



SOULBURY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

No. 272

May, 1999

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Following the footpath problems at Liscombe Park, the Clerk has written to the County Footpaths Officer, in the Rights of Way section, but Nigel Smith and Martin Darvill, who were present at the recent Council meeting, both assured the Council that some improvements have already been made. During public discussion time Mr Darvill was keen to point out that if any misunderstanding had occurred in the past between Liscombe Park and the Parish Council, he would like them set aside and Liscombe was very keen to commit itself to the local community. The date, May 30, was mentioned for a carnival - more details to follow.

The Chairman reported disappointing numbers of nominations had been received for the new Parish Council. Only 6 parishioners had been put forward - so no election will take place - indeed, that number would mean there will be a vacancy on the Council. Sadly, Mr Luther Brazier will not be standing again. Mr Alf Peacock thanked him for his past service, especially for his support as Vice-Chairman. Mr Brazier felt that younger people should take some responsibility for the community and hoped one or two would come forward to take his place. He will still be involved with many of the village activities.

The meeting was very concerned over the poorly presented planning application by Orange Microcell Installations to erect a telecom pole and antenna on Screen Machine property at Hill Croft Farm Industrial Units, Stewkley Road. The pole will be 37 feet high and will dominate the whole of this locality. Also the danger from the waves, which the antenna emits, is as yet unspecified, research is being done into their safety, but meanwhile, if this application is allowed, all those in its field will have no choice of whether they are exposed to it or not. The pole will certainly be unsightly and, if allowed, will almost certainly be the first of many in Soulbury. The Parish Council objected strongly to the application and advised individuals to write also. Mr Don Haines has organised a petition.

The Clerk had received notice of the annual summer children's entertainment, which will take place in the Clubroom at 11am on Tuesday, August 17.

During public discussion it was suggested that the Council should write to British Telecom, who were spending so much money on replacing the poles, when under-grounding the cables was a much better option environmentally. The Council also wanted to encourage individuals to make the same comment, as the notices on the new poles invite the public to communicate.

There are 3 nominations for the position of our local District Councillor, who is at present Mrs Maureen Payne. The election will be on Thursday, June 10 in the Clubroom. Mrs Payne also spoke of the success of the recycling initiative, S.A.V.E., and announced that the next phase will include glass and bottle collection.

The Millennium Green report was given by Jane Phillpot and Councillor Maureen Payne. The AGM of the Trust will take place on June 15 and the Trust is planning to hold an Autumn Country Fair on the Green on September 11.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on May 17, as at 8pm the Annual Parish Meeting will take place.

On the agenda for the Annual Meeting will be the co-ordinating of the village Millennium celebrations. Some activities have already been organised by the Church, the Millennium Green Trust and other groups have ideas in mind. It is hoped that representatives from all the village groups will be present, so that these ideas can be crystalised into a joint celebration.

Finally, a reminder was made for books for Alf Peacock's stall, in aid of Parkinson's Disease, for May Day and cakes for the Millennium Green stall for the same occasion. Books to Alf and cakes to Liz Miller or Trustees by Sunday, May 2, please.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH CLEANING Help would be appreciated from 10am to noon on Saturdays, May 1 and June 5.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING This took place on April 12. The PCC remains as previously constituted, with the exception that Hilary Ashburner has found it necessary to stand down. Her past services have been very much appreciated. It is intended to distribute a copy of the Annual Report and Accounts with the June Newsletter.

QUIZ NIGHT AND SUPPER There are still a few tickets left for the General Knowledge Quiz, to be held at Liscombe Park on the evening of May 7. Proceeds will go to the General Fund. Teams should consist of four people, but do not be afraid to book individual tickets, as teams can be made up on the night. Tickets are £5 per head and the price includes supper. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Contacts are Stan Morris on 270577 or the Vicar on 240287.

CHURCH FETE Don't forget the date - Saturday, June 12 at the Old Vicarage. We would welcome some new ideas. Please contact Stan Morris.

RESTORATION NEWS

PHASE 2 The drainage work has gone well. Most of the digging is complete, including the three soakaways. The mini-digger, loaned by TJC, was much appreciated and Dr David Owen excelled himself operating it. We are in the course of ordering the stones to fill in around the field drains. It is then a case of waiting for the weather to improve so that we can get a lorry up the field. Hopefully, this will be achieved one weekend in May. Those who have already volunteered to help with the project will be contacted by Jim. More helpers would be appreciated and we should then crack it in a day. PLEASE let Jim Cochrane, on 270271, know if you can help and he has not already got your name.

BELLS The contractor visited the Church on April 23 and has now got the information to complete the drawings for proposals for the bell frame. He is confident that the bells will be back in place by the end of the summer.

