





# **South Kilworth News**

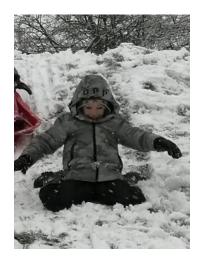




March 2021 edition









See inside: Win Nenette's chocolate Easter eggs made here in South Kilworth in our Easter Egg Competition

## From the Editorial Team

It's hard to believe that we are heading towards March, almost a year since the dreaded Covid found

its way to our shores... but along with the return of the lighter nights (last weekend of March for clocks forward) comes some light to the end of this virus journey!

Happy Mother's Day to all mum's, mommies, mom's, mama's and Grannies on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

For Easter, we have an Easter Egg Competition sponsored by our very own Chocolatier Nenette...

I don't know about anyone else, but I've been reading more books over the last 10 months and it reminded me to tell our new residents about the phone box on Welford Road. It is not only the home of the defibrillator but also of the library of books we share. They range from Picture books to the racier Darker Shades on the top shelf  $\odot$ .

We've had a fabulous response from villagers with contributions to this edition and really hope this continues as it makes our job much easier, not to mention, allowing us all to get to know each other a bit better.

# **South Kilworth Directory**

Name	Contact details	Description
Allotment Committee	Richard Speake 07711825650	Allotment allocation and coordination
Art Club	Gail Wood 575064	Meet in the village hall first Thursday morning of the month
Bowls Club	Gerry Byrne 01858 575080 gerrypatrickbyrne@gmail.com keithrickhuss@gmail.com	
FOSKS	ТВС	Friends of South Kilworth School – primarily raising funds for school
Kids football	Brian Robbins 07795105591	On the village hall playing fields
Kilworth Village Facebook page	https://www.facebook.com/group s/1052827924913620/?ref=share	Digital news, help and so much more
KILWORTH'S COVID HELP GROUP	Maxine 07875285967 Penny 07889826112 Adam 07875285967 Sophie 07555122079	For help with shopping and all sorts of other stuff
Korks (ladies only)	Julie Andrews: sltonline@outlook.com	A social group from the Village, which meets monthly (outside of Covid restrictions). Add your name to the mailing list.
Luncheon Club	Rita Hallam 575449	
Lutterworth Library	www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure -and-community/libraries/find-a- library/lutterworth-library	Use the free digital library services to download eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and eNewspapers using a smartphone, tablet, Mac or PC
Parish Council	Chair: Phil Alcock 575978 philalcock@aol.com Parish Clerk: Karen Brown southkilworthpc@hotmail.co.uk	Meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:15 pm currently virtually, otherwise in the Village Hall. Open to all.
SK Security WhatsApp group	Gary Aram 07799894207 Kate Millington 07790504734 Graham Rutter 07721442561	Alerts about security issues in the village are posted with a link to the community Police

Name	Contact details	Description
Skittles Team	Ray Dorman 07780846002	Games take place at the pub
South Kilworth Neighbourhood Plan:	Tina Morley: tina.morley@virgin.net	Join one of the groups covered in the Neighbourhood Plan. www.harborough.gov.uk/directory_record/2256/s outh_kilworth_neighbourhood_plan
South Kilworth News	sknewsrebooted@gmail.com	Community news for the village – contact us with ideas & news. Every issue on the village website and paper copies bi-monthly
South Kilworth Village Website	southkilworth.co.uk	New website to be launched in 2021 – Contact Kevin Coyne to add content
St Nicholas Church	Sharon March Pioneer Minister: 07889 488038 Administrator: Grace Bridgeman 01858 882032	Parochial Church Council Jacky Harrison 575257 Jacharrison@globalnet.co.uk
Table Tennis	Bob Morley 575832 bobjmorley1953@gmail.com	Thursday evening in the village hall
Travelling lunch club	Alison Anderton 0870 240 6993	Lutterworth Age Concern currently has two travelling lunch clubs. They travel to a different pub each month. They run a Christmas party at the Wycliffe rooms in Lutterworth. The cost of £10 per person, this includes two-course lunch and the coach. Pickups can include South Kilworth.
Village Email circulation list	southkilworthlist@gmail.com	Send an email to become a member of this list - get information about village issues and events.  Note it is a postbox and so doesn't reply! If you send something through for circulation please put contact details on the email. Email addresses are never shared and the list can't be used for commercial purposes.
Village Hall Committee	Chair Mark Tottman 575476	Village Hall bookings contact: Gail on woodgail11@icloud.com or 575064
WASOSKS	Mark Tottman 575476	Whiskey Appreciation Society of South Kilworth
Women's Institute	Joanna Wilson 01455 558372	Now combined with North Kilworth
Yoga	Jessie McQuillian 07860937892 jessie@globalrefrigerants.com.sg	Held in the Village Hall. Classes will resume towards the end of 2021.
Youth Club	Mel Gould (Project Manager) Kate – local worker 07502365379	In the village hall every Wednesday evening



