

Sulgrave News



December 2006

Time turning!

Sorry if I worried anyone last month by not just turning back the clock, but also the calendar! The dates were in the right place but I overlooked the month when adjusting the back page. Strange how it happens, but I woke up a couple of days later and had a flash of realisation and changed it just before sent Colin the electronic version for the village web site.

The pressure of work has finally caught up with me in Spades. As the dreaded ofsted will be with me tomorrow, 27th Nov., so this is a little rushed but I hope it will be with you in good time.

I hope you all enjoy the village festivities during this season of good will, and may I be the first to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Once again a reminder about the email address for the Sulgrave Newsletter. It is

newsletter@84f.com

Deadline for JANUARY 2007 newsletter - 15th 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 Ann & Peter Mackness, George Metcalfe and Vera Smith. Costs are met by Sulgrave Parish Council and Sulgrave Manor. 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

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Mums & Tots | Every Friday in the Church Hall, 10:30 am - 12:00 noon |
| 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 |
| W.I. | 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Church Hall, 7:30 pm |



Mums and Tots Xmas Party

Friday 15th December 10:30 – 12:30

Please bring along a present with your child's name on for Santa.
We will then be closed until Friday 6th January 2007. *Claire 768207*



Saturday 9th December

C h r i s t m a s
B a z a a r

Church Hall 10:00am – Noon

Grand Raffle

Cards, Paper, Ribbon, Gifts, Delicious Food,
Winter Cyclamen, Wreaths & Refreshments

Every thing you need for Christmas

Carol Singing.

The WI has traditionally organised the Annual Carol Singing around the village. This year it will take place on Tuesday December 19th, meeting at 6.30pm outside Sulgrave Village Shop. Carol sheets will be provided, but do bring a torch to illuminate the words!

Come and join us, everyone welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

"Feedback" from last year brought up a couple of concerns. Firstly, dogs on leads and pushchairs had been a bit of a hazard in the dark. Please do bring them but, be aware of those around you. Secondly, we need more collectors this year, so they can attempt to knock on more doors and keep up with the singing group.

Above all - do enjoy the evening, and if not joining in the singing, listen out for them at a lamp-post near you!

This year we are raising money for a most worthwhile cause - The Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance.

Ann Mackness.

2006 Annual Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion's Wappenham and District Branch Appeal raised £2402-15 for the RBL's vital welfare and benevolent work. Sulgrave's contribution was £404-55; £229-45 for the village collection and £175-10 (a record) from the special Remembrance Sunday Service. Thanks are due to those who helped with the appeal and all of you for your most generous response.

Sulgrave Parish Council (Continued)

Matters Arising from previous meeting

Castle Green

Cllr Pollak advised that the Guidelines for Use on Castle Green, which was circulated at the last meeting, had now been amended and the final version had been passed to the Parish Clerk for filing.

Village Website

The website is now up and running and thanks was given to Colin Wootton on behalf of the Parish Council for his energy and speed with it. Thanks was also given to Dave Dunlop and Emily Whitehead for all the initial work that they did with the website in the very beginning.

Light in Towrise

Cllr Cherry had checked the light in Towrise that was reported to be on permanently. He found it to be off during the day but will need to check if it is on at night.

Update on Planning Applications

The following notification of an older application had been received from SNC.

S/2006/1055/P, Three front dormers at Eagles Court, Helmdon Road

This has been refused by SNC as it would result in an unsympathetic and incongruous extension that would be detrimental to the character and appearance of the dwelling and wider Conservation Area.

Finance Report

Cheques

The following payments were approved:-

£293.75 to Oxford Preservation Services (treatment of bus shelter)
£39.69 to BT (fax bill)



Councillors Reports

Central Networks

Cllr Cherry noted that Central Networks are currently in communication with Northants County Council who own the land that they want to use at the bottom of Helmdon Road. Once this has been sorted out, work will begin. If this site is not successful, Cllr Cherry will ensure that the village are consulted before a new site is chosen.

Horton Hospital

A letter of support was sent from the Parish Council as the consultation period ended on 13th October.

