

South Kilworth News

January 2024



Photos from the
Salvation Army
concert and Christmas
Fayre. See the reports
in this edition

<https://www.southkilworth.co.uk>

South Kilworth Directory

Name	Contact details	Description
Allotment Committee	Les Lucas 07712296376	For the green-fingered aspirants
Bowls Club	Gerry Byrne 01858 575080	gerrypatrickbyrne@gmail.com keithrickhuss@gmail.com
Community Café	Tina Morley 07786496041	Community café held monthly in the village hall - see posters around the village for details
First Saturday Weavers at SK Village Hall	Helen Brotherton 01455554647 helen.brotherton@icloud.com	An informal group of hand weavers who meet on the first Saturday of the month
Kid's football	Brian Robbins 07795105591	On the village hall playing fields
Kilworth Village Facebook page	https://www.facebook.com/groups/1052827924913620/?ref=share	Digital news and more
KOIL	Mark and Sarah: admin@koil-group.com	Group ordering of Oil
Korks (ladies only)	Contact Claire Hubbard on 07590254043 to be added to the Korks WhatsApp group	A ladies' social group from the Village meets monthly. Add your name to the mailing list.
Luncheon Club	Rita Hallam 575449	
Parish Council	Parish Clerk: Karen Brown parishclerk@southkilworth.co.uk	Meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:15 pm Chair: Phil Alcock 575978 philalcock@aol.com
SK Security WhatsApp group	Gary Aram 07799894207 Graham Rutter 07721442561 Adam McHenry 07875285967 Peter Moore 07775795761	Alerts regarding security issues in the village are posted with a link to the Community Police
Skittles Teams	Ray Dorman 07780846002 Tracey 07733235306 (Ladies team)	Games take place at the pub
South Kilworth Art Group	Maggy Roberts 07912031816 and 01858682173 magsroberts@yahoo.co.uk	Thursdays, 9.30 am to 12.00 Midday, Village Hall
South Kilworth Neighbourhood Plan	Contact the Parish Council	Information on the plan: www.harborough.gov.uk/directory_record/2256/south_kilworth_neighbourhood_plan
South Kilworth News	sknews@southkilworth.co.uk	Community news for the village – contact us with ideas, photos & news.
South Kilworth Village Website	Kevin Coyne: admin@southkilworth.co.uk	southkilworth.co.uk
St Nicholas Church	Sharon March (Minister): 07889 88038 https://www.avonswift.co.uk/ https://www.facebook.com/avonswiftbenefice	Administrator: Karen Morgan: 01858 882032 PCC Secretary Joanna Wilson: 01455 558 372 Email Joanna.wilson17@btinternet.com
Table Tennis	Bob Morley 575832 bobjmorley1953@gmail.com	Thursday at 7 pm in the village hall
Travelling lunch club	Alison Anderton: 0870 240 6993	Lutterworth Age Concern currently has two travelling lunch clubs, travelling to a different pub each month.
Village Email circulation list	southkilworthlist@gmail.com	Send an email to become a member of this list - It is a postbox that doesn't reply! If you send something through for circulation, please put contact details on the email. Email addresses are never shared and cannot be used for commercial purposes.
Village Hall Committee	Chair: Romy Grimwood romy01@btinternet.com	Vice Chair & Village Hall bookings contact: Gail at woodgail11@icloud.com or 01858 575064
Women's Institute	Gaye Duncombe Tel 01858 880650 or gduncombe1@gmail.com	3 rd Thursday of each month at Belgrave village hall, North Kilworth LE17 6EZ at 7. 30 p.m. Visitors and new members welcome.
Youth Club (SKY) (8-16yrs)	Ruth Cross (Youth Projects Coordinator) 07921 847347; Avril Da Silva (Play and Youth Work Leader) 07933899700.	SK Youth Club meets in the village hall every Wednesday @ 6:45 pm

From the Editorial Team

Happy New Year to all South Kilworth residents! The next edition will be in March 2024 and the deadline for submission of news and articles is 16 February 2024. The SK News is published every other month. The electronic version can be found on the South Kilworth website. Please send news, photos, and articles to sknews@southkilworth.co.uk. News that does not coincide with the printed SK News will be uploaded to the South Kilworth website. Links to our advertisers can also be found on the South Kilworth website.

Calm and Connected



Calm + Connected

A South Kilworth resident, Siobhán, hopes to provide a much needed private service to new families left without adequate support due to an ever-changing, complex world and reduced public funding. We asked what her motivation was, and this was her response.

“Upon leaving school at the tender age of eighteen, I had little idea what I wanted to be when I grew up (and in many ways, I still don’t!) However, I undertook a bachelor’s in human genetics in Cork, Ireland, with little thought to where it may lead. On graduating, I realised that I would ultimately prefer a clinical role with real world contact with patients. With a strong history of medicine, nursing and midwifery in my family, I decided to return to education in my mid-twenties to pursue a midwifery degree and moved to the UK to begin the journey to registration. I engaged in my midwifery studies at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading and took up my first qualified post at the John Radcliffe, Oxford. Both hospitals were fantastically forward-thinking places to work, sitting at the forefront of maternity care, research and development in the UK.

