

SINGLETON PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

April 2007

Parish Council Elections

District and Parish Council elections will be held on 3 May 2007 – don't forget to cast your vote!

Affordable Housing at The Leys

The latest start date we have been given is May 2007. Those of you who came to the Annual Parish Meeting on 28 March will have seen Martlet Homes' Programme of Works, which was on display at the back of the Village Hall. The first Steering Group meeting was held on 26 March, when a number of issues were discussed. Residents of The Leys and Church Way will be kept informed of what is going on by Martlet Homes and their contractors, who plan some leaflet drops. They will also put up a list of telephone contact numbers. Given that despite our efforts, site traffic seems likely to pass through the village, we have asked for copies of all such information to be copied to the Parish Council, to enable us to put relevant details on the notice-boards so that residents throughout the village know what is going on. We have been promised that local schoolchildren will be given safety information and that as far as possible, deliveries will be scheduled away from times when they are going to school and coming home. We have also been told that site workers will be asked to keep their vehicles well away from the building works unless they are needed for loading and unloading and not to use residents' parking spaces.

The Lychgate Project

Some of you will have noticed that the restoration of the roof has been completed. The remainder of the work will be done during the summer, but around the time you read this, work will be starting on the metal gates, post and fence to the side of the track leading to the Lychgate.

Annual Parish Meeting for Electors

As you will have read above, this took place on 28 March. We were disappointed not to see more local people, but those could not come can read the minutes on Parish Council notice-boards – the ones on green paper! They can also be viewed on the village website. There were a number of reports on activity over the past Council Year including those from the village school and Sussex Police. Sgt. David Fisk came along with PCSO Mo Pantony, who has sadly moved on to another post in the Chichester area. They brought Jason Lemm with them and introduced him to us. He is currently training, but expects to take over as our PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) in April or early May.

Sussex Police and Neighbourhood Watch

Whilst he was at the Annual Parish Meeting, Sgt. Fisk drew particular attention to 'Beauty Spot' crime. There have been a number of incidents this year at such places as Selhurst Park and Eartham, where walkers have had valuables stolen from their cars. He urged all of us to leave these at home or take them with us whenever possible and never to leave pin numbers where criminals can find them. Thieves have been breaking car windows to get at items and often watch as walkers hide things in car boots. Should you see anyone acting suspiciously, take their car number and ring the Police immediately. Sgt. Fisk also reminded us to ensure that sheds and garages are locked and secure and mowers and electrical items locked up and marked. Bogus callers are still a problem, so be vigilant, don't answer the door, use a door chain and ask visitors for ID. If you see a crime in progress or someone acting suspiciously, dial 999. Non-emergency calls, such as abandoned cars or doorstep callers can be made on 0845 60 70 999 or e.mailed on contactcentre@sussex.pnn.police.uk Neighbourhood Watch is on 01243 520347, Crime Prevention Advice on 01243 520218 and Crimestoppers (giving information anonymously) on 0800 555 111.

Having said all this, there were only six crimes in Singleton last year and only one reported so far in 2007!

Parish Council Meetings

The old Parish Council has met for the last time. The new one will meet for the first time at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9 May 2007, this being the Annual General Meeting for 2007/2008. As usual, the agendas will be on the notice-boards about a week in advance, so if there is anything which interests you, or if you would like to make your feelings known, do come along – you do not need to stay for the entire meeting although you are very welcome to do so!