

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

July 2020



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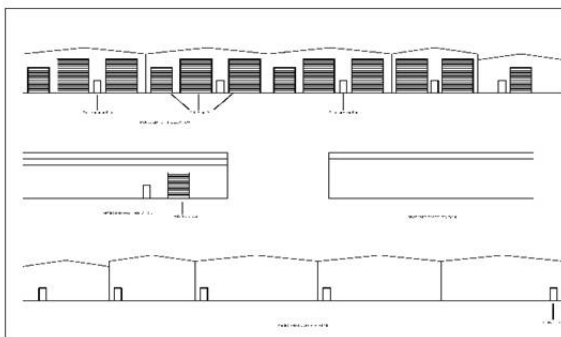
The Seavingtons' News

Kingstone & Seavington Industrial Park

I don't normally use headlines for this Foreword to our magazine but I do really want to attract your attention but our Parish Council wanted everyone alerted.

The SSDC planners appear to be bending over backwards to grant planning permission for five industrial units at the top of Scott's Hill where Kingstone and Seavington St Mary conjoin.

The application, by Ilminster Town Council, is to provide workshops, on the corner of the junction between Scott's Hill and Longford Lane, for Carnival clubs from a wide area to be able to



The proposed of the proposed buildings

construct their floats under stable conditions. It amounts to building an industrial park for the maintenance and construction of heavy goods vehicles in a rural area not zoned for industrial use. This is in contravention of national planning guidelines. There are properly zoned sites in Ilminster and elsewhere that would be more appropriate locations.

DON'T FORGET

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

is the 20th July

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

Further, the original planning application explains the amount of effort contributed by the members of the carnival clubs from which it is possible to calculate the number of car journeys that will be made. This amounts to some 80,000 car movements per annum, at least half of which could be expected to pass through the Seavingtons. We could expect 400 extra car movements each Saturday and Sunday.

As we know, the routes to the site through Seavington St Mary (New Road, Church Lane, Water Street and Scott's Hill) are narrow and already congested with parked cars and are, necessarily, used by large farm vehicles. The extra traffic will completely change the rural nature of our villages.

Parking provision in the application is also inadequate for the number of cars suggested by the application.

However supportive we are of the Carnival and sympathetic to the volunteers we cannot overlook the fact that the number of clubs has dropped from 22 to 7 over the past 20 years. Thus, there is a real likelihood that, within a short time, the site will be abandoned by Carnival and the buildings will revert to the landowner. The only use for the site then is as an already established industrial park.

There are already perceived irregularities in the way the planners have handled this application and, for Seavington, the matter is complicated by the fact that the Planning Committee involved excludes our District Councillors.

If you look at the SSDC planning web-site you will see that there have been hundreds of letters supporting the application, mainly from folk as far away as Sidmouth and Bridgwater who will be unaffected. Although there are objections from some residents of Kingstone and Seavington these are vastly outweighed by the coordinated support from distant supporters. The planners are understood to judge support & opposition by counting letters not considering their merits.

Our Parish Council and Kingstone Parish Meeting have tried to engage with the planners and breathe some sense into the handling of this issue. However, they appear to be faced with obduracy in spite of the

contentious and irregular handling of the application. Please see the Parish Council's report on page 6.

If you, our community and readers, care about this and the future of the two rural communities you should get involved now by writing or e-mailing the planners at SSDC after looking at the details on the web-site. Search for it under 18/02609/FUL.

David Froome

St Michael's Church, Seavington

Due to the Coronavirus Covid-19 lockdown there are no services at St Michael's Church at present. Please see page 8 for more information.

The Seavingtons' Weather in May 2020

This year—2020

Previous year—2019

Temperature

Average Minimum	7.14°C	6.14°C
Average Maximum	19.62°C	17.29°C
Mean	13.38°C	11.72°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	7.6 mm (0.3")	28.1 mm (1.12")
Total for the year	329.6 mm (13.18")	259.6 mm (10.38")

The driest May since 1990 which had 9.2mm & the Sunniest May on record

Advertising Rates

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

Advertising enquiries to: adverts@theseavingtons.org

Village Voice—letters to the editor

The Seavingtons' News wants to hear and publish your views on both the "News" itself and topics of importance or interest to our community. Please send your letters to the address on page 1. All opinions and views expressed are the sole responsibility of the writer and do not reflect the views of The Seavingtons' News. For legal reasons we must have the name and address of the writer but can normally publish over a pseudonym on request.

Dear Seavington,

There are still many residents of the Seavingtons who remain in lockdown for various reasons and I would like to say a massive "Thankyou" to all of you who have helped me get this far through it.

