

News from around the Parish

The Parish Newsletter In an attempt to save money your Parish Council has decided to reduce the size of the quarterly Parish Newsletter and therefore the list of Councillor's names and telephone numbers, together with the "Useful Numbers" section, will not appear in every edition. If you need any of these numbers please contact the Clerk Mrs Jan Cordon on 01594 562554 or email the Clerk on clerk@tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk

New Chairman At the Annual Meeting of Council a new Chairman was elected. Councillor John Powell is the new Chairman and can be contacted on 01291 624901 or through the Clerk. Councillor Carole Dawson remains Vice Chairman. Mrs Ann Martin has sadly decided to resign from the Council and she is thanked for her work over the last three and a half year years.

Calling all ex Sedbury Rainbows and Brownies and Leaders! You are invited to a Centenary Party at Sedbury Village Hall on Sunday 12th September from 2pm to 4pm. Please phone Liz on 621694 or Hazel on 625872 for further information

Vandalism and Anti Social Behaviour Yet again it is sad to report that vandalism is costing the Parish Council (and therefore you the residents) money and that anti social behaviour is causing nuisance and distress to local residents. If you see instances of either vandalism or anti social behaviour

PLEASE CALL THE POLICE ON 0845 090 1234 immediately. This is the number of our Safer Community Team and ONLY by making a report to the police, which is totally confidential, will the police be able to help solve the problem and attend whenever possible. Please ensure you obtain an Incident Number when you call as this enables the police to assess the situation across the Parish

New play areas in Sedbury It is hoped that the new toddler play equipment in front of the Sedbury Village Hall and the extension of the skate park by the addition of a goal mouth and basket ball hoop will be completed shortly. Following consultation responses the additional area at the rear of the Sedbury Hall is currently on hold whilst the Council re-examines the most appropriate equipment and placement of this – hopefully the decisions will be made soon and the new equipment installed shortly



TIDENHAM VILLAGE HALLS
Family Fun Day
 Tutshill Recreation Ground
 Sunday 15th August 2010
 12.30pm to 5.30pm

6 a side Cricket, Bouncy Castle, slide table
 Refreshments, Beer Tent, Raffle,
 Lucky Dip, Beat the Goats, Live music,
 and other Attractions
 Tables available @ £10 - 01291 624663

**COME ALONG, ENJOY THE DAY
 & HELP YOUR VILLAGE HALLS
 WHILE DOING SO**

TIDENHAM NEWS

THE PARISH NEWSPAPER FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

SUMMER 2010

GRANTS MADE BY TIDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL IN THE SPRING 2010

During the spring of 2010 the Parish Council presented grants to three local concerns and photographs of these are shown. Two of the presentations took place at Council Meetings with the Vice Chairman, Councillor Mrs Carole Dawson, handing over the cheques whilst the cheque to SARA was presented at the Rescue Station following a tour of the Station by four Councillors and the Clerk.

SARA (Severn Area Rescue Association) received a cheque to help with the continuation of their work in rescues locally. SARA undertakes rescue work in the Severn Estuary and the local rivers in addition to land search and rescue, very often working with the Mountain Rescue. They also work in flood situations such as happened in Gloucester two years ago. Pictured are Councillors Steve Ford, Gabriella Kirkpatrick, Carole Dawson and Ann Martin presenting the cheque to Merv Fleming of SARA.



First Responders received not a cheque from the Parish Council but three First Responder Illuminated Visor Signs for their cars. Perhaps not as well known locally the charity volunteers respond to 999 emergency calls and are very often the first to arrive at the scene when there is a medical emergency. The three volunteers in the Parish are highly trained to respond, carrying defibrillators and oxygen, and work with Great Western Ambulance Service and St John Ambulance.



Time and Place is a charity visiting schools and youth groups in the Forest of Dean demonstrating the dangers of driving whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs and the dangers of speeding particularly on the Forest roads. Their presentations have been well received by the youngsters at Wydean School and other locations in the Forest.



The Parish Council wishes the Charities above, together with others to whom grants were made in the year, success in their ventures and thank them for the valuable work they undertake.

