

LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter

JULY 2018



CARE FOR YOUR VILLAGE DAY

(very sociable - come and meet your fellow villagers!)

SATURDAY 4TH AUGUST

From 9.30 am - School Room, Church Yard and Church Working party, with coffee and ploughman's lunch! Everybody is welcome, whatever your skills, to do inside and outside jobs.

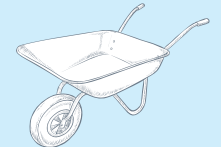
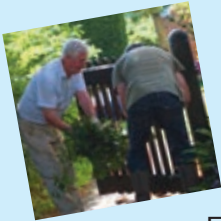
Following the successful footpaths afternoon a few weeks ago, footpath maintenance will also be a part of the 'Care for your Village day'.

Ed will be coordinating from the churchyard where any footpath work is required.

For both sessions please bring gloves, protective clothing and the tools you like to use.

For more information please call - for Church Angela on 240 921 or Stephen on 249 549 - for footpaths Ed Moore 394 583.

There will be a list of work needed in the porch; if you are able to do any before the day, that would be also be appreciated.



ROADSIDE 'SID' FOR LOPEN



A Yard Sale was held on Saturday June 23rd, and with the donations of items to sell, and with the effort of Roger & Annie Gurner

and their support team, the sum of £535 was raised towards attaining the target of £3,500 for the purchase of the village SID. The fund now stands at £3035 and there is every hope of still further donations to help reach the total required. Although many people in the village have made pledges towards the purchase of the SID there is still time to make your pledge if you haven't already done so!

Let's make one final push to get to the £3500 needed - please pledge NOW by contacting Roger at slow@freeolamail.com or 07831 597611.



SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM AWARDED £3,000 GRANT!



Many of you will be aware that the fireplace in the Sunday School Room is sagging under the weight of the chimney. Your Lopen Parochial Church Council (PCC) had it inspected by a structural engineer who recommended temporary propping and then removal of the fireplace and chimney. Consent for the removal was granted by the Local Authority in December and the work put out to tender to four local builders. The PCC awarded the contract to the lowest bidder in March. The total cost of removal, thatching the roof void and limited improvements to the kitchen facilities will be approximately £3,000. Since the normal annual church & schoolroom income and expenses are finely balanced an application was made to the National Lottery Awards for All scheme. The brilliant news is that we have just been awarded the full £3,000. In addition, we have received a generous personal donation which will allow additional improvements to the Sunday School Room to be considered. It is anticipated that work will commence towards the end of August and take about a week to complete.

From one Lopen resident - 'it's been nice to see the smiley face when I drive past the SID that's been in the village the last week or so!'

**THERE WILL BE NO LOPEN EYE
IN AUGUST**

LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

From our new Chairman, Stephen Crane - 'I will begin by thanking Nick for all his hard work over the past years as Chairman of the Parish Council. Nick is a tough act to follow, however I shall do my best with the help and support of the other members of the Council. I shall take this opportunity also, to wish Nick a speedy recovery and I know the whole Council joins me in sending our very warmest wishes for his return to full health. We all look forward to welcoming him back on the Council as and when he feels the time is right for that to happen'.

VILLAGE SURVEY

Many thanks to everyone who responded to the recent Lopen Village Survey. A total of 42 questionnaires were received, which represent exactly a third of households in the village. It was enlightening to discover the views of residents about a variety of matters from planning to broadband, and these opinions will be used to plan future Parish Council activities.

Some of the most striking findings were:

- Overall, the topic people considered most important was Roads and Traffic with 90% of respondents rating it as important or very important.
- 78% of respondents felt the village should purchase a speed indicating device, with the majority believing that residents should make a contribution.
- There was very little appetite for large building developments, however most people are happy for smaller projects within the existing property boundaries in the village.
- 100% of respondents refer to the Lopen Eye to find out about village matters.

