

# Sulgrave News

## March 2011

### Regular Events

BB&C Service	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at Culworth church - 11.00am
Book Club	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Star Inn - 8.00pm
Circle Dancing	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at Culworth - 7.30pm
Pilates	Most Fridays at Sulgrave Church Hall - 9.30am

*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 18<sup>th</sup> March

If you have information, articles or stories for the newsletter telephone Janet on 01295 760397 or e-mail [janet\\_m\\_smith@btinternet.com](mailto:janet_m_smith@btinternet.com).  
As always, articles can be left at Sulgrave Village Shop

## **Important Information On Village Shop**

In common with many small businesses your Sulgrave Village Shop has been adversely impacted by the economic downturn.

After a record trading year in 2009, last year saw sales decline by 9% and the shop move from a small profit to a small loss. Although in the short term we have sufficient reserves to absorb the loss, if this was to continue, fund raising would be required to maintain the standard of services offered. Unfortunately sales are down again in the first few weeks of 2011.

The shop, and the many volunteers who give their time to run it, provides a service which the village is justly proud. It is the envy of many other communities, has won awards for the quality of the goods and services it provides and offers an invaluable service for many in the village.

The Village Shop Committee is asking all villagers to remember that you all have a share in the ownership of the shop. We need you to step up your support in these difficult times and remember that it's your shop and more than a commercial enterprise.

Specifically we are asking you to take the following steps:

If you are a regular shop user please spend an additional 50p each visit

If you are an infrequent user please use the shop at least once a week more

If you do not use the shop tell us why on [sosbournejm@googlemail.com](mailto:sosbournejm@googlemail.com) and we will try to correct the issues or, alternatively, you can volunteer to participate in the feedback sessions outlined below

Before you make a trip to Middleton or Banbury for day to day needs phone the shop (10295 760066) to check whether they have what you need in stock, and remember that with each journey now costing over £2.00 in petrol alone and the shop offering excellent value it makes even more sense to shop local.

In the next month we will be arranging informal group discussions with villagers who either use the shop on a frequent basis, an infrequent basis or don't use the shop at all to get feedback on the aspects of the shop they value, what they think could improve the shop and what changes would make them use it more. We would think this feedback is really important in shaping the future of your shop and would really appreciate your assistance. If you want to participate please either email [macdonald@graftonhouse.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:macdonald@graftonhouse.wanadoo.co.uk) or add your name to the list soon to appear in the shop.

We believe that your Sulgrave Village Shop continues to provide excellent Quality Service and Value for the goods and services it provides. It is your shop. Please support it.

**Sulgrave Village Shop Committee**



Janet & Maureen would like to invite you to our

## *Soup Kitchen*

at Sulgrave Church Hall on  
Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 12.30pm



Leek & Potato Soup(V)

or

Pea & Ham Soup

Both served with croutons, bread rolls and butter

Pancakes & trimmings

or

Cheese & biscuits, celery & grapes

Cafetieres of freshly brewed coffee

£6.50

Booking is essential

To reserve your place please call

Janet Smith  
01295 760397

Maureen Jeffery  
01295 768268

## **CULWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL ENVELOPE DROP**

*Many many thanks from the headmistress, Mrs Lawrence, the Governors and the children of Culworth Primary School to everybody who recently contributed so generously to the fund raising effort by giving donations in those envelopes dropped through your doors. Sulgrave residents contributed a staggering £873 which will amount to around £1000 with gift aid! The school is delighted and it is a great achievement. So far the school has managed to raise about £7,000 of the £25,000 required and some of the urgent repairs to the Old School House have been started and I am told the School House is looking better and better each day! It is great to feel that with our help this 200 year old school, which is such a valuable asset in our community, will continue to flourish well in to the future. A really huge thank you once again.*

*Kate Miles*



## **SULGRAVE AND CULWORTH SENIOR CITIZENS**

Will be holding a table top sale  
in aid of their club

**at Sulgrave Church Hall  
on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
from 10 am to 12 noon.**

Good as new, bric-a-brac, plants, cakes, preserves,  
and a bran tub for the children.

Refreshments.

Raffle with good prizes.

Ample parking.

Do come along, even if only for  
a cup of tea and a chat.



## Philip Henn

Daphne, Christopher and Jacqueline would like to thank all those who donated at Philip's Memorial Service. A cheque for £1.030 has been handed to the very grateful staff of E Ward at the Horton Hospital in Banbury where Philip was so well cared for during his last weeks.

Philip was born and raised at Fleet Farm and worked all his married life at Kiln Farm, Sulgrave. His main interests outside of family and farming were always horses, hunting and cricket. He was, therefore, extremely proud that granddaughter Hannah had ridden the winner of a pony race in his maroon and light blue colours at Towcester Racecourse. Also that he was able, for his last two summers, to watch grandson Jack playing junior cricket for Evenley village team.



