

SOUTHWATER PARISH COUNCIL



Councillor Surgeries

Southwater residents are welcome to raise concerns they may have directly with councillors at the surgeries which take place on the first Saturday of each month (except August) at 10:00am in Beeson House. Details of the surgery will be placed on Southwater Parish Council's website and social media pages.

What's New

- **Climate Action Group Meeting** – We welcome your views at the next Councillor Surgery at Beeson House, Saturday 6 July 2024 at 10:00am. All residents welcome.
- **Annual Parish Meeting** – This was held in the Lardner Hall at The Ghyll, Southwater on Tuesday 7th May 2024. This was well attended by both the various organisations and groups in the village along with residents. For full details of all the reports from Southwater organisations go to: <https://www.southwater--pc.gov.uk/annual-parish-meetings>.
- **Chairman's Annual Report** – The Chairman of Southwater Parish Council (SPC) gave his report which included a reminder of the Chairman's Discretionary Fund which is for people living within Southwater Parish requiring help, community groups in need and other worthy causes. He reported that the parish council are still awaiting a response from Horsham District Council regarding the reviewed version of the Southwater Neighbourhood Plan (SNP) and will be meeting with HDC at the end of May to discuss. SPC also made a response to the proposed Local Plan Reg 19, and this can be viewed on the SPC website. The Executive Officer has been able to ensure the planning application for the redevelopment of the RSPCA complies with the SNP (SNP18 – Tree Landscape) to reinforce the importance that trees are planted to retain Southwater's trees and green spaces. The Chairman also reiterated the importance of SPC's monthly surgeries (details above) where residents can meet and discuss any concerns they may have.
- **Southwater Neighbourhood Wardens** – They work closely with our residents and businesses along with the police and fire services. Anti-social behaviour experienced by some in the village has significantly reduced. They can respond quickly to local businesses who may need assistance as they have created a WhatsApp group. The Chairman thanked them for their invaluable service.

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- **Southwater Ghyll CIO** – Reported there had been a lot of behind-the-scenes maintenance work going on and they were looking to complete these along with improving the Muga surface this year. They are pleased to report they have many regular users using the facilities along with various organisations using the Ghyll and Laurie Apted Building.
- **Southwater Youth Project (SYP)** – Reported they were excited by the possibility of moving from Beeson House to The Ghyll which is currently under discussion with SPC. This is an invaluable resource for Southwater youth and is a safe place where they can be themselves. Big thanks to the volunteers and trustees for their support in times when funding is difficult to secure. Read more <https://southwateryouthproject.org.uk>
- **Southwater Bowls Club** – Reported new maintenance equipment has been installed which has depleted reserves and a grant from SPC was welcomed. Always looking for new members and SYP plan to visit to introduce youth to the game.
- **4Sight Vision Support** – Welcomed the grant received in Dec 2023 from SPC. They have supported 32 Southwater parish residents who are either blind or partially sighted.
- **Southwater Village Hall** – Continues to thrive with full regular bookings. The new outdoor classroom has been a major asset for the pre-school thanking SPC for the grant it provided.
- **Southwater Community Partnership** – seeking new volunteers to assist with the organisation of many events for the Parish.
- **Southwater WI** – Now have over 60 members among other activities have raised over £2,000 for St Catherine’s Hospice.
- **Southwater Pet Food Bank** – Are looking for dry rodent proof premises where they can store food. Anyone who is struggling to feed their pets please do contact them on southwaterpetfoodbank@gmail.com

Southwater Parish Council

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