SEDGEBERROW COMMUNITY NEWS

NOVEMBER 2023

After a long gap the village newsletter is making a reappearance. This has been driven by the parish council, with grateful support from Mike Parker of SeSaME. It aims to provide general information in the village, points of contact, and news of planned events. It is currently planned to be issued 4 times a year but frequency could increase if there is demand and support. We hope you find it useful and welcome contributions for future editions, and in particular editorial support and distribution assistance. If you run a group and wish to contribute an article or assist – please contact any of your parish councillors.

Parish Council clerk@sedgeberrowpc.org.uk

The parish council currently has 5 members – Bob Howe-Double, Richard Hunt, Clive Jackson, Sue Morris (Vice chair), Jem Williamson (chair) and two vacancies. We are also pleased to welcome our new clerk Nikki Nicholson. If interested in joining the parish council, please contact the clerk or a member below.

Recent activity to report include

- Resisting development on land behind the village school which was identified as important greenspace to villagers in the neighbourhood plan consultation
- Working with WCC to maintain pressure on National Highways for further safety improvements on the A46. The 40mph 18-month long trial is a major improvement achieved by 9 parishes working together with WCC and our local MP but we believe that there is scope for further safety improvements
- Exploring the potential for a petanque piste at Glebe Meadow, subject to support from the village hall committee
- Exploring the potential for a new village hall facility following the successful Wychavon £250k legacy grant – if you could contribute to this project particularly in the early phases; village communication, design, planning, technical skills, fund raising then please contact Clive at the parish council
- Regular actions such as grass cutting contracts, encouraging owners with hedges not to allow them to grow across pavements, maintaining in-village speed warnings signs etc
- Full Fibre Ltd, through their customer facing brand Fibre Heros, are looking to potentially expand their network to cover Segeberrow and Hinton on the Green. Not 100% confirmed but any expressions of interest will support their case. Anyone interested in upgrading to full fibre is asked to register interest with Chloe Munday at Full Fibre - chloe.munday@fullfibre.co.uk Examples of services available through Fibre Heros are available here: https://fibreheroes.co.uk/deals-of-the-month/

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Sedgeberrow Sustainable and Manageable Energy (SeSaME)

Our message today is: come and join us at a key moment in our 14 year history. Sedgeberrow needs more on board - three active members have left the village for pastures new and we had the sad death of stalwart Marilyn Butt.

Villagers have already achieved much but there is no shortage of environmentally friendly and sustainable activities that could be close to your heart. Areas you could bring new life to, at a level you decide is possible, given your personal circumstances. Immediate needs are help with leafleting and the printing work for both SeSaME and Parish Council newsletters – with techie inclinations needed for printing. There are others. Young, Working or Retired our future can be yours. Contact Mike: energy@sesame.me.uk

You will see elsewhere in this Parish Council publication how the powerhouse that's Evesham Vale Energy Renewables (EVER), created by the SeSaME team, aided by Sharenergy and RCEF funding, is now separate structurally from SeSaME, and registered as a Community Benefit Society with its own bank account. Take a look: http://www.EveshamValeEnergyRenewables.org.uk Members have worked with accountants Taylor Hobbs to produce SeSaME CIC audited accounts and SeSaME will be reverting to its voluntary community group activities after the financial year ending 31st October 2023. EVER is just beginning its first actively auditable financial year.

SeSaME Oil Buying Club: A dividend of £1,431.75 from last year's purchase of 286,350 litres of Heating Oil is about to be shared amongst 11 different village groups, according to their yearly oil order quantities. Less heavy lorry traffic impacting on road safety, less air pollution, together with the most competitive and regularly lowest prices continue to benefit all of us. With the security of supply the system has recently brought, giving an extra unexpected topical dimension to these troubled times.

There currently is a chance to keep it on-going smoothly? Manager Mike Parker is heading for retirement and is seeking to co-manage for a while the fairly straight forward online, and buyer friendly process with a fellow Sedgeberrow resident prepared to finally take over. Contact Mike as above.



Meeting on the third Tuesday of every month at Sedgeberrow School in the Betteridge Room, we offer potential new members a warm welcome.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 21 November at 7.30pm
Guest Speaker: Mike Jackson, Retired Director BBC Antiques Roadshow followed by refreshments and our AGM

December Meeting: Our Christimas Dinner at The Star, Ashton-under-Hill

Our new programme available January 2024

Contact: Secretary Angela Bravington 07967116833

Evesham Vale Energy Renewables: A Community Powerhouse

We're excited to introduce you to Evesham Vale Energy Renewables, affectionately known as EVER. This Community Benefit Society has a remarkable story that's closely tied to our local community's energy needs and a vision for a sustainable future.

