# South Pool Parish Information

**Village conservation**
**Conservation area**
South Pool parish occupies an isolated and beautiful position at the head of an unspoilt creek on the eastern shore of the Kingsbridge Estuary. It is bounded on the south by Waterhead Creek, on the east by Chivelstone parish, and on the north by Stokenham parish as well as the parish of Frogmore and Sherford.
The Conservation Area was one of the earliest to be created in the County of Devon, with the exact date of designation not known, but believed to be in the 1960s. The new boundary loosely follows the outline of the centre of the village. A number of the properties within the Conservation Area are second homes and the permanent population of around 145 people increases considerably during school holiday periods, in common with other settlements in this tourist area.
https://www.southhams.gov.uk/media/1426/South-Pool/pdf/South_Pool_Conservation_Area_Appraisal.pdf?m=636372894326530000

**Area of outstanding natural beauty (AONB)**
South Pool is part of the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The AONB team works with residents, farmers, young people and tourists to protect and enhance this delicate ecosystem. With multiple protected species such as Horseshoe Bats, Cirl Buntings, Oil Beetles and Seahorses this is a huge task but we can all play our part. Maintaining hedgerows, keeping local varieties of flowers and plants in our gardens and being mindful of our impact on the environment all help to protect and preserve this beautiful place for generations to come. To find out more visit https://www.southdevonaonb.org.uk/

**Site of special scientific interest (SSSI)**
The whole of the Salcombe and Kingsbridge Estuary is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest which includes South Pool Creek. The level of biodiversity and the important role the estuary plays in the local and global ecosystem is really quite staggering. For example, the estuary mud might just look like mud, but it is responsible for higher levels of carbon capture per square metre than the Amazon Rainforest.
https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx
https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/PDFsForWeb/Citation/1002041.pdf

**Dark skies**
The stargazing here in South Pool is incredible. The lack of light pollution means that you can enjoy the stars all year round. Bright lights at night also disturb the wildlife meaning they are less likely to stay here. It is very noticeable when a house or houses are causing light pollution in the village and it ruins the night sky for everyone. You can help ensure that everyone can enjoy the dark skies by:
Only turning on outside lights when necessary
Using low powered bulbs in outside lighting
Directing outdoor lighting towards the floor rather than outwards or upwards
Closing your curtains and blinds at night when you have the interior lights on

**Additional information**
Neighbourhood plan - https://chivelstone.org.uk/document-category/neighbourhood-plan/

**Why this village is so beautiful**
This is such a beautiful village and there is one reason for this; because the people who live here keep it that way. While the local and county councils undertake road repairs and empty the bins, it is the villagers who cut the grass in public spaces, maintain the hedgerows, fix the signage, mend the

benches, rebuild walls and sweep up after the high tides. Please do get involved and keep South Pool beautiful!

**Dog fouling**
It is so lovely to have dogs around the village. Please be aware that there are lots of dogs. Keep your dog under control and place all mess in the marked dog fouling bins provided or take it home with you. In the spring and summer there are lots of birds nesting on the estuary. When walking your dog on the estuary please keep it on a lead so as not to disturb the nesting birds.

**Rubbish**
The bin collection day for South Pool is usually a Thursday. The changes when there are bank holidays. South Hams District Council post any changes on their social media and website.
There are public bins available in the village square next to the parish notice board. Please use these bins or take your rubbish home with you. They are not for your domestic household waste, please use your own bins for this. If the bins are overflowing, please let someone on the parish council know or contact South Hams district Council.

**Estuary management**
The Salcombe and Kingsbridge estuary (of which South Pool creek is a part of) is a marine reserve due to it having high levels of biodiversity and being home to a number of endangered species. It is essential that we protect this amazing habitat. Please ensure that no contaminants (fuel, fertiliser, other chemicals, litter) enter this delicate ecosystem.

**Salcombe harbour authority**
South Pool Creek (and Salcombe and Kingsbridge estuary) is monitored and regulated by the Salcombe Harbour Authority. If you use any kind of water borne craft including paddle boards and kayaks on the creek they must be registered with Salcombe Harbour Authority or you will be fined. If you are renting paddle boards or kayaks, make sure they are registered for use on the estuary otherwise you could received a fine.
It is very easy to register your craft with the harbour authority and pay your harbour dues. You can email them at salcombe.harbour@swdevon.gov.uk, telephone them on 01548 843791 or visit the office in Salcombe. More information can be found on their website https://www.salcombeharbour.co.uk/.
The speed limit in the creek and the estuary is 6 knots maximum unless otherwise marked. If you are caught exceeding the speed limit you will be fined without appeal.

**South Pool Parish Council**
South Pool has an active and involved parish council who are here to represent you as parishioners. Council meetings are help normally on the first Monday of the month at 6.30pm in the village hall with an opportunity for public participation. If you have any questions, feedback, concerns or praise please contact the parish council. All contact details and additional information can be found on the village website https://southpoolvillage.co.uk/home/parish-council/

**The church of St Nicholas and St Cyriac**
The fine church (St. Nicholas and St. Cyriacus) is a wonderful 15th century building. It is built entirely of local slates, the tower being a notable example of building in this stone. The present fabric is mainly late 15th century in date, but the core of the church may be that of the building consecrated by Bishop Stapeldon on 24 August 1318. The rood-screen, a fine example, is probably circa 1500 or a little later, and is similar to that of Dartmouth. In the South transept is a female effigy (early 4th century), either a Courtenay or a Chichester. The Easter sepulchre is occupied by the tomb and effigy of Thomas Briant, rector of S. Pool and Portlemouth (living 1536). At the back

of the recess is a carving of the Resurrection. There are monuments to Leonard Darre, Esquire, and his wife (1608, 1615), and a splendid Norman font.