### ***Church Services***

*March 6<sup>th</sup> 10am Benefice Holy Communion at Culworth*

*March 9<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) 6.30pm Benefice Holy Communion at Sulgrave*

*March 13<sup>th</sup> 8.15am Holy Communion at Sulgrave*

*March 20<sup>th</sup> 6pm Evensong at Sulgrave*

*March 27<sup>th</sup> 10am Mattins at Sulgrave*



### **Parochial Church Council (PCC) AGM**

The Annual Vestry and Annual Parochial Church meeting will be held in Sulgrave church hall on Thursday 31st March at 7.30pm. Everybody welcome! There will be the usual reports by the vicar, churchwardens and treasurer on the past year together with the election of PCC members including Church Wardens. It is a great opportunity to come and hear how the Church is doing. We hope to see you there.

Kate Miles PCC secretary

The new **Helmdon Village Cafe** welcomes you!

We will be opening on:

**TUESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY IN THE READING ROOM, CHURCH STREET,  
HELMDON FROM 10-12AM**

(and every subsequent Tuesday morning)

Just pop in for your own pot of tea or cafetiere of ground coffee at £1, and have a slice of delicious homemade cake, for 50p. There is a small children's play area and we also serve soft drinks for 30p and biscuits.

Enjoy a break in a true cafe-style environment!



## **Please be a responsible dog owner**

There is increasing evidence of dog waste being left at the side of the road in recent weeks, the badly affected areas being Little Street, Church Lane and Park Lane

Whilst many dog owners are responsible and deposit the waste at home in the black bins, there are some inconsiderate owners who are not doing so or are leaving bags by the side of the road.

This is unsightly and hazardous to health, please deposit the waste in your black bin, do not leave on the verges, on the boundaries of the village or use the village litter bins.

We do try to keep Sulgrave a clean and pleasant village for residents and visitors, please help us to continue to do this and have respect for the environment.

Collect and deposit dog waste responsibly

**Sulgrave Parish Council**

## **SULGRAVE**

**There will be elections in May 2011 in Sulgrave.**

**You should consider becoming a parish or town councillor if:**

- You Want To Do Something Positive for Your Community
- You Want To Spend Your Time Productively
- You Can Think, Listen and Act Locally

### **The Role**

Parish councillors are elected by the public at an ordinary election, normally held on the first Thursday in May every four years. Being a parish councillor is an unpaid position although allowances to cover costs are sometimes available.

### **Effort Required**

**TIME** - It is possible to spend a lot of time on council work - but most people have jobs, families and hobbies that also demand a lot of time. However, as with most things, the more you put in, the more you (and your community) will get out.

Generally speaking, the larger your community the larger your workload will be. The times of the meetings vary, as do the venues. Parish councils normally meet in the evening. It is **IMPORTANT** to establish the pattern of meetings and venues to make sure they can accommodate your domestic and/or business arrangements. Most councils meet once a month and many also have committees, in which case you would probably be invited to sit on a committee. These usually meet in between the meetings of the full parish council.

**COST** - Being a councillor should cost you little. There is usually cover for subsistence and travel allowances if your duties take you out of your local council's area. These allowances will be determined by the council, and will be within a maximum laid down by the Government.

## Nomination process

A prospective candidate must deliver or send by post to the Returning Officer for the election a valid nomination paper. This form is obtained from the Officer. The candidate's surname, forenames, residence and description (if required) must be entered and his or her number and prefix letter from the current register of electors. The Returning Officer has a copy of this register, and the clerk of the local council normally has one. The nomination paper must also contain similar particulars of a proposer and a seconder. They must be electors for the area for which the candidate seeks election (i.e. the parish, community or town or the ward if it is divided into wards): they must sign it.

## Election Timetable

Ordinary elections usually coincide with the election year of the District Council and must be held on the same day. The interval between elections is 4 years and therefore your term of office would normally be 4 years. The full timetable for the 2011 local elections is below. If you decide to stand for election you must submit your nomination by noon on Monday 4 April 2011.