So what brought me to South Kilworth, I hear you ask. Well, my husband is the Assistant Head Gardener at Kelmash Hall & Gardens and we decided to move here to be closer to his work - it was simply good fortune that we ended up finding and buying our home here in South Kilworth. I commenced a midwifery post at Coventry Hospital (UHCW) in 2021. However, with maternity services becoming a more challenging landscape by the day, I no longer felt able to afford patients the care that I so passionately wanted to provide. When the opportunity arose to pursue additional training as a Health Visitor (or to use the official title, a Specialist Community Public Health Nurse), I jumped at the chance and qualified in January this year (pictured here on the left at my graduation ceremony). To be a Health Visitor means to comprehensively support families with children under five years of age with all elements of their health and well-being including milestones and development, infant feeding, and providing up-to-date public health advice. However, the NHS and in particular public health funding is not what it used to be, and services are being increasingly cut to the detriment of young families who are left floundering and unable to access much-needed support from their community midwifery and health visiting teams.

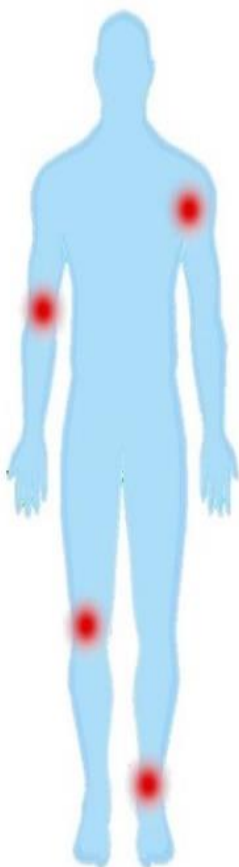


I had often entertained the prospect of working independently of the NHS, but I always somehow managed to talk myself out of it.

The desire was always to offer a refined, personalised, and holistic service to both expectant parents and those with young babies to include a full antenatal course, workshops to aid families with colic & reflux, introducing solid food and toilet learning as well as potentially expanding into forming a social support network for new parents. Eventually, I would like to become a “one-stop shop” for antenatal and postnatal support for burgeoning families, whilst also periodically lending my services to local charities who support vulnerable families via complimentary clinics and workshops. Despite such grand plans, to take the leap of faith takes a lot of gumption.

However, the moment of true inspiration for me came with the birth of my daughter earlier this year. She was born at home, here in South Kilworth, with the help of the fantastic Leicestershire home-birth midwives. I was very lucky to have excellent support from them during pregnancy and immediately afterward, however within two weeks they had discharged us and we were left to our own devices, as is the usual way of things. I had always known there was a gap in support and services, however since experiencing it for myself, it became all the more apparent. It therefore feels like now is the right time to launch such an exciting project and I hope to be able to bring my vision to life in 2024. Please follow Calm + Connected’s updates on Instagram @calm.connected.parents and watch this space!”

Toni and Rob Snell



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South Kilworth School

How was *your* week? Georgie Willock, the Communications and Engagement Coordinator for Learn Academies Trust, shared some of the paragraphs written by the children of the South Kilworth School telling us about their week:

Football

Football club is amazing, every Monday I look forward to: games, refereeing, shooting, and an amazing game. My skills have grown ever since I started.

Swimming

So 8 children in Saplings and tall ones go to swimming on Wednesdays if they can't swim 25 metres. Next week is our last week and it's only really the 4 year 6's that need to swim 25 metres so were in the deep and next week.

This half term in DT (design and technology week) we have been making, making and looking at bread. First at the start of the week we looked at the history of sandwiches! We tasted some bread oh some was delicious some were rare. Finally we finished the week by making bread. It was so fun and yummy.

Anti bullying

Anti bullying week is about what to do when you are getting bullied or other people being bullied. Bullying we learn is a bad thing and they mainly bully because they get bullied. We also learn examples of bullying to know when it happens but the main thing we learn is not to bully.

Croscontry will

in croscontry we do races and competitions if you want to pass you have to be in the top ten you do it again on different days. In market harbought 14 of us got in the top ten for our school.

Bike ability

For 2 days we brought our bikes in for a session called bikeability which is where we learn to ride a bike safely on the roads. We had 2 instructors called Richard and Steph and they helped us learn about road safety. They taught us who has priority over a junction and how to do a U turn. In bikeability we also had to ride from school to the bus stop. All of the year 6's did this.

Patricia Pumpkin

One day, the whole school was invited to a special assembly. As we walked into assembly, a lady dressed as a pumpkin was playing the piano and they were absolutely exquisite. When everyone had sat down, she peeped through the door and introduced herself. She's called Patricia Pumpkin and she had come to inform us about pumpkins and how they are badly wasted.