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The phrase 'Carbon Footprint' is thrown around a lot, but do we know what it actually means?

The dictionary definition of a carbon footprint is, 'The amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere as a result of the activities of a particular individual, organisation or community.'

While that gives us a good idea of what it is, it doesn't tell we why we should care about it does it?



## The Importance of our Carbon Footprint

Tackling climate change isn't something that can be done alone - we need everyone to play a part in reducing their impact on this planet. The best way to do this is to reduce our carbon footprint by taking our everyday carbon emissions into consideration.

The plethora of advice tells us to think of it like this: Nearly everything we do releases some amount of carbon into the atmosphere, but how much depends on a huge number of factors. This means that we can increase or decrease our carbon footprint with our everyday choices.

For example, the food we buy has a carbon footprint attached to it. This is because it requires machinery and resources to grow, harvest, package and transport it to where we bought it from. Then, more energy is expended when we cook that food, which adds even more to its carbon footprint.

Simply by purchasing local produce, we can reduce our food's carbon footprint (especially local milkmen and farm shops or markets). Plus, if we choose to buy organic, then no chemicals will be used in its production further reducing resources, thus lowering the overall carbon footprint.

What we eat also makes a big difference, as vegetarian and vegan diets have much smaller carbon footprints than consuming meat or other animal products – even going one or two days a week without meat can make a real difference. Using 100% renewable electricity, or green gas, to cook our food can really help to shrink that carbon footprint right down.

It may seem simple, but just taking these considerations into account for every meal can make a huge difference, and if everyone started to apply this thinking to everything they did, the impact could be colossal.

The first step to reducing our individual carbon footprints is by working out what that footprint is right now and then take steps to shrink it. There are a lot of things that make up our personal carbon footprint, but the main things that we have control of include:





Food and drink Cour home and energy Transport and travel Things we own





The WWF have put together a handy <u>carbon footprint calculator</u> (<u>https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#</u>) to give a rough idea of where our local carbon footprint compares with government targets. Unfortunately, working out carbon footprints isn't quite as easy as counting calories.

Certain things contribute greatly towards our carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, such as homes using electricity created by fossil fuels, how often we drive a petrol or diesel car, and whether or not we've been on a flight recently (and how far it went!).

Did YOU know that by using 100% renewable electricity and carbon-neutral Green Gas you can cut your personal carbon footprint by up to a half?

According to the Committee on Climate Change, the average household produces 8 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Around 2 tonnes of this comes from heating our home, with a further 1.25 tonnes through electricity usage. Sourced from: www.goodenergy.co.uk

# How Harborough stacks up against our 2030 climate targets

If we don't make big inroads to reduce carbon emissions by 2030 we will have lost the battle against climate chaos. We measured your council area's performance in 5 key areas that are crucial in the fight against the climate crisis. Scroll down to see how your local authority area has scored and how much progress is still left to be made in order to reach our 2030 targets.



Transport



Renewable



Waste



Housin



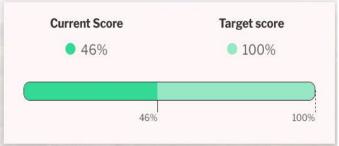
Trees



#### Waste

46% of household waste is reused, recycled, or composted

When waste isn't reused, recycled or composted, it may end up burnt, in landfill or even in our waterways and seas. Harborough should aim for 100% by 2030.





#### Housing

41% of Harborough homes are well insulated

Poorly insulated homes cost more to run, which is inefficient and contributes to fuel poverty. Harborough needs to ensure 100% of homes are properly insulated by 2030.



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#### From Russia with Love

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February was a very still day. As I arrived at the reservoir for my daily walk, the fog started to form and the whole place was very quickly covered in a dense blanket – not the best of conditions for checking for birds!

