

SOUTHROP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 12TH MAY 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SOUTHROP AT 6.30PM

This is NOT a Council meeting; it is a meeting of the residents of Southrop Village. The format of the meeting provides the opportunity for local organisations to report directly to the people of Southrop. Residents will have the chance to ask questions, in an open forum. Refreshments will be available.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies received from County Cllr Morris

2. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting May 2019

The Minutes were approved by the Chairman of Southrop Parish Council..

3. Report from the Chair – Southrop Parish Council

Cllr Guest welcomed everyone to the meeting. His report is as follows:-

As usual, I shall report on the PC's activities during the year and I shall then ask the other Village organisations to report on their various activities. There will be the opportunity to ask questions at the end of each report.

CORONATION EVENTS LAST WEEKEND

First, I should like to thank everyone involved in the very successful Coronation Events last weekend.

I think a great time was had by all despite the patchy weather!

SPC was very pleased to sponsor the lunch at the VH on Sunday.

Many local people helped organise the Events-too many to mention here-though special thanks should of course go to Margaret Davey as the prime mover here. Margaret will be giving her report on this later in the meeting.

SPC MEETINGS

There were 6 SPC meetings during the year-all post COVID and therefore live, I'm pleased to say.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

We have of course just had Parish Council and CDC Elections on 4 May.

The SPC Election was uncontested (no new Potential Councillors came forward), so you have the same Parish Council today as you had before.

Our very highly regarded and well-liked Ward and District Councillor, Ray Theodoulou, stood down well before the Election, due to illness, and very sadly he died at the end of March. He will be much missed and there have been many tributes to him in the local Press and elsewhere, all thoroughly well deserved.

I am pleased to report that his replacement (and good friend) David Fowles was successful in the Election and has now become the Conservative Councillor for Coln Valley Ward.

SPC FINANCES

At our previous year end, 31 March 2022, we had reserves of £21,372.

We increased the annual precept for 2023/24 by 4% to £13,500. This resulted in an annual increase of £3.32 for the average Band D property in Southrop.

Major items of expenditure during the year included buying new hardwood benches for outside the VH and on the Green by The Swan. We also paid for refreshments at the Queen's Platinum Celebration in Southrop last June and financed JC's legal fees for upgrading their legal title to the sports field.

Overall, expenditure last year was some £4,000 less than our income, so our reserves rose to £25,425 at our 31 March 2023 year end.

This leaves us well placed to consider further financial support for local projects, particularly at the VH and JC, which we're very keen to do.

ROADS

Last year I reported that Glos. Highways had agreed to resurface the road between the bridge and The Swan. This has now been done, to a very good standard I'm pleased to say.

We were also delighted, and rather surprised I have to say, that Highways also agreed our request to resurface a further section of road, from The Swan to the corner near JC. This work has now been completed, also to a high standard.

All of this was as a result of the very constructive dialogue we had with our local Glos. Highways Manager, Dan Tiffney. I should like to thank PB for spearheading the relationship with Dan, which has really borne fruit.

Cllr P. Brickley to report on highways matters.

PLANNING

We continue to monitor all local planning applications, recording any comments we may have with CDC.

SPEEDING

Speeding in the village remains a problem, as we all know.

We remain in close touch with the speed camera trial project, which has been going on in Quenington for some time now.

Our village has now been surveyed with a view to installing speed cameras once they've been approved.

Russ and Peter have been overseeing this and I'm going to ask Russ for a brief update.

ANNUAL LITTER PICK

We arranged our Annual Litter Pick over the weekend of 25/26 March and, once again, this was a great success with many volunteers stepping forward to help with all the roads in the village and much of the surrounding area also covered.

Other local villages, such as Eastleach, also held their own Litter Picks so the combined effort made a real difference.

EMERGENCY PLAN FOR FLOODING

Cathy Brickley has been heavily involved in this, so I'll ask her to update you.

THE SWAN

I'm delighted to report that The Swan reopened last November and this has been thoroughly welcomed by the Village, as well as by visitors.

GRASSCUTTING

We again employed a local contractor, Willow Gardening Services, to cut the grass on the verges and footpaths in and around the village.

We think they do a good job and, though this should be a Glos. CC responsibility, it often gets overlooked, so we prefer to use our own contractor and recover an agreed contribution from GCC.

