

# Southam Town Council Newsletter



**OCTOBER 2016**

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

## MOP FAIR OPENING

The Mayor, Councillor Mike Brooks, will open the Mop Fair at 3.30pm on Monday 17th October 2016.

**FREE** rides for all children for the first half an hour!



## HS2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Hello, my name is Lydia Smith and I am a Community Engagement Manager working for HS2. I live in Northamptonshire and have worked in the county for over 5 years, predominantly in South Northamptonshire and Daventry.



It is my job to work with communities along the route between Brackley in Northamptonshire up to Southam in Warwickshire, to help make sure that local people are kept up to date with the project and are made aware of any impacts that might affect them. I will be pulling together events which will help share information with local people about different aspects of the project, from our property compensation schemes to noise and vibration impacts. I will also be looking to identify opportunities for us to attend existing community events, to try and make our engagement activities more locally focused.

The Hybrid Bill, which gives us the necessary powers to start to build the railway, is still going through the Parliamentary process. It is currently in front of the House of Lords who are listening to petitions from local people and community groups who have particular concerns about the project. Once this has been completed, then the Bill will be passed back to the House of Commons before being sent for Royal Assent, which we anticipate being granted towards the end of 2016. Petitioning issues that arise as part of the Hybrid Bill process will still be dealt with by the Hybrid Bill team.

If you do need any help please do get in touch; [lydia.smith@hs2.org.uk](mailto:lydia.smith@hs2.org.uk)

## THE MOP FAIR

### ROAD & WOOD STREET CAR PARK CLOSURES

As in previous years, Coventry Street, High Street and Market Hill will be closed on the occasion of the Mop Fair on **Monday 17th October 2016** from 9.30am to 12 midnight. During the time of the road closure vehicular access will not be allowed to premises except for emergencies.

### PARKED VEHICLES MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE CLOSED ROADS BY 9.30am ON MONDAY 17th OCTOBER.

IN THE PAST IT HAS BEEN NECESSARY TO HAVE VEHICLES TOWED AWAY. PLEASE DO NOT LET THAT HAPPEN TO YOU. ADDITIONAL PARKING IS AVAILABLE AT THE GRANGE HALL.

### BUSES WILL PICK UP OUTSIDE THE FACTORY SHOP.

The roads will be closed at the following points

- The bottom of Market Hill to allow free movement to traffic from Warwick Road and Oxford Street
- Outside the Bowling Green car park to give access to Heather Close and Meadow Road
- Daventry Street junction with High Street
- Pendicke Street, Bull Street and Craven Lane will only be accessible from Daventry Street
- No access to Market Hill from Park Lane

Stratford District Council has permitted the Mop Fair to use the Wood Street car park from Sunday lunchtime.

### PLEASE ENSURE YOUR VEHICLE IS MOVED FROM WOOD STREET CAR PARK BY 12 NOON ON SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2016

## PLANNING

Did you know that you can view and comment on Southam planning applications at

<http://www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk/planning.htm>

Developers often approach the Town Council with ideas for developments but the Council does not comment on these approaches until a planning application is submitted; this is so as not to predetermine the application. It is required that each application is considered according to the planning rules. Often these proposals do not progress to the planning stage.

The current Barwood Developments proposal for Welsh Road West has not yet been submitted as a planning application.

## SOUTHAM PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATORS

Southam now has 6 public access defibrillators. In an emergency they can be accessed by anyone from a coded strong box or by on-site staff.

Dial 999, ask for the Ambulance service, give them your location and they will give you the code. The machine will give you instructions on how to operate it.



- Fire Station, Coventry Road, CV47 OEL
- Tithe Place High Street CV47 0HB (during opening hours)
- Southam Surgery Stowe Drive CV47 1NY
- St Wulstan Surgery, Northfield Road CV47 0FG
- Tesco Kineton Rd Industrial Estate, Northfield Rd, Kineton Road Industrial Estate, CV47 0FG
- Southam College, Welsh Road West, CV47 0JW

## DOGGIE DO'S (AND DON'T'S)

One topic the Town Council continues to get many complaints about is dog mess. The good news is that many dog owners are heeding our pleas and picking up. We are keeping an eye on overflowing bins, adding and redistributing as necessary.

However the problem always gets worse as the nights draw in so we thought it might be useful to publish a Southam Guide to Canine Etiquette.

