

Southwold town councillors

Sue Allen:	722768
Teresa Baggott:	722385
Ann Betts:	724300
Ian Bradbury:	724246
Sue Doy:	722987
Katie Flodin:	724119
Michael Ladd:	724337
Robert Temple:	723051
Simon Tobin:	725153
Melanie Tucker:	07885576514
Will Windell:	723239
John Winter:	723812

COUNCILLORS' SURGERY

Saturday 26 May
from 10 am – 11 am

Wednesday 20 June
from 7 pm – 8 pm

when town councillors will be in attendance at the town hall.

Town Clerk: Lesley Beevor

email: townclerk@southwoldtowncouncil.com

address: Town Hall Southwold IP18 6EF

telephone number: 722576

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Editorial note

Connecting has been established for six months and June's edition will be enclosed with the Parish magazine, in line with the Town Council's decision to circulate editions quarterly, while having copies of the intervening months merely available for collection from the Town Hall.

And a continuing reminder please: the clerk's office is open to the public between 10 am and 12 noon from Monday to Friday inclusive.

Police contact



The national non-emergency number: 101 should be used where dialling 999 is clearly inappropriate. Dialling 101 in Suffolk will Make direct contact with the Suffolk Police HQ and a direct connection can then be made to the Southwold & Halesworth Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Waveney District Councillors:

Sue Allen and Michael Ladd
[as opposite]

Suffolk County Councillor:

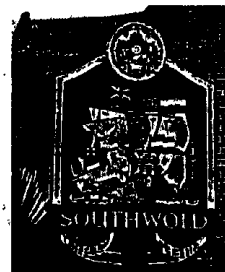
John Goldsmith: 722422

NEXT MEETING DATES

Annual meeting of the Town Council – 7.00 pm
[Please note start time]
Monday 14 May 2012

Town Council – 7.30 pm
Tuesday 29 May

ALL WELCOME



Issue no. 2b MAY 2012

CONNECTING

News from Southwold Town Council

THE PURPOSE OF THIS NEWSLETTER, IS TO INFORM ADVISE AND CONNECT WITH SOUTHWOLD ELECTORS

TOWN COUNCIL'S VIEW ON BEACH HUTS PREVAILS FOR THE TIME BEING

In a most welcome, unexpected and, perhaps, a somewhat surprising decision by the District Council's Development Control Committee on 17 April, the Town Council's reluctance to recommend one of the two sites proposed for the new beach huts was upheld, pending a further consultative exercise with the emergency services.

The deferment decision was taken in order to allow time for the emergency services to be contacted and respond to a request for information relating to the merits of the case advanced by Southwold Town Council at its meeting on 26 March.

NPS Property Consultants, acting as the agent for *Waveney District Council*, had withdrawn proposals for five huts at a site to the west of *Ferry Road* a few days before the Town Council meeting - a positive response in itself, since few, if any, residents had expressed other than a negative reaction to the proposal.

But while supporting the proposal for seven more huts on the Promenade/Sea Wall immediately to the north of the Pier, the Town Council narrowly rejected proposals for a further group of five huts on the Promenade/Sea Wall between the access ramps from and to *South Green* and *Gun Hill*. This being on the grounds of historical precedent, combined with Health and Safety considerations, in the event of a need for emergency access to the promenade at this location.

The standard of debate in the Town Council had been excellent and it was encouraging to note the rigour that was applied to consideration of the application as a whole; a factor that would have been evident in the verbal submission to the District Council's Development Control Committee too.

While this probably will not be the end of the matter, since there is clearly a body of evidence supporting a contrary view, the Planning process, per se, is the clear victor and one should applaud the firmness and pragmatism of the approach taken by the District Council in what is proving to be a fairly emotive matter.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – MONDAY 23 APRIL

A sizeable number of Southwold's electors attended the annual Town Meeting, where they heard a presentation from Bill Parker, the *Suffolk Coast Futures Officer* on coastal matters and concerns. Mr Parker explained that SCF, a partnership between regional and local government and government agencies, was looking at holistic ways to manage coastal erosion. He set out SCF's objectives.

- To:
- agree a common vision for the coastal zone.
 - integrate the effort of the key decision making bodies.
 - work to influence the development of regional and national policies.
 - work directly with local communities and other interests.
 - establish effective governance and co-ordinate policies.
 - get all key decision makers to adopt an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) action plan.
 - pilot new ways to improve an integrated approach.
 - use existing funding better and develop new sources.

Mr Parker illustrated his talk with some breathtaking views of the coast and of the threat to local communities; a theoretical line drawing to the west of Southwold brought a few gasps from the audience, but it was assured that Southwold is, and would continue, to be protected. There was, however, an acknowledgment that some mistakes had been made during the latest works in that the height of groyne could have been increased to the greater benefit of the beach.

The audience demonstrated its knowledge during a lively question and answer session and gave its appreciation of Mr Parker's visit with enthusiastic applause.

The formal business of a Town Meeting, followed, with Town Mayor, Will Windell, reporting on the Town Council's activities during his Mayoral Year, 2011/12. Reports were also received from six local charities, including the Southwold Millennium Foundation, and from Southwold Primary School.

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ANZAC DAY SERVICE – SUNDAY 29 APRIL

At the last minute, the rain relented and the Parade was given the go ahead by marshals, much to the relief of the Southwold and Reydon Corps of Drums; its members having major concerns for the protection of drum skins.

With the Lord Lieutenant, Lord Richard Dannatt and the Town Mayor taking the salute, the Parade made its way from Market Place to St. Edmund's Parish Church for a Service of Commemoration conducted by the Reverend Simon Pitcher; a service that placed much emphasis on the peace and friendship that now exists between former adversaries.

Following the church service, tea and Anzac biscuits were served in St. Edmund's Hall. Our grateful thanks go to all who helped organise this event.

NEW PCSO BEGINS HER DUTIES

A third PCSO for Southwold and Reydon has joined the Suffolk Constabulary in a position match-funded in part by Suffolk Police, and in part by the local community (with several partners having committed financially to her posting during the next two years).

PCSO Amy Wegg took up official duties recently and she will be a welcome addition to policing in the area; *Connecting* greets her arrival and wishes her well.

DIAMOND JUBILEE TEA

This takes place on Tuesday 5 June from 3pm in St. Edmund's Hall. Tickets are available to residents on the Electoral Roll and may be collected from the Town Hall.

ANNUAL REPORT

The Town Council will publish its Annual Report referred to on the opposite page, and this will be distributed to each household during the coming weeks in accordance with the Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme.

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