Welcome
Time had stood still on the Church Parish Clock for some time. Quotes were sought in order to facilitate access to the clock face and, as a result, a contractor with a cherry picker was found to enable the clock hands to be repaired. Whilst the contractor was in the Church yard the Christmas tree lights were inspected…..it was discovered that the leads and plugs had been cut through [perhaps when the tree was pruned?], hence, the lights could not be used. New lights were then purchased and installed on the top of the Church Tower……a big thank you to Mark Everitt for all his help in checking and fixing the lighting problem. We hope to improve the Xmas lights for next year, an Action Group is being formed and any help would be much appreciated.

A litter picker has been employed to help keep the village litter free and he is doing an excellent job. The war against the ‘Dumb Dumpers’ is still ongoing as piles of rubbish are still being fly tipped around the village. We need all the help we can get to stamp out this practice – please report the ‘Dumb Dumpers’!

The village looked good once again thanks to the hard work of the small dedicated ‘In Bloom team’; I am sure more helping hands would be welcome.

Cllr John Grimwood – Chairman

Sutton Bridge and Wingland Parish Council
THE PARISH OFFICE IS SITUATED IN THE CURLEW CENTRE
The Curlew Centre, Bridge Road, Sutton Bridge, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 9SA
Contact: The Clerk
Telephone: 01406 350802 -
Email: clerk@suttonbridgeparishcouncil.co.uk
OFFICIAL OFFICE OPENING HOURS: TUESDAYS: 10 am - 1 pm

To arrange an appointment with the Clerk at any other time, please call the Parish Office: T: 01406 350802
 e-mail to: clerk@suttonbridgeparishcouncil.co.uk

Allotments
All allotments are now occupied. If anyone would like to join the waiting list, please contact the Parish office, T: 01406 350802, by email: admin@suttonbridgeparishcouncil.co.uk or pop into the office on Tuesdays between 10am and 1pm.

Garden Waste Bags
Garden Waste Bags are still available from the Parish office which is open on Tuesdays between 10am and 1pm and cost £1.50 each. These bags should be put out with the Black Bag Refuse on Fridays.

Green Recycling Bags
From January 2017 the number of green recycling sacks provided per household will increase to 80, distributed in batches of 40, twice a year.
From Monday 16 January 2017, residents will no longer be able to pick up extra recycling sacks from the council's offices in Priory Road, Spalding or from other locations in the district. Should residents run out of green sacks they can place their recycling for collection in any other coloured sack (except black), suitably sized recyclable containers (which will not be returned), cardboard boxes or carrier bags.

**Fly-tipping**
Anyone seen dumping, if possible get make of vehicle and registration number and report this to South Holland District Council, Environmental Department on 01775 761161.

**Garden of Rest**

Good progress has been made during the last year on the new Garden of Rest.

The site is due to be open in 2017, if you require any further information regarding the site or reservation of plots please contact the Parish Office, T: 01406 350802, by email: admin@suttonbridgeparishcouncil.co.uk

**Marina**
The Marina is complete and looks really good. Available berths have been oversubscribed and the Marina will open this spring. There is a photographic record of the building on display in the Library.

**Bridge Hotel**
A planning application for the conversion to flats has been made to SHDC Planning. At the time of writing this article no details of the outcome are known but we hope that this eyesore will be demolished and rebuilt as soon as possible.

**Educational Grants**

A new year has arrived. This is our annual reminder to all who may be moving on to The High School, The Grammar School, College or University later this year. Did you know that there are two local Charities which award financial grants to young people who are moving on to any of the above? The Phillips Charity provides grants to the under 18’s and the Allen's Charity provides grants to those going to University, (it is important that you apply to the right Charity)......they are not means tested, nor do you need to be in receipt of ‘benefits’.

