

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2020



Many thanks to Richard Gill for this picture of a VE Day display in the Village on May 8th
If you have a photograph you would like to showcase in our next newsletter, please send it to us

Our Website www.sedgwickparishcouncil.org.uk

Our Email sedgwick.parish@gmail.com



Find our Parish Council Page and
Neighbourhood Resilience Group on Facebook



Sedgwick Parish Council
Community

Send Message



**Sedgwick Neighbours and
Friends**
Community

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter

We have all experienced unprecedented times since our last newsletter, as the Corona virus pandemic has changed our lives and led to the national lockdown and its aftermath. Many residents have endured isolation and some have lost friends and family to the disease. Our thoughts are with them.

As the crisis deepened in mid-March, the Council identified the potential impact on residents and established a neighbourhood resilience group to co-ordinate volunteers and support residents. We are indebted to the volunteers who stepped forward to help in whatever capacity they could, such as shopping for residents who could not leave their homes. There have also been many examples of informal support where people have performed acts of kindness to support their friends and neighbours. Our gratitude goes to those people too, along with all our keyworkers who have worked throughout the crisis. Many villagers have benefitted from the “pop up” food shop at Raines Hall. Thanks are also due to Sylvia, our clerk, who has worked tirelessly on behalf of residents.

Our Annual Parish Meeting was postponed but it will be reorganised as soon as it is safe to do so. The Council has continued to work during the lockdown, for example by holding publicly accessible remote meetings using Zoom, although some services like the playground and noticeboard were reluctantly suspended. Residents are urged to be extra vigilant as there have been reports of telephone scams associated with bogus track and trace calls - we share alerts on our facebook pages and there are more details there.

Changes to the Parish Council We are sad to announce that David Willacy and John Oscroft have retired from the Council. David’s contribution to the Council has been hugely significant and invaluable to our community. He has served for forty years as councillor, including taking on the role of chair. It was thanks to David that the Council purchased the Millennium Field and developed it as a playground and his skills and expertise have been an incredible asset to the village; he and John will be missed enormously.

We have filled one of the resulting casual vacancies, thanks to Bernie Tanham who came forward to volunteer, but still have one place on the council to be filled. If you are interested please find more information on our website or contact the clerk. We are delighted to welcome Councillor Tatham to the Council and look forward to working with her in the future.

Parish and District Council Elections The Government postponed all Local elections for 12 months at the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis and so councillors will remain in post for a further year.

Highways and Footpaths

The Cumbria Highways teams have repaired potholes by the river and we continue to log all highway faults, but if we are to continue to be heard, we need residents to add weight to our complaints, to get our roads repaired.

If you notice any problems, please report them using the following methods:

- The Cumbria County Council Highways “Report a fault” interactive map www.cumbria.gov.uk/roads-transport/highways-pavements/reporting-problem-on-highway/WDM/default.asp
- Use the **HIGHWAYS HOTLINE 0300 303 2992**



VE Day Commemorations May 2020.

Despite the lockdown, the village celebrated the 75th Anniversary of VE Day in a socially distant but enthusiastic way - the village was decorated with bunting, flags and displays and the wonderful weather made for a very enjoyable day. The 3 o'clock "Last Post" and minutes' silence was observed, and neighbours were able to get together (at a distance) to mark the occasion.



Millennium Field and Canal

In line with the lockdown legislation, the Millennium Field closed on March 23rd but has re-opened with new COVID-19 rules taken from SLDC and Government guidance. It is essential that the new guidance (displayed at the entrance to the field and on the website,) is observed so that we can keep it open.

The Canal Wildlife Area has remained a sanctuary not just for nature, but also for many enjoying their daily exercise during lockdown. The spring and summer flowers have thrived and the birds seem to be busier than ever. Ash Die Back, the highly destructive disease effecting ash trees all over the country continues to spread along the canal. Our Woodland Consultant inspects the area regularly and has advised that some trees are felled next winter. Our policy remains to keep as many trees as possible, as this benefits the habitat, but trees requiring felling on safety grounds will be marked in September. On a positive note, other species along the path are in good health, particularly the elm, and will take advantage of gaps to bring about natural regeneration of the woodland, so in the longer term, the habitat will recover well. For more details, please contact us.

