

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Siddington

August 2020

www.siddington.com

Editor: Georgie Hayward

UPDATE

As you probably will have noticed, the Village News was not printed during the lockdown period due to there being very little village news and government restrictions. However some editions were produced in the past few months and copies of these can be found on the Siddington website www.siddington.com should you wish to look back on what has been happening in the village. Although the News is being printed this month (and it is a bumper edition) it will not be printed every month but any future editions produced will be posted on the village website where you can access them.

In this edition amongst the contributors we have news from a number of different village connected organisations.

Our particular thanks go to Thiba, Ramesh and Ann and all other staff members who have kept the Shop and Post Office open throughout the last few months ensuring a friendly welcome and that stock is kept up to date.

We are delighted that the Greyhound re-opened on the 22nd July. You can see on their website the Covid secure measures they have introduced and details of their booking service <https://www.thegreyhound-inn.co.uk/>.

We hope that you and your families have remained safe and well during the past few months and that you continue to do so.

This edition is kindly sponsored by Siddington Village Hall

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - MEETING – 14^H JULY 2020

BUS SHELTER & SEATING

It was noted that the County Council had approved the 50/50 match-funding. The Council agreed the final design and the order will now be placed.

PLAYGROUND

After discussion, the Council agreed that the playground and the playing field should re-open. The following notice would be posted on site:

“Users of play equipment are reminded that:

You must Stay Alert; to stop the spread of coronavirus you must still follow government guidelines, including social distancing.

- Do not enter a park if you have any symptoms – fever, coughs, shortness of breath or are self-isolating
- Always keep at safe distance from anyone outside your household:
 - Use all areas of the park (that are open) and spread out
 - If the park is crowded, do not enter if you cannot stay at a safe distance from others
 - Be kind to each other and respect the wishes and boundaries of others
- Be aware that park benches are not sanitised
- Food and drink may not be consumed in the playground area
- Make sure you dispose of litter in bins provided or take it home with you
- Follow hygiene advice when you are outside, avoid touching surfaces (such as benches) and wash your hands as soon as you are back home or use hand sanitiser.

Although we have taken every care to ensure that the equipment is regularly checked, it is not cleaned, and you are advised to bring your own hand sanitiser and wipes.

Anyone using the Play equipment is reminded that they do so at their own risk and the Parish Council accepts no responsibility.

Report a fault or a problem at siddingtonclerk@gmail.com”

SPIRE VIEW FOOTPATH

The Bathurst Estate is looking at quotes for the work and at the standard of path required for possible adoption by the County Council.

CHURCHYARD

The Bathurst Estate is looking at options for the future of Church Farm and this is expected to include provision for additional graves as space for burials is running out. Due to the perceived risk of flooding in the vicinity of the church, any proposal would be subject to Environment Agency approval.

PARK WAY

The Council noted that Park Way west would be closed for culvert clearance on the bend at the end of July and again on 7th August for partial resurfacing.

PLANNING

Planning applications received at Cotswold District Council to 9th July 2020

- **20/01823/HEDGE**
Applicant: Miss Rhiannon Butcher, Clancy Docwra Ltd, Clare House, Coppermill Lane, Harefield, UB9 6HZ
Proposal: Remove 10m section of hedgerow to enable the installation of a new foul sewer which will connect the new development South of Cirencester to the existing South Cerney Sewer Pumping Station at access track to Hills Quarry, Siddington.
Consultation expiry date: 1st July 2020
The Council had no objection provided that the hedge would be replaced.

Planning decisions by Cotswold District Council to 9th July 2020

- **20/00676/FUL & 20/00677/LBC**
Erection of a single storey rear extension at The Garden Apartment, 6 Siddington Hall, Fraziers Folly, Siddington, GL7 6HR. Applications withdrawn.
- **20/00868/FUL**
New dwelling and associated landscaping at Dryleaze Farm Quarry, Ashton Road, Siddington, GL7 6DB. Application permitted.
- **20/01284/FUL**
Erection of porch, single storey rear extension and two storey rear extension at 13 Elizabeth Way, Siddington, GL7 6JL. Application permitted.
- **20/01608/HEDGE**
Re-submission of 18/01636/HEDGE to extend the time limit for implementation. Creation of own field access directly from the highway

onto applicant's land to improve access at Upper Siddington Lodge, Siddington, GL7 6HL. Application permitted.

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 8th September 2020

Robert Cowley – Parish Clerk

siddingtonclerk@gmail.com www.siddingtonparishcouncil.org.uk

SIDDINGTON CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT (from July edition)

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. 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 and telephone number 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. 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 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



NEWS FROM SIDDINGTON SCHOOL

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Head teacher of Siddington CE Primary School. I am looking forward to working alongside the Siddington residents and families to ensure the school makes a positive contribution to the village that it serves. I am excited by the challenge this brings and welcome the community's support and partnership in ensuring Siddington Primary School provides learning opportunities that are fun and lead to a life of learning.