4. Financial Report – Contained in the Chairman's Report above.

5. Report from County/District Councillor

Background

- Ray Theodoulou has been the District Councillor for the majority of this civic year.
- As he became ill and unable to carry out all of his public duties, I was asked to provide that "Councillor" link to the villages he represented.
- This has included taking his place on various Committees, such as the Audit Committee
- Indeed I worked closely with Ray on a number of financial matters, including for example finance relating to the operation of the Leisure Centres. I suspect that some of the areas such as this that he started will form the foundation for further work.

District Responsibility

The main areas of direct concern that are a District Council (Rather than County or other authority) responsibility include:

Planning:

- Within the Ward, Your Councillor reviews all planning applications. Those planning applications that have an Objection recorded against them are specifically reported to them together with a report from the Planning Officer recommending that they either be Permitted or Refused, and with their reasoning for that recommendation. Should they disagree with that Officer recommendation, they can refer the case to the Planning Committee, although they must also have sound planning reasons for doing so. This can be a key part of the work they do as they seek to ensure that the voice of the community is heard and acted upon. A challenge to this is ensuring that it is all done within expected time periods given the vacancies and high staff turnover. District Wide, they are regularly involved in planning decisions as a member when required of the Planning Committee.
- Local Plan Refresh. The Local Plan was formally endorsed prior to the last election and it is still there providing us with a framework that protects us from unplanned development. There were however things that needed changing even before its final endorsement so those, and other things because there has been

change, now form the basis of a refresh of the Local Plan. It is vital it be kept up to date if unplanned development is to be kept in check.

- Heritage Conservation. We live in a beautiful and historic place. Some change, e.g. better insulating listed building may make sense, but it is important that it is done sensitively so that the character of our historic buildings and of the community they shape is not lost. Your Councillor can become involved in shaping that policy as well as being involved in its implementation as part of the Planning Process. Not in this area, but I have been asked to form a view on whether a garden wall in the curtilage of a listed building is either realistic or authentic.

Flooding

- There can be concerns about flooding in the Coln Valley. The District is responsible for helping people if unexpected flooding were to occur.

Waste Collection including:

- Green bins. Questions have been raised including the cost of this service. This administration has set its policy as being that the whole of the cost of the service must be recovered from those using it.
- Recycling – Kerbside collection of sorted materials. Paid for by Council Tax and sale of waste.
- Dog bin policy. Quantity/location at the request of the Parish Council who also pay for purchase and installation. However, collection is at capacity.

Finance

- Council Tax continues to rise in order to fund the District Council's strategic priorities and the direct cost of Staff, whether permanent or contracted, needed to address them.
- Green Investment. The Council is keen to invest in local green projects, such as solar power generation and Electric Vehicle Charging Points. As a result, it has launched a Cotswold Climate Investment fund that raised £500k for investment in CDC green projects and programmes. This is the only borrowing of the Council and it is costing the Council the interest paid. Although the outcome could have been achieved without any borrowing.
- The intention to borrow £70 plus million in order to invest in some major projects and programmes that was aimed at providing sufficient income to meet its Strategic Priorities has been withdrawn. The cost of that borrowing, which would have had to be covered by its budget, had assumed that the Council would be able to access low interest borrowing and was shown to be unaffordable.

Community Funding

- The small grant community fund has now been replaced by Crowdfund Cotswold a mechanism that invites others to donate to a project as well via the internet. Southrop and a number of other places have made no application to this fund as far as I am aware.

Leisure Services Provision

- Despite a lot of local effort Fairford Sports Centre was not provided with any further support by CDC and closed. However, although a Fairford Leisure Facility, open also to the residents of Southrop Parish, has long been something consented as part of a Lakes development, it was unclear whether that development would ever happen, and if so when. That facility, agreed with the last District Council administration in 2014 does now look as though it will be delivered at some point in the next few years. Given that things have changed over time since the agreement was first made in 2009 there has been some

discussions with the developer over what will be delivered. A first meeting between the developer and CDC Officers has occurred, but the second, which should have been next week, has been delayed as I am no longer a Councillor.

Housing

- Getting housing needs in villages such as this understood and addressed is an important part of Councillor work that can help to shape a community.

Environmental Issues

- Environmental and Regulatory Services are there to help protect our environment, whether in dealing with dog poo bins, or the impact of noise and other nuisance.