Remembrance day

Every year on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month we hold a 2 minute silence. The day we hold that 2 minute silence on is called remembrance day! On remembrance day we wear poppies. The reason that we wear poppies on remembrance day is because poppies were the first flower to bloom after the war. So they help us remember the people that died in the war!

Kickboxing

We did kickboxing with someone called Steve. He taught us how to fight and keep ourselves safe. He also taught us self discipline and respect.

Lester Liggers

every thursday we have the lester liggers come in and teach us p.e. It's amazing. We love it so much. We were both good sportsmanship and bad sportsmanship. Once we got outside there was a man who tort us ~~Rugby~~ Rugby. We would be careful so we would not hurt. We did not contact so we would not get hurt.

Pudsey day

On pudsey day we did lots of different things. There were crazy hair day, we had to wear some thing spotty and we had to make drawings of Pudsey. The competitions were judged by the school council. There were some of them like cutouts, plans which a gaming controller in and a lot of people had their hair dyed. The pudsey coloring was really colorful the one that won was rainbow. People wore spotty or yellow or normal.

Break fast club

At break fast club we do fun games, build towers, ^{play} Cinderella, eat break fast, reading, we can wash plates ^{up}, jenga, lego, rasive bricks. It starts at 7.45am we time/leave at 9.00am. for school and start lessons.

Sausage Breakfast (Lunch with)

In our school we have various things that we do. One of these things is a sausage breakfast. These take place in the morning (in assembly time). This means that assembly commences in the afternoon instead. The year 6 children hand out the food drinks/tea and coffee and the napkins. They will also come around with the sauces. Anyone is welcome. You don't have to have anything, you can just stay and spend some quality time with our school family. The sausages are nice and yummy and the bread is delicious. The more, the merrier. We hope to see more join us for the next.

Year 5 and 6 Athletics

Every year, year 5 and 6 attend athletics, this includes relay races, ~~traces~~ individual races, vertical jump, long jump and chest push. It is so much fun, but people get nervous but that's a good thing because once they get on the track and start running their nerves go away and it is the best they've ever felt. When they start running towards the end their teammates motivate them like crazy, it is the best feeling EVER!

Wellness awareness training

by Bea W

All the year 5 and 6 went to a wellbeing abbasster training in Tomas Essly. The year wellbeing abbassters we called harriet, ~~ben~~, and alvie. They taught us about safety online and they taught us about popular apps and what to do and what not to do. They also gave us a snack you could get croissant, toasties, waffles and more. For a thank you gift they gave us each a signed tangle, two grabbers for the school and a NHS pencil. Thank you so much Tomas Essly for having us.

FOOTBALL 3/4

We make it to football in Lutterworth college. We train first and then we go into the first game. We play against our selfs and different schools. If you win you get 3 points, if you lose you get 0 points, if you draw both teams get 1 point. There is only five teams.

Residential

At the start of the year the year 5's and 6's went to Caythorpe Court, Lincolnshire on residential. We all stayed in a three storey high building along with North Kilworth and Lubenham. There were 3-6 people in each dormitory. There were lots of fun and thrilling activities! Some of these included the giant swing, vertical challenge, canoeing, trapeze, zip wire, raft building and abseiling. My favourite activity was the raft building (we all fell in the lake and got soaked) although my least favourite activity was the giant swing (it was sooooo scary). The food at residential though was delicious (especially the zig-zag chips). We had burgers, baguettes, chips and pasta. Another amazing thing on residential was hanging out with my friend (and eating lots of sweets)! Residential was the best week of my life!

Lily Cartwright, Y6

South Kilworth Snippets

Services at St Nicholas' Church

Please join us:

28th January, 8.30am: Holy Communion
25th February, 8.30am: Holy Communion



The church is open every Sunday for private prayer and quiet reflection 10am to 4pm.
Members of the PCC would be happy to open the church at any other time if village residents would like to visit.

South Kilworth's next Community Café

FEBRUARY 20th

in the Village Hall 11 - 1pm



Everyone very welcome

YOUR VILLAGE CAFÉ NEEDS YOU

Would you like to offer a few hours to help in the village?

We are looking for a couple more enthusiastic volunteers to help with the community café. The cafe runs monthly in the Village Hall, usually on a Tuesday morning. Help is needed from 10:30 - 1pm. You just need to be willing to serve drinks or cake, operate the dishwasher, clear tables etc. If you can cook you might be asked to make a cake or two, but that's certainly not essential.

At the moment we have a team of 10, so you definitely don't need to be available every month, but if you could offer about 6 mornings a year that would be great. Unfortunately, 3 of our members have moved from the village and so we need a couple of people to replace them. We don't have any formal meetings, but get together about twice a year to sort out finances etc - so it's not an onerous task.

