

# SPOTLIGHT

## Seend & Bulkington



MAY 2021

## DIARY DATES FOR LATE APRIL

26<sup>th</sup> RBL Meeting 7pm on Zoom  
27<sup>th</sup> Seend PC Meeting

## DIARY DATES FOR MAY

3<sup>rd</sup> Bank Holiday  
5<sup>th</sup> Seend Annual Parish Meeting – Virtual – 7pm  
10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Christian Aid week  
15<sup>th</sup> LAST DAY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO JUNE SPOTLIGHT  
18<sup>th</sup> Seend Annual Parish Council Meeting – 7 pm at the Community Centre  
24<sup>th</sup> Mobile library - Seend, The Lye 9.40am, Seend Cleeve phone box 10.05am, Bulkington, The Well 11.05am.  
25<sup>th</sup> Seend Parish Council Meeting  
28<sup>th</sup> Commencement of GB Spring Clean (ends 13<sup>th</sup> June)  
31<sup>st</sup> Bank Holiday

## THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO...

25<sup>th</sup> June BBQ & Disco for the reopening of the Community Centre  
10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> July Seend Open Gardens 1-6pm  
24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> July, 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> August - Summer Saturday Breakfasts

### Newcomer to Seend or Bulkington?

Visit [www.seend.org.uk](http://www.seend.org.uk), [www.bulkington.org.uk](http://www.bulkington.org.uk) and the Spotlight, Seend Community Centre and Seend Village Group **facebook** pages.

**Spotlight Contacts:** Contributions for the June 2021 edition (copy by Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May) can be emailed to [spotlight@seend.org.uk](mailto:spotlight@seend.org.uk) or delivered to Seend Post & Provisions. Editors: Tessa Doe (01380 828617) and Sue Isaac (828461). Please note that **you should always send emailed items to the Spotlight address**, not to Sue or Tessa – even if they have emailed you from their own email address – just in case they are not around. Fiona Johnson is the contact for delivery (828401), Jan Field for printing and Chris Brooker (828047) for advertising. Potential volunteer deliverers or printers can contact Fiona or Jan.

**Lost emails:** Emails to Spotlight sometimes go astray for no obvious reason. If email correspondents don't receive an acknowledgement by the end of the Monday after the Spotlight deadline, please ring Tessa or Sue (see above) to check if all is well. And please note the following. **When sending emails to [spotlight@seend.org.uk](mailto:spotlight@seend.org.uk)** please include the word **SPOTLIGHT** in uppercase as the first word of the Subject. This will help the editorial team sifting through all the messages stopped by the SPAM filter, which sometimes include genuine messages for SPOTLIGHT.

**PDFs:** We cannot normally use PDF or jpg files of posters etc as they require a specific shape and space. Word documents (or compatible) – without any fancy formatting - give us the flexibility to adapt your wording and pictures to fit the space available. Thanks.

## **Welcome to May 2021 Spotlight**



Zoom meetings. Everybody is at it, and maybe they are here to stay even after we are able to assemble for a ‘real’ meeting. A reduction in travel time and money, junior members of staff not being expected to make umpteen cups of coffee, and the end of having to wear smart clothes from the waist down are just some of the advantages. We know many village groups have been employing the technology to keep in touch, including parish councils and church congregations, and we have a virtual Seend Annual Village Meeting coming up on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

At last a few activities are being planned in our villages again – quite a few outdoors already and some indoors soon. Anyone who has moved in during the last 14 months or so will soon learn what a sociable community you have joined. And the mobile library is back!

Don’t forget we have local elections and the Seend Neighbourhood Plan referendum on 6<sup>th</sup> May. We bid farewell to a few Parish councillors and to our Wiltshire councillor and thank them for their service.

Inside this magazine you should find a questionnaire from the church, a Christian Aid envelope, and an update on offerings from our local artisan chef, Eric Lépine.

Finally, do have a look at the May Spotlight online colour supplement on [seend.org.uk](http://seend.org.uk) – this month including fun Seend School Red-Nose-Day pics, spring scenes and lovely views of the village churches.

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### **THE SEEND FUND - A REMINDER IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES**

If you find yourself in financial difficulties, struggling to keep warm or pay for food, the fund is here to help. In the past it has contributed towards a variety of things:

- |                           |                       |             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| * Rent Payment            | * School Trips        | * Food      |
| * Household fuel          | * Medical Equipment   | * Vet bills |
| * Electrical appliances   | * Musical instruments | * Training  |
| * School and work clothes | * Wheelchairs         |             |

Remember the Seend fund is your local fund. Anyone living in or closely associated with Seend, including our close neighbours in Bulkington and Poulshot, can apply by emailing the secretary ([anitashea@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:anitashea@hotmail.co.uk)) or writing to her at 34 Seend Cleeve, Melksham SN12 6PY.

The Trustees promise complete confidentiality. Please don’t hesitate to contact the fund, saying how much you need, what for and when you need it by. The fund can’t make regular or huge donations but may be able to help carry you over to better times.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND VILLAGE INFORMATION**

*(Please let us know of any births, marriages, deaths, special birthdays, thanks, useful information etc that you would like to see included here. N.B. We are aware that not everybody we lose from our villages gets an obituary or notice printed here. We rely on information from friends and family for this to happen.)*

### **SEEND PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP NEWS**

#### **May 2021 Update**

Are you Referendum Ready?

The Referendum on our draft Neighbourhood Plan will take place on May 6th and some of you have already received your voting papers. Until it is 'made' it remains a 'draft' (although it is completed), and a positive vote from you will help turn it into the legal document we have worked hard to create. If you want to vote in person, you can do that from 7.00am – 10.00pm at the Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion. Contact details are available on the pink polling card.

#### **PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO VOTE ON 6TH MAY 2021**

Information on our Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed via Wiltshire Council website:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-neighbourhood-latest-news>

Information about the referendum is published on Wiltshire Council's website with help as to how to view documents. If you do not have access to the internet and need support in viewing the Plan, from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021 please phone customer services on 0300 456 0100 (lines open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday) and ask to speak to an officer within Spatial Planning.

It is now over to all residents of Seend Parish. Obviously we hope you will vote YES. If over 50% of votes cast are 'yes' then the draft Seend Parish Neighbourhood Plan will be 'made'. That is the legal term, which indicates it has statutory status, and the draft status is no more.

Please stay safe, sensible and sane till then. It's still not quite over....

Carola Thorpe on behalf of the S.P.N.P. Steering Group

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### **SEEND COMMUNITY LINK SCHEME**

Trouble getting **out and about**? We can help with **transport**.

Link is a team of **volunteers** who assist residents in the area who are **elderly** or incapacitated and are **unable to use public transport**.

We are still operating during the crisis and can help with transport. Including to Covid vaccination centres.

***For more information or to join us as a volunteer driver please get in touch.***

**Telephone 07532 055560 - [www.seend.org.uk/seend link](http://www.seend.org.uk/seend_link)**

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**SEEND OPEN GARDENS**  
**1:00 - 6:00 pm 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> July 2021**



As you are probably aware, Covid restrictions are, in theory, to be lifted on 21st June. After much deliberation it has been decided to go ahead with the Seend Open Garden event over the w/e of 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> July. I am hoping you will be able and happy to open your garden? Of course, living in the times we do, there is always the possibility of it having to be unexpectedly cancelled at the last moment. I feel it would be good to have something positive to look forward to and I hope you will agree with me. We especially welcome all those gardeners living in Seend, who have not previously participated in this special event, to join us. It gives so much pleasure to those who visit and is a major source of fundraising for our beautiful church.

