Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to report on the following subjects.

**Proposed Housing Developments.**

The small development of approximately 50 properties by Clayland Homes, on the south side of Grimston Road, has been approved by the Borough Council.

The developers of the other three major developments, at Grimston Road, west of Hall Lane and west of Nursery Lane, are in discussions with the Borough Council and the Highways Department of the County Council with regard to the impact on the local road network.

At the beginning of August, two members of SWPC Planning Committee, along with members from North Wootton and Castle Rising Parish Councils, our Borough Councillors and a local resident, met informally with Mr Tom McCabe – Executive Director of Community and Environment at Norfolk County Council – to discuss the implications of the proposed developments on traffic congestion along Grimston Road/Low Road/Edward Benefer Way. It was stressed that the individual sites must not be considered in isolation but that the proposed developments should be looked at as a whole. Subsequent feedback has confirmed that the NCC Highways Dept is in discussion with the developers to achieve an overall view of the impact on the local road network. They believe that the key restraints will be at a number of the critical junctions, as compared to the highway links between them and will seek agreement with the developers to contribute to the mitigation/improvements needed.

**Village Hall Caretakers**

Mr Ray Jarrett, who has been the Deputy Village Caretaker for many years, has decided to retire. Following Mr Jarrett’s retirement, Mr Tony Walker, our long-standing Caretaker and Booking Officer, has requested that he steps down to the Deputy Caretaker role. This leaves the position of Caretaker and Booking Officer vacant. The Parish Council will shortly be advertising the post in the local papers and in the Church Contact magazine. The advertisement reads as follows:

 South Wootton Parish Council are looking to

appoint a Village Hall Caretaker/Booking Officer.

Varied working pattern and a flexible approach to

work hours is essential to cover the full week.

This position is a salaried post.

Please send full CV to: South Wootton Parish Council,

24 Church Lane, South Wootton, King’s Lynn PE30 3LJ

Email: info@southwoottonpc.co.uk

For more details please phone 01553 671692

Anyone interested, please contact Mrs Tracey Cornwell at the Parish Office for further details.

 **Parish Council Vacancy**

The Parish Council Policy Committee recently interviewed Mr David Irwin for the one remaining vacancy on the Parish Council. Afterwards, they proposed that Mr Irwin be offered the position, which will need to be approved at the October Parish Council meeting.

**Village Hall**

Plans for the extension to the Village Hall to provide additional storage space have been approved by the Parish Council. It is anticipated that construction should begin very soon.

 **Bus Shelters**

Three new bus shelters have been installed this month at St Augustines Way, opposite Castle Acre Close, Grimston Road, outside Asda and Grimston Road, opposite Sandy Lane.

**Beer Festival**

Despite rain spoiling attendance on the final day, this year’s Beer Festival was regarded as a great success by all who attended. After last year’s complaints about excessive noise, the introduction by the Parish Council of a Policy with rules for conducting events on The Green and the co-operation of the Round Table organisers, the event passed off peacefully. There were some minor complaints, which will be dealt with assuming the event will continue next year.

**South Wootton in Bloom**

Congratulations to SWiB in this year’s Anglia in Bloom competition. The village received a Gold Award but also was judged the ‘Most Consistently Improved Entrant over Three Years’. In addition, the Infant School won the ‘Grow Your Own’ Award and the Junior School were nominated (i.e. in the top six) in the ‘Young People’s Project Aged Under 12’ category. Wootton Park also received the Biodiversity Award. Quite a haul of Trophies!

Many thanks are due to the small group of volunteers who work hard throughout the year, to look after our village.

Your sincerely

David Price

Chairman of the Parish Council

Southwootton.norfolkparishes.gov.uk