

Southam Town Council Newsletter

APRIL 2014

www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & MAYOR MAKING

The Annual Town Meeting & Mayor Making will take place on Thursday 8th May 2014 at the Grange Hall.

Annual Town Meeting 6.45pm

Mayor Making & Civic Reception 7.30pm

You are invited to attend. Light refreshments will be provided following Mayor Making.



TOWN COUNCIL SURGERIES - NEW TIMES

Southam Town Council will hold surgeries in Southam Library, Brewster's Corner, Pendicke Street on the 2nd Saturday of each month from **10.30am to 11.30am**

No appointment is necessary and Councillors will be available to help and advise residents with their problems and queries.

Individual Councillor contact details are also available on the reverse of this publication.

PLEASE HELP KEEP SOUTHAM TIDY!

Despite a request to remove them, Circus Ginnett has left many of their posters around the town. I am removing them when on my morning walks but if you see any please take them down. Thank you

DOG FOULING

PLEASE do not permit your dog to urinate in shop or residential doorways and always clean up after it! Failure to pick up after your dog may result in a **£75 fixed penalty fine**. Properly wrapped dog waste can be placed in litter bins.

DOG FOULING ENFORCEMENT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL. PLEASE CONTACT THE DOG WARDEN ON 01789 260839 OR YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES.

Councillors A Crump 07899904189, J Ellard 07854141794 or D Wise 01926817951



INCONSIDERATE PARKING

Southam Town Council is receiving an increasing number of complaints regarding parking .

Please do not park on pavements and grassed areas or block access to property.

Please try to park thoughtfully and safely and without damaging verges. **PLEASE PARK LEGALLY**



SOUTHAM UNITED CHARITIES EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

Students who normally live in Southam and who need financial assistance to study at college or university in the next academic year are entitled to apply to Southam United Charities for help. Grants are normally awarded to students over 18 years of age pursuing a recognised course or undertaking an activity with educational value.

Priority is given to first time applicants, although all will be considered according to their circumstances.

Applications for educational grants are accepted annually from 1st June to 31st August. Application forms are available at www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk

Help may also be available to individuals in need of financial help where there is no other source of assistance available.

Applications for other assistance should be made in writing to:

John Rouse
Clerk to Southam United Charities
Olympus House
Olympus Avenue
Leamington Spa
CV34 6BF

Southam United Charities sole purpose is to help the residents of Southam who need assistance.

SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursday April 24th 2014
Thursday May 8th 2014 (Mayor making & Annual Town Meeting)
Thursday May 22nd 2014
Thursday June 26th 2014
Thursday July 24th 2014
August Summer Recess No Meeting
Thursday September 25th 2014
Thursday October 23rd 2014
Thursday November 27th 2014
December Christmas Recess No Meeting



Meetings take place in the Grange Hall, Coventry Road Southam and start at 7.30pm. Members of the public are welcome and may make representation to the Council at the start of the meeting.

NEW COUNCILLOR CO-OPTED BROWNS BRIDGE WARD

At the Council Meeting in February, Daphne Smith was co-opted to serve as Town Councillor for the Browns Bridge Ward.



As many of you will be aware, Councillor Smith is an experienced Councillor with a very keen interest in the condition in the Town.

Please see details of Casual Vacancy.

Contact details for all your Town Councillors can be found on the reverse of this publication.

TOWN COUNCILLORS

serve the town on a voluntary basis, they receive no allowances but may reclaim travel expenses if they travel to attend meetings outside the parish on behalf of the Town. In the last financial year the total travel expenses claimed by town councillors was £34.90

PARISH OF SOUTHAM

MILL HILL WARD

Casual Vacancy

Notice is hereby given that due to the resignation of Mrs A Forster a vacancy exists in the office of Town Councillor for the Parish of Southam Mill Hill Ward.

The vacancy will be filled by election if any ten local government electors for the said electoral area submit a written request to that effect in the manner prescribed below and if no such request is made the vacancy will be filled by the Town Council.