This term the school says goodbye to Mrs Carol Dougill who has been Headteacher of both Siddington and Kemble schools. She has made a remarkable contribution to the lives of so many at the schools and she will be dearly missed. We wish her luck for the future and hope she comes to visit us soon. We will also say goodbye to Mrs Frost who leaves the school to continue her love of learning at University. We wish her lots of luck with her studies.

This term has been a challenge for all. I need to say a huge thank you to the staff who have managed to keep the school open throughout 'lockdown', while developing at home learning opportunities for those children unable to come into school. They have done an incredible job and worked so hard.

Also a big thank you to the Parents and Carers of the children. I know it has been difficult and you have all faced some challenges over recent months, but you have also worked hard to ensure the children have continued to learn and remain happy and safe. Thank you.

I hope you all have a lovely summer break as we begin to prepare to welcome the children back in September. I hope to see you all well rested and as excited to be back as we will be.

Katie Cook - Headteacher Siddington CE Primary School

SIDDINGTON EVERGREEN CLUB

Hello everyone, we trust that you are all keeping well and managing to keep safe and occupied during the lock-down. We look forward to the time when we shall be able to meet together again

Every blessing,

Evelyn & David Mole (640028)

FROM COVID LOCKDOWN TO STUNNING WIN!

With the help of a little socially-distanced net practice courtesy of South Cerney CC, **Siddington Cricket Club** finally got its season underway on Tuesday 14 July beating Cowley CC by 9 wickets on the truly idyllic hillside ground of Selsley and Rodborough CC. Thanks for having us as guests, Selsley. (We may not have our own ground but we do play in wonderful Cotswold settings!).

'We' are a bunch of Siddingtonians and other cricket lovers from round about playing on midweek evenings and the occasional Sunday. More matches are in prospect in August and September - for info **contact match secretary Jon Hughes on 07947 805819**. To return to our drubbing of old friends from Cowley; they scored 112 for 6 and we replied with an unprecedented 116 for 1. Three of our players had to retire having reached the maximum permitted 'not out 25'.

Everyone gets a bowl and (usually) a bat - and plenty of light-hearted banter. Future matches are at Fairford, Cirencester, Ampney Crucis, Hillersley, Selsley, Wanborough and Aldsworth. Come and spectate or join our not very elite playing squad! You'd be very welcome!

Malcolm Moseley - Chairman (01285 659521 - leave a message)

NEWS FROM CHESTERTON FOOTBALL CLUB (who play at Siddington)

We hope all the village residents have kept safe and well during the pandemic. During the lockdown period the remaining league programme was cancelled. It was decided by the Stroud league that each team would finish in their respective league positions meaning we became league champions and will now play in Stroud Division 1 next season. A great achievement for the club.

Although grounded like the rest of the country, we have been busy behind the scenes preparing for the upcoming season. We have recently been awarded £2,500 to improve the playing surface at the playing field. We are using Prestige Groundworks who will be carrying out some works over the next few weeks including fertilisation, verti-drain and re seeding of the playing surface. We hope that the results will be seen over the next few weeks. We have also roughly marked a youth playing/training area that will be beneficial for the youths of the village. We are hoping to set up some youth goals which we will be putting up in the near future.

The Clubhouse has had a major overhaul with new paint and other bits and bobs to make the facility user friendly for anybody to use. We have built a new planting area and rockery and if anyone would like to plant any plant, please feel free. We will be clearing the surplus debris around the outside of the clubhouse in due course so please bear with us.

Training has now recommenced at the playing field on Thursday evenings at 6.30pm with strict guidelines from the Football Association. If anyone would be interested in joining the club, please feel free to pop along although it would be beneficial to know beforehand due to the government guidelines on training in groups.

If any resident would like to contact the club with any questions, please email info.chestertonafc@gmail.com .

Gavin Jones

SIDDINGTON VILLAGE HALL

After a difficult few months for the country and village life, we were delighted to have been able to reopen the Village Hall for use by the playgroup in June, following and implementing the education guidance, and continue to support local families.

The Village Hall has conducted a COVID 19 risk assessment and as a result we have been working on a reopening plan to ensure social distancing and safety guidelines are followed. The Village Hall will have a phased reopening from the 3rd August for regular classes with restricted class numbers to ensure social distancing is maintained. We have also drawn up Special Guidelines with which all users must comply.

The Trustees have been working hard to ensure that both government and our own risk assessment recommendations are implemented. Measures that are being implemented include installing hands-free sanitiser stations, a one way system, and clear signage. To help users use the hall safely the hall floor will also be marked at two metre intervals.