You will get to meet a lot more lovely people from the village. If you're interested, please either ring or text/message me. Many thanks - Tina Morley 07786496041

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The Magic of WIFI

Progress is an odd thing. If we look back to a time before Smart TVs, iPhones, iPads, and game consoles, each one packed with more computing power than NASA used for the moon landings, we wonder how we ever coped without them. There is one thing though that all of these modern conveniences depend upon – a wireless connection to the Internet. I'm sure all of you with children or young adults at home will be very familiar with the cry "MUM!!! DAD!!! The WIFI is down" – with an urgency that suggests a life-or-death situation rather than a mild technical inconvenience.



But maybe our digitally dependant offspring have a point. We're living in an ever more connected world. There is an 'app' for everything: our TV viewing, heating controls, smart lighting, and even domestic appliances depend on an internet connection consumed over what has become universally known as 'WIFI'. So, what actually is WIFI? how does it work and more importantly what can you do to make sure your day isn't spoiled by the appearance of a furious teen wielding an Xbox controller with menaces?

The first versions of the WIFI standard were slow, by modern standards – between 1 & 2 megabits per second, which is around 20 times slower than a basic broadband service you can buy today. Over time, however, things have significantly improved. Today, the latest standards of WIFI6 can deliver speeds of between 500 megabits per second, to almost 1 Gigabit per second, with WIFI7 able to go up to around 46 Gigabits per second – and that's seriously fast.



The technology behind WIFI is though, at its simplest level, just a radio signal, which uses a 'carrier frequency' to transmit and receive a data stream, which is a series of 1's and 0's – the lowest level language of computers. All those 1's and 0's are assembled and disassembled by the transmitting and receiving devices - in your home that's usually your smartphone, your tablet, Smart TV, etc., and of course your broadband router. It's also important to understand that WIFI works using a 'hub and spoke' model, where your wireless-equipped broadband router

– usually provided by your internet service provider – is the hub, and all your connected devices are the spokes. Wireless devices don't communicate with each other directly, everything goes via the hub – which is usually fine because if you think about it, most of the apps on your phone are talking to the internet, not to another phone even if that phone belongs to the person sitting next to you on the sofa. But it does mean that if the hub (your broadband router) fails, all wireless communication stops.

Today the routers provided by internet service providers (usually for free!) are getting better and better and their WIFI capability is improving. Many providers however will not openly tell you which of the many 802.11 standards they support mainly because for cost reasons it is unlikely to be the latest and greatest like WIFI6, but usually, they work pretty well.

But WIFI has one problem that cannot be easily overcome - that it is dependent on a radio signal and radio signals are affected by two factors. First, distance. The further away from the broadband router you take your phone or laptop, the weaker the signal gets and eventually no matter how clever the devices at each end are at reassembling all those 1's and 0's into a data stream, some of them will be lost and the WIFI connection will drop. Second, the environment. Like all radio signals, the strength of the signal is reduced when it has to pass through objects like walls and floors. The more walls and floors between you and the router and the thicker the walls or floors are, the weaker the signal, and eventually it becomes too weak and the WIFI connection will drop. Sometimes the difference between a passable signal and a loss of connection can be just people walking around the house and getting in the way of the router – summoning the teenage outburst as Grand Theft Auto freezes at a crucial moment.



So what can we do to make sure everyone in the house gets a good signal, that is without putting all your wireless devices in one room next to the router (or removing all the internal walls/floors)? What's needed is to ensure that the WIFI signal is as strong as it can be, no matter where you

are in your home. Obviously the bigger the house the more of an issue this is going to be, but even in the average home, loss of signal can be a problem. Generally, this is because the broadband router (and WIFI hub) is physically connected to the internet via a cable, so tends to be located wherever that cable enters your house – and that is rarely in the middle of the building which is the ideal place for it to be if the objective is a consistent WIFI signal.

The first way to improve your signal is to use boosters. These are relatively cheap devices, that work by becoming both a client (or spoke) on your existing WIFI and then setting themselves up as an additional hub, which creates an additional WIFI network (with an additional network name) to which you can connect your devices. This approach whilst cheap, actually creates more complications, as each spoke device has to be set up to connect to either network so as you move around the house, the idea being that whichever network has the strongest signal will be selected. In practice though this rarely works seamlessly, as the responsibility for deciding when to disconnect from one network and connect to the other is made by the spoke device. Some devices are better at this than others, but the decision to change is often more about total loss of signal rather than reduced signal strength. If your wireless devices are not the type that moves around – like your Smart TV or your central heating controls, this solution can work, but personally, I don't recommend it as the most reliable way to improve your coverage.



The second way to improve your signal is to increase the number of wireless 'hub' devices, like the booster option, but without the complication of multiple networks. This is how large-scale WIFI works. If you have ever connected to a free WiFi service in a shop you will notice that there is one network name to connect to (e.g., 'BT-Free-WIFI') and wherever you go in the store the signal is strong. This is achieved through the use of devices called 'wireless access points' which are dotted around the building. The access points work together to form a single network with many hubs, and have the ability to force spoke devices to move between them as the devices move around a building. This gives a much more reliable and seamless experience. However it does have one drawback: with this approach, there is a need to run a cable from each access point back to a central point (where the router is usually), so that all of the access points can talk to each other and hand off client devices from one access point to the next. This is fine when you're building a retail store or factory but running lots of network cables all over the place is not a practical option in the home.

