

Viewpoint



The Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Newsletter

JULY 2021

LOCAL NEWS

Ruspidge Play Area

Recently, Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council have started an improvement and upgrade programme on play areas throughout the Parish. As a Council, we use our best endeavours to keep our public areas in good order for the benefit of all of our residents.

Indeed, the facilities available in the Parish are the envy of larger communities, many of whom have much less to offer.

We were therefore extremely disappointed to find that repairs to the soft play area surface were vandalized twice in the form of the new surface being damaged before it was fully set. The protective security fencing was also removed and damaged. The community notice board has also been repeatedly damaged and required subsequent repair.

These acts of mindless vandalism impact everyone in the community who use, and indeed often rely on these facilities. Ultimately, the cost of these repeated repairs will fall to the Council Tax payers in the parish.

Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council, along with every other Council, has increasingly limited resources and should this vandalism continue this may ultimately result in a reduction of facilities available for the children of our Parish.

Should anyone have any information on who may have committed this damage, please contact the Council at clerk@inforspc.co.uk.



Dog Mess in Community Play Areas

Complaints have been received by the Parish Council of dog faeces being left in the community play areas in the Parish, (particularly in Ruspidge play area).

Please ensure you bring a bag with you to pick up your dog's mess. Dog faeces can contain parasite eggs, which if ingested by humans, are responsible for a condition called Toxocariasis.

The Parish Council does not want to have to close our parks to dog walkers but, unfortunately, we may have to take action should the situation continue. The health and safety of the children using our facilities must take priority as we are sure you will all agree.

FUN FOREST FACTS

The ferns in the Forest of Dean are now growing well. Ferns are some of the oldest plants in the world. They first appear in the fossil record about 360 million years ago, but many of the current species did not appear until about 145 million years ago.

Road Closure in Soudley

The Parish Council has been notified that Top Road, Soudley will be closed from 6th September until 4th October 2021.



The closure will be from the junction of Lower Road to the junction of Blackpool Bridge Road, thus preventing traffic driving through the village to access Ruspidge or the left turn towards Blackpool Bridge and the main road to Parkend and Coleford.

Please note that there will be *no* pedestrian or emergency access across the bridge for the duration of the period of the works because of a trench which will be dug across the road.

The closure is because of essential maintenance works to the bridge and retaining walls. Access to Ruspidge will need to be via Sutton Road / Littledean.

Speeding Update

As reported in the last issue of Viewpoint, speeding in the Ruspidge and Soudley area is now a significant problem.

The issue has been taken up with our new County Councillor (Beki Hoyland) and her response is awaited. We will report further when this arrives.

In the meantime, please contact your County Councillor if this issue is close to your heart too:

For Ruspidge and Buckshaft - Graham Morgan, 01594 829349, graham.morgan@gloucestershire.gov.uk

For Soudley - Beki Hoyland, 07815 660013, beki.hoyland@gloucestershire.gov.uk

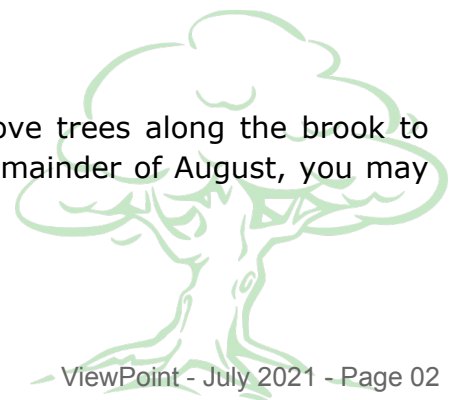
Scam Leaflets

We have been notified by the local PCSO that potential scam leaflets are being distributed in the Sedbury, Tutshill and Tidenham area.

Although there does not seem to be any reports of these being received in the Forest of Dean area yet, this is a reminder that we should not share personal information with people you do not know and that, if an offer appears too good to be true, it probably is.

Blue Rock Trail

Work is due to start on 9th August on the Blue Rock trail to remove trees along the brook to improve flow and prevent any future flooding problems. For the remainder of August, you may encounter people doing works along the brook at various times.





Summer is upon us with the forest and hedgerows abundant with lots of flowers and summer growth. Lovely!

We, at the hall, like everyone else are eagerly awaiting the relaxation of Covid rules, so with luck all will be back to near normal later this month. YES!

We have had many enquiries ready for the easing of these rules.