I headed off to the reedbed on the Leicestershire side of the reservoir. Having spent a short time there I decided to carry on despite the fog – after all the weather forecast was saying that it would clear by 10.30 am.

As I made my way around past the dam there were some signs of the fog clearing. As I scanned through the ducks closest to me, I was drawn to a tightly bunched group of swans right in the middle of the reservoir although they were barely visible. My instinct told me that this was very unusual for the resident Mute Swans. As the fog began to clear further, I realised that I was looking at a sizable group of 'wild' swans. They were either Whooper or Bewick's, the latter being a very scarce visitor to the county these days.



One of the key identification features to separate the two is the extent of yellow on the bill which is very obvious and extensive (beyond the nostrils) on Whooper Swan. I checked each bird in turn and soon concluded that I was looking at Bewick's Swans – 18 in total.

Each year Bewick's Swans undertake one of nature's greatest migrations, flying thousands of miles from the breeding grounds in the far north of Russia to Western Europe. Sadly, not all make it and numbers have plummeted over the last 30 years dropping by a third in recent times, with fewer than 21,000 left. They're under threat from illegal hunting, lead poisoning, loss of wetland habitat, predation, and colliding with man-made structures (e.g., powerlines).

What were these birds doing at Stanford? They may have already arrived in the UK earlier in the winter and could have been moving from the east coast to feeding grounds in the south west such as Slimbridge or vice versa. The fog may have interrupted their journey and they found safety until being able to continue. They could also be birds that were wintering in Europe and have been pushed this way due to the exceptionally cold weather currently.

The birds were only visible to me for around 15 minutes, but it was amazing sight to have that number of Bewick swans in one group, all showing well and calling to each other. It was quite a sight when they all took to the air and headed off.



The last records for the reservoir were both in 2019 – a group of 9 and 2 in November and December.

Chris Hubbard c.hubbard2@icloud.com 01858 571156

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# **Ministry Team Letter - Sam Lloyd**

#### Church, Lent and Easter

Easter might seem a long way off, but in church we're preparing for it by going through Lent. As the days lengthen, so the light increases. That's basically what Lent is about – less darkness, more light! In the Bible, just before Jesus started his

ministry, he went into the desert for 40 days and used that time to prepare. He didn't eat. He prayed and wrestled with some really difficult big questions about who he was and what he could do. As we look towards the biggest celebration in the Christian calendar, taking a long hard look at our own "wilderness places" can help us release what's unhelpful and unnecessary and draw closer to what matters.

## **On-line Sunday Morning Benefice Services**

To help us do that as a worshipping community, we're getting together to pray on a Sunday morning for the next 6 weeks at 10:00am on Zoom. Please email: <a href="mailto:admin@avonswift.co.uk">admin@avonswift.co.uk</a> for the link or look on our website: <a href="mailto:www.avonswift.co.uk">www.avonswift.co.uk</a>

And since there are 11 churches in our group, we thought at 11am every day we would pray for each one and the communities they represent – South Kilworth included. Why not set an alarm, grab a coffee, and pray with us?

#### 'Handmade' Easter

Lots of us decorated our windows through Advent as we got ready for Christmas. Would you like to do something similar for Easter? How about putting **something 'handmade' in the window during March**? It could be a flower you've made, some colouring, pom-poms using up odd wool, bulbs you've grown.... let's get creative and see how we can decorate the village!! Look on the Avon Swift Facebook page later this month for some links to flower patterns, colourings, craft ideas...... or share yours around!

https://www.facebook.com/avonswiftbenefice



#### Good Friday Service on ZOOM

We will remember the crucifixion of Jesus on **Friday 2**<sup>nd</sup> **April** and will get together on ZOOM for a time of reflection and silence. The link will be posted on the Avon Swift Facebook page during Holy Week. Avon-Swift Benefice Ministry Team

#### Churchwarden's Notes

I am pleased to be able to resume providing church news. We are all very grateful to our enterprising editors. Jules, Angela, and Toni for revitalising our monthly news sheet, the quality is impressive!

From the Church Registers from March 2020: - Funerals We say farewell with God's blessing to Derek Peter Spicer, aged 77, on April 21st, 2020

Ellen Rachel **Hutt**, aged 93, on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Carol June **Case**, aged 8-, on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and Benjamin Patrick **Mathias**, aged 43, on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Thanks to Anne Murphy and Liz Sanders, Deputy Churchwardens for looking after things whilst I am shielding from COVID-19.

