

Sulgrave News

April 2013

Regular Events

BB&C Service	2 nd Sunday of the month at Culworth church - 11.00am
Book Club	3 rd Wednesday of each month at the Star Inn - 8.00pm
Circle Dancing	3 rd 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 May newsletter is 19th April

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

April 7 th	10.00am Benefice Service at Morton Pinkney
April 14 th	8.15am Holy Communion at Sulgrave
April 21 st	6.00pm Evensong at Sulgrave
April 28 th	10.00am Mattins at Sulgrave



Flower and Cleaning Rota for April

April 6 th	Easter - all to decorate - Alter Flowers Mrs C Constable
April 13 th & 20 th	Mrs H Fellows and Mrs S Blayney
April 27 th	Mrs G Clegg and Mrs S Dixon



‘John the Post’s’ Memorial Bench

"I'm delighted to let everyone know that we have taken delivery of the bench in memory of our friend 'John the Post'. Clare Pollak is kindly storing it for us until the weather improves & we finally have a date from the council appointed contractors for its installation outside our Shop.

Thanks again for everyone's generosity; it'll be a fitting tribute to the man who was such a positive part of our daily lives."

**‘Mac’ Macdonald
01295 760470**



Janet & Maureen would like to invite you to our

Soup Kitchen

at Sulgrave Church Hall on
Tuesday 16th April at 12.30pm



Vegetable Pottage (v)

or

Chicken Soup

Both served with croutons, bread rolls and butter

Woodland Berry Slice
with Cream

Cheese & biscuits, celery & grapes

Cafetieres of freshly brewed coffee

£7.50

Booking is essential
To reserve your place please call

Janet Smith
01295 760397

Maureen Jeffery
01295 768268



Village Shop News Update

Telephone – 01295 760066

It's such a pleasure to write positively about our Village Shop when seemingly the media is full of horror stories within the retail sector. The takings for our Shop were 16% up on February 2012 & 10% up when January & February are combined compared to last year! OK I shouldn't really compare the retail combines to our more modest establishment but it's ours & the results are down to your support & the hard work that David & our ever willing band of volunteers; we should be proud. Enough of the back slapping, congratulatory stuff; I'd like to let you know about what we're doing in other areas.

Our long talked about new EPOS system has been delivered & is being worked on now to transfer the information across from the original. Our target as a Management Committee has always been to install a system that's simpler to use but one which gives us access to key information quicker & allow customers a choice of how they pay us; cash, reverse credit or by debit card. There is a lot of work to be finished & we really need to say thank you to David, Robin & Michael for taking the lead in making this happen. So when will you see the evidence of their work, probably not until July. We want to make sure that we get it right so things are not going to be rushed through for the sake of a few weeks. Until then it's business as usual.

I mentioned our volunteers earlier; we depend on them to make the Shop what it is, a success but we could always do with more of them. If you have an hour or two to spare, if you're a younger member of our village & would like to gain some experience of working in the Shop, serving customers & handling money (voluntary work always looks good in those personal statements), then do please talk to David or give Jane Lockwood a call on 760865. I have it on good authority that David makes a very good cup of tea (occasionally) for our workers!

So what about the products in-store? The fresh cut flowers are looking particularly colourful as I write this in a very drab, grey March. Asparagus (weather permitting) from our local fields will be available towards the end of April / early May. Purple flowering broccoli is available now & I can personally confirm tastes fantastic. We've got a new range of crisps (Corkers) & Portlebay flavoured popcorn; both different but temptingly delicious! And to end this missive; I can report that sales of kindling boxes are keeping up with the weather ... let's hope that sales drop off very soon!!!

'Mac' Macdonald
01295 760470

CHURCH OF ST JAMES THE LESS, SULGRAVE

'GOOD AS NEW' SALE

**including clothes, children's clothes,
books, toys and bric-à-brac**

In aid of Church Funds

SATURDAY APRIL 13th

**10 am to 12 noon
at the Church Hall, Sulgrave**

Refreshments – Raffle – Free entry



**Items for sale, please contact:
Jean Bates 760727 or Shrimp Christy 760214**

Swimming Lessons for the over 55's Brackley Swimming Pool

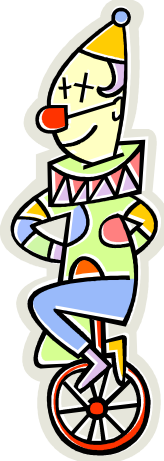


Just £10 for a 10 week course

Wednesdays 3-4pm
Starting 15th April 2013

Book your place now on
01280 704906





Roll up Roll Up!

