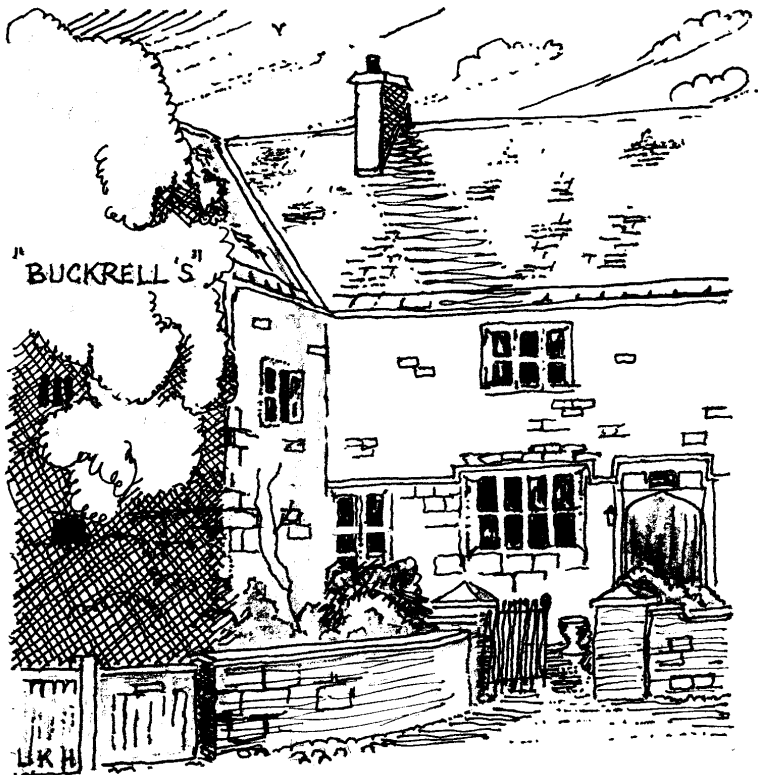


THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

June 2020



Village Footpaths—Centre Pull-out

Takeaways & Home Deliveries

available 7 days a week

Lunch & Evenings
12.00pm – 2.00pm
6.00pm – 8.00pm

We also have small pop up shop with
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Large Fruit & Veg boxes
available to pre-order
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Daily Menu on our
 Facebook page
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Call us to order

01460 52413

We would like to encourage our
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Thank you & stay safe!

New Inn, Dowlish Wake
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The Seavingtons' News

One of the perks of the editor of the Seavingtons' News is the access to a complete set of the magazines from its inception up to the present day. Thus, I learned that, in November 1980, three ladies organised a jumble sale which raised £78.85p towards starting a village magazine which was launched the following month in December 1980. These three, Mesdames Alexander, Jack and Spencer then served as joint editors and established the principle of free delivery to each household in the villages.

By the following month they had attracted six advertisers and the infant magazine began to increase in size and mature. However, it was realised that more substantial funding was needed to ensure longevity and the villages organised a waste paper collection regime which culminated in a local company, Martock Waste Paper, providing the monthly skip with which we are familiar.

However, the national move to encourage recycling saw local government intervene as an intermediary and the potential financial growth of recycling businesses saw the industry consolidate and Martock Waste Paper was taken over by Viridor which, later, itself became the subject of a take over.

Now we find that the market price of waste paper has decreased and it is unattractive for Viridor to maintain our monthly skip. We had hoped for one final skip in June but, because Viridor cannot guarantee proper Covid-19 social distancing as we load the skip, they are unable to deliver one.

We are trying to interest another waste contractor in taking over the service but, in the meantime, there will be no more monthly waste paper skips. We have enough reserves to continue the magazine for the short term but may have to look for new financing mechanisms in the future, particularly if advertising revenue falters.

