

Sellack Parish Council Newsletter

Autumn 2024

‘Lest We Forget’

We have had a fabulous response from our community to the idea of a War Memorial Trail. We now have sponsors for each plaque, which include the names, service, date and place of death of each of the local men who lost their lives in WW1 and WW2.

With our War Memorial being on a busy crossroads, the trail will provide us all with a safe and peaceful opportunity to remember our fallen whilst taking in the beautiful countryside of Sellack, that they left behind to serve their country.

We plan to have all the plaques in place in time for our **Remembrance event on Saturday 9th November**. Please come and join us at Sellack Village Hall from **10.00 - 11.30 am** (refreshments included) after which we will be leading a walk along



the new War Memorial Trail down to the church and back to the carpark at the Village Hall. All are welcome to join us for either or both. Please contact the Clerk if you would like a lift back from the church to the Village Hall.

Special thanks to the landowners for permission to erect the memorial plaques along footpaths on their land.

Pictured: Parish Council Chairman, Sarah Aitken and Veteran, Carl Smith laying wreaths during our Remembrance event in 2023.

Emergency Planning

Would you know what to do if an emergency happened in your area? It's always good to be prepared.

A few tips from West Mercia Local Resilience Forum's Community Risk Register:

- Think about a safe meeting place for you and your family
- Consider elderly or vulnerable family members and neighbours who may need your help
- Include a note on your fridge/phone of what to add to a 'grab bag' if ever needed e.g. glasses, wallet, phone, medication, ID

Check out the Government's new website for more useful information - <https://prepare.campaign.gov.uk/>

Flooding

Following an approach from a local resident, the Parish Council has expanded its Backney Bridge Picnic Site Working Group to include Flood Action. The Group meets on site, a few times a year and welcomes new members. If you'd like to join the working group, please contact our Clerk. Keep an eye on our website for useful information on what to do in the event of a flood - <https://sellackparishcouncil.gov.uk/the-parish/flood-action>

Volunteering

We continue to have wonderful support from our local volunteers. Over the last few months, you have helped us with restoring benches, carrying out research and tending the War Memorial, cleaning up the picnic site and more. We are eternally grateful to everyone who has spared an hour (or many) to support our community in this way.

We will be holding our next Backney Bridge Picnic Site Volunteer Day in the spring. Please do join us and get in touch with our Clerk, if you'd like to get involved.

Footpath and Drainage Works

We have been successful in our application to Herefordshire Council for funding to support the purchase of some footpath furniture (gates and fingerposts) on various footpaths in the parish, to continue to make all of our Public Rights of Way accessible.

We have also applied to Herefordshire Council for funding towards a number of drainage works in the parish. We put out a request to residents (via our Facebook page) for suggestions and we will publish the full list of proposed works once we receive confirmation of funding.

Participatory Budgeting

At our 2024 Annual Meeting, the Parish Council launched its first Participatory Budgeting scheme to directly involve members of our community in decision making about how we spend some of the Parish Council's funding, initially £250. Our residents are invited to put forward ideas which if legal and feasible, will be put forward to the local community, to vote on at our next Annual Parish Meeting in March 2025.

Examples could include a single item or a few small item purchases for the community; a contribution towards a more expensive item; a contribution towards an enhanced service/project.

Have an idea? Tell us about it, by emailing the Clerk or come along to our Remembrance event on 9th November, at Sellack Village Hall, where we will provide more information on our Participatory Budgeting scheme.

We Need Your Help

The Parish Council currently has two vacancies for parish councillors. Looking for ways to make a difference in your local community? Want to get more involved in local decision making?

Find out more at <https://sellackparishcouncil.gov.uk/new-parish-councillors-wanted/>

Sellack United Charities

At our 2024 Annual Meeting we had an inspiring briefing about Sellack United Charities, which has been helping local residents in need for over 400 years. The Trustees would like to encourage local residents to consider applying for support or to make a donation to help secure the future of the Charities for generations to come.

More information can be found on the Sellack Parish Council website at <https://sellackparishcouncil.gov.uk/the-parish/sellack-united-charities/>

Stay in touch

We hope you have found this update useful. Please stay in touch, get involved and have your say by:



Following us on Facebook (search for Sellack Parish Council)



Subscribing to free updates on our website at www.sellackparishcouncil.gov.uk



Coming along to one of our Parish Council meetings – there is a public speaking item or just come and listen. Our next meetings are Tues 12th November, Tues 14th January and Tues 11th March, 7pm at Sellack Village Hall



Emailing the Clerk, Claire Vaughan with any queries or comments at clerk@sellackparishcouncil.gov.uk

If you would like this newsletter in large print or audio, please contact our Clerk at clerk@sellackparishcouncil.gov.uk