

THE PUMP & POUND

South Perrott and Chedington Newsletter

Issue 90

August/September 2026

The summer so far has been somewhat warm and dry to say the least with three heatwaves already experienced! Let's hope the growing conditions improve for the Flower and Produce Show on Saturday 5th September and of course for the benefit of our farmers and gardens. *The Editors*

Chedington Village Hall

Our coffee mornings in Chedington Village Hall take place on the first Saturday of the month from 10:30am. The next ones are on **Saturday 1st August** and **Saturday 5th September**. Tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes are served and all are welcome. Donations towards Village Hall funds are appreciated.

South Perrott Village Hall

The Village Hall hosts the **SP Café** on most Saturday mornings from 10am until midday. Everyone is welcome to come along, enjoy a coffee/tea and a cake, have a chat with your friends, use the internet (free of charge) and generally relax. Please note, however, that there will be no café on **Saturday 5th September** and **Saturday 19th September**.

On **Saturday 19th September**, we will be holding our own **Oktoberfest**. It is likely that beer and bratwurst will feature with traditional music in the background. Ticket price £10. Doors open at 7.00 for 7.30pm start. To book a place, please contact Hilary at hilary.spvillage@gmail.com or 01935 891115.

A future date for your diaries; on **Saturday 17th October**, we will be hosting another of our **quizzes**. More information in the next edition.

There has been a change to the management of the Village Hall. Hilary Footitt has taken over the Chair of the Management Committee.

SPLottery – 2026/27

We've had six more SPLottery prizes, the lucky numbers being 69, 39 & 76 for June and 75, 80 & 2 for July. If you would like to join the South Perrott Lottery for the remaining 8 months of this financial year, just let me know. The next two draws will take place on Saturdays 29th August and 26th September at the Café as usual. Hilary, hilary.spvillage@gmail.com or 01935 891115.

South Perrott Flower and Produce Show 2026

The show this year will take place on **Saturday 5th September** and all households should have now received a copy of the schedule with details of all the classes. Sections in the show this year will be vegetables, flowers, floral displays, fruit, cookery, arts and crafts, and photography. There is also the section for children under 15 years old. Staging of exhibits is between 9am and 12 noon after which judging will take place. Doors open to everyone at 2.30 with viewing, raffle, teas, auction and, finally, presentation of prizes. Enjoy the summer and we look forward to seeing you all at the South Perrott village hall on 5th September. In the meantime, you can follow the show on Facebook where we'll post details of the classes for the show.



Winyard's Gap

Summer's garden gigs bringing a series of standout bands - a mix of returning favourites and fresh new acts - continue through August into September. For more information, including set times and event details, check the website, winyardsgap.com, or contact Lucy/Bron on 01935 891244

The Parrett Hotel

A Charity Breakfast in aid of Woman V Cancer will be held on **6th September** from 10am -12noon

Chedington and South Perrott Gardening Club

We have no meetings scheduled for August and September. Our next event is a visit to Knoll Gardens on **Tuesday 20th October**. More information in the next edition.

St. Mary's Harvest Festival Tea is at 3pm on **Sunday 27th September** in South Perrott Village Hall. Please come along and enjoy afternoon tea with your friends and neighbours. Contact *Sue Coutanche Secretary, St Mary's PCC, SP & Chedington*.

South Perrott Village Fête and Fun Dog Show

We will be reporting on this in the next edition after we have been able to gather all the information.

Midsummer Festival Weekend

A tremendous “thank you” to everyone who made this weekend such a success! The entertainment in the church on Saturday evening was well received. I didn’t realise that there was so much talent locally! As usual the “Flower Girls” did a splendid job decorating the church and the aroma from the displays added to the ambience. Sunday’s Cream Teas were as popular as ever. Our bakers always maintain their high standards. Anthony & Dominie’s Garden provided the perfect setting for the teas, as can be seen in the photo, and visitors enjoyed its beauty and tranquillity. The weather was perfect on both days and luckily it was not too hot. The Midsummer Weekend raised over £500 which has been donated to the church. *Sue Coutanche, Secretary St Mary’s PCC, SP & Chedington.*



Attention all Riparian Owners

It’s that time of year now it’s the peak growing season when the river banks are covered in vegetation. Could I please remind all householders whose property adjoins the river bank, i.e. riparian owners, of their responsibility to keep the river banks clear of foliage, so as not to impede the river flows (when it eventually starts raining again!) during the winter. For further information, please contact the River Warden, Martyn Gillingham, on 01935 891931 or mcvgillingham@btinternet.com.

