

Lydeard St Lawrence and Tolland Village Newsletter

February 2021

Deadline for items – 25th of each month – to Liz (liz.mcconnell50@gmail.com or 667375)

| Date | Activity |
|----------------------|---|
| Mon 1 st | |
| Tue 2 nd | Kerbside Recycling Collection |
| Wed 3 rd | |
| Thu 4 th | LSL Church Open for Private Prayer 11:00 am – 12:00 noon. |
| Fri 5 th | |
| Sat 6 th | |
| Sun 7 th | Online Benefice Service – see details LSL Church Open for Private Prayer 11:00 am – 12:00 noon. Scarr Chapel worship service. Online via Zoom 2.30 pm |
| Mon 8 th | |
| Tue 9 th | Garden (Green), Household (Black) and Kerbside Recycling Collection |
| Wed 10 th | |
| Thu 11 th | LSL Church Open for Private Prayer 11:00 am – 12:00 noon. |
| Fri 12 th | |
| Sat 13 th | |
| Sun 14 th | Online Benefice Service – see details LSL Church Open for Private Prayer 11:00 am – 12:00 noon. Scarr Chapel worship service. Online via Zoom 2.30 pm |

| Date | Activity |
|----------------------|---|
| Mon 15 th | SCHOOL – Half Term Week |
| Tue 16 th | Kerbside Recycling Collection |
| Wed 17 th | |
| Thu 18 th | LSL Church Open for Private Prayer 11:00 am – 12:00 noon. |
| Fri 19 th | |
| Sat 20 th | |
| Sun 21 st | Online Benefice Service – see details LSL Church Open for Private Prayer 11:00 am – 12:00 noon. Scarr Chapel worship service. Online via Zoom 2.30 pm |
| Mon 22 nd | |
| Tue 23 rd | Garden (Green), Household (Black) and Kerbside Recycling Collection |
| Wed 24 th | |
| Thu 25 th | LSL Church Open for Private Prayer 11:00 am – 12:00 noon. |
| Fri 26 th | |
| Sat 27 th | |
| Sun 28 th | Online Benefice Service – see details LSL Church Open for Private Prayer 11:00 am – 12:00 noon. Scarr Chapel worship service. Online via Zoom 2.30 pm |

WARNING

Trading Standards is warning the public to be on their guard following reports that fraudsters are sending out fake texts offering a Covid-19 vaccine in an attempt to steal bank details.

The text offers a link to what police call an “extremely convincing” fake NHS website. Once on the website people are asked to input their bank details to register for a vaccine.

The scam message reads ‘**we have identified that you are eligible to apply for your vaccine**’ and then prompts you to click on a link for further information or to ‘apply’ for the vaccine.

If you receive a text or email that asks you to click on a link or for you to provide information, such as your name, credit card or bank details, delete it immediately.

Remember, the NHS will never ask for your payment details.

If you think you have been scammed, you can get advice and find out how to report it at [Citizens Advice – What to do if you’ve been scammed](#).

PARISH COUNCIL

Lydeard St Lawrence and Tolland Parish Council

Minutes of the virtual meeting held by Zoom on 18th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

Councillors in virtual attendance: Jonathan Marshall (Chairman), Deborah Telling (Vice Chair), Mary Harding (on telephone), Don Hobson, Andrew Venner and Tony Weir.

Also, in attendance: Lorna Thorne, Parish Clerk and SWT Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew.

21/01 **Apologies** were received from Cllr Maeve Vickery,

21/02 **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Hobson declared a personal interest in items 6.3 & 6.5 on the Agenda.

21/03 The **Minutes** of the meeting held on 30th November 2020 agreed as an accurate record and will be signed at the first face to face meeting of the Parish Council.

21/04 **Matters Arising**

Dog Waste Bin (20/47.2)

Cllr Marshall has not had a response on costings for the installation of a Dog Waste Bin. Until a price is given, no further action can be taken at this time.

(20/59) Budget and Precept

59.2 Cllrs agreed to keep the precept at the same amount as last year. The tax base has gone down this year from 219.73 to 213.57. This means asking for the same amount as last year per house at £19.286, the PC will be asking for £4118.91.

Cllrs agreed to keep the Precept at £19.286 per band D house equivalent.

SW&T have amended the tax base to 213.69. This means that the Parish Council will receive £4122.08 from Precept.

21/05 **Planning - Applications received for comment from Somerset West and Taunton Council:**

Planning applications have been sent to the planning committee for comment and displayed on the Parish Council's website

41/20/0008 - Erection of a roof over cattle handling yard at Grove Farm, Tolland

41/20/0010 - Erection of a two storey extension to the side and a single storey extension to the rear of Burts Farm Barn, East Town Lane, Tolland,

The Planning Committee have no objections to the two planning applications.