What we really need is a combination of the two: multiple access points that work as one but without the need to cable each one back to your router. Fortunately, there is a way to do this, and it is called 'Mesh Networking' The idea here is that you have one 'master' access point or hub that is connected directly (with a cable) to your router. You then have one or more 'slave' devices that operate pretty much the same as the cheap and cheerful boosters, but with the crucial difference that they work together rather than independently, creating a single WIFI network. These mesh systems work by creating a wireless link between each other and the master device which is totally separate from the signal used to deliver the actual WIFI service. The effectively replaces the physical cable used in corporate systems and still allows the various access points to work out between them the best way to provide the highest level of WIFI signal around the house. All you need to do is put them in strategic places and you have a WIFI service that stretches way beyond your router and is consistent no matter where you are – assuming you have enough of them!

The downside here is cost. These are not cheap devices, a booster solution can be as little as £20-£30 per device, but mesh wireless devices are much more - usually around £100 each, though you can buy them in packs of 3 or more that offer a quantity discount. A quick search on amazon.co.uk will give you an idea of what's available, and some ISPs – for example, GigaClear which is available in South Kilworth, provide for free two mesh devices as a starter pack when you sign up for their service, but you will probably have to buy more as two may not be enough.



So, there we have it. WIFI explained, issues identified, and solutions offered. I hope this has been interesting – technical articles can be a 'snoozefest' but I'm hoping that by knowing a little more about WIFI you can help avoid your own/teenage meltdowns in the future and with a little bit of planning be able to equip your own home with good reliable wireless internet.

Pete Moore

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Waxwings have arrived in Leicestershire



Britain is enjoying its biggest 'Waxwing winter' for at least a decade, with significant flocks being recorded throughout November and into December.

This popular species hasn't irrupted into Britain since 2016-2017 – and even then, big flocks were largely restricted to northern England and Scotland. Prior to that, the last truly major irruption was as long ago as winter 2012-13.

The signs of a significant arrival have been showing since early October when good numbers began to appear in the North of England. Since then, the irruption has gained

momentum with flocks in excess of 500 birds being recorded in Elgin, Moray, and Inverness, Highland, during the first week of November. These flocks are starting to disperse and spread south as they search for food.

In the last 10 days, several flocks have been recorded in Leicestershire. I was lucky enough to catch up with 11 in Anstey on Thursday 14th – feeding on a single rowan tree. Birds have also been reported from Bagworth, Hinckley, Cosby, Broughton Astley, and Lutterworth in the last few days.



If you have rowan, cotoneaster, holly, or hawthorn in your garden or on your street keep an eye out for Waxwing – seen well they are unmistakable and stunning birds. The Waxwing is a plump bird, which is slightly smaller than a Starling. It has a prominent crest. It is reddish-brown with a black throat, a small black mask around its eye, yellow and white in the wings, and a yellow-tipped tail.



I have included some images of the Anstey birds here.

Good luck – let's hope for some in South Kilworth.

Chris Hubbard



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The South Kilworth Christmas Fayre

On Saturday 25th November, the SKVH Committee hosted a Christmas Fair. We would like to thank all the Vendors who attended to sell their wares, Art, Beauty Products, Hand-carved wooden Christmas decorations and Jewellery along with running the Bric-a-Brac and Tombola stalls



In addition, St Nicholas Parish Church held a raffle with proceeds helping to fund the Church restoration project and the SK Community Café sold cakes with proceeds going to aid the Salvation Army with their work helping the Homeless. (*Eds: See the note of thanks from the Salvation Army later in the edition*)



It was well attended by our village community and none of this would have been possible without Gail Wood who organised the event and the team from the SK Community Café who supplied tea & coffee and arranged for a team of bakers who donated some simply wonderful cakes.

Our Christmas Fair will return around the same time in 2024 & we also have a full and varied list of other events e.g. Bongo Bingo, Wine Tasting, Safari Supper, Big Band Night & a Quiz Night so get your diaries ready.

We are also interested to hear what you the villagers think. Are there events that you think may be of interest to the rest of the village? We'd love to hear from you as the Village Hall is for the whole community and we are keen to host events that include everyone of all ages. If you would like to put forward a suggestion, please contact us at skvillagehall@gmail.com or call Romy on 07795 426345.

Romy Grimwood

Church Raffle

The church held a raffle at the village Christmas Fair on Saturday 25th November raising £370.00 towards church funds.

Very many thanks to all who supported this fundraising event which helped to raise money for the repair of the church roof.