Footpath Update – July 2026

As a result of the recent heatwaves, many footpaths and bridleways have dried out and their firmer surfaces make walking easier than during wetter periods.

Langmoor Lane is still “work in progress”. At the end of March, Dorset Council (DC) managed to clear some vegetation and this made the lane wider. However, the repairs required are outside DC’s budget and their Senior Ranger, Stuart Semple, has not been successful in finding any other sources of funding. DC have carried out repairs to the pedestrian (coffin) bridge, which is now in a reasonable condition although it is on their list for replacement in the next couple of years. Steven Legg is planning to do more clearance work on the South Perrott section of the lane later in the year.

Bailey’s Lane – parts of the bridleway are now overgrown. In the section where the River Parrett crosses the Lane, the vegetation is meeting in the middle of the river and despite the river being extremely low the foliage is impeding walkers and equestrians at this point. I have reported this to DC and a ‘job’ has been raised.

On the subject of prolific vegetation growth, a reminder to residents whose boundaries adjoin local ‘rights of way’. Please cut back overhanging vegetation.

Dorset Council’s Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) is going through the last stages for approval. This is a strategic document that sets out Dorset Council’s plans/aspirations for the RoW network for the next 10 years. It is hoped to be out for public consultation in August and feedback from the public is encouraged.

I have asked Stuart if he can arrange a site visit in his work schedule as it is a while since he has visited South Perrott.

Our dog owners/walkers are very good at removing their dog’s excrement but PLEASE don’t forget to take your “poo” bags with you and dispose appropriately. They don’t make good decorations when hung on gate posts and trees!

Cllr. Sue Coutanche, Local Footpath Officer

South Perrott Parish Council (SPPC) Meeting – 7th July 2026

Below is an outline of the main topics covered in the meeting. Full details are available in the draft minutes which are posted on the Parish Council noticeboard and on www.southperrottparishcouncil.gov.uk. In attendance were three parish councillors, Clerk Mark Payne and Cllr. Craig Monks. Apologies were received from Cllr. Robin Ketteridge and Cllr. Tom Scott-Malden.

- ❖ **Speed Survey:** speed recorders were placed at each end of the village in the middle of April. Results showed that the mean speeds ranged from 28 to 35 mph with a small deviation from 30mph. The maximum speed recorded was 57mph. It was agreed that SPPC moves to the next stage of the process and submit a 20mph request to Dorset Council.
- ❖ **Highways Issues:** Following a meeting with Dorset Council’s Community Highways Officer the following issues were referred to Dorset Council’s Road Safety Team; their response:
 - **Priority Signage at Swing Gate Cottage “pinch point”:** Dorset Council’s Road Safety Team response was based upon the current available data (one recorded personal injury in the last 10 years). Therefore, they were unable to justify priority signs for this section of single carriageway on A356. However, the Road Safety Officer will arrange with the Community Highways Officer for

vegetation to be cleared where warning signs are obscured, including “Road Narrows Ahead” and speed limit signs at either end of the village.

Dorset Council’s Road Safety Team said it would be extremely helpful if **ALL** residents who experience or witness vehicles meeting head-on at Swing Gate Cottage resulting in near misses or damage-only collisions to submit a report on [Tell us about small collisions or near misses to help us target road improvements-Dorset Council](#). Each report is viewed and mapped to identify locations where intervention is required.

- **Chevrons at Hill Farm Bend:** These need repainting. SPPC Chair has reported this to Dorset Council Highways and encourages others to do likewise.
- ❖ **Cllr. Craig Monks:** Cllr. Monks update the meeting on the following:
 - **5G/mobile** signal improvements for the Mosterton/South Perrott area; A site has been identified and negotiations with the landowner are underway. It is hoped that a planning application will be submitted imminently.
 - **Beaminster Tunnel:** Repair works to the Tunnel, where traffic lights have been in operation following a landslip 6 months ago, are scheduled to be carried out in July. Beaminster Town Council are to survey residents to gather the communities’ views on installing permanent traffic lights at the Tunnel.
 - **Junction A3066/ Lecher Lane:** In the past 10 years there have been a number of accidents as well as near-misses, when vehicles are turning into and out of Lecher Lane. Cllr Monks has contacted Dorset Highways and asked them to assess the feasibility of introducing a solid white line system at the junction with Lecher Lane. He will provide a further update once their assessment has been completed.

