



SOULBURY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

No. 259

March 1998

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the recent Parish Council meeting the use of recreational tanks over land at Liscombe Park gave rise to discussion. The present problem was that their use had completely obliterated footpath 6 to and from Wing, making it into a liquid mud lake, and no alternative had been set out on the ground. The County Footpaths Officer would be asked to comment and the Open Spaces Society, but in the meantime the Parish Council would oppose the driving of the tanks on the grounds that it was an unsuitable use of the countryside.

The application for 5 houses and garages at Manor Farm will be going to appeal.

Councillor Luther Brazier had been conferring with the agencies involved with Stockgrove Park and some positive outcome seemed likely. The use of landfill tax income was requested by many projects but with that, a possible sponsorship arrangement, and a small degree of commercialisation, the Park should be able to run to accommodate all interests.

The Environment Group has checked and replanted where necessary on the Jubilee Plantation on the crest of the hill on Mr and Mrs Hampton's land off the Stewkley Road. Also the District Council clean-up squad have done an excellent job along Hollingdon Lane. Their task must have been extremely unpleasant because of the nature of some of the dumped material, but they have been very thorough and made the lane much nicer for us all to use.

Councillor Maurice Cross agreed to repair the hole in the playground fence, but it was noted that the whole perimeter was degenerating and would have to be dealt with before too long.

A letter from Bucks County Council conveyed the information that Castle Hill bridge had been thoroughly inspected and its disintegration noted, but because of the relative minor use of its roadway it could not possibly be considered for repair before at least 30 other projects. It will therefore receive permanent weight restriction.

Some good news was announced. The valuation on the field proposed for the Millennium Green had been received; an offer was made to the owner, and he had accepted this offer, so the project can now go ahead. **WATCH THIS SPACE!** We hope the whole village will feel that they can be enthusiastic about this enterprise. More information is attached.

Members of the public voiced their concerns over the possible use of Soulbury by the Tesco Distribution Centre lorries when the depot is completed on the A5. The Parish Council agreed to confirm with the planning authorities that the HGVs would be restricted to designated routes.

It was reported that the footpath over the cricket field was not being adhered to. Although there is a gateway next to the houses on Stewkley Road there is no right of way there, and members of the public were requested not to enter the field at that end at all, but to cross diagonally only using the kissing gates to enter and exit. Please do not abuse this access.

Information has just been received on the distribution of travel passes for older and disabled people in Soulbury. These would be available on Wednesday 11th March in the clubroom from 2:30pm to 3:30pm.

The next meeting for the Parish Council will be on 16th March.

WHEELIE BINS

Households in Soulbury will be receiving delivery of a wheelie bin and two recycling baskets in the week of May 11th. All houses will receive a 140 litre bin, although larger families of five or more can request a 240 litre bin instead. An information leaflet will be delivered about two weeks beforehand.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS

Church Cleaning - Help would be appreciated from 9am to 11am on Friday 13th March.

Grass Cutting - A slightly different appeal. We save money by keeping the churchyard grass in order ourselves and we earn money by keeping the village green and verges in order. If you are able to help on an occasional basis with mowing or strimming please register or re-register your willingness with Stan Morris.

A Coffee Morning will take place in the clubroom on Saturday 28th March from 10:30 to 12 noon in support of Church General Funds. There will be a raffle, cake stall, Bring & Buy etc. We are still on the look out for new ideas. Admission will be 50p including coffee and biscuits. Contact Stan Morris. Stan will also be pleased to receive offers of help to staff the stalls. Goods for sale can be delivered to 3 Stewkley Road on Friday 27th March or to the hall from 10am to 10:30am on the Saturday.

Science & Religion - Professor Stannard, the Lay Reader at Linslade Church and recently Professor of Physics at the Open University, is a world expert in this field. He is coming to speak at the Church at Drayton Parslow later in the year. In the meantime Norman is arranging 4 evenings at the Vicarage to show the video Professor Stannard has produced, followed by discussion. These will be held at 8:00pm on Fridays March 6th, March 20th, Monday April 6th and Friday April 17th. If you think you might come, please let Norman know in case we need two venues.