THE SAFARI SUPPER held on April 17 went off very well and £461 was raised for the Restoration Fund. Thirty eight people took part, the starters were provided by Pat and Graham Catchlove, Sheila Morgan and Richard Onslow, Ros and Tony Adams and Chris and Mark Hudson. The main courses were provided by Jackie and Julian Ridley, Bunty and John Pargeter, Jane and Michael Luxton and Stephanie and Ben Adams. Sweets and coffee were served in the loft at The Cottage. Thanks to all those who hosted courses, to Jackie and Jane for putting the event together, to those who provided sweets and raffle prizes and to all who attended.

SALE OF PLANTS James Fairbairn is expecting the plants to be delivered to him at Charity Farm, The Green on May 7. Would those who ordered plants, please contact him on 270674 to arrange collection or delivery.

MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

Work is still progressing well on the Millennium Green. Paul Ross, the gardener from Liscombe House, is doing a great job putting up the fencing around the little trees, which are now coming into leaf and look delightful. David Black, with help from Steve Cuthbert on the dumper truck, has done a first-rate job shifting earth about with the digger, loaned by TJC from Hollingdon Depot. He has dug out the pathways, the children's playground and the small paved area near the pond. David Venn from Heath and Reach has ploughed the small arable plants area on the far side, near the boundary with Ivy Cottage. We want to sow this with old-fashioned wheat, red poppies and cornflowers, but the

soil might not be quite ready for this, this year. A few more water plants have been planted in the swales.

Sue Stroud from Laburnum Cottages has offered to put up a list of small jobs to be done on the notice board at the entrance of the Green, so if anyone feels they could do an hour's work, you can check what there is to be done. Every bit of help counts!

There will be a volunteer's day on Saturday, May 8 and a weekend on Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16 - the times 10am to 12.30pm and 2pm till 4.30pm. We would really welcome help this weekend to do the footpaths, laying the green plastic support frames.

At around the end of June we plan to hold a children's picnic/fun-day to mark the opening of the toddler's playground. This, however, does depend on whether the playground equipment has arrived and been installed, so a definite date has not been fixed. We will let you know when it is to be nearer the time.

The Annual General Meeting of Soulbury Millennium Green will be held in the Clubroom on Tuesday, June 15 at 7.30pm. We welcome any residents of Soulbury, or interested members of the public, to attend.

Finally, we have for sale good quality polo shirts, sweatshirts and fleeces, in a range of sizes and colours, for children and adults, at prices of £10.50, £12.50 and between £20 and £25 respectively. They are special because they have an embroidered logo of Soulbury 2000, with the Church, the pub and the future Soulbury oak tree on them! They are made by Cred Embroidery of Luton, Mr R D Peacock's company. If you would like to order one, phone 270377. The proceeds of this sale will be divided between the Church and the Millennium Green.

P.S. A lovely family of mother duck and 5 ducklings has arrived on the new pond. Do enjoy them, but don't scare them away.

BISHOP'S BIBLE STUDIES with the Bishop of Buckingham, the Rt Revd Mike Hill on Mondays, April 26, May 10 and May 24, 8pm - 9.30pm (coffee from 7.45pm) at St Michael's School, Stewkley. No need to book, just come! Suggested donation : £2 per evening.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Neighbourhood Watch Administrator for the Aylesbury Police Area, John Daish, is putting on a Crime Prevention Evening for all NHW members in the village in the Clubroom at 8pm on Wednesday, May 5. This will be an opportunity to have an update on the local crime situation and to raise issues with the local police.

NATIONAL ASTHMA CAMPAIGN COLLECTION

The collection in The Mead and part of Stewkley Road raised £15.50.

JIM BROWN from Hollingdon attempted the London Marathon and completed the course, very tired, after 5 hours 15 minutes. This was Jim's first attempt at the race. So far he has raised £1500 in sponsorship for SPARKS. This is short for Sports Aiding Medical Research for Kids and helps particularly with research into Spina Bifida and Downs Syndrome before and after birth. Jim would welcome further donations. His telephone number is 270648.

THE HISTORIC CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST GRANT

Soulbury Church has recently been voted a grant of £3100 from the Historic Churches Preservation Trust towards repairs.

As the work of this Trust is not very well-known, a short explanation of its work would be appropriate. The Historic Churches Preservation Trust, a registered charity, was set up in 1953 to assist in the repair of churches and chapels of all denominations in England and Wales, and it does this by awarding grants and interest-free loans to parishes that apply to it for help. In recent years, the Trust has been receiving nearly 1000 applications each year from hard-pressed parishes and has made awards of about £1,000,000 to approximately 300 churches each year.

