



SOULBURY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

No. 258

February 1998

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

It was noted at the recent meeting that there are still several footpaths in the area that are not passable or which have unsatisfactory stiles. The clerk agreed to write to the landowners involved, and also to the Bucks Footpaths Officer.

Regarding the future funding of Stockgrove Park, Councillor Luther Brazier considered that any commercialisation of country areas such as Kingswood at Stockgrove Park as specific leisure areas should be opposed, particularly since it appears likely that Bucks County Council will be raising car parking charges on all their parkland areas in the near future. It was agreed that Councillor Brazier would draft a letter to the Chief Executive of Bucks County Council, and that the Clerk would write to Heath and Reach Parish Council to enlist their support for this opposition.

An application had been received to erect a grain store in the middle of the field owned by Denne Farms Ltd opposite Shenstone Acres on the Stewkley Road. The Council strongly opposed the proposal as the building was very large, visually obtrusive in an area of open countryside, and likely to be used for commercial rather than purely agricultural purposes.

Correspondence had been received by the Clerk relating to the budget situation for Bucks County Council. It is clear that there will be a rise in Council Tax above the rate of inflation coupled with reductions in environmental services. There is to be a public meeting held in Aylesbury on Wednesday, 28 January to discuss the issues involved in setting the budget. Details can be obtained from Liz Miller on 270545.

Councillor Maureen Payne (270418) informed the Parish Council that there is to be a public planning meeting on the same day, Wednesday, 28 January 7.30 pm at St Michaels School, Chapel Square, Stewkley to discuss local planning matters.

The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 16 February.

BUS TIMETABLE CHANGE

The daytime bus service to Milton Keynes No 52 Tuesday to Friday previously run by Buffalo is now being run by Red Rose. The pick-up time is 9.10 am in Soulbury, returning from Central Milton Keynes at 12.45 pm.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS

PCC The next meeting will be held in the Chapel Schoolroom at 8 pm on Monday 9th February.

THE COFFEE MORNING at the home of Doctor and Mrs Owens on 2nd December raised £117 and the Bingo on 6th December £120. The Vicar and Churchwardens are very grateful to all those who organised and helped at these events, as well as to those who supported them.

CHURCH CLEANING Help would be appreciated from 9 am to 11 am on Fridays 13 February and 13 March.

CHURCH ACCOUNTS Expenditure exceeded income by £750 in 1997. All concerned with the Church appreciate the tremendous support that has been forthcoming and that will be necessary in the future for the Restoration and that other village organisations are in need of money. Nevertheless we do need to make sure that income is sufficient to meet the day to day costs of providing services and ministry. Detailed accounts will be available for all to see once they have been audited. In the meantime Stan Morris will be pleased to talk to anybody who wants more information or would like to contribute towards the normal costs by way of Freewill Envelopes or a Covenant.

CHURCH GATES It is good to see them back in place again. With the help of wood from Luther Brazier, muscle from Don Haines and Maurice Cross and cash from the Friends of Soulbury Church the refurbished gates actually look brand new.

HEATING Under seat heaters have been installed in the sections of each pew nearest to the centre aisle. The PCC gratefully acknowledges the fact that the cost has been covered by the Parish Council.

FETE This year's Fete will be held at The Cottage on Saturday 27th June thanks to Mr and Mrs Pargeter. We would like to see one or two arena events. If anybody can put us in touch with any dance troupes or athletic displays or the like please get in touch with Stan Morris on 270577.

THANKS to Peter and Harry Ayris for various works including painting the crib figures, restoring the Remembrance roll of names and providing a new notice board in the porch.

DRAYTON PARSLOW Holy Trinity has a 50/50 sale in aid of the Church on Saturday 31st January. Queries to Norman on 240287.

RESTORATION NEWS

RESTORATION OF THE BUILDING We have now heard from English Heritage that they will provide a grant of £60,000 towards the next stage of the restoration work. The Friends will shortly publish a Newsletter with details of the work completed to date, that to come and proposals for obtaining the balance of the funds required.

BELLS The Millenium Commission is willing to grant £23,000 towards the restoration of the bells. Again, more details will appear in the newsletter mentioned above.

CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG AT THE BOOT Everybody enjoyed the carols and other Christmas songs. A collection for the Restoration Fund raised £121. Many thanks to Tony Saint for hosting the event and to Sue Taylor, Chris Jones and their friends for the music.

BURNS NIGHT We are looking forward to this event. All the tickets had been sold by Christmas.

AUCTION OF PROMISES This is to take place in the Clubroom on 7th March. Full details are contained in a leaflet already circulated. The idea is that people offer goods or services in advance, anything from walking the dog, cooking a dinner, airport journeys - any offer will be welcome. The offers are catalogued and on the night will be put up for auction. More details are available from Sheila on 270485 or Jane on 270493 or any member of the Church Restoration Committee.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

During December there were a number of burglaries in the village. Please be on the look out for anybody acting suspiciously. Ensure you are well locked up. **DO NOT LET ANYBODY YOU DO NOT KNOW INTO YOUR HOUSE. IF IN DOUBT, KEEP THEM OUT** until you have double checked with a neighbour, one of the neighbourhood watch co-ordinators, the organisation the person says they are from or the police.