RESTORATION NEWS

Burns Night, organised by the Friends of Soulbury Church was a great success, £295 was raised for the restoration fund. After a welcome from our suitably attired chairman, Richard Onslow, Julian Ridley entered with the haggis to a tune on the pipes. Leo Doherty addressed the haggis and Stan Morris said the Selkirk grace. Thanks are due to the ladies of the W.I. for producing an excellent meal and to all those who made speeches, provided entertainment or who were just there on the night.

Safari Supper, Hollingdon - Thirty-one people attended Hollingdon's third Annual Safari Supper which was held on 7th February. A great time was had by all. Thanks to the Curles, the Whites, the Browns, the Hobdens, the Cochranes and the Parrotts who provided the starters and the main courses also to Charlie and Natalie at Upper Hollingdon Farm who provided such delicious desserts that no-one wanted to go home. The proceeds of £195 have been donated to the Church Restoration Fund and received with thanks.

Auction of Promises - This is due to take place in the Clubroom on 7th March at 7:45pm for 8pm. Details of the goods and services on offer are in the catalogue accompanying this newsletter. Late entries are still welcome, please contact Sheila on 270485 or Jane on 270493. If you want a good bargain turn up on the night.

VILLAGE CALENDAR

The Friends of Soulbury Church have undertaken the task of compiling and keeping up to date a village calendar. The idea is to avoid, as far as possible, events clashing and to give advance notice of forthcoming functions. Initially copies will be displayed in the Church, the Clubroom and at The Boot. Additions, deletions and alterations should be advised to Stan Morris (270577), Chris Bryant (270607) or Norman Cotton (240287).

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A Neighbourhood Watch scheme has existed for 10 years. Enthusiasm has waned from time to time. Now that we are back in the Aylesbury Police Area, which seems keen to promote the Neighbourhood Watch, it may be an appropriate time to renew your commitment to Neighbourhood Watch or to join. For the time being the scheme only covers the roads mentioned, but if anybody in the areas more distant from the village centre wants to set up a scheme, Stan Morris on 270577 will be pleased to help.

By way of a reminder, or for your information if not previously involved, the schemes involve:-

1. Encouraging a community spirit; being observant; keeping an eye on neighbour's property when they are out or away; reporting to the Police or a co-ordinator anything suspicious or out of the ordinary - but NOT patrolling the streets.
2. Marking your valuables with your Postcode and house number, using ultra violet pens. Guidance can be given by the Police.
3. Obtaining security advice to safeguard your own home against burglary.
4. Receiving newsletters from the Police and messages about local crimes.

Co-ordinators and sectors at present are:-

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Vacant | Dean Farm Lane, Great Brickhill Road, The Green (even numbers) |
| 2. | Pam Norman
11 The Green | Andrews Close & The Green (odd numbers) |
| 3. | Stan Morris
3 Stewkley Road | 2 High Road, Stewkley Road, The Mead |
| 4. | Yvonne Rolls
8 Mount Pleasant | Mount Pleasant, High Road (Stone to Mt. Pleasant) |
| 5. | John Sadler
4 Chapel Hill | Chapel Hill |
| 6. | Vacant | High Road (Stone to The Boot) |
| 7. | David Kempster
59 High Road | Church Lane, High Road (The Boot to Brook Cottages), Leighton Road (Liscombe) |

We need one or two co-ordinators for Sector 1, one for Sector 6 and would like to split Sectors 2,4 and 7 into two. If you would like to help please contact one of the existing co-ordinators.

Within the next month you will be contacted by a co-ordinator to see if you want to be involved. If so, you will receive a copy of the Aylesbury Area Update for Neighbourhood Watch and also Ringmaster messages. More information on Ringmaster can be obtained from the co-ordinators.

WARNING TO GAS USERS

We have been asked to point out that in view of the opening of the gas supply market, various different companies will be visiting the village in the near future to try and secure business. Gas users are advised not to sign anything in haste and to be careful about who they let into their homes. If you have any queries on the subject please contact Bucks County Council Trading Standards Department.