The Trust is rare in that it is a Grant-making charity that is itself very dependant on donations. Hence, if it is to provide a reasonable level of assistance to applicant churches, it needs to raise a considerable amount of money each year from voluntary donations. The Trustees are keen to help parishes as much as possible and are only limited by the availability of funds. To put the situation in perspective, recent average repair bills faced by parishes were about £55,000, but the average award by the Trust was only £2,500. The Trust would dearly wish to do more to help, but cannot do so without more funds.

Fund-raising by the Trust is less than easy - particularly as most people are not aware that the responsibility for maintaining a church rests squarely on the Parish - and some Parishes, often with beautiful yet irreplaceable medieval churches, have very few people living in them.

If you are interested in the work of the Trust and would like to help it in its unending task, why not contact the Secretary, HCPT, FREEPOST, Fulham Palace, London, SW6 6BR, (0171 736 3054) and become a "Friend" of the Trust and thus play your part in helping save our wonderful heritage of parish churches.

CRICKET FIXTURES

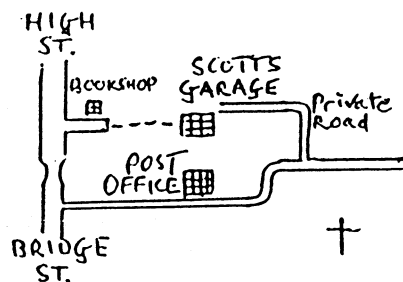
Sat, May 1	Open University	Away
Sun, May 2	Ebury Strollers	Home
Sat, May 8	Aspley Guise	Home
Sun, May 9	Stoke Hammond	Home
Sat, May 15	Studham	Away
Sun, May 16	Bletchley Printers	Home
Sat, May 22	Tring Park	Home
Sun, May 23	Stewkley	Home
Sat, May 29	Edlesborough	Away

WANTED

Wanted to rent, garage barn or workshop space to store 1 to 3 cars in or near Soulbury. Please phone James Fairbairn on (01525) 270674.

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.



GARDEN MACHINERY SERVICE

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JD ROOFING AND GENERAL BUILDING

All work undertaken, extensions, etc. Tel: (01525) 270878.

McCONVILLE BOWDEN

At last, a local estate agent with massive coverage of prospective purchasers wishing to buy your house. 44 High Street North, Stewkley. Tel: (01525) 240055. Offices in Herts, Beds and Bucks.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

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

Curate: Rev Peter Lymbery, 17 Hartwell Crescent, Leighton Buzzard. Tel: 371235

Sun, May 2	11.30am	Sung Eucharist
Sun, May 9	11.30am	Sung Eucharist
Thurs, May 13	7.30pm	Sung Eucharist for Ascension Day at Holy Trinity, Drayton
Sun, May 16	11.30am	Sung Eucharist
Sun, May 23	11.30am	Sung Eucharist
Sun, May 30	10am	Sung Eucharist, Patronal Festival at Drayton Parslow
Sun, June 6	11.30am	Sung Eucharist

METHODIST CHURCH

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

Sun, May 2	10am	Miss A Macho, Family Service
Sun, May 9	6pm	Mr P Thomas
Sun, May 16	6pm	Rev G Wallace Edwards, Sacrament of Lord's Supper
Sun, May 23	6pm	Rev K Salter
Sun, May 30	6pm	Rev I Banks
Mothers & Toddlers	10.30am - noon	Every Tuesday

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (Meetings in the Clubroom unless otherwise stated)

Mon, May 3		Leighton May Fayre
Wed, May 5	8pm	Crime Prevention Evening
Fri, May 7		Quiz Night and Supper, Liscombe House
Sat, May 8	10am-12.30pm	
	2pm-4.30pm	Millennium Green working party
Tues, May 11	8pm	WI
Wed, May 12	2.30pm	Social Circle
Sat/Sun, May 15/16	10am-12.30pm	
	2pm-4.30pm	Millennium Green working party
Mon, May 17		Mobile Library
Mon, May 17	7pm	Parish Council Meeting
Mon, May 17	8pm	Annual Parish Meeting
Fri, May 7, Thurs 20 May		AVDC waste paper and recycling collections
Thurs, May 6, 13, 20, 27	7.30pm	Bowls Evening
Wed, May 19		Women's Fellowship

DIARY DATES

Sat, June 12	Church Fete at the Old Vicarage
Tues, June 15	AGM, Soulbury Millennium Green

Items for next issue by May 21 to: Mrs Miller 270545, Mrs Bunyan 270461, Mrs Norman 270483 or Mrs Fairbairn 270674.

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