

S & A Liaison, 2020 Season

Unfortunately, because of diary clashes for members of the S & A/Kings Caple Liaison Group, the annual Liaison Committee meeting had to be put back several times, and was eventually prevented by the introduction of the national coronavirus lockdown.

The original intention was to follow very closely the operational patterns followed last year; these were set out at last year's Liaison Committee meeting, approved minutes of which are available on the Parish Council website. There has inevitably been some adjustment to the operational patterns followed in previous years. These relate to the more widely selected times of picking in order to safeguard the pickers, and a general principle whenever possible to begin early-day picking on fields farthest away from residential properties; this is also in recognition of the likelihood that more people will this year be at home for most of the time than in previous years.

The S & A Public Relations Manager, Jude Norcott, has let us know that just before the beginning of picking operations in mid-April, the S & A Operations Director, who was inspecting the site (which was at that time closed), observed an unauthorised person picking asparagus who rapidly left the field on being observed. Whilst these are commercial crops of economic value to the Company and relied upon by its workers in the earning of productivity bonuses, additionally S & A is taking great care this year in the use of hand sanitizers etc with pickers, to avoid any transmission of the COVID virus, and is thus particularly anxious that this kind of situation be avoided.

Jude will continue to circulate by email details of special operations outside of the normal picking routine. These emails will be sent BCC to residents on the south side of Caple Avenue and to those living adjacent to Dark Orchard, 40 Acres and Vicarage Field. Jude will also continue to provide an immediate trouble shooting response to any resident who experiences a problem with S & A operations. Any such approaches should be sent to Jude's email address, which is jude.norcott@sagroup.co.uk

Adrian Harvey
Chair Kings Caple PC
11 May 2020