If anyone would like to find out more, full analysis of the results will be presented at a forthcoming Parish Council meeting - to be advised

SPEED INDICATION DEVICE (SID)

Following on from the first working party meeting on 2nd June, Somerset County Highways Department has been contacted, with a view to increasing the number of posts that can be used to mount the SID. We have also advised the Highways Department of our preferred shortlist of three devices. We are now waiting for Highways to confirm that they have no issues with our selecting any of the three, prior to the final decision process. Hopefully we will have some answers by the next Parish Council

Meeting but we are in the hands of the Highways Department so – watch this space!

FOOTPATHS MAINTENANCE DAY

Many thanks to all those who participated in the footpath maintenance afternoon on June 10th. It was a really productive afternoon and we hope it was an enjoyable time for everyone who came along. Also, we would like to extend our thanks to the many within the village who regularly work to maintain the footpaths in their own time. Your efforts do not go unnoticed and the care of the footpaths is much appreciated. We look forward to running another Maintenance Day in the near future. Please look out for this in the Lopen Eye.

Whilst the footpaths are there for everyone to enjoy, following some recent incidents reported to the PC we would ask those who use them to remember a few simple rules of the countryside:

- Please leave gates as you have found them, if you have opened a gate please shut it behind you.
- Please keep dogs under effective control. Keep your dog on a lead around farm animals and horses, for your own safety and for the welfare of the animals. Ensure it does not stray off the path or area where you have a right of access.
- Clean up after your dog and get rid of the mess responsibly – 'bag it and bin it'.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Parish Council meeting will take place in the Sunday School Room at 7.00pm on:

- Monday July 9th.

Please contact a councillor or the Parish Clerk at least one week before, if there is a matter you would like added to the agenda.

MEETING MINUTES

Please note that Parish Council minutes, audited accounts and other statutory information, which must be made available to the public, are available on the village website -

www.lopen.btck.co.uk/LopenParishCouncil

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FORTHCOMING LPC MEETINGS?

Forthcoming LPC meetings (listed above) are posted on the village notice board, which is located at the junction of Holloway (the main road) and Church Street and on the village page of the website. However, if you would like to receive email notifications, please contact Lisa Wilson, Parish Clerk, at lopenpc.clerk@gmail.com or telephone 07587 211150 and add yourself to the Parish Council mailing list.

Do you have any news, or a story, that would interest our readers?

Items can be sent in for consideration no later than the 23rd of the month preceding cover date.



LOPEN FLOWER FESTIVAL

The next meeting for flower arrangers will be on
Thursday 26th July at 4.30pm
in the Sunday School Room

Anyone who would like to help with flowers
 is welcome to join us.

*For more information call
 Liz Constable on 240 912.*

Donations of cakes and raffle prizes would be
 much appreciated. Cakes to Margaret and Raffle
 prizes to Paul at Church St House. Plants to
 Marian at The Old Bakehouse.

For Children and Young People - we would love
 you to be involved in the weekend, but appreciate
 many of you may be away on holiday, so we
 suggest you might like to make a picture of a bird
 or birds, either a drawing, painting or a collage.
 For younger members there will be pictures to
 colour, if preferred, available from Sarah Gibson at
 September House until 12th August.

Please take your completed pictures to Sarah
 by 16th August so they can be displayed in the
 Sunday School Room.

Any queries to Sarah on 249 325.



Now that we are entering the
 summer/holiday season, it is
 especially important not to
 become complacent about
 security.

It is the period in which the
 opportunist criminals take
 advantage and will:

- Enter open front or rear doors whilst residents
 are in the garden.
- Enter doors or windows that have been left open
 or insecure at night whilst residents are asleep.
- Reach through insecure windows to steal
 property.

When you go on holiday, police advice includes:

- Take steps to make your house look occupied.
- Ask a trusted neighbour to open and close your
 curtains for you.
- Put a timer on some of your lights – do not leave
 a landing light on.
- Cancel your milk and paper deliveries.
- Ask a neighbour or friend to park their vehicle on
 your drive.
- Move valuable items, such as pedal cycles, from
 the shed to the house.
- Cut your lawns and hedges and make sure the
 hedge to the front of your property is cut to below
 three feet to aid surveillance.
- Do not advertise that you are going away on
 social media.

