

Southam Town Council Newsletter

APRIL 2021 : EASTER

www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk



Neighbourhood Plan Ready for Public Comment

After some four years of preparation, prolonged somewhat by elections, staff changes and the pandemic, we are delighted to announce that a full draft of the Southam Neighbourhood Plan is ready for its first full public consultation. This consultation is called the 'Regulation 14 Consultation' and will run for a minimum of six weeks.



The aim is to seek comment from Southam residents and businesses as well as people in nearby parishes, elected representatives and certain statutory bodies.

To this end, there will be a dedicated website where the plan itself and some introductory slides including instruction on submitting comments will be accessible. Paper copies will also be available on request, together with paper feedback forms.

All comments, electronic and paper, will remain sealed until the end of the consultation period. The Neighbourhood Plan working party will then consider each comment for inclusion, document its decisions and update the Plan accordingly before submitting to the next stage of the process which is a technical assessment by an independent examiner.

Regulation 14 Consultation will start once the Town Council have approved changes made to the Plan after the recent environmental review delivered by the District Council. Look out for notices on Facebook, town notice boards and local publications.

MAYORMAKING

Sadly, due to Covid restrictions, this year will see Mayormaking held virtually.

On 4 May, at a virtual meeting, the Chair Elect will be Cllr Graham Foster and he will take up his second year as Mayor; he is very much hoping that, with the Government's roadmap on easing Covid restrictions, he will be able to undertake some of the mayoral duties in and around Southam.

Cllr Angela John is delighted to continue as Deputy Mayor.

Unfortunately, there will be no Annual Town Meeting again this year.

We very much look forward to 2022 when it is hoped to resume our traditions!

HIGH SHERIFF'S AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SPIRIT 2020

At a recent online ceremony, High Sherriff, Joe Greenwood, presented Certificates to Southam's Community Spirit, praising their role in helping others during the Covid pandemic—they provided practical help in the community, especially to those forced to shield and unable to get out.



From top left:
High Sheriff Joe Greenwell
Members of Community Spirit 2020

Rebecca Bourton, Andy Crump, Laura Constable, John Fenton, Lucy Collins, Paula Adamson, Kim Kircali (centre)



See back page for latest information on how to contact the Town Council

TREE PLANTING project at St. James's Primary School on 2 December 2020. The project was sponsored by the Town Council and Southam Lions . Some 9 trees and 260 hedging plants were planted. Cllr Michael Ray and Stuart Powney (Warwick Tree Warden) also helped, together with 12 children from the school.



VOLUNTEER TRANSPORT SERVICE REOPENS!

We are hoping to resume this service as from Monday 12 April, albeit with Covid restrictions to start with.

The office will be manned each weekday morning between 10.00-12.00 noon; Tel: 01926 815817.

We always need new drivers—if you think you might be interested, please contact Southam Town Council for an informal chat (no obligation).

ATTENTION ALL DOG OWNERS!

Please note that all dogs should be kept on leads when in the Park Lane Recreation Ground and other play areas. Official statistics indicate that thousands of people are hospitalised by dog bites every year. Everyone should know that the mix of small children and uncontrolled dogs is clearly dangerous and there should be no need to point this out. **As dog owners, you have responsibilities.** CCTV is due to be installed at the Park Lane Rec this summer, and SDC will be monitoring any dog owners behaving irresponsibly. Also, the Enforcement Officer will be making regular visits in order to catch those being irresponsible.



ALL 3 HOLY WELL INFORMATION BOARDS HAVE NOW BEEN REFURBISHED; GRATEFUL THANKS GO TO CLLR MICHAEL RAY AND CARPENTER, MIKE WOODS, FOR ALL THEIR WORK!

Southam Show – 11th September 2021(?)

This family-friendly community event usually takes place at the Grange Hall each September and showcases the talent, skills and creativity of local people. It aims to bring together people of all ages to exhibit their gardening achievements, handicrafts, painting, baking and jam-making skills in the spirit of friendly competition. It is also a social event – anyone can come along after judging to view the exhibits and discuss the results. Refreshments are available.

Obviously the Show had to be cancelled last year, but a provisional date has been set for this year's Show of Saturday 11th September (assuming pandemic restrictions are lifted).

To help us to relaunch the Show this year and encourage new people to take part, the Show Committee is in need fresh ideas, enthusiasm and above all, practical help. Could you be one of our volunteers? Contact us to find out more by emailing southamshow@outlook.com or messaging us via our Facebook page.



THE GRANGE HALL

The Management Committee are pleased to let you know that, in line with the Government's roadmap, we are planning to reopen on **12 April**, albeit with Covid restrictions and children's activities only. The hall is looking particularly good after various improvements in the last lockdown, especially now that the daffodils are out in the grounds and in the new pots around the hall. Our new signage means that everyone knows exactly where we are!

19 May should see most of our regular hirers coming back, with the remainder returning **21 June** when, hopefully, all restrictions will be lifted. We will keep our fingers crossed!

If you were planning a celebration before lockdown, or want to celebrate returning to a new 'normal' life, then the Grange Hall is the ideal venue—we have our own licensed bar and good parking facilities.

