

Sulgrave News



December 2009

The Prodigal Returns!

A few days ago there was a minor panic, as new to Sulgrave, Tiggy, decided to go walkabout! I was all geared up to publish his disappearance, when after five days he arrived on the doorstep this morning. It appears there was plenty in Sulgrave to keep his interest, and I am sure he gave it all his seal of approval! So rather than waste a lovely portrait of Tiggy, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome him and his maid servant, Stephanie, to the village.



Could I remind all that the deadline for the January Newsletters is the 13th. December. I will collect any items left at the shop on the Monday, and try and get the it completed in the few days before the holidays.

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

newsletter@84f.com

Deadline for the January newsletter - 13th. December.

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



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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 (Please check, as these may vary over Christmas)

- BB&C Service 2nd Sunday of the month at Culworth Church, 11:00 am
- Book Club 4th Tuesday of each month at the Star Inn, 8:00 pm (not December)
- Circle Dancing 3rd Thursday of the month at Culworth, 7:30 pm
- Pilates Most Wednesdays Culworth 7:30 pm
Most Fridays Sulgrave Church Hall. 9:30 am & 10:30 am
- W.I. 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Church Hall, 7:30 pm



SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

You are invited to THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

To be held on
TUESDAY 8th DECEMBER 2008
@ 7.30PM

In Sulgrave Church Hall, Magpie Road

An Open Forum opportunity to speak with
the Councillors

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies will be served.

We look forward to seeing you there



A **big, big** thank you to everyone in Sulgrave who has sent their good wishes and given their help and time to Joyce Barber. She is most grateful and glad that she moved to this wonderful village.

Joyce

Sulgrave Village Shop Quality, Value and Service

Look out for Seasonable Vegetables delivered every
Tuesday and Friday

Brussel Sprouts on the Stalk
Butternut Squash
Red Cabbage
Pumpkins
Extra Value Soup Bags

All UK grown, so fresh, tasty and less food miles!

Remember 15% discount on **all** vegetables every
Monday.

Coming soon details of Sulgrave Village Shop Special
Christmas Orders.

For more information please e-mail
sulgrave.shop@googlemail.com



2009 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Sulgrave yet again responded most generously to this year's appeal, contributing £347.14p. £172.90 was donated at our Remembrance Day Service, and £130.07 at the Village Shop. The remainder of £44.17 came from other collecting boxes. Events in Iraq and Afghanistan have underlined the sacrifices by our armed servicemen and women, and our continuing need to sustain them.

With grateful thanks Christopher Beck



WATCH THIS SPACE
JUST WANT TO PLANT A SEED
TO GET YOU
GROWING AN IDEA
FOR YOUR ENTRY INTO THE
SULGRAVE VILLAGE PRODUCE SHOW
ON
SEPTEMBER 4TH 2010
MORE INFORMATION COMING IN
THE NEW YEAR

A Village Walk

Weston and back

Sunday 27th December 2009

If you would like to join in
please

Assemble at the Village Shop
at 11.00am



SULGRAVE WELCOME (Bag lady)

Judy Brown has kindly taken over over this job. If you know of someone moving into the village please call her on 768959 so that she can make a visit. Thank you.



Children's Society Box Collection 2009

Many thanks to everybody who has a house box for the Children's Society. The latest box opening yielded a tremendous £318.42 for the Children's Society for which they are most grateful. The monies will be used to improve the lives of children in need around the country.

Many thanks to Ron and Anne James who gave up a very long morning to help me count all the money from the boxes.

If anybody would like a house box to collect money in for the Children's Society please call me on (01295) 760957.
Kate Miles

Sulgrave with Culworth Women's Institute

Our November meeting was held on Wednesday 11th in the Church Hall. Colin Wootton came and whisked us away to France with his wonderful photographs and talk of his cycling holiday this year.

We meet this month on Wednesday December 9th at 7.30pm when our speaker will be Lynda Maude discussing the 'History of Pantomime'. You would be very welcome to join us.

Jane Lockwood 760865 or Jo Coverley 768369



Christmas Fayre

The Countdown Begins



The Church Hall on Saturday, December 5, from 10 am - noon.

It is an event **NOT** to be missed. As well as refreshments and a raffle there will be plenty of original gifts and decorations.

Don't miss out!! This is an opportunity to purchase cards and gift wrapping, presents, cakes and biscuits and much, much more.