Please see the following page for details of home delivery services operating in the Seavingtons, including ready prepared meals.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

**The Latest Copy Date
for the next issue**

is the 20th June

Editorial content and diary entries to:

David Froome, Middlefield Barn, Church Lane, Seavington St Mary, Ilminster,
TA19 0QP Tel: 01460 249445; e-mail: news@theseavingtons.org

Home Deliveries & Take-away

For those faced with self-isolation or otherwise unable to leave their home a number of local businesses have offered to make home deliveries. Please contact the businesses directly to order:

- ◇ Seavington Community Shop—for groceries etc call 01460 249730
- ◇ Bonners the Butchers & Deli—call 01460 52465 or e-mail: sales@bonnersthebutchers.co.uk. You may also order from their web-site: www.bonnersthebutchers.co.uk
- ◇ P B Fruit of Ilminster—for fruit & vegetables call 01460 52180
- ◇ Ilminster Home Hardware—call 01460 52506
- ◇ Silver Street Dairy, Ilminster—call 01460 52502
- ◇ Wine World Ilminster—call 01460 55512

A number of local eateries are offering take-away and some are offering delivery in the Seavingtons. The list below gives details of our nearest businesses offering this service.

- ◇ Seavington Community Shop & Café—Take-away and home delivery service available until the shop closes and ordered before 1.30 pm. Menu in April Seavingtons' News and on village web-site: www.theseavingtons.org; to order telephone: 01460 249730.
- ◇ The Volunteer Inn. Meals for take-away or home delivery including Sunday roast. If requiring a roast please phone on the Thursday before. Also five pint takeaway pouches of home-brewed beer; telephone 01460 240126.
- ◇ New Farm Restaurant, Over Stratton. Offering take-away and home delivery in the Seavingtons for ready to eat and frozen meals. The menu is available at: www.newfarmrestaurant.co.uk; orders should be placed by telephone on: 01460 240584.

- ◇ The New Inn, Dowlish Wake. Offering take-away and home delivery. Delivery to Seavington costs £2. Menu is available on web-site: www.newinn-ilminster.com and to order please telephone: 01460 52413.
- ◇ The Lopen Raj. Offering full menu of Indian and Thai dishes as take-away or free delivery to Seavington. Menu available at: www.lopenraj.co.uk and orders may be placed by 'phone on: 01460 242566.

St Michael's Church, Seavington

Due to the Coronavirus Covid-19 lockdown there are no services at St Michael's Church at present.

The Seavingtons' Weather in April 2020

This year—2020

Previous year—2019

Temperature

Average Minimum	4.84°C	4.44°C
Average Maximum	17.33°C	14.73°C
Mean	11.09°C	9.58°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	43.7 mm (1.75")	67.6 mm (2.70")
Total for the year	322.0 mm (12.88")	231.5 mm (9.26")

The sunniest April on record

Advertising Rates

	Annual	Monthly
Full Page	£ 100	£ 12
½ Page	£ 50	£ 6
¼ Page	£ 28	£ 4

Advertising enquiries to: adverts@theseavingtons.org

Idle thoughts of a shop volunteer.....

Andrew Sutton (01460 249338)

Now that we are more than four weeks into the Corona virus lockdown, it has been heartening to see how well the volunteer community in Seavington has rallied round our store and café, and also how enthusiastically the wider community have demonstrated their support and appreciation for the services provided.

For obvious reasons, a number of our normally very committed volunteers -those over 70 and those with underlying health conditions- have had to curtail their volunteering until the crisis is over and for this reason we have had to cut down our opening hours somewhat but we have been seeing such high sales and footfall, that we have already expanded upon our first amended timetable, such that we are now able to open from 8.30 until 2.30 p.m.

The delivery service that we have put into effect has also proved to be a lifeline for some of our residents, particularly when supermarket deliveries are proving so hard to obtain. We have many people in the village who immediately volunteered their services to provide the deliveries. The new virtual voucher scheme that we have begun to offer has also been a real success.

It is important to stress how vital has been the hard work, initiative and commitment of two particular volunteers; Pauline Woodward and Di Bale, who have both gone to extraordinary efforts to maintain and refresh our supply chain such that throughout the lockdown we have never run out of those basics such as bread, flour, pasta, rice, milk and toilet rolls when the larger supermarkets have struggled. These two remarkable women have worked so hard to keep the store stocked that they deserve the thanks and respect of the whole village. If you see them, please express your thanks.

It is also very important to mention Jane and Lorraine in the café. Although the café has had to close according to government regulations, they have worked tirelessly to provide a delicious and nutritious variety of takeaway food that have proved to be incredibly popular.

Another positive spin off from the difficult situation that we now find ourselves in, is the number of villagers that have previously not really availed themselves of the services provided by the shop and café for whatever reason, that are now becoming fast and loyal customers. These new customers are very welcome and our earnest hope is that they will

continue to use the shop and café so enthusiastically once the crisis is over and that furthermore, some might even feel inclined to come and join our happy band of volunteers. It is not an exclusive club and we always welcome new blood to our team.