On the day we will also be asking for lots of volunteers to assist with car parking etc. For further details please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you  
Tina Yockney

37 Seend Cleeve, SN12 6PU, Tel 01380 827139, 07837 930877

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MONDAY MAY 10th - SUNDAY MAY 16th**

Christian Aid, with 70 years' experience, works to bring an end to poverty in 37 countries, helping people in Africa, Asia and the Middle East as well as Latin America and the Caribbean, addressing the root causes as well as the effects of poverty. They work with 475 local, national & international partner organizations, some are Christian, some Muslim, Jewish or Hindu – some are of no religious persuasion at all. Christian Aid's primary concern is that partners are good at what they do. The work is inspired by Christian values of faith, charity, hope and truth. Put simply 'aid' is what Christian Aid does, 'Christian' is why they do it.

Christian Aid makes the best use of monies collected by allocating funds from a central budget to partners according to need. A close relationship is maintained with partners to learn more about the problems in their areas, to offer support and check that money is spent wisely. Over a quarter of the money collected is spent on emergencies. But the key area is long term development spending nearly half of the income, on projects such as education and health as well as ways to improve people's resilience to shocks and disasters, like stronger houses in earthquake zones. The remainder is divided between campaigning and fundraising. No money is given to governments.

This year funds are concentrated in two main areas. Climate change has a much harsher effect on the poorer countries of the world, especially in Africa where weather, normally prone to extremes has become more so recently. Droughts have become more frequent and longer, while flooding has been more common when it does rain, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. Countries in Asia, such as Bangladesh, have such extensive low lying areas that people living in coastal regions have become

frequently flooded. Covid, a problem in the richer parts of the world, is the other special problem currently. It is true that parts of Africa were less prone to the virus in 2020 but they are catching up. There is little chance of social distancing in the urban slums of India where although they have produced considerable numbers of vaccine doses many seem to have been exported even though there is great need at home. Brazil also is suffering badly from Covid -not helped by a President who does not yet seem to accept that there is a problem.

You may remember that last year the usual House to House collection was cancelled due to Covid. This year it is more or less back to normal. You will find an envelope in the May edition of Spotlight as usual. One of our masked collectors will be round to collect it during the week - May 10<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> and we hope that you will feel able to contribute as you have in the past. If you are a basic income tax payer please also complete the Gift Aid form, fold it & place in the envelope with your contribution. Please stick down the envelope for better security. This is all a bit of a fiddle but if you complete the form and place it in the envelope with your contribution when you read Spotlight and place it near the front door it is easy for you when the collector calls. If no one collects your envelope for some reason, possibly because you were out when they call please take it to The Shop in the High Street or give it direct to me at Whites Farm, Seend Cleeve, Melksham or to Liz Futter, Mill Lane, Bulkington whichever is the easier.

Thank you  
Dick Church, Local Organiser

### **A MESSAGE FROM SEEND CLT CHAIR, GEORGE CLARKE**

Since I last wrote to Community Land Trust members just before Christmas, we have been waiting with increasing anxiety for the Section 106 agreement to be signed and to date, so far, this has not yet happened. Because it has always seemed that news on this front was just a few days away, I put off writing to you in the hope that I would have something positive to report but this has not yet happened, I apologise for the resulting lack of communication.

It is hard to believe that the planning application was registered 13 months or so ago on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March last year, shortly afterwards the first lockdown was announced. It took until mid-September before we were told that, subject to the signing of a suitable s.106, the application would be approved. The S.106 is an agreement signed between the various parties that ensures that the development will remain in use for its original purpose, as affordable housing, in one form or another.

It was the responsibility of the legal department at Wiltshire Council to draw up the agreement and, as this is the first CLT in Wiltshire to reach this stage, they were anxious to produce an agreement that could form a template for future schemes in other parishes and one that would not set any unfortunate precedents. The CLT first saw a draft in mid-November, and this was reviewed and commented on by the CLT within a couple of days. A revised version suitable for sending to our solicitors was

not then received by us until the end of January this year and was cleared by our solicitors within a matter of days. At that point three of the four parties to the agreement including the CLT were ready to sign, however since then the fourth party to the agreement have, via their solicitors, raised a number of concerns, which we believe have now been addressed, however we are still waiting for their agreement. As you can appreciate this delay has been exceedingly frustrating but completely beyond our control.

As of today, you could argue that we are no further forward than we were on the day that we applied for planning permission. There certainly would not have been any reason to call a meeting, even if this had been possible, and indeed until we get some definite news either way, that remains the case. In the event that we are successful in obtaining our planning permission then we will call a meeting to update you on our next steps. Likewise, if we are unsuccessful, we will call a meeting to discuss what should happen. Perhaps my writing to you will now prompt developments and I will be able to report back positively in the near future, I certainly hope so.

It seems we will be returning to a more normal life soon and that at least is a cause for optimism. In the meantime, I wish you all the very best of health.

Yours sincerely,  
George Clarke, Chairman, Seend CLT

### **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

**Elections:** Seend Parish Council will not have a contested election on 6<sup>th</sup> May, as there were only 8 candidates nominated. The following candidates were uncontested: Mrs Georgina A'Bear, Mrs Pamela Akerman, Mrs Anita Heatley, Mr Terry James, Mr William Lack, Mrs Carole Vince, Mr John Williams and Mr Martin Wiltshire. This means there are 3 councillor vacancies that will be advertised in the next month or so. There will still be County Councillor elections, Police and Crime Commissioner elections and the Seend Neighbourhood Plan Referendum. All on 6<sup>th</sup> May, so don't forget to vote!

**Seend Parish Neighbourhood Plan:** A Referendum will be held on the question: Do you want Wiltshire Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Seend Parish to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area? The answer to give is Yes or No.

It is important that as many parishioners as possible vote in this Referendum as it is the culmination of many years of hard work put into the preparation of the Plan by the Steering Group. The Referendum version of the Seend Parish Neighbourhood Plan can be found on their dedicated website: [www.seendparishplan.org](http://www.seendparishplan.org) or the PC website: [www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Annual Parish Meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm (virtual meeting):** Contrary to the date given in the April issue, the Annual Parish Meeting has now been set for Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May. The reason behind bringing this forward is that the government is not



extending the legislation allowing for virtual meetings after 7<sup>th</sup> May. This means that any council/parish meetings after the 7<sup>th</sup> May are expected to be held in a public place. As the Parish Council feels that many parishioners will still have reservations about meeting in public, we have decided to bring the date forward so we can legally have the meeting on-line. All parishioners will be welcome to join the meeting. Seend clubs and organisations are invited to give a short report. If you are unable to attend, written reports can be sent to the Chairman so they can be read out on your behalf.

Councillor Georgina A'Bear will be hosting the meeting on Zoom, so please send your requests for the meeting ID to her.

Email: [georgina.abear@seendparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:georgina.abear@seendparishcouncil.co.uk).

Please send in written reports to the Chairman and say whether you are attending or not.

Email: [chairman@seendparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:chairman@seendparishcouncil.co.uk)

#### **Draft Agenda:**

- Apologies
- To confirm and sign the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting.
- (2019 draft minutes and 2019 club reports can be found on website: [www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk))
- Chairman's Annual Report of the Parish Council.
- Councillor Seed's Report
- Neighbourhood Plan report
- Statement of the Parish Council's accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021
- Reports from village organisations and clubs.

#### **Great British Spring Clean – 28<sup>th</sup> May to 13<sup>th</sup> June**

Whilst no formal 'clean up' day is being organized by the Parish Council, It is hoped that as many residents as possible will do a litter pick close to their homes. If everyone does this, then we should see a cleaner parish!