Allotment Area

In a written report, Cllr Roberts had advised the council that a lot of progress has been made so far. There is interest from other villagers to take on an allotment but not in their current state as the area is very overgrown. A discussion has taken place with the current holders and it was agreed that roundup would be applied to the site to get rid of the weeds. Thanks to Roger Cherry as this has now been done. The area is going to be strimmed and the ground rotivated soon, ready for next year.

Sulgrave Parish Council

Chairman: Mr K Christy, Wisteria Cottage, Helmdon Road, Sulgrave, Oxon, OX17 2SQ
Parish Clerk: Mrs C Coles, 55 Gillett Road, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 0DR,
Tel No 01295 276229, Fax No 01295 276658, Email colesnccj@btinternet.com

Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 12th. October 2006

Guest Speaker

The meeting was attended by Kathryn Smith, Rural Officer of Northants ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England).

Kathryn Smith (KS) advised that ACRE is an independent charity and they work with rural communities. They are one of thirty eight rural councils and have a number of roles to fulfil. Their main body of work is parish plans and they work with Parish Councils and agencies. They offer services and provide advice and support.

ACRE provide advice on funding for community projects through a funder finder computer programme. There is funding for Parish Plans available through DEFRA. This is a good way to identify local needs through consultation with the community. It raises awareness of local issues such as post offices, shops and green spaces.

KS spoke about their current projects. The first is Northants On Wheels which provides advice to young people on how to access employment and further education. It has been running for two years and ACRE are currently trying to secure funding for the next two years. The second is Community Speedwatch. The scheme is aimed at volunteers who train to work a speed camera and monitor the local traffic, however there is a huge waiting list. The third is Village of the Year Competition which is very successful and sponsored by Calor.

The Chair asked KS for more information on parish plans. The previous council had put a lot of work into preparing one sometime ago and then they were advised by Rachel Abbott of ACRE that funding had been withdrawn. The village is in a critical time of development as new growth will happen soon. There are lots of young children in the village now and they need to be looked after. The village is very active but it is proving difficult to get villagers involved, a case of volunteer fatigue. The shop is in its 3rd year and is trading very successfully. The Chair had seen a copy of the Parish Plan for Wappenham and he was very impressed. In their design statement there were thirty different principles but the plan accepted that the village will change over time, and it was vital that it looked after its local heritage. KS replied it would make sense to agree a Village Design Statement at the same time as working on the parish plan. There is funding available until 2008. To take the plan forward, this council would need to hold an open meeting to get the support of the local community. Then they would need to complete an application form and submit it to the grant panel for approval.

The Chair thanked KS for attending the meeting in her own time.

Church News

With Christmas Day at its heart, December is a special month in the church calendar and we invite you to join with us in its celebration. Commercialism seems to have hijacked the true meaning of this festival but as a small community we can join together at this special time and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Children can get involved early with 'A Celebration of Advent' at the Christingle service on December 3rd. at 3 pm., in the church. We remember the work of the Children's Society and how they help less fortunate children in a world where there is so much excess.

Our Carol Service takes place on Sunday 17th December at 3 pm. The church will be warm and decorated for Christmas and during the service of carols and lessons the familiar figures will be placed in the Christmas Crib.

Join in our midnight service of Holy Communion on Christmas Eve, and welcome in Christmas Day with the opportunity to hear what this season is really all about. Join in the familiar carols with family and friends. The service begins at 11:30 pm., and will be taken by Rev. Colin Hutchings. .

Christmas Bazaar

Our annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, December 9th, in the Church Hall between 10 and Noon. Come and do your last minute gift buying. There will be lots of cards and wrapping paper. Decorate your home with winter Cyclamen, flower arrangements and wreaths for your door.

There will be the opportunity to win a beautiful raffle prize and to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee.

We are hoping for a bumper food stall this year so please support us by providing cakes, mince pies, pickles and chutney, biscuits and cookies. Ring Jan Prior (760233) or Gillie Clegg (760296) if you can help.

Do come and support us and if you can help in any way call Shrimp on 760214.



