

BABCARY NEWS AND VIEWS

Somerset Small Village of the Year 2018

Congratulations to the Playing Field Committee on an outstanding Bonfire Night! 20 people worked their socks off all evening and for most of the day so that the rest of us could have a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Many thanks to everyone involved.

After a somewhat muted affair last year the **Big Babcary Christmas** is back! Here is the line-up of events:

Christingle Candlelight Service Sunday 5th Dec at 4pm. We will be making up the Christingles at the Saturday shop on 4th. Young helpers are very welcome to help – so long as they don't eat everything!

Babcary Christmas Tree and floodlighting the church – 11th Dec 10.30am. Children are invited to come and help decorate the village Christmas tree on the village green and then turn on the lights.

Christmas Shop - Saturday 18th Dec 9.30-11am. Come along and enjoy a glass of mulled wine as well as the barista coffee!

Carol Singing around the village – Saturday 18th Dec at 6pm Meet at the village tree on the green. Bring a torch or lantern. Carol sheets provided. Collection in aid of the Children's Hospice South West. We will wend our way through the lower part of the village and end up at the pub. If you can't sing with us please be ready at the door with some cash for the Children's Hospice. Thank you.

Children's trip to the pantomime at the Octagon – Sunday 19th Dec. The coach will depart from the Red Lion at 1pm.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Carol Service – 5pm in the churchyard (if the weather allows!) Bring a lantern, wrap up warmly and arrive early if you need a seat. Due to Covid and every other bug going around we thought squeezing 200+ people into the church to sing was unwise so, once again, this magical event will take place, like the very first Christmas, under the stars. Collection in aid of the Children's Hospice South West.

Boxing Day Pop Lacrosse – 11am on the Playing Field. This is an ideal opportunity to get some exercise after the previous day's over-indulgences!

Happy Christmas to you all!

Contributions for the February edition: 24th January

Email: carolehartnell@googlemail.com.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARISH COUNCIL

8th November 2021 Parish Meeting Draft Minutes

Present: Mr Simon Hoar, Mr Philip Sketchley, Mrs Glynis Kingston, Mr Damien Pick, Mr John Baber, Mr Kevin Messenger (SSC), Mr Mike Lewis (SSDC) and Mrs Jasmine Tucker (Parish Council Clerk).

Apologies: Mr Graham Hughes, Mr Henry Hobhouse (SSC) and Mrs Jane Burnett.

1) Minutes of the Previous Meeting 8th October 2021 agreed and signed.

2) Matters Arising

- i) New verandah for the Hut, additional £5000 funding from SCC received, to be used before end of May.
- ii) Static property in Dilkes Lane, still no further information.
- iii) Parish Council meeting with Gary Warren of Highways to discuss speed issues including 20mph limits and weight limits around the village, signage and Satnav rerouting, meeting agreed for the 19th of November, 12pm at The Hut.
- iv) Fibre Optic Broadband moving ever closer.

Reserve Account stands at £21,030.23

Current Account Balance is £50

- i) Castle Cary Library Heating & Lighting update, £50 contribution agreed, cheque signed and issued.
- ii) Stationary expenses Parish Clerk to be reimbursed, held over till next month.
- iii) Parish Clerk Wages £1023.12, cheque agreed and issued.
- iv) Babcary Playing Field Cheque issued for £1152.00, to reimburse playing field grass cutting.
- v) SSCAT (Somerset South Community Accessible Transport) continued support agreed, £100 cheque issued.

3) Planning Consultations

- i) Planning Application No 21/01054 and others **The Red Lion Inn**
Awaiting decision.

Red Lion Latest update: Independent viability assessment commissioned by SSDC, from Thomas E Teague, Property Valuers, concludes that, in his professional opinion, “the implementation of the proposed scheme would be detrimental to the long term viability and future of the Red Lion.”

A flood risk assessment has been commissioned by owners of the Red Lion, acknowledges the current flood problem on the road but maintains that the proposed development will not itself be flooded and that the flooding on the road will not endanger life or limb.

For further information view on

<https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/services/planning/search-for-a-planning-application/>

Awaiting Phosphate assessment.

Asset of Community Value; General Regulatory Chamber appeal - tribunal decision still awaited.

- ii) Planning Application No: 21/02851/HOU Olive Farm, Les Rochettes Olive Farm Lane Babcary Somerton TA11 7EJ Single storey extension.
Received: Fri 17 Sep 2021 | Validated: Tue 28 Sep 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision
Mr Damien Pick declared an interest last meeting.
Parish Council objected to the plans on the grounds that the extensions are out of scale with the character of existing single storey barn conversion and its surroundings.
- iii) Planning Application No: 21/00543/FUL
Site Address: West Farm, Foddington Road, Babcary, Somerton
Proposal: Demolition of existing farmhouse and erection of a replacement dwelling; demolition of barns and replacement with new dwelling; and associated landscaping
No Objections

4) Correspondence

- i) Money available to help groups support people access their Covid vaccinations and boosters. Grants of up to £500 are available to support work to enable more people in Somerset to access their Covid-19 vaccination Spark Somerset,
<http://www.sparksomerset.org.uk/>
- ii) Queen Camel Old School Updated posters, including structured drawing classes and an open day, Wednesday 3rd of November, 9.00am to 5.00pm, featuring their holistic clinic.
- iii) The new Bus Strategy for England, better known as ‘Bus Back Better’, heralds a new way of funding and determining the bus services in our town or village. So it is of crucial importance that Somerset County Council is made aware of your local priorities for bus services: where the buses need to go, how frequently, at what times including whether in the evenings and at weekends. Zoom Meeting held 3rd of November.