Despite the grave situation that we are in, it has actually been refreshing and rewarding to see the village pull together so well and to see how very positive and appreciative our loyal customers have been.

Seavington Villages Oil Run

Nigel Key (01460 241540; oil@theseavingtons.org)

A much shorter report this month, because summer is nearly here. It is getting warmer, not much rain has fallen and the daylight hours are still growing.

The majority of people will have switched off the boiler, or using it for hot water only – so forget about oil for a month or two.

The next oil orders will be placed on Friday 3 July and Friday 2 October, but if you need oil sooner just give me a ring and I can organise it for you.

Enjoy summer

Thank-you All

Clive Reeves

May I belatedly thank all the villagers who visited me in hospital or later phoned or rang my doorbell to enquire about my wellbeing following my operation to repair my fractured hip.

Special thanks to near neighbours in Dark Lane both on the day it happened and since, without whom it would have been even more of a struggle. I am glad to say that things are gradually improving.

May I also take this opportunity to thank the staff of the shop and cafe who have been so helpful with deliveries of hot meals and other supplies.

Thank you all from Clive.

SID [Speed Indicator Device] Analysis

Andrew Doble

Firstly apologies for not providing this information sooner. As some of you will remember the SID was placed in Water Street almost opposite Sandal Cottage. Please note that a recording is of anything over 5mph so therefore cyclists and runners could be counted. The readings from this area are as follows:-

Period covered – 15th March to 2nd April.

There were 3,443 recording from St Marys to the shop ie going east and 2,812 recordings from the shop to St Marys ie going west.

The fastest recording was 66mph at 5.04pm on Tuesday 17th March.

Although these figures have proved that the Police would consider there is not a speeding issue on this stretch of road 24% were speeding when travelling west from the shop to St Marys and 31% were speeding when travelling east from St Marys to the shop.

Only 7% of vehicles were still speeding having gone through the SID so this shows that the SID was having an effect on the majority of drivers.

For the period 2nd April and 27th April the SID was repositioned in the 40mph limit close to Gummers Castle.

The readings from this area are as follows:-

26,907 recordings travelling east towards Lopen roundabout and 27,034 recordings travelling west towards Seavington St Michael.

The fastest recordings was 105mph at 12.06 [midday] on Thursday 23rd April 2020 travelling east towards Lopen.

The fastest recording travelling west towards Seavington St Michael was 102mph and this vehicle slowed to 85mph when passing the SID. [We doubt whether this vehicle consequently went through St Michael at 30mph!!]

The average speed recorded was 43.1mph which again is not deemed to be a problem by the Police.

However, 55% of vehicles were speeding west towards Seavington St Michael and of these 20% were still speeding after seeing the SID; 68% of vehicles were speeding travelling east towards Lopen roundabout.

The SID has now been moved back to its first position by Falcon Close and the readings from this will be interesting to compare with the first set we received – before Lockdown.

We Tried to Celebrate VE-Day 75 (despite Covid-19)

Pauline Parsons

Early on the morning of Friday 8th bunting started to appear on properties at the end of School Lane. There were also some bears having a tea party sitting on the garden wall.

So, at just before 3.00pm, despite all the village celebrations having to be cancelled some while ago, ten residents at the end of School Lane, joined by two from Sunnyside Farm joined the group of bears to toast the Heroes of WWII.

Chairs were brought out, along with our own refreshments and we could safely distance. [In fact a vehicle had to turn back as we were blocking the road!!!] Two of our group were teenagers when VE Day took place 75 years ago and in fact both had been evacuated as children during the war. Some of the others could remember playing on bomb sites several years after the war had ended.

The party did not completely break up until after 6.00pm and I am sure I can say for everyone we enjoyed having conversations and learning others history – stories which we probably would not have heard in any other situation.

A view from the field

Chris Gough – SPFA Chairman (spfa@theseavingtons.org)

Update on the Playground Equipment Installation

I am delighted to say that by the time the Seavingtons' News is published, the installation of the new playground equipment should have commenced. Our contractors will be on-site for probably at least three weeks and then the playground will have to be formally inspected and "signed-off". Once the grass seeded areas have been allowed to establish, we hope to be able to open the playground again in time for the start of the summer holidays. Of course, the re-opening of the playground will also be dependent upon any Government Covid-19 restrictions at the time.

