

Sulgrave News

November 2010

Regular Events

BB&C Service	2 nd Sunday of the month at Culworth Church - 11.00am
Book Club	4 th Tuesday of each month at the Star Inn - 8.00pm
Circle Dancing	3 rd 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 and Colin Wootton. It is delivered free of charge to all houses in Sulgrave and Stutchbury 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 December newsletter is 19th November

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



Remembrance Sunday and Poppies

This year our Remembrance Sunday Service on November 14th is being held at 6 pm and, as usual, we hope that it will be well supported. We will not be making a collection around the village but there will be more poppies for sale in the village shop.

Sadly both the late war in Iraq and the continuing war in and around Afghanistan have substantially increased the strain on the resources of the Royal British Legion in its support for servicemen and women and their families. Please give generously.

Christopher Beck



Thankyou to all those who supported the Harvest Supper at the end of last month. Log on to the village website where Colin has put pictures of the guests and the delicious food.

Don't forget our Christmas Fayre on December 4th in the Church Hall. There will be lots of delicious cakes and Christmas goodies available. If you can help in any way, or have something you can offer - eg., raffle prize, please contact Shrimp on 760214. Let's enjoy a real village Christmas, make the small things matter and give our children and grandchildren a sense of what it's really about!

Shrimp



Christingle

Sunday December 5th

3pm

Sulgrave Church

A short childrens' service celebrating the start of the Christmas season and supporting the work of the Children's Society.

All welcome. Refreshments provided

Huge Autumn Fair Success Castle Green - Now well and truly open!

On behalf of the Castle Green Management Committee may I thank all those involved in making the above event such a success. Despite a damp start the sun broke through in time to draw in the crowds to enjoy all that was on offer. What a programme it was! The Green looked a treat with stalls, tents, displays and stands encircling the parade ring. Thanks are due to all those that helped set up, all those that lent items and all those that ran the various side shows. Particular thanks to Margaret Garrett and our own George Metcalf for manning the Wildlife Trust stand/workshop; to Gillie and Barry Andrews for running the bar; to Robbie George for doing likewise with the barbecue; to Mollie Wootton and Christina Shillito for manning the Teas and Cakes; to Paul & Alex Thompson and son for the Saxon re-enactment; to Brian Davison, his wife and Richard Ivens for the Archaeology display and, of course, to the Moulton Morris Men for their wonderful sets of Morris dances and, particularly, for the performance of the Sulgrave Mummers Play.

All the above, combined with the Child and Dog Races, the Treasure Hunt, the Ferret Challenge (thanks Geoff) and the various games and side-shows made for a really good community event, the purpose of which was to celebrate the completion of the Castle Green Restoration Project. Thus it was fitting to have Mike Pearson, former Director of Leisure & Heritage, South Northants Council and Joan Bray of the Heritage Lottery Fund to formally open the Green by unveiling the new information board explaining the site. Without the continual support of both, the project would not have succeeded.

Also, of course, without the work of the Management Committee over the last 5 years, we would not have the lovely village amenity we now have. So my thanks also to Clare Pollak, Project Co-ordinator, Paul Crowley, Treasurer; Peter Pollak, Jo Powell, Christina Shillito and Colin Wootton, plus former members of the Committee and the Chairman of the Parish Council, Graham Roberts.

Martin Sirot-Smith
Chairman, Castle Green Management Committee

PS., You might like to view Colin Wootton's wonderful pictures of the event on the village website www.sulgrave.org

Sulgrave Pocket Park

Lis Stuart (Chair)

Jane Osborne (Vice Chair)

Claire Purves (Treasurer)

Sharon Ford (Secretary)

Following the Sulgrave Fete in 2008, it was recognised that the Sulgrave Pocket Park needed some funding in order purchase new play equipment. It became apparent very quickly that the funds required were far in excess of any monies available and grant opportunities were sourced. Last year, the action group were successful in the first stage of a lottery grant for £50,000 and were then asked to apply for the second and final stage of the application.