Any request for an election, to be held to fill the vacancy, must be in writing and must reach the Returning Officer, Stratford on Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 6HX not later than

Thursday 17th April 2014

Dated this.....28th day of.....March 2014
Signed : *D. CARRO* Town Clerk

PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED FOR 165 NEW HOMES IN SOUTHAM

SITE TO THE WEST OF COVENTRY ROAD



At its planning committee meeting on 12th March, Stratford District Councillors granted Taylor Wimpey permission for a residential development (up to 165 dwellings) (Use Class C3), highway infrastructure, footpaths and cycleway, public open space, landscaping, balancing pond and associated earthworks to facilitate surface water drainage and other ancillary infrastructure on land to the west of Coventry Road Southam.

Stratford District Council's planning committee voted in line with planning officers' recommendation that they give their consent to the application to build up to 165 houses on land to the west of Coventry Road. In its application, the firm stated that the homes would be a mix of two, three and four-bed housing as well as some one-bed flats, with 35 per cent of the homes classed as 'affordable'.

The District Council received only two letters of objection to the proposal, which stated that the scale of the development would put pressure on the town's infrastructure. One of the letter-writers threatened legal action unless a large physical screen is placed to the back of the estate.

Southam Town Council stated its support for the scheme, although it asked to be consulted on the design and construction of the recreational facilities at the site. District Councillor Jennie Ellard, Ward member for Southam spoke at Wednesday's meeting, urging those on the committee to vote in favour of it.

In the report to the committee, the District Council's planning officers had written: "The benefits of the scheme are significant and include the sustainable delivery of open market and affordable housing in a high quality development. The development will also provide much-needed affordable housing - a significant planning benefit in favour of the proposals due to historic significant under-delivery."

The permission was granted subject to a Section 106 agreement with Stratford District Council.

LOCALISM ACT 2011

ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE in SOUTHAM

Nominations for community assets can be made by Parish Councils or by groups with a connection to community. Individuals cannot nominate community assets. If the nomination is accepted, the group will be given time to come up with a bid for the asset when it is sold.

The right to bid only applies when an asset's owner decides to dispose of it. There is no compulsion on the owner of that asset to sell it. The scheme does not give first refusal to the community group, unlike the equivalent scheme in Scotland, and it is not a community right to buy the asset, just to bid. This means that the local community bid may not be the successful one.

Certain types of land, most notably residential property, are exempt from being placed on the register. Owners of property placed on the register may appeal against its listing and can claim compensation if they can demonstrate its value has been reduced. Also, certain types of transfer of land or assets do not count as disposal for the purposes of the legislation.

The scheme was brought into effect on 21 September 2012.

Following an application by Southam Town Council to Stratford District Council, the following are now on the list of Assets of Community Value

- Park Lane Recreation Ground
- The Peace Garden adjacent to the Grange
- The Grange Hall
- Tollgate Road Open Space
- Craven Lane Hall
- The Graham Adams Centre
- Merestone Park
- St James Parish Church & Churchyard
- Mayfield Road Open Space

The following areas could not be included on the list because the primary use is agricultural

- Land adjacent to the Holy Well Diocesan
- Land adjacent to Manders Croft

The following areas could not be included on the list because the land is not accessible to the community.

- Lilly Smith Memorial
- The Parish Pound

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND COUNCIL MEETING PAPERS

can be viewed at Southam Town Council Offices at the Grange Hall between the hours of 9am and 12.30pm Monday to Friday.

Plans are also available online at www.stratford.gov.uk or www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk



GRANTS

The Local Government Act 1972 Section 137 makes provision for Town Councils to provide financial support for the benefit of residents of the Parish.