Caravan and Motorhome Club Concert Band Rally

Unfortunately, again due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and continuing uncertainty regarding leisure travel and social distancing, the Caravan and Motorhome Club Concert Band rally to be held on the playing field has had to be cancelled. This also means that the village concert scheduled for Saturday 1 August will not be going ahead. I am currently in discussions with the Band to see if it's feasible to reschedule the rally for next year or the year after.

Financial Viability of the SPFA

With the complete collapse of all hall and field bookings for the time being due to Covid-19, we have had to effectively "mothball" the hall and put everything onto a restricted "care and maintenance" programme. Fortunately, our prudence in maintaining a contingency fund has given us a buffer of approximately 18 months before running out of funds. It's also worth noting that all grants and gifts received for the Playground project have been on the basis that they are "ring-fenced" specifically for the playground and we are not allowed, either morally or legally, to divert any monies elsewhere.

However, I'm delighted to announce that under the Government's Covid -19 Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund scheme we have been awarded a one-off grant which means that the financial viability of the SPFA should be secured for many years to come. This is

a fantastic outcome for our local community and perhaps one of the only good things to come out of this pandemic.

My fellow Trustees and I now need to discuss and fully understand how to manage and “ring-fence” this RHL grant award so that it is used to sustain the SPFA through what I am sure are going to be some lean years ahead in terms of bookings once this pandemic is over and the hall can be used again.

As always if you have any questions or comments, I can be contacted using the email spfa@theseavingtons.org

Seavington Playing Field Association – the independent organisation that owns and maintains the Millennium Hall and Playing Field on behalf of the local community. Charity No: 268986



Seavington Gardening Club

Karen Day (01460 249728)



Considering the current situation we have been forced to make further changes to our 2020 programme. Please see the amendments below:

Saturday 8 th August	Flower Show	Cancelled
Thursday 13 th August	Evening garden visit	Cancelled

We also have some sad news to share. Our September speaker, Neil Lovesey, has sadly passed away after a long and brave battle with cancer. He was an extremely popular speaker and had spoken on many occasions to our club. We also had a wonderful visit to his garden and nursery in 2016. A sympathy card was sent to his family on behalf of Seavington Gardening Club.

At present we have decided not to actively seek another speaker for our meeting on Thursday 17th September. We will review the situation nearer the time.

At present we have decided to keep our programme from October in place and will keep you updated if there are any changes.

Over the counter

Marion Bennett (01460 249522)

Strange times, difficult times, unheard of times. How often we have all used these phrases since the lockdown started on March 23rd. One thing for certain is that times HAVE changed. Retail HAS changed. At the Shop we have had to make changes very quickly.

I think it's worth quoting from an update which Ian (our Chair) sent out recently to volunteers -

"As we walk around the village on our daily walks I am always being told how wonderful the shop is – “a lifeline”, “brilliant”, “nothing but praise”, “what a wonderful place we have”, “what brave souls we have” and so on. This gives me a tingle of emotion and pride in what you are all doing."

Praise indeed and it's wonderful to know that so many villagers and visitors from the wider area appreciate the fantastic village amenity we have and the "over and above" efforts being made to keep the Shop open and stocked. When the lockdown started what emerged straight away among the staff and volunteers was the overwhelming feeling that it was important, now more than ever, to be able to serve and support our community, as we have been doing for the last ten years. Thanks to the "youngsters" and the willingness of our staff to be flexible we are able to stay open for most of the trading day.

In the Shop our purchasers have worked extremely hard to keep our shelves filled, searching for alternative suppliers when our usual ones were unable to offer the items we needed. They have managed to maintain a supply of staples, including fresh fruit and vegetables, bread, milk and larder essentials. The Café has been closed but Jane and Lorraine have kept us supplied with an excellent range of take away meals including beef bourguignon, sweet and sour chicken, sausage casserole and vegetable curry. What's not to like?

Remember we are offering **free home delivery** within The Seavingtons. Just ring the Shop (01460 249730) to order your shopping and arrange payment and it will be brought to your door. Alternatively you can use

the **ring and collect** service. Ring the Shop to place your order and it will be ready for you to collect yourself. No need for anyone to go hungry or to have to miss out on wine o'clock!

