

# LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish  
Newsletter  
JUNE  
2015



## LOPEN'S NEW PARISH COUNCIL *following the elections on 7th May 2015*



Teresa Sienkiewicz  
Chairwoman



Stephen Crane  
Vice Chairman



Barry Davolls



Sarah Mason



Nick Jones

**Our councillors will serve until May 2019. There are vacancies for two further councillors to be co-opted to Lopen Parish Council.**

**Should you consider putting your name forward for consideration, please see the next page.**

**A new Parish Clerk is also needed.**

# LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

## Parish Council Annual Meeting

The Parish Council held its annual meeting on 19th May. The recent election of members was uncontested and the new council is as follows:

**Chairwoman– Teresa Sienkiewicz**

**Vice Chairman – Stephen Crane**

**Members – Barry Davolls, Sarah Mason and Nick Jones.**

The annual accounts were presented at the meeting, together with the accounting statements and annual governance statement we are required to submit to the appointed external auditor. We are also going to review the standing orders, financial regulations and risk assessment in due course. Whilst this seems rather bureaucratic for a small parish council like ours with limited funds, we receive an annual precept and are as accountable for this in the same way as many larger parishes with rather more substantial income. At the meeting, each member agreed to undertake a number of responsibilities.

**Teresa, Barry and Nick will deal with planning matters;**

**Stephen continues to be responsible for highways; Sarah has taken on health and wellbeing matters/projects as well as continuing to be in charge of the defibrillator, and**

**Nick will also be responsible for public footpaths and Barry for the Parish Ranger (Lengthsman).**

*We were permitted to expand the size of the parish council from May and still have two vacancies. Anyone who is interested in joining the council should contact Teresa (see back page).*

We all expressed our thanks to Barry for his exemplary chairmanship of the parish council over the past four years. He has worked tirelessly to ensure that the council has been well-run and has represented the interests of people in the village and we owe him our thanks for all he has done.

## Planning

We have been informed of the intention to upgrade the radio base station at Lopenhead to provide 3G/4G coverage in the area. We are advised that the installation, which will be 2.3m higher than that already on site and with significantly more hardware, is to be designed to be fully compliant with the public exposure guidelines on non-ionising radiation protection.

## Pedestrian safety on Holloway

A number of concerns have been raised about the speed of traffic going through the village, which is of particular concern with the lack of pavements and the number of families with children who live on the road. The speed indicator statistics for Lopen taken at the Frog Street junction southbound between 28th April and 13th May show that most traffic exceeds the speed limit. The intervention limit is the speed, (under the current policy), at which a location is deemed to have a speeding issue. It is calculated by taking the posted speed limit + 10% + 3mph, (36mph in relation to our 30mph speed limit). Locations which equal or exceed the intervention level speed qualify for a SID installation and it has proved to be the case here.

**We shall be discussing this further. In the meantime, if you have any comments or have experienced problems yourself, please contact Stephen so he can collate the information.**

## Vacancy for parish clerk\*

Our parish clerk, Kim McDonald, has decided to resign, so we are seeking someone to fill the position. Kim would be happy to explain the role and there is a modest honorarium for the post. Kim's contact details remain on the back page for the time being.

**Teresa Sienkiewicz**

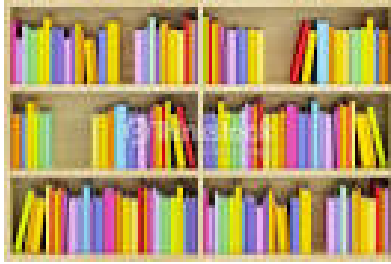
*\* Kim has been a dedicated and exemplary Parish Clerk whilst also maintaining the outstanding village website. (Ed.)*

## BARRY DAVOLLS - an appreciation of his term as Chairman

As Barry stands down as our Parish Council Chairman, we should as a community recognise just how much he has done for our village. His time in office has been characterised by the highest standards of integrity, professionalism and even-handedness. His knowledge of planning law is exceptional. Even more important has been the way in which he has used this knowledge for the benefit of the village as a whole as well as individuals. Above all, at considerable cost to himself in terms of time spent on village business, he has demonstrated what serving in public office is meant to be about: service for the benefit of those you represent and not yourself.

