

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Siddington

July 2020

www.siddington.com

Editor: Nick Grayson



A Note from the Chairman, Siddington Parish Council

I will not be alone in observing that to go a little way to compensate for the bereavements, anxiety, economic stress and isolation suffered over the last few weeks by some people with devastating impacts and by most people to some extent, the pandemic has from a parish perspective kindled the latent neighbourliness in the community.

Thirty-five people volunteered to be part of the Siddington Coronavirus Support (SCS) group set up to respond to requests for help from those (or the families of those) who are vulnerable or isolating. I know that in addition many people have been quietly offering and giving support to their neighbours on a one-to-one basis. Over one hundred requests were received by SCS and on

each occasion responded to by one of the volunteers who often then established a routine of help that has been given repeatedly but not logged by SCS. At the risk of embarrassing her as the spouse of this month's editor of the Siddington Village News, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jude Grayson for taking the lead in establishing and running SCS. She was supported by many but particularly by Louise Elstow, Nick Anderson and Andrea Hughes.

Happily the calls for assistance have fallen well below the peak of a few weeks ago and, as the lockdown restrictions are eased, many of those who have been able to give so freely of their time to SCS are returning to work. There is of course the risk of the numbers of infections rising again as peoples' contacts with others increase. Against that eventuality, SCS's email address will be maintained. Unless worsening conditions dictate otherwise, whilst the email will be regularly monitored, that monitoring will not be continuous and accordingly response times will be longer.

The parish council is all too aware of the difficulties people will face over the months as we transition to the new normal (whatever that turns out to be). If you have ideas that you think might help the community as a whole or a segment of it, please contact me or Robert Cowley, the Siddington Parish Clerk and we will see what we can do to assist. The council's own resources are limited but it is kept up to date about the availability of charity and District and County Council funding. We will happily act as a conduit for those ideas if we cannot ourselves help.

John Hayward

Chairman, Siddington Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - MEETING – 9th June 2020

BUS SHELTER & SEATING

The Clerk reported that the application for 50/50 match-funding from the County Council had been submitted.

PLANNING

Applications received at Cotswold District Council to 4th June 2020

• 20/01608/HEDGE

Applicant: Mr Neil, c/o agent John Dyton, Eric Cole Ltd, Eagle Suite, The Wheelhouse, Bonds Mill, Stonehouse, GL10 3RF

Proposal: This notice is a re-submission of 18/01636/HEDGE to extend the time limit for implementation. There were no objections to this notice previously and consultation with CDC officers suggests that there should be no objections to this re-submission. The applicant owns agricultural and equestrian land that does not have direct access to the highway. Currently these can only be accessed via the adjacent agricultural field with the permission of the farmer. The applicant would like to create their own field access directly from the highway onto their land to improve access. The road is unclassified and therefore planning permission for this access is not required. This has been confirmed by CDC planning officers. Upper Siddington Lodge, Siddington, Cirencester, GL7 6HL – NO OBJECTION

Applications decided at Cotswold District Council to 4th June 2020

• 20/00400/FUL CT.3136/N

Erection of dwelling with detached car port and workshop at land south west of The Byre, Siddington. Application refused.

SEVERALLS FIELD DEVELOPMENT

The developers of the site had reportedly submitted their application to CDC and the Council looked forward to seeing this in due course when it had been published.

THANK-YOU

The Parish Council wished to put on record its appreciation for all the volunteers who had come forward to help during the Coronavirus crisis and also for the staff of both GCC and CDC who worked so hard for the residents of the county and district.

As there was no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and the meeting closed. Full draft minutes of the meeting may be viewed on the council website.

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, physical Parish Council meetings are not taking place until further notice. However, Council meetings are taking the form of conference telephone calls.

Details of how members of the public may “attend” meetings are published with the agenda on the Parish Council website and on the notice board outside the post office.

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th July 2020.

Robert Cowley – Parish Clerk siddingtonclerk@gmail.com
www.siddingtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Siddington Village Hall

As you are aware the Hall is currently closed for bookings in line with government restrictions but we have been allowed to reopen for the playgroup. We are delighted to have been able to reopen the playgroup following and implementing the education guidance and continue to support local families.

We continue to monitor the restrictions and are working on a reopening plan to minimise any potential risks for users and Trustees whilst ensuring social distancing and safety guidelines are followed.

Over the last couple of months we have seen the Village Hall being used as an area to leave unwanted items, please can we remind all residents that the Village Hall cannot be used for the disposal of items of any description and this is fly tipping.