Many villagers have used the Shop for the first time during this crisis and we do hope they will continue to support us when life returns to some semblance of normality. Our Shop will offer more variety than ever and the Cafe will again be open for just a coffee, a snack or meal and, of course, a chat! We look forward to seeing all of you.

Our PCSO's Contact Details

Anyone wishing to contact our PCSO should call Mike Bell 07562 437387.

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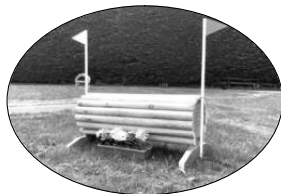
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Find us on Facebook  @ Richard A Hunt Garden and Equestrian

Seavington St Michael : 07841 595007



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Details of future productions, auditions & membership can be found at www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk or call 07943 779880. Tickets can be purchased through the website or in Harrimans Menswear, Silver St, Ilminster.

The Warehouse Theatre is temporarily closed as a part of the precautions to reduce the spread of Coronavirus Covid-19. Once the Government has reduced or removed the restrictions on places of entertainment we will be publishing our new programme.

In the meantime, we thank you for your past support and look forward to entertaining you in the future.



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YOUR COMMUNITY SHOP AND CAFE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

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A WELL STOCKED SHOP!

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UNABLE TO COME INTO THE SHOP?

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We're here to help but please keep yourselves and our volunteers safe.

Please be patient if you have to queue and please observe social distancing rules.

Shop - Monday to Saturday 8.30 - 2.30. Cafe - Take away - please ring to pre order

**SEE OUR WEBSITE www.theseavingtons.org/community/village-store-and-cafe
Water Street, Seavington St Mary TA19 0QH tel: 01460 249730**

St Margaret's Support Groups Taunton and Yeovil

St Margaret's Support Groups are open to anyone affected by a life-limiting illness – patients, their families and friends. As well as providing an opportunity to meet others in similar situations, our trained volunteers can offer visitors:

a listening ear ◊ provide free information ◊ help signpost to other services
 The groups are run on a drop-in basis – there is no need to book or to be referred

Or perhaps you would like to become a volunteer to help run these groups?

**St Margaret's Hospice, Taunton TA1 5HA Thursdays 2pm-4pm
 Octagon Theatre, Yeovil BA20 1UX 10.30am – 12.30**

For further information please contact Lesley Burgess
 E-mail: lesley.burgess@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk; Tel: 0845 070 8910

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Hedgehogs in Seavington

By Karen Day (01460 249728)

Last Autumn, as we let our dog out for his late-night constitutional, we discovered a spiky visitor in the garden – a hedgehog in Seavington. This was the first hedgehog we had seen since living here and the first hedgehog we had seen for many, many years.

Hoping to help him through the winter we left out dog food, water and even bought him a hedgehog home, which he shunned! We waited with bated breath to see if he came through the winter and sure enough from early April we started seeing signs that he was out and about. Then one evening in late April we were lucky enough to see him again.

These wonderful spiky creatures are in serious decline, it is estimated their numbers are down by half in rural areas and a third in urban areas since 2000. This has been largely due to loss of and damage to suitable habitats which deprives them of both food and shelter from badger predation.

You can help hedgehogs by making sure your garden is attractive to them by leaving compost heaps, overgrown areas and log piles. You can also put out a saucer of meat-based pet food which hedgehogs will treat as a welcome supplement to their normal diet of caterpillars, slugs, snails etc. Also ensure that a dish of water is available especially during the summer months or in extreme weather conditions. They are lactose intolerant so please do not leave milk out.

Try to avoid using slug pellets as these are poisonous to hedgehogs and birds alike. Garden ponds/swimming pools can be death traps to small mammals. Always ensure that there are several gently sloping slipways around the edge of the water to enable animals to escape if they fall in. Slipways may be made by half submerging bricks or rocks around the edges of ponds and pools. Alternatively, a piece of chicken wire can be hung over the edge like a scrambling net which hedgehogs can climb up to freedom. Keep the pond level topped up so that hedgehogs can reach the wire. Do remember hoglets will need a longer ramp than an adult hedgehog.

We have captured a short video of the hedgehog in our garden and have posted it on Seavington Gardening Club's Facebook page. One of our neighbours in Water Street has a video of two hedgehogs in their garden so hopefully we will all start seeing more of these wonderful creatures around our village and perhaps we will hear the pitter patter of tiny hoglet feet as the Spring progresses!