Anti-social behaviour

During the crisis there have unfortunately been some anti-social incidents which have been reported to the police; some people have insisted on using the closed Millennium Field, there has been theft of a sign and cyclists have continued to use the Canal footpath - if there are further problems please contact us so we can report them too.

Internet Speeds

During the crisis, many people in the UK have worked from home. Whilst most residents in Sedgwick enjoy fast broadband and experience no problems, some, especially in more remote properties, have. B4RN is community-led project to bring high-speed broadband Internet connectivity to rural areas. If anyone is interested in volunteering to take such a project forward in Sedgwick, please contact the clerk.

Sedgwick Gunpowder Mills Information

During lockdown, residents have enjoyed walking down by the River Kent. We have been reminded about some fascinating English Heritage research by English Heritage about the Sedgwick Gunpowder Mills that occupied both banks of the river. We have put links to this research on our history page on the website <https://www.sedgwickparishcouncil.org.uk/history.html>

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

Your Parish Clerk:

Sylvia Roberts

The Nook, Levens,

LA8 8PN. Tel. 60080

email: sedgwick.parish@gmail.com

Your Parish Councillors:

Chair: Boyan Holmes;

The Oaks, 61644

Vice Chair: Richard Gill;

Old School House, 60116

Robert Smith: Stable Cottage, 60314

Gerry Stoker: 4 Wakefield Meadow 60939

Bernie Tanham The Wharf, 61211

Future Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday every month

September 9th, October 7th, November 11th

Your County Councillor;

Brenda Gray,

Rose Cottage, Hincaster, Milnthorpe,
LA7 7ND 61135/07770 664379

email: Brenda.Gray@cumbria.gov.uk

Your District Councillor:

Cllr Brian Cooper

Willow Tree Barn, Brigsteer
LA8 8AR 015395 84991

email: b.cooper47@yahoo.co.uk

THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

This brilliant Challenge encourages children aged 4 to 11 to enjoy the benefits of reading for pleasure over the summer holidays, providing lots of fun and enjoyment as well as helping to prevent the summer reading 'dip'. It is delivered by The Reading Agency, in partnership with public libraries and the Arts Council England. Find out more about the Challenge on <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

Because of the Coronavirus crisis, remote meetings are taking place online using the Zoom software platform. Any members of the public wishing to attend should follow instructions on the agenda which is published on the website at least three days before each meeting. Access is free and telephone only access is available. Normal meetings will resume when guidance permits and all necessary safety measures can be put in place.

Each meeting includes a Public Forum as part of the agenda for residents to ask questions, raise items of concern or simply comment on issues. Submission of questions in advance of the meeting are welcomed, so that they can be answered more fully. Matters raised that are not included on this agenda will be considered for subsequent agendas which are published at least 3 days before each meeting

Sedgwick
NO COLD CALLING ZONE

COLD CALLERS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN SEDGWICK!

If they call on you, contact Cumbria Police on 101 immediately and if possible, report them to Cumbria Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice Helpline on 03454 04 05 06

SEDGWICK

Community Emergency Plan

Sedgwick Parish Council has a Community Emergency Plan to help minimise the impact of a major local emergency on residents. In event of a major emergency, contact our

Community Response Group

Coordinator Gerry Stoker - 4 Wakefield Meadow Tel 60939
Richard Gill - Old School House Tel 60116
Boyan Holmes - The Oaks Tel 61644

Our Emergency Control Point is Sedgwick Village Hall

IMPORTANT EMERGENCY ADVICE

If you have to call the Emergency Services, remember to make sure they know which side of the aqueduct a vehicle is needed, because many modern appliances cannot pass under the aqueduct and the detour required is long.