

SALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

2020 Newsletter





*Village Memorabilia Evening at the
Village Hall, March 2019*

Parish Council Business 2019-20

Report by Carol Ross Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

Steve McBride remains Chairman of our Parish Council, the other Councillors being Nick Hill (Vice-Chairman), Rachel Caldin, Nigel Colston, and Hilary McGlynn. We meet at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall, and village residents are always encouraged to attend. Our County Councillor, Hilary Biles, is often present.

All our Councillors are up for re-election this May and details of nominations and the election procedure will be posted on our website (www.salfordvillage.org.uk) and the village noticeboards.

Current agendas, minutes, and notices of interest are also displayed on the noticeboards and website.

Our precept (income) each year from the West Oxfordshire District Council has been the same for the last four years, and you can find our Income and Expenditure detailed on the last page of this booklet.

We have a statutory duty to be open and transparent in all matters, and you will find information about our activities, including meetings, financial documents, Code of Conduct, Risk Management, and planning decisions, on our website. Those who do not have access to computers are welcome to contact the Clerk, details on the back cover.

Highways issues are always on the Parish Council agenda! There seem to have been fewer potholes than normal, but street lights have been problematic this year. The one in Orchard Close has now been fixed but two more are currently out of action – one halfway down Cooks Lane and the other outside Village Farm. Both have been reported to Oxfordshire Council. The missing chevron up Salford Hill still has to be replaced, but the good news is that the white lines at the Stow road/A44 junction have been repainted. The drain at the top of the village, mentioned in last year's newsletter, is now thought to be satisfactory.

The increase in cars everywhere has repercussions for villages like ours and in our surrounding lanes. The grass verges in Salford and along the Cornwell lane are being desecrated. This has been happening on the verge near the war memorial and the Parish Council are planning to re-seed it and deter parking there in the future, while reinforcing the ground on the other side of the road to make parking easier there.

We urge all residents to park considerately and also to watch their speed in the village – there have been reports of cars going too fast, particularly down Roses Lane.

Our snow 'task force' is ready for action but this wet and windy winter hasn't yet seen any significant snow. On the playground the big lateral branch on the horse-chestnut tree has

been removed and some other trees trimmed early this year. The playground is regularly checked by Nick Hill and there is a RoSPA inspection every July. Richard Lane has decided to stop doing the village grass-cutting; we are sorry to lose him after nine years of service and hope his summers will now be more restful! We are hoping to appoint his successor soon.

Those who have used or walked past the bus shelter may have noticed that its inside has had a new coat of paint, thanks to Nick Hill. We give financial support to The Villager Bus and are glad to see it being used by residents. We have had only one planning application this year, and have been informed that we shall no longer receive paper copies of the plans – everything is now on-line, for the Council and the public.

We have decided to take advantage of an offer from the Oxfordshire History Centre and transfer our archives to them for long-term preservation and general public access.

The draft minutes of last year's Annual Parish Meeting will be delivered to you with this Newsletter. We hope to see a good turnout from the village at this year's meeting on **Tuesday, April 14th**, at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. It is an opportunity for you to hear reports on village activities and also from Parish, District, and County Councillors, and to ask questions of your Councillors should you wish to do so.



St Mary's Church
Report from Sally & Nick Chambers
Churchwardens

The VCC and PCC met at regular intervals to ensure the smooth running of our Church.

We were very much helped in covering our outgoings by the wonderful Chastleton Teas team and cake makers as well as by a very generous donation from the organisers of the fete. All this came with the ceaseless care of church and graveyard given by our loyal flower arrangers, cleaners and mowers. Visitors often comment upon how nice everything looks.

The lengthening of the mowing season and loss of a number of volunteers means that we are heavily dependent on the services of Steve Bayliss to supplement our helpers. He has also done walling repairs necessitated by the wet weather.

There was a steady attendance of services with happy celebrations of the festivals. The Carol Service was a particularly joyful occasion with a large congregation that very much appreciated the presence of Brian Etheridge and his choir.

James Kennedy continued to take our services with a dedicated team to whom we are most grateful. For much of the year were lucky to have the services of Rosemary Roberts as our organist. Sadly, Rosemary is presently unable to drive due to a medical condition from which we wish her a speedy recovery. Keith Ayres is the essential operator, the hymn player.

We had 3 funerals, 1 wedding and 1 thanksgiving. We look forward to Easter.

Salford Village Hall
Report from Willie Ross
Chairman : Village Hall Committee

It has been another busy year for the Village Hall. Regular weekly activities include Table Tennis, Martial Arts, Babies & Toddlers and Yoga, and these are supplemented by monthly Friday sing-a-longs organised by Doreen Herrington, an increasing number of NCT 2½ day courses, use as an Election Polling Station (three times in the past year!) and various private parties. In addition, Committee members were involved with the organisation of two Village Social evenings,



Summer Fête 2019 : Children's Tug of War

the Village Fete and Barn Dance, an Arts and Crafts Exhibition and the annual Quiz Night. We continue to be grateful to all who contribute on a voluntary basis. Two in particular are Ray Timms who has been keeping the grass and grounds in exemplary condition but has now retired, and Steve McBride who so kindly donates the Christmas tree. We're also very grateful to the Parish Council for their donation of £700 which, in addition to net funds raised by lettings and events, is deposited in a discrete account in readiness for future maintenance needs.

Hire rates for the next year are being kept at the same level; for Salford residents the booking rate continues to be half-price at £7.50 per hour. The hall is equipped with tables and chairs for 80, with ample crockery, cutlery and glasses, plus a piano, two table tennis tables and indoor cricket nets. WiFi access is planned for the coming year.

Enquiries to 07377 784680 or

salfordvillagehallevvents@gmail.com.

Personally, I have been privileged to chair the Village Hall Committee over the past nine years and during the latter seven have also looked after both the bookings and the hall manager functions. That is a modest contribution compared to the 21 years Tim Dowling has notched up in the all-important role of Treasurer. Tim has indicated he would like to pass on the Treasurer role and retire

in due course; and I shall vacate the Chair and committee membership at the end of March. At that time Tim will take over the Chair on an interim basis with PJ Seccombe acting as Secretary, and Mayur Amin agreed joining the Committee as Treasurer. Jo Cloughley will take on the role of Hall Manager, and Claire Apthorp has joined the Committee as Bookings Manager. I would like to thank all of them for their commitment to the cause, and also the three other members of the Committee for their support and assistance throughout the year: Nick Longworth, Nicki McBride, and Sylvie McKay.



Willie Ross is thanked at the Quiz Night for his long service as Village Hall Chairman

Income and Expenditure 1.4.19-31.3.20 (unaudited)			
Income	£	Expenditure	£
Balance c/f	4912	Clerk's salary	2860
Precept	6750	Laptop	599
VAT	231	Grass-cutting	415
Grass-cutting	462	Insurance	322
	12355	Website	150
		OALC	139
		Printing ink	125
		Internal auditor	120
		Village hall hire	90
		RoSPA	82
		Printer	77
		Newsletter	90
		ICO	40
		Stationery	24
		Bus shelter paint	25
		British Legion	25
		Car mileage	18
		<i>Donations:</i>	
		Village Hall (133)	700
Balance to carry forward: £5704		Villager Bus (106A)	750
			6651

ICO = Information Commissioner's Office

OALC = Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils

133 and 106A indicate the Statutory Provision under which the payment is made

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www.salfordvillage.org.uk

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Village Fête 2019 : 'How Many Balloons?'