Areas of Influence

Areas that are primarily the responsibility of County or other Authority that the District Council seeks to influence include:

Highways

- Cllr Dom Morris, our County Councillor has been appointed as the Cabinet Member of Highways.
- Your CDC Councillor will I am sure continue to lobby for improved roads (lack of potholes etc.) and public rights of way.

Health Service provision

- CDC are not directly responsible for Health Service provision, but I have been active in helping to establish Working 4 Wellbeing in Fairford and Lechlade communities, the work of which has started to spread to the outlying villages.
- As a member of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and an Ambulance Service volunteer I have been keen to understand issues in order to take them up directly with NHS Gloucestershire. Your new Councillor will I am sure draw on that background when needed.

Crime and Disorder

- Overview and Scrutiny has now started to become active in its role as the District Crime and Disorder Committee reviewing the work of the Community Safety Partnership. This is yet another route your Councillor can use as this Committee has statutory powers to call the police to account.

Economic Renewal

- Southrop was an early beneficiary of Fastershire broadband upgrades. It will however be important to ensure that Fastershire is included in any future upgrade programme.

General Way Forward

Thank you for the support you have given me over these last few months.

Stephen Andrews (former District Councillor) and on behalf of the Late County Cllr Theodoulou

6. Report from the Chair – Southrop Village Hall Committee

Introduction:

We are pleased to present the Annual Trustees Report for 2022/23 for Southrop Village Hall. This report provides an overview of the activities and achievements of the trustees and volunteers who have worked tirelessly to maintain and improve the facilities and services of the village hall.

Activities and Achievements:

During the past year, the village hall has hosted a variety of events and activities, including community meetings,

social gatherings, children's parties, and fitness classes. Since the last AGM in 2019 the trustees have undertaken several initiatives to improve the facilities of the hall, including a renovation of the kitchen and the installation of new lighting and sound systems.

The village shop and Post Office continue to provide a vital service to the local community.

Challenges:

The trustees have faced a number of challenges since 2019, including the COVID-19 pandemic. The trustees worked hard to adapt to changing circumstances and implemented a range of measures to ensure the safety of users of the hall. The focus over the last year has been on getting events at the hall back up to pre COVID-19 levels.

Health and Safety

The trustees have instigated a thorough review of all health and safety policies, procedures, risk assessments and records to ensure the continued safety of village hall users.

Future Plans:

Looking ahead, the trustees are committed to continuing to improve the facilities and services of the village hall, and to maintain its position as a valued community asset. This will involve ongoing maintenance and repair work, as well as initiatives to encourage greater community participation and engagement. The implementation of a village hall mailing list will allow news and events to be communicated to a much wider audience.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the past year has been a successful one for Southrop Village Hall. We would like to thank all the trustees, volunteers, and users of the hall for their continued support and commitment, and we look forward to building on this success in the future.

Annual Financial Report Southrop Village Hall

The accounts for the year to 31st December 2022 show a surplus of £4,711.94 as opposed to a deficit

of £1,761.30 for the previous year. This is welcome following the challenges associated with the

Covid-19 pandemic and is as a consequence of the hall being open for a large part of the year and

the fundraising activities that the committee have been able to organise.

The return of the Village Fete was also very welcome and generated a contribution of £3,000 towards

the running of the hall as well as our future development plans. We are very grateful for the work

done by the Fete committee in achieving this result.

As the hall was only open and available for use for part of the year it is difficult to compare the

financial position with recent years. The ongoing expenditure associated with the running of the hall

is however in line with expectations. The main costs of running the hall as always relate

to electricity, insurance and cleaning. It is likely that in particular the electricity will increase

significantly in 2024 once our fixed rate tariff ends.

Overall, the hall is in a solid financial position with overall accumulated funds in excess of £18,000.