W.I. NEWS

On Tuesday, March 10th 1998 at 8:00pm shake off those 'Winter Blues' and join the W.I. for our March meeting. An evening of "Belly Dancing" with Uzza. Who says the W.I. just make jam! Contact Margaret on 270355 or Andrea on 270474 if you would like further information.

On Saturday March 14th at 10:30am to 12 noon in the Clubroom. Coffee Morning supporting the Meningitis Trust. Home-made cakes and produce for sale - Raffle.

WELCOME

We would like to welcome to the village Jane, Clare and Richard who have come to live in Chapel Hill.

PATRICK TWYMAN

It is with regret that we have to report the death, on the 1st February, of Patrick Twyman. During the years that he lived on Chapel Hill, Pat was a committed supporter of many important causes for the village, including the Airport, the Abattoir, the increasing volume and speed of traffic through Soulbury, as well as keeping a keen eye on planning applications which might affect us all. He will be particularly remembered by all those who were the recipients of his many acts of kindness to friends and neighbours. After he moved to Norfolk Pat kept in touch with friends in Soulbury. Past and present inhabitants of the village who attended his funeral were made aware of how much he had endeared himself to his new community in Corpusty by the numbers of them present on the occasion.

BOB JORDAN

We are sorry to report the death of Bob Jordan who died on 2nd February. Bob lived, with his wife Margaret, for 6 years in Soulbury having moved from Hollingdon and previously from Stewkley. He was a farmer most of his life and enjoyed the outdoor life in retirement, making many friends in the village. We extend our sympathy to his wife Margaret and their children Graham and Sandra.

LITTLE ASHES PRE-SCHOOL

Little Ashes pre-school in Great Brickhill has places available NOW for two and a half to five year olds. The playgroup is open from 9:15 to 12:00 Monday through to Thursday in term time based at the lovely village hall in Great Brickhill. The hall is next to the recreation ground and children's play area providing plenty of scope for outdoor play during fine weather. Indoors the playgroup offers a wide range of activities for the children including a weekly Music and Movement session led by a professional music teacher. Two year olds are very welcome to come along to the playgroup if their parent or a responsible adult stays with them.

Special Introductory Offer of first two sessions free.

For further details please ring Sue Butterworth 01525 261289.

STOKE HAMMOND PLAYGROUP

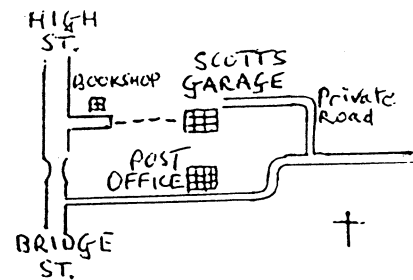
Vacancies available for playgroup assistants. Qualifications preferred but not vital as training can be provided. Experience with young children is essential. Hours 9:00 to 12 noon, 3/4 mornings per week. Call Donna Page on 01525 270239

Stoke Hammond Playgroup now has spaces available for children aged 2½ yrs to school age. Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:15am to 11:45am. Please call Elaine on 01525 270502.

VEHICLE REPAIRS, SERVICING and MOT TESTING

High quality workmanship from a friendly establishment convenient to Leighton Buzzard High Street.

David J. Scott. Tel. 01525 373628



JD ROOFING AND GENERAL BUILDING

All work undertaken, extensions etc. Tel 01525 270878

HENDRICK JOOSTEN - GARDEN DESIGN

Professionally hand-drawn plans, planting schemes and construction drawings for gardens large and small. From single consultation to full design, construction and planting. Specialists in ponds and water features. Plumtree Cottage, Soulbury. Tel. 01525 270597 or mobile 0831 681447.

