the hedge in the next two weeks. Cllr Waite agreed that two weeks notice was needed and a letter was sent to this effect.

Parking on Magpie Road

South Northants Homes (SNH) have not put a planning application in yet. All tenants have been consulted.

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr Powell noted that the Jubilee committee met last month and they will be 'drip feeding' the information to the village. She confirmed there will be daytime and evening activities and an article was put in the February newsletter. The purchase and siting of a tree was discussed. The Parish Council agreed in principle to purchase an

oak tree from the Royal Estate at a cost of £30. A commemorative plaque would be needed but the cost of this is unknown. The position of the tree was discussed and Madams Close was proposed, on the edge by the courtyard side although the landowner is to be consulted first.

Beech tree testing

Cllr Pollak noted this had been arranged but was cancelled by Mr Hatton due to snow.

Sulgrave Castle Archaeology Project

Cllr Pollak noted that the Parish Council had previously agreed to take ownership of the Castle Sign Board and to maintain it once it has been installed. The Archaeology Group had obtained Lottery and English Heritage funding for its purchase and installation, but owing to delays in designing the board and completing the project. Rivermeade, the manufacturers have increased the price and VAT has gone up, but sufficient contingency funding is available. The revised price is £1,275.00 excluding VAT. The Archaeology Group would arrange the installation and watching brief (cost £520.00). Cllr Pollak suggested that it would be best if the Parish Council purchase the sign to ensure that the Council's name is on the invoice, for the guarantee and future maintenance. Some discussions had taken place about the siting of the board, but further consultation will be done once the sign has been delivered.

Castle Mound Tree Project

Ben Robinson, Inspector of Ancient Monuments visited the Castle site on 16th January. He agreed that the banks were being eroded and that it would be best if the trees were to be felled. He could not promise any assistance with the cost but said there was a chance that some funds might become available near the end of the financial year and he would see what he could do. He inspected the Castle Green and was very impressed by the signboards and the mesh path. He also commented that both the Green and the Castle Mound were a shining example of how an ancient monument ought to be maintained. Cllr Pollak has obtained the form from SNC planning Dept to notify them of the proposed tree works in a conservation area. They are required to respond within 6 weeks. None of the trees has a TPO. All councillors have seen the site and noted no objections. Further progress has been delayed owing to the illness and death of Peter's mother.

Church Hall

The Parish Council expressed their thanks to Wendy Barnes for the use of the Buttery but raised concerns about possible lack of use of the church hall. The venue might be lost if it is not used. The Parish Council will be invoiced for the use of the hall last year for their meetings. A discussion took place about the Church hall committee which only consists of two people. The Parish Council should support them in finding new members. Grant funding for improvement to the heating had been explored but not taken further.

Action: Cllr Powell and the Chair to speak to Robin Prior to find a way forward.

To receive an update on the street lighting project

The Chair, Cllr Waite and the Parish Clerk had attended a recent meeting with an engineer who has advised that the lighting will become obsolete and the current fittings and poles are deteriorating. The council had already decided that they would ask for an updated survey to enable the costs to be obtained by going out to tender. The total proposed budget cost is over £11K.

From the floor, Susie Blayney asked about the possibility of reducing how long the lights are switched on. Light intensity could be varied between winter and summer. The Chair replied that there could be better lighting control but safety can become an issue. The Parish Council will consult the village about possible future solutions and funding could be an issue. Cllr Waite felt it was better to start planning for it now. The Chair advised that all the work to date has been carried out by an independent engineer using money from a grant that Cllr Ben Smith gave last year. This project could take some time and the Parish Council may need to phase the work over a number of years.

Finance Report

- a) Cheques for approval
- £208.75 to EON (electricity)
 - £50.00 to Parish Clerk (float)
 - £306.00 to Parish Clerk (hours November - January)
 - £21.08 to Parish Clerk (mileage)
 - £60.00 to Parish Clerk (contribution to broadband costs)

These were proposed by Cllr Powell and seconded by Cllr Waite.

Planning Applications

Two new applications had been received.

S/2012/0066/FUL, Single storey side, rear and loft extensions at Vinecroft, Manor Road. Currently in circulation. Amended plans have been sent to SNC and these were put out on display at the meeting. They were viewed by the councillors present and the applicants clarified the changes.

S/2011/1614/LBC and S/2011/1613/FUL, Construction of new single storey extension to the kitchen at the Old Vicarage, Magpie Road. No objections raised.

A long discussion took place about tree applications that have been submitted to SNC but not by the people who own the trees. Mr Taylor emphasised that SNC's process is wrong, when neighbours are not informed and the Parish Council is only told "for information only". The Chair suggested the Parish Council write to SNC to question the process on Mr Taylor's behalf. (i.e. SNC allowing a person to apply to cut down and/or prune a tree on someone else's land).

Correspondence

- CPRE, A Guide to Neighbourhood Planning. Cllr Waite to review and report back at the next meeting. Cllr Waite has also attended a seminar on writing Neighbourhood Plans and will report back at the next meeting.
- HS2 Project advising that the Government are going ahead with the plans. They are proposing a series of community forums, which the community can engage with if they wish. The Parish Clerk to confirm that the Parish Council wish to engage with them. Susie Blayney reported that Andrea Leadsom is coming to the Church Hall on 16th February. There are no councillors available for that meeting so Susie Blayney will report back at the next council meeting. At a recent Culworth meeting on HS2, it was noted there is an option for the line coming between Sulgrave and the Magpie. The line would miss Lower Thorpe and be worse for Sulgrave and Culworth. As councillors are away, Susie Blayney to ask Ken Christy to attend and report at next council meeting.

Open Forum

Mr Nicholls reported that electricity pole near the Star PH has a deep hole where the old pole was removed.

Action: The Chair to contact the Project Manager about not completing the work properly.

The verges around the apple tree, the corner of Church Street and the green by the Stocks are being damaged by vehicles' tyres. The Chair replied that evidence is needed (date, time and vehicle registration number) of who is doing the damage.

Mr Nicholls to send photos of the Manor Road flooding to the Chair and Janet Smith. An article to be put in the newsletter.

Susie Blayney asked if the Silver Jubilee funds could be accessed. The Chair replied that all the paperwork was sent back to Rodney Henn as he is the only surviving member of the committee.

Action: Susie Blayney to speak to Rodney Henn.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

8th March 2012 at 7.45pm in the Buttery at Sulgrave Manor (new venue during the cold winter months)

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

You are invited to
THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

To be held on

THURSDAY 8th MARCH AT 7.45PM

In the Buttery at Sulgrave Manor
(Please note the new venue during the colder months)

We look forward to seeing you there



March 2012

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6 12.30pm Soup Kitchen Church Hall	7	8 7.45pm Parish Council Meeting Buttery at Sulgrave Manor	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 8.pm Book Club Star Inn	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Deadline for the April Newsletter is 23rd March 2012