Details of Avon-Swift Benefice services can be found on the Avon-Swift website <a href="https://www.facebook.com/avonswifbenefice">www.avonswift.co.uk</a> and Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/avonswifbenefice">https://www.facebook.com/avonswifbenefice</a>

Services in Leicester Cathedral can be found at www.leicestercathedral.org/online-services

You can contact the office Monday - Thursday 9:30am-12:30pm

Office Administrator	Telephone: 01858 882032
Karen Morgan	email: admin@avonswift.co.uk
	Phone: <b>07889 488038</b>
	email: sharon.march@marchsite.com
Team Leader	Phone: <b>07910 766909</b>
Stephen MARCH	email: stephen.march@leccofe.org
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# **News from digital platforms**



South Kilworth Primary Donate & Buy

@ Public group - 381 members

Anyone can donate or buy from this South Kilworth Primary Facebook page where funds are raised by FOSKS – Friends of South Kilworth School.

www.facebook.com/groups/1924454704315157

14:22 📲 vodafone UK 🕏 35% 🔳 Zak Taylor ▶ The Kilworth villages 29 Jan ⋅ 🚱 Hi there my name is Zak Taylor and I'm currently studying computer science at college. Due to current circumstances many people are working from home or doing online school. Now obviously not everyone is good with computers and a lot of people struggle to do certain things with them such as using different applications. If anyone needs any help with anything technical I can try my best to help (free of charge of course). Feel free to PM me if you need any help with anything computer related and I'll see what I can do!! Like Comment Share You and 65 others Rich Smith Nice one Zak. You my friend are going places!! 1 w Like Reply Esther Darnell What a lovely idea Zak X Like Reply

Write a comment...

GIF) (:)

The Kilworth Villages Facebook pages have some awesome offers for villagers... I especially liked the one from youngers Zak Taylor...

See www.facebook.com/groups/1052827924913620







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Nenette Chocolates is your very own chocolatier based in South Kilworth! And this is what she looks like when she's concentrating really hard on chocolate!



Nenette has been making chocolates for over ten years and was trained by Slattery's, Callebaut and award-winning chocolatier, Aneesh Popat, whose chocolates are sold in Fortnam and Masons.

And this is what

she absolutely loves doing! The main reason that Nenette abandoned the delights of chartered accountancy is that, compared with giving people chocolates, it never really raised much in the way of a smile in those she encountered.

Nenette hand makes every chocolate for you: she carefully tempers the chocolate for a perfect finish and combines it with simple, fresh and, wherever possible, locally sourced ingredients. The fruit in



her Gooseberry Fool truffles (something that may surprise you in a good way!) for example, is grown in her own garden. Her Glorious Gin truffles range, including Sloe Gin, Rhubarb Gin and Gooseberry Gin, again not

only includes fruits from the garden, but also from local hedgerows (the sloes!). The gin is distilled locally in Market Harborough by our friends at Two Birds.



Would you like to know more and have a go yourself? If you would like to see Nenette in action and learn a little more about how chocolates are made, then search for Nenette Chocolates in YouTube where you will find

a series of demonstrations of Nenette showing you

how to temper chocolate and then make truffles: the idea is that you can have a go too! Subscribe to



make sure you don't miss new demonstrations which are added every week!

Nenette would of course be delighted if you'd like to purchase chocolates from her! Take a look at her website to see everything that she makes at <a href="www.nenettechocolates.co.uk">www.nenettechocolates.co.uk</a> and do let her know if you'd like to order any chocolates for any reason at all as well as for Mother's Day and Easter. Contact Nenette on 01858 575869 or via the website.



It's Competition time! Especially for South Kilworth, this Easter, Nenette will be giving away a special prize of Easter eggs: one for the grown-ups with unique, truffle-filled mini eggs and a pack of smaller hollow eggs for the little people in your lives in a bag complete with a little yellow chick!

All you have to do to have a chance to win this prize is to answer five questions (answers found on Nenette's website - see above), complete your details and drop your completed sheet into the Village Hall post box by 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The lucky winner will be drawn from the box. Good luck!!

