

THE SAWSTONIAN

Information and news from Sawston Parish Council

SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012

by Eugene Murray, Chairman, Sawston Parish Council



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The meeting where parishioners can meet Parish Councillors and raise topics for discussion will be held in the Community Room at Spicers Pavilion, Cambridge Road, Sawston on Tuesday 1st May 2012. The meeting starts at 7.30pm but residents are invited to talk informally to Councillors over tea and coffee from 7.00pm.

PLAY EQUIPMENT

The children's play areas on Mill Lane Recreation Ground and at Deal Grove were replaced and extended in time for the autumn half term holidays. New equipment and safety surfacing designed to cater for children of all ages and abilities replaced the tired and out of date facilities on both sites with the goal ends much requested by teenagers included. The £95,000 project was part funded by the Parish Council with a £55,000 contribution from S106 payments received from village housing developments.

At Mill Lane, for the comfort of parents, worn out seats and bins were also replaced.

TREES

Under a continuing programme to replace diseased trees the Council used SCDC's Parish Planting Plan which supplies and plants trees at no cost to the village. Four London Plane trees have been planted on the Babraham Road side of Lynton Way Recreation Ground.

Cherry trees removed from Deal Grove recreation ground will be replaced later in the year.

ALLOTMENTS

To accommodate the many requests for space on London Road allotments some large plots have been split to create thirteen smaller ones which have been let to parishioners. Additional areas may become available later in the year so if you would like to join the waiting list contact the Parish Council Office.

UNPAID WORK AND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT SCHEMES

During the year the Council has taken advantage of unpaid work offered under Government and private sector schemes. Our footpaths and verges are currently being cleared and kept tidy with weekly visits from the Community Payback Team organised by Cambridgeshire Probation Service.

Under their Community Investment Project employees from Cambridge based Worldpay visited during the summer to paint Orchard Park play equipment and tidied the cemetery.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND DONATIONS

During the past year financial support has been given to Sawston Fun Run and these village good causes:

The Bobby Scheme – installing security systems for vulnerable elderly people.

Children's Summer Reading Challenge – encouraging children to use Sawston library

Victim Support – offering support to residents who have been victims of crime.

Sawston Savers Credit Union – encouraging parishioners to save money and offering low cost loans.

For their assistance on bonfire night donations were also given to Sawston Scouts, Sawston Air Training Corps, St John Ambulance and Sawston Fire Brigade.

BONFIRE NIGHT

A record crowd attended this annual free event provided by the Parish Council with assistance from the Air Training Corps Scouts, Bellbird PTA and the Rotary Club.

A bucket collection raised £1,058.92 to be used for local good causes.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Annual Parish Meeting at Spicers Pavilion
Tuesday 1st May 7.00pm for 7.30pm

**Bonfire Night Firework Display on
Huckeridge Hill**

Saturday 3rd November. Gates open 6.00pm with fireworks at 6.45pm. To ensure public safety Huckeridge Hill will be closed to traffic from 5.00pm until 9.30pm.

Jubilee Beacon

A beacon will be lit between 10-10.30pm at Huckeridge Hill on Monday the 4th June.

MRS JO LING

As a memorial to the late Mrs Jo Ling who died in 2010 and had served as a Parish Councillor from 1975-2008 the Council purchased a wooden bench. At the request of Mrs Ling's daughter this was placed on Spicers Sports Field where Jo had spent many happy hours watching her father and other family members play cricket.

BUS SHELTER

Funding received from the development of Sindall's site on Babraham Road some years ago was ring fenced to provide a new bus shelter in the village. Following consultations with County Council Highways regarding the most suitable location the new shelter will be erected at the London Road bus stop opposite Orchard House.

COUNCIL TAX

Aware of the current economic climate the Council has sought efficiencies which can be introduced without reducing services to parishioners. As a result it has been possible to restrict an increase to just 1% in the Parish Precept portion of Council Tax for 2012/2013.

SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Website www.sawston.org.uk

Parish Clerk – Mrs Jo Keeler

Assistant Parish Clerk – Mrs Gina Pack

The office is open 8.30am-1.00pm Monday,

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

(closed to the public on Thursday).