#### **Rights of Way – Seend**

There has been a lot of discussion on the Village Facebook page recently about blocked paths around the parish. As a result of this, I have created a page on the Parish Council website. This contains a link to the interactive map of all the rights of way in Wiltshire. You will need to zoom in to find those in Seend. I have also attached various guidance documents on the rules relating to landowner responsibilities and walkers responsibilities.

#### **Planning**

Just a reminder that all current planning applications in the Parish are listed on the Parish Council website. All applications are discussed and voted on at a PC meeting, but it is Wiltshire Council who has the final say on whether to approve or refuse an application. Also on the website are the outcomes of planning applications for 2020 and 2021.



## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **HAPPY EASTERTIDE FROM YOUR LOCAL CHURCH!**

I love Easter, quite possibly even more than Christmas! I love the light, the long-awaited revealing of new life and the message of hope that Easter brings.

The Christian community has been marking and celebrating Easter for over 2,000 years but that doesn't mean that the church hasn't changed and adapted during that time. The basics of everyone being valued and transformed by a loving God, the God that we got to know first-hand through the life of Jesus hasn't changed. That is why some of us gather each Sunday to "Give thanks to the Lord because he is good, because his faithful love endures forever." (1 Chronicles 16:34)

How we 'go about' church though has changed over the years, maybe not quite at the speed of Google or Apple but we do and have changed. We are at a point in history where we are revaluating what we do and how we do it. This is nothing new as we only need to look back to see how the church was involved in establishing the education, legal and health systems in the UK. And more recently we quietly led the way for some of the Covid community support work.

The church is different to almost all other organisations. We have been present in each one of our five villages for a very very long time. Christ Church at Bulkington is 160 years old and Holy Cross at Seend is 570 years old!\* This '*perseverance of presence*' has placed our Parish Churches at the heart of the English landscape, enabled Christian fellowship and provided a focal point for the spiritual heart for the community.

We would like our churches to be here in another 570 years, but we can only achieve that if we understand your attitude towards your local church building and church community. This understanding will help us to stay relevant to the village community and to better meet your needs in 2021 and on into the future.

In this month's magazine there is a quick and simple questionnaire to help us get a better understanding of your views. If you complete the questionnaire by **5:00pm on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May** we will enter you into a prize draw to win a £20 M&S voucher (enough to buy a nice bottle of bubbly or 12 packets of Percy Pigs!)

There are no right or wrong answers, but we would very much appreciate your complete honesty and frankness. We are particularly keen to hear from younger people during this survey.

If you would prefer to send us an email or write a letter with your thoughts, rather than complete the questionnaire, then please feel free to do that instead. You can send your thoughts or completed questionnaires by emailing them to [sarahleckie.wba@gmail.com](mailto:sarahleckie.wba@gmail.com)

Alternatively you can drop your completed questionnaires off at the following addresses:-

Seend: Len Murray, 2 High Street

Seend Cleeve: Tina Yockney, 37 The Cleeve

Bulkington: Liz Futter, 4 Mill Lane

We are deeply committed to our village communities. We now need to understand your views, whether a churchgoer or not.

Rev Adrian, Wellsprings Family of Churches

*\* Lovely photos of the two village churches, among other pictures, are in the May Spotlight online colour supplement at [seend.org.uk](http://seend.org.uk). Do have a look!*



## **CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY 2021**

**The Parishes of Holy Cross, Seend, Christ Church, Bulkington  
and St. Peter's, Poulshot**

**Part of the Wellsprings Benefice**

**All Sunday services are now open to attend in person. We will be strictly adhering to covid regulations and there will be no singing. Please wear a mask and maintain safe social distancing. If you are shielding, vulnerable or anxious about the risk to yourself, please do not attend. Please book if you wish to attend a service in church (details of how to book are below).**

**Online services can be accessed via zoom (link below).**

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter)**

8am Holy Communion (BCP) Potterne

10am Morning Praise Seend \*

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May (6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter)**

8am Holy Communion (BCP) Seend

10 am Morning Praise Bulkington \*

### **Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> May (Ascension Day)**

Service to be confirmed, please see website for details

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May (7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter)**

8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Potterne

10am Holy Communion Poulshot \*

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May (Pentecost)**

8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Seend

10am Holy Communion Potterne \*

4pm Songs of Praise Poulshot

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May (Trinity Sunday)**

8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Potterne

10am Holy Communion Worton \*

4pm Evening Prayer Bulkington

**Every Tuesday, 9am Daily Prayer service at Poulshot (no booking required)**

**\* These services will be available on Zoom. You can access them via our website below or use the link <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6778119535>.**

**Booking is essential for all Sunday services in church.** Please email [sarahleckie.wba@gmail.com](mailto:sarahleckie.wba@gmail.com) (before 5pm Friday) or contact the church wardens. Outside of these services, all churches will be open for private prayer on Sundays from 10am to 5pm. Anyone attending for private prayer is reminded to check-in (on paper or using the NHS app) and adhere to the covid safety notices displayed. We will continue with morning prayer via Zoom at **9:00am on Wednesday and Friday mornings**. We will also continue with evening prayers on Zoom, led by Rev Joshva, on **Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6:00pm**.

**From the Registers:**

**Funerals**

Mavis Comley on 21<sup>st</sup> April at Seend.

No baptisms or weddings this month.

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Please visit our website [www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk](http://www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk) for more details of all our services, latest updates and to keep in touch.

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**SEEND CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING**

The annual meeting of the Church was held on 20th April. At the vestry meeting Len Murray was re-elected as churchwarden for a further year. He will be supported by the Parochial Church Council Secretary, Anne Ewing, and Treasurer, Neil Yockney, as Deputy Churchwardens. We also elected two new members to the PCC in Tina Yockney and Jenny Phillips. They are most welcome. There were a number of reports submitted for consideration and approval, including the financial situation of the church. The accounts show that in spite of a very difficult year we managed to pay our share to the diocese. A great number of people were thanked for their service to the church and particular mention was made of those who quietly give service and are often not active church members, especially the volunteers who helped to maintain the churchyard in various ways and continue to do so.

Anne Ewing  
PCC Secretary

**OPEN GARDENS TEAS**

You will see elsewhere in the magazine that we hope to have our very successful Open Gardens this year on the weekend of the 10th/11th July. Teas are an essential part of the weekend so donations of cakes will be very welcome and folk to man the teas. I will be in touch with my regular team nearer the time but if you bake and would like to support this very valuable fund raiser for the church please get in touch with me.

Anne Ewing

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## **BULKINGTON NEWS**

### **DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BULKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Pending official approval at the next meeting.

**Held Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 at 7pm online via Microsoft Teams**

Councillors: Amy Powell (Acting Chair), Andrew Grabham, Alex Breach, Carla Haslam, Julie Anderson-Hill

Public: Tamara Reay (prospective Conservative Candidate for the Devizes Rural West Division for the upcoming Wiltshire Council elections), Councillor Seed, Penelope Morgan-Elliott

**Apologies for absence:** PCSO Janet

#### **To Record:**

Changes to the Register of Interests.

Declaration of Interest in agenda items: Amy Powell declared interest in agenda item 33 – her own planning application

#### **Report received from:**

Councillor Seed: This meeting was Councillor Seed's last Bulkington PC meeting after 12 years of representing us. He would like to thank the current and past members of the PC for a good relationship and the PC wishes him the very best for the future.

PCSO Janet shared the below report via email:

- Dog thefts – still ongoing and extra care should be taken when out dog walking and general security for pets around the home. Please report any suspicious activity.
- Rogue Callers – unfortunately this type of crime still happens – please be careful of employing any trades person that calls uninvited at your home address. Legally you should be provided with a 14 day 'cooling off' period before any work is commenced, do not pay any monies upfront, and all quotes should be written in detail and include the name, address and contact details of the Tradesperson doing the work.

