

# NEWS EVENING PARISH COUNCIL LETTER

No. 13

JUNE 1981

## CHAIRMAN

By a unanimous vote of councillors at the monthly meeting in March, Mr. Udall was re-elected Chairman for the coming year.

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

At this meeting, held in March, some new faces were seen, which was gratifying.

One subject raised yet again was vandalism in the village. This is becoming a very serious problem as it would appear that there are some who have respect neither for people nor property. In these days repairs can be very expensive as parents of the vandals may learn to their cost.

## DOCTORS' SURGERY

A scheme has been put forward for the building of a surgery in the village. Doctors from the three surgeries - Minchinhampton, Nailsworth and Tetbury - have been approached about this matter, and their reaction has been favourable.

If this scheme comes to fruition it could be of great benefit to everyone in the village.

PLEASE NOTE: Surgery at the Church is now at 10.00 a.m.

## CHARITIES

Many of you may be unaware that certain charities exist in the village.

When village folk were considerably worse off than they are today, some of the richer residents gave money, in trust, to help those less fortunate than themselves.



There are three charities:-

1. SANDFORD EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION - Six Trustees administer this foundation, one appointed by the Rector and Churchwardens, two by Gloucestershire County Council, one by the Parish Council and two co-operative members appointed by resolution of the Trustees, each for a term of five years. The main object of this Foundation is for Higher Education. A copy may be inspected at the Parish Clerk's residence.

2. POULTON AND CHOMELY CHARITY is administered by the Parish Council. The objects of this Charity are displayed on a large notice board on the interior west wall of the Parish Church.

3. THE COX AND DRIVER CHARITY is administered by four Trustees. The object of this Charity is to help provide tools for apprentices.

The Clerk to the Parish Council has always been the Clerk to the Charity Trustees.

Minute Books and Bank Statements are open for inspection at the Annual Parish Meeting.

26TH APRIL

The heavy snowfall overnight caused considerable destruction and upset in and around the village. The Avening - Nailsworth Road suffered badly and was impassable for a while. Volunteers with saws helped to clear the fallen trees, and as a result had two wars in one!

Cottage gardens did not escape the ravages of the storm, and many treasured plants were lost.

One good thing that came about as a result of the chaos was the return of some of the kindness and good neighbourliness which was once a feature of this village. Those with gas in the house came to the aid of those who were "all electric" and many an oil-stove, packed away and almost forgotten, came back into use.

While "fish and chips" may not be everyone's choice for Sunday lunch, nevertheless many people in the village have cause to be grateful to Mr. Brosnan for the hot meal provided by him at short notice.



LEE CROFT

Hopefully, with the approach of better weather, further work will be carried out to provide extra playing equipment.

THANKS

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to those O.A.P.s who have, unasked, done many hours of work in May's Lane to make it a more pleasant walk. They saw something that needed doing and did it. Is it too much to hope that others could do the same?

RECTORY LANE

The improvement and modernisation of Council Houses in Rectory Lane is now complete, and all houses are occupied.

BULK REFUSE COLLECTION

This will take place on Friday, 3rd July. If you have items for collection please ring CIRENCESTER (994) 391, or write to the Cotswold District Council at least two weeks beforehand.

OLD RECORDS

The old records in our possession make interesting reading.

We learn that "the first public meeting of the Parish took place on 4th December 1894. The purpose of the meeting was to elect Parish Councillors. Mr. Thomas Essex proposed that Mr. Erskine Pollock, Q.C., of Avening Court, be elected Chairman. Nominations, in writing, were collected in alphabetical order by Mr. Morris, Headmaster of the School, and seven were received."

"It was then proposed by Rev. E.W. Edwards, Rector, seconded by Mr. Charles Essex, that the seven gentlemen, all of which were pronounced by the Chairman to be good and valid nominations, were declared to be duly elected."

The first Parish Councillors were:-

Robert Calcutt	William Cave
Simon Cox	Paul Fowles
Rev. W.E. Frost	William Pain
James Singleton	



Some of the names will be remembered by older parishioners.

## THE FOUNTAIN

Some of you may have wondered about the memorial on the Cross to William Fowles. Originally it was a drinking fountain and showed to advantage the skill of local stonemasons. Regrettably much of the stone work has been damaged.

William Fowles was a figure of some importance as he was Overseer for the village for a number of years. At one time he farmed at Longman Farm, and owned the two corn mills in the village.

Local people who went gleaning at harvest-time took their grain to be ground at one of his mills. The flour was then stored at home and often kept the family in cakes and puddings for the year.

He also ran the "Bakehouse". He was reputed to be "a hard but just man". People who bought bread from him were allowed to pay at the end of the month. The owners of pigs could obtain their pig-meal from him and pay for it when the pigs were sold.

All his customers were given flour for Christmas puddings and cakes and anyone fortunate enough to have a goose or other large bird took it to the Bakehouse to be cooked in the bread ovens.

The memorial was unveiled by Rev. W.E. Frost who was for many years Minister of the Baptist Church.