Currently taking place we have:

Exercise classesWednesdays 1.45 - 2.45

(Phone 01594 812447)

Shaolin Kung Fu.....Sundays 6.30 - 8.30

Yoga....Twice weekly

Plus private hirings for various meetings eg. The Parish Council.

As soon as we get the all clear the following groups have confirmed they wish to restart

Golden Oldies ...Tuesday afternoon

Craft group....1st Monday in month 2 till 4

Book club.....2nd Monday in Month 7 till 8

Ruspidge Gardening Club2nd/3rd Tuesday in

month - ruspidgegardeningclub.net

(details from Sally Graham 781449)

Brownies - September

More details next month.

RUSPIDGE MEMORIAL HALL NEWS

The halls for hire:

These charges are valid from September 1st 2021

Upper hall - large hall with sprung wooden floor, stage and fully fitted kitchen £12.00 per hour for casual bookings. Plus, if required, a flat fee of £5.00 - this gives you full use of the kitchen, for the duration of your hire time. £9.00 per hour for all regular bookings

Lower hall - smaller, with area to make refreshments and outside paving and grassed area accessed via either side of the upper hall entrance. £5.00 per hour

To book either hall or for more information please ring Jenny 01594 823620 also check out our facebook page.

A plea, the hall is run by an active group of committee members and trustees, who give their time voluntarily, however we really need more help to keep the hall looking good, running smooth and making it a pleasure to use by the community.

So if you have a little time to spare and are willing to lend us a hand (you don't need to be on the committee or become a trustee) please let us know by emailing our secretary Pam

ruspidgemh@talktalk.net

Thank you.



200 Club

At Last!! - the long awaited first three months winners of our 'Rollover' Spring draw!

So many folk have helped with 200 club this year, the members, those who collected the money, the volunteers who supported the bacs payers and, of course, Sally for putting it all together at the end and made it happen.

Plus a special thanks to Joan from The Hobbit who pulled out the first winner

| | £30 - 1 winner | £20 - 2 winners | £10 - 2 winners |
|-------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| April | 198 Austin Wood | 189 Dean Jackson 199 Jenny Jones | 45 Rebecca Brinton 91 Brody Johnson |
| May | 10 Jacob Sanders | 194 Kay Stamp-Wood 149 Beryl Olver | 197 Andy Long 175 Michael Partridge |
| June | 118 Lesley Powell | 60 Tim Dunckley 42 Kathy Godfrey | 168 Bev May 163 Nicky Packer |

Thank you to all who are in the 200 club, and good luck next time!

We are pleased to be able to announce that the spacious village Hall in Soudley is now back open for business. Refurbishments have been taking place over the course of the last year and are now largely completed. It has been fully cleaned and hand sanitizers installed. All activities in the hall are, of course, being held within Government guidelines.

Jane Scott, the booking secretary, advises that there has been a significant uptick in enquiries for future bookings for regular classes.

Unfortunately however, the village Fete has once again fallen victim to the pandemic and has again had to be cancelled.

On a further sour note, there has been an increase in fly-tipping in the carpark. Please report this if you see it using the FOD Council reporting tool online, or by calling the number listed on the back page of this issue.

In good news, our village allotment project has taken off well with tenants in place on all ten plots and a waiting list of those wanting to rent an allotment.

Fruit and vegetables are growing well but there is still plenty of work to do to have everything complete before winter arrives.

Thank you and well done to all for their hard work in clearing the ground and getting this project up and running.



Regular Events:

Art Classes:
very Tuesday 10am until 12 noon

Fitness Sundays:
Recreation ground from 10am

FUN FOREST FACTS

Squirrels are mainly herbivorous, eating nuts, seeds, bark and twigs but they are actually omnivores and will often raid birds' nests to eat the eggs or chicks (or sometimes even adult birds).

This is the planning schedule for 8th June 2021

Planning Reference-Parish-Site Address & Detail

Comment

P0830/21/FUL

64 Ruspidge Road, Ruspidge, Cinderford, Glos

Erection of a detached dwelling with associated works.

Demolition of garage.

No Obj

P0871/21/FUL

Land Adjacent Sunnyville, Tramway Rd, Ruspidge,
GL14 3AY.

Variation of condition 02 (approved plans) of planning
permission P1683/19/FUL to allow for amendments to the design
of the dwelling.

