

Sandhurst Parish Council - Chair's newsletter July

Hello everyone,

Well the first item to report was the tremendous turnout for the Annual Parish Meeting given the fact that we were in the middle of a mini heatwave and England were playing at the Euros. There were some interesting points discussed during an interactive Q&A session leading to some valuable ideas for the council to take away.

I am delighted to announce that Caroline Wood has been co-opted to the council, taking our number up to eight. The Speed Watch team has also seen an increase in numbers, with four volunteers joining the team.

If anyone would like to know how to use one of our six defibrillators located across the village, please let the clerk know on sandparishclerk@outlook.com . If there are sufficient numbers, Ken Hopkins, who services them for us, will run a course (subject to cost).

Do you walk or drive around the village unhappy with the amount of litter discarded on the verges and the roadside? Well we have two village litter picks planned for Saturday 7th September and Saturday 9th November this year. All equipment will be provided and more details will be available nearer the time. Not only do you have the satisfaction of knowing you're making a difference but you'll be rewarded with a bacon roll!

Major work is due to start on 5th August replacing all the equipment except for one set of swings at the Old Orchard play area. The area will need to be closed off for the duration of the works, which is approximately 3 weeks. We know that this isn't particularly good timing, however the whole process of choosing the equipment and the lead time for installation took longer than we anticipated. We were reluctant to delay the installation until after the school holidays as we didn't want to run the risk of losing the substantial grant money that we secured. We are however fortunate as a village to have an alternative play area on the Playing Fields.

After requests for outdoor adult gym equipment from members of the community, we are exploring this possibility. Photos of possible gym equipment were on display on polling day to canvas opinion and proved favourable by those that stopped by. Our next step is to identify a suitable location, most likely on the Playing Fields. To assist us, we will ask 2 or 3 providers/installers of this equipment for their advice. We will once again look towards a grant to allow us to fund this project.

I do have to sadly report of a lamb being attacked by a dog on the loose, requiring it to be put down. The vast majority of dog owners are very responsible when using our footpaths, but I would urge everyone to keep their dogs under close control, especially around livestock.

As always, thanks for reading and if you have any comments on anything in this report or indeed if you have any ideas you would like the council to consider please do email me.

Until next month,

Mark

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