

**'A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME'**

**Business Advice on Twitter**

**Warwickshire County Council's Trading Standards Service** has launched its own business advice twitter as a quick and simple means to help provide Warwickshire businesses with information and advice.

Twitter will help Trading Standards Officers keep in touch with small and medium sized businesses. Officers will be able to provide the business community with help and advice and promote fair trading and safety.

The Trading Standards Animal Health Team are also hoping to use twitter as another means to communicate with the farming community.

Follow us at: [www.twitter.com/warkstss](http://www.twitter.com/warkstss)

**MAYFIELD PLAY AREA  
PROGRESS REPORT**

The funding has now been secured and the order placed for the new Mayfield Road play area for children under 12 years old.

Work is scheduled to be completed before the Jubilee Bank Holiday in June.



**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



**DOG FOULING**  
continues to be a priority for Southam residents.  
**PLEASE** clean up after your dog!  
You may be liable to a £75 fixed penalty **fine** if you fail to do so.



# Southam Town Council Newsletter

**APRIL 2012**

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



**SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL  
COUNCIL SURGERIES**

Southam Town Council surgeries for residents are held every second Saturday of the month from 10.00am to 12 noon.

Councillors are available at Southam Library between these times to talk to residents about issues affecting Southam; there is no need to make an appointment, just drop in.

Depending on the subject, Councillors may be able to provide information, advice or advise who else can help.

For more information contact Debbie Carro, Town Clerk at the Town Council Offices. Tel: 01926 814004

**CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL  
TOKEN SCHEME ENDS!**



The Concessionary Travel Token Scheme currently operated by Southam Town Council will cease on 1st April 2012.

**NO FURTHER TOKENS WILL BE ISSUED**

Tokens issued in previous years and used to pay Voluntary Drivers will be redeemed by Southam Town Council until 31st August 2012.

Anyone trying to use tokens with taxi, bus or train companies should check that tokens will be accepted before making a journey.

The Council has taken this decision reluctantly and is continuing in its efforts to establish a new scheme which will direct travel assistance to those residents most in need of help.

**SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL  
CASUAL VACANCY**

Following the resignation of Councillor Ken Romero, a casual vacancy for the Merestone Ward Southam was advertised on the 16th March 2012.

The vacancy will be filled by co-option at the Southam Town Council Meeting on Thursday 26th April unless any ten local government electors for the said area have submitted written requests for an election to Stratford District Council by the 5th April 2012

Anyone interested in becoming a councillor should contact the Town Clerk on 01926 814004

**LIONS FURNITURE SALE—FLY TIPPING**

If you wish to donate furniture to the Lions Furniture Sale please contact Robert Hamlett on 811991. The Lions only accept furniture which is in saleable condition. **Under no circumstance should furniture be left outside** the Coop store prior to the day of the sale. This constitutes **FLY TIPPING** and may result in prosecution.

If members of the public see anyone leaving furniture items there, they should call Ian de-Lancey on 01926 813737 who will notify the Police.

**JANUARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Council received applications from Mrs C Pratt and Mr R Barrington QPM for the vacancy in Mill Hill Ward Southam. A vote was taken and it was resolved to co-opt Mr Ralph Barrington. Cllr Barrington was sworn in and attended his first meeting in February.

Members resolved to make a financial contribution of £624 to Community Links Transport. The amount is commensurate with the use of the service by Southam Residents and, along with contributions from other parishes, will ensure the continuation of the service in 2012. Funds will be taken from the Concessionary Travel budget in April 2012.

Money was also allocated to a Speed Aware Initiative on Coventry Road, Warwick Street, Oxford Street, Banbury Road and Daventry Road. The initiative will give the Council important information to help manage speeding issues and future highways management.



Contact Your Councillor	Ward	Telephone	E-mail
Cllr Linda Tasker	Browns Bridge Ward	01926 817426	linda@priority-people.co.uk
Cllr Jason Ward		01926 812796	WAJAS3@AOL.COM
Cllr Les Hewer		01926 814180	alexhewer@gmail.com
Cllr Chris Worsh		01926 817122	cldr.chrisworsh@tiscali.co.uk
Cllr Ann Forster	Mill Hill Ward	07845997680	annforster@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr Jane Soni		01926 812966	jroni@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr Ralph Barrington QPM		01926 817837	ralph.barrington@btinternet.com
Cllr Lesley Smith		01926 813986	smith.lesley47@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr John Smith		01926 815658	johsatsto@aol.com
Cllr Mike Gaffney MBE TD Mayor	Merestone Ward	01926 811028	mike@mandggaffney.plus.com
Cllr Mark Willoughby		01926 811050	markjwilloughby@yahoo.co.uk
Cllr Dave Wise Deputy Mayor		01926 817951	wizzerdaj@aol.com
Cllr Dave Williams		01926 811443	davedel.williams@btinternet.com
Vacancy			

**MAYOR: Councillor Mike Gaffney MBE TD (Tel 01926 811028)**

**EDITOR: Councillor Ann Forster (Mobile 07845 997680)**

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

**SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETS ON THE FOURTH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH**



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.