The support and kindness shown has been just unbelievable. Since day one of lockdown I've been taken on a virtual walk every morning without fail, with the wonder of technology. I've been "walked" all around the village with photos and videos . I've seen how gardens have burst into bloom and how they were decorated for the VE Day celebrations, all on my virtual tours.

On the VE Day Anniversary I had the most delicious Cream Tea magically appear at my door! The kindness of a neighbouring family, all home-made by them.

Two very dear friends have sent me on virtual days out, again with the wonder of technology !! I've been to Buckingham Palace and on safari at Longleat, what an adventure! All from the safety of my home! They have kept a check on me week after week, helping in so many ways.

I know we are all very grateful to everyone who has kept our Village Shop and Café going throughout this very difficult time. To those who have been scooting around the village delivering everything from a postage stamp to hot meals and everything in between.

The day to day support from neighbours has kept me on the straight and narrow, help in the garden, at a distance obviously, a friendly chat etc. and generally supporting and caring.

You all know who you are, and my heartfelt thanks goes to every one of you. If we have to be in lockdown we couldn't be in a better place than Seavington.

Jill Bolton

Dear Editor,

As farmers in the parish of Seavington St Michael we have worked hard over the years to provide permissible footpaths that are enjoyable to walk. Most of ours are a minimum of 2.5 meters wide, grassed & topped at least 3 times a year.

They do go around field edges where you can walk with ease, I also let people walk around fields that have no access.

The designated footpaths run diagonal across some fields & some come out onto dangerous parts of roads. These paths can not disappear as they are on definitive maps, if we reinstate them they will only be 1 meter wide & they do not have to be grassed & all dogs will have to be kept on a 2 meter lead or at heel.

People seem to think “The Right to Roam”! means they can walk anywhere. This only applies to National Parks not farm land which is privately owned.

Chris Reyland
Farmer.



Sheila Riley's Cortège passes the Millennium Hall and Community Shop
In these unusual times villagers stand along the route to pay their respects and say farewell because they were unable to join a conventional church service

Parish Council News

Pauline Parsons [parishcouncil@theseavingtons.org]

SID – Has been moved to Water Street opposite The Pheasant. Information from the Falcon Close site is as follows:

It was in place from 27th April until the 14th June. A longer period than the first installation. However, we have been in ‘lockdown’ for much of this installation. The number of vehicles travelling east towards Lopen was 70,517 [previous 60,859], travelling west towards Ilminster 105,746 [previous 81,947]. During this period the A303 Ilminster by-pass was closed on two occasions to our knowledge. The average recorded speed was 39.5mph [previous 37.4]. The readings also show that 71% of vehicles were speeding on entering the village from Ilminster but that 95% were speeding when leaving the village towards Ilminster. The fastest recorded speed was 108mph at 23.16hrs with the vehicle behind travelling at 100mph. I think that these figures prove that there has not necessarily been less traffic but that speeds have increased during ‘lockdown’ as being reported in many areas.

Planning:

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.] Approved by LPA [Local Planning Authority ie South Somerset District Council (SSDC)]

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.] Approved by LPA

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. Decision still awaited

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

20/01418/REM – Reserved matters in connection with application 19/01290/OUT – erection of one dwelling on land adjacent to Carpenters, West Street. – Parish Council fully supports this application. Awaiting decision from LPA

18/02609/FUL – Erection of units to aid the construction and storage of Carnival Carts. Due to problems with accessing all the new documents we managed to get an extension on the deadline for comments until the 10th June 2020. This gave us time to liaise closely with Kingstone Parish and other interested parties. If you access the LPA (SSDC Planning) website and search this application you will find comments received from local residents the majority of whom are against this proposal but there are many from people with connections to carnival from as far afield as Sidmouth, Midsomer Norton, Shepton Mallet, Honiton and many more, who of course are all in favour.

We are not against Carnivals but are against the thought that this was an ideal location for the building and storage of at least 5 large carnival floats. We have now submitted our concerns regarding this application. The proposal is for large industrial units in a rural area.

The rural roads that lead to the site are not fit for the traffic from such a development, and noise pollution. You can find all of our comments and many others on the SSDC website (search using the planning reference above) or search in Kingstone Parish. Part of our problem is that the site is within Kingstone Parish and also in Area West. [We are in Area North of SSDC]. We have also raised concerns that the application is in the name of Ilminster Town Council and that it has been on-going since July 2018.

We have temporarily moved our SID to the junction of Park Lane with the C5012 to assess traffic conditions affected by the proposal.

Falcon Close – Frontage - We have been chasing Somerset County Council in order to try and get this issue resolved.

Footpaths, Bridle and Restricted Byways:

We hope that you all have found the footpath maps published in the last Newsletter helpful.

SPFA AND Community Shop:

Parish Councillors were pleased to hear that both the SPFA and the Community Shop have benefitted from grants from Central Government as a result of Covid-19.

