

Newsletter Date April 2003

Volume 1, Issue 1



# SOUTH WILLINGHAM NEWS

## Highways and Footpaths

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The Parish Council was pleased to see that at last the problem of standing water on Barkwith Road at the Barkwith end of the village had been resolved by L.C.C. Highways adding of a further drain to the additional drains and resurfacing work carried out on the road. Anglian Water had also repaired a leaking pipe in the bank in that area.

The Council was also writing to L.C.C. Highways about the problem of surface water in the dip on Station Road in the area of the old railway bridge. With heavy rain, water collects across the road and



New street names

can be treacherous, particularly in the dark.

At the recent Council meeting concern was expressed that the road from Barkwith to South Willingham and on to Hainton was not salted during the winter even though it is a bus route and used by the school buses. The Clerk was asked to write to Lin-

colnshire County Council asking them to include this stretch of road in their road salting programme for next winter

The council have also asked that the footpaths in Hainton Road and Station Road are cleared. They are becoming overgrown and difficult to use.

Following an application from the Parish Council, street name signs have been placed at the 2 junctions in the village. The primary aim is to assist the emergency services in quickly finding their destinations but more generally should also be of benefit to delivery vehicles and any

### Special points of interest:

- Roads and pavements
- The (off-)centre of the village
- South Willingham nearly 100 years ago
- Planning the future of the Hall
- Meeting at the Hall

## The Development of the Hall

Over the last few years the Hall has been a centre of attention in the village as we worked out how to develop it. Some are asking why change it, so here are a few answers.

South Willingham has almost doubled in size since

the Hall was built in 1922. There are probably 25 new properties out of a total of 58 (in the village, not the whole Parish). Thus the Hall has become too small for some of the demands made on it.

As we have done merely

routine maintenance for years and put off more serious work, the problems are catching up with us and the amount of work to be done cannot be met by casual fundraising .

Legislation relating to dis-  
*(Continued on page 4)*

## The Gazette; 5th August 1911

Some words are impossible to read so there may well be some gaps. Readers are to be encouraged to add their own !! It is quite a long article and will take several newsletters to complete.

### Town and Village Life in Lincolnshire.

#### No, 519 South Willingham-ham.

##### Part 1

By the time the traveller on the railway has reached the station at South Willingham he will have had ample indications that he is rapidly entering the picturesque district of the Wolds. Taking it that he has been brought along the single line from the direction of Bardney the flat country between that village and Wragby will have been left behind, he will have found East Barkwith on rising ground and now that he comes to South Willing-

ham he will discover the village standing on a distinct hill. The ground surface is undulating, and the gradients are sudden and often steep. Just before reaching South Willingham the train has passed through a cutting; here at the station it is on something like an embankment, and it will not be more than a minute or two at the most after leaving before the real wolds will have been reached, and the train, with a warning shriek, will have plunged into the dark depths of a tunnel, the first of the two pierced through the hills between here and Louth. South Willingham village it-

self is perched as has been said on the hill top; you can free wheel from the church down to the station or keeping straight on beneath the railway bridge be carried far on your road to Benniworth, a road fairly well lined with trees, happily, and that made the tramping tourist seek eagerly for every bit of shade from the fierce heat that burned directly down on our visit. From South Willingham it is called a mile to Hainton, near where one gets on the road to Louth which is perhaps eleven miles from here. Market Rasen is eight miles, and South Willingham is placed south-east from Market Rasen and south-west from Louth. It is a busy village, despite being some distance from the towns.--?---?--?-- There is no room for laggards in South Willingham at this time of year.



South Willingham Signal Box

## Parking in the Village

At recent Parish Council meetings complaints by residents have been reported concerning cars parking across the pavements and in some cases completely blocking the pavement.

While appreciating the difficulty of parking on narrow village roads, the Parish Council is concerned about

the convenience and safety of pedestrians as well the legal aspects.

It hoped that residents with cars, particularly those with their own driveways, would help by avoiding parking on pavements.



Pedestrian difficulty

## Our Churchyard

Many villages are fortunate to have a beautiful village green at their centre. South Willingham does not, but it is fortunate to have a churchyard, which sweeps down to the road and can be seen as one enters the village from both Donnington and Benniworth. It makes a most attractive entry to the village as one sees the grassy bank of the churchyard with the church set behind it.