21/06 **Financial**

6.1 The Accounts Statement was noted by the Council.

6.2 Cllrs agreed to the Payment for Salt of £43.58 purchased from MVF

Proposed by Cllr Venner, seconded by Cllr Telling

6.3 Cllrs agreed to Pay Liz McConnell £57.46 for the Website Fee

Proposed by Cllr Venner Seconded by Cllr Weir

6.4 Review banking

Cllr Marshall felt that with the ongoing pandemic and with online evolving all the time that now was the time to convert to the Parish Council's account to online banking facilities.

Cllrs agreed that Cllr Marshall and the Clerk should now look into changing the Parish Council's banking to facilitate online services and this would include the updating of the Council's standing orders.

6.5 Request to assist with financial help with the Outreach Post Office

For many years Lydeard St. Lawrence Village Hall has hosted an Outreach Post Office Service. This service is available to the local community twice a week on a Monday and a Thursday between the hours of 10.00 and 12.45.

The service is provided by Watchet Post Office, this is now under the management of Alcombe and Minehead. They have advised that they are unwilling to pay rent for this service in the future, and the Village Hall Committee have made a request to the Parish Council to see if it would be prepared to treat this service as a community service and subsidise it.

It has been estimated that it costs approximately £10.00 per session, which covers lighting, heating plus the precautionary extras related to Covid-19.

Cllrs agreed that this is a community asset for the village and should be supported. It was agreed that the CIL money pot should be used as this was for community infrastructure.

All Cllrs agreed to supporting a full year's payment on cost towards the Outreach Post Office and would review the situation in a years' time.

Proposed by Cllr Marshall and seconded by Cllr Venner.

21/07 Review Standing Orders to incorporate Online Banking Facilities.

As detailed under 21/06.4

21/08 Salt Bins and Salt supply

After the request at the last meeting for the inclusion of salt bins around the Westleigh, Quickbeam Lane and Hoccombe area, Cllr Telling with the help of Elizabeth Quartley identified 3 locations in which a salt bin should be placed: near White Hill House, Westleigh T-Junction, and half way down Quickbeam Lane at the top of the hill.

With the threat of a blast from the 'Beast from the East', an emergency supply of 9 bags of salt was purchased and placed at the 3 locations, whilst a longer-term solution was researched and costing was sourced.

The cost of a yellow salt bin for the Parish Council would be £112.46 plus vat per bin.

Cllr agreed that 3 bins should be purchased and placed at the agreed locations for SCC to fill with loose salt, as bags get taken.

21/09 Tolland Gates

Cllrs agreed to match fund the cost to repair the gates to Tolland Church. The cost is £4026 plus vat. Tolland PCC has managed to raise half of the cost. Cllr agreed this should be taken from the CBF and support the village of Tolland and to pay Tolland PCC £2000. Proposed Cllr Hobson Seconded Cllr Venner.

21/10 Crime Report

The Crime report was noted by the Council

21/11 Correspondence and items for information

The following items were noted by the Council:

Recycling Newsletter

Weekly Updates from SWT & SCC and workstream

SWT Newsletters

Stronger Somerset letter to Parish and Town Councils email 21/12

21/12 Any other Business

Cllrs agreed to raise the annual Invoice of £5 for the Cricket Club for rent.

SWT Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew gave a brief report.

The unitary council bids have been submitted and a decision should be made by June/July.

It is unsure if the May 2021 Elections will go ahead in light of a unitary Council being formed.

The A358 repairs at Combe Florey are due to take place from 25th Jan to 5th Feb.

Cllr Weir reported that the restricted byway at Sandings Lane has become impassable for walkers due to off-road vehicles using it.

Cllr Telling reported that the drain in Chapel Leigh has become blocked and that the man hole cover has become damaged.

Cllr Telling reported that the road is very slippery after a cattle feed spill along the Westleigh road and Quickbeam Lane.

The road leading out of Tolland towards Lower Tarr has had a spillage of slurry, also making the road very slippery.

With no other business the meeting was closed at 8.10pm

The Proposed date of the next meeting is on Monday 1st March 2021 subject to Covid-19 guidelines.

CHURCH NEWS

LYDEARD ST LAWRENCE CHURCH SERVICES

All services in the churches within the benefice of Bishops Lydeard are now being streamed online.



Church Cockerel

Last month I gave details of the refurbishment of the Church Cockerel. He is currently inside the church awaiting favourable conditions to reascend to the top of the tower. If you are passing the church when it is open, do pop in and have a look.

I did not properly acknowledge all the work that Paul Yeomans did on the restoration. Paul has done a magnificent job on the repairs and the cockerel is in a vastly better condition than he was two years ago.