List of Councillors

- | | |
|---|--|
| Cllr Lance Allan
Tel: 01291 628867 | Cllr Steve Ford
Tel: 07908 634570 |
| Cllr Roy Birch
Tel: 01291 624326 | Cllr Andy Hossack
Tel: 01291 630615 |
| Cllr Gerald Blunt
Tel: 01291 689424 | Cllr Sue Hutchings
Tel: 01291 626536 |
| Cllr Sheila Bollen
Tel: 01291 620812 | Cllr Gabriella Kirkpatrick
Tel: 01291 629394 |
| Cllr Bernard Bowshall
Tel: 01291 624152 | Cllr John Powell
Chairman
Tel: 01291 624901 |
| Cllr Carole Dawson
Vice Chairman
Tel: 01291 600032 | |

USEFUL NUMBERS

- ALL EMERGENCIES: 999**
- | | |
|--|---|
| Police (All non-urgent calls)
0845 090 1234 | Education Helpline: 01452 425300 |
| Crimestoppers: 0800 555111 | Environment Helpline: 01452 425500 |
| Bogus Callers Helpline: 0800 100 0777 | Libraries Helpline: 01452 305420 |
| Doctors Surgery - Beachley Road
01291 626041 | Adult Helpdesk: 01452 426868 |
| Doctors Surgery - Coleford Road
01291 637910 | Children & Families Helpdesk
01452 426565 |
| NHS Direct: 0845 4647 | Forest of Dean District Council
Main Switchboard: 01594 810000 |
| Sedbury Pharmacy: 01291 622532 | Bulky Items Collection: 01594 812444 |
| Sedbury Post Office: 01291 629300 | Abandoned Vehicles: 01594 812264 |
| Sedbury & Beachley Village Hall
01291 624055 | Council Tax Helpline: 01594 812532 |
| Tidenham War Memorial Hall
01291 624663 | Dog Warden: 01594 812447 |
| Chase School Room: 01291 689775 | Noise & Pollution: 01594 812442 |
| Rev Royston Grosvenor: 01291 622442 | UTILITIES |
| Pastor Chris Rees | Western Power Distribution |
| Stroat Evangelical Church: 01594 529209 | EMERGENCY: 0800 052 0400 |
| Chepstow Citizens Advice Bureau
01291 623437 | GENERAL: 0845 6013341 |
| SAMARITANS: 08457 909090 | GAS Tranco |
| Gloucestershire County Council
Main Switchboard: 01452 425000 | EMERGENCY: 0800 11999 |
| Streelights (freephone) 08000 514514 | Water - Dwr Cymru |
| Trading Standards Helpline
01452 426200 | EMERGENCY: 0800 0520130 |
| | SEWERS & DRAINS EMERGENCY
0800 085 3968 |

Anti Social Behaviour of Birds in the Parish!

For the past twelve to fifteen years, a pair of blue-tits has nested in a nest box above our bedroom window.

A few weeks ago, after watching the tits coming and going with nesting materials, and finally pulling moss off a plant container, to line the nest, we were pleased once again that we would have a new family in a few weeks.

Imagine the horrors sometime later at finding three blue-tit eggs broken on the garden path - the "skinnies" not yet formed.

I looked into the box and was surprised to see a female house sparrow sitting on the nest, for a few seconds at least, before it flew past my ear into the hedge.

Our box has a tit sized hole {one and one eighth of an inch diameter}, which is supposed to be small enough for tits to enter, but birds other than tits should not be able to gain access.

However, they have set up home, and we have noticed with some concern, the cock bird exiting the box with some difficulty. We wonder if and when their young fledge, they may be too large to get-out, as most young birds are often larger initially than the parent birds. We shall keep a close watch and hope not to have to help them out into the great blue yonder.

John Powell



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 2011?



We've had a census every ten years since 1801, except in 1941 when the country was at war. No-one has yet found a better way to build a picture of

a diverse and changing population.

The 2011 Census is due to take place on 27th March. So what's new for 2011?

- Your questionnaire will be posted or delivered to you by hand. In 2001, all the questionnaires were hand delivered
 - You'll be able to complete and submit your questionnaire online
 - You'll be able to get help with your questionnaire online
 - You'll be asked to answer new or revised questions to reflect recent changes in society
- Go to <http://comms.census.gov.uk> for more information.

In 2001 the census found that the Parish of Tidenham had a total population of 5316, which was 6.65% of the Forest of Dean District. We had a slightly higher than the national average proportion of Men and Children and a significantly higher proportion of over 75s. We also had more people with long term illness, more people per household and many more households with two or more cars than the national average.

What has changed since then? Well you will have to wait a little longer, as the results won't be available until 2012.

The information contained in this profile is from the 2001 Census Key Statistics dataset published by the Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright) and compiled by Gloucestershire County Council.