Parish Council Accounts for 2019-2020 have now been internally audited and can be viewed on the village web-site. Public examination of the records has been delayed until September as a result of Covid-19 restrictions.

Over the counter

Ian Gibson (01460 249566)

We don't know, if by the time this edition is published, that we may be able to reopen the café for use outside in the garden. If we are able to then Jane and Lorraine will be offering a good size menu of opportunity for all to share.

We must stand by the strict government guidelines when we do open and social distancing measures will be in place. Please keep to the rules, otherwise we may have to rethink the way we do things. We will welcome back all our regular customers who have had to isolate or shop elsewhere.

I must thank all our volunteers who have been absolutely brilliant in keeping the shop open during this crisis. We managed to survive where others have had to close, so a wonderful effort by them. Jane and Lorraine have produced great takeaways and Diane and Pauline kept the shelves stocked up and available to all. For those who have tried the shop, during the crisis, perhaps for the first time - then, please, keep with us. We may have surprised a few of you!

July is the birthday month for the shop, ten years old this year! In this issue you will find details of what is happening at the store, toned down a bit obviously, subject to rules, but we made it. Some suggested early on that it would be a damp squib, many have supported, for which we are immensely grateful. For those who gave support financially, in the way of bonds, then, we have paid everyone back with interest. Special thanks to the many who have donated their bonds back to the shop funds and kept us growing. We need to thank the local council for their grant funding from government sources acknowledging the work of the shop and café.

Let's hope we can celebrate the next ten years of growing and serving. We are here for the community so please make use of the facilities available to you all.

We look forward to a glorious summer and seeing you in the store.

St Michael's Church

Manda Jagers & Anne Shaw

We have taken the difficult decision to keep St Michael's locked at present as we do not have the resources to supervise and clean adequately between possible visits. If any of you wish to use the church for private prayer you are always welcome. Anne has the key and will explain the idiosyncrasies of

St Michael's locks! Please respect social distancing and touch as few surfaces as possible. There will be single use sheets of prayers and reflections for use, all hymn and prayer books have been removed temporarily.

If you do visit, you will notice the church looks quite different, some of this is temporary, but we have permanently removed some furnishings, books and papers that were past their best before date.

We hope to be able to hold an open air service in the next few weeks and we will be asking for help in the garden and to refresh the Children's Corner. We will be using this period to start work required from the last Quinquennial Inspection.

We both hope it won't be long before we can all worship together safely, in the meantime please take care of yourselves and each other (because that's what we do in Seavington, isn't it?)

During Rev Handy's continued absence, we are very grateful to Canon Gibson and Father Geoff Wade for all their help and support.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any help or information.

Manda Jagers: 01460 240554 & Anne Shaw: 01460 249156

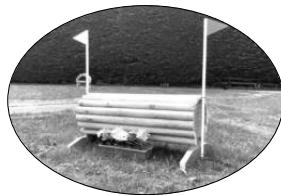
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Seavington St Michael : 07841 595007

Seavington Community Shop and Cafe
Tuesday 14th July
Happy 10th birthday!

Thank you to all the volunteers and staff who have contributed to the success of the Shop and Cafe throughout this time.

Thank you to all our loyal customers for your support and encouragement.

Sadly we can't have a party but to mark the occasion join in our

***Birthday Hamper
Draw***

Our volunteers, staff and customers on our birthday will have free entry to the draw. Prizes -

***a hamper for grownups and a hamper
for children***



***Here's to the next
ten years!***



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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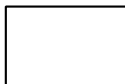
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SPFA Quiz - Code Letters

Example: **13UFS** = 13 Unlucky For Some

1. **101D** _____
2. **180HSWTD** _____
3. **3STH** _____
4. **24HIAD** _____
5. **7WOTAW** _____
6. **8DAW** _____
7. **57HV** _____
8. **12DOJ** _____
9. **20SIAP** _____
10. **T39S** _____
11. **3BM** _____
12. **99RB** _____
13. **8PITSS** _____
14. **1760YIAM** _____
15. **50WTLYL** _____
16. **90DIARA** _____
17. **C22** _____
18. **4WAAF** _____
19. **16OIAP** _____
20. **147MBIS** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. Number: _____

A bottle of wine will be awarded to the first correct entry drawn after the closing date (17.07.20). Completed competition entries should be placed in an envelope along with a £1 entry fee and posted to/dropped off at Chapel Court House, Seavington, TA19 0QN. All proceeds go to the Seavington Playing Fields Association. Visit <https://bit.ly/spfa-quiz> for more information.