**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**

A grant of £750 (under the LGA 1972 "power to provide information and advice") was made to the Citizens Advice Bureau by Southam Town Council to provide a room to continue the Southam Service on Tuesday mornings in the library.

To make an appointment to access this service call 01789 200136

For telephone advice call 844 855 2322

**STREET MAP**

SOUTHAM's new official street map and guide is available free of charge from the Town Council Office at the Grange Hall Southam. Why not collect a copy for your visitors?

**COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES**

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 Town Council business. In the last financial year many meetings were attended on the town's behalf but no travel expenses were claimed

**SECTION 137 GRANTS**

At its meeting in February, Southam Town Council awarded Section 137 grants to:

- **St Mary's Children's Club**  
to restore provision following a fire £500
- **Southam Town Carnival**  
to provide an activity free of charge on carnival day £840
- **Southam Cricket Club**  
contribution towards the provision of equipment for juniors £225
- **Southam & District Lions**  
contribution towards costs of poetry competition £1000
- **Carers Support Service**  
to support young carers in Southam £800
- **VASA**  
a contribution towards a community transport project £800
- **Southam in Bloom**  
provision of brick planters and a trough to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee £3000
- **Southam Area Action Group HS2**  
to inform Southam residents of the effects of HS2 £1000
- **Southam Church & Community Project**  
youth education in Southam £1000
- **Southam Christmas Lights**  
contribution towards a display at Christmas £2500
- **The Melody Makers Ladies Choir**  
contribution towards the purchase of a piano £400

**TRAVEL TOKENS FOR CHARITY!**

Do you have travel tokens hiding in your house that will not be used? Southam Town Council will redeem them on your behalf and donate the proceeds to a Southam Charity to be used to benefit the Town's senior citizens.



Bring your unwanted tokens to Southam Town Council Offices at the Grange Hall - Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

All current planning applications for Southam are available for the public to view either in the library as a paper copy or electronically on the Southam Town Council website at [www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk](http://www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk)

Your comments may be made to the planning authority, Stratford District Council, in writing or via the website [www.stratford.gov.uk](http://www.stratford.gov.uk)

Please copy all your comments to Southam Town Council. Email [clerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk)

**REPORT FAULTY STREET LIGHTS**

Telephone 01926 412515 Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm Saturday 9am to 4pm 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 nature of the fault and 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.

**THE GRANGE HALL  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**SATURDAY 21st APRIL 2012  
7.30pm**

**'A NIGHT WITH THE STARS'  
Frankie Valli /Bee Gees Tribute!  
Tickets £10**

**FRIDAY 18th & SATURDAY 19th MAY 2012  
7.30pm**

**Coventry Savoy Opera Society  
with  
Gilbert & Sullivan's  
'MIKADO'  
Tickets £9**

**FRIDAY 29th JUNE 2012  
7.30pm**

**'FAKE THACKRAY'  
'A witty, satirical & hilarious evening'  
Cropedy Festival August 2013  
Grange Hall Southam 2012!  
Tickets £9**

Licensed bar opens 7.00pm

Tickets available from The Grange Hall 01926 813933, The Coffee Cup, Southam 01926 812288 or on the door

**TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT**

Orbit would like to thank the many people who attended the recent Public Consultation events. There was a good turnout and they will consider all comments made.

Any further information can be found on the Brooke Smith Planning website under consultation [www.brookesmithplanning.com](http://www.brookesmithplanning.com)

Further opportunities for residents to have their say will occur once a formal planning application is submitted, both at the Southam Town Council meeting and directly to Stratford District Council, the planning authority.

**STRATFORD-ON-AVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**OFFERS FREE ATTIC AND WALL INSULATION**

Anyone in the Stratford-on-Avon district, including tenants, can have free loft and cavity wall insulation installed in a scheme that concludes at the end of April.

However, recipients must have less than 60mm of existing insulation and will only receive the measures for free if their wall cavity is smaller than 120 square metres or their loft is less than 80 square metres in size - otherwise, they will have to pay for the difference.

Contact Paul Chapman 01789 267575

**BLUE BADGE SCHEME**



The Blue Badge scheme provides a national range of parking concessions for disabled people with severe mobility problems who have difficulty using public transport.

The scheme is designed to help severely disabled people to travel independently, as either a driver or passenger, by allowing them to park close to their destination.

The national concessions only apply to on-street parking. They do not apply to off-street car parks, such as supermarket car parks, or privately owned roads such as those you find at airports.

You can get an application pack for a Blue Badge by contacting WCC Customer Service Centre. You can do this by:

Telephone 01926 410410  
Minicom 01926 412277

Letter to the address listed below  
Email [cscworkflow@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:cscworkflow@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Please **do not call in person** as the service is not set up to receive personal callers.

Warwickshire County Council, Customer Service Centre, PO Box 9 Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RR