

# Southam Town Council Newsletter

## JULY 2010

[www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk](http://www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk)



### MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

My second Mayoral year began prematurely with the resignation, for personal reasons, of Councillor Linda Tasker. It has been a pleasure throughout the year that Linda and Andy have been able to attend Civic events and that Andy has recovered from his illness.

During the year, I have been pleased to represent Southam Town Council at events in Southam, Stratford District Council and Warwickshire County, These occasions present opportunities to meet new and old friends and to discover what is happening in other communities.

The year has been busy with developments in Southam, not least the planning processes for the Tesco supermarket and the proposals for Sainsbury's in the Town Centre. We have also been occupied, and will continue to be occupied, with trying to ensure the future provision of accommodation for the elderly within the town, specifically the future provision of Victor Hodges House.

As a Council we have supported many organisations throughout the town, some large and others small. We heard from many of these organisations at the Town Meeting on 27th May. Those reports represent a small part of the voluntary and charitable work that goes on within Southam and which benefits this and other communities. I would mention specifically the work undertaken by Southam @ Play in this past year and the improved provision of recreational facilities around the town. As a Council we look forward to more improvements including on the Mayfield Road estate and the Mayfield open space, which is of particular concern at this moment. I hope that the Council will continue to be committed to securing the availability of public open space for all residents.

During the year I have been raising funds for my two Mayoral charities: Southam District St Johns Ambulance and the Mugeza Integrated Primary School, Bukoba, Tanzania where Jim and Sue Taylor have been working as VSO volunteers.

Finally I would like to express my appreciation to Lesley, Thomas and Samuel for their encouragement. Thank you to the Town Council for their support throughout the year, especially to Glesni who served as my chaplain and finally to Debbie, Denise and Carole for their work and commitment throughout the year.

Wayne Hawkins

### NEW MAYOR FOR SOUTHAM

At the Annual Meeting of the Town Council on 27th May 2010 Councillor Jane Soni was unanimously elected to the office of Town Mayor of Southam. She will be supported by her husband and Consort Mr Surindar Soni.

The new Mayor has a particular interest in environmental issues and during her year will raise funds for The Woodland Trust. Her overseas charity will be CORD which is an international peace building, relief and development organisation based in Leamington Spa.

Councillor Andy Crump will assist her as Deputy Mayor.

### Southam United Charities

Southam United Charities has been in existence for several centuries and its sole purpose is to assist the residents of the Parish of Southam who need help.

The income available for distribution is limited but grants are made to students going on to higher education and to individuals in need of immediate financial help where there is no other source of assistance.

Applications for assistance should be made in writing to: John Rouse, Clerk to Southam United Charities, Olympus House, Olympus Avenue, Leamington Spa CV34 6BF.

An application form is available on the Community Groups page on the Southam Town Council website

[www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk](http://www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk)

## ELECTION RESULTS SOUTHAM BROWNS BRIDGE WARD

Turnout 17.89%

Torin Michael Spence 154 Votes Elected

Jason Ward 105 Votes

Southam Town Council welcomes Councillor Spence.

Southam Town Council would like to **THANK** all the local Organisations who work hard to improve the quality of life of local residents. For example, some of our older residents have recently enjoyed a Blackpool break, thanks to Rotary 2000, and a good time was had by all.

## ARE YOU OVER 50 - PHILLIS?

PHILLIS is the Warwickshire County Council service for older people. If you would like information, please contact 01926 731144 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

## HOLY WELL

There are two kissing gates en route to the Holy Well which require a RADAR key to open them fully for wheelchair access. These keys are available from RADAR under the National Key Scheme which not only gives access to the path but also to around 7000 accessible toilets all over the country. Keys cost approximately £3.50

For more information **telephone 020 7250 3222**

Visit the website: **[www.radar.org.uk](http://www.radar.org.uk)**

## SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2010

**Town Council Meetings will now take place on the fourth Thursday of each month**



Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010

August – Recess – No Meeting

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2010

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2010

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2010

December – Recess – No Meeting

Meetings take place in the Grange Hall Southam and start at 7.30pm - members of the public are welcome and may speak at the start of the meeting.

## NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT FOR TOLLGATE ROAD

Replacement of the Tollgate Road play area trim trail has been made possible by a grant from Stratford District Councils Playbuilder fund and a contribution from Southam Town Council

The Sensory Agility Trail combines planting and natural play Elements; it was designed and the equipment chosen following consultations with local children and residents.

An independent safety inspection has approved the design and installation. The area is now open for all to enjoy!