#### **Chocolate questions:**

- 1. How many cocoa beans are there in each cocoa pod?
- 2. For at least how long (how many hours) do you have to grind cocoa beans to make lovely, smooth chocolate?
- 3. What's the name of the machine that is used in this grinding process?
- 4. What did the Spanish add to their chocolate drink to make it taste nice?
- 5. Who was the first chocolatier to have successfully made solid chocolate in 1880?

Name: Address: Mobile Number:

Answers can be found on Nenette's website/blog from 4th March onwards

#### MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF SOUTH KILWORTH PARISH COUNCIL No: 800/0121

Tuesday, 12th Jan 2021, 7.15 p.m.

#### 1.0 TO CONFIRM MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr P Alcock - Chairman

Cllr K Coyne (KC) - Vice Chairman

Cllr T Wood (TW)

Cllr G Byrne (GB)

Cllr M Darnell (MD)

Mrs K Brown (KB) - Clerk

#### 2.0 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES

None

#### 3.0 DISCLOSURE OF ANY MEMBER'S INTEREST/S

None

#### 4.0 TO CONFIRM OTHER ATTENDEES

None

#### 5.0 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL, HELD ON 8TH Dec'20

The minutes of this meeting, as circulated, were confirmed to be a true record of matters discussed, and decisions reached, by the Parish Council.

#### 6.0 PLANNING MATTERS

**6.1** New Applications: 20/01961/FUL, Mr J Dunn, Cheneys, Welford Rd, South Kilworth, LE17 6DY, erection of a first floor rear extension, garage conversion and new parking layout. PC had no comment.

6.2 Planning decisions rec'd: 20/01711/FUL – Approved 20/01314/CLU - Approved

#### 7.0 PARISHIONERS TIME

**7.1** SKN 'Parish Council Questions' – PC discussed the questions raised and passed to them via the previous edition. Action: PA will prepare a response to be printed in the next edition. KB to obtain prices re any extra litter / dog bins that may be required for installation in the village.

#### 8.0 ACCOUNTS/FINANCE MATTERS

**8.1** The PC approved the following payments:

Payee Nett Vat Total Details

K Brown £272.74 £0.00 £272.74 Clerks' wages Dec'20

HMR&C £205.20 £0.00 £205.20 Qrtly PAYE, Oct-Dec'20

**8.2** KB reported on the cash balances held by the Parish Council at 31/12/20 - PC approved.

**8.3** PC approved the prepared budget for 2021/2022, with no increase to the Parish Council Tax from previous year. Action – KB to submit to HDC by 22nd Jan'21. Resolved.

#### 9.0 PARISH COUNCIL PROCEDURES

**9.1** Re the sourcing of a replacement payroll provider as a result of the existing provider terminating the current service - Action: KB to look in to options and report back next month.

**9.2** Review of Clerk's contracted hours – PC agreed to issue an amendment to the Clerk's contract to increase contracted weekly hours from 5 to 8, reflecting the average actual hours having been worked over the previous 18 months. Resolved.

#### 10.0 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

**10.1** Further resurfacing of Church Lane pathway – this work is scheduled to be carried out on 25/01/21. Action: KB to monitor.

**10.2** Broken section of the Grange Gardens kissing gates – it was confirmed that this repair had now been carried out. Resolved.

**10.3** Kissing gates accessibility, and removal of the necessary hoops within these gates to aid access for pushchairs etc. – KC reported that, contrary to the instructions that LCC had been given, all hoops had now been removed, leaving a gap between the remaining gate and the hedgerow. Action: KC will contact LCC and request corrective action.

**10.4** Hole opened up on grass verge, Welford Road, Oct'20 – KB reported that she had not received any update from LCC despite several requests, and was waiting for a reply from her most recent email. Action: KB to continue to monitor

**10.5** Re the previous request from the Neighbourhood Plan group, for the school layby to be tarmacked – KC has spoken with the representative who confirmed they are still in touch with LCC regarding this matter. The PC agreed that the plant pots on the opposite side of the road, should be removed, as they presented maintenance difficulties and that some trees should be planted in their place. Action: KC to discuss with Neighbourhood Plan Group and report back.

#### 11.0 VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS

**11.1** Maintenance, weed killing etc on village hall car park – PC considered the quote received to carry out an annual maintenance programme however they requested that the weed killer to be used was confirmed to be safe and legal to use. Action: GB to confirm with contractor.

**11.2** Aspects donation to the village re their using of the car park during the building period – No update. Action: GB to continue to pursue.

