

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Siddington

October 2020

www.siddington.com

Editor: Malcolm Moseley

Siddington Stores

Greetings from Thiba, Sugan, Ann and Ramesh

As most of you know we worked throughout the lock-down. Both the shop and the post office counter were very busy in the early weeks but now things have returned more to normal. All the usual services are available and the shop and post office hours remain unchanged - Monday to Saturday 7am to 7pm and Sunday 8am to 12noon.

The shop provides a range of groceries, Lottery, scratch-cards, gas and electric top-ups, etc. At the Post Office, in addition to dealing with letters and parcels we offer banking (depositing cash and cheques, cash withdrawals and balance checks), benefits and pensions, mail redirection, catalogue returns, local collect, bills payment, mobile phone top-ups, Parcel Force, money grams and fishing licences. We also pay out the big wins on the Lottery from the post office counter.

No matter what the future brings we'll be here doing our best for you!

This edition is kindly sponsored by the GREYHOUND

Meetings of the Parish Council on 20th August and 8th September 2020

These notes by the editor are based on the draft minutes of those meetings provided by the Parish Clerk - siddingtonclerk@gmail.com. For more detail see the minutes on the Parish Council website - www.siddingtonparishcouncil.org.uk.

Spire View Footpath

The Parish Council has agreed to make a contribution of £1,950 to the cost of surfacing the footpath from Spire View to the canal tow-path – to meet the standard of a Public Right of Way. This is on condition that the county council and the Bathurst Estate also contribute.

Planning

The Parish Council considered various matters arising from the outline permission, granted at Appeal, for the erection of up to 88 dwellings at **Severalls Field**, Park Way, Siddington. The Council agreed that the proposed provision of two drop-off spaces for the school was wholly inadequate and a larger drop-off point for the school to alleviate congestion on the Coach Road was needed. There had also been some doubt over the associated provision of a new assembly hall for the school. Regarding a condition re footways/ cycleway, the Council agreed that other paths in the parish such as the remainder of the old canal tow-path were in greater need of upgrading than the footpath from Pound Close to the church.

Bus Shelter & Seating

The new bus shelter at Elizabeth Way is scheduled for installation on 1st October.

Park Way

Thanks to Highways for the gully clearance and installation of a new culvert under the road on the bend – hopefully an end to the flooding issues.

Wildflower Planting at the Playing Field

The Council approved a project for planting some areas of wildflowers on part of the bank at the back of the playground and near the hedge on the eastern boundary. Ground preparation and sowing is scheduled for October. Any offers of volunteer help to the parish clerk please.

NOTE: Due to the pandemic, **physical meetings of the parish council are not taking place** until further notice; the meetings are taking the form of conference telephone calls. Details of how the public may 'attend' are published with the agenda on the parish council website and on the notice board outside the post office.

Next meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13th October 2020

Siddington Coronavirus Support Group

When initial restrictions were lifted the Support Group paused its provision of assistance to the residents of Siddington. The contribution of all the volunteers was gladly received and we thought it would be an appropriate moment to say a grateful thank you on behalf of the residents of the parish - **Jude Grayson** siddingtonhelp@outlook.com.

The Siddington Show



It has been a difficult year for many of us, with almost all events and social gatherings cancelled – including the Siddington Show. A great shame as many of us spent many additional hours in our gardens and the allotments have not looked so good for many a year.

With the glorious weather at the start of the lock-down in April many a weekend (and weekday!) was spent gardening, which kick-started a fantastic year for flowers and vegetables around the village, not to mention a surge of home baking – with people even baking their own bread. I'm sure that the entries into the Show would have been the best ever this year!

We hope to put on a Show in 2021 and that our renewed passion for growing, baking and making will spill over into next year when we can show the best the village can offer.

The Show is run entirely by volunteers from the parish who give up their time to make it happen. If you feel you could spare some time to help please get in contact - **Nick Grayson**, Chair of the Siddington Show Committee.

Siddington Cricket Club

After an excellent start to the season (belatedly – in August!) the club has been on the wrong side of recent encounters, losing to Langford by 81 runs, Wanborough by 38 runs, Hillersley by 77 runs, Selsley and Rodborough by 46 runs and Wanborough by 6 wickets. But no problem! In the world that we now live in, it has all been great fun and we're extending the season right through September.