Liz Saunders



The Hollies Bed & Breakfast South Kilworth

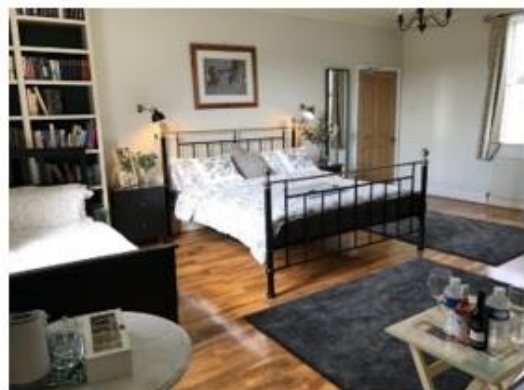


Hosts, Tim & Vivi Mills would love to welcome visiting family and friends of South Kilworth residents to his lovely 200-year-old upmarket bed and breakfast guest house and venue. Situated next to the pub, Tim has 6 beautifully appointed smoke-free

guestrooms with all the expected amenities, including a barbecue and a terrace area. He offers a Full English/Irish breakfast daily.



There is no excuse for not having family and friends over for a visit with this home-from-home location on our doorstep. Please call Tim on 07811 652267 or email: Mills.Tim3@icloud.com to check on availability.





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Case Study 1: Mr T Aged 32.

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Case Study 2: Miss C Aged 56

Severe lower back pain for 10 months which was not due to Injury. GP told her that she would have to live with the pain. Physiotherapy did not help. After two treatments, pain totally ceased. She has had no recurrence since.

Contact Jackie Whittingham BA (Hons) MCSR, MAVR, ASK
At The Leicester Vacuflex Reflexology Clinic, Countesthorpe
Mobile : 07940540313

www.vacuflexreflexology.co.uk

Email : vacuflexreflexology@yahoo.com

Salvation Army Concert on 8th December



We held yet another very successful evening in the church when the Salvation Army Brass joined us. It was an evening of festive music, a singalong of well-known carols, mince pies, and wine.

The church was beautifully decorated for Christmas, the path was candlelit and we were delighted that our new lamp at the church gate was lit up. The lamp was kindly donated by Mr

Tim Wood, The Old Rectory, and we are most grateful for his support.

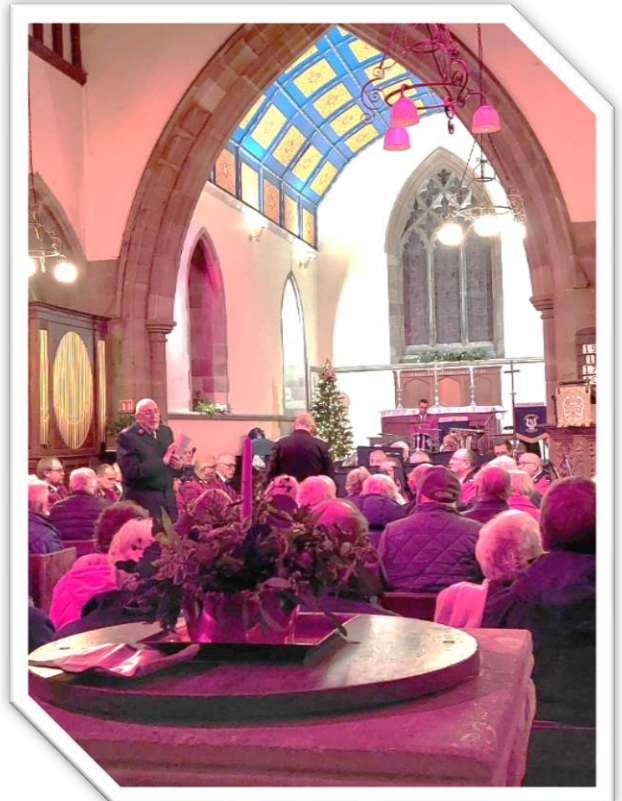
The concert raised £1260.00 which has been divided

equally between the church and the

Salvation Army which will help towards their excellent work with the homeless and disadvantaged in our society.

A big thank you to all who helped make this event such a success including the ladies who cleaned and decorated the church and path. A special thank you to Colin Derrick who worked so hard selling tickets.

Liz Saunders



Thanks, from the Salvation Army

I have been asked to pass on a very sincere thanks from Paul Pleasance, of The Salvation Army, South Leicester, for the effort the ladies of the village put into raising money for them. Paul went on to say that the actions of the ladies were right at the heart of the ethos of the Salvation Army...that of helping others, and he was heartened by their initiative.

Paul thought it a magnificent gesture, baking cakes and raising £243.00, which will go directly into helping hungry, and homeless people.

If I may, I'll join in with those thanks...it was a really warm, heartfelt effort, with you all rolling up your sleeves..and to raise so much, with just one event...brilliant!

All the bakers should be proud!