#### 12.0 RECREATION

- **12.1** Previous proposal of a mound slide being erected within the children's playground PC agreed that this was going to prove to be too expensive and was therefore not a viable option. A zip-wire was suggested as an alternative. Action: TW to look in to this option and report back.
- **12.2** Recent play area inspection, carried out by ROSPA Council agreed repairs to be carried out in the New Year. Action: TW will schedule later in the year.
- **12.3** Re request for financial support to be offered to local community business, having being forced to close due to the Covid pandemic PA confirmed he would once again request advice from LRALC, as to whether or not the PC is legally permitted to provide financial help of this kind. Action: PA to report back.

#### 13.0 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

**13.1** Re parishioner's request for support in providing a dog walking area in the village - no specific update received and there had been no further communication from the request source, therefore PC agreed no action to be taken at this stage. Resolved.

#### 14.0 VILLAGE WEBSITE

**14.1** The upgrading of the village/PC website - KC confirmed that communication with the new provider is ongoing and the new website is on track to be launched by the end of February. Action: KC to monitor.

#### 15.0 FUNDING FROM THE SHIRE ENVIRONMENT GRANT SCHEME 20/21 (LCC)

**15.1** Second application submitted re the proposed bird box scheme – KB confirmed that this grant had been approved, and that those residents interested in taking part in the bird box scheme would now be contacted. Resolved.

#### 16.0 FUNDING FROM \$106 FUND

**16.1** PC considered and approved two applications to this fund from the Village Hall committee, one each from the Community Facilities and Sports Facilities allocations. Action: PA to send an email confirmation. Resolved.

#### 17.0 FUNDING FROM THE CIC (EIGHT PARISHES)

**17.1** Previous request received from SK Primary School for financial help from the PC to provide an outdoor classroom – PA confirmed that he had attempted to arrange a meeting with the school, on more than one occasion but had had no response. PC agreed to await any further contact. Resolved.

#### 18.0 FUNDING FROM LCC COMMUNITIES FUND – ROUND 3

**18.1** PC approved, and agreed to submit, an application to this fund to help finance the setting up of a Village Community Café, which is hoped would provide valuable support to vulnerable residents in the village. Action: KB to liaise with the Neighbourhood Plan representative.

#### 19.0 SOUTH KILWORTH NEWS

19.1 See item 7, Parishioners' time

#### 20.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

#### 21.0 TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING – TUES, 9TH FEB'21, 7.15 P.M. Meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.

A copy of these minutes will be published on the South Kilworth Website, no later than thirty days from the date of the meeting. Signed: Phil Alcock Date: 16/02/21

Parish Council minutes can be viewed on the Parish Council's website once they've been accepted as a true record of proceedings.









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**Contact: Angela on 07899742039** 

## Litter picking heroes offered support

Leicestershire County Council is supporting local litter picking groups - often called wombles - by pledging to help them access the equipment they need.

Across Leicestershire, there are hundreds of groups who collect litter from Leicestershire streets, parks, verges and other public spaces.

Now, practical support is being offered through a new fund that will supply these groups with road signs and hi-vis jackets to help keep them safe, and extra-long litter pickers to reach under bushes and hedgerows.

Councillor Louise Richardson, the cabinet member for communities, said: "Womblers provide a vital community service. The benefits are numerous - litter-picking keeps our public spaces clean, aids wildlife, promotes walking and increases recycling.

"That's why we want to support our local groups by giving them the equipment they need. It's a great example of how we can support and empower our communities to make a difference in their area.

"I applaud our womblers and hope that our support bolsters their brilliant work."
The new scheme launches today (Wednesday) - to find out how to get this equipment for your group, visit: <a href="www.leicestershire.gov.uk/litter-picking">www.leicestershire.gov.uk/litter-picking</a>

The project joins the package of financial support recently championed by the council which included a dedicated pot of cash for Leicestershire's volunteer groups, pubs and small businesses.





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#### Parish Council Q&A

#### Questions from villagers for the Parish councillors answered here...

**Question:** There are seven bins around the village centre. The four bins near the village hall are the old wooden type with gaps between the slats that allow the wind to blow under the black plastic bags and push the rubbish out of the bags onto the floors so can we change them for a new one similar to the one placed down the walkway from Village Hall to School?