## THE GRANGE HALL LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Grange Hall entertainment programme  
is having a break for the summer and will  
resume on

**Friday 1st October 2010**

with

**'A Farmer's Year' with John Kirkpatrick  
(BBC's Victorian Farm)  
Inc. Ploughman's Supper**

**Grange Hall Tel: 01926 813933 or  
Email :[carole@thegrangehall.co.uk](mailto:carole@thegrangehall.co.uk)  
[www.thegrangehall.co.uk](http://www.thegrangehall.co.uk)**

## SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

The office will close for the August Bank Holiday on Friday 27th August at 1pm and reopen on Tuesday 31st August at 9am.

For a recorded message giving emergency contact details telephone 01926 814004

## SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL WEB SITE

The new Town Council website is now live!

**[www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk](http://www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk)**

If your organisations would like to be represented on the 'Community Groups', or the 'What's on' pages please send a brief description of who you are and what you do and your contact details or details of your event to

**[deputy@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk](mailto:deputy@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk)**

A link to your own web site can also be included.

**EMAIL US YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS OF SOUTHAM TO BE INCLUDED ON A RESIDENTS' PHOTOGRAPHS PAGE ON THE WEB SITE!**

## GRANTS

At its May meeting, the Town Council awarded a grant of £1500 to Southam in Bloom.

The next opportunity for local groups to apply for a grant will be at the September Town Council meeting; application forms are available on the website or from the office and should be returned to the Town Clerk by the 1st Monday in September.

If you received a grant in the previous year, don't forget to return your feedback form!

## SOUTHAM PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning applications relating to Southam are now available through the new Southam Town Council website.

[www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk](http://www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk)

For those residents without access to a computer the plans will continue to be available in the library



### VICTOR HODGES HOUSE—UPDATE

Orbit Homes has conducted a feasibility study to assess the viability of building an extra care scheme on the Victor Hodges House site. The conclusion was that the number of units which could be built on the current site would not be sufficient to make any resulting scheme financially viable and therefore Orbit would be unable to attract the necessary grants and approvals.

Orbit has assured Southam Town Council that it is still committed to the project and is doing all it can to bring an extra care scheme to Southam. It is now actively investigating the possibility of obtaining further land to make an extra care scheme possible.

It is difficult to predict timescales for a project of this nature but Southam Town Council will keep residents informed as soon as any new information becomes available.

### PLEASE REPORT VANDALISM AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR TO THE POLICE WHEN YOU SEE IT HAPPENING!

The Anti Social Behaviour Officer at Stratford District Council, Kully Takhar, is also available to help you and can be contacted on

**01789 260123** or **07973 832075**  
[kully.takhar@stratforddc.gov.uk](mailto:kully.takhar@stratforddc.gov.uk)

### PARENTS, DO YOU KNOW HOW & WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE SPENDING THEIR EVENINGS?

#### TOWN COUNCILLORS

serve the town on a voluntary basis, they receive no allowances but may reclaim travel expenses if they travel to attend meetings outside the parish on behalf of the Town. In the last financial year, no travel expenses were claimed.

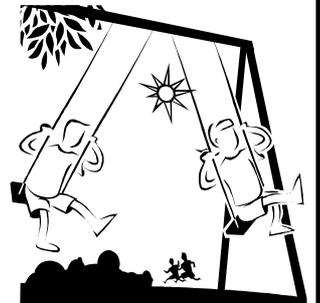
### PARK LANE RECREATION GROUND REFURBISHMENT

Southam Town Council continues to investigate the grant opportunities available to refurbish Park Lane Recreation Ground. It is envisaged that this will cost in the region of £200,000 to do and for this reason may need to be done in three or four phases. A grant application has recently been submitted for £20,000 and if it is successful the Town Council will match fund this amount to allow phase one to begin. A decision should be received on this in the first week of July.

A fence has recently been erected around the ground to improve safety and visibility

Southam @ Play is a volunteer residents' group which exist to facilitate further grant applications which are not available to councils. The group is desperately short of volunteers; could you help? If so please contact Councillor Andy Crump Telephone 01926 815745

The Town Council is interested in resident's views on what is required in Park Lane. Please email the [clerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk) or write to Southam Town Council, The Grange Hall, Coventry Road, Southam CV47 1QA. Alternatively, complete the attached slip and place it in the boxes available in the library and the Grange Hall.



#### PARK LANE RECREATION GROUND

What age groups would you like to see catered for?      Under 5      5 to 11      11 to 17

What would you like to see done?

1.....

2.....

3.....

Volunteer to help Name..... Telephone.....

### HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT COMMUNITY FORUMS?

Community Forums are public meetings led by the County Council and Stratford on Avon District Council to engage the public in council business. Warwickshire police promote 'Safer Neighbourhoods' through the Community Forums. Additionally the Safer Neighbourhood Teams hold a surgery prior to the forum during which time tea/coffee is available.

If you would like to suggest an issue for a future Community Forum meeting, or find out more please contact Amanda Wilson-Patterson on 01789 260135 or email [Amandawilsonpatterson@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:Amandawilsonpatterson@warwickshire.gov.uk)

### REPORT FAULTY STREET LIGHTS

Telephone **01926 412922** or Text **LIGHTING** and the fault details including **town, street, column number**, or the **location** in a maximum of 160 characters to **07950 081082** (standard network charges apply)

Please describe the nature of the fault and leave contact details in case the inspectors need to contact you to clarify the exact location of the column. The number of the column is a black number on a white background facing the road and located at about eye level.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Mayor's Civic Service and Civic Dinner will be held in the Grange Hall on Sunday 19th September 2010 and on Friday 12th November 2010 respectively. All welcome - details to follow

### GRANGE HALL

Room Hire for  
**Weddings,  
Birthdays,  
Anniversaries  
Children's  
Parties**  
in fact  
**All Your  
Celebrations**



**Family Functions,  
Meetings & Workshops**  
**Licensed Bar Available**  
**Competitive Rates**

Contact Carole at The Grange Hall on  
01926 813933  
[carole@thegrangehall.co.uk](mailto:carole@thegrangehall.co.uk)  
[www.thegrangehall.co.uk](http://www.thegrangehall.co.uk)

### QUEEN'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is equivalent to the MBE and recognises the outstanding contribution that volunteers make to their local communities.

Unfortunately, Warwickshire did not figure among this year's award winners.

**Its easy to nominate**

**Visit [www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk](http://www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk)**  
**or call 020 7781 2397**

Contact Your Councillor	Ward	Telephone	E-mail
Cllr Paul Caruana	Browns Bridge Ward	01926 817833	<a href="mailto:paulcaruana@tiscali.co.uk">paulcaruana@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Cllr Andy Crump (Deputy Mayor)		01926 815745	<a href="mailto:andycrump@btinternet.com">andycrump@btinternet.com</a>
Cllr Les Hewer		01926 812365	<a href="mailto:theelectricshopsoutham@hotmail.co.uk">theelectricshopsoutham@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Cllr Torin Spence		01926 815339	<a href="mailto:torin.spence@btopenworld.com">torin.spence@btopenworld.com</a>
Cllr Dave Isham	Mill Hill Ward		<a href="mailto:isham_family@yahoo.com">isham_family@yahoo.com</a>
Cllr Daphne Smith		01926 814430	
Cllr Jane Soni (Mayor)		01926 812966	<a href="mailto:ridiough@hotmail.com">ridiough@hotmail.com</a>
Cllr Christopher Worsh		01926 817122	<a href="mailto:cldr.chrisworsh@tiscali.co.uk">cldr.chrisworsh@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Cllr Glesni Thomas		01926 812607	<a href="mailto:glesnithomas@btinternet.com">glesnithomas@btinternet.com</a>
Revd Cllr Wayne Hawkins	Merestone Ward	01926 810520	<a href="mailto:waynehawkins@hotmail.co.uk">waynehawkins@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Cllr Linda Tasker		01926 817426	<a href="mailto:linda@priority-people.co.uk">linda@priority-people.co.uk</a>
Cllr Richard Waller		05602 427609	<a href="mailto:richard.stc.@btinternet.com">richard.stc.@btinternet.com</a>
Cllr Bransby Thomas		01926 812607	<a href="mailto:bransbythomas@btinternet.com">bransbythomas@btinternet.com</a>
Cllr Peter Thomas		01926 814391	<a href="mailto:pgthomas7@yahoo.co.uk">pgthomas7@yahoo.co.uk</a>

**MAYOR: Councillor Jane Soni, 26 Springs Crescent, Southam, CV47 0JU (Tel: 01926 812966)**

**EDITOR: Cllr Glesni Thomas, 9 St Mary's Close, Southam, CV47 1EW (Tel: (01926 812607)**

**TOWN CLERK: Mrs D Carro, Town Council Offices, Grange Hall, Coventry Road, Southam CV47 1QA (Tel: 01926 814004) email: [clerk@southamcouncil-warks.co.uk](mailto:clerk@southamcouncil-warks.co.uk)**