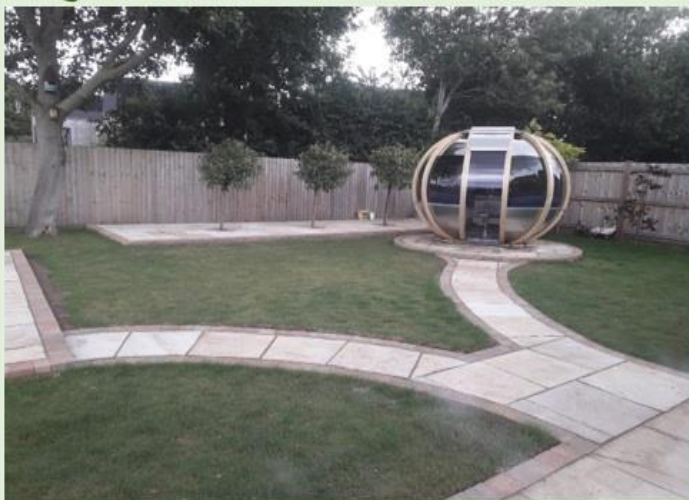
Colin Derrick



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Held on Tuesday, 14th Nov 2023, 7.15p.m. Minutes Ref: 834/1123

1.0 Confirm Members Present

Cllr P Alcock (PA) – Chairman
Cllr K Coyne (KC) – Vice Chairman
Cllr T Wood (TW)
Cllr G Byrne (GB)
Cllr E Derrick (ED)

2.0 To Receive Any Apologies

Mrs K Brown - Accepted

3.0 Disclosure of any Member's Interests

TW declared an interest in new planning applications, listed on the agenda, see item 7.1.

4.0 To Confirm Other Attendees

One attendee, representing the Village Hall Committee.

5.0 To Confirm Minutes of Previous Meeting of Council, held on 10th Oct '23

These minutes were confirmed to be a true record of matters discussed, and decisions reached by the Parish Council, and duly signed.

6.0 Public Participation / Correspondence

6.1 Representative of Village Hall Committee raised the issue of dog fouling on the sportsfield and that the problem is compounded when footballers come into the village hall changing rooms.

PA outlined the legal situation regarding dog owners taking their pets onto the sportsfield and what action might be taken. After a general discussion it was agreed the Village Hall committee would investigate placing additional cctv cameras to cover the fields and car park together with signage reminding dog owners of the dangers to sports field users from dog faeces and the penalties involved. PA would draft an article for SK News and website. Resolved.

7.0 Planning Matters

7.1 New Applications: 23/01453/FUL and 23/01454/LBC, The Old Rectory, SK, new ground floor window at rear. – No Comment

7.2 Planning Decisions Reported: None reported.

23/01459/NMA, The Old Rectory, SK, add metal gate and brick pier to previously approved application 22/01388/FUL – No Comment

8.0 Accounts / Finance Matters

8.1 The PC approved the following payments:

Nett	Vat	Total	Details / Comments
937.32	0.00	937.32	2nd annual instalment re Village Hall loan (DD)
12.99	2.60	15.59	Large Pads (minute taking)
10.00	0.00	10.00	SKPCC - Memorial Clock rental space
250.00	0.00	250.00	Memorial Clock winding for 2023
2,000.00	400.00	2,400.00	Repairs to vandalised surface in play area

8.2 PC approved the cash balances held by the Parish Council at 31/10/23, corresponding bank reconciliation and bank statements. PA signed all documents.

8.3 PC reviewed the budget schedules or the forthcoming financial year 2024-2025, as prepared and circulated by KB prior to the meeting. The PC expressed their gratitude for the detailed forecast provided, which will be agreed at the December meeting.

8.4 KC provided copies of the latest national pay award schedules for the clerk's salary and the PC agreed the award backdated to April 2023, should be implemented forthwith.

9.0 Highways and Footpaths

9.1 PC noted the disappointing response from LCC regarding dangerous parking at Rugby and Welford Roads intersection. This issue has been raised many times in the past and the PC can only repeat its request that residents be considerate of where and how they park their vehicles to ensure other highway users are not inconvenienced and remind everyone that parking within 10m of a junction is in contravention of Rule 243 of the Highway Code. Resolved.

9.2 Welford Road street lighting complaint - PA has been in contact with the concerned resident and the issue is now resolved

10.0 Grounds and General Outside Maintenance

10.1 Refurbishment of the Parish Noticeboard with provision of a section within, for residents to use for any local updates: The noticeboard will be refurbished and repainted, gloss black, and is now open for use by any South Kilworth resident. Pending.

11.0 Recreation

11.1 Regular Play Area Safety Inspections: KC provided the contractor's quotation for 12 jobs/repairs to the playground equipment as highlighted by the Aug'23 ROSPA report. It was agreed that TW and KC would finalise the items to be prioritised by the contractor before the next meeting. Pending.

11.2 Vandalised surface in play area: These repairs have now been carried out at a cost of £2000 plus vat. Resolved.

11.3 Complaint received re dog fouling on the village playing fields: See item 6.1.

12.0 S106 and CIC Funding

12.1 Community feedback re the spending of these funds: Item pending until the PC have an outcome regarding the MUGA proposal.