EVER was born after a diligent energy needs survey conducted by the SeSaME team, with help from Sharenergy, who secured RCEF funding for their efforts. In the course of their survey, they uncovered a particularly windy part of Sedgeberrow and identified a local business with substantial energy requirements. This revelation set the stage for a truly transformative initiative.

EVER's ambitions are not just about generating clean energy; they are preparing to launch a share offer to purchase a wind turbine that will harness the natural wind resources in our area. This wind turbine will not only provide clean electricity but will also sell its output to the local business with high energy needs, ensuring a reliable and sustainable source of power.

The beauty of EVER's plan lies in how they intend to reinvest the income generated from this endeavour. The profits won't go into corporate coffers; they will be directed back into our community. EVER will use the income to fund local projects dedicated to insulating properties, thereby reducing energy needs and making our homes more energy-efficient.

This holistic approach not only supports the transition to renewable energy but also empowers our community by investing in projects that directly benefit us. EVER is more than just a renewable energy initiative; it's a force for positive change in our parish.

We encourage you to stay tuned for more updates on EVER's progress and, if you're interested, consider joining us on this exciting journey. Contact details are on the website. Together, we can make a real difference for our community and the environment.

Let's look forward to a greener, more sustainable future, thanks to Evesham Vale Energy Renewables

www.EveshamValeEnergyRenewables.org.uk

Nik Clutterbuck Nik.clutterbuck@ever.me.uk

St Mary the Virgin

November 5th am Holy Communion
November 12th 10am Remembrance Service
November 19th 10am Holy Communion
November 23rd 10am Coffee morning
November 26th 10am Family Service
December 3rd 10am Holy Communion
December 10th 10am Family Service
December 14th 10am Coffee morning
December 17th 10am Service to remember loved ones
December 22nd Curry & Carols – please ring Ann for more details – number below
December 24th 4pm Crib Service
December 25th 10am Christmas Eucharist

December 9th Decorating Christmas trees. If anyone would like to decorate a Christmas tree please get in touch with Ann Banks on 881623 or 07881 695596

If anyone would like to have a bauble on the Christmas tree in Church with your loved ones name on we ask for a donation of £5. Please ring Ann Banks for details.

Reverend Mark Binney, Churchwardens and members of the PCC would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year

Sedgeberrow Village Hall available for hire



Located in the centre of the village, next to Sedgeberrow CofE School, on Main Street, is Sedgeberrow Village Hall and The Betteridge Room. Both spaces are available to hire during evenings and weekends from just £10 per hour.

There is a fully fitted kitchen, stocked as needed, to allow hirers to cater for food and drink, along with off-road parking for up to 20 cars (including disabled spaces).

Our new elected committee for 2023 have launched a brand-new website, with an online booking enquiry form. The website details everything you need to know about events coming up and T&Cs for booking the spaces.

www.sedgeberrowvillagehall.co.uk

You can contact our Bookings Secretary, Kate Gibbons, on enquiries@sedgeberrowvillagehall.co.uk or 07711 220 189



After the distant memory of the summer break fades, I can safely say that we have all had a ‘very’ busy but fun-filled Autumn Term at school. Sedgeberrow School is once again full in every year group and we have all had a very positive start to a new academic year. We would like to offer a special welcome to our new Reception Class and Preschool children and their families. Our new preschool is now up and running which is a great success and we hope this will be a positive addition to the village and our community. During this busy half term the children have taken part in many activities across the school. All these activities are an enrichment to the children’s education and create memorable experiences. The events include a re-enactment of the Battle of Evesham for Year 2, a trip to Cadbury World for Year 5, Year 3 and Year 5 entered a Football Tournament at Evesham United, Year 1 celebrated their Superhero Day by coming to school dressed as their favourite Superhero and two teams entered the Floorball Competition at Chipping Campden School, a mixed team and a girls team - we are hoping to retain our overall win from last year!! The Harvest Festival and Macmillan were both supported very well by our parents and the children’s performances were incredible. We raised £128 for Macmillan. Caring Hands were so grateful for our ongoing support this year thanks to everyone's generous donations. The hall was jam packed for the Harvest Festival…..perhaps we should do two performance next year! We also had our Mental Health Day on 10th October and the children came to school dressed in yellow. The aim of the day was for the children to learn that it’s as important to maintain a healthy mind as well as a healthy body. After half-term Year 5 will be taking part in Bikeability and the whole school will be practising for our I-Sing Pop Christmas shows. I would like to personally thank Margret and Louise, our gardeners extraordinaire, who will be leaving us after nine years’ service to the school. They will be sadly missed, but both leave the legacy of an established garden and a whole generation of children who understand where their food originates and how much work and dedication it takes to cultivate the best crops. Upcoming Events for the Diary Sedgeberrow Preschool would like to invite parents to 'STAY & PLAY' and to join in the Festive Fun on Wednesday 6th December between 9.30am - 10.30am. There are only limited places, so please get in touch to book your place either via email at preschool@sedgeberrow.worcs.sch.uk or call us on 01386 339159. Sedgeberrow School We would like to invite any prospective parents for Reception 2024 to our Open Day on Wednesday 22nd November at 9.15am - 10.45am. If you wish to make an appointment, please contact us via email office@sedgeberrow.worcs.sch.uk or call us on 01386 881391.