If you can help in any way by providing a raffle prize or cakes and produce etc., please contact Shrimp on 760214.

St John the Less, Church News

Why not ignore the commercialisation of Christmas and come and celebrate the true meaning of this festive time.

There will be a Carol Service on Sunday, December 20th at 3 pm., in the church. This is a candle lit service with carols and readings. The children will place the Nativity figures by the crib and afterwards there will be refreshments with delicious Christmas biscuits.

Our Midnight Service begins at 11:30 pm., on Christmas Eve - the perfect way to welcome the Christ child.

Shrimp Christy

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

SULGRAVE CHURCH

Sunday 6th December at 3pm

Please join us in this wonderful candlelit celebration.

All ages welcome.

Refreshments provided after the service.

Christingle is a special service introduced into the Church of England over 40 years ago by the Children's Society. This charity works with disadvantaged children across the UK.

Carol Singing

Friday 18th December

Meet at **7:00 pm** outside the Village Shop

7:15 pm Top of Little Street near the Helmdon Road

7:30 pm The Star

7:45 pm Under the Beech trees Magpie Road / Park Lane **till 8:00 pm.**

Due to dwindling numbers of hardy folk who are able to follow the whole route of previous years and in consultation with the regular carol singers it has been decided to trial an alternative plan for carol singing. It is proposed that there will be 4 stops in the village encompassing as much of the village as possible and taking account of children and others safety.

Please come and join us at all stops, or for the one that is convenient for you.

Money raised will be going to the very worthy cause of the **Air Ambulance** and we will knock on doors as usual, a **collection tin** will also be placed in the **shop** if you would like to donate but miss us on that night.

Hoping for a dry night and to see you then.



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 12th November 2009

Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held on 8th October 2009

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

Councillors Reports

Beech Trees on the Green

Cllr Waite had emailed Ian Lorman at SNC and he has agreed to look at the trees when he next passes through the village. He does not think that thinning the trees by more than 15% will be necessary. The benefits of thinning are debatable when you are relieving the weight over parts of a tree supported by a weak union because it is the weight at the tips of the branches that provides the forces at the union. Reducing the crown of a tree overall by shortening the ends would achieve the desired result but should only be considered in exceptional circumstances especially with mature beech trees that do not like being reduced. Cllr Waite has other people to contact for quotes but will wait for advice from Ian Lorman before proceeding any further.

Parking outside Spinners Cottages, Magpie Road

South Northants Homes (SNH) have visited the site and are awaiting costs from the Design and Build Contractor.

Community Speedwatch

This has now finished and 6 vehicles were caught speeding. Thanks was given to the three volunteers involved.

The Slow Down and Watch Your Speed Boards can stay up until 14th December. They can then be put up between 15th February and 29th March 2010. The boxes to record speed can be placed near the Stocks.

Castle Green

Cllr Pollak gave the following report:

Wall Rebuilding

Last month it was reported that the repairs to the wall around the green were completed and the Castle Green Committee (CGC) would discuss the Rhodes Partners' recommendation that they should accept Practical Completion. The Committee agreed that the work was of a sufficiently high standard and there were no major outstanding issues. Underwood and Weston have been paid £5860.33 which was the amount

remaining of the contract sum less 2.5% retention which will be held for 6 months.

The CGC also discussed figures produced by Rhodes Partners that included extra amounts that Underwood and Weston claim are owed to them. Some of these were agreed at various times over the last two years so the CGC are happy to accept them but there are others which they do not agree with. For example they are claiming extra work on the steps, but all the extra work that had to be done was as a result of their bad workmanship.

Risk Assessment

In a report produced in June, John Hicks recommended that some of the trees along the northern boundary of the Green should have their crowns lifted. This would involve removing a few of the lower branches to improve the sight lines. The committee agreed that this would be a good thing to do so Martin is going to discuss the idea with the Tree Warden, George Metcalfe. None of the trees are protected by a TPO.

Pocket Park

Cllr Osborne thanked everyone who helped with the tidy up. It was a great success and a clear walkway was made around the pond. Thanks was given to Mr and Mrs Coverley for their work prior to the day and on the day. The largest funding application has been completed now and the committee are waiting for a response.