"Where or when do I apply?"....... All requests for application forms must be made to the relevant Charity in July, (you should have confirmation of courses or schools by that time). Look for further information in Local newspapers, ‘on line’ or in the Market House in Long Sutton around that time, Father Jonathon, of St. Mary’s Church in Long Sutton is the Chairman of both Charities and would be pleased to help you. When the application forms have been completed, return them to the relevant charity by 1st October. Look for our next Parish Newsletter later this year when we will publish a reminder. Happy New Year to all.
**Sutton Bridge - Best Front Garden Competition 2017**

Following the success of last year’s competition, it will take place again this year with the support of Sutton Bridge Parish Council and will be sponsored by Silverwood Craft & Garden Centre in Long Sutton again.

Last year we received lots of comments from residents that they wished they had entered, please plan ahead and enter this year.

Entry forms will be available in the Parish Office or the Community Library from the 1st April

This is a fun competition and is easy to enter –

- It's free to enter.
- Pick up an entry form from either the Parish Office or the Community Library in the Curlew Centre, Sutton Bridge or from Silverwood Craft & Garden Centre.
- Complete the entry form and return it to the Community Library at the Curlew Centre or Silverwood Garden Centre.
- You can nominate yourself or a neighbour.
- Prizes are £50, £25 and £10 gardening gift vouchers for the three best entrants.

Rules are simple –

- The garden must be at the front of the house and visible from the footpath.
- The garden must be in Sutton Bridge.

Judging will take place in July with the winners announced in August and they will be invited to a presentation at Silverwood Craft & Garden Centre.

**Sutton Bridge Community Library**

The Community Library in the Curlew Centre went through a modernisation programme last September. We are now a recognised County Library Hub, and part of a wider network. What does this mean for you?

We have:

- New books and these will be changed more regularly.
- Non stocked books can be ordered for you or you can do it online.
- New computer equipment is available for all to use. It is free to use for all library members and joining the library is also free.
- Your friendly volunteer staff will still be there to help you.

Everyone is welcome so please come along and see what is on offer, our opening hours are:

- Monday 10am to 2pm
- Tuesday 10am to 2pm
- Wednesday 2pm to 6pm
- Friday 2pm to 5pm
- Saturday 10am to 1pm

We also have small community groups which would like to grow. Genealogy – Tuesday 10am to 12noon and Craft and Chat – Monday 10am to 12noon and Friday 2pm to 4pm.

All welcome if you would be interested in becoming a volunteer – please pop-in, we would love to see you. Tel: 01406 351615

**FoodBank**

The local Food Bank has again helped those within our community who find themselves in financial crisis, through the provision of 967 meals to 46 adults and 25 children. They have also distributed 30 One-off Special Christmas Hampers to former clients. This year the FoodBank team are exploring how we might best tackle the problem of Isolation, where members of our community don’t see anyone from one day to the next; more about this project will be shared in due course.
**St Matthew’s Church**
The Computer Club which is open on Fridays 6-8pm in the Church was run on a trial basis, and is now a permanent fixture, offering a safe space for children to come and play networked computer games.

The second edition of the Community Booklet was also released and delivered to every household last year, it’s hoped this Spring time will see the 3rd edition released, do let me know if you’d like any Community Focused projects or news included.- e-mail: david@oxtobyhome.co.uk

The Church now has a dedicated Votive Stand in the Lady Chapel, if any of the community wish to come in and light a candle to remember a loved one.

**CAB – Sutton Bridge**
If you are unemployed or unable to work due to caring responsibilities and living in South Holland?

Would you like to improve your money management skills?

Would you like help finding training opportunities that could help you get back to work?

Citizens Advice now have a dedicated Money Mentor, Mike Doolan, covering South Holland offering FREE and confidential advice on:-

- Money skills
- Debt & crisis support
- Benefits & Income maximisation (including accessing childcare costs if applicable)
- Opening basic bank and savings accounts
- Work/training goals

Mike can work with you for up to 6 months on a one to one basis to help you achieve your goals.

For more information and to see if you qualify please contact Citizens Advice on 01775 766668 and ask for Mike, or 07599 058774 to speak directly to Mike. Help may be available with transport, child care and respite care costs to enable you to attend.