#### **Local Planning Updates:**

- 1) Barn conversion/ Holiday lets planning application at Tynings Farm, 24 Bulkington Drove

Tim Taylor introduced the application and answered questions: The property was purchased in 2016 with planning permission for 4 garages – this was changed into an annex for their parents. They are now seeking planning permission for 3 x 1 bedroom holiday lets in place of the stables in the original planning permission.

Tim and Sam hope this will help support the Pub as a business and provide accommodation for their customers and other visitors to the area such as walkers and sightseers. Tim highlighted that they are not looking to extend Tynings Farm in any other way and purely wish for these additional buildings to be holiday lets.

The original stable blocks passed in planning would have meant frequent comings and goings of numerous different parties so Tim and Sam feel confident this option involves less traffic. In terms of access, the entrance and parking for the holiday lets is to be on the side of the property where the current gate is, this area would be widened and levelled and has been approved by Highways.

Planning includes 1 parking space for each holiday let, with overflow available on Tim and Sam's drive should it be needed. Additional hedging is planned for between the lets and the lane and any waste will be removed as either commercial waste or in extra bins as part of Tynings Farm at the front of the property.

After the discussion there was a vote on which councillors supported the planning – All councillors bar Alex Breach voted in favor. Alex's main concern is the increase in traffic to the village and the lane.

Should the planning for the Holiday lets not be granted, the stable blocks from the original plans will be built.

- 2) Planning application 21/01260/FUL, Lanes Cottage 15 High Street Bulkington Devizes SN10 1SJ. Proposed development of single storey glazed extension. No comments raised

**Finance - Costs approved:**

Clerk Pay – March £221.60 Clerk Holiday Pay 2019-2020 retrospective £194

Charge to connect Domain Name to website £72 upfront charge

**Total Expenditure approved this month: £487**

**Balance after payments made: £1219.98**

**William Breach Recreational Field – Committee:**

The PC Team would like to thank Councillors Alex and Andrew for their work this month tidying up the Recreational Field. Rotting timber and other items that could pose a danger were removed and fixtures like the Playhouse were treated and mended,

Councillor Andrew has been reviewing our grass cutting contracts, it was agreed to continue working with IdVerde – subject to the rubbish bin emptying being included in the contract as it is currently. Costs will be approved in April's PC Meeting.

The Committee Bank Account is now fully set up, there is currently £1600 in the account,

Councillors Julie and Carla are looking at how the William Breach Recreational Ground can best appeal to the village as a whole

**Parish Steward:** Please continue to send any outstanding jobs to the Clerk so these can be passed on. The Clerk will be requesting the removal of moss at the top of the close and the repair of the raised tarmac near the manhole outside Chestnut Drive.

**New Website:** The new website is nearly complete - there has been great collaboration between Councillor Amy and Sue Barrat to bring the content over and streamline the site.

**Newsletter update:** The latest Newsletter has now been delivered to each house in

the village – spares are in the bus shelter. Please do return the very brief survey – it would really help the PC Team tailor the next Precept to the villager's requirements rather than second guessing. It contains only one question and can be returned via the PC post box in the bus shelter.

**Wiltshire Best Kept Village:** We have been invited to participate, should we wish to – the competition entry does not need to be managed by the PC – any volunteers would be most gratefully received. The Competition would be a positive post Covid initiative to celebrate our beautiful village and community.

**Dog Poo in the village and surrounding fields:** It has been reported that full dog poo bags have been thrown into the sheep field by the William Breach Recreational Ground – both littering and endangering the wild stock. This is obviously not acceptable and its location right next to a bin makes this worse. Councillor Julie has agreed to circulate signage to try and help prevent this in the future.

**The Parish Council team meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Please contact our Clerk ([theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk](mailto:theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk)) for location or call details as this will depend on the Covid-19 guidelines at the time.**

**We welcome villagers to attend our meetings or to contribute via email or talking to a Councillor or the Clerk directly before the meeting.**

### **BULKINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

It is with great sadness that we have to report the sad loss of our former lady chairman Angela Read after a long illness, bravely born. Together with several villagers and her family we had the honour of bidding farewell to Angela at the Crematorium on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Angela served on the Village Hall and Parish Council for many years and will be sorely missed.

On May 06<sup>th</sup> we will be using the hall for the local elections and to ensure the safety of everyone the hall is having a deep clean before and after the election.

As the Covid Restrictions are slowly lifted, we hope to be able to welcome the Omni Art and Band Practice groups back and start using our facilities again.

As the easing of lockdown progresses it is anticipated that 'Normal Service' will be resumed on the Great Bulkington Railway (GBR). We already have a couple of bookings for children's parties in the summer and owe a couple of driver instruction lessons dating back to pre-lockdown. Once more, we look forward to seeing the children's happy smiling faces as they ride the trains!

Nev Boulton, acting chair BVH & GBR tel. 01380 828101

**Mobile Library – 24<sup>th</sup> May 11.05am at the Well**

## **BULKINGTON "100 CLUB"**

We held the "100 Club" draw on the 14th April and the winners were :

£25 No. 79 Mark Raby-Cox

£20 No. 47 Liz Futter

£30 No. 82 Alice Taylor

£15 No. 10 Tim Taylor

£10 No. 71 Jane Dunlo



Congratulations to the winners!

Phyl Yarde

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## **SEEND CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS**



### **SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**MEMBERSHIP OF SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE 2021** - Our Community Centre Club and Bar is due to re-open the week beginning 21st June. We're excited to be planning a Family BBQ and free disco celebration for **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June**.

As a big **WELCOME BACK** gift we would like to offer 2021 Club Membership **completely free of charge**.

It's now quick and easy to take out your annual membership **online** by visiting our website [www.seendcommunitycentre.com](http://www.seendcommunitycentre.com) and

following the Membership link. The membership ticket can be

downloaded to your phone or, if you prefer, you can pick up a

membership card from the bar when you first visit. You'll also still be able to become a member by signing up at the bar in person if you wish. (There is an opportunity to make a modest donation to the Club when signing up online but there is absolutely no obligation to do so. We just want to welcome you all back again!) Feel free to contact us at the email address below with any questions.



**VILLAGE SATURDAY BREAKFASTS** We have lots more planned for our members this summer and are pleased to announce the return of the popular Saturday breakfasts. We have agreed the dates so here is something to note in your diary (the excitement!)

**24<sup>th</sup> July, 31<sup>st</sup> July, 7<sup>th</sup> August and 21<sup>st</sup> August**

We do need one more **Team Leader** who would like to volunteer to run a team one Saturday and help keep this village tradition alive. Team leaders help with planning, shopping and co-ordinating their team volunteers. No special skills are required, but a smile, ability to burn bacon, a pair of marigolds or your best Basil Fawlty impression always helps 😊! We shall be happy to provide as much support as needed – you will not be on your own! We also need **Team Volunteers** (cooks, serving wenches, bottle-washers and gofers). Sessions start setting up around 7am and are generally finished



by noon. You will get a slap-up breakfast and that warm glow from contributing to the community spirit! If you can help out on any of the above dates, let our trusty Breakfast Guru, Jen Dalton, know and she will put you in touch with the relevant team leader. You can contact Jen on 07747 457204 or email [seendbreakfast@gmail.com](mailto:seendbreakfast@gmail.com).

Most importantly, we also need **PAYING CUSTOMERS** so start spreading the word to all and sundry!

**JOB VACANCY** - In anticipation of opening up, we are looking for a Bar Supervisor –check out the website where full details on the role are available together with information on how to apply.

Dates for events are of course subject to the Government's roadmap continuing as planned. So keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for the latest news on opening times and events.

[seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com](mailto:seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com) [www.seendcommunitycentre.com](http://www.seendcommunitycentre.com)

### **100+ CLUB DRAW**

#### March Results

1	No 179	J Field	£30
2	No 22	D Duparcq	£25
3	No 54	P Jackson	£20
4	No 27	T Delamere	£15
5	No 96	J Hawkins	£10
6	No142	C Waldeck	£10



Thanks to Seend Cleeve Potters, who helped with the draw.

Alison Bottomley.



### **SEEND WI**

There is a feeling of cautious optimism in the air as we ease out of lockdown and we are able to meet friends and family again in the lovely spring sunshine, albeit socially distanced. Members are looking forward to meeting in the Pavilion as restrictions are lifted.

In accordance with Covid rules our April meeting was again on line by Zoom. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the very professional and interesting talk given by Nikki Jones on the history of “Avon Needs Trees”. This is a Charity registered in 2019 whose aim is to buy land to plant trees and increase biodiversity throughout the Bristol-Avon catchment area. They own thirty three acres near Chippenham, currently under construction; it is hoped the site can be opened for educational and organised events. It is disappointing that the potential Seend project could not go ahead, but it is encouraging that the intention of the charity is to purchase more sites in the future. We were also very pleased to welcome members from Bromham W.I. for the evening.

The next meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> May (by Zoom) will be a talk on “Wiltshire: A journey through time” by Nicholas Baxter. The provisional programme for the remainder of

2021/2022 will be dependent on Covid rules at the time. Finalised details will be published at a later date.

The National Federation of WIs continues to offer a wide range of talks and courses online, which members can access for a small fee.

If you are not currently a member of WI but are interested in finding out more, do contact us and we shall be pleased to share our future plans with you. Non members are always welcome and can attend one meeting without any obligation to join.

In normal times all meetings take place in the Pavilion, Rusty Lane, Seend at 7.30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise notified. For more information, please contact Joyce Harvey on 01380 828511 or check

[www.seendwi.weebly.com](http://www.seendwi.weebly.com).

Joyce Harvey

### **SEEND FAWLTY PLAYERS:**

Watch out for details of our much delayed 'Not the Panto Show' which we hope will now be performed in the Community Centre early this summer! It was originally planned as a Christmas show so a lot of tinkering is now under way to make it Fawltily summer-friendly!



### **SEEND & DISTRICT RAMBLERS**

With restrictions hopefully lifting further on May 17<sup>th</sup> we are hoping to have our first Ramble of 2021 in late May. Members will have had one vaccination with some having had two and it is thought with social distancing within groups of 6 and being outside it will be safe. Getting back to something we enjoy will be good for us all. Members will be notified via email of the details and hopefully this will be the beginning of what used to be normal activities. Obviously, we will be following all current advice from the government and if the situation changes, we will need to cancel. Hope everybody is enjoying the lovely spring sunshine and still getting out and enjoying our beautiful countryside, please get in touch if you would like to join us on one of our walks, new members always welcome.

Sandy, the Ramblers, 01380 739235

### **SEEND TENNIS CLUB - OFFICIALLY BACK OPEN FOR PLAY!**

We are excited to say that we are now open again after the Covid-19 restrictions were lifted for outdoor sports - and we've been sprucing up the facilities to make sure that when you do get back on the courts, they are clean and safe for play.



For many years, Ric Ellinger and Victoria Bowes have enjoyed running the Seend Tennis Club (and basically being the whole Committee between them). But recently, as they have both stopped playing themselves, they decided they wanted to take a step back and the club needed to inject some new blood. They sent out a rallying cry which

was answered by a number of local people and the new Committee is now in place (but luckily still with Ric and Victoria alongside to hand over and support the new team).

The new Committee is:

- Sarah Pearson (Chairman, LTA Rep, Coaching Secretary): [coachingstclub@gmail.com](mailto:coachingstclub@gmail.com)
- Ric Ellinger (CHDTL Rep)
- Sophie Baxter (Treasurer)
- Julia Close (Membership Secretary): [memberstclub@gmail.com](mailto:memberstclub@gmail.com)
- Andy Close (Welfare Officer): [welfarestclub@gmail.com](mailto:welfarestclub@gmail.com)
- Sally-Anne Shipp (Marketing & Communications)
- Giles Collins & Mark Pearson (Facilities)

For all general enquiries, please contact the new email address: [\*\*Seendtennisclub@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:Seendtennisclub@gmail.com)

For membership, coaching and welfare queries, please contact the email addresses above for the relevant areas.

**Membership:** In the light of the current ongoing situation with regards to Coronavirus and some uncertainty about what the next year will bring, we decided to offer HALF-PRICE MEMBERSHIP FOR ALL for the 2021-22 Membership Year. We hope that everyone who has enjoyed using the courts the past year will take advantage of the half-price offer and continue to be a member. The new season runs from 1st April 2021 until 31st March 2022 and full payment is required upon joining/renewing. You must be a member to book the courts (which you do through the website).

Contact [membershipstclub@gmail.com](mailto:membershipstclub@gmail.com) for any specific queries.

**League teams:** Frankie Goddard (07854 660582) & Liam Bergin (07738 269739) will continue to look after the League Teams so if anyone is interested in some more competitive matches, please contact them directly.

**Coaching:** We are in the process of arranging coaching using LTA qualified coaches over the summer. Keep an eye on our website or follow our Facebook page for more information in the coming weeks. You can also contact Sarah directly via [coachingstclub@gmail.com](mailto:coachingstclub@gmail.com).

Finally, we would all really like to thank Ric and Victoria for their dedication and hard work over the last 10 years running the club and keeping this precious village resource not just alive, but thriving. And also for staying on this year to ensure the smooth transition to the new Committee!

We look forward to seeing more of you back on the courts soon and to a successful season!



**SEEND BABY AND TODDLER GROUP (formerly Bouncy Club)** now meeting 9.30-11.30am on Wednesday mornings in the Pavilion. More info in June Spotlight. Meanwhile call Lucy Hajos on 07789 106272.

## **SEEND SCHOOL**

### **Student Leaders' Message**

It's been hard through lockdown but we have all pulled through and now really appreciate school even more; we realise how lucky we are. We have really enjoyed being back in the classroom and seeing all of friends again. It feels great to be back and we hope that the rest of this year will be great. We are really enjoying being Student Leaders and enjoy preparing and showing our assemblies and it feels good to help out.



Annie & Zach

### **Red Nose Day 2021**

A much needed day of fun and silliness which raised a grand total of £225 on our JustGiving page!

### **Easter Garden**

The two younger classes were making clay bunnies in the week running up to Easter to be put into the Easter garden in the church on Easter Sunday.

**See a photo of the Easter garden bunnies - and some imaginative red noses - in May Spotlight's online colour supplement at [seend.org.uk](http://seend.org.uk)**

Catherine Iles, Pupil Services Administrator



## **SEEND PLAYGROUP**

After the Easter holidays we will be welcoming Pippa, Blake and Dakota and hope they will enjoy their time with us.

On the last day of term the children enjoyed making their own Easter crowns. The weather was a little cold but stayed dry so the children were very excited going into the garden to look for cardboard eggs. All the children had decorated an egg cup which they took home with a cream egg or sweets and cards which they had made.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the parents who contributed to our surprise presents of cream teas and Prosecco, especially to Rachel and Chris for organising it. Thank you from Rose, Nicky and Val.

We will be closed on 6<sup>th</sup> May as there will be elections in the hall. Our last day of term is 28<sup>th</sup> May.

