South Wootton Parish Council

 24 Church Lane

South Wootton

PE30 3LJ

March

2015 Newsletter

Dear Parishioner

After many years of long and loyal service, our parish handymen, David Bird and Ken Plummer have both retired. I would like to thank them for all their hard work in keeping the village looking neat and tidy and wish them a very happy and healthy retirement. You may be aware that over the past eighteen months we have shared the appointment of an apprentice handyman, Ryan Harrowing, with the Borough Council. During that time, Ryan has worked under the supervision of David and Ken and proved himself a willing and able learner. Having now completed his apprenticeship, I am pleased to say that we have appointed Ryan as our full time parish handyman to replace David and Ken. Ryan’s duties will also include work on Wootton Park. For occasions, such as holidays or sickness, we hope to provide back-up for Ryan by having a pool of casual labour to work on an ‘as and when required’ basis. Anyone interested in such work, please contact the Parish Office for details.

**Parish Precept 2015 -2016**

In January, the Parish Council met to approve projects for the coming financial year starting in April 2015 and to set the budget and Precept. Once again, we have been able to achieve a small reduction in the Precept without affecting the level of services provided. The new Precept equates to £58.42 for a Band D property, which is 28 pence lower that the current year.

**Parish Assembly**

The annual Parish Assembly will be held on **Friday, 10th April at 7.00 pm** in the village hall. Please come along to meet your parish councillors and raise any issues or concerns that you may have.

**Neighbourhood Plan**

The final document of South Wootton’s Neighbourhood Plan (The Plan) has been produced and I would like to thank all the members of the Project Group for their hard work over the past two years in preparing the document. The Plan is now with the Borough Council before being submitted to an Independent Inspector for examination and approval. As explained previously, once approved by the Inspector, the final document will be sent to all residents and the Borough Council will organise a referendum. In the referendum, an approval level of at least 51% is required for the Borough Council to adopt The Plan and incorporate it into its own Local Plan. I will keep you informed of progress.

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**Local Development Framework – Proposed New Houses**

I should like to thank all those residents who supported the Parish Council during the recent consultation period by writing or emailing the Borough Council in response to the pre-submission document’ ‘Site Allocations and Development Management Policies’. We await the outcome.

**Post Office Re-location**

Following the recent consultation, the Post Office has confirmed that the village post office will be re-located to the Talking Heads premises at Priory Court, St Augustines Way. At the present time, we do not have a date for when the new premises will be opened, but it is most likely to be sometime in May. In addition, it is anticipated that the car parking area there will be re-surfaced in the near future.

**Pedestrian Crossing**

Norfolk County Council Highways have indicated that a new pedestrian crossing on Castle Rising Road has been included in their plans for the financial year 2015 – 2016. It will be located at the bus stop near Oak Avenue. To accommodate the crossing, the bus stop will have to be moved a few metres to the south along Castle Rising Road but the bus shelter will remain in its present position.

**Dog Fouling**

We have received numerous complaints regarding dog fouling particularly in the Sandy Lane area. Once again, I would ask dog owners to clear up their dog’s waste and deposit in the bins provided.

 **May Elections**

Just to remind everyone that Parliamentary, Borough Council and Parish Council elections are due to take place on **Thursday, 7th May 2015**.

**Open Gardens**

South Wootton in Bloom are hoping to hold an Open Gardens event on the afternoon of Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June. This event is a successful fund raiser and is enjoyed by many people both from the parish and visitors. We need, however, people in South Wootton to volunteer to open their gardens. It does not matter whether yours is a large or small garden and SWiB would be happy to offer you advice. If you are willing to open your garden please contact Margaret Albinson, 01553 670241.

Yours sincerely

David Price

Chairman of the Parish Council

Parish Office Tel:

01553 671692

Opening Times:

Each weekday morning between

9am—11am

Except Wednesday

Email address:

swpc@hotmail.co.uk

Website:

**Southwootton.norfolkparishes.gov.uk**

**Parish Councillors**

Mr D Price 675807

Mr D Steward-Brown 675340

Mr J P Smallwood 675684

Mr M Narborough 673660

Rev D Tate 672474

Mrs M Albinson 670241

Mr D Gerrard 674665

Mr H Hofmeister 673120

Mrs D Gotts 676043

Mr I Jordan 670228

Mr A Evans 673367

Mrs T Banks 672303

Mr B Clapham 675773

Mr R Williamson 671486

**Clerk to the Parish**

**Council**

Mrs T Cornwell

**Assistant Clerk**

Mrs M Kirby

**Borough Councillors**

Mrs E Nockolds 670264

Mr N Daubney 630479

**County Councillor**

Jason Law 01485 524217