Many thanks to Paul for all his work on this project, the cockerel will look fantastic once he is back in position.

LYDEARD ST LAWRENCE PCC TREASURER WANTED

Lydeard St Lawrence Parochial Church Council urgently needs a new treasurer. The job requires keeping the electronically operated accounts up to date and submitting annually the accounts to the auditor.

The applicant will be asked to attend the PCC meetings which take place about 4 times a year, plus the annual meeting, and to update the members on the financial situation. There is a development project being undertaken, and work is expected to begin this year.

If you are interested, please contact either of the churchwardens, David Young or Pat Coles whose contact details may be found at the end of this newsletter.



LENT, BEGINNING ON ASH WEDNESDAY 17th FEBRUARY

If you have ever noticed someone with a black smudge on their forehead, you may be forgiven for thinking that they haven't washed very thoroughly! However, what you might not consider is that they may have attended a church service on Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, and been marked with the sign of the cross from the ash produced from the burning of last year's Palm Crosses. What's the point of all that, you may ask.

To try to explain briefly, Lent comprises the six weeks leading to Easter Day – this year, Sunday 4th April. During those six weeks the idea is that we “give up” something which is important to us: chocolate, biscuits, wine, smoking etc. These days, we are also encouraged to “take up” something in place of what we've given up – something completely different, to encourage us out of our normal routine which has become something of a habit perhaps.

This year, as we are all very much aware, is different. Due to Covid-19 restrictions we can't meet in our village church to be able to offer anyone who may wish to receive a cross on their forehead because of social distancing, sanitising and not touching one another! Our Rector Mark and I are also very much aware of how much has already been “given up” in our communities and how tough our present situation is for us, and so we've given a lot of thought as to how to come up with another way of doing things.

Our idea is to burn last year's Palm Crosses as usual and then for people to let us know if they would like us to place just a small mark in ash on the surround of their front door. Now this may seem a bit of a strange idea, but it goes back to the times – described in the Old Testament of the Bible – when Moses was trying to rescue the Hebrews from Egypt. If you know the story of the ‘Passover’, you may recall that the door posts of the Hebrews were marked with a small smear of blood to indicate that they should be saved from death.

This may all sound like a bit more “doom and gloom”, and so Mark and I thought that instead of giving something up for Lent as well as so many other aspects of life, we would give something in return. So, if you would like us to visit you, keeping socially distanced and wearing masks of course, we would put a small mark in ash on your door post and then offer you “a candle of hope, light and peace”. Obviously, you can use the candle in any way you wish – perhaps light it on each Sunday during Lent and then on Easter Day, or however you feel is appropriate for your needs.

If you would like us to do this for you, please contact

Revd. Mark on 01823 432222; email markcsb@gmail.com OR

Revd. Maureen on 01984 667472; email reverendmaureenyoung@gmail.com.

We wish you a blessed Lent, and a joyful Easter when it arrives. We don't know yet what restrictions may be in place or, indeed, lifted by then but please be assured that everyone is in our prayers and do let us know if there is any way at all in which we can be of help to you.

Betty Reed

It is with sadness that I have to tell you that Betty Reed, whom many of you will remember, has died. Although being very crippled she was well known for walking with her walking frame on the pavement outside her home on the Causeway where she had lived for many years with her late husband Brian.

She was a keen member of the Over 60's whenever someone strong could take her in her wheelchair. She was 92 and moved to a care home in Lancashire 2 years ago to be near her devoted step-son and his family.

Barbara Vearncombe

Pews removed at Lydeard St Lawrence church!

On Tuesday 12th January work began to remove the two front pews and frontals in the nave of the church. As may be seen from the photo this has given us a valuable space which gives more flexibility for worship, weddings, funerals as well as giving the village school more space when they visit us (in normal times) for their end of terms services and good work assemblies. A dais of several independent units will fill the spaces between the platforms on which the pews were fixed.

The photo also shows the way in which the pews were fixed into the platforms using mortice and tenon joints and dowelling. Again, if you are near the church when it is open, do pop in and have a look.

Our thanks go to Andy Coleman and Susie Bythell-Wixey for their skilled carpentry and a week of labour.

David R Young, Churchwarden

Photo credit – Phil Young.



VILLAGE NEWS

Seasoned Hardwood Logs

Richard Webber has some seasoned hardwood logs available in dumpy bags, trailer loads or nets from Pitpear Farm. Please phone Richard on 07535816191 for further details and to arrange delivery or collection.

Lydeard St Lawrence Post Office

The twice weekly village post office in Lydeard St Lawrence is currently closed as Jane has been furloughed because of the latest Covid lockdown. I will send out a note to everyone as soon as this changes.