Phil Croke Headteacher Sedgeberrow Church of England First School and Preschool.

Sedgeberrow Flood Group richard_hunt@hotmail.com a**nd the Isbourne Catchment Group (ICG)** jem.williamson@outlook.com

The village flood group maintains its preparedness should a flood risk arise and is always keen to recruit new helpers – please contact Richard Hunt direct.

Meanwhile the ICG continues to work with WCC and partners to deliver natural flood management (NFM) within the wider catchment, aiming to 'slow the flow', which in turn allows more of the run-off water from the surrounding hills to infiltrate the ground and reduce flood risk, particularly to downstream villages like Sedgeberrow.

The catchment now has over 150 interventions installed along the Beesmoor Brook, at Charlton Abbots, Sudeley Castle, the Farmcote tributary, Didbrook, Laverton Hill & Hoo Farms, Laverton Village and Woodlands & Orchard Farms near Stancombe Lane, Winchcombe.

An example of recent works is shown below. These have been undertaken in conjunction with Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Steam Railway (GWSR) helping to slow and store water before it reaches the Industrial Estate within the Isbourne catchment. A leaky dam has been positioned along the ditch to the far side of the photograph (left below) and a swale installed to encourage backed up flows to spill towards the newly formed pond. The works have been complemented by upstream tree planting of 50 fruit trees. Net result reducing flood risk and improving bioviersity.





The photo on the right shows bunds installed at Orchard Farm with the aim of reducing run-off; clearly effective judging by the photograph taken after heavy rain.

We are always looking for new ideas so please make contact if you know of any potential options.

The project officer at WCC is Wendy Bufton wbufton@worcestershire.gov.uk or alternatively further information can be found at https://isbournecatchment.org.uk

You can also register online to receive flood alerts at https://www.gov.uk/check-flooding

Useful Contacts/information

Footpath issues within the parish – clive@sedgeberrowpc.org.uk or 07772 366278

Wider public footpaths are maintained by WCC and issues should be reported directly www.worcestershire.gov.uk

For bins, litter and street cleansing contact Wychavon District Council on 01386 565000 or you can report via their website www.wychavon.gov.uk

Fly tipping on public land – www.wychavon.gov.uk or ring on 01386 565018

Highways issues such as potholes, blocked gulleys/drains and damaged signs can be reported directly to Worcestershire County Council at www.worcestershire.gov.uk (Apologies but there seems no other option than via the website so if you need help please ask a neighbour or a parish councillor)

The Mobile Library visits the village on the 3rd Monday in the month 10.30-10.45 at Sedgeberrow School www.mobilelibraries@worcestershire.gov.uk

Residents are reminded that it is their responsibility to keep their hedges cut back so that pedestrians, wheelchairs and buggies can easily use the pavement. Also please keep pavements clear of vehicles at all times.

Not picking up after your dog is antisocial and also punishable with a fine. Please report dog fouling to www.wychavon.gov.uk/dog-fouling-removal



The Queens Head – award winning food in Shukur's restaurant and fantastic family takeaways as well. Great real ales, beers, wines & cocktails. The village meeting place for one and all

Autumn/Winter Diary

Sunday November 26th – Monthly Quiz.

7.30pm for 8pm start. Everyone welcome.

Wednesday November 29th. 'Dine in Happy Wednesday'. A special evening menu at £17.95 per person

Sunday December 10th – NSPCC Xmas Quiz.

The BIG ONE for our favourite charity. Bookings only. See posters for details.

Christmas Day

Drinks & nibbles from 11.30am. Dining only from 2pm for our fantastic Christmas Lunch. Bookings only. See website or Facebook for the menu

Boxing Day

Open from 5pm for drinks, dining in or our full takeaway service

New Years Eve - Food – Music - Party

Live Music & join us to party in the New Year in style

We are open from 5pm till late. Enjoy a wonderful evening of live music with the fantastic Rebekah Lourdes. See posters for details. Dinner sittings are 6pm and 8.30pm.

Telephone 01386 882828 or visit us at www.shukursindianrestaurant.co.uk

or at https://www.facebook.com/shukursatqueenshead

A very Happy Christmas to all of our friends in the village from Shah, Ali and all the team