

THE SAWSTONIAN

Information and news from Sawston Parish Council

SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013

by Eugene Murray, Chairman, Sawston Parish Council



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Your chance to question Parish Councillors, and to air your views and concerns on local issues. The meeting will be held in the Community Room at Spicers Pavilion, Cambridge Road, Sawston on Tuesday 7th May. 7.30pm start with refreshments available from 7.00pm.

BUS SHELTER

Using funding received from the development of Sindall's site on Babraham Road some years ago a new shelter has been erected at the London Road bus stop opposite Orchard House.

TREES

The removal of diseased trees identified in our 2009 survey is now complete. Horse chestnuts removed from Spicers Sports Field will be replaced by oak trees kindly donated by Sawston Free Church to commemorate their centenary. Other trees, including beech trees in the cemetery, have been replaced at no cost to the village through SCDC's Parish Planting Scheme.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Working with Icknield School Governors the Parish Council made an application through the County Council's Local Highway Improvement Scheme for a pedestrian crossing on Babraham Road with a pledge of up to £14,000 towards the cost. The application was successful.

A further application has now been made for a crossing on Link Road with a Parish Council agreement to part fund if approved.

CEMETERY

In an ongoing improvement plan the overgrown hedge encroaching on some graves in the original part of the cemetery has been removed and replaced with a wooden fence. To prevent parking on grass around the turning circle some hard standing spaces will be provided at the entrance to Huckeridge View.

LITTER BINS, SEATS AND SIGNS

A programme of replacing dilapidated litter bins is underway. All High Street bins have now been removed and larger green covered metal bins put in their place.

At the request of residents a seat has been placed along the cycleway between Sawston and Whittlesford.

Damaged village name signs on roads into Sawston have been replaced.

BONFIRE NIGHT

A huge crowd attended this annual free event provided by the Parish Council with assistance from the Air Training Corps Scouts, Bellbird PTA and the Rotary Club.

A bucket collection raised a record £1,156.30 to be used for local good causes.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND DONATIONS

During the past year financial support has been given to:

Sawston WI – to provide prizes for children's races at their Jubilee Fun Day.

MAGPAS – to support doctors attending accident victims.

St Mary's Church – to lay gravel in front of the church entrance.

Mary Challis Trust – for materials to decorate the interior of Challis House.

Sawston Rotary Club – towards the cost of road closures to ensure safety for runners and spectators on Sawston Fun Run.

Children's Summer Reading Challenge – encouraging children to visit Sawston Library and to read more books.

In acknowledgement of their assistance on bonfire night donations were also given to Sawston Scouts, Sawston Air Training Corps, St John Ambulance and Sawston Fire Brigade.

ALLOTMENTS

There are currently five plots available on London Road allotments. If you are interested in renting an allotment contact the Parish Council Office.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Annual Parish Meeting at Spicers Pavilion
Tuesday 7th May 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Circus Tyanna on Lynton Way Recreation Ground.

Wednesday 22nd – Saturday 25th May.

Bonfire Night Firework Display on Huckeridge Hill

Saturday 2nd November. Gates open 6.00pm with fireworks at 6.45pm. To ensure public safety Huckeridge Hill will be closed to traffic from 5.00pm until 9.30pm.

COUNCILLORS AND STAFF

Two Councillors, Jackie Smith and David Roberts, decided not to stand for re-election last May and John Reynolds gave his resignation in September. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking them for their service to the Parish Council and wish them a happy retirement.

Kevin Cuffley and Raymond Matthews were elected to the Council in May.

As our longest standing member Tony Orgee this year celebrates thirty years on Sawston Parish Council.

In May Simon Chapman resigned as Weekend Litter Picker and was replaced by Mark Reynolds

UNPAID WORK AND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT SCHEMES

During their Community Investment Project employees from Cambridge based Worldpay re-decorated the interior of Mill Lane Pavilion. Litter picks have been carried out by staff from locally based companies McDonalds and Morgan Sindall plc.

Under a partnership between Cambridgeshire Probation Trust and Cambridgeshire County Council highways maintenance teams offenders who have been placed on the Community Payback Scheme visit weekly to clear and keep tidy footpaths and verges.

SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Website www.sawston.org.uk

Parish Clerk – Mrs Jo Keeler

Senior Assistant Parish Clerk –

Mrs Gina Pack

The office is open 8.30am-1.00pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (closed to the public on Thursday).