COUNCIL NEWS

Covid Vaccination Programme Volunteers Wanted

The Somerset Covid Vaccination Programme has joined up with Spark Somerset to ask for volunteers to greet and direct people attending the vaccinations centres. Can you help? The link below takes you to Spark a Change, the volunteering platform for Somerset where you can submit your expression of interest. Any queries? Please email volunteer@sparksomerset.org.uk

Thank you!

<https://www.sparkachange.org.uk/o/Somerset-NHS-Foundation-Trust>

SWP update

Early collections from next week

COVID continues to put pressure on recycling and rubbish collections. We and our contractors are doing everything we can to keep disruption to a minimum while keeping staff and public safe.

We continue to take a precautionary approach to limit contact and minimise risk: for example, crews work in tightly-controlled team bubbles and the whole bubble isolates when a member is symptomatic, has a positive test or is in contact with someone who tests positive. This inevitably means far higher staff absences than expected, as well as unpredictable daily changes as team bubbles isolate or return to work, and crews are reallocated to maintain all services.

In the first three weeks of January, COVID contributed to the loss of nearly 800 operational days – compared to 58 in December. With current pressures set to continue, we are taking additional steps to protect crews, help them manage the workload and maintain services.

Extra steps being from Monday, 1 February

6am starts for collections, rather than 7am

This early start will further reduce contact between team bubbles as crews have staggered starts over a longer time. It will also allow them a head start on work that may take longer if staff are absent

Residents have understood and supported early starts in the past, such as the 2019 heatwave and to avoid specific traffic hold-ups.

Householders will need to put recycling and rubbish out by 6am – or the night before. We will start communicating this from today, Wednesday 27 January.

Initially this will be for a month and will reviewed to see if it needs to continue.

We will not immediately return for some missed collections

We will not take such decisions lightly, but staff absences will sometimes make it impractical to return for missed recycling or garden waste collections the following day. In these cases residents need to take containers in until their next collection.

Rubbish collections will not be affected and any missed recycling collections would be prioritised the following week, with extra recycling taken. We will communicate as widely and as soon as possible with affected areas when decisions are made not to return, through social media and updating key stakeholders.

We ask for your patience would encourage you to follow the SWP Facebook page @somersetwaste for the most up to date information.

We have updated our online system for missed collection reporting so residents will know when we will be returning.

CONTACTS

| Event | Contact | Tel | Email |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Benefice Rector Benefice Associate Priest | Revd Mark Hurley Revd Maureen Young | 01823 432222 01984 667472 | markcsb@gamil.com reverendmaureenyoung@gmail.com |
| Lydeard St Lawrence Churchwardens | David Young Pat Coles | 667472 ExD | dryoung47@googlemail.com brian.coles.coles@btinternet.com |
| Tolland Churchwardens | Maureen Canney Linda Lloyd | 656236 623155 | linda@goulds-farm.co.uk |
| Scarr Chapel | Bill Caines | 667416 | jennyscarr73@hotmail.com |
| Bell ringing | Janet Bond | 667372 | janet.jimbond@gmail.com |
| Cricket 1st Team | Paul Smith | 07901 847709 | |
| Sunday Football | Simon Broad | 667739 | simonbroad3@gmail.com |
| Lydeard Lifts | Liz McConnell | 667375 | liz.mcconnell50@gmail.com |
| Lydeard Lunch Club | Phil Barker | | phil_r_barker@yahoo.co.uk |
| Parish Council | Jonathan Marshall | 667323 | jejm@hotmail.co.uk |
| Pilates | Laura Sinclair | 07714 276447 | pilatesbylauracharlotte@gmail.com |
| Post Office | Watchet Post Office | 631223 | |
| Table Tennis | Mel Horner | 667347 | melhorner@btinternet.com |
| Village Agent (LSL) | Chrissy Brewer | 07535 276680 | christineb@somersetccc.org.uk |
| Village Agent (Tolland) | Cat Sweatman | 07746 340546 | cat@somersetccc.org.uk |
| Village Hall | Anna Junkison-Broad | 667739 | annajbroad@hotmail.com |
| Web Page | Liz McConnell | 667375 | liz.mcconnell50@gmail.com |
| W.I. | Jo Stewart | | jo46sefa@hotmail.com |
| Local Police | PC Jo Jeffery PCSO Louise Fyne Non Emergency Number | 07889 657943 07889 659476 101 | Joanne.jeffery@avonandsomerset.police.uk Louise.fyne@avonandsomerset.police.uk |
| Community Council Oil Orders | | 01603 881888 | somersetbuying@af-affinity.co.uk |

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|---|--|
| Lydeard St Lawrence Primary School | www.lydeardstlawrenceprimary.co.uk |
| LSL Village Web Page | www.lydeard-st-l.co.uk |
| Benefice Churches | www.bishopslydeardbenefice.org |

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