Iain Mills. Treasurer

7. Report from Jubilee Close Committee and selection of new Committee.

Jubilee field

Over the year there have been several improvements:

- The Sloe bushes have been grubbed up again
- The boundary with Box Wood cottage has been established and fenced
- The mowing contract awarded
- The Store room cleared and the rubbish removed
- The outside toilet opened and fixed
- The regular letting of the field to Clanfield girls and boys football teams
- A new bench
- Changing the title deeds for The Jubilee field and securing the field for the village.
- The planting of several tree's including the one kindly donated by Shelia and Roy Benfield
- In line with our remit the standing down of the current committee and the election of a new committee
- A new trustee
- The village survey completed which generated 15 responses and 43 ideas. The top three:
- Cycle / running track / Outdoor gym equipment = 10 responses
- Upgrade / refurbish the Pavilion = 9 responses
- Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) = 11 responses

However there is more to do:

- Clear and remove the remaining items from the Pavilion which over the years have been left.
- Undertake a building survey
- Open the safe
- Generate a road map / plan to rejuvenate the playing field and the pavilion
- The inaugural Coronation cup competition
- Establish the boundary with Apple Tree cottage

We acknowledge that the arrival of the new football team hasn't been without some issues, but these are being worked through and I don't foresee any long term problems continuing beyond a phase of integration.

Andy Howarth

The Jubilee Close committee were selected. Mark Holland, Ray & Sophie Kolzack were proposed – all in favour.

8. Report from St. Peters Church

SERVICES:

We had 68 services in 21/22, including Carols at the Village Hall.

22 Morning Prayer, 13 Communions, and a variety of others including school services.

But only 5 Evensongs (which for me is a shame - the music is very beautiful).

Our high days and holidays, and school services, attract a good congregation - upwards of 30 people - going up to 90 for weddings.

We've also had the Remembrance for QEII and Coronation of KCIII - both well attended.

And the All Souls evensong (Hallowe'en) is well attended too - and is a lovely service.

But our average congregation for regular Sunday services (i.e. non 'special' services) has reduced to 10. This could be a problem in the future, as the 10 are not so young.

The **GRAVEYARD:**

The cypress tree has been taken down. Leaning towards the church and too big.

The creeper that was damaging the north wall has been removed.

The lime trees were pollarded in December. We do 4 one year and 4 the next.

The graveyard plan has been kept up to date - and Fanny Harris' grave has been located.

Some headstones are leaning quite severely which may need dealing with at some point.

We have permission for the Garden of Remembrance - the construction of which has started.

The **CHURCH BUILDING:**

The organ was serviced in October.

The noticeboard was refurbished recently - it now displays the time of the next Sunday's service. Aside from that not much has changed.

FINANCES:

Draft accounts for 2021-22 show an income of £21,417 (20/21: £26,088) and expenses of £23,353 (20/21: £22,954) leaving a loss of £1,936. (More details available in the Financial Statements).

A reminder:

The PCC Annual meeting is on Monday 15th (next Monday) at 7pm at the Village Hall.

Jerry Hibbert

Garden of Remembrance

It is with great pleasure that I can report that work on building the Garden of Remembrance has commenced and it is hoped that the work including the re-building of the south wall will be completed in about a month.

Joe Hanlon, the waller, has worked well for 8 days in sunshine and rain but made good progress.

Funds for this project are still short of the required total so if anyone feels they would like to contribute all donations will be very gratefully received.

When everything is complete I am sure there will be some kind of dedication and all the village will be notified.

Margaret Davey

9. Report from Southrop Primary School

Together we can fly

What if I fall?

Oh, but.....

What if you fly?



"Don't be afraid; just believe."

Mark 5 verse 36

In our Christian school we treat everyone with respect and compassion. Our faith and friendships give us strength to persevere to achieve our aspirations.

Good evening. I am standing here tonight in my capacity as Chair of Governors at Southrop Primary school. Our report has been prepared by the co-heads, Mrs McLellan and Miss Davies and myself. As a school much of the time, as you would expect, is spent on core subjects and we work together to ensure that we deliver to and beyond the curriculum in all areas. As Governors part of our role is challenging the co-heads and monitoring the progress of our pupils. It is a challenge they always rise to. We are proud of the broad curriculum we offer and the attainment of our pupils.

We are always keen to enrich the children's education in whatever way we can and are grateful to our hardworking PTA who cover the cost of coaches, and proud to have our own minibus. Many of you will have seen regular updates from the school in CHEQS magazine, more detailed newsletters are published every fortnight and are on our website. Trips have included the Cheltenham Literature Festival, Coleshill river, Sudeley Castle, The mosque at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Winchester Science Centre, Stonehenge, Cheltenham and Burford Literature Festivals and a residential in Appledore, Devon. The Reception and Year 1 children have continued at forest school weekly. Cookery sessions by Kitchen Club have included Eastern European and Easter cooking and a Tudor banquet. We have undertaken a number of STEM challenges over the year, some of which have involved computer coding. We were very proud of Bella and Morgan who were overall winners at the RIAT STEM challenge to design and build a space glider at the air show last summer, beating competitors from 10 local schools.