GARDEN MACHINERY SERVICE

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

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

Sundays March 1, 8, 15 & 29	}	11:30am Sung Communion Service in Church
April 5	}	11:25am Sunday Club in Chapel
Sunday March 22		10:00am MOTHERING SUNDAY Family Service in Church
		No Sunday Club
		11:15am Said Communion

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

March 1	10:00am	Mr. K. Edlington
	11:25am	Sunday Club as usual in Chapel
March 8	6:00pm	Rev. I. Banks. Sacrament of the Lords Supper
March 15	6:00pm	Rev. I. Banks
March 22	6:00pm	Mr. Bob Harris
March 29	6:00pm	Circuit Service at Trinity Church, Leighton Buzzard.
		Rev. D. Winwood

Mother & Toddlers: Every Tuesday at 10:30am.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (meetings in the clubroom unless otherwise stated)

Sat. March 7	7:45pm	Auction of Promises
Mons. March 2, 16, 30	10:15-10:30	Mobile Library (High Road)
	2:35 - 2:50	Mobile Library (Stewkley Road)
Tues. March 10	8:00pm	W.I. - "Belly Dancing" with Uzza
Weds. March 11	2:30pm	Social Circle & Issue of Travel Passes
Sat. March 14	10:30am	Coffee Morning for Meningitis Trust
Mon. March 16	8:00pm	Parish Council meeting
Weds. March 18	7:45pm	W.F. at Church Farm
Thurs. March 5, 12, 19, 26	7:30pm	Bowls evening
Weds. March 4, 18		Woodland Waste Paper Collection
Thurs. March 12, 26		A.V.D.C. Waste Paper Collection
Sat. March 21 & Sun March 22		Public Exhibition of "Millennium Green"
		proposals 11.0am - 4.0pm.
Sat. March 28	10:30am	Coffee morning for Church

DIARY DATES

Mon. April 20	8:00pm	Parish Council meeting
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Items for next issue by March 20th to: Mrs Miller 270545, Mrs Bunyan 270461, Mrs Norman 270483 or Mrs Fairburn 270674

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Auction of Promises

It was not practical to include a full catalogue for the Auction of Promises but we have a wide selection of interesting items including a day at Silverstone, a flight in a light aircraft, a weekend in Cumbria, babysitting, various cakes and bottles of wine, a days golf, paintings by local artists, plenty of horse manure, and many more.

Do come on the night and join in the fun. If you can't come but would like to make a bid in advance please contact Sheila on 270485 who can give you a full catalogue.



SOULBURY MILLENNIUM GREEN

BACKGROUND

The inhabitants of Soulbury will be pleased to know that the proposal to establish a Millennium Green which has the support of all organisations within the village has passed its first stage of approval by the Countryside Commission/Millennium Commission. This approval covers land valuation, community consultation and production of a site preparation plan.

The land valuation has been completed and an offer made to the owner of the site which has been accepted. We are now ready to proceed with community consultation to determine exactly how the land should be laid out, how it is proposed to finance the project covering site preparation and its future maintenance and support, form a charitable trust and identify trustees who will manage the Millennium Green Trust.

When the above information is available a submission will be made to the Millennium Commission for a grant which will cover 50% of the total cost of site acquisition the creation work and three years maintenance and support. The balance of the costs will require to be met locally by a mixture of :-

- at least 10 % cash which can be secured from other grant schemes, local authorities and fund raising activities.
- the value of gifts in kind such as voluntary labour, materials, professional services, loans of equipment and other resources used in the creation of the green. When determining the 50% grant the Commission will grant aid 50% of these gifts in kind.
- Sponsorship.

OBJECTS AND AIMS

Objects

Through the formation of a Charitable Trust the Trustees will hold a trust fund and its income on trust and apply to the provision of the property, such property being maintained as an open space to be known as “**SOULBURY MILLENNIUM GREEN**” for the benefit of the inhabitants and to be used forever by anyone on foot as an area for informal recreation and play or other leisure time activities and a meeting area or place for community events.