Women's Institute

I am writing this article as the newly appointed secretary for the Sulgrave with Culworth W.I. Before I mention current events, I want to say a heartfelt thank you on behalf of all the members for the sterling service and dedication that Shrimp has given as secretary for the last sixteen years. She has always had her finger on the pulse of matters local and national. She will be a hard act to follow.....

Our speaker for November unfortunately cancelled, however, we were very grateful to Graham Soden who came at short notice and treated us to superb slides of Scotland's wild-life and wild places. The remoteness of the scenery was breathtaking.

Our December meeting promises to be a tasty one, as we all plan to enjoy a fish and chip supper. We'll deck the Hall with boughs of holly, and go home with a gift from the Bran Tub.

Ann Mackness.

Sulgrave Parish Council (Continued)

Councillors Reports (continued)



Castle Green Registration

Cllr Powell has advised NCC of recent events held on the field. Both her and the Clerk are awaiting for responses to emails sent to NCC.

Pocket Park

Prior to the meeting Cllr Moore had circulated an email regarding his concerns for Pocket Park and a list of priority jobs that he felt needed to be carried out.

1. Improve signage (Need to agree wording on ownership/management)
2. Rubberised Safety Surface around bars on Adventure Trail - Estimated cost £500
3. Replace Bark with rubberised Safety Surface around 2 seat spring toy - Estimated cost £500 (Note both above costs could be reduced to £300 with own labour)
4. Top up bark safety surface. Estimated costs £650 inc VAT. Note existing bark does conform to relevant BS.
5. Replace chains on swing. Estimated cost £150 each including seat*2 (Guess)

He suggested using some of the Pocket Park money (£750.00) but some should be held in reserve. He also proposed that the PC apply to the Sulgrave Educational Trust for a grant of £1000.00.

The Chair opened up the discussion by noting that in looking at the recent inspection report, it had highlighted the fact that the Parish Council must start to think differently about the responsibility and maintenance of the park and its play equipment.

Future budgets should reflect that money that is separately set aside for maintenance of the play area and also the cost of the inspection. The Chair suggested that this item is kept on the agenda for the rest of the council year.

The top three priorities were agreed in council as follows:

1. Replace chains on swing, estimated cost £150.00 each
2. Rubberised safety surface around bars on adventure trail – estimated cost £500
3. Replace bark with rubberised safety surface around 2 seat spring toy – estimated cost £500 (could be reduced to £300 with own labour).

Cllr Pollak then proposed the following resolution:

"I propose that Sulgrave Parish Council allocates £700.00 from the separate Pocket Park account towards:

- a) the replacement of chains on the swings
- b) Part contribution towards the replacement by an approved rubberised surface of the safety surface around the bars on the adventure trail.

In addition I propose that Sulgrave Parish Council approaches the trustees of the Sulgrave Educational Trust for a grant of £1000.00 under the 'Sulgrave Educational Charity'. This was seconded by Cllr Powell and all the councillors voted in favour.

Open Forum

From the floor Mrs Burke asked if the drain gullies could be cleaned. The Clerk agreed to write to Atkins Highways.

Date and Time of next meeting

11th January 2007 at 7.30pm in the Church Hall, Magpie Road.

December 2006



| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | | | | 1 Mums & Tots 10:30am Church Hall | 2 | 3 Ben. H. Comm. 10:00 am M.Pink. Christingle 3:00 pm. Sulgrave |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Mums & Tots 10:30am Church Hall | 9 Christmas Bazaar 10:00am - Noon Church Hall | 10 H. Comm. 1662 8:15 am Sulgrave |
| 11 | 12 | 13 W.I. Meeting 7:30pm Church Hall | 14 Circle Dancing 7:30 pm Culworth | 15 Mums & Tots Christmas Party 10:30am Church Hall DEADLINE Jan. Newsletter | 16 | 17 Carol Service 3:00 pm Sulgrave |
| 18 | 19 Carol Singing around village Meet 6:30pm Shop | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Midnight Service 11:30 pm Sulgrave |
| 25 Christmas Day | 26 Boxing Day | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 Benefice H. C. & Carol Service 10:00am Edgcote |