At its meeting in February, Southam Town Council awarded Section 137 grants to the following organisations.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Southam Lions Club - Poetry Competition | £1000 |
| Southam in Bloom - Plants | £2250 |
| Southam First - Southam Produce Show | £2000 |
| VASA - Support local service | £850 |
| Warwickshire & Northants Air Ambulance | £500 |
| Shakespeare Hospice - Support local service | £500 |
| Southam Carnival Committee - Free rides | £840 |
| Southam Christmas Lights Association | £2250 |

Local Government Act 1972 Section 2A Power to provide information and advice.

Citizens Advice Bureau - Support local service £750

The next round of grants will be considered at the September meeting. Grant forms are available on the notice board page of the Council website

www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk

REPORT FAULTY STREET LIGHTS

Telephone **01926 412515** or Text **LIGHTING** and the fault details including **town, street, column number** or the **location** in a maximum of 160 characters to **07950 081082** (standard network charges apply)

Please describe the location, including town, road name and the house or property nearest to the light and the nature of the fault. Leave contact details in case the inspectors need to contact you to clarify the exact location of the column. The number of the column is a black number on a white background facing the road and located at about eye level.

SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE EASTER CLOSING



The Town Council office will close at 1pm on Thursday 17th April 2014 and reopen on Tuesday 22nd April 2014 at 9am.

HAPPY EASTER TO SOUTHAM RESIDENTS

SAVE A LIFE—GIVE BLOOD

The next Blood Donor sessions will take place at the Grange Hall in the afternoon and evening of
1st May 2014, 3rd July 2014
4th Sept 2014



**TITHE LODGE
LIBRARY SITE
SOUTHAM**

Leadbitter, the developer of the town centre library site, is an associate member of the Considerate Constructors Scheme. The site is registered, receiving regular visits from CCS monitors to ensure performance in the following is improved.



- The neighbours
- The workforce
- The environment
- The community

www.ccscheme.org.uk

You can speak to the developers if you have a problem.

Project Manager: Gordon Dodd, 01926 814984
Gordon.dodd@Bouygues-uk.com

Site Manager: Andy Sampson, 01926 814984
Andy.sampson@Bouygues-uk.com

Please feel free to contact the team if you have any concerns regarding the project or if you need any information

GRANGE HALL

Room Hire
for
Weddings
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Christenings
Children's Parties
in fact



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

Contact Carole at The Grange Hall on
01926 813933
carole@thegrangehall.co.uk
www.thegrangehall.co.uk

**QUEEN TRIBUTE
MERCURY & MAY
Saturday 5th April 2014
8.00pm
Tickets £12**

| Contact Your Councillor | Ward | Telephone | E-mail | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Cllr Linda Tasker | Browns Bridge Ward | 01926 817426 | linda@priority-people.co.uk | |
| Town Mayor Cllr Jason Ward | | 01926 812796 | WAJAS3@AOL.COM | |
| Cllr Daphne Smith | | 01926 814430 | | |
| Cllr Chris Worsh | | 01926 817122 | cldr.chrisworsh@tiscali.co.uk | |
| VACANCY | Mill Hill Ward | Contact Town Clerk 01926 814004 | clerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk | |
| Cllr Jane Soni | | 01926 812966 | jrsoni@hotmail.co.uk | |
| Cllr Bransby Thomas | | 01926 812607 | bransbythomas@btinternet.com | |
| Cllr Lesley Smith | | 01926 813986 | smith.lesley47@hotmail.co.uk | |
| Cllr John Smith | | 01926 815658 | johnsatstc@aol.com | |
| Cllr Mike Gaffney MBE TD | | Merestone Ward | 01926 811028 | mike@mandggaffney.plus.com |
| Deputy Mayor Cllr Mark Willoughby | | | 01926 814257 | markjwillo@yahoo.co.uk |
| Cllr Eddie Thornley | 01926 259115 | | mail@eddiethornley.com | |
| Cllr Carol Pratt | 01926 812533 | | carolannpratt@yahoo.co.uk | |
| Cllr Victor Shepherd | | 01926 817010 | victor@shepherd3092.fsnet.co.uk | |

MAYOR: Councillor Jason Ward (Tel 01926 812796)

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