- iv) NeXt Warning System (XWS) Project: User Research looking to simplify how our users register to receive flood alerts and warnings and improve the message quality for users. If you are able to help, please reply to the project team's user researcher, Jacqueline at research.warning@environment-agency.gov.uk. Parish Clerk to put on Facebook for local community awareness.
- v) Somerset libraries, which is a free service provided by Somerset County Council
When an individual contacts us we will arrange for a volunteer to visit you. They will ask you what you like to read and the best times to visit you, usually on a fortnightly or monthly basis. Contact Home Library Manager: Kirsty Jensen
Email: kjensen@somerset.gov.uk Tel: 07814 079831
- vi) SALC is strongly recommending that all Councils that have a Cemetery read this document and respond to NALC. Responses requested by 26th November, details already forwarded to Simon Hoar.
- vii) 29th October Somerset's weekly Covid Update We are encouraging people to remember to take a lateral flow test before attending parties or crowded events and wear a face-covering in crowded and enclosed spaces If people have any symptoms of Covid-19 they should not meet others or attend parties and they need to take a test.
- viii) Mike Lewis from Somerset Council
Coronavirus infection rates: As of 30th October, the number of confirmed Covid cases in Somerset was 57,072 (33% up from 42,800 on 30th September) and the number of Covid-attributed deaths 872. The rate per 100,000 stands at 709.7 (320.2) for Somerset with Mendip at 853.9 (379.8), Sedgemoor at 653.5 (292.3), South Somerset 668.3 (298.2) and SW&T at 713.0 (321.7). The number of total deaths across the County is currently 12% above the 5-year average and the latest R-value for Somerset is between 0.9 and 1.1.
- xi) Empowering the Public Sector Towards Net-Zero Webinar 9th of November, ask Jasmine for details if interested.

5) Further Business

- i) New residents in Bab Cary, querying Defib use and training, storage box to have a spring clean, arachnid removal! Next training date to be announced.
- ii) Gassons Bridge Road narrowing sign has been removed, Simon Hoar to speak to Gary W at November meeting and get reinstalled.
- iii) Ongoing regional phosphates issue raised, councils are still dissatisfied with lack of action around sewage being filtered into local waters!

Date & Time of Next Meeting: 8pm Monday 13th December 2021

and then

Monday 10th January 2022 at 8pm in the Hut

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Rotas - Services

Sunday	5th Dec	4.30pm	Babcary	Christingle	Candlelit
Sunday	12th Dec	10.30	Babcary	Family Service	Christening of Tom, Thea and Florence
Sunday	19 th Dec	10.30	Hornblotton	Family service	Christening
Christmas Eve	24th Dec	5pm	Babcary	Carol Service	Candlelit outside
Christmas Day	25th Dec	10.30	Hornblotton	Christmas Communion	
Sunday	26 th Dec	10.30	N.Barrow	Communion	
Sunday	2 nd Jan	10.30	S.Barrow	Family Service	
Sunday	9 th Jan	10.30	Hornblotton	Communion	
Sunday	16th Jan	10.30	Babcary	Family Service	Christening of Lily Hoar
Sunday	23 rd Jan	10.30	Alford	Matins	
Sunday	30 th Jan	10.30	N.Barrow	Communion	

Rotas

Cleaning

Flowers

Coffee

Sidesmen

Sun Dec 5th	Elisabeth & Mary	Advent no flowers	TBA	Fred & Michele
Sun Dec 12th	Judy & Sally	"	TBA	Rory & David
Sun Dec 19th	Tom & Bridget	"		
Sun Dec 24th	All Hands	All Hands	n/a	All hands
Sun Jan 2nd	Nikki & Karen	Dawn		
Sun Jan 9th	Rita & Jenny	Lucy		
Sun Jan 16th	Simon & Shirley	Karen	Shirley & Judy	Simon & Robin
Sun Jan 23rd	Janet & Lucy	Rita		
Sun Jan 30th	Sarah & Sarah	Jo		
Sun Feb 6th	Elisabeth & Mary	Teresa		

Remembrance Sunday

The annual Service of Remembrance was very well attended and £289.00 was raised for the Royal British Legion (in addition to whatever Sally Robson managed to collect door to door)!

Churchyard Clear Up

Many thanks to the 21 people (aged 2 to, er, over 21) who helped clear up the churchyard on 20th Nov. In two hours the whole churchyard was transformed. Thank you.