It is an area of the village, which many of us value both as an attractive

view; an area of peace; and affording beautiful views out over the countryside to Donnington and Benniworth. For this reason we try to maintain it as a centrepiece for the village and during the autumn snowdrops, crocuses and daffodil bulbs were sown in clumps on the bank. This coming autumn there are plans to plant trees of a type whose foliage will provide

warm colours for the winter months while not growing so tall that they spoil the view of the church behind them.



A lovely, quiet spot

Also currently being discussed is the possibility of placing 2 seats in the churchyard for those wanting to enjoy the peace and solitude or contemplate the view

Maintaining the churchyard to ensure it remains an area of peace and beauty takes both time and money. The

strimming of grass around the gravestones is undertaken voluntarily and anyone wishing to undertake the care of an area of graves will be most welcome.

The mowing of the grass in the churchyard costs £40 per cut and annually this amounts to approximately £500. We are very thankful to the many people who last year sponsored the cost of this mowing and would ask again can you help by sponsoring: -

1 cut per year	-	£40
½ cut per year	-	£20
¼ cut per year	-	£10

Contributions made payable to "South Willingham Churchyard Fund" will be most gratefully received and can be sent to Pam Webb [The Old Carpenters Cottage, Barkwith Road]



**..the grassy bank of  
the churchyard with  
the church set  
behind it.**

## "Goings on" at the Hall

The money for development, if we get it, will come from the Community Fund (the charity bit of the national Lotto) and from several other sources. But at meetings with County officials, the Committee was left in no doubt that we ourselves had to deliver. Money is not given to prop up any old building – it must be used for the benefit of the whole community.

A survey of the whole Parish

gave overwhelming support for going forward so an architect, John Woodward, was asked to conduct a Feasibility Study. He is now working on the second revision!

The Constitution needed to be revised. No alcohol was allowed and the Brownies were on the Committee! The Charity Commissioners sent us their

model Constitution to be adapted for our situation. This has been done and will be proposed for acceptance at the AGM in May.



Golden Jubilee

Not everyone wants to join in social activities and those who do have to work harder. This is also true of our neighbouring villages, who have no hall, so we

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## **South Willingham News**

Management Committee  
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## **Parish Council**

**ANNUAL PARISH  
MEETING**  
**ANNUAL PARISH  
COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY 13 MAY**  
**AT 7.30 P.M.**



## **Parish Hall**

**AGM ON**  
**THURSDAY 8 MAY**  
**AT 7 P.M.**

### **Parish Councillors:**

Martin Doughty [Chairman]  
Marcus Edmundson  
Audrey Hildred  
Tina Speck  
John Sturgeon  
Roy Sylvester  
Ken Webb

### **Parish Clerk:**

Pam Webb [Tel: 313711]

### **Parish Hall :**

Roy Sylvester (Chairman) 313341  
Fran Kingsley (Secretary) 313718  
Paul Fuller (Treasurer)

The Parish Council and the Parish Hall are jointly producing this paper. The Management Committee intend to publish it quarterly. As well as official news and information about the Hall, they would like stories from around the village. As they are also reporters, sub-editors, publishers and first copy printers, they hope village people will come forward with ideas and stories themselves. Their thanks to Quessing Ltd for donating the paper and printing.



The Parish Hall

(Continued from page 3)  
have invited them to join in with us. Sharing will be a great help to us all.

All of this and more will be revealed at the AGM on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7 p.m. so why not come along.

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abled people will probably mean we cannot use the Hall for public functions after the year 2004, although we will probably get an extension if we show willing. This will involve the rebuilding of toilets and access ramps. Further regulations regarding hygiene will probably affect our kitchen.

There are no grants for maintenance. Money is only available for community projects and developments. Therefore we have to have the whole village in mind and go for development.

What we are doing is explained on page 3.

## **Secretaries**

The Parish Hall has been served well by dedicated members on the Committee, but none have worked harder than the Secretary. For many years Jilyan Morgan held the position and when she had to give up, Valerie Thayne took over. The job became heavier during her time, though this was probably not the reason she 'emigrated' to Scotland. Her place was taken by Sharon Taylor who did a hard-working year. However, she has had to leave us, so we welcome Fran Kingsley. We could not do without them, and we thank them all for their efforts. Best wishes to Sharon (and Alan) as they move to Lincoln.