Music is an important part of the curriculum and driven by Miss Davies's passion for this subject. This year the Swans participated in Young Voices, the largest school choir concert in the world, which took place in Birmingham and raised money for a homelessness charity Place2Be. It was a hugely enjoyable and inspiring experience. Many of our pupils take individual or group lessons in guitar, ukulele, drums or piano with specialist teachers. The children also enjoyed whole

class instrument lessons, with the Swans learning recorder and the Cygnets ocarina. The Swans recently took a trip to the Cheltenham Jazz festival.

We enjoy a wide range of PE and Sport with our sports coach, either on the playground, here in the village hall or up at the field. We travel to Cricklade for swimming lessons and Northleach for climbing. Being small doesn't stop us going to tournaments. At the (supposedly) mixed football tournament we went to, ours was the only team with girls as well as boys and all levels of ability. We didn't win but they had a great time.

As a nurturing school, we know that our children will only be able to achieve their full potential if they feel safe and happy. Even in a small rural school such as Southrop this is not something that can be taken for granted and wellbeing is high on our list of priorities. This year one of our teaching assistants has undertaken Emotional Literacy Support training and we now run daily wellbeing and mindfulness activities.

We like to think that the school remains integral to the communities of Southrop and Eastleach. We are proud to work with the Village Hall and the Jubilee Close and are always keen to develop links with the local community. Each month we join together with members of the school community for worship in St Peter's Church and welcome members of the village community to join us. We also make regular visits to Fairford Library. We are grateful for the support of many in the community including but not limited to those who: enable us to run the school chess club each week; prepare us for the Gloucestershire Nature Quiz; let us visit and learn first hand about how the land is farmed locally; listen to our children read; and foster their money management skills.

With the changing demographic of this area, we are finding that we have to work increasingly hard to keep the numbers on roll up. You may have noticed the regular marketing we have been doing on noticeboards, in libraries and on social media. We are very grateful to Gretchen Shoring who gave her time to help arrange a great promotional video for us, which you can see on the school website. There are a number of very good schools locally; please help us encourage people to consider Southrop first.

Hopefully we've given you a flavour of the range of activities that are part of the current daily life of the school. Thank you for listening and your continued support.

Julia McLellan & Megan Davies, & Judith Giles

10. Fete 2022

With the generous support from the Southrop Parish Council and Caryn and Jerry Hibbert the fete followed the now established format, taking place again on the road through the village and in the Gore.

The weather was kind to us and after two years of enforced Covid restrictions our attendance on the day was up, breaking all previous records. Cars were parking up towards Tiltup and we will need to review our parking arrangements for this year.

Over £15,000 was raised with the majority coming from 4 stalls:

- Raffle - £887
- BBQ - £1,117
- Pimms - £1,812
- Silent Auction - £1,442

Significant contributions also came from:

- Bottle tombola - £503
- Ice Creams - £325
- Tea's - £ 597
- Gate - £659

However we realise we need to consider dropping some stalls and potentially introduce new ones. Each year we wrestle with maximising the impact from our volunteers who generously give up their time, against retaining the family feel of the fete and creating a balance to provide a little bit of something for everyone:

- Wellie Wanging – 5 miles walked to retrieve wellies and £24.70 raised!
- Beat the goalie - £56
- Assault course - £33.50

Added to our takings on the day we also benefitted from 2 generous donations which after all our expenditure of £2965 was removed enabled us to distribute £12,000 split 4 ways to the benefactors of St Peters Church, Southrop Primary school, Jubilee field and the Village hall.

Looking ahead to 2023:

We have already secured the RAF parachute display team - <https://www.military-airshows.co.uk/press23/raffalconsschedule2023.htm> and are listed alongside the Royal Welsh Show, The Royal Cornwall show, F1 British Grand Prix so given our size a real coup. They have even waived their fees for us!

Our application to close the road has been submitted and we're waiting approval from GCC. Unfortunately, though we only get confirmation one week prior and whilst we feel confident, we cannot be absolutely sure of it going ahead in the usual way.