Aims

- Make a substantial contribution to the life of the whole community.
- be able to be enjoyed by people of all ages and physical abilities.
- be open and evident to visitors to the locality as well as inhabitants.
- be an attractive place for people to take air and exercise, meet others and pursue leisure activities and pastimes consistent with shared enjoyment of the whole of the land.
- include an area suitable for community events and celebrations.
- include significant “natural” areas where people can enjoy Nature and wildlife at first hand.
- make a positive contribution to the local environment and respect the established character of the area
- remain safely and conveniently accessible from Inhabitant’s homes.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

At the present time the project is being sponsored by the Parish Council and if the Millennium Commission grant is obtained all responsibility thereafter will rest in the Trustees of the Charitable Trust consisting of trustees being :-

- (a) Local residents, or people with special knowledge or experience to contribute - known as General Trustees.
- (b) Nominee or nominees representing specific local authorities or other relevant bodies or voluntary organisations with a close interest in the Millennium Green - known as Nominated Trustees.

The actual project development is being undertaken by a small steering group consisting of the following :-

Alf Peacock	Telephone No.	270 541 or 270 268
Jane Phillpot		270 532
Liz Miller		270 545
Stan Morris		270 577
John Spires		370 094
Luther Brazier (Project Organiser)		237 647

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

At the outset we had to evidence to the Commission that the proposal had the support of the inhabitants of Soulbury and via all the known village organisations we received whole hearted support. Now it is time for all inhabitants to come forward and express their views on how :-

- (a) the site should be created, eg layout, access, tree/shrub planting, path construction, fencing, handicapped car parking (note: no buildings other than for site maintenance equipment allowed).
- (b) the site can be maintained year by year.
- (c) to create an outstanding feature on site to denote "Millennium".
- (d) gifts in kind in site creation and sponsorship/fundraising can be attained.

Two residents of the Village have been commissioned to produce the Site Preparation Plan i.e. Mr. R. Onslow and Mr. J. Sheppard based on the outcome of the consultation, which is planned to be progressed at Public Meetings to be held at the Village Hall as follows :-

Stage 1

21st March (Saturday) - Between 11.00 AM and 4.00 PM

22nd March (Sunday) - Between 11.00 AM and 4.00PM

Initial ideas and an outline plan will be on display and members of the above Steering Group and M/s Onslow/Sheppard will be in attendance.

Stage 2

4th April (Saturday) - Between 11.00 A.M. and 4.00 P.M.

Draft of the final site preparation plan will be available for comments.

Details of gifts in Kind and sponsorship/fundraising intentions will also be identified.

THE WAY AHEAD

Our target is to make the submission to the Millenium Commission by 24th April 1998 which should enable the whole process to be agreed by the end of May 1998.

We are playing our part in organising the venture through all its phases; we ask each and every resident in the village to participate in some form or another. Please contact any of the names listed above with any ideas or comments before the 21st March if you wish to have these incorporated into the first outline plan and please visit us during the days specified to ensure we get the best use of the site.

We can perhaps express our view on the proposal by an extract from Jane Phillpot's initial letter to local residents to the site :-

“ As we can all see, this field has been allowed to go completely wild, thistles, nettles and brambles taking over most of the hedgerow and open ground, the pond in the far corner is lost to us being completely hidden from view as this too, has gone very wild. Exposing and clearing the pond will soon encourage natural pond life to exist, and it will become a watering hole for the birds and other animals, which will add interest to those who visit.

The clearing of the ground, will turn the area from a wasteland into a small park, a site suitable for all in our community, making sure it is an accessible area, with easy access to those in our parish that are disabled or have mobility problems. In showing this consideration it will mean that those less fortunate will be able to enjoy the fresh air, see the wild flowers and fauna in safe and pleasant surroundings.

It is nice to feel part of a community and I feel Soulbury is small enough to maintain a friendly neighbourly atmosphere so please lend your support to the idea of a Millennium Green in our village, it will be somewhere where we can all benefit from and be able to watch or take part in Community events and informal recreation, or just sit quietly and let the world go by.”

L. BRAZIER
PROJECT ORGANISER

Enclosed: (1) Site Plan.

(2) Village Photograph with Site identification.