Rose Dick (Playleader) 01380 828003

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## **SEEND PARISH COUNCIL**

*NB. The following minutes are a shortened version of the full minutes taken at the Parish Council meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021. These have not yet been ratified by the Parish Council and may be subject to change. A full copy of the minutes can be found on our website: [www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk)*

**The meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March** was attended by 10 Councillors with Mr James in the Chair, Mrs Sue Bond (Clerk), Councillor Jonathon Seed, Mr George Clarke

(Chairman of Seend CL&AT) and a member of the public. Apologies from Mr Paul Manning.

**Local Councillor Matters** – Councillor Seed said that Wiltshire Council had begun a period of purdah now that the unitary and parish elections had been formally announced. Mrs Heatley asked Councillor Seed what would happen to the £5,000 granted by the Melksham Area Board to Avon Needs Trees now that the land purchase in Seend was not going ahead. Councillor Seed said that the Melksham Area Board had agreed that if Avon Needs Trees found an alternative site within Wiltshire then they can keep the grant. If they can't, then the monies will have to be returned. Mrs Heatley asked that now we are moving to the Devizes Area Board, will our policing and planning be moved as well. Councillor Seed said that the policing will remain the same but when there is a new Crime Commissioner elected there is likely to be a review of how policing is delivered. Planning will stay with the Eastern Area.

**Minutes and Matters Arising:** The Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> February were approved.

**CLT and Park Farm Planning Application** - Mr George Clarke, Chairman of the Seend CL&AT had been invited to update the Parish Council on the progress of the Park Farm planning application, particularly on the progress of the S106 agreement and a new Landscape Plan, dated 19<sup>th</sup> February, that had recently been uploaded onto the planning portal which suggested that there were changes to the revised June 2020 plan that had not been explained to the membership or parishioners. Mr Clarke said that the revisions made in June 2020 to the original March 2020 planning application were as a result of recommendations made by Wessex Water. Concerns were raised that the main sewer goes down the road and goes below the level of the sewage treatment plant and that there is a pump that pumps the water up into the sewage treatment plant and when the pump fails then the sewage has been known to come up under a manhole cover and run down the road. There is a concern that it would flow into the development and possibly flood the lower buildings. In response to feedback from Wessex Water, the architects looked at all possibilities on how to avoid doing anything other than the raising up of the lower properties on the site. But it was deemed that there was no other solution other than to raise up the plots at the bottom end. Architects drew up new plans that included gabion baskets. Gabion baskets are needed to support the raised plot. At lowest point on the plot, in the bottom corner, plot 10, the gabions are about 4 ft high, but the bottom half of the gabion will be dug in. So from road side the gabion wall is only 2 ft above the road. Mr Clarke confirmed that the gabion baskets will be hidden behind the retained boundary hedge. Whilst the hedge is to be restricted to 0.6m in height it will be enough to hide the gabion baskets from view. Mr Clarke confirmed that the cross section of the plans shows the hedge higher than the gabion wall. A Councillor commented that the problem with the plans were that they were so small and difficult to read that some may have mistaken the gabion baskets for a path. Mr Clarke said that the Gabion baskets were marked on both the June 2020 and February 2021 Landscape Plan with the words Gabion basket. The Chairman argued that the old farm hedge may not survive being so short. Mr

Clarke said that the existing hedge has not been well maintained and therefore if there are any problems with the hedge, new planting will be carried out to improve it. So whether it is existing or new, there will be a hedge to screen the gabion baskets. Asked why there was a landscape plan dated February 2021 if it was the June plans that were being used. Mr Clarke said that the June plan was the latest plan, and the plan in February 2021 was to clarify the landscape finishes. Raised Plot – Mr Clarke confirmed that the site was only going to be raised at the bottom end. There was a lot of concern about the amount of soil that would need to be brought into the site by large lorries and the impact this would have on the Barge bridge, the road and for residents. He was asked if the calculations had been done to work out how many lorry loads of soil would be needed to raise the plot. He said they had not. Mr Clarke said that with any development, quite often more soil is dug out in preparation for foundations, etc. The architect said if he had to guess, there would probably be enough soil coming out from the building further up the site that would be adequate to fill the site at the bottom. So in this instance, this soil would not need to be taken away, but would be used to help raise the site at bottom end. There would not be much soil needed to be brought in. The bottom end has to be made up 4ft from the bottom of the ditch. The level plot needs to be 2ft and 18” above the road. He felt that there had been exaggerated claims about the amount of soil needed to be brought in. The Chairman, said that it would have been good if this information had been made available to the parish to alleviate such concerns. Mr Clarke said that question was answered in June and that the plans show it.

Section 106 agreement – Mr Clarke explained that the first draft agreement was prepared by Wiltshire Council solicitors, but not received until mid November. There were a number of errors in the first draft that needed to be corrected. The revised version was not sent until end of January. Further amendments needed to be made and a version that the CLT were happy with received in mid February. There are four signatories to the agreement: Wiltshire Council, White Horse Housing Association, the landowners and Seend CL&AT. The S106 agreement restricts the development to affordable housing only and for the self-build plot not to be occupied until the affordable houses are built. Mr Clarke believed that the signing of the agreement was currently being held up by the solicitors of the landowners who were querying a number of points. Mr Clarke had said that he would only come back with news once all parties had signed the S106 agreement. When it will be signed is outside the CL&AT’s control. Once signed by all parties formal planning permission will be granted. Mrs Heatley asked how soon building would begin once the application was approved. Councillor Seed said that was entirely up to the builders who had up to three years from when planning is approved to begin work. A Councillor asked if the parish would be able to see the final plans with all the changes. Mr Clarke said that the June plans were the final plans and they had not been changed since. These were available to see on-line or in paper form at Wiltshire Council. The Chairman brought the discussions to a close, by saying that had the CL&AT communicated the details of these plans better to its members and Seend Cleeve residents, then it would have

alleviated some of the concerns and prevented misinformation spreading. Mr Clarke was thanked for coming to the meeting.

### **Police Matters** - Incidents:

- Overnight on 9<sup>th</sup> March – small amounts of money taken from cars in Seend Cleeve.
- 12<sup>th</sup> March – Sells Green – male in a van pulled into a business and dropped off a male and female who went into the showroom in an attempt to distract employees. The male then drove round the back of the yard and proceeded to urinate against some property before all were asked to leave.
- 15<sup>th</sup> March – RTC at The Bell crossroads causing one vehicle to become wedged into the barrier of the property. No injuries were caused.
- 27<sup>th</sup> March – unknown suspects caused damage to six tractor tyres and a slurry trailer. Incident under investigation.

All dog owners should remain alert as there have been reports of dognapping. Also remain alert and do not do business on the door step with cold callers. There are various scams going around which are getting more sophisticated. Fraudsters are taking advantage of the NHS COVID-19 vaccination programme sending emails, text messages or phone calls with offers to “jump the queue” in return for payment or confidential details. There is no charge for the COVID-19 vaccination and the NHS is adhering rigidly to the government’s order or priority list, so any such messages asking for money is fraudulent. If you are a victim of any scams, please report it.

**Neighbourhood Plan** All Councillors had been circulated with Referendum version of the Neighbourhood Plan. Mrs A’Bear reported that the Seend Parish Neighbourhood Plan will go to Referendum on 6<sup>th</sup> May. Two observers from the SPNP steering Group will be invited to witness the count which is likely to take place on 9<sup>th</sup> May. Details of how this will happen will be more forthcoming nearer the election date. For the SPNP to be approved, it needs the vote of 50% of the people.

