



## SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

No: 242

August 1996

### 1. Parish Council News 15/07/96

Regarding the footpath in front of Andrews Close, the Parish Council is dissatisfied with the manner in which the turf has been laid, and has complained to Aylesbury Vale District Council about it. As yet, nothing appears to have been done to improve the turf laying. The Parish Council is not prepared to meet the cost of this turf laying until the job has been completed satisfactorily.

Arrangements are being made to replace the chain around the War Memorial in the churchyard in the near future.

The excess vegetation on the road verges has now been cut back at the corner of the gated road to Wing and along the Stewkley Road adjacent to the cricket field. The verges of the Three Locks turning are still badly overgrown however, obscuring traffic visibility at the junction, and the Clerk will be writing to Aylesbury Vale District Council to request cutting of these verges as soon as possible.

The Parish Council is most dissatisfied with the recent demolition action by the builders renovating Brook Cottages. It appears evident that the builders have demolished No. 89 and portions of No. 87 entirely, and have done so of their own accord without prior reference to the planning authorities in Aylesbury Vale District Council. The agents for the builders have alleged that the demolition of No. 89 became necessary due to the walls becoming unstable as a result of an old ceramic drain that was leaking. Consequently, in their opinion, the building had become unsafe and the front and rear walls of the building required removal. The demolition appears to have been carried out very rapidly, without the due care and attention required to ensure the preservation and identification of the removed building materials. The builders have now applied for retrospective planning permission to demolish the front and rear walls of No. 89. Complaints have already been lodged with the planning authorities in Aylesbury Vale District Council objecting to the demolition action of the builders. The Parish Council is urging the planning authorities in Aylesbury Vale District Council to ensure that the builders are prevented from further development work on this site until they have rectified the damage done to No. 87 and No. 89 Brook Cottages, and that the rebuilding of the demolished cottages should be carried out with the original building materials, where possible.

Martin Darvill and some of his colleagues from Liscombe Holdings plc attended the Parish Council Meeting for an open discussion on the proposed development at Liscombe Park. It appears that the planning application to convert the farm buildings at Rock Lane, Liscombe Park to office accommodation and leisure facilities has been granted with a substantial number of conditions, including a requirement to widen the Wing-Soulbury road adjacent to the entrance, along with a re-alignment of the entrance relative to the road. Martin Darvill explained that, due to the length of time it had taken to obtain this planning permission, the precise development of the farm buildings to be converted has not been finalised, but that the intention is to

provide office accommodation for his own firm, a health and fitness centre, a sports facility, a swimming pool, a recording studio and a riding school. Planning permission apparently does exist for a golf course, and, if a demand exists for yet another golf course in the area, then Liscombe Holdings could provide it, including a new golf clubhouse. The Chairman pointed out that the main concerns of the Parish Council with regard to this development are the potential increase in road traffic to Liscombe Park and consequent increase of road traffic through Soulbury, and the possible risk of noise from the proposed activities such as war games and clay pigeon shooting are under consideration. The Parish Council wishes to maintain a country aspect in the neighbourhood of Soulbury as far as is possible, given that the redevelopment of Rock Lane Farm will take place. Martin Darvill in response indicated that he will try to avoid undue generation of noise at the site, particularly since he lives on the site. As regards the potential increase in road traffic, this would depend on the extent of use of the site, although, hopefully, once the by-pass is built this may not be much of a problem. He pointed out that he has kept to the planning requirements imposed on the site completely up till now and will continue to do so. Rumours of the provision of holiday camps, Center Park facilities or any similar facilities are entirely unfounded, particularly in view of the strictly limited planning permission for redevelopment that has been granted. In this respect, David Kempster observed that the Rock Lane farm site badly needs redevelopment, and that the work carried out so far by Martin Darvill has already transformed portions of the site. Finally, Martin Darvill referred to the possibility of a feature film being made at Liscombe Park, and to the difficulties he was experiencing with the planning authorities regarding permission to redevelop one of the redundant farm buildings at the site into a film studio for this feature film.

The Parish Council has received a letter from the Bedfordshire Leisure services regarding Stockgrove Country Park. Stockgrove Country Park is funded by both Bedfordshire County Council and Buckinghamshire County Council at the moment. Both authorities are undergoing financial restraints, so there is active consideration of schemes to make Stockgrove Country Park more self-supporting in the future. One possibility under consideration is the formation of a Friends of Stockgrove Country Park organisation to help fund the upkeep of the Park. County Councillor Mrs Brenda Jennings is on a steering committee for the Park, and is actively trying to get support for the Park, particularly from the users of the Park.

## **2. Restoration News & Building Work**

The remaining Phase I work should be complete by the beginning of August. English Heritage have agreed to pay 70% of the additional £7,000 cost incurred because we had to replace a wall plate.

We expect to hear from English Heritage within the next few weeks as to the work which can be included in the next phase and the percentage of their contribution.

## **3. Fund Raising**

The barbecue after the Summer Fayre raised £126 for the Restoration Fund. Thanks to all who helped and attended.