**The Friends of Sutton Bridge Open Spaces**
The very small group responsible for the rustic benches in the Memorial Ground and the play areas, the all-weather exercise equipment in the Memorial Ground, the picnic benches on the green near the bridge and the Community Wood picnic area by the children’s play area, are in the early stages of planning to install a ‘facility’ [to be decided] in the Memorial Ground, to engage with youngsters in the village.

To that end, we are looking for a few volunteers, who can help with both sides of the project – that is helping develop the project and fund-raising. There is a need to raise some funds to be able to put something towards the cost, rather than try to raise it all through grants.

Please contact John or Doreen Grimwood on 01406 359018 or Chris Brandon-King on 01406 351233, we would be pleased to talk with you, or invite you to a meeting.

**L.I.V.E.S First Responders**
Community First Responders via L.I.V.E.S URGENTLY needs your help in providing a First Responder to delivery emergency first aid cover in the Sutton Bridge area.

If you are 18 years old and able to offer a minimum of four hours per week and have a full driving licence, you will be considered. There is a strong community of First Responders that gather at monthly training sessions and we have built up a friendly social group from responding. If you are retired or just want to help your community why not give us a call on 07974875954 for more details, there is a complete training program designed to put you through the required levels of training which is held at head office.
This is not a position just for the young, anyone can First Respond as long as you are able to administer Basic life support and CPR. Some travelling will be required but all expenses are covered. Please get in touch if you want to support your local community.

Contact: Shirley Barrett, Tel: 07974875954 or E: shirleybarrett.63@hotmail.co.uk

**Nene Men’s Club**
This is a small club of approximately 20 members who meet once a month at Sutton Bridge Con Club on the second Wednesday of each month.

The meeting consists of a hot meal and a talk on various subjects. Recently we had our Christmas Party with a traditional Christmas meal and were entertained by Michelle who is a local entertainer who got us all singing along, which was most enjoyable.

We are also looking for new members and anyone interested in joining please contact the Chairman - Tony Fitt-Savage on 01406 351458.

**Hare coursing**
This is happening most days of the week in our area, it is illegal and also property is being damaged with vehicles running across fields and gardens - also small pets are at risk.

We are very concerned that if the farmers start taking the law into their own hands due to the lack of police presence someone will get seriously hurt, if this is seen happening please do not approach but if possible get vehicle make and registration, time and date and report to the police on 101 immediately.

Since opening early in 2012 The Curlew Centre has quickly become the hub of the community. In addition to being one of this area’s leading venues for meetings, conferences and seminars, there are rooms available for all sizes of groups and functions.

If you are looking for a venue for your wedding reception then The Curlew Centre is the ideal place with our new roof lining in the main function room adding that magical and romantic feel to your special day. Why not contact our team for a tailored quote for your event on 01406 351122 (24hours) or email bookings@thecurlewcentre.co.uk

**Upcoming Events:-**

**Saturday 11th February** 12.30pm – 3.30pm Table Top Sale £5 per table. Contact 01406 351270 Diane Cook to book your place.

**Sunday 19th March** - Mystic, Holistic & Artistic Fair 11am – 4pm. [www.rainbowfestivals.co.uk](http://www.rainbowfestivals.co.uk)

**Diamond Social Club**
Meet every Tuesday from 19.30 – 21.30pm in the upstairs Jubilee Room.
Contact is Hazel Phillipo 01406 350276.

**Slimming World**
Monday 17:30 – 21:00

**Allsorts Craft Club**
Meet 2nd Thursday of the month (excluding August) 13.00 –16.00pm
Call Josie Hartropp on 01406 351688 for more information.