### **Highways**

**CATG** – The Chairman attended the March CATG meeting. Most of the Highway Improvement Requests had been carried out. There was just one outstanding: the request for a visible high friction surface to be painted on the road between Spout Lane and Inmarsh Lane where there are two dropped kerbs. The CATG notes: *Officers have conducted a site visit and consider this to be more of an issue for outbound drivers as they approach from the s-bend near Spout Lane. The crossing point is more visible to drivers heading in the opposite direction. An estimate to provide a pedestrian crossing warning sign with new post would be in the region of £600, inclusive of temporary traffic management. In light of boundary changes, to recommend funding to Devizes Area Board. To recommend to Area Board that this Issue be closed (to Melksham CATG). Highways to ensure handover. His recommendation would be to have warning signs rather than the high friction surface.* A Councillor suggested that there should be a warning sign on both sides of the crossing point.



**Bell Hill Crossroads** – Request for crash barriers at the former Bell pub. Councillors had been circulated with a letter from the current owner of the former Bell pub who has requested stronger crash barriers to protect the property from cars hitting the building. The letter gave details of the number of crashes in recent years which have damaged the property including the most recent on 15<sup>th</sup> March which hit the railings at the front of the building. For highways to consider this request, it must have the support of the Parish Council. Councillors asked Councillor Seed for advice on how to deal with this request. He said that the request needed to be balanced between the need to protect the building alongside the need for road safety. He suggested there may be an alternative to a crash barrier such as bollards to protect the building. Councillors were sympathetic to the owners concerns, but there were some worries that more robust crash barriers, similar to those at Baldham bends may obscure visibility at the top of the hill. One Councillor asked about highways responsibility for the safety of neighbouring properties and whether as an A-road, wasn't it Highways responsibility to sort out, not the Parish Council. The barriers at Baldham Bends were installed by Wiltshire Council without input from the Parish Council. Councillor Seed recommended that in the first instance, the Parish Council support the request by submitting a Highways Improvement Request to the Devizes CATG, but that in it we ask for the problem to be assessed and for Highways to come up with some suggested solutions to which the Parish Council could have some input so that it doesn't put something in that is out of keeping with the village. **Resolution:** The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council submits a Highway Improvement Request to the Devizes CATG as outlined above. All Councillors in favour.

### **Planning Matters**

**Wiltshire Council new Planning IT system** The Clerk reported that Wiltshire Council had a new IT system for the management of planning applications. Mrs A'Bear and the Clerk expressed concern about the functionality of it compared with the old system. Mrs A'Bear asked Councillor Seed if it was worth passing on these concerns to Wiltshire Council or to wait awhile until any teething problems are ironed out. Councillor Seed it was always useful for parish council to pass on feedback.

**Application Ref: 21/02382/TCA - Site Location: 17 Dial Close, Seend, SN12 6NP**  
**Proposal:-** H1 - Trim hedges (as pictured) to control size and re-establish shape. H2 - Reduce section of Laurel hedge (as pictured) in height by approximately one third, approximately to the height of the neighbours gutter. H3 - Remove section of Laurel hedge which comes out towards Hawthorn tree (see picture) to as close to ground level as possible. Retain section which runs along the boundary. T4 - Crown reduce Hawthorn tree by approximately 1.5m.

**Resolution:** All Councillors voted in favour.

**Application Ref: 21/02524/TCA Site Location: 1 Somerset Close, Seend SN12 6QH**  
**Proposal:** Cherry tree - feel because it is too close to the boundary and is pushing over the fence which is our neighbours' responsibility. They now wish to replace the fence

and the tree is in the way. This tree will be replaced with a smaller but semi mature ornamental tree planted further away from the fence line and to maintain screening.

Resolution: All Councillors voted in favour.

**Tree Matters** – Avon Needs Trees – The Clerk read out a letter from the Chairman of Avon Needs Trees confirming that they have pulled out of the purchase of the land between Rusty Lane and Bollands Hill.

Tree pruning in the nesting season - The Clerk reported that she had received an email from a resident who expressed concerns that he had seen tree pruning and felling taking place inside the nesting season (1<sup>st</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> August) and wanted the parish council to investigate what the rule was. The Clerk contacted Wiltshire Council's tree warden. His response is as follows: *"There is nothing in any legislation stating that no hedges or trees can be cut during the nesting season. As long as the hedge or tree has been properly checked for ACTIVE nests, then the works can be undertaken. It's quite easy to see if any trees have nesting birds but domestic hedges are a little different. So, if the tree surgeon or owner has thoroughly checked the hedge and there are NO nesting birds within it, then the trimming works can go ahead. A dangerous tree that has been assessed and categorised as dangerous can be removed even with a nest in it. The tree contractor should try and move the nest to the nearest tree prior to any works starting."* Investigation by Mrs A'Bear and the Clerk confirmed that the tree felling in Inmarsh Lane was because the trees were diseased with ash dieback. It was for the same reason that trees were felled along the A361 near the Lamb on the Strand in February.

**Correspondence:** **Final year film degree students** will be filming around Seend as part of their final year project themed "Best kept Village". They will be contacting individual householders for permission where they wish to do filming, but wanting to check with the Parish Council first. Mr Lack suggested they be told about the Seend Open Gardens which is due to take place on 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> July. **Great British Spring Clean** – 28<sup>th</sup> May to 13<sup>th</sup> June: They are asking "Litter Heroes" across the country to get outside and get active and help with mission to clean up a million miles of UK streets, coastlines, parks, footpaths and neighbourhoods.

**Financial Matters** – Bank reconciliation to end of January £ 26,817.56

**2<sup>nd</sup> Noticeboard for Seend Cleeve** The Clerk reported that there was still £465 remaining unspent from the 2020 Solar Farm Community payment, and suggested that a second noticeboard be purchased for Seend Cleeve, to replace the one by the phone box. The full cost would be £634 ex VAT. This would mean that both noticeboards in Seend Cleeve will be replaced with new man-made timber ones which will be long-lasting. All Councillors voted in favour.

**Date of Next Meetings** - The next Parish Council meetings are 27<sup>th</sup> April and 25<sup>th</sup> May.

## **WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR NEWS FROM JONATHON SEED**

Dear Seend and Bulkington Residents,

This is a personal message of farewell and thanks for the past twelve years as your Wiltshire Councillor. It has been a privilege to represent you on Wiltshire Council, to take up issues, fight battles and try to get things done.

Best wishes

Jonathon Seed, Wiltshire Councillor for Summerham and Seend  
Chairman, Melksham Area Board 07770774463

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### **BITS AND BOBS**

#### **NATURE NOTES**

As the summer visitors are now arriving it seems appropriate to repeat the following:

House Martins: These lovely migrant birds fly from Africa to nest in the British Isles, many in our area. They spend a long time making their mud nests under the eaves of houses. Please be tolerant of their building habits. The birds become distressed if all their hard work is destroyed. If house martins cannot raise their broods, yet another species will be endangered.



Swallows: These beautiful birds always return to their old nest sites, so please ensure access to them. If, for reasons of security, access has to be shut, swallows will fly through small openings in order to reach their traditional nesting sites. It has already been reported in the media that returning swallows are already 25% down on previous years. Try erecting artificial nest boxes to attract them to nest as traditional sites are fast disappearing.

Swifts: Their nesting sites are fast disappearing, due to development and property maintenance. They require an access tunnel of at least 18" long with a small entrance hole; please don't block them off. Swifts are believed to spend as much as nine months to a year on the wing, and they are known to nap whilst flying. Swift sightings can be reported to Bradford-on-Avon Swift Group at [climatechampions@gmail.com](mailto:climatechampions@gmail.com), or [www.swift-conservation.org](http://www.swift-conservation.org).

These birds are all protected species. It is an offence to disturb or destroy their nest sites and environments.

Should you require any advice about these birds, or how to obtain artificial nesting boxes, and how to erect them, contact Wiltshire Wildlife Trust on 01380 725670.