Shepton Beauchamp Pre-School Update

Natalie Nolan (Natalie-Nolan@hotmail.com)

We are happy to announce that our lovely Pre-school will hopefully have re-opened by the time this is printed. The little ones have been missed by the staff and we believe it is very important for them to get back, if possible, providing it is thought to be safe for their families. We hope the lockdown has not had a negative impact on them and they have benefitted from spending more time at home with their families.

We would like to welcome our new Supervisor, Roxene who has been working hard to make it safe for us to open. She has carried out a thorough risk assessment and is ensuring we are all following the latest government guidelines regarding Covid-19. The staff will social distance from the little ones as much as possible, but we appreciate the children are too young to understand about keeping apart from each other. However, we only have a small number returning at present and we are fortunate to have plenty of space.

Although it is different from what they are used to, they are hopefully still benefitting from playing with other children. The toys are more limited but this sometimes allows more imaginary play to take place. We will also be spending lots of time outside in our lovely village hall garden.

We would like to say goodbye to our older children who are moving on to start school in September, they will be missed. And we wish them well.

For more information please call Roxene or Kath 07765 437301 or email info@Sheptonbeauchamppre-school.co.uk or visit www.sheptonbeauchamppre-school.co.uk or follow us on Facebook

We are not open as often as usual at the moment, just 2 days for shorter hours, but are hoping to be back to our normal hours in September (Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri 9 - 3)

Toddler Group will hopefully start back in September but we will confirm when in the next few months

Seavington Villages Oil Run

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

When you are reading this the daylight hours will be reducing – time to think about oil for winter. The next order will be placed on Friday 3 July. The price is 27.5p per litre + 5% VAT. If you would like to be included in this order either email me or give me a ring and I will add you to the list.

The following order will be placed on Friday 2 October.

Shepton Beauchamp Church School News

Charlie Pattison (01460 241396)

It's hard to believe we are heading towards the end of the school year. Our school has been a little busier now that we have been able to welcome back some of youngest and oldest children and continue to support the children of our keyworkers. It has been great to hear the children laughing and having fun and adapting to the new way of school life without issue. As you can imagine a lot of hard work and planning has gone into making the school safe for children and staff and it is a credit to Mr Rumbelow and his team that it is working so well.

We have been able to continue to make changes to the outside areas in the school. We now have a water trough with soap dispensers outside, rather like the ones at farm parks. The climbing wall and pencils will be moved to the Rectory Garden freeing up space in the playground. Some of you will remember 'the boat', sadly this has now hit the rocks and is beyond repair but thanks to a generous donation from Shepton Seniors and FOSS we are creating a reading area with a Story Chair and benching in its place – it will be a really special area for story time.

Plans have been made with Father Geoff and the Chair of Governors for a small, but important, Leavers Celebration Service in the churchyard for our leavers and their parents. The children will be presented with farewell gifts from the Church and FOSS. We would all like to wish our leavers from Shepton Church School and St Marys and St Peters Church School a very happy journey as they embark on the next stage of their education.

FOSS (*Friends of Shepton School*). If you are shopping online you could raise some extra money for our school by logging onto www.easypundraising.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, E-mail office@threesaints.bwmat.org
Web: www.sheptonbeauchamp.somerset.sch.uk*

Our PCSO's Contact Details

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

Staying at Home

Pat Bourne

After listening to her grandchildren talking about staying at home during the pandemic, I Pat Bourne wrote this little poem.

A pandemic in 2020
Made them change the rules,
Everyone had to stay at home,
We couldn't go to school.

Then dad took us to the garden
And we planted lots of seeds,
We pulled up all the flowers
And watered all the weeds!

We still got up quite early
Had our breakfast and got dressed
Mum had to home teach us -
She really did her best !

Don't know why he wasn't happy,
We did what he had asked,
Or maybe we got muddled
With that little task.

Then Mum said "I've had a thought,
There's more to life than books,"
So she took us to the kitchen
To show us how to cook.

Not seeing friends or family
Really wasn't funny-
So we learned to use face time
And talk to our friends and Granny.

We learned to measure ingredients
To make cakes and much more,
Mum said if she ate them all
She wouldn't get through the door!

When we look back at this time,
We'll see being at home wasn't so bad
We got to learn different things
And spend more time with mum and dad

The answer to her problem-
We realised really quick,
Was to put on the television
And let her work out with Joe Wicks.

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The Warehouse Theatre Ilminster

Run by Ilminster Entertainment Society (IES), this little gem represents one of the best equipped, professional standard amateur theatres in the county. Offering high quality entertainment throughout the year to audiences of all ages, as well as running a thriving Youth Theatre and being a venue for local groups and clubs to hire.

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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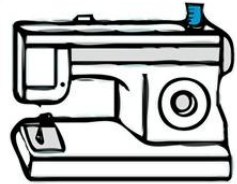
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