If you need assistance at any time the co-ordinators are Stan Morris, John Sadler, David Kempster, Pam Norman and Yvonne Amour. The Police telephone number is 01296 396000. Don't hesitate to call them if you have a problem.

SOULBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

February 10th 1998 - 8pm in the Clubroom "DOWSING" - A talk and demonstration on water divining. Anyone intersted will be made very welcome. If you would like further details please phone either Margaret on 270355 or Andrea on 270474. Future programme includes : A trip to Towcester Races/Visit to the Royal Show/Shopping trip to Lakeside.

CHILDREN'S CYCLING COURSES

Bucks County Council are asking for adults to volunteer to become tutors for cycling awareness courses, to help children aged 10 and upwards to become safer cyclists. The ability to ride a bike is not essential and volunteers will be given two 2 hour training sessions run by Area Road Safety Officers. If you are interested in helping please contact the Area Road Safety at Aylesbury Vale Area Office, Station Road, Winslow MK18 3EG Tel 01296 383431.

PARKINSON'S DISEASE SOCIETY

Alf Peacock is running a stall in aid of the Parkinson's Disease Society of Great Britain at the May Day Fair in Leighton Buzzard High Street. He would be grateful for any donations but particularly books, plants and bric-a-brac. If you are able to give anything please contact Alf on 270541.

BARN DANCE

There will be a Barn Dance on Saturday, 28th February at 8 pm at Stewkley Village Hall in aid of the National Childbirth Trust. Caller Mr John Kemp. Tickets £10 each are available from Mary (01525 237115) or Jackie (01525 270619) and will include supper with a choice of dishes and dessert. A bar will also be available.

THANKS

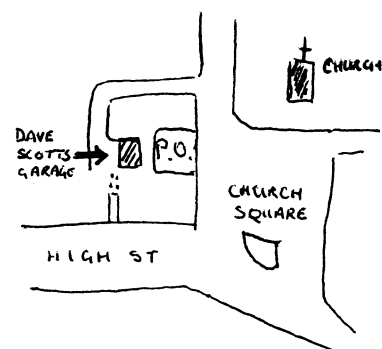
We have been asked to pass on the thanks of the Senior Citizens of the village to the trustees of the Stapleford Bridge Charity for the lovely Christmas parcels they distributed.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Richard and Emma Payne on the birth of their New Years Day baby.

VEHICLE REPAIRS , SERVICING AND MOT TESTING

High quality workmanship from a friendly establishment convenient to Leighton Buzzard High Street.
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HENDRICK JOOSTEN - GARDEN DESIGN

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GARDEN MACHINERY SERVICE

Repairs and sales by R.G.C. Machinery, Station Road, Mursley, MK17 0SA. Most leading makes supplied. Free local collection & delivery. Re-conditioned mowers usually available. Also suppliers of A.T.V.'s & farm machinery. Tel. 01296 720066.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH Vicar: Rev. Norman Cotton, The Vicarage, Stewkley. Tel. 240287

Sun Feb 8, 15 & 22, Mar 1 11.30 am Sung Communion Service in Church
Sunday Club in Chapel

Sunday Feb 1 10.00 am FAMILY SERVICE in Chapel.
No service in Church
No Sunday Club

Sunday Feb 22 6.00 pm Special service for young people at Stewkley with Deanery Youth
Instrumentalists

Wednesday Feb 25 7.30 pm Ash Wednesday. Communion Service at Stewkley

METHODIST CHURCH Minister: Rev Ian Banks. The Manse, Stewkley. Tel 240251.

Feb 1 10 am Mr R Harris Family Service
Feb 8 6 pm Rev I Banks Sacrament of Lords Supper
Feb 15 6 pm Mrs J Gregory
Feb 22 6 pm Mr D Harbey

Mother and Toddlers : every Tuesday @ 10.30 am.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (meetings in the Clubroom unless otherwise stated)

Mons Feb 2 & 16 10.15 - 10.30 am Mobile Library (High Road)
2.35 - 2.50 pm Mobile Library (Stewkley Road)
Tues Feb 10 8 pm W.I. "Dowsing" Talk and Demonstration on Water
Divining
Wed Feb 11 2.30 pm Social Circle at the home of Mrs Jean Morris
Mon Feb 16 8 pm Parish Council Meeting
Thurs Feb 5, 12, 19, 26 7.30 pm Bowls Evening
Wed Feb 18 7.45 pm W.F. Films on New Zealand - 11 The Green
Wed Feb 4 & 18 Woodland Waste Paper Collection
Thurs Feb 12 & 26 A.V.D.C Waste Paper Collection
Sat Feb 28 8 pm Barn Dance in Stewkley

DIARY DATES

Mar 7 Auction of Promises
Mar 16 Parish Council Meeting 8 pm

Items for next issue by 19 February to: Mrs Miller 270545, Mrs Bunyan 270461, Mrs Norman 270483 or Mrs Fairburn 270674.

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