- DO** – remember to take some bags with you, including some spares (see Don'ts).
- DO** – always pick up from streets, footpaths, verges, open spaces, especially where children may play.
- DO** – remind your young ones to pick up if they take Bonzo for walkies unsupervised.
- DO** – offer to help less able dog-owners who may have difficulty bending down to pick up.
- DO** – keep your dog in sight. If it eludes surveillance, check where it has been to see if it has “been”. (Yes, we know most owners can recognise their own dog's style.)
- DON'T** – think that the cover of darkness absolves you of responsibility; take a torch or use your phone light to locate your pooch's package.
- DON'T** – discard your used dog bag other than in a bin. (Whoever it is hanging them on tree branches, please stop!)
- DON'T** – be squeamish about putting your used dog bag into a normal litter bin; it is officially encouraged and helps avoid overflows. It all ends up in the same place anyway.
- DON'T** – think that forgetting to take any dog bags absolves you of responsibility. Ask a fellow dog walker if they have a spare (see Do's) or remember where your mutt left its message, go home, get a bag then go back and pick it up!

**NEVER NEVER NEVER** – let your dog mess in any children's play area. We love dogs and we love to see them exercise but we also love our town.



**Please help to keep it clean!**

Cllr Graham Foster

## WHAT DOES 'THE COUNCIL' DO?

Local government can be confusing. County, District and Parish councils all serve different purposes. What do they all do? Where does Southam Town Council fit in? For Southam, the tiers are:

**Warwickshire County Council (WCC)**, based in Warwick. WCC deals with roads and transport, education, social care, community services (e.g. libraries), waste disposal and public health. WCC is also responsible for strategic planning and the fire service.

**Stratford District Council (SDC)**. SDC takes care of local housing and planning permissions, waste collection, environmental health, leisure and recreation and council tax collection.

Followed by **Southam Town Council (STC)**. STC takes responsibility for maintaining some recreation grounds and certain public spaces. It also provides the park benches and helps VASA provide travel to medical appointments for those that qualify. You can find more details on the council web site <http://www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk/policies.htm>

As part of its commitment to support community initiatives, the Town Council contributes funding to local groups who add to the quality of life of the town.

It is important that your council understands the views of as many residents as possible and is able to act in the best interests of the community, balancing current and future needs, public opinion and available funding.

The other main role of the Town Council is to represent Southam's interests to the District and County Councils to fight for our fair share of resources and help ensure that planning decisions are made with the best information about local impact.

In the Localism Act of 2011, town and parish councils were given the power to endorse “Neighbourhood Plans” to guide future local development. Southam has just started this process and we will continue to seek residents' views on this in the coming months.

It is important to stay in contact and this is why we publish contact details of every member of the Town Council. Please don't be afraid to get in touch if there is something on your mind, or come to one of the regular Saturday morning surgeries in the library.

Cllr Graham Foster

## REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE

### NEW STARTING/ASSEMBLY POINT

This year's Remembrance Day Parade will start at 10.30am on Sunday 13th November 2016 from **THE BOWLING GREEN CAR PARK** on Coventry Street.



### PARKING IS AVAILABLE AT WOOD STREET CAR PARK AND AT THE GRANGE HALL.

Coventry Street, from the end of Meadow Road, High Street to the junction of Market Hill and Park Lane to the Church will be **closed to traffic from 10.10am to 10.40am** to allow the parade to take place.

Following the service, Park Lane from the Church to the junction of Market Hill will be **closed from 11.30am to 12 noon** to permit safe egress from the Church.

## TOWN & DISTRICT COUNCIL SURGERIES

Council Surgeries take place in the Southam Library on the second Saturday of each month

**The next surgery will be held on**

**SATURDAY 8th October 2016**

**10am to 12noon**

Councillors are happy to help and advise you or point you in the direction of the best person to help. No appointment is necessary, just call in and say 'hello'. If the matter you wish to discuss is confidential, then a private room may be available.

## VICTORIAN THEMED MARKET AND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON

### N.B. PLEASE NOTE NEW DAY AND NEW EXTENDED ROAD CLOSURE TIMES

On **Sunday December 4th** Coventry Street and High Street, between Daventry Street and Meadow Road will be closed for the day from **6am until 9pm** to allow the new Victorian Themed Christmas Market and Christmas Lights Switch on Event to take place. No vehicles will be allowed in the closed areas during these times.



## MAYOR'S BLOG

*Each year, Southam elects a new mayor to chair meetings of the council, but what else does he or she get up to? We decided to ask this year's mayor, Councillor Mike Brooks, to give us an insider's view of his calendar.*

**12th May – Southam Town Meeting:** Every parish council is required to hold an annual meeting open to all. In Southam's, we usually hear reports from local community groups - what fascinating and diverse interests we have! It's a shame more people don't attend.

Later, in a "mayor making" ceremony the chain of office was placed on me by our previous Mayor, Jason Ward. Somehow there was a brief spike in confidence tinged with a sense of duty, would I measure up to the standard set by previous mayors etched on the individual shields?

**18th May – Leamington Spa:** I am still getting used to the regalia when a gold embossed invitation arrives for my first official engagement. It is the Leamington Spa civic Annual Meeting at the Town Hall. It is a large and impressive chamber with many dignitaries present, including other mayors from the district. The ceremony even included Leamington's own "Black Rod" in full regalia!