Answer: To be discussed at the January PC meeting

**Question**: There are three concrete bins one near the pub, village green and one near the bench on Rugby road - all get full of water during heavy rain. The one by the bench on Rugby road is hardly used. Cars don't stop there as there is no parking, but it does get full of dog bags and is not always emptied properly (new bin bags are put on top of waterlogged ones underneath). Can these be replaced too or have a lid added?

Answer: To be discussed at the January PC meeting

**Question:** Three more bins are needed one next to the reservoir, one at the end of the railway line and one at the end of the Belt - these are very common areas for people to dump their rubbish, be it walkers, travellers stopping to have lunch in the layby or Anglers (I presume?)

**Answer:** We have looked before at trying to install a bin at the end of the railway line, but this isn't possible (the same would apply to the reservoir) because it's outside the Parish boundary and more importantly outside the County boundary. The County boundary is the biggest issue, as LCC won't empty a bin outside the County.

We did approach Welford PC about the possibility of installing a bin at the end of the railway line and offered to pay for it if they'd arrange for it to be emptied by Northampton CC, but they declined.

**Question from Parish Council:** How far away from the Belt is the dog bin on North road? Does this need to be relocated?

**Answer**: A bin is needed at both ends as people are still dropping full poo bags along the Belt (see Villager article).

Question: Can we have a sign near the reservoir that says Welcome to South Kilworth – please keep our village tidy

Answer: To be discussed at the January PC meeting



#### Parish Council O&A cont.....

**Question**: The farmer on North Road often makes the public walkway from across top of his field unpassable in winter especially as he turns over the top of the field where people walk so that it's a mud-bath. He also leaves scary cows there too (both non-friendly and against the Countryside code). I've tried, but I can't see a reason for him to only turn over the field where people walk, but do wonder that if there is a reason for this, can we perhaps re-reroute the walkway along the bottom of the field?

**Answer**: Not sure how we can help with this – farmers are allowed to plough their fields, including where footpaths cross them, and they are allowed to keep scary looking cows!!

#### **Environmental Crime in the village**

**Question:** Do the PC know what happened with waterworks/farmers moving all the mud between locations and turning roads into muddy highways?

**Answer**: I think this refers to the recent incident when the roads were made dangerous when the farmer tried to clear the mud from the road by some sort of 'scraping', but this left a thin and very slippery layer of mud on the roads – arguably worse than the clumps of mud he was trying to clean up.

First thing to say is this is really a matter for Leicestershire County Council (LCC), as the PC has no authority with regard to highways.

I did speak to LLC about it, and the immediate comment was that as a rural community we should recognise that farmers have work to do in fields and this will happen from time to time when there's been a period of wet weather. However, the farmers do have an obligation to clean up – I found these details from a legal firm:

www.thorntons-law.co.uk/knowledge/mud-on-roads-a-farmers-liability





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# The Country Code – A reminder

'Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work'





During the last 12 months, we have seen a big increase in the number of people using our footpaths and the lovely countryside around the village. It is great to see many more are enjoying their local area and they are welcome.

Most behave responsibly but a minority act in a manner that is at best, inconsiderate, at worse, potentially dangerous to children, farm animals and wildlife.

Gates are left open, people are walking and running off the footpaths and bridle ways, across private and open farmland. There is much more litter. Dogs run off the lead, out of control across private gardens. Lambing is about to begin, and farmers and landowners are within their rights to shoot a dog that is attacking or harassing livestock.

Some dog-owners leave their dog's poo! It is bad enough to see it on footpaths and the canal towpath but even worse to see plastic poo bags discarded and even hanging from hedges – a truly awful practise. Plastic bags can cause harm, even death, to animals and wildlife, take decades to decompose and dog faeces can cause blindness in children.

The gate at the bottom of The Belt onto the golf course is regularly left open – this is potentially dangerous, there are small children living on the lane and very deep water on the course. Since its closure, many are walking their dogs on the golf course, which I'm sure is fine but there is a lot of dog poo on the course – most unpleasant for the golfers when they return.

**PLEASE** Close all Gates.... Do not drop litter – take it home.... Keep to public paths .... Keep your dog on a lead or under close control.... Dog poo – bin and bag it and TAKE IT HOME

Author's identity known to editorial team, but withheld on request



This Charity aims to rescue, rehabilitate and release wildlife casualties brought in to it. This may include treatment, long term/short term hospitalisation and monitoring. The effects of COVID have seen them struggling for funds, as they have been unable to host their usual coffee mornings and food donations have halved. It costs them £7,000 a month to keep the rescue centre running.