MGWSP

Work has been carried out by the MGWSP gang. They have cleared the drains and gullies in Little Street and Park Lane, demossed the footpath above Sulgrave House in Little St, cleared vegetation from the footpath at top of Little St, replaced reflective posts on the sharp bend by the shop, cleared overgrown verges at the top of Helmdon Road, treated the bus shelter with preservative, cleaned and treated the bench by the church gate and repainted the signpost at Little Street and Helmdon Road.

With regard to the edge damage in Church Street and Park Lane, a 28 day works order to repair this has been raised. A works order has also been raised for the installation of additional granite setts in front of the green but the work will have to wait until the next financial year.

Street Lighting

The Chair had carried out a lot of research on street lighting following on from the comments made at the last council meeting. The report was read out by Cllr Kellett.

There are 24 street lights which are 80 watt mercury vapour lamps and mounted on poles. The cost of maintenance is £80 per quarter and the cost of energy is £209 per quarter. This totals £1150 each year. All fittings are controlled by light sensitive photocells that switch the unit on at dusk and off at dawn. The light fittings are twenty years old and were originally on time switches. These were proved ineffective and expensive and were changed to dusk to dawn settings.

There are four possible solutions:-

- Replacing the current light sensitive controllers with a new part night light sensitive unit. This is programmable such that it switches on at dusk, off at midnight and on again at 5.30am. EON are not keen on these as they take careful adjustments and setting up over a period.
- Shading the fitting. EON have said that this solution has never been found to be

wholly satisfactory. An alternative is to fit a longer reach arm, moving the fitting further away from the property.

- Exchanging the fittings for new white light lamps. EON state these are gradually being phased in as mercury vapour lamps are now regarded as environmentally unacceptable.
- Remove the fittings altogether. There are two issues with this idea. The Parish Council would have to go out to public consultation. Unlit through roads are frowned on by Highways and police authorities, if there was an accident put down to poor visibility the PC could be considered liable (there has been a case in law pursued by an injured party).

The costs are as follows:

To change and fit the existing photo-cells would cost approximately 230.00 each. For 24 lanterns a budget of £2-3.6K would be needed. The suitability of the present fittings would have to be surveyed and there is a risk they cannot be converted without modifications. There will be a saving in energy costs and the Parish Council do not have to change every lamp at once.

To replace the fitting completely with new lanterns would cost £258.42 per lantern. The total budget needed for this work would be £6.2-7K. The Parish Council would benefit from 50% reduction in energy costs saving £400 per year. For an extra £55 per lantern certain fittings adjacent to homes could be fitted with part night photo cells.

From the floor it was felt that with the lights on at night there was better security. Cllr Pollak suggested that automatic lights could be installed and could only come on when there is movement nearby.

In conclusion the Parish Council need to decide if the project needs further investigation or alternatives. It will be put on the agenda for discussions when agreeing and setting the budget for 2010/11.

Finance Report

Cheques for approval

The following payments were approved and cheques raised accordingly:-

£208.75	EON (electricity)
£34.00	Northants ACRE (subscription)

Inclusion of Parish Council meeting minutes in newsletter

The Parish Clerk apologised that meeting minutes had not appeared in several newsletters over the last few months. This was due to an oversight. Minutes are always available to see by prior notice to the Chair or Parish Clerk. The meeting dates for 2010 which are yet to be set, will be set for the first week of the month to allow plenty of time for the minutes to be typed, checked and ready to be put in the newsletter.

Update on Planning Applications

S/2009/0848/LBC and S/2009/0847/FUL, Replacement garage at the Thatched House, Manor Road. SNC have approved this.

S/2009/0845/FUL and S/2009/0848/LBC, Change of use of part of premises from shop and residential to wholly residential with external and internal changes (renewal of S/2006/0733/P).

External Alterations including refurbishment of shop front and replacement and alteration

of doors and windows. Internal alterations including the removal of the existing staircase and some fixtures, the installation of a replacement staircase and the subdivision and alteration of the existing floor plan at ground and first floor levels at Old Sulgrave Stores, School Street (renewal of S/2006/0736/P).