The Greyhound

An update and a warm welcome

Tel: 653573, Email: greyhound@wadworth.co.uk

Lucy, the pub manager writes: We are really pleased to have reopened with our new Covid rules and structure in place. We are open Wednesday to Sunday (closed Monday and Tuesday). We are operating with a smaller capacity but as of 23rd September will have an outside marquee with outside heaters, able to accommodate up to an extra 6 tables.

The feedback we've had from all our customers has been very positive and we look forward to having many more people from the village visiting us over the coming months.

We've made some changes to be Covid secure, so do please adhere to our guidelines and ensure a safe and enjoyable time for all our guests and our team. **Some key points:**

- * Please check the opening times as they may have changed (see the website – <https://www.thegreyhound-inn.co.uk/>).

- * Booking is highly recommended for both eating and drinking to secure your space – see contact details above.
- * We can accommodate tables of up to 6 persons maximum – a legal requirement. The time a table can be booked for might be restricted – please check when booking.
- * Groups of 6 may now be from multiple households.
- * If your group is larger than 6 we may be able to take your booking but the group will have to be split across a number of tables. Tables cannot exceed 6, guests cannot mix between tables and all furniture must be kept in place.
- * A host or team player will meet you at the door.
- * The lead booker must give their contact details along with the size of the group. This is a legal requirement and we will refuse entry if these details are not given. This will be recorded in our Test and Trace system. Your details will be stored securely and then destroyed after 21 days.
- * The host will take you to your table; there is no service at the bar. We have table service, an order point or you can download our app. This will all be explained to you.
- * There will be social distancing signage throughout the pub and entrances and exits clearly signalled.
- * We have gone cashless. You can pay through the app, with a card or through your mobile. We have increased contactless to £45.
- * Children need to be with you at all times.

We look forward to seeing you soon, Lucy and the team

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Siddington C of E Primary School



We have had a fantastic start to the new school year. Although the school remained open to many children through the summer term, we have now successfully welcomed all the children back. It has been great to see the smiles of children (and parents) as they are reunited with their friends and school staff. Despite the changes and adjustments that have been made to how the school operates, the children have settled in well and are already enjoying themselves and their new learning experiences.

The school's Christian value this term is Thankfulness. It has been a difficult time for many and never have the children been so aware of the importance of family, friends and the freedom that we enjoy in our everyday lives. We have so much to be thankful for. We will be talking to the children about what they can be thankful for and giving them time to reflect on the priorities in their lives.

We are certainly thankful to be back in school and are now looking forward to the next term - **Katie Cook** – Headteacher.

Next month's editor

Alison Wagstaff

Deadline date: Thursday 15 October 2020

Email: awsiddington@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 655838

News from St Peter's Church

At a recent meeting of the St Peter's Church PCC it was decided that it is still not safe to open the church for public worship. This decision will be reviewed in November as the situation and guidelines change. Public worship is being held in All Hallows Church South Cerney to which all from across the benefice are invited. If you would like to attend a service then please contact Martin Gould, one of the churchwardens at All Hallows Church, either by e mail, martingould56@btinternet.com or telephone 07958 962543. The main Sunday service at 10.30am is also being streamed via Zoom; for details of how to log in contact Jennifer the Vicar (vicar@churnsidechurches.org.uk). Worship resources are also available on our website (www.churnsidechurches.org.uk) and Facebook page (Churnside Benefice Churches).

I hope you are keeping safe and well, God Bless, Jennifer.

Vicar: **Rev'd Jennifer McKenzie**

The Vicarage, Silver Street, South Cerney, GL7 5TP

Tel: **01285 860221**

Email: vicar@churnsidechurches.org.uk

The vicar's day off is Friday

Church Office: Open Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am – 1.00pm

Tel: **01285 862632** - Answer phone at other times.

Email: office@churnsidechurches.org.uk

Churchwardens:

St Peter's, Siddington: Allen Howe (643574) & Mike Painter (07977 409260)

All Saints, Preston: Alister Painter (650624)