If you can help by donating any good quality bric-a-brac they can sell, then these are their contact details: Located at the Rear of Birds Barn, Fleckney Road, Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicestershire, LE8 0HJ Contact: 07951285366

<u>email: info@leicesterwildlifehospital.org</u> Open 7 days a week from 9am to 4pm List of Donations - Dog Food Cat food, Kitten Biscuits, Puppy milk, Meal Worm, Suet pellet, Towels, Bin Bags, Straw

It would be awful if they have to close, as they are so important and deserve our support. I am more than happy to take any food or bric-a-brac you wish to donate to them as part of a hamper from the village. Please drop off at 2 Tanser Cottage, Walcote Road. **Angela Langman** 





#### Harborough District Community Lottery

Tickets are £1 with a chance of winning several prizes including a jackpot of £25,000 for a matching sequence of 6 numbers. Every ticket has a 1 in 50 chance of winning a prize every week. All funds raised will be spent on community projects and Community Grant Fund, which will benefit our village and surrounding area.

To buy a ticket go to www.harboroughlotto.co.uk or telephone 01858 405050

Players must be 16 years old or over. Good luck!



# **Bird Box Grant**



This last year has been very strange in many ways, but at least it gave many of us the opportunity to go out and look at the nature we are lucky enough to have around us. After threatening to do it for many years, I finally got round to applying for a permit to access Stanford Reservoir, found my old binoculars and started birdwatching....and it's been both good fun, and enlightening to see the nature around us.

The Village has expanded a lot in recent times, and it is pretty obvious that every time we build a house, we remove somewhere birds might have nested. In June 2020 I became aware of the Shire Environment grant scheme run by Leicestershire County Council and the Environment and Strategy Team at LCC confirmed that they would support a project to give something back and increase the number of nesting sites for birds in the Parish.

The project started by asking the local community (those on the Village email list\*) if they would site bird boxes on their land. There was a good response and in the end a total of 94 bird boxes were requested by 29 households and 3 organizations (the Village Hall, the School, and the Church).

South Kilworth Parish Council agreed to part fund the project, so an application was drawn up and submitted. The grant application was turned down by LCC in July but re-submitted in October and subsequently approved in December.

As a result, 60 birdboxes with holes for blue tits, great tits, sparrows, nuthatch etc, 21 open fronted boxes for Robin, Wrens, Pied Wagtails, Spotted Flycatchers and 13 boxes for swifts. Hopefully they will be installed around the Parish within the next few day/weeks in time for the 2021 breeding season.

The bird boxes have been acquired from the RSPB to designs that they have developed, and they come with guidance on where they are best positioned.

The plan is that participants in the project report back on whether the bird boxes become occupied so we can judge whether it has been a success. Hopefully it is, and we can try for grants in the future for more bird boxes or something similar, perhaps owl and bat boxes next time.

Many thanks to all those who have participated.

#### **Bob Morley**





See SK Directory for how to join Village email list

# Coming soon....

The Parish Council has approved a Boules/Petanque court and club house, which will be positioned next to the bowls green but is subject to an agreed grant from 106 Funding and planning permission.

This will be available for all South Kilworth residents.....

If you are interested, please do e-mail SK News so we can get some idea of numbers. We are keen for the younger residents to get involved and have fun within our community.

## **SUBJECT TO COVID RULES**



### South Kilworth Bowls Club

Our new season has just started & we gladly welcome new members of any age.

The first years' membership is free, so come on and have a go!

We have beginners' roll-up every Wednesday from 4pm to 6pm where we can give you some guidance on how to play!

Don't worry if you do not have any bowls, we have a spare set that can be used.

You can decide when you want to play, so there is no obligation to commit yourself to any regular sessions.

Apart from helping you to keep fit, it is also a great opportunity to meet new people. For more information or to join contact:

#### Gerry Byrne 01858 575080 or Keith Rickhuss 01858 575792

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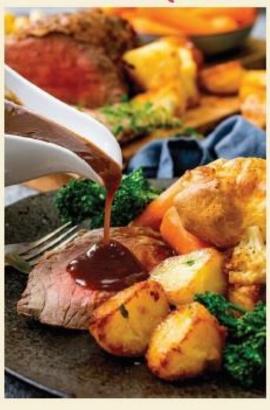
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