The Woodland Trust site is a good one to consult for advice and maybe information for grants. Let's increase the foliage area in this Parish to help our birds, insects, mammals and flora. Dedicate a wild patch in your garden and create piles of dead wood. Let's 'Plant for Life' during this recovery year from the great pandemic.

Otis Tarda

*(See Seend PC minutes for info on pruning & felling trees in nesting season. Eds.)*



Wind and brass playing is permitted to resume in church.

Edington Arts is therefore confident that the first concert of their 2021 season, on Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm, will go ahead. International brass quintet Fine Arts Brass will perform a lively and varied programme by Bach, Piazzolla, Malcom Arnold, de Falla, Rossini and songs from the 1920s.

Seating in the Priory Church will be socially distanced and tickets will be allocated to specific seats. For groups of up to four people, please arrange for a single transaction so that seats may be allocated appropriately. All tickets will need to be paid for and issued in advance; there can be no walk-ups on the day, and even worse, there will be no bar in the interval! Tickets cost £20/15/10 as usual with 18 and under free.

Please either ring Chrissy on 01380 831256 or email [sue@edingtonarts.org](mailto:sue@edingtonarts.org).

Full programme information will be at [www.edingtonarts.org](http://www.edingtonarts.org) as soon as it is confirmed.

### **LENDOLOGY CIC (FORMERLY WESSEX RESOLUTIONS CIC)**

is a Social Enterprise working in partnership with Wiltshire Council since 2010. We lend council funds to homeowners to fund home repairs, energy efficiency measures etc. If you have lived in your house for over five years, aged 60+, in receipt of benefits or have children under 16 living with you, see [www.lendology.org.uk](http://www.lendology.org.uk) or call 01823 461099 for information.

### **NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME IN WILTSHIRE** [ngs.org.uk/wiltshire](http://ngs.org.uk/wiltshire)

Our gardens in Wiltshire are ready to welcome everyone, but please be advised that it is sensible to check through [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk) before leaving home. Some garden details have changed and some now require booking beforehand but rest assured you will receive a warm welcome.

During May we have the award winning Ordnance House near Salisbury opening, this garden won the best back garden in the Virtual Chelsea awards last year, the award being presented virtually by Monty Don.

**The Heritage Collection online talks** – our new collection of spring talks includes Sandringham and Frogmore along with Minterne, Kiftsgate, Iford and Chelsea Physic.

[www.ngs.org.uk/product-category/online-events/online-talks-april-may-the-heritage-collection](http://www.ngs.org.uk/product-category/online-events/online-talks-april-may-the-heritage-collection)



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### **And finally.....**

***What do you call a boomerang that won't come back?***

***A stick.***



Don't forget to look at our online edition with colour photo supplement!

[www.seend.org.uk/spotlight.shtml](http://www.seend.org.uk/spotlight.shtml)

**USEFUL CONTACTS: *Please tell Spotlight if your group's contact details change***

**Church:** Revd Ali Bridewell. 01380 739064. Revd Joshva John, 01380 828137. Benefice Administrator: Sarah Leckie 07938 270815. PCC Secretary: Anne Ewing, (828557).

Churchwardens: Seend: Len Murray, 828513; Bulkington: Mrs Liz Futter 828485, Mike Rose 01249 248516; LPAs: Liz Futter 828485, Rosie Forsey 828843, Len Murray 828513, Sue Noad 870343, Sue Rose 01249 248516, Hilary Hutchings 828129, Tina Yockney 827139. Bell Tower Captain: L Murray 828513.

**Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion** bookings – [www.seendlyefield.org/bookings.html](http://www.seendlyefield.org/bookings.html) or 828970

**Bulkington Village Hall** - Nev Boulton 828101 or Roger Futter 828485

**Seend Community Centre** – To contact please e-mail [seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com](mailto:seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com)

**Seend Shuttle: Enquiries:** [seendshuttle@gmail.com](mailto:seendshuttle@gmail.com) or Alison 07951 030491

**Seend Parish Council Clerk** – Mrs Sue Bond 07706 850859 [www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Seend's Wiltshire Councillor** - Jonathon Seed 01380 850695 [jonathon.seed@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:jonathon.seed@wiltshire.gov.uk)

**Seend Village Website:** [www.seend.org.uk](http://www.seend.org.uk) – webmaster Neil Yockney 827139.

**Seend School** – 828334

**Seend Fund:** 01380 828757

**Bulkington Website:** [www.bulkington.org.uk](http://www.bulkington.org.uk)

**Rights of Way Warden** – Paul Millard, 01225 712821

**Melksham Area Board** – 07917 721371

**Police:** PCSO 6039 Janet GOULD - Mobile 07471029772 –[janet.gould@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:janet.gould@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

**MP:** Danny Kruger -email:[danny.kruger.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:danny.kruger.mp@parliament.uk) Devizes Office 01380 711425

**100+Club Draw** – Alison Bottomley -  
[avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk)

**Book Clubs** - the original: Sylvia Ewin  
828325 - the other: Frank Teasdale 828617

**Cricket Club** – Brian Hunt 828581

**Fawltly Players Panto Group** - Tessa Doe  
828617 & Seend Village Pantomime on fb

**Fete** – Liam Bergin – [liam@thirdberg.com](mailto:liam@thirdberg.com)  
or 07738 269739

**Flower Show** –Carole Vince 828579

**Football** – Trevor Vowles

**FoSS (Friends of Seend School)** Nick  
Collinge-Cubberley,  
[friendsofseendschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofseendschool@gmail.com)

**Historic Houses Club** - Mary Warren  
01225707357 or Neil Yockney 827139

**LINK Scheme** - 075320 55560

**Lye Field Committee** –  
[www.seendlyefield.org](http://www.seendlyefield.org)

**Neighbourhood Watch** - Brian Hunt  
(Seend) 828581; Cavan Moroney (Sells  
Green) 828606; Owen Burton (Seend  
Cleeve) 828820; John Scott (Bulkington)  
828026.

**Preschool** - Rose Dick (Playleader) 828003

**Poetry Group** - Tessa Doe 828617

**Ramblers** - Sandy James 01380 739235

**Royal British Legion** – Sec: Anita Heatley  
828491. Welfare: Christine O'Reilly 01380  
828888/07791 157060

**Seend Baby & Toddler Group** – Lucy  
Hajos 07789106272

[SeendBabyandToddlers@gmail.com](mailto:SeendBabyandToddlers@gmail.com)

**Seend CLT** – [www.seendclt.org](http://www.seendclt.org)  
[info@seendclt.org](mailto:info@seendclt.org)

**Short Mat Bowls Club** - Colin Waldeck  
828946

**Table tennis** – Chris Brooker, 828047

**Tennis Club** – Sarah Pearson - 07980  
744420

**Theatre Club** - Sylvia Ewin 828325; Marion  
Whitehead 828612

**WEA/Day Schools** – Tessa Doe 828617

**Wheelchairs to borrow** - Sue and Graham  
Jones in Seend Cleeve, tel: 01380 828354

**WI** - Fiona Johnson on 828401 and Joyce  
Harvey 828511

**Wine Circle** – Steve Parsons 07974 347487  
or Simon McManus 07896 711764



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**Opening hours:**

**Shop:** 09.00 - 17.00 Monday to Friday  
08.30 - 17.00 Saturday  
09.30 - 10.30 Sunday

**PO:** 09.30 - 14.30 Monday to Friday  
09.30 - 12.00 (Every other weekend - open 1<sup>st</sup> May)  
Sunday - Closed.

*(See Seend Post & Provisions facebook page for notice of any changes)*

**Free delivery within Seend area on orders over £20.00**

**Call 01380 828888**