Should you wish to check availability or discuss your ideas in more details, then please do not hesitate to contact:

Carole@thegrangehall.co.uk / 01926 813933

SOUTHAM'S ROUNDABOUTS : Update

As residents will have noticed, the Town Council have taken steps to improve the 4 roundabouts coming into Southam. The 1st phase is to bring the roundabouts up to a maintainable state, with the 2nd phase to put in suitable planting. The Council have had an idea to commission suitable sculptures on each roundabout, depicting Southam's historic past. If anyone has any ideas on this, or any expertise in this field, then please contact:

01926 814004 or email: clerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk

With careful thought and regular maintenance, they will soon be an attractive entrance to our town.

HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR CENSUS FORM?

IF NOT, IT IS NOT TOO LATE!

Everyone has to fill out the Census—There is a £1,000 fine for non completion.

The Census field support team are out on the streets this week to deliver forms or provide an access code for those who haven't made a return and to ensure everyone completes their Census2021.

If you are struggling, it's important to know that help is out there via family, trusted friends and trusted community members; alternatively, use the Census free-phone helpline 0800 141 2021

census
2021

HS2 WORKS

ROAD CLOSURE A425, LEAMINGTON ROAD

The Town Council are continuing to monitor the situation regarding the temporary closure of the A425.

Unfortunately, there is no definite update. The Council are hoping to have another meeting with HS2 and Jeremy Wright, MP before the end of April when they hope to have some definite clarification on the situation and timescales.

BLOOD DONORS:

The next Blood Donor sessions to be held at The Grange Hall (Coventry Road) will be:

Thursday 20 May
Thursday 10 June
Thursday 8 July & 15 July



GRATEFUL THANKS TO SOUTHAM CLINIC AND ALL THEIR VOLUNTEERS

Southam Town Council would like to express its thanks to Southam Clinic in Pendicke Street for all their efforts and those of their many volunteers in offering the Covid vaccinations to residents in and around Southam.

It is imperative that anyone offered the vaccine takes it up; this is the only way to beat Covid!

SOUTHAM UNITED CHARITIES

If you are in or know of a family in Southam so short of money and there is genuine difficulty affording food, help may be available

Contact Clerk at Southam Town Council for an application form.
01926 814004 or email:
clerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk

CLIP AND COLLECT GARDEN WASTE SERVICE

The new service starts on 1 April 2021. Everyone will need to use their permit on their green bin if they have taken out the 12 month subscription.

Your green bin will **NOT** be emptied if you have not signed up.

Food waste can still be collected on your recycling week even if you don't subscribe to the garden waste service, FREE food waste caddies are available on request.

For more information:

Tel: 01789 260628

Email:

streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk

2 NEW TOWN COUNCILLORS

The Town Council is pleased to welcome 2 new members, co-opted to fill the remaining vacancies; we are pleased that we now have a complete membership of 14 councillors.

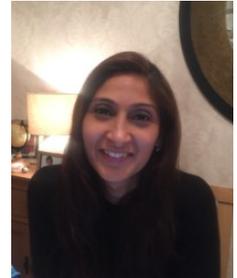


Name: Keith MEDGETT
Ward: Southam Fields
Email: kmedgett@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk
Phone: 07764232726

Councillor Medgett is a manager in the insurance industry and has lived in Southam since 2003. His daughter has been through St James' Primary and Southam College. Now she has moved on to university, he feels he has the time to give something back to the town.

Councillor Savage has 2 children who attend the local schools and, although fairly new to Southam, feels she knows the area quite well. She was keen to join the council in order to support the local community. As an educator, she would particularly like to create opportunities for the youth to participate with local projects and to encourage them to share their ideas with the town council.

Name: Nadia SAVAGE
Ward: Mill Hill
Email: nsavage@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING A YOUTH COUNCILLOR?

WANT YOUR VOICE HEARD?
WANT TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE COMMUNITY?
WANT MORE EXPERIENCE TO ADD TO YOUR CV?

FOR DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT...
CLERK@SOUTHAMCOUNCIL-WARKS.GOV.UK

Southam Town Council are wanting to start a **YOUTH COUNCIL (13-18 year olds)**

This is a democratic organisation created, run and developed **BY** young people **FOR** young people.

They will represent the views of young people at local level, giving young people the opportunity to have a voice, discuss relevant issues, engage with decision-makers and contribute to improving the lives of other young people within their communities.

Are **YOU** interested?

Do **YOU** want to make a difference?

Do **YOU** want to know more before committing?

Then please contact:

Debbie Carro (Town Clerk)

01926 814004

THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT ON REQUEST

SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MAYOR: Councillor Graham Foster

TOWN CLERK: Mrs D Carro

COVID-19 MEANS THAT THE COUNCIL OFFICE IS CLOSED TO VISITORS UNTIL IT CAN RE-OPEN ON 12 APRIL, WITH COVID PRECAUTIONS IN PLACE PLEASE CONTINUE TO USE EITHER PHONE OR EMAIL TO CONTACT THE TOWN COUNCIL OR TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

(Tel: 01926 814004) email: clerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Cllr Lee Ellard