**Rebecca Dear School of Dance**
Monday 16:30 – 20:30 and Wednesday 16:00 – 20:30
Classes held on Monday and Wednesday afternoon/evenings during school term times.
07752 891526 or email becky@learningtodance.co.uk and visit [www.learningtodance.co.uk](http://www.learningtodance.co.uk)

**Sutton Bridge Art Group**
Every Wednesday 14:00 - 16:00
Contact Sandra Carpenter 01945 780931 or email carpenter263@btinternet.com

Kickboxing
Monday 18:30 – 21:00
Free first class, kickboxing trousers and T-shirt
Call or text Aaron Farr 07882 581347 or Ben Merson 07912 790988 www.starskickboxing.co.uk

Citizen’ Advice Drop-in Surgery
The new Video link is available from 10:00 – 12:00 Monday - Friday
Adviceline: 0344 411 1444 or Migrant Worker Advice Line: 0344 847 6128

Sutton Bridge Friendship Club
2nd & 4th Fridays each month 14:00 – 16:00
Contact Mrs Speechley 01406 351294

Bridge Church
Sunday 18.00 – 19:00 Call Tim Porter (of Kings Lynn Christian Fellowship) for more info 01553 766333 or 07796 447229

Vitality
Every Thursday 10.00 – 11.00 Jubilee Room

Coffee Morning
Come along every Friday 9.30 – 11.30 for a coffee and biscuits and make new friends. All welcome.

Sutton Bridge Youth Club
The past year has been a bit of a disappointment with the number of children coming to the Youth Club on a Thursday evening tailing off over a period. The grant funding to pay Maria [our Youth Worker] from the Peoples Health Trust came to an end at the same time. Both of these led to the question – can the Club stay open for the youngsters in the village?

Luckily, more youngsters started to come towards the end of the autumn, and at the Extraordinary General Meeting [EGM] held on 24th November 2016, it was decided to close the club after the session on 15th December 2016 to re-open on Thursday 12th January 2017. The times that the club will be open will stay the same, from 6.00 to 7.45 pm, and the Jubilee Room is where the club will be held. This is because The Curlew Community Centre is continuing to support the Club and we offer our grateful thanks to them.

It is largely down to the dedication of a few long-standing adult volunteers who, together with other volunteers [raised at the EGM], will mean that we will be able to carry on without having to pay a Youth Worker. This has meant that weekly subscriptions will remain at £1.00 per child per session. The club is always in need of adult volunteers, so the more we have, the easier it is for all of them. The ‘snack shop’ will still be able to have sweets, crisps and drinks ready for the members to buy.

Look for us on Facebook or come to the club on any Thursday evening, to find out more.
Chris Brandon-King, Hon Secretary, Sutton Bridge Youth Club

‘Bloomers’

2016 was a fairly successful year in that we sourced a new Nursery for the provision of our plants for the containers. All of the plants did well and were healthy, colourful and long lasting.

During this year we will be replacing and/or moving plants in the Community and Jubilee gardens and updating any of the other gardens if required. We will be continuing to plant summer planting in the containers and gardens. In those gardens which we do not summer plant, we will do our best to keep them maintained and tidy.
During the next couple of years we hope to be able to replace some of the containers which have fallen into disrepair. This is a mammoth task as we have to remove all the soil in the containers and then remove the containers themselves, which are cumbersome and very heavy.

We only have a very small team of 6 members, and do struggle to manage all the containers and gardens, but we certainly do our best to maintain the standard we have achieved over the years. Although we are not a young group and suffer the aches and pains that come with age, we still strive to do our best for the community.

If time permits, we also like to get involved with other community groups and during the past year a few of us have been helping the ladies who garden in the churchyard and have helped maintain the gardens bordering the path to the church and also the newly sown wildflower garden at the side of the church. We hope to be able to continue this relationship during 2017.

If anyone would like to come along and join us (male or female) you would be most welcome, an hour here or there is all we ask, our aim has always been to make Sutton Bridge a place to be proud of.

**Sutton Bridge Women’s Institute**
Known as ‘Bridge Buns and Roses’, we meet at the Curlew Centre every 3rd Wednesday 7.30pm - 9.30pm in the Bridge Room upstairs.

Many ladies still do not realise that there is a WI in Sutton Bridge!
*Contact Karen Stone [07500 318735] for more details.*

**Bowls Club**
The Sutton Bridge Bowls Club are continuing to play in the Spalding & District EBF bowls league with three mixed teams playing on Thursday and Friday evenings.