The SPPAG have been fully employed this year in obtaining paperwork and other key information to complete this application in order to rejuvenate the pocket park into the ideal environment for all ages and abilities to enjoy, without compromising its ecological value.

The improvement plan includes all those items requested during consultation phases with the following exceptions: Signage around the pond area received limited mention but we felt that the pond was a Health and Safety hazard, particularly for young children and notification of the pond area should be a requirement and this has therefore been included.

As part of the work we have carried out, we arranged and paid for a full bio-diversity study to be carried out and a few of the recommendations within the survey have also been incorporated in our application. 46% of people surveyed requested a path to be placed around the pond area together with a dipping platform, however the bio-diversity survey suggested that a full path completely surrounding the pond would be detrimental to this area and has also suggested amendments to the dipping platform to include "scaloping" in order to view the natural habitats more closely. The woodland area has been reported as being in good order and requiring no further investment and that sufficient planting and variety of species are excellent within the pond area and no additional planting is deemed necessary.

The supplier of play equipment, whose materials were more in line with a conservation area, ie wood, received the majority of votes and this supplier is currently our preferred option.

The final stage of the pocket park lottery grant application for £50,000 has been submitted and the group will find out whether it has been successful by Christmas.

Our Facilitator has advised on the correct timelines in order to complete work on areas taking into account hibernation and nesting times and any disturbances to ecological areas. If successful, some work will take place from February onwards.

One of the outcomes of our application was to prove that funding given to improve the park has a positive impact to our community and within this conclusion we detailed that a dedicated pocket park warden would be appointed as this position should become more attractive if the rejuvenation of the park has occurred compared to the park in its current state. We would appreciate it, if anyone interested in taking up the position of Pocket Park Warden would make themselves known to any members of the Sulgrave Pocket Park Action Group or any members of the Parish Council.

Regardless of the outcome of our application, we would like to thank all those groups and individuals who sent in letters of support, particularly Jill Barrett and Jo Coverley who have assisted in various stages of the application and Cllr Waite for measuring the park for the site plan.

Grateful thanks to our Secretary, Sharon, whose hard work, particularly in the final stages by candlelight, enabled us to meet the deadline.

We will publish the outcome of the application as soon as it is known.

Sulgrave Pocket Park Action Group



Affordable housing for Sulgrave Parish?

South Northamptonshire Council and Sulgrave Parish Council want to find out about housing need in Sulgrave Parish, to decide whether or not an affordable housing development might be required.

The starting point to identify housing need is a **housing needs survey** distributed to each household in the parish.

The survey covers two areas. Firstly, views from residents about a small affordable housing development in the parish and secondly the actual housing need within the parish. The survey form will be delivered to each household during November.

Analysis of all the completed survey forms will show

- Who needs to move in the next 5 years
- Who wants to live in Sulgrave Parish
- Who has a strong local connection to Sulgrave Parish

It's a chance for you to have your say. Even if you don't have a need for housing yourself, you may know family members or local people who may have a need. If the results indicate a housing need, this will help to identify the appropriate numbers and type of housing required for people with local connections to the parish.

In the meantime, if you would like any further information please contact Paul Brunige, Strategic Housing Officer at the Council, on 01327 322373.



Northamptonshire Police Putting Communities First

Contact Us

Emergency (crime in progress): **999**

Northamptonshire Police switch board: **03000 111 222**

Dedicated Watch Line: **01604 432436**

CrimeStoppers (remain anonymous): **0800 555 111**

Doorstep Action Network (DAN): **0345 2307 702**

To contact the team please email: wcommunitymessaging@northants.police.uk

Sulgrave Charities

Sulgrave Education Charity

The charity trustees are pleased to announce that a total of £1100 has been awarded to various applicants over the previous year.

Did you know?

