

## SOUTHROP PARISH COUNCIL

### February 2022

Dear Residents

Welcome to the first SPC newsletter of the year and we hope it finds you well.

#### Springtime

Your thoughts will now be turning towards Spring and the delights of better weather and getting out and about a bit more. It is, therefore, a good moment to pass on a reminder from local farmers to be mindful of the lambing season, which is beginning now. It is so important to keep your dogs under close control, preferably on a lead, when walking through fields of sheep. And a gentle reminder that farmers are within their rights to shoot dogs found to be worrying sheep. No one wants that to happen and it is so simple to just pop your dog on a lead until you are well away from any livestock.

It is unfortunately also necessary to mention again about picking up after your dog. To the majority of people who always do this as a matter of course, it is difficult to understand the thoughtless minority who do not bother. It is not only disgusting to see but also unhealthy for humans and livestock alike. Many dog walkers think that leaving their pet's excretions in nature will not do any harm, however this is not the case and can actually damage the biodiversity of an area due to the high levels of nitrogen and phosphates which leach into the soil.

All of our local walking areas are affected - Jubilee Close, pavements throughout the village, footpaths through Thyme and across the fields at the back, the path beside the school, the path behind The Farriers.... There are adequate bins around the village to deposit the poo or just take it home with you and put it in your own grey refuse bin.

It is of course possible that the culprits will include visiting dog walkers but our community has a right to expect its own residents to be responsible dog owners.

#### Highways

After two years, the safety fence on the bends has finally been replaced. Our persistence paid off!

We continue to have a dialogue with Glos Highways and as a result, the stretch of road from the bridge up to The Swan is due to be resurfaced, hopefully in the early part of the new financial year. We are working on trying to get the rest of the village resurfaced in the near future.

#### Parking near the school

Discussions have taken place with Thyme regarding the number of cars parked along the road past the school which do not belong to residents or members of the school community. They have reiterated to their employees that they must park in the staff car park on Thyme property and not on the road.

#### Litter pick 2022

This year's litter pick is going to take place on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd April. Meet at 10 am outside the Swan and you will be provided with litter picking sticks and black rubbish sacks and allocated a stretch of road to do. This is such an important date in the village calendar and makes a huge difference to our local environment, so please do come along and volunteer to help, even if you can only manage an hour or so.

#### As life begins to return to normal.....

Please continue to make use of local facilities. The Wednesday morning village shop and post office in the village hall is a marvellous resource, supplying all the essentials, plus wonderful fresh produce and bread, not to mention the homemade cakes for the coffee morning! Opening time 8.45am to 11.30am.

A mention should be made of the Cotswold Chippy which comes and parks in the village hall car park every other Thursday from 6pm. Some villagers are expressing concern that they are considering dropping Southrop from their schedule as their clientele has dropped off over the last few months and it is becoming unviable. If you don't want to lose this local service, do treat yourself to a fish and chip supper! They advertise when they are due in Southrop on their Facebook page and on their website [www.thecotswoldchippy.co.uk](http://www.thecotswoldchippy.co.uk)

### [Platinum Jubilee Weekend - Save the Date!](#)

As you will no doubt be aware, there is to be a four-day weekend to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June. Southrop has a long tradition of celebrating royal events and we want this to be no exception! It is also high time we had a party after such a long period of struggle with lockdowns and restrictions.

The idea is to collaborate with all village organisations to put on a series of fun events to appeal to all ages, staged at various locations throughout the village. Plans are in the early stages but it is envisaged that the weekend will include a free BBQ, a treasure hunt, a special service of thanksgiving, events at the village hall with refreshments and a picnic at Jubilee Field with family fun sports. The village photographic archive will also be on display, which is really fascinating to see.

These celebrations have traditionally been recorded with a village photograph. The time and place will be publicised and we will hope for 100% turn out to make the 2022 photo really special!

We will be back with full details nearer the time but please put the weekend dates in your diaries for what we hope will be a community event to remember.

Your Parish Council

Tim Guest   Rod Jones   Russ Giles   Peter and Cathy Brickley