12.2 CIC re-imbursement of latest claim re HCYC costs, £1639.20: The reimbursement cheques/s should be signed by CIC at their next meeting, 29th Nov. Pending.

13.0 South Kilworth Village Communications

13.1 The current editors of SK News are seeking to retire and are looking for replacements. The PC recognises the excellent writing and production values of the current newspaper and the importance of our village press in providing information and interest. A search for new editors goes on. Please step forward, anyone, with an interest in helping the SK News to continue in existence.

13.2 The manager of the village email information system will no longer be able to support the system from January'24. PC resolved to ask KB if she might take on the responsibility.

14.0 Proposed MUGA (Multi Use Games Area)

14.1 There was no update received, regarding the recent submission of planning permission for this project. Pa is following up. Pending.

15.0 Christmas Tree / Decorations for 2023

15.1 The proposed installation of a Christmas tree in the centre of the village: Huge fees for a highway works licence, together with installation and removal charges, and the associated bureaucracy involved, have caused the PC to reconsider. We are grateful to a new resident who offered to provide the tree and the PC has agreed to revisit the project for next year.

16.0 Any Other Business

16.1 ED raised the issue of the dangers to visitors of the unlit carpark around the village hall. The PC agreed to request the contractor, and the Village Hall Committee, to install a PIR (Passive Infrared Sensor) to provide illumination for those approaching and leaving the hall. Pending

16.2 PA reported that he had visited North Kilworth PC meeting in September to discuss the opportunity to co-host a 3-week summer camp at South Kilworth Village Hall. The proposal was well received but needs further discussion. Pending.

17.0 To Confirm Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 12th Dec '23, 7.15 p.m.

Meeting ended at 8.50 pm

PCC's new post to boost Neighbourhood Watch

Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Rupert Matthews has announced the appointment of a new Project Manager to maximise the impact of Neighbourhood Watch and other invaluable Watch schemes across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. As part of his drive to reduce crime, Mr Matthews has become one of the first Commissioners in the country to fund this dedicated role, which will boost the work of schemes such as Neighbourhood Watch, Rural Watch, Speed Watch and Pub Watch. The aim of this role is to strengthen partnership working across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, and to create additional opportunities for volunteers to contribute to crime prevention projects. The role forms part of Mr Matthews' ongoing strategy to cut crime.

Announcing the appointment of Sam Payne to the post, Mr Matthews said: "Watch schemes are vital partners in the fight against crime and anti-social behaviour. This new role will support the development of Watch schemes across the force area. This appointment represents an important boost to my ongoing crime prevention strategy."

Sam Payne added: "I've always been a supporter of Neighbourhood Watch and I can see how it helps communities to feel safer. I would like to develop more schemes so that we have full, active coverage across the force area."

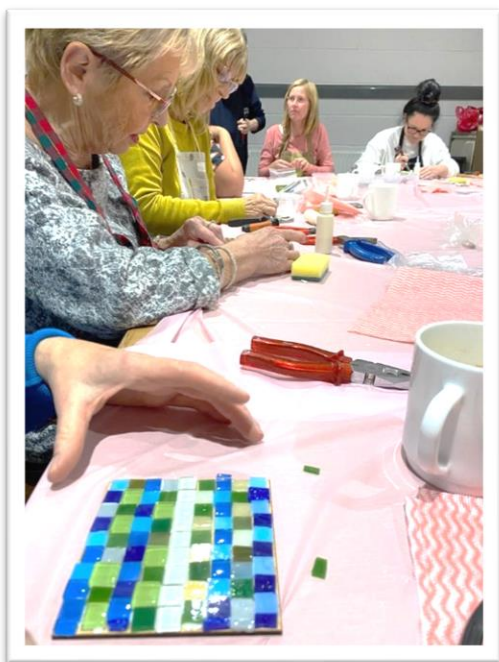
The appointment will help to fulfil the PCC's Police and Crime Plan priorities to revitalise the spirit of volunteering across the city and two counties and unleash the power of communities to tackle quality of life issues and help reduce the fear of crime. It also aims to increase support for NWN from within Leicestershire Police and among senior officers.

Sallie Blair

KORKS

In November a craft evening was held by Sandra in the Village Hall and in December, Caroline hosted a wreath-making workshop in the Barn. The year was topped off with drinks and pizzas at the pub. 2023 has been a fantastically varied year of events and great fun. Look out for the Korks' 2024 planning meeting.

All ladies are welcome to join. You need to join the KORKS WhatsApp group to find out about events. You will be notified at least a month before the event of all the details. You can then sign up for the event if you are interested. If you are not on the KORKS list, please WhatsApp Claire on 07590254043 to be added.



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Christmas Carols at the Community Café

Our South Kilworth school entertained those attending the Community Café in December with beautiful singing. Thanks to all the children who took part and to the teachers who provided such wonderful support.



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