The Gardiner's Education Charity encompasses the requirements of John Hodges and Robert Gardiner's educational trusts from the late 1700s, so far as these can be met in modern times, by providing tools for apprentices and specific gifts to the school for purposes benefiting all pupils. Since the closure of Sulgrave School the funds from the Educational Charity can benefit Culworth School to which Sulgrave children have been transferred.

If you are a young Sulgrave resident seeking funding for a particular project have you considered approaching Sulgrave Charities

All written applications reasonably considered.

Apply to:
Jo Gregory (Sulgrave Charities)
Lowick, Manor Road, Sulgrave. OX17 2SE



SULGRAVE VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE

Be Local. **Buy Local!**

- ~ A wide range of locally sourced fruit and veg
- ~ Bread, cakes and confectionery
- ~ Cheeses and fine wines
- ~ Dairy, eggs and milk
- ~ Greetings cards and newspapers
- ~ Groceries and household supplies

**DROP IN
FOR A WARM
WELCOME!**



OPENING HOURS

Monday: 8am–1pm, Tuesday–Friday: 8am–6.30pm

Saturday: 8.30am–3pm, Sunday: 9am–12 noon

Post Office open: Tuesday: 9am–3pm,

Wednesday–Friday: 9am–1pm



**Shop
volunteers
welcome!**

Pick up an order form for your Christmas Fayre

01295 760 066

Grafton Hunt

I thought it would be helpful to advise village residents when the Grafton Hunt will be meeting in the Sulgrave area and will be in the vicinity of the village.

Our future dates are:-

13th November,

11th December,

8th January,

5th February,

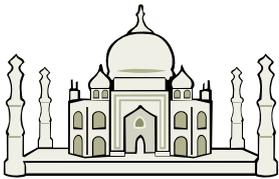
5th March.

Charles Smyth-Osbourne

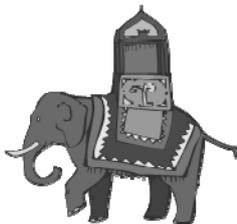
Foodsmith
*Delicious food for
any occasion*



Janet & Maureen would like to invite you to our *Soup Kitchen* at
Sulgrave Church Hall on Tuesday 23rd November 2010 at 12.30pm



*~A taste of
Intoxicating India~*



Vegetable Dhansak Soup (V)
Or
Carrot & Saffron Soup (V)

both served with naan bread



Mango & Passion Fruit Mousse
with Almond Biscuits & Cream
Or
Cheese & Biscuits

Cafetieres of freshly brewed coffee

£6.50

Booking is essential
To reserve your place please call

Janet Smith
01295 760397

Maureen Jeffery
01295 768268



Christmas Events at The Manor

Christmas Market: November 27th

Affordable, pleasurable shopping in the Manor's beautiful setting, laced with some festive spirit!

Easy free parking too.

11am-4pm Gift Aid: Adult £2.20 Non GA: £2.00 Children up to 16yrs free.

During December see the Great Hall swathed in seasonal greenery, the welcoming fire, the Oak Parlour decorated with celebratory fruits and savour the smells of the Kitchen at:

Yuletide December 12th

The Lord of the Manor and his Cook will tell the stories of celebrations and festive frolics from bygone times! Be entertained with musical moments and relax with a glass or two of mulled wine.

Winter Wassail December 28th

A day out after Christmas! Join in the ancient custom of wassailing! Be entertained with tales of twelve days of feasting, frivolity and birds in a pie.

11am-4pm (Last entry)

Village Residents – Free Entry (bring your pass)

Village Visitors:

**Gift Aid: Adult £8.25 Child (5-16yrs) £3.85 Family (2 adults 2+ children) £22.00
Non GA: £7.50/£3.50/£20.00**

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

You are invited to
THE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING

To be held on
THURSDAY 4th NOVEMBER 2010
@ 7.45PM (NEW TIME)
In Sulgrave Church Hall, Magpie Road

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

PLANNING APPLICATION FOR SPRING FARM
RIDGE WIND FARM

We look forward to seeing you there



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

Draft Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 7th October 2010

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 and introduced the guest speaker Mr Brunige of SNC.

Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held on 2nd September

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

Guest Speaker, Mr Paul Brunige (Strategic Housing Officer) of SNC

Mr Brunige thanked the Parish Council for the welcome and opportunity to speak about affordable housing. There is a rolling programme of housing need surveys and the aim is for SNC to carry out a survey in Sulgrave before the end of the year. The Parish Council were last spoken to in 2006 but there have been some changes since then. In 2008 the housing stock was transferred to South Northants Homes (SNH) and the stock is now owned and managed by them. SNC only has a few units of temporary accommodation including a homeless hostel in Brackley. The staff transferred across and their duty is to provide housing for those in need. The Strategic Housing Team is made up of 4 officers and a Team Leader. They all cover different areas and Mr Brunige works in the west. Surveys are carried out and their job is to deliver new housing if a need is identified. They work very closely with their planning colleagues. The Housing Options Team work directly with the public and gives general advice to them. They manage the housing waiting list and nominate householders to the Housing Associations in their district.

Affordable Housing is covered under Planning Policy 3 and provides housing needs that cannot be met on the open market. There are two types, 1. Social Rent (old style council housing). This rent is below market value and centralised by Central Government. A typical price would be £80.00 per week rent for a two bedroom house. 2. Shared Ownership (New Build Home buy). Rents are higher than social rent but lower than market rent. A person would buy a 50% share and pay a subsidised rate to the Housing Association for the other 50%. There would be the opportunity to buy extra shares over

time. The maximum share anyone could buy would be 80% in rural areas and it is capped to ensure the property stays affordable. This is not the case in urban areas.

The quality and standard of build of affordable homes have been criticised in the past. Houses are built to modern design standards and build. They have to meet HAC standards and homes would have to fit in with their own rural area if there is already a lot of character and stone buildings in place.

Housing Associations can also be called RSLs (Registered Social Landlords). They are not profit organisations and have charitable status. The larger ones have the capacity to develop and manage properties. SNC work closely with six preferred partners. The main one is Northants Rural Housing Association and they just manage and not develop. Most partners would see a return of investment after 10-15 years and the profit would be put back into the reserves. This would help to fund new future projects.

There has been a five year rolling programme of housing surveys and SNC are working with 78 Parish Councils across the District to identify housing needs. Research was carried out during 2004/5 and this information was incorporated into the Housing Strategy produced for 2005-10. In 2004, research identified that there was a shortfall of 500 homes across the district. If a need is identified SNC will work to try and meet that need. Research also showed that 50% of households had income less than their ability to buy a property.

In Sulgrave there are currently 23 houses owned and managed by SNH. None have come available for re-let. SNCs duty to house people is looked at in priority need, Urgent, High, Medium and Low. There is no guarantee that the person needs to have a local connection as the District Council have a statutory duty to house someone and the local connection is a secondary factor. There are 1800 people currently on the waiting list and 10% of those have ticked Sulgrave as their preferred village. 2 households live close by, one in the village but not in suitable accommodation and the other is in a neighbouring village. Both have connections to Sulgrave. By the end of 2010, 60 out of 78 parishes will have had a survey carried out. The results are valid for five years. If the survey identifies a need of less than three households, it would not be considered financially viable. If there was a need of three or more, then SNC would come back to the village and walk around with the Parish Council to see if there were any opportunities to build houses on land. It is quite unusual to find land within the confines of a village. Land found outside but adjoining the confines would be classed as Exceptional Site land. This would all have to be affordable and for the benefit of local people. The Parish Council would have the strength to insist on a local connection. The Chair then thanked Mr Brunige for explaining the process to everyone.

