

Southam Town Council

Newsletter

PRECEPT EDITION

February 2012

www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk



SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET 2012/2013 NO INCREASE IN COUNCIL TAX

FOR THE FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR Southam Town's proportion of the Council tax bill will remain at £73.72 for a Band D taxpayer.

This was the unanimous decision made by the Town Council at its precept meeting on Thursday 12th January 2012. The total budget set was £177,595 and the major part of this will be met from a precept upon Stratford District Council of £174,945.

In introducing the proposed budget for 2012 to 2013, the Mayor, Councillor Mike Gaffney MBE TD, asked Councillors not to burden Southam residents with any increases in Council tax that could be avoided.

Concessionary travel was the focus of debate and £10000 was included in the budget for this purpose. However, the consensus was that the current system of Travel Tokens may not be reaching those most in need and a decision was made to investigate a more closely targeted system of spending this budget.

In addition a further £20000 was set aside for community grants. This is intended to help those local organisations, so vital to our community, to continue their good works in the town when so many of them are suffering from depleted income. This also includes maintenance of the churchyard, and help for Southam in Bloom and Southam Christmas Lights. The Town Council continues its work with local youth services and Southam College and has set aside a budget of £1000 to facilitate this programme.

Following complaints from residents about the problems of dog fouling in Southam, and particularly in Park Lane recreation ground, a budget was set aside to provide additional enforcement services. **PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG!**

The programme of street lamp replacement for adoption by WCC will continue, thus reducing future maintenance, replacement and electricity costs.

Every effort was made by the Council to reduce or constrain administration cost whilst maintaining the service provided and providing best value for the town.

DOG FOULING

Dog fouling in Southam streets and open spaces is an increasing problem and Southam Town Council has received numerous complaints from local residents and visitors alike. In an effort to tackle this, the Council has set aside an increased budget to provide an enhancement to the enforcement service currently being received from Stratford District Council.

Dog fouling is unsightly, unpleasant and can lead to toxocariasis in humans which can cause serious illness, even blindness. **Dog waste can now be disposed of in ordinary litterbins providing it is properly wrapped.**

The Town and District Councils take dog fouling very seriously and if you are caught allowing your dog to foul in any space which is open to the public, including all the town recreation grounds, bridleways and footpaths you will be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice. Dogs taken onto recreation grounds should be kept on a lead at all times. **Dogs are not permitted on Southam College playing fields at any time.**

Please clean up after your dog! You may be liable to a £75 fixed penalty fine if you fail to do so. The maximum penalty in a magistrates court is £1000.



YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED! !

If you have evidence of offences being committed please telephone the dog warden on 01789 260839 between 8.45 and 5.15pm Monday to Wednesday and 8.45 and 5pm Thursday & Friday

POLICE DROP IN SESSIONS—SOUTHAM LIBRARY

Come and have your say over matters that affect you!

- Tuesday 31st January 2012 - 12:00 pm
- Tuesday 14th February 2012 - 17:30 pm
- Tuesday 28th February 2012 - 12:00 pm
- Tuesday 13th March 2012 - 12:00 pm

CARDALL COLLECTION - APPEAL

A new project currently underway at the Cardall Collection is to scan and put on computer the various very old (100 years or more) glass photographic negatives in the collection.

An appeal has now been launched to ask people (particularly the older generation) if they have any old glass negatives hidden away in lofts and if they would be prepared to donate them to the Collection, or alternatively, lend them so that the pictures can be captured. In either case, a copy of the pictures from the negative could be supplied to the owners on a CD or DVD so that they can see what the slides contain and have them printed.

Can you help? Please contact Bernard Cadogan 01926 613503 cardallcollection@hotmail.co.uk

TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT CONSULTATION UPDATE

In addition to the ground floor plan, the plan of the upper floors of the proposed development, which are predominantly residential units, are now available in Southam Library, the Grange Hall and at www.brooksmithplanning.com

These plans are subject to planners comments and the outcome of the Public Consultation.

CONSULTATION EVENT

This will take place at Southam Library on

- Tuesday 21st February 2012 between 3pm and 7pm
- Saturday 25th February 2012 between 10am and 1pm

SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETS ON THE FOURTH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

Thursday 23rd February 2012
Thursday 22nd March 2012
Thursday 26th April 2012
Thursday 10th May Annual Town Meeting & Mayor Making



Meetings take place in the Grange Hall, Coventry Road Southam and start at 7.30pm, with the exception of the Annual Town Meeting which starts at 6.30pm. Members of the public are welcome and may make representation to the Council at the start of the meeting.

GRANGE HALL ROOM HIRE

For all your functions, celebrations, meetings & workshops.

Licensed Bar Available
carole@thegrangehall.co.uk
www.thegrangehall.co.uk



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