**18th June – Meriden:** The Cub Scout organisation is 100 years old this year and I visited a huge celebratory camp for 1500 cubs in Meriden. It was great fun to see so many enjoying the activities. I took part in a scouting quiz but my knowledge was woefully inadequate. Do YOU know why scouts shake hands only on the left and not the right?

**1st August – Southam:** Meeting with the landlords of the flats on Mill Crescent and bungalows on Welsh Road West. Walking around the area, the Orbit representative, District Councillor Tony Bromwich and I saw that the off-street parking arrangements need attention. Options were discussed but there are complex issues to consider.

**5th August – Warwickshire County Council:** Meeting with WCC to talk about infrastructure investment in Southam to cope with population growth over the coming years and resolve current issues. The larger the town gets, the more urgent this becomes and we need to push hard for what we need.

**17th August – Arundel House:** Few people know about the good work that Southam Children's Centre does for under-5s and their parents. It has a safe drop-in for toddlers to play and offers health and parenting advice. Today was their Fun Day and it wasn't just the kids messing around! I failed miserably in a game to guess how much sugar popular breakfast cereals contain. Back to toast from now on I think.

More updates soon!

**Cllr Mike Brooks**

## GRANGE HALL HIRE

All Your  
Celebrations  
Family Functions  
Meetings & Workshops  
Licensed Bar!

**ARE YOU CONSIDERING SETTING UP A  
NEW HOBBY CLASS OR  
FITNESS SESSION?**

**PLEASE CALL FOR AVAILABILITY**  
Competitive Rates

**NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
ARE WELCOME !**



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

## SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The next Town Council Meeting will take on  
Thursday 27th October 2016 at 7.30pm

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME  
TO ATTEND AND MAY MAKE  
REPRESENTATION ON MATTERS OF  
CONCERN AT THE START OF THE MEETING.**

### SAVE A LIFE: GIVE BLOOD!

Blood Donor sessions will take  
place at the Grange Hall in the  
afternoon and evening of:

3rd November 2016  
1st December 2016



### TO REPORT HIGHWAY PROBLEMS ON-LINE

go to [www.warwickshire.fixmystreet.com](http://www.warwickshire.fixmystreet.com)

This web site is designed to help Warwickshire residents report local highway faults, including potholes, directly and quickly to us by simply locating them on a map. You can do this by using your computer or your mobile phone. Please report one problem at a time; you will be given an opportunity at the end to report another problem using the personal details previously entered. If you are reporting an emergency please do not report it online, but ring the Customer Service Centre on 01926 410410.

You can report any fault from the categories listed below that appears to be broken, dirty, damaged or dumped and needs fixing, cleaning or clearing.

Abandoned Vehicles, Bridge or Culvert defect, Bus Stops, Car Parking, Dog Fouling, Flooding or Standing Water on Road, Flytipping /Flyposting, Graffiti, Gully or Manhole defect, Hedges / Trees on Rights of Way, Hedges / Trees on Road or Verge, Japanese Knotweed / Ragwort, Obstruction or hazard on Road, Potholes, Rights of Way, Road Markings, Road Signs, Road Works Problem, Skip on Road / Verge, Street Lighting, Street Nameplates, Traffic Lights, Trunkroad or Motorway defect Traffic Lights, Trunkroad or Motorway defect. WCC will forward to the correct authority.

### SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCILLORS CONTACT DETAILS

Cllr Jason Ward	Browns Bridge Ward	07887 863257	wajas3@aol.cm
Cllr Andy Crump		01926 815745	andycrump@btinternet.com
Cllr Gareth Oubridge		01926 817505	gareth9dylan@outlook.com
Cllr Stephen Exton		07794 134635	stephenexton@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr Matt Panton	Mill Hill Ward	07449 968648	mattron75@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr Lee Ellard		01926 814444	atticaballoons@gmail.com
Cllr Gerry Barratt		01926 814106	gerry.barratt@btinternet.com
Cllr Mike Brooks-Mayor		01926 811297	mike.brooks@mypostoffice.co.uk
Cllr Graham Foster		01926 812813	grahamfoster6@btinternet.com
Cllr Mark Connors	Merestone Ward	07711 358040	mark.connors@btinternet.com
Cllr Mike Gaffney MBE TD		01926 811028	mike@mandggaffney.plus.com
Cllr Kieran Toner	Southam Fields Ward	07944196562	kieran.toner1@btinternet.com
Cllr Patrick Jenkins		07852 953211	patrick.jenkins97@gmail.com
Cllr Katherine Geddes		07787 293945	cllrgeddes@gmail.com

**MAYOR: Councillor Mike Brooks**

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

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