Our Lockdown

A Grandmother in Seavington invited two of her grandchildren to write to her detailing their lockdown experiences.

Joseph, aged 13, writes:

Lockdown has been really different to normal life. It's fun sometimes but it can get quite boring as well. At first, we played lots of football, but had to stop occasionally because all the balls had gone over the fence. I've been doing lots of baking and playing board games with my family, we do school work in the mornings and go for out exercise most afternoons. When it's rainy, we play board games and video games. Now that the tennis courts are open, we sometimes will go down there and play, there's normally lots of people about. I've been keeping in touch with my friends and even doing some family quizzes over zoom. They haven't run super smoothly but we are getting there! We have been doing PE with Joe on YouTube most mornings, before school starts, we have been on a few bike rides, some longer than others. Some days it's been quite hot, so I have just stayed in the back garden. On Saturdays we always do my Uncle's quiz, we've won one time, but it was very difficult. Most of my clubs have been cancelled but we still do Scouts over zoom, we made pizza last week (mine wasn't that great). Me and my brother also camped indoors one night as part of a Guinness World Record Challenge. I'm not sure when we will get back to normal, but I hope it's soon I'm starting to miss my friends, even though you can meet one person it still seems weird.

George who is 10 says:

Dear Grandma and Grandad,

I really miss going to Somerset and the hot chocolate at the village café and going to see my cousins, Joseph and Thomas. I hope you are all ok? Lockdown is getting very boring over here in Norfolk, what about you? Today I am allowed to go in the car to the beach and have a swim in the sea and walk on the sand. It is really annoying because I have nothing to do but I play on my PlayStation and play football with my brother. It is nice to see live football in Germany, I watched it yesterday. The NHS and others are really busy trying to keep us safe. Home-schooling is so different to not being at school it is hard because we have no presentation to help us and we can't see our teachers. We can't wait to see you after this is all over. Both Mum and Dad are working really hard and they are always on calls. Hope you are well

Love George xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Seavington Residents Who Served in WWII

Several months ago the Parish Council asked if anyone could provide names of anyone from The Seavingtons who had served in the Second World War. The list below has been compiled from conversations that Myra White [daughter of the late Sid Male] has had with her Uncle. Jim Singleton has also been mentioned but they were unsure in which service he served.

We are certain that this list is not complete and probably could have some inaccuracies as the person supplying the information is now in his 90's.

If anyone can give more details please let the Parish Council know either by ringing Pauline Parsons on 01460 240193, speaking to any Parish Councillor or e-mailing parishcouncil@theseavingtons.org

Thank you

ARMY	NAVY	HOME GUARD	SPECIAL CONSTABLES	BEVIN BOYS
Bob Burrows	Bob Ash	Ed Baker	Hubert Bonning	Bill Brown
Henry Clarke	Ken Ash	Harry Brake	Stan Hutchings	
Edgar Hawkins		Johnny Fouracres	Jack Jeffery	
Cyril Lawrence		Frank Male	Reg Rowsell	
Sid Male		Fred Male		
George Matthews		Reg Male		
Fred Swain		Wilf Male		
Ron Swain		Wilf Rowsell		
Willow Swain				
Bert Tolman				
Ern Tolman				
Cyril Wills				
Len Woodland				
Harry Lukin [later become Methodist Sunday School Teacher]				
Fred Case				

Parish Council News –May 2020

Pauline Parsons [parishcouncil@theseavingtons.org]

SID – has been moved back onto the C5021 west of Falcon Close. The first site that we used. It will be interesting to see the traffic speed data from this setting.

PLANNING - Although we reported last month that Planning Officers were working from home and that it may take longer than normal to deal with planning applications the Parish Council has had several to comment in the last few weeks. However, no hard copies of plans will be forwarded. All plans can only be accessed by going on to the SSDC Planning web-site. [www.southsomerset.gov.uk]

Planning Searches:

20/00984/HOU – Mr A Harker – Springfield House, Water Street, - Application to demolish existing single garage and for the construction of a double garage. [Parish Council had no concerns with the application and fully supported it. In fact the works could have taken place without formal planning permission.]

20/01205/FUL – Mr P Ash – Resubmission – Land at top of School Lane - erection of one new dwelling. [Parish Council had no concerns with this application and fully supported it.]