Our “A” team won Division 2 in 2016 and were promoted to play in Division 1 in the 2017 season. The club finished as losing semi-finalist in the Sid Lane Cup.

The Club also play in the Sutton Bridge Banks Rose Bowl league, which is run by the club and consists of Clubs from the surrounding area.

We are holding bowls drives on the first Sundays in June, July, August and September. These are open to anyone who wishes to come along and join in. Also friendly matches with other clubs are held on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the season.

We are grateful for the support from the Sutton Bridge Parish Council, South Holland Council, Sutton Bridge Power Station and Grange Wind Farm.

Our season starts at the end of April and draws to an end at the beginning of September and is followed by our annual presentation and dance night at the Con. Club in October.

Anyone, both new and old bowlers, wishing to join the Sutton Bridge Bowls Club or wanting more information should contact the Club Secretary: Ray Ward on 01406 364015.

**Sutton Bridge Health Centre**
Surgery opening hours are Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 6.00 pm (however we do open the doors shortly after 8.00 am so that patients are able to wait inside in comfort and are sheltered from inclement weather
Location is Railway Lane Sutton Bridge, PE12 9UZ;    Telephone number 01406 350217
Website address is [www.suttonsmedicalgroup.co.uk](http://www.suttonsmedicalgroup.co.uk)
For appointment information we would suggest patients go to either the website, or pick up a practice booklet from the surgery which explains what appointments/clinics are available.
Councillors Contact information
Parish Clerk 01406 350802
Email – clerk@suttonbridgeparishcouncil.co.uk

Cllr J Grimwood (Chairman) 07742 055 026
Cllr S Booth (Vice-Chairman) 01406 351192
Cllr M Booth 01406 350034
Cllr C Brewis 07951 365 831
Cllr Mrs K Canham 01406 359888
Cllr Ms D Cook 01406 351270
Cllr Ms K Davies 07880 756 834
Cllr D Dewsberry 01406 350947
Cllr N Fenton 01406 351717
Cllr P Scarlett 07884 457 356
Cllr Mrs A Scarlett 07884 457 356

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Police
Police: 999 - an emergency, such as when a crime is in progress, someone suspected of a crime is nearby, when there is danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened.
Police: 101 - to report crimes and other concerns that do not require an emergency response.

Councils
Parish Office: 01406 350802, open Tuesday 10am to 1pm – leave a message
South Holland District Council, Switchboard: 01775 761161 - Mon to Thur 8.30am – 5.15pm, Fri 8.30am – 4.45pm
Highways: 01522 782070 – weekdays 8am to 6pm
Trading Standards: 01522 782341 – Mon to Thurs 8:45am to 5:15pm. Fri 8:45 to 4:45pm

Hospitals/Medical
Sutton Bridge Heath Centre: 01406 350217, open Mon to Fri 8:30am to 6pm
Queen Elizabeth Hospital (Kings Lynn): Main switchboard: 01553 613613, Complaints: 01553 613351
Pilgrim Hospital (Boston): 01205 364801
Johnson Hospital (Spalding): 01775 652 000
NHS Direct: 0845 4647

Education
Westmere Community Primary School: 01406 350205
Peele Community College: 01406 362120
Schools transport: 01522 782020 – weekdays 8am to 6pm

General
CAB, Spalding: 01775 717444 – Adviceline: 08444 111 444
Curlew Centre: 01406 351122, open Mon to Friday 10am to noon – leave a message
Sutton Bridge Foodbank: 01406 258572 or 07595 387652
Community Library: 07852 549088, see article for the opening hours
Call Connect: 0845 2343344 – weekdays 8:30am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 5pm
Social Care emergency: 01522 782333

Utilities
Electrical emergency: 0800 404090
Gas emergency: 0800 111999

Our Next Newsletter
The next Newsletter is planned for July 2017. If you have information that you would like included, please submit it to the Clerk at:
clerk@suttonbridgeparishcouncil.co.uk no later than the 1st June.