Councillors Reports

Central Networks

Central Networks have advised that work to the replacement of overhead lines will be carried out during 7-9 December and 14-15 December. A letter will be sent by the company to those affected residents. The Chair was unable to get an update on changes to the street lighting as discussed at the last meeting.

Community Speedwatch

There is a flashing speed sign in Helmdon Road but the council were not advised it would be placed there. Cllr Powell to find out if it is temporary, can it be turned around and is the van coming to the village as previously advised.

Castle Green

The new contractor is currently repairing the hen and chick around the wall as the mortar was mixed incorrectly by the previous contractor.

Pocket Park

An update was given but this has been covered already in the newsletter.

To receive an update on Spring Farm Ridge Wind Farm

Broadview Energy have advised that they are putting the necessary information together to submit their planning application to SNC in October. Sulgrave should receive a consultation copy as they are within 5km of the proposed site.

Finance Report

a) To approve the following payments:

Cheques for approval

£85.00 to S Ford (Pocket Park planning application)

£29.00 to CPRE (membership)

£81.58 to EON (street lighting)

£158.63 to BDO Stoy Hayward LLP (external audit)

£43.35 to BT (fax)

£250.00 to Sulgrave Mums and Tots (in lieu of payment for Bio-diversity survey)

The payments were approved and cheques raised accordingly. They were proposed by Cllr Kellett and seconded by Cllr Powell.

b) To consider giving a donation to Brackley Area Volunteer Car Service

The Clerk had contacted the three registered users and they all gave good feedback about the service that this company provides. It was agreed an annual donation of £50.00 would be given. Payment to be made at the next meeting.

c) To consider the issues arising report from the External Auditor. To approve and accept the Annual Return 2009/10.

The Annual Return for 2009/10 had been signed off and returned to the council. The Issues Arising Report highlighted that the council had not reviewed the effectiveness of the internal audit in the correct way. A template from BDO LLPs website would be circulated to all and this would be carried forward for discussion at the next meeting. The Annual Return was then approved and accepted by the Council. The appropriate notices would be placed on the notice-board.

Planning Applications

One new application had been received since the last meeting:

- *S/2010/1110/TPO, remove lime tree at Grafton House, Park Lane. For information only.*

Correspondence

- Jill Barrett has advised that due to work commitments she can no longer deliver the newsletter to Manor Road and Towrise. Thanks was given to Jill and the Parish Council will endeavour to seek a new volunteer.
- An email from Tony Baldry confirming that whilst Ministers clearly have no intention to interfere with Parish Council precepts, the fact that other Council Tax increases will be frozen, certainly at least for another year, will of course draw attention to any parts of the total rate bill, whether it be Parish Council precept, or Police precept, which does go up.

Open Forum

Mrs Burke spoke about HS2 and felt the presentation given by CPRE at the last meeting was very weak. The project was announced so quickly and done underhand. Mr Christy spoke on behalf of the Action Group and advised the project will go ahead as it is a government policy. Money will be available in 2015 and the line will be completed in 2025. Mr Christy is on the circulation list of the Department of Transport which anyone can join. The Transport Secretary, Philip Hammond has asked for full plans to be completed by October 2011. The Chair suggested to Mr Christy that a member of the Action Group is invited to the next council meeting to discuss the subject and issues in more detail.

Action: Mr Christy to pass the contact details of the Action Group to the Clerk for her to contact.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

4th November at 7.45pm in the Church Hall

NOVEMBER 2010

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4 Parish Council Mtg 7.45pm Sulgrave Church Hall	5 Pilates 9.30am Church Hall	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Pilates 9.30am Church Hall	13	14 Remembrance Day Service 6pm Sulgrave
15	16	17	18	19 Pilates 9.30am Church Hall	20	21
22	23 Soup Kitchen 12.30pm Church Hall	24	25	26 Pilates 9.30am Church Hall	27 Christmas Market at Sulgrave Manor 11am - 4pm	28
29	30 Book Club 8pm Star Inn					