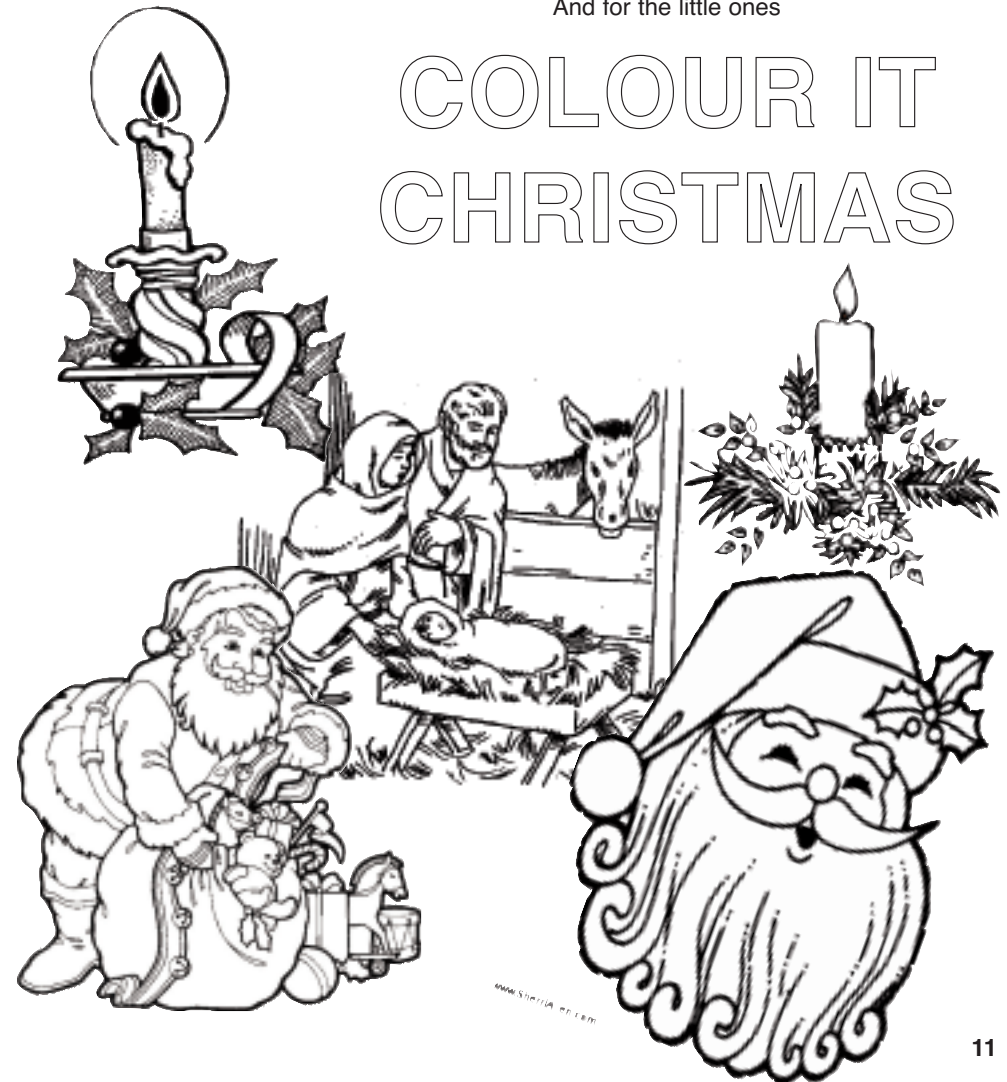
This has been approved by SNC with 18 conditions which should give SNC greater control over the future work that is carried out.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

8th December 2009 at 7.30pm in the Church Hall. This will be an informal meeting to meet the councillors and put questions to them. The County and District Councillor have both been invited to attend.

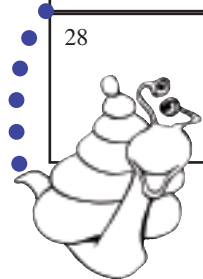
And for the little ones

COLOUR IT
CHRISTMAS



December 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5 Christmas Fayre 10 am - Noon Church Hall	6 Christingle Service 3:00 pm Sulgrave
7	8 Soup Kitchen 12:30 pm Church Hall Parish Council 7:30 pm Church Hall	9 W.I. Meeting 7:30 pm Church Hall	10	11	12	13 Holy Comm. 8:15 am Sulgrave
14	15	16	17 Circle Dancing 7:30 pm Culworth	18 Carol Singing 7:00 pm Start The Shop	19	20 Carol Service 3:00 pm Sulgrave
21	22	23	24 Midnight Service 11:30 pm Sulgrave	25 Xmas Day	26	27 Benefice Carol Service 10:00 am Edgcote Village Walk 11:00 am at Shop
28	29	30	31			



Squithy the Snail
Legless but not in a car!