No Obj

P0295/21/FU

77 Ruspidge Road, Ruspidge, Cinderford,
Gloucestershire.

Conversion of first floor flat to 2no flats and 2no stairwells.

Objection due to parking

P0956/21/FUL

Dean Vale, 4 Lower Road, Soudley, Cinderford.
Conservatory to the front of the property.

No Obj

Decisions notified by the Planning Authority

Planning Reference-Parish-District-Site Address & Detail

Comment Decision

P0539/21/FUL

Rock House, Lower Road, Soudley, Cinderford.

Application under Section 73 to vary condition 2 of planning
permission P1735/17/FUL to allow for the provision of a first floor
balcony upon the side (i.e. west) elevation of the extension
serving the master bedroom.

No Obj

Consent



Additionally, the following planning applications have been received, brief details are listed here, with details of the link to view the full plans, should you wish to make any comments to the District Council:

8 Archway Close, Soudley. Proposed two storey rear extension and garage

<https://publicaccess.fdean.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QUFLYAHIK2V00>

Comments to be made by 9th July

Very worryingly for residents of Soudley, a further planning application has been received in respect of the vacant agricultural land on Top Road which lies between The Coach House and The Beeches. The applicant has requested permission for between five and eight residential dwellings to be built on this land;

<http://publicaccess.fdean.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QU4SZOHI0FD00>

The Parish Council has again opposed this proposed development and we are aware of the strength of feeling within the community that this field should remain undeveloped. Please contact Mrs Hannah Ramsey at FOD District Council on either 01594 812377 or by email at hannah.ramsey@fdean.gov.uk

All comments on this application must be made by 13th July 2021.



Parish Council Office:

01594 825343, email: info@clerksrspc.co.uk

Village Hall and Group Contacts:

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------|
| For Soudley | Jane Scott | 07961 405806 |
| For Ruspidge: | Jenny East, bookings | 01594 823620 |
| | Sally Graham, 200 Club | 01594 781449 |

Member of Parliament:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Mark Harper | 01594 823482 |
| | email: harperm@parliament.uk |

County Councillors:

For Ruspidge and Buckshaft:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Graham Morgan | 01594 829349 |
| | email: graham.morgan@gloucestershire.gov.uk |

For Soudley:

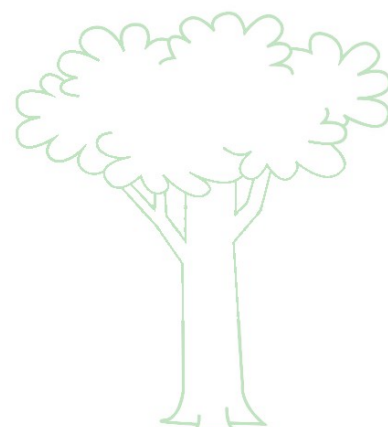
| | |
|--------------|---|
| Beki Hoyland | 07815 660013 |
| | email: beki.hoyland@gloucestershire.gov.uk |

Forest of Dean District Councillors:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Bernie O'Neill (Ruspidge) | 01594 827586 |
| Richard Boyles (Soudley) | 07979 755101 |
| Nicky Packer (Soudley) | 01594 827516 |

Parish Councillors:

William Acland (Chair)
Tony Matthews
Norman Snell
Helen Medcraft
Joanne Smith
Mark Ogden



Other Useful Telephone Numbers

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| BIFFA | 01594 825803 |
| Cinderford Town Council | 01594 822599 |
| Citizen Advice Bureau | 0300 330 9006 |
| CAB existing clients | 01594 823937 |
| Dog/Street Warden | 01594 810000 |
| FOD District Council | 01594 810000 |
| Forestry Commission | 03000 674800 |
| FVAF | 01594 822073 |
| Highways | 08000 514514 |
| Health advice (NHS Direct) | 111 |
| Police | 101 |
| Report/update on power cuts | 105 |
| Shire Hall reception | 01452 425000 |
| Street lighting | 08000 514514 |
| Two Rivers Housing | 08003 160897 or 01594 546222 |

If you find any text difficult to read, please contact the Parish Clerk on 01594 825343.
Please note the new Parish Council email address is: info@clerkrspc.co.uk

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The next issue of ViewPoint will be 1st August. Last date for receipt of copy will be Mon 26th July.



FUN FOREST FACTS

A group of Wild Boar is known as a Sounder which consists of females and young. Males are solitary and only come together with the females to mate.