

SUFFIELD VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2021

Parish Council

The parish council met via Zoom on 23rd February 2021. The council was given a Covid 19 grant last year from the Norfolk Community Foundation and as it has not been used, the council agreed to return it so it can be used to provide educational support in the area.

There have been a few areas where rubbish has been dumped and councillors offered to clear it up.

The notice board at the Green will be repaired and maintained by Nick Neeld who has very kindly agreed to take on this responsibility.

The council was also made aware of a very nasty dog attack in The Loke which occurred recently. The incident has been reported to the police but they are not able to take any action at this time as the dogs' owner is unknown and does not live in the village. Councillors will try and gather more information.

The **village website** is www.suffieldpc.co.uk where you can find full and detailed minutes and agenda's for the council meetings.

The parish council relies on the BOTTLE BANK as one of its only sources of income. For anyone in the village who is unable to take their glass and bottles to the bank and are currently putting it in their green bins, you may like to take advantage of the very kind offer from Graham Morris to collect your glass on the Thursday allocated for green bin collection. Please leave your glass in a bag or box, next to your green bin, so Graham can pick it up before the dustbin men arrive. By doing this, we can ensure we always have enough money in the pc account to pay for village projects and to make repairs to the village signs and bus shelter, as and when required.

Village Hall

The village hall remains closed at this time, but it is hoped that limited opening with all Covid 19 regulations in place, will occur sometime this summer.

Information to be included in the Autumn newsletter can be emailed to helenalmey1@gmail.com before September 2021

Suffield FTTP Broadband

The trees on Brick Kiln Lane and Rectory Road have been trimmed to accommodate the new fibre cables and work has started to pull the cables into place. Open Reach have a deadline of July to get the work done or incur penalties so it is hoped the residents who took up the offer to get connected will be able to enjoy the previously unimaginable internet speeds by the summer.

Church cleaning

A professional team of cleaners was employed to give the church a thorough clean up last Autumn. Sadly the church remains closed at this time.

Notes on Nature

Following the snow we had earlier, a barn owl was found deceased in the village. It had a ring and this was able to provide useful information about its age and where it had fledged. The owl was 5 years old and came from Abels Heath, Felmingham.

Unfortunately, another thin barn owl has subsequently been found deceased, but this one did not have a ring. Hopefully this is not one of a pair, who managed to rear 2 chicks last year. The chicks were ringed but the parents are not.

During the snow, it was possible to see lots of wildlife including a "whisp" of snipe and several woodcock. More recently, a pair of Red Kite have been seen and large herds of wild red deer stags of varying ages. It is reported that Ravens have been seen in Gunton Park for the first time in 400 years!

Graham Morris heard the first Black Cap calling on Brick Kiln Lane on 8th March.

A new system of cutting the grass verges will start this year across Norfolk. The county council have decided to concentrate on cutting the verges at junctions and bends and leaving the rest for the benefit of wildlife.