We have seen, not only household items placed on the doorstep, but also more worryingly live animals. A chicken was left in a box and we do not know how long it had been on the doorstep as the hall is not manned or open daily for the playgroup. The trustees are all volunteers and are deeply concerned about these recent actions as it raises animal welfare concerns and places risks for the removal of items on individuals.

As a result the Village Hall is looking at installing CCTV and will be taking any necessary action to prosecute any offenders. As a reminder, the council recycling centre is available and there are rehoming groups available for any unwanted animals.

Siddington Village Hall Trustees



PATA@Siddington & Kemble Playgroup

Playgroup has re-opened and we are currently running reduced sessions. Our priority at the moment has been re-settling the children as it's been a very long time since we last saw them! We are now taking bookings for September and are currently offering virtual tours of playgroup which can be emailed to you – if you would like a virtual tour please email Gemma at siddington@pataglos.org.uk or give us a call on 07934495823. Our spaces are filling up so act quickly to reserve a place now for September!



Your local Citizens Advice is still here for Cotswold residents.

When the lockdown began on 23rd March, Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswold Districts quickly mobilised staff and volunteers away from face to face interviews to give one to one advice over the phone and via email.

Since then the charity has helped over 1,200 households, with Coronavirus and non-Coronavirus related problems.

Martin, a volunteer adviser said “This service is vital more now than ever. There continues to be so much anxiety around the virus and what it means for people’s health, wellbeing, jobs and finances. As a volunteer, it feels good to be able to help and it’s a privilege to work with such an experienced team of staff and volunteers.” Help can be given with applying for benefits, employment issues, managing finances, relationship breakdown, housing and many other issues.

Sarah Telford, CEO, said “If you are in need of help, whether your problems are due to Coronavirus or not, don’t hesitate to get in touch. Come to us as soon as you're aware there's a small issue and we can help.”

The Helpline number is 0808 800 0511 Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm. Calls are free from landlines and most mobiles.

For email enquiries, visit our online email page:

<https://www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/stroud-cab-email-advice.php> and complete a short online with a few sentences about your problem.

We may not be able to meet you face to face at the moment, we are all here to help you and are waiting to help you.



News From Siddington C of E Primary School:

What a strange few months it has been for all of us here at school since we closed on March 20th for most of our pupils. The school community remains a happy and positive one. Pupils at home have been busy following our home learning challenges with daily maths lessons, English tasks and creative tasks. Our home learning platform allows children to photograph their work and upload it to their individual portfolios. Staff have been busy planning work and offering feedback to the children and their parents.

Since the start on June we have welcomed back the majority of our YR, Y1 and Y6 pupils. The children are in “bubbles” and only come into contact with other children and staff in their bubble. The playground looks a little different too with zones. The start and end of the days are staggered in order to avoid children crossing their bubbles. The day runs smoothly and the children are happy, safe and glad to be with their friends again- of course, whilst socially distancing as much as they can! It is amazing how quickly they adapt to new routines.



We are looking forward to welcoming 2 new members of staff in September: Mrs Katie Cook as our new head teacher and Miss Madeline Smith as our new early years' teacher. They will both be spending some time in school before September. We are hopeful that September will look a little closer to normal but meanwhile send our best wishes to you all.

Sian Tranter

Head of School

Whilst we take every care to ensure that the data in this publication is accurate, neither the editor nor its editorial contributors can accept and hereby disclaim any liability to any party to loss or damage caused by errors or omissions resulting from negligence, accident or any other cause.

Next month's editor
Georgie Hayward:
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News from St Peter's Church

It has been many months since we were last able to use our beautiful church building for public worship due to the challenge of the coronavirus. Even though our building has been closed the church has not. We have continued to meet for prayer and worship just in our home and over the internet instead of in the church building. Weekly worship resources are being prepared and are available on the worship at home section of our website www.churnsidechurches.org.uk and on our Facebook page 'Churnside Benefice Churches'.

We are gathering together, from our own homes, at 10.30am each Sunday morning to worship as we follow these resources. If you would like to receive them by email, then please get in touch with our Vicar Jennifer. We are still having times of fellowship together whether over the phone, via email or virtually. If we can be of any assistance to you, or you just want someone to talk to then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

THE CHURNSIDE BENEFICE

South Cerney with Cerney Wick, Siddington and Preston

www.churnsidechurches.org.uk

Facebook: Churnside Benefice Churches

Vicar: Rev'd. Jennifer McKenzie

The Vicarage, Silver Street, South Cerney, Cirencester, GL7 5TP.

01285 860221, vicar@churnsidechurches.org.uk

Church Office (Please note that the church office can only be contacted by email at this time)

Office@churnsidechurches.org.uk

[Open: Tuesday and Thursday mornings \(9am – 1pm\)](#)