The next big event is the Golf and Tug-o-War against Great Brickhill. The date is Thursday August 22nd. The Golf Match will last from 8.15am through to 5pm and will be played at the Three Locks Course with lunch at the Clubhouse. The Tug-o-War is at the same venue followed by a barbecue at Liscombe Park. Golf and meals will cost £35. All day caddies/supporters £12.50. Tug-o-War team and Partners/Guests (evening only) £7.50 per head. We need golfers and Tug-o-War participants. For more details please contact David Kempster on 270080 or Jan Birdsall on 270204. Funds raised will be split between the Friends of Soulbury Church and Great Brickhill's nominated charity, the Foundation for Children with Leukemia at Great Ormond Street Hospital. We hope to have support from three or four celebrities at the Tug-o-War. Watch out for leaflet with full details!

4. **Sunday Club**

Our joint project with the Methodist Chapel will be launched on 8th September at a joint Family Service in the Chapel at 10.30am. Children and parents are invited to join the Church/Chapel congregations to meet the leaders and helpers to hear about the project and how it will work.

Family services alternating between Church and Chapel will be held once a month and on the other Sundays the Club will meet from approximately 11.15am to 12.15pm in the Chapel/School Room to allow parents who wish to do so to attend the 11.30am service at All Saints and also take their children to and from the Club.

Further details are available from Kate Jungius (270166) Christine Shepherd (270377) Susie Whittaker (270448) Margaret Harris (376492)

5. **All Saints Church News**

*Summer Fayre*

Despite indifferent weather the Fayre raised £1,154. Thanks to all concerned, particularly Bunty and John Pargeter for the use of their garden. We still have a bowls prize for Oliver Pashley - please ring 01296 688759, and Stan (270577) has a Pyrex basin left by a helper.

6. **Cheese & Wine Evening**

Monday evening 12th August in the Village Hall.

A Cheese and Wine evening in aid of the Parkinsons Disease Society of the United Kingdom with a number of interesting guests, selection of excellent wines and eats, presentation with the BBC expected to attend. The tickets are available from Alf Peacock or phone 01525 270541 and are at the affordable price of £3.50.

7. **Children's Entertainment**

The Annual Children's Entertainment will be held in the Clubroom on Tuesday August 20th at 11am. This entertainment is free, for parents and children. This has proved very successful in previous years, so come along and join in the fun.

8. **Safari Supper**

Last year's Safari Supper was a great success after a lot of hard work by all the helpers. The Friends of Soulbury Church are hoping to have another supper later in the year if there is sufficient interest. Anyone who would be willing to help in any way please telephone Mrs Jane Luxton on 270493.

9. **Mrs Vicky Rolls**

Mrs Vicky Rolls and all the family would like to thank all the very many friends for their kindness to her in her sad loss.

£440 from donations in memory of Bill has been given to CCCU, Stoke Mandeville.

10. **Cricket Fixtures**

Saturday August 3rd Drayton Parslow (Home)

Sunday August 4th Great Horwood (Away)

Saturday August 10th League Cup semi-finals

Sunday August 11th Cublington (Away)

Saturday August 17th Eaton Bray (Away)

Sunday August 18th Stoke Hammond (Home)

Saturday August 24th Edlesborough (Home)

Sunday August 25th New Bradwell (Away)

Monday August 26th League Cup final

Saturday August 31st Aston Clinton (Away)

11. **Garden Machinery Service**

Repairs and sales by RGC Machinery, Rock Lane Farm. Most leading makes supplied. Free local collection and delivery. Reconditioned mowers usually available. Also suppliers of ATVs and farm machinery. Tel: 01296 681007 (daytime) 681286 (evenings)

12. **All Saints Church**

Vicar Rev. Norman Cotton, The Vicarage, Stewkley, 240287

August 4th/11th/18th/25th Sung Eucharist at 11.30am

**13. Methodist Church**

August 4th	10.30am	Family Service	Keith Edlington
August 11th	6pm	Communion	Rev Bob Austin
August 18th	6pm		Mr Bill Smith
August 25th	6pm		Mrs J Gregory

No mother and toddler group during August.

**14. Forthcoming Events**

Monday August 12th	Cheese & Wine Evening
Wednesday August 14th	Social Circle 2.30pm
Wednesday August 7th & 21st	Mobile Library at the Stone 11.35am to 11.55am
Wednesday August 7th & 21st	Waste paper collection
Tuesday August 20th	Children's Entertainment 11am
Wednesday August 21st	Women's Fellowship Fish & Chip Supper at Church Farm House 7pm
Thursday August 22nd	Golf & Tug-o-War
Thursday August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th	Bowls Evening 7.30pm

**15. Diary Dates**

October 7th	Harvest Supper
November 16th	Coffee Morning

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Please note that items for inclusion in the next issue should be submitted by 20th August to : Mrs Miller 270545, Mrs Bunyan 270461, Mrs Norman 270483 or Mrs Fairbairn 270674.

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