The Circus is coming to Middleton Cheney!

Professional Happy's Circus Wed. 17th April at Chenderit School Gates open 5pm. Show at 6pm.

Before the main show there will be hot food, a bar, refreshments, stalls, face painting, temporary tattoos, ice creams and more. The Circus will delight you with Crazy clowns, magical illusions, daring aerialists and other speciality acts. Modern circus with no animals. Bring the kids!

Tickets available at £5 (child), £8 (adult) and Family tickets at £25 (2 adults, 2 children) Under 2's free if sat on lap. Available from www.wegotickets.com/CPSA or from Brads News, Middleton Cheney or from The Red Lion, Culworth

All profits to Culworth School

Email cpa.culworth@gmail.com or call 07957 405709 for further details



Harassed by the Heron

A safer home is sought for about fifteen remaining beautiful fish of varying sizes still surviving in my garden pond following visits by the heron throughout this seemingly endless winter.



If you know of anyone who would like to come and take all the fish away to a new home - perhaps to an existing garden pond or possibly someone who is constructing a new one - please phone Mrs Pauline Flynn (01295 760388)

Northamptonshire County Council

Please find below a link to the Northamptonshire County Council webcast page. From this link you will be able to access the live webcast of a number of the authority's meetings. The webcasts are also archived and available to view up to six months after the date of the meeting. Webcast meetings include:

- Full Council
- Cabinet
- Development Control (Planning)
- Northamptonshire Police and Crime Panel
- All Scrutiny Committees
- Health and Wellbeing Board

[Northamptonshire CC Webcasts Homepage](#)

The webcast programme is also an ideal way for local residents to stay up-to-date with local government issues without having to physically attend meetings. Furthermore, where issues affect local residents it is an easy way for the authority to accommodate high numbers of interested parties in excess of the capacity of public facilities at County Hall

As a Parish Council the Democracy Team would appreciate your support in drawing this facility to the attention of your parishioners as we seek to promote local democracy and open and transparent government. If you would like any further information regarding this facility then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks for your support.

Kind regards

Kirk Harrison
Democracy Officer
Telephone 01604 367745

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr A Waite

3 Manor Road
Sulgrave
Oxon
OX17 2SA

Parish Clerk: Mrs C Coles

55 Gillett Road
Banbury
Oxon
OX16 0DR

Tel No 01295 276229

Email sulgravepc@btinternet.com

Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 14th February 2013

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

Chairman - Cllr Andrew Waite (07787 502260)

Vice-Chairman - Cllr Graham Roberts (07778 584108)

Parish Clerk - Mrs Christine Coles (01295 276229)

Cllr Clare Pollak (01295 768224)

Cllr Jo Powell (01295 768243)

Cllr Sally Harding (07711 5564123)

Cllr Tom Russell

To approve and sign the minutes of last meeting held on 10th January 2013

The minutes of 10th January were approved and accepted by the council. Proposed by Cllr Harding and seconded by Cllr Roberts.

Guest Speaker, Mr Nick Young from the South Northants Volunteer Bureau (SNVB)

Mr Young noted that he is from the South Northants Volunteer Bureau which has been operational for 20 years. Their job is to support local groups. The newest project is called 'Village Networks' and it was started one year ago. The SNVB carried out a survey of villages, via Parish Councils and asked open ended questions such as what was going on in their village and what help and support did villagers need. This information then gave SNVB the evidence to build their projects and find the funding. Three points of value came out. Villagers were feeling very isolated and there were also council cuts being made at District and County level. The top three points of concern were welfare benefit, debt and job seeking. The SNVB then got lottery funding for three years and are currently into their second year. SNVB are hoping to obtain a small vehicle like a mobile library which can be taken around villages. There will be laptops to use, internet access and a small private meeting room. Mr King will visit villages on a monthly basis and will try to bring with him experts from the specialised areas of concern. This vehicle is important to the project and will grab everyone's attention. It is hoped that villagers will have the chance to say what they want, such as how to reduce their gas and electricity bills and ask about solar heating and mobility aids. Over time, this will build up a filing cabinet of good advice and help.