Every year I mention this, but we are only able to hold the fete because of the kind support we receive from the village, but every year it gets just a little bit harder to find volunteers for the stalls. Within the village there are now over 20 empty, weekend cottages or holiday lets where a family could live. This roughly represents 20% of the housing stock. It is without doubt the one element of running the fete that causes us the biggest headache.

Andy Howarth

11. Other reports

Emergency Plan for Flooding

The SPC are in the process of updating the Community Emergency Plan to include specific action on flooding.

We have signed up to the Flood Warden Scheme run by the Gloucestershire Rural Communities Council (GRCC). This free scheme provides a local designated person with training and support within a network of flood wardens across the area.

Support is given in flood prevention, such as the maintenance of ditches and the reporting of blocked culverts and drains etc., as well as emergency action that may be taken during a flood event.

I have taken on the role of Flood Warden for Southrop and am currently awaiting initial training.

Meanwhile SPC will take the following action:-

- Leaflet the village with information about possible flood defence materials so that those householders who feel their properties may be vulnerable to flooding may take steps to be prepared.
- Purchase and store a small number of flood defence 'snakes' for emergency use
- Perform an audit of any equipment there may already be in the village which could be lent in the event of a flood, for instance pumps. This list would be included in our Emergency Plan.

Cllr Cathy Brickley

12. Open Session

Coronation Weekend Celebration

We had planned for events on all 3 days of the Coronation weekend but unfortunately the weather spoiled some plans. However enthusiasm was not dampened.

On the day of the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla, Saturday 6th May 2023. The Swan hosted events which commenced with coffee and cakes while people watched the Coronation Service on the screens in the Carousal. Many people chose to watch the service at home and went to the The Swan for a BBQ in the latter part of the day. Although it rained there was a great atmosphere inside and the event was enjoyed by many.

Sunday could not have been more of a contrast in terms of the weather with sunshine all day.

We started with a special Coronation service in St Peter's Church with patriotic hymns and the National Anthem.

At the village hall, inside and out and in the marquee there was bunting, flags and tables set with Union Jack tablecloths and napkins. It looked spectacular.

About 120 villagers including lots of children gathered for a drink or two from 12.30pm and there was immediately a great sense of celebration with much conversation about how wonderful the King and Queen's Coronation Day had been. The lunch followed with people finding places to sit in the village hall or in the marquee situated in the car park. Conversation flowed and everyone was happy. The meal of cold meats and Coronation Chicken was served with a delicious variety of salads, contributed by villagers, and followed by sherry trifle with jellies for the children.

At 2.30pm the younger children were entertained by a magician who kept their attention well with his tricks. He then followed with a Punch & Judy show which finished just as the ice cream van arrived. This was very popular as the sun continued to shine.

It had been suggested that crowns should be worn and there were certainly a great variety of jewels abounding. Prizes were awarded to the best Kind, Queen, Prince and Princess.

Everyone attending the lunch received a gift in the form of a pin badge. Unique to Southrop because above and below the official Coronation logo are the words Southrop and Gloucestershire.

Villagers who attended will now what a happy event it was with people moving round talking to other groups. It was particularly encouraging to see a group of teenagers, sitting together, not with their phones, but playing Cluedo and the young children happily playing together and using the playground.

Early evening saw most disappear home to watch the Coronation Concert.

Any event like this does require a great deal of planning and effort on the part of many people and particular thanks should be given to the Coronation Committee and to those involved with the physical work of erecting the marquee, moving tables and chairs, including dismantling everything and putting all away. Also those manning the bar and after the event those washing up, clearing and getting all back to normal.

The question was often asked "How much do we pay?" Everyone was informed that our Parish Council had kindly donated a sum of money towards the event for which all were grateful.

The following day the sun had disappeared and Monday was dull with rain. A decision was made to cancel the picnic and sports but the model trains and the beautiful dolls' house were set up in the village hall from 10.30am until 4pm. A steady stream of people visited the display and the children were able to participate.

Our thanks to Alec and the Ockendons for arranging this.

This was a memorable weekend which continued Southrop's tradition for celebrating Royal events. The first recorded is Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897 as shown in the photograph on the VH wall. Records and photographs of other royal events and celebrations are kept in the archives and we shall put this report and some of the many photos into the collection to record these Coronation Celebrations thus keeping the Southrop tradition.

Margaret Davey

Meeting closed.

Signed..... Chairman of Southrop Parish Council

.....2024