20/01232/REM – Mr M Hallett - Reserved matters in connection with the erection of 8 dwellings at the top of Upton Lane. Plans submitted for the structural landscaping around the perimeter of the site.

20/01310/HOU 0 Mr S Day – Amherst, The Pheasant, Water Street – Application for the erection of an extension to the front of the existing garage.

18/02609/FUL – Erection of units to aid the construction and storage of Carnival Carts. This application has been with SSDC since July 2018 and suddenly on the 23rd April we saw an e-mail where the Planner had written to the Agent asking for more documents and agreement to a further extension of time for a decision to be made. On the 13th May we were informed that plans had been received indicating that the red site line has been altered to include works to the main junction, and

additional correspondence and plans submitted to show highway improvements, altered design of the proposed building, reduced hardstanding/parking area and swept path analysis plan provided.

Unfortunately as far as the Seavingtons are concerned there are no proposed works to Park Lane and the junction with the C5021. All highway works are to be carried out on the Kingstone junction.

Your Parish Council is working closely with Kingstone Parish on this matter. Any resident who commented on this application in the first instance are asked to forward any concerns they still have to SSDC Planners.

For a few days it was difficult to download all of the documents submitted but we have been informed that all information is now available on the SSDC Planning web-site.

Both Kingstone Parish and ourselves are trying to get an extension of time for response. We feel that the time given is too short especially as the applicant has been given agreed extensions over the last 18 months. SSDC Planners are mandated to allow a 21 day local consultation period and the Parish Council is pursuing this.

FALCON CLOSE –We are still awaiting information from Somerset County Council with regard to the finishing of the area in front of the Close.

FOOTPATHS, BRIDLE AND RESTRICTED BY-WAYS – Following the article in the last Seavingtons' News the Parish Council has provided a copy of the footpath map and this has been included in this month's News. However, we would like to reiterate that all dog poo should be picked up and put in a poo bin or taken home. Also at this time when more people are using our footpaths for exercise dogs should be under control at all times.

SPFA AND COMMUNITY SHOP – The Parish Council has approached SSDC in trying to see if there are any Grants available from Central Government to help these village organisations during these difficult times. Parish Councillors would like to thank the Committee members, volunteers, home deliverers and everyone else who is helping to ensure that the Shop can continue to offer a more extensive range of goods and takeaways. Please support your local Shop.

Shepton Beauchamp Church School News

Charlie Pattisson (0460 241396)

Normally at this time of year we would have so many exciting things to write about. Sports Day, the School Fete, Summer outings and preparations for Pre School children getting ready to start school and our older children about to take the next step in their educational adventure.

Our school is still open for the children of keyworkers and functioning in a different way. Miss Middleton and Mr Rumbelow have been keeping the learning garden going and our tomatoes are now planted with the help of Alfie. The new hedging is thriving and the willow arch is having a new lease of life after its 'hair cut'! Some of you will have noticed that the play equipment and bike rack have disappeared from The Slope (area of grass next to school). The bike rack is now situated in the playground and the play equipment that could be reused has been reconstructed in the Rectory Garden. The Slope has now been returned to the Parish Council.

As we write the staff are putting large amounts of time and effort into plans to reopen the school to our Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 students. In preparation for this phased return the safety of the children and staff are paramount and parents will be fully informed of plans before school welcomes the children back. Hopefully the weather will remain sunny and dry and the curriculum can be based on outdoor learning.

Staff, pupils and parents continue to stay in contact through weekly lesson packs and telephone calls, The Federation Fortnightly is full of pictures of children having fun as well as jokes and news from teachers. We have been using the Class Dojo programme as it allows children to share their work with teachers, friends and parents.

FOSS (*Friends of Shepton School*). If you are shopping online you could raise some extra money for our school by logging onto www.easyfundraising.org.uk and entering Friends of Shepton Beauchamp Primary School (FOSS). Really simple to use and many large retailers such as Amazon, M&S and Next all make donations on your purchases. Thank you!

Thank you to all our staff, parents and children who are all doing so much to support each other and adapt to all the changes during these unusual times.

For more information please call 01460 240793,

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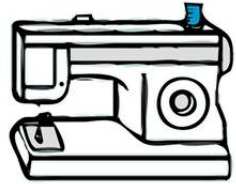
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Please do not hesitate to telephone David Froome on 01460 249445 if you have any questions.

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