Six Pilgrims Magazine Donations

Donations to help fund the Six Pilgrims magazine, delivered free to all 450 households in the six parishes, can be put in the pink envelopes and passed to Simon Hoar, Rory MacDiarmid or Robin Brown for onward transmission. Many thanks. SIH

PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE

Babcary Bonfire Night

Bonfire Night on 6th was a knock out success with double our usual numbers of people attending and, as a result, we sold out of *everything*; hog roast, Thai food and the entire bar! Our thanks to George and Emily Kingston for terrific firework display and to the team of 18 people who toiled all evening to make it such a success.

100 Club results

The results of the October draw (slightly late) were: 1st Ian Diamond, 2nd Emma Baber, 3rd Karen Aric and the following won a consolation prize: Vee Vyner, Angie Holland, Colin Stuckey, Ben Tubridy, Jazz Tucker, Amanda Wildman, Sarah Stuckey and Karen Sparkes.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

By the time you receive this Newsletter the Christmas Bazaar will probably have already happened. Next on the agenda is the Christmas Shop on Saturday 18th December. We hope to have lots of Christmas goodies for sale and there will be a free glass of mulled wine along with Richard's excellent coffee.

We are fortunate not to have had to migrate back to the Redfern's barn this autumn/winter, but many thanks to Diane and David for hosting us earlier in the year and for keeping their doors open had we needed it.

SCH

OTHER ACTIVITIES

SHOP ROTA

4 th Dec	Sally and Vee		8 th Jan	Helen and Teresa
11 th Dec	Cordelia and Jules		15 th Jan	Lucy and Jenny
18 th Dec	Christmas Shop		22 nd Jan	Rita and Carole
25 th Dec/1 st Jan	No Shop		29 th Jan	Judy and Jane

Mobile Library

Calls at the bus shelter on Thursday 9th December from 1.10 – 1.35pm and in 2022 January 20th at the **new time of 12.40 – 12.55**

Babcary Textile Artists

Textile Set will be holding an Open Day on Thursday 9 December between 11am and 3pm at Babcary Playing Field Hut, come and see our work, meet the makers, see how we create. There will also be items for sale which may be just the right special Christmas present for someone. We respectfully request that visitors wear a face covering as some members are clinically vulnerable.

POP.....WHAT??

Except for last Boxing Day, due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, the village was unable to have the usual Boxing Day chaos on the tennis court that is Pop-Lacrosse.

This takes place at 11a.m. for an hour, and is open to anyone from the age of 8 upwards.....no upper age limit! Experience absolutely unnecessary, but trainers advisable. All equipment provided on the day. Spectators (and ball boys!) always welcome.

Come to work off that Christmas excess!

JAH

Fishman

The fishman now calls at Chapel Yard at 12.00.

NEWS VIEWS AND COMMENTS

Congratulations to Esme Ellis on winning both the annual choir and conducting competitions at Millfield with her outstanding conducting.

Congratulations to Tom Brock and Vicky Holley on their engagement at the end of October. They are planning to get married in Babcary Church next summer.

Defibrillator Course

As hopefully everyone is aware there is a defibrillator in the old telephone box. It is easy to use and designed for anyone to use without any prior training. In the event of an emergency you get the defib from the phone box and take it to the casualty whilst someone else keeps the casualty alive with CPR. The defib then literally talks you through how to use it, step by step.

When we bought the defib a few years ago we also got the dummies etc and video training instructions to teach CPR massage and held a couple of quite entertaining training sessions in the hut. If you would be interested in doing a training session please let me know and if there is enough interest we'll set up another session. Email Simon at: sihoar@yahoo.co.uk

Remember, in the event of an emergency don't hesitate but "have a go"! You have nothing to lose. If someone's heart stops they are technically dead anyway - and certainly will be by the time an ambulance gets all the way out here! SIH

Weather Report

Babcary recieved 107.1mm (4.2") of rainfall during October. This is 30% higher than our long term average for the month. There was light rain at times throughout the month but the main events occurred between the 1st & 4th of the month on the 19th & 20th and during the last few days. Reservoir stocks for Wessex Region increased to 78%.

Steve Street

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday 4 th December	Making Christingles at Sat Shop	9.30-11am Hut
Sunday 5 th December	Christingle Candlelight Service	4pm Church
Thursday 9 th December	Mobile Library	1.10-1.35pm Bus shelter
Thursday 9 th December	Babcary Textile Artists	11-3pm Hut
Saturday 11 th December	Decorate Village Christmas Tree	10.30am Village Green
Sunday 12 th December	Family Service	10.30 am Church
Monday 13 th December	PC Meeting	8pm Hut
Saturday 18 th December	Saturday Christmas Shop	9.30-11am Hut
Saturday 18 th December	Carol Singing around the Village	6pm Meet at Village Green
Sunday 19 th December	Pantomime at the Octagon	1pm Meet at the Red Lion
Friday 24 th December	Christmas Eve Carol Service	5pm Churchyard
Sunday 26 th December	Pop Lacrosse	11 am Playing Field
Monday 10 th January	PC Meeting	8pm Hut
Sunday 16 th January	Family Service and Christening	10.30 Church
Thursday 20 th January	Mobile Library	NEW TIME 12.40-12.55