SNVB have a 16 seater minibus which they have had for one year now. When the survey was carried out, transport was an issue. The minibus can take residents to places such as the Citizens Advice Bureau or it can be hired out to voluntary groups for a nominal fee. There are two part time drivers who could drive the bus.

Mr King asked if the Parish Council could establish a point of contact in Sulgrave, help with publicity via the notice-board, website and newsletter and work to establish a programme of visits for the mobile unit to attend the village. The Chair agreed that the council could help with publicity and asked Mr King to send all the information to the Clerk. The Chair thanked Mr King for coming to the meeting.

To discuss and agree the setting of the precept for 2013/14

SNC have confirmed that from 1st April 2013, council tax benefit will no longer exist and be replaced by a locally designed Council Tax reduction scheme. Under the previous arrangement Council tax benefit would be claimed by a claimant but the cost of the benefit would be matched by a government subsidy. Under the new arrangement council tax benefit will not be awarded but a council tax discount given to reflect the replacement for the current benefit scheme. The consequence of awarding a discount is that this automatically reduces the tax base as SNC will not be collecting the full amount of council tax from those people who will receive a council tax discount going forward. In 2012-13 the taxbase for Sulgrave Parish Council was 194.6. In 2013-14 the taxbase for Sulgrave Parish Council is estimated to be 186.3. Within the provisional financial settlement released by the Government is information referred to as the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) grant. Although paid to the District Council it is clear that an element of this grant relates to Parish Councils and has been awarded to mitigate the financial impact. Precepts will not be capped for 2013/14 but may be in future years.

A discussion took place about possible future projects for the new financial year.

It was agreed to increase the precept by 3.5% to £11,158.00 for 2013/14 and to accept the grant of £416.54 from South Northants Council.

Action: The Parish Clerk to respond to SNC.

To consider the Adoption of the Revised Code of Conduct adopted by South Northants Council (SNC) and the following resolutions:

- The revised Code of Conduct adopted by SNC be adopted as the code for members and co-opted members of Sulgrave Parish council with effect from 15th February 2013 or such other date as may be specified in regulations, to replace the current Code of Conduct; and
- The Clerk be requested to notify the Monitoring Officer of SNC of the passing of the above resolution.

It was all agreed that these resolutions be accepted.

Action: The Clerk to notify SNC.

Councillors Reports

Improvements to the Church Hall

An email was received from Northants CALC about two free of charge events examining the efficiency and effectiveness of heating and cooling in community buildings. The events will look at effective heating and cooling solutions and will identify sources of grant funding aimed at helping improve community buildings. Unfortunately the location and/or time of the events were unsuitable for councillors to attend. Cllr Powell has asked if there might be an evening event at the Litchborough location in the near future. Anne Kirkland of Northants CALC has confirmed that they will consider running an evening course should there be enough demand.

She also agreed to forward relevant handouts following the events.

Ordering and siting of bench in memory of John Down

Cllr Roberts reported that there has been a change of inscription on the bench and all parties have agreed to it. The company supplying the bench have agreed to hold the price and are ready to start work. The total price is £546.00 as the Parish Council will be able to reclaim the VAT. £870.00 has been received in funding and this will leave a shortfall of £334.00 to cover installation costs.

Two quotes have been received so far for the installation work. One is for £685.00 plus VAT and the other for £1550.00 plus VAT. It was agreed that the Chair will try to obtain two more quotes to compare. Cllr Roberts to order the bench and ask if the supplier can hold off delivery until more money has been raised. Cllr Roberts to make contact with Ken Christy and Richard MacDonald to keep them involved in the process.