Publication of Notice of Election	Friday 25 March 2011
Receipt of Nominations	noon Monday 4 April 2011
Publication of Statements of Persons Nominated	noon Wednesday 6 April 2011
Withdrawal of Candidate	noon Thursday 7 April 2011
Last Date for Registration	Thursday 14 April 2011
Receipt of Postal Vote Applications	5:00 pm Thursday 14 April 2011
Publication of Notice of Poll	Monday 25 April 2011
Receipt of Proxy Vote Applications	5:00 pm Monday 25 April 2011

Appointment of Poll and Count Agents	Tuesday 26 April 2011
First Day to Issue Replacement Lost Postal Ballot Papers	Wednesday 27 April 2011
Receipt of Emergency Proxy Vote Applications	5:00 pm Thursday 5 May 2011
Last Day to Issue Replacement Spoilt or Lost Postal Ballot Papers	5:00 pm Thursday 5 May 2011
Day of Poll	7:00 am to 10:00 pm Thursday 5 May 2011
Declaration of Candidates Expenses	Thursday 2 June 2011

## Eligibility and Requirements

Initially, you may have little knowledge of Council work but this will come, along with experience and confidence.

As a new Councillor you will bring to the Council fresh enthusiasm and new ideas, a care for your community and a willingness to learn.

A candidate for a Parish or Town Council is qualified if, when nominated –

1. he or she is a British subject or Irish citizen,
2. is 18 years of age, and
3. is either in the list of electors for that Parish or Town or has during the whole of the preceding twelve months
  - a. occupied land as owner or tenant in it, or
  - b. had a principal place of work there, or
  - c. resided in or within three miles of it.

## What Next?

If you are considering becoming a candidate for election you are very strongly recommended to contact the Returning Officer at the District or Borough Council to obtain information on what you need to do to be nominated. All of the District and Borough Councils produce guidance on Election Procedures and it is imperative that

these are followed or you may find that you have disqualified yourself from candidacy.

Further details and contact information is available from the Clerk to the Council.

Please Contact: -

Mrs Christine Coles  
Clerk to Sulgrave Parish Council  
55 Gillett Road, Banbury, Oxon

Telephone Number 01295 276229  
Email [colesnccj@btinternet.com](mailto:colesnccj@btinternet.com)

Please remember the efforts of previous councillor's, have given us this lovely village we are now privileged to live in. **Take up the challenge, and make your mark on it's future.**

For further details about becoming a parish councillor please visit:  
[www.stand-and-deliver.com](http://www.stand-and-deliver.com)

# 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 ODR  
Tel No 01295 276229  
Fax No 01295 276658  
Email colesnccj@btinternet.com

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## Draft Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> January 2011

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

Chairman - Cllr Graham Roberts (07778 584108)  
Vice-Chairman - Cllr David Kellett (07747 808574)  
Parish Clerk - Mrs Christine Coles (01295 276229)  
Cllr Clare Pollak (01295 768224)  
Cllr Jane Osborne (07879 624375)  
Cllr Jo Powell (01295 768243)  
Cllr Andrew Waite (07787 502260)

### Introduction

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November were agreed and signed as a true record. This was proposed by Cllr Pollak and seconded by Cllr Waite. The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December were agreed and signed as a true record. This was proposed by Cllr Waite and seconded by Cllr Pollak.

### Matters Arising

A letter had been received from Brackley Area Volunteer Scheme thanking the Parish Council for their recent donation of £50.00.

## To discuss the results of the Housing Needs Survey report received from South Northants Council

The housing needs survey was distributed in the November newsletter to draw an opinion on housing need requirements. The results of the Housing Needs Survey had been distributed between the council in December. The key findings were that 174 surveys were sent out, 53 were returned which represented a 30% result rate. 5 households identified a wish to move within 5 years. The recommended ideal solution is to build four homes for rent, 3 x 2 bedroom flat and 1 x four bedroom house. The Parish Council have to give their thoughts to the Housing Officer at SNC and if in agreement to try and find means of finding suitable land within the village confines. This would be carried out over a five year timescale.

The Chair suggested summarising the findings of the report in an article for the village newsletter. At a future date there would be a village walkabout with SNC representatives and the Parish Council to identify any potential sites to meet the identified affordable housing need.

The Chair asked the councillors for their views. Cllr Powell suggested that existing buildings may be adapted. Cllr Pollak noted that there are a few ex-council houses for sales at present and South Northants Homes could buy these back and make into affordable houses. This would be more sustainable and less impact. Cllr Waite felt the report should be acknowledged and the Parish Council should balance their approach to preserve the character, open space, spaces between buildings and appearance of the village.

South Northants Council are to be mindful of these facts and not to seek to overdevelop spaces within the village confines or to increase housing density to a degree which is incompatible with the established character of the village.

*Action: The Chair to draft a suitable response and circulate to all before sending to SNC.*

### **To set the budget for 2011/12**

The precept level for 2010/11 was set at £10,570.00. Expenditure for this financial year has been less than originally forecasted but expenditure for the coming year could increase for example fuel costs for village mowing and travel costs for the Clerk.