At the present time we are not taking any bookings for parties or events but we will continue to review this as further government announcements are made.

We thank you for your patience and co-operation in using the hall safely and look forward to opening our Village Hall again fully to the community as soon as possible.

Siddington Village Hall Trustees

PATA@ SIDDINGTON & KEMBLE

Booking now for September! Places available for ages 2-4. We accept 2 & 3 year old funding & the extended 30 hours.

Open Monday – Friday : 8:50-2:50.

Contact us on 07934 495823

or email us at siddington@pataglos.org.uk

IDEAS WANTED FOR THE OLD PHONE BOX

The Siddington Parish Council is looking for ideas for uses for the old phone box next to the Village Hall. We have some thoughts, but we are looking for some creative ideas from you!

If you have any good ideas, please could you email maisieengland@gmail.com and she will collate all the ideas together for the Parish Council to consider.

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.

NEWS FROM THE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Telephone scams – how you can protect yourself and others

As lockdown measures around the world ease, National Trading Standards are predicting a sharp rise in scam telephone calls in the coming weeks. Fraudsters are likely to exploit coronavirus fears and prey on vulnerable and older people self-isolating at home.

Stroud and Cotswold Citizens Advice has the following advice to help you protect yourself and people that you care for – we know that many people are concerned about relatives and friends who are not seeing people in person on a regular basis.

You can register your landline with the Telephone Preference Service. It's free to register and doing so will reduce the amount of unwanted sales and marketing calls you receive. It won't block all unwanted calls (it won't work on calls from abroad or companies you have already given your number to) so you will need to remain vigilant, but it'll certainly lessen the number of them. You can register another person's number if they give you permission.

Talk to your phone provider to see what privacy services and call-blocking services are available. These services aren't always free but are useful in ensuring any call coming through is from a trusted or known source. You could suggest that people you look after do the same.

Make sure you know how to spot the marks of scam and let others know about them too. At Citizens Advice we always advise the following:

- Be suspicious if you're contacted out of the blue, even if it's from a name you recognise
- If it sounds too good to be true it probably is
- Never give out your bank details unless you are certain you can trust the person contacting you
- Don't be rushed – you never need to make a decision straight away and if you feel pressured say "no", hang up the phone, or close the door.

If someone you know receives care from the local authority and you think they might be being scammed, it's worth reporting your concerns to the Adult Safeguarding team.

If you have access to the internet you can also check if something might be a scam at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/check-if-something-might-be-a-scam/.

If you don't have access to the internet we can help you check if something is a scam. Please call us on 0808 800 0511 Monday to Friday 10am-4pm –one of our friendly advisers will be able to help you.

NEWS FROM ST. PETER'S CHURCH

After careful consideration of the latest guidelines and subsequent PCC meetings of all the churches in the benefice, a decision was made that for the time being we open All Hallows Church South Cerney for benefice services for all our family of four churches. The PCC of St Peter's Siddington and All Saints Preston decided that it was not safe to open their buildings at this time. Please note that this is not a permanent arrangement and we are committed to opening up the other churches in our benefice when it feels safe to do so. We will review the plans in September, depending on the Covid-19 situation then. Therefore, in All Hallows South Cerney, from Sunday 26th July a weekly service of the word will be held at 10.30am and from Wednesday 5th August a weekly evening service of Holy Communion at 7.30pm. (Note; there will be no church services on the 26th and 30th August).

All current worship resources being distributed each Sunday will continue and are available on our Facebook page and website, enabling worship following the same church service at home.

Limited capacity means you will need to book a place each week for both the Sunday service and the Wednesday evening Communion. You can book a place by contacting Martin Gould (one of the Churchwardens at All Hallows Church) either by email, martingould56@btinternet.com or telephone, 07958962543.

NEWS FROM ST. PETER'S CHURCH (cont)

Booking will be open each Monday from 08:00 am to Saturday at 12 noon. Once capacity is reached, you will be offered the option to be on the list for the following week. To comply with Track & Trace legislation, you are required to supply your name and contact details that will be kept for 21 days before being destroyed.

Social Distancing (2 meters) between households / support bubbles will be in place, there will be no singing and the toilets will not be available. Guidelines on future use of Facemasks are awaited and will be advised on booking. Stewards will manage services, please follow their instructions. We politely remind you that if you have COVID-19 symptoms or are self-isolating due to being in contact with someone who has COVID-19 please do not enter the church building or attend worship.

Worship in our church building will look and feel different for a while and will be missing some of the elements we cherish, but they will still provide us an opportunity to connect with each other and with God in a building that is bathed in the worship and prayer of the people of God over many generations.

Rev'd Jennifer McKenzie

Next month's editor

Daisy Payne

Deadline date: Saturday 15th August

daisyesther14@gmail.com

Tel: 07776200238