Conservation Area Review

Kate Hannelly of SNC has advised that she has nearly finished the appraisal of the Conservation Area. The Chair has invited her to the next meeting to present the draft report. This will then form the start of the formal consultation.

Work at Pocket Park

Cllr Harding reported that the launch date at Pocket Park has now been delayed until 24th March. Julie Russell has asked if there is any money left in the Pocket Park account which could help fund refreshments, ribbons and balloons for the launch. The Clerk replied that there is about £28 left in the account. Cllr Harding will speak to Lis Stuart and Claire Harris about getting together to have a tidy up and it is hoped that Philip Daynes will be able to cut the grass.

New Parking Scheme at Spinners Cottages

Cllr Harding has emailed the contacts provided by the Chair but nobody has replied. The Chair noted that they are not very good at responding and he recommended to Cllr Harding that she keep emailing South Northants Homes. If they do not reply she could email their superiors. A discussion then took place about damage to the grassed area in front of Spinners Cottages. Cars and vans park on the grass although there is room on the road to park. A letter was sent round a couple of years ago but had little effect. This was how discussions about a new parking scheme started. It is a long term solution but will never be a perfect solution with the funding cuts. It was agreed to try and get useful advice from Northants County Council first about parking on highway verges.

Action: The Parish Clerk to forward NCC contact details to Cllr Harding.

Finance Report

a) *To approve the following payments:-*

- £6.50 to Janet Smith (refreshments at Parish Council meeting in December)
- £35.00 to Northants ACRE (membership)
- £210.47 to EON (electricity)
- £86.26 to Colin Wootton (annual payment to website service provider)
- £60.00 to Parish Clerk (contribution to broadband costs)

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

Correspondence

- Northants Victim Support, Donation request
- SNC, Flooding issues and SNCs sandbag policy. Details to go in the newsletter and on the website.
- South Northants Action Group Against HS2
- Northants Police, Community Speedwatch. Northants Police have confirmed that they no longer require the financial support of £450.00 previously asked for.
- Email from County Council Ben Smith to note he will not be standing for re-election in the forthcoming elections after being a councillor for 26 years. The Clerk to write a thank you letter to him.

Open Forum

The Parish Clerk to ask for the grit bins to be refilled on the corner of Little Street and top and bottom of Manor Road.

The Parish Clerk to report the broken light in Church Street to EON.

It was noted that the Vodafone mobile signal has been down for over a week now. It has been reported.

Northamptonshire County Council

Dear Councillors

Webcasting of Meetings

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Many thanks for your support.

Kind regards

Kirk Harrison

Democracy Officer

Telephone 01604 367745

Democracy Team

Leadership Support and Democracy

Northamptonshire County Council

Room 144

County Hall

Northampton

NN1 1DN

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

HS2

Sulgrave Parish Council wishes to draw the attention of residents to the information available about High Speed Rail (HS2).

The following links to the Department of Transport website provide information about the section of line proposed between Greatworth and Edgcote

<http://highspeedrail.dft.gov.uk/library/maps>

<http://highspeedrail.dft.gov.uk/node/4211> (Refer to the resources of the November meeting)

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

You are invited to
THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

To be held on

**THURSDAY 11th April 2013
@ 7.45PM**

In Sulgrave Church Hall

SPEAKERS/REPORTS WILL INCLUDE

PARISH COUNCIL REVIEW AND
PLANS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

A REPORT ON THE
VILLAGE SHOP/
WEBSITE/ALLOTMENTS AND
FOOTPATHS

AN UPDATE FROM SOUTH
NORTHANTS COUNCIL
ON THEIR WORK DURING THE LAST
YEAR

A REPORT FROM SULGRAVE
CHARITIES

We look forward to seeing you there

April 2013

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
5	6	Moreton Pinkney Benefice Service 7 10.00am
12	13	Sulgrave Holy Communion 14 8.15am
19	20	Sulgrave Evensong 21 6.00pm
26	27	Sulgrave Mattins 28 10.00am

Deadline for the May Newsletter is 19th April 2013

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
1	2	3	4
8	9	10	Church HallMtg Parish Council11 7.45pm
15	Church HallSoup Kitchen16 12.30pm	17	18
22	23	24	25
29	30		