*Peter Little (former Parish Council Chairman)*

## LOPEN CHURCH LIBRARY



There is a small buy or exchange library in the Church. If you are an avid reader you are welcome to make use of it. If you have books that you no longer wish to keep on your shelves, we are quite happy to find them a New Home. *Martin Howell*

## HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YET?

### LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL'S FREE TRAINING FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES, CPR AND USE OF THE VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR

*Training by a qualified instructor takes place in the Schoolroom and is open to all villagers. Sessions last a couple of hours.*

*To apply please contact the Parish Clerk - see back page for details.*

## LITTERBLITZ!



**Sunday 14 June**  
*will you help?*

The Rotary Club of Crewkerne District is organising, in conjunction with the Streetscene division of SSDC, Crewkerne Town Council and Crewkerne Chamber of Commerce, a litter collection programme. We aim to hold this event twice a year and the first one is scheduled for Sunday June 14th.

Rotary has eight teams of two who will target the main roads passing through outlying villages and finishing at Crewkerne Town Hall. **Local parish councils are encouraged to ask parishioners to join in on a localised basis. We can provide litter picking equipment, collection bags and will collect the rubbish ultimately collected. We envisage that this exercise should take up no more than an hour or an hour and a half and we hope will lead to a visually more beautiful Somerset.**

More information from the Parish Clerk.

## PLEASE NOTE



Martin Howell is standing down as the Lopen Coordinator for Neighbourhood Watch. The new Coordinator will be Valerie Canton who can be contacted on 242 751 for all matters concerning security in the village.

## WANTED

As Martin is also giving up the responsibility of welcoming new residents along the main road from Snapant down to Mill Lane with a village information pack, would someone kindly contact him on 241 765 with a view to taking over this small but important task.

*Editor's note:*

*Thank you Martin for your contribution to the village over a lengthy period of time.*



## WANTED - A NEW EDITOR FOR LOPEN EYE

Les Farris is stepping down later this summer after producing more than 60 editions of the EYE over a six year period. He will remain on the editorial team and offer advice, as required, to a successor.

If you can spare a few hours a month and are able to lay out this essential village means of communication, please get in touch with either Barry Davolls or Les (see back page for contact information).

**Somerset  
County Council**

The NEW telephone number  
for all enquiries is  
**0300 123 2224**



## Lopen JUST WOMEN

TUESDAY 9th JUNE  
2.00pm meet at venue

For further information  
please call

Lyn

Tele 01460 929 205

Entrance fee  
£10 for Just Women  
members and  
£12.50 for non-members  
to include tea



Visit to Newton House Gardens,  
Newton Surmaville near Yeovil

## CONTACTS

Village website <http://lopen.btck.co.uk>

### PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Teresa Sienkiewicz	241 363	tslopenpc1@btinternet.com
Vice Chairman	Stephen Crane	241 412	scrane1@hotmail.co.uk
	Sarah Mason	249 219	sarahmason6@yahoo.com
	Barry Davolls	242 297	b.davolls.lopenpc@btinternet.com
	Nick Jones	241 643	nick.jones.lopenpc@outlook.com
Parish Clerk	Kim McDonald	242 297	mcdonald.lopenpc@btinternet.com

### 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 Christopher Le Hardy	01935 850 212	clehardy@somerset.gov.uk
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### MEMBER of PARLIAMENT

The Rt Hon Marcus Fysh	tel. TBA	marcus.fysh.mp@parliament.uk
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### ALL SAINTS CHURCH Benefice Office

Rectors Rev. Julia Hicks, Rev. Bob Hicks	73226 76406	Issy Welsh
Churchwarden Angela Naunton Davies	240 921	nauntondavies@btinternet.com

juliahicks1@gmail.com bobhicks66@gmail.com

Services are listed on the Church noticeboard

### JUST WOMEN

Chairman	Lynn Benfield	929 205	lynn.ian@virgin.net
Treasurer	Zena Morgan	77259	zenam1@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary	Margaret Linton	241 162	margaretlinton79@yahoo.com

### POLICE CSO

Ceara Sturt	101 and ask for PCSO 8340
	ceara.sturt@avonandsomerset.police.uk

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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

Editor	Les Farris	242 254	leslifarris23@aol.com
	Michael Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
Proof-reading	Peter Little	242 474	peteralittle6@aol.com
Distribution	Andrew Kearney	240 287	afk947@gmail.com

## COFFEE MORNINGS at the SCHOOLROOM

All proceeds to charities including  
Macmillan Nurses, the Stroke  
Association, Somerset Air Ambulance  
and the Alzheimers Society.

**EVERYONE WELCOME -  
INCLUDING PARENTS WITH  
YOUNG CHILDREN**



**Dates in JUNE**

**Wednesdays 10th & 24th**

10.30 until 12.00 midday.

Only £1 for a hot drink  
(and refill) plus a slice  
of home-made cake.

*The views expressed in Lopen  
Eye are not necessarily those  
held by Lopen Parish Council  
and its members*

**PLEASE NOTE THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR OUR  
RECENTLY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**