There will be an election in May and the most it could cost is £1K. The council felt it would be a good idea to put money aside for a street party for the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebrations next year. There is a jubilee fund that has £465.00 in the account and if an extra £500 was put in with it there would be nearly £1K to spend. Insurance premiums should reduce if the council enter into a 3 year long term agreement when renewal is up in June. It was agreed that £2050.00 be transferred into the reserve account which is money allocated to other funds as detailed on the prepared budget sheet. For 2011/12 it was agreed that £250 would be allocated to the four separate village maintenance funds.

The Chair proposed the precept level be set at £10,570.00, the same as 2010/11 and this was seconded by Cllr Waite. All the councillors voted in favour. The savings made this year would pay for an increase in certain areas of expenditure next year.

*Action:- The Clerk to advise SNC of the precept payment for 2011/12.*

### **To discuss whether the council should make a donation to Culworth School to help with the creation of a new entrance to the school**

A letter had been received from Culworth School asking for a donation to help with the creation of a new entrance to the school off the path next to the church. The total cost of the work is £300K and Culworth School will have to find 10% (£30K) of the whole amount. Sulgrave School closed in 1991 and it was noted that about half of the children in the village attend this school.

Three councillors voted to give a donation of £100.00 and three councillors voted to give a donation of £150.00. The Chairman gave a casting vote and it was agreed a donation of £150.00 would be given.

*Action: The Clerk to send payment with covering letter.*

## **Councillors Reports**

### *Pocket Park*

Cllr Osborne noted that the Sulgrave Pocket Park Action Group had been very fortunate in receiving a grant for £49,999.00 for improvements to Pocket Park. The council congratulated the group on all their hard work. A working party will be at the Park during the weekend of 19/20 February between 10am-3pm. It is hoped the work will be finished at the end of May and a launch party will be held after that.

### *Street Lighting*

Cllr Kellett noted he had accepted the lighting brief from the Chair and has been looking at environmentally friendly solar powered lighting.

### *Parking on Magpie Road*

Cllr Waite had nothing to report.

### *Castle Green*

Cllr Pollak had nothing to report.

### *Speedwatch*

The vehicle activation signs were due in the village for three times over a four week period from 13<sup>th</sup> September to 11<sup>th</sup> October. The subsequent sessions will not go ahead as we are no longer in the scheme. A speed van was placed next to the Old Stores on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010 from 3.45pm-5.15pm but nobody was caught speeding. Cllr Powell noted that as no extra volunteers had come forward to help she would be standing down. The Chair thanked her for her help over the last three years.

## **Finance Report**

### **a) Cheques for approval**

£81.58 to EON (street lighting)

£208.75 to EON (electricity)

£49.02 to BT (fax)

£448.80 to Parish Clerk (hours from September - December)

£42.16 to Parish Clerk (mileage to meetings)

These were proposed by Cllr Powell and seconded by Cllr Osborne

## Planning Applications

- *To receive an update on Spring Ridge Farm planning application.*

The Clerk had tried to contact the Case Officer at SNC to get an update but without success. SNC have received 500 letters, mostly opposing the application but a small number in favour.

*Action: The Clerk to continue to make contact with the Case Officer at SNC.*

Decision notices were received for the following applications:

- S/2010/1271/FUL, Construction of 4 bay car port building with home office and storage above at Dial House Farm, Magpie Road. Approved.
- Rear addition and replace 2 flat roofs with tiled pitched roof, replacement windows at Spencer House, Little St. Approved.
- Proposed conservatory to rear of property at 14 Spinners Cottages. Approved.
- Certificate of Lawful Use or Development at Sulgrave Pocket Park, Towrise.

## 2011 Elections - Attracting new candidates and promoting the election

The Chair noted that elections will be held in Sulgrave this coming May. Councillors are elected to stand for four years. A notice giving details and dates of the forthcoming election will be put in the newsletter and on the website.

## Date and Time of Next Meeting

10<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 7.45pm in the Church Hall

## March 2011

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	2	3	4 Pilates 9.30am Church Hall	5	6 10am Benefice Holy Communion at Culworth
7	8	9 6.30pm Benefice Holy Communion at Sulgrave	10 Parish Council Mtg 7.45pm Church Hall	11 Pilates 9.30am Church Hall	12	13 8.15am Holy Communion at Sulgrave
14	15 Soup Kitchen 12.30pm Sulgrave Church Hall	16	17	18 Pilates 9.30am Church Hall	19	20 6pm Evensong at Sulgrave
21	22	23	24	25 Pilates 9.30am Church Hall	26	27 10am Mattins at Sulgrave
28	29	30	31 Parochial Church Council AGM 7.30pm Church Hall			

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