Annual Accounts 2009-2010

The Parish Accounts have been seen and approved by both the Internal Auditor and the Council and are now in the hands of the External Auditor as required by legislation. The following is an overview of income and expenditure for the year 2009-2010 which ended on 31st March 2010.

The budget for the new financial year, which starts on 1st April, has to be calculated in November/December in order to present the figures to the District Council and, as can be expected, certain unforeseen expenditure will always arise when calculating so far ahead. For the year 2009-2010 the budget spending was set at a total of £109,895 - with £89,681 coming from the Precept, £5,214 from an agency payment from FoDDC and £15,000 coming from Council Reserves.

In reality Council had a total income in the year of £106,692 with this being made up of the Precept as above and £5,370 as the agency payment together with a refund of VAT, an insurance claim payment, money from a planning obligation to spend on bus shelters, interest on capital invested and other small miscellaneous amounts. Expenditure in the year totalled £108,425 - all figures are rounded to the nearest pound. Therefore the amount required to be funded from reserves was only £1,733, significantly less than the budget.

So how did the planned expenditure actually compare with the budget? The following identifies both the budget and expenditure:

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE £13,000 was planned to cover items such as the new fencing around the field at the rear of Sedbury & Beachley Hall, the purchase and legal expenses of buying the Allotment Field and also the new safety fencing at Wyebank Road. The actual spent was £6,333 however an additional amount was transferred to Amenities in order to fund the work on the play area surfaces

MAINTENANCE OF SEDBURY & BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL It was anticipated that work would be needed on the Village Hall which is owned by the Council and £6,500 was set aside for this purpose. The work on the guttering, fascias, internal electrical work, windows etc cost a total of £6,618

CORPORATE EXPENSES This heading covers items such as insurance, membership of certain associations, office stationery, audit fees, maintenance of equipment such as the office

laptop/printers, together production and distribution of the quarterly newsletter. £8,860 was the planned figure and this was exceeded slightly with a total spend of £9,229

TRAINING COSTS £1,000 was the budget figure but only £107 was spent

STAFFING COSTS The budget figure for staffing costs which include the Clerk's salary, expenses and National Insurance was £31,860 but in fact £24,515 was spent

AMENITIES The Amenities Committee has the biggest budget of all as it pays for grass cutting, maintenance of the play areas (and in 2009 - 2010 each of the four areas have had some new surfaces and some painting done), the three closed churchyards continue to cost substantial monies to maintain, repairs to bus shelters and other facilities vandalised. Another fairly major expenditure is the collection of litter on the play areas and the emptying of the dog foul bins. A sum of £40,635 was set aside for these commitments but as work was needed on the play area surfaces after the bad winter it was decided to allocate more money to the Amenities Committee from the Capital budget and this, together with the insurance claim and the bus shelter monies, enabled the Committee to spend a total of £56,801

Contingency As sudden expenditure can always be needed this is an essential category but whilst £2,000 was held only a legal bill was paid from these monies to the value of £737

Election Costs £1,040 has been set aside for each of the last two years to be held in readiness for any election costs and is ring fenced for the future for this purpose

Grants With £5,000 set aside to provide grants the sum donated this year totalled £4,085 with grants being paid to SARA, First Responders, Chepstow CAB, Sedbury Brownies, Time and Place, Victim Support and the Tidenham War Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground Trust (who also maintain Shirley's Grove), Chase WI and the Forge Project. All of these charities give support to residents in the Parish in their various ways.

Where one budget heading is not being spent monies can be "transferred" to another budget heading thus, as an example, some of the money within the Capital budget heading was "vired" (a technical term for the movement of money approved by Council) to the Amenities Committee budget to allow for their extra expenditure within the year.

Below is the bank reconciliation for the end of the year

BANK RECONCILIATION			
Current Account Balance at 31 March 2009	8181.27		
Deposit Account Balance at 31 March 2009	32010.36		
Term Deposit at 31 March 2009	40000.00		
Total Capital at 31 March 2009			80191.63
Total Income 2009/2010		106691.89	
Total Expenditure 2009/2010 inc LGA 1972 s137 of £1820		-108424.86	
Total Capital at 31 March 2010			78458.66
Represented by:			
Sect 106 ring fenced on 3 month deposit**	40000.00		
Balance at bank - deposit account	32038.74		
Balance at bank - current account	9833.04		
Total Balances at 31 March 2010		81871.78	
Less unrepresented cheques at 31 March 2010		-3413.12	
			78458.66
**Not a part of Council Reserves this capital to be spent only on play provision on land owned by Council			
JanCordon RFO Tidenham Parish Council			