Childrens' Workshop

is to be held on

Saturday 7th July

from 2.00 to 4.00pm

in

The Sunday School Room, Lopen

Summer holidays are approaching so set the scene for a
 day by the sea with some fun things for younger children to

make or to try - all things nautical for the
 Seamans Service the following day. Making boats, etc.

Play clothes needed and they will need a parent to
 come with them. All welcome.

For more information please contact Christianne Long on
 249 766, or email christianne@lopen.me.uk

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Parish Councils and residents have been asked to
 respond to a South Somerset District Council Health
 & Wellbeing strategy consultation. The results
 from this consultation will inform a joint 'Improving
 Lives' strategy which sets out how all members of
 the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board will work
 together over the next ten years to improve the lives
 of residents. This consultation opened in June and
 closes on August 17th. so visit the web site for more
 information:

<http://www.somersetconsults.org.uk/consult.ti/ImprovingLives/consultationHome>



Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday 10th July
 at 7.30pm in the
Sunday School Room



New Tricks for Old Gardeners

Katherine Crouch, winner of first BBC Gardener of the Year in 1999, Chelsea Gold Medalist 2008 and local resident is coming to give our horticultural knowledge an update.

New and non-members welcome.

For further information please contact Pauline Rook T: 240 644 E: prook12@gmail.com

RECYCLE YOUR PLASTIC POTS

We now have a container by the side steps at the church for the collection and recycling of any plastic garden pots, trays and containers. Please feel free to claim any for that garden project or just leave any that are now unwanted. The idea is recycle these items as much as possible to avoid them going to landfill. Terracotta pots, whole or broken, are also welcome, however please leave these outside the crate.



There is a Defibrillator in the porch of All Saint's Church, Church Street.

If you are interested in being trained to use the equipment, please contact Sarah Mason on 249 219 or sarahmason6@yahoo.com

Lopen Eye back copies are available on the Lopen web site as downloadable PDF files from this link:

<http://www.lopen.btck.co.uk/LopenEyeNewsletter>



Have you liked the Lopen Events Facebook page? Have a look - www.facebook.com/Lopen-Events-277018432630673/

CONTACTS

Village website - www.lopen.btck.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Stephen Crane	241 412	scrane1@hotmail.co.uk
Vice Chairman	Simon Frackiewicz	394 975	simon@toadhall.email
	Nick Jones	241 643	nick.jones.lopenpc@outlook.com
	Ed Moore	394 583	ed.moore.lopenpc@gmail.com
	Valerie Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
	Jenny Feeney	419 569	jfeeneyloopenpc@gmail.com

Parish Clerk	Lisa Wilson	07587 211150	loopenpc.clerk@gmail.com
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DISTRICT COUNCIL	Cllr Adam Dance	07767 224 213	adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk
	Cllr Crispin Raikes	07968 291 588	crispin.raikes@southsomerset.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCIL	Cllr Adam Dance	07767 224 213	adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk
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MEMBER of PARLIAMENT	Marcus Fysh		marcus.fysh.mp@parliament.uk
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ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Benefice Office	Issy Welsh	73226	
Rector	Rev. Julia Hicks	76406	juliahicks1@gmail.com
Rector	Rev. Bob Hicks	76406	bobhicks66@gmail.com
Churchwarden	Angela Naunton Davies	240 921	nauntondavies@btinternet.com

JUST WOMEN

Chairwoman	Pauline Rook	240 644	prook12@gmail.com
Treasurer	Christianne Long	249 766	christianne@loopen.me.uk

POLICE CSO	Joshua Weldon	Dial 101	joshua.weldon@avonandsomerset.police.uk
		ask for PCSO 6103	

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	Valerie Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
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LOPEN EYE TEAM

Editor	Les Morton	391 574	lesmorton26@gmail.com
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Proof-reading	Penny Little	242 474	penelopejittle@gmail.com

COFFEE STOP at the Sunday School Room

Only £1 for a hot drink
(including refill) and a slice
of homemade cake.

JULY DATES

wednesday
11th & 25th

10.30am to 12.00 midday



Everyone welcome -
including parents with young children.

All proceeds to AKAMBA AID
sight-saving eye clinics in Kenya
www.akambaaidfund.org