N.B Please report all incidents on “[Tell us about small collisions....](#)” See above.

- ❖ **Footpath Officer’s Report:** See separate item
- ❖ **Plastic Free Community:** This is now being advertised on Facebook (South Perrott Support Group). Six residents took part in a Litter Pick in the village on Sunday 12th July.
- ❖ **Finance:** SPPC’s balance at 7th July 2026 was £8,435.27.
- ❖ **Planning:** There were no applications this period.

Full details of all applications plus public comments can be viewed at: www.planning.dorset.gov.uk/online-applications/

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 7pm in SP Village Hall

South Perrott Parish Councillors

Councillor	Telephone No.	e-mail Address
Richard Footitt (Chairman)	01935 891115	cllrrichardfootitt@southperrottparishcouncil.gov.uk
Robin Ketteridge (Vice Chairman)		cllrrobinketteridge@southperrottparishcouncil.gov.uk
Tom Scott-Malden	07830 115743	cllrtomscottmalden@southperrottparishcouncil.gov.uk
Martyn Gillingham	01935 891931	cllrmart yngillingham@southperrottparishcouncil.gov.uk
Sue Coutanche	07971 979155	cllrsuecoutanche@southperrottparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council

Mark Payne	clerk@southperrottparishcouncil.gov.uk
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Dorset Councillor for Beaminster Electoral Division

Craig Monks	01305 225968	cllrcraig.monks@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
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Parish Champions

Digital Champion	Jonathan Baker	07903 995696.	jonathan@southperrott.com
Listed Buildings Champion	Martyn Gillingham	01935 891931	mcvgillingham@btinternet.com

Editors – Pump and Pound

Dave McSkelly	01935 891891	davemcskelly@gmail.com
Sue Coutanche	01935 891019	sue.coutanche@btinternet.com

What's On in South Perrott and Chedington?

August 2026		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Saturday	1 st	10:30	Coffee Morning	Chedington Village Hall	Sam - 07939 106381

September 2026		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Tuesday	1 st	19:00	SP Parish Council	SP Village Hall	
Saturday	5 th	10:30	Coffee Morning	Chedington Village Hall	Sam - 07939 106381
		14:30	Flower & Produce Show (staging from 09:00 to 12:00)	SP Village Hall	Dominie - 891601
Sunday	6 th	10:00	Charity Breakfast	Parrett Hotel	James/Yvonne - 891355
Wednesday	8 th	13:00	Garden Club visit to Broomhill	Broomhill Garden	Dave - 891891
Saturday	19 th	19:00	Oktoberfest	SP Village Hall	Hilary - 891115
Sunday	27 th	15:00	St Mary's Harvest Tea	SP Village Hall	Sue - 07971 979155

Regular Events – Summer/Autumn 2026

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Every Saturday	10:00	Café (not 5 th and 19 th September)	SP Village Hall	Dave - 891891
Every Monday	19:00	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Doreen - 891431
Every Wednesday	09:30	Yoga (now on summer break)	SP Village Hall	Jane C - 07925148222

To keep up to date with village events view:

Facebook Pages ("like" and "share"): South Perrott	www.facebook.com/SouthPerrott
Chedington	www.facebook.com/SouthPerrottSupportGroup
South Perrott Parish Council website	www.facebook.com/ChedingtonVillage www.southperrottparishcouncil.gov.uk

Local Contacts:

Chedington Village Hall:

Chair Sam Mackenzie-Green 07939106381
Bookings Rosemary Sanderson 07813983821
Email chedingtonvh@gmail.com

Winyard's Gap Lucy/Bron 01935 891244

St Mary's Church:

Church Warden Christine Howard 01460 76405
Secretary Sue Coutanche sue.coutanche@btinternet.com

South Perrott Footpaths Officer

Sue Coutanche 07971979155/01935 891019

South Perrott Village Hall:

Chair Hilary Footitt 01935 891115
Secretary Angela Gillingham 01935 891931
Bookings southperrottvh@gmail.com
Heather Noon 07399886103

Parrett Hotel James/Yvonne 01935 891355

Social Prescribers:

Beaminster GP Surgeries 01308 421896
Crewkerne GP Surgeries 01935 311085

CB3 Bus Service (Saturdays) 07716643087
Dorset Community Transport 01258 287987

Issue 91 of The Pump & Pound, covering October and November 2026, will be published at the end of September. Contributions should be sent to Sue or Dave by **Wednesday 23rd September**.