**The village hall**
The South Pool Village Hall holds events throughout the year. Details of these can be found on the parish notice board (by the phone box) or on the village website https://southpoolvillage.co.uk/home/village-hall/ or the South Pool Community Events Facebook page. The Hall is also available for hire. It has a capacity of up to 80 people which can be extended with one or two marquees (40 and 32 square metres). For more information please contact the events team south.pool.events@gmail.com

**The Millbrook Inn**
After a change of hands at the start of 2021 the fabulous Millbrook Inn is open for food and drink. For all of the latest information go to www.millbrookinnsouthpool.co.uk or check out their social media. They offer a wonderful selection of ales, lagers, ciders, wines and spirits. You can call the pub on 01548 531581 or email info@millbrookinnsouthpool.co.uk.

**South Pool community support group**
This community support group offers advice and support in setting up community events and putting people in contact with useful services. The group also holds a list of volunteers ready to help with transport, shopping and befriending. If you would like support from our wonderful volunteers, to volunteer or to setup an event or group please get in touch.

**Village life**
***Events***
There are events throughout the year organised by the Village Hall, the Millbrook Inn and the Church fete committee. These normally include an Easter fun day and duck race, a summer BBQ, a church fete, beer festivals and more. Keep and eye on the Village notice boards and if you would like to get involved or organise an event please do get in touch.
***Sports***
Twice a year there is a village cricket match against or neighbouring village East Prawle, one here in South Pool and one at East Prawle. These are fun days where all are welcome to play and watch. We are keen to have other sporting events happen in and around the village. If you are interested in organising an event or hosting an event please do get in touch.
***Defibrillator***
In case of an emergency there is a defibrillator located in the telephone box in the middle of the village. You might like to make sure you know where it is for those occasions when the unthinkable happens.

**On the roads**
Driving in Devon and particularly in the South Hams is different to many other areas of the country. The roads are narrower, the banks are high so you can’t see around the corner and passing places are at a premium. Everyone should be aware that people walk and cycle on the lanes. There have been many accidents and fatalities over the years as a result of people driving too fast and without due care. Just a few reminders to help save lives:
***For drivers***
- When approaching a blind corner, slow right down and take care
- Keep to the left hand side of the lane. This means you will have to adjust your position less when an oncoming car approaches
- Keep your distance from the car in front. Many of the passing places are only large enough for one car. If you keep your distance you can get into your own passing place rather than squeezing into one that is too small or having to reverse

- Take it easy when driving on the lanes. If someone lets you through or reverses for you a polite wave to say thank you goes a long way.
- It may sound silly but if you cannot reverse, practice. Nothing ruins a day more than an argument over who is going to reverse

***For walkers***

- When walking on the lanes always walk around a corner on the widest side so that cars can see you
- When walking on the lanes always walk on the side where you can be most clearly seen. This is usually facing into oncoming traffic.
- If walking at dusk or in the dark, carry a torch and wear high visibility clothing

***For cyclists***

- Always wear a helmet
- When cycling at dusk, poor visibility or at night you must use suitable bike lights

**The country side**

South Pool is an active agricultural community with the farmers and their families at its heart. This means that there are often farm vehicles on the roads, animals being moved, animals in the fields and private land that you must be wary of trespassing on. A few helpful reminders:

- Close all gates behind you
- Keep to marked footpaths and lanes
- Do not climb over gates or fences to cross a field that is not a marked public footpath. This is trespassing
- Do not get close to livestock as they are unpredictable and therefore dangerous
- Keep your dog on a lead at all times when there is livestock around. “My dog would never attack a sheep” is not an excuse, it might and there have been may instances where they have.
- Take your litter home with you
- Appreciate that farmers need to move animals and large loads. They will always let you through or pass as soon as they are able to and it is safe to do so.

**Supporting local business**

There are so many great local businesses from which to purchase wonderful foods, homewares, garden supplies and nic-naks. Please support these businesses.
If you have people visiting there are a great range of B&B’s, self-catered accommodation and camping available in and around South Pool.
If you are looking for building, gardening, landscaping or decorating services there are a number of excellent local contractors. Ask in the village for recommendations and contact details for any of your needs.

**Important contacts**

***Church warden***
Barbara Perrett – Tel: 01548 531259
***Parish council***
Janet Green – Tel: 01548 531376, email: janet.green196@btinternet.com
***Village hall***
Events team – email: south.pool.events@gmail.com
***Millbrook Inn***
Tel: 01548 531581, email: info@millbrookinnsouthpool.co.uk
***District and County council representative***
Julian Brazil – Tel: 01548 511109 Julian.brazil@devon.gov.uk or Cllr.Brazil@southhams.gov.uk

**Get involved**

If you would like to get involved in village life please do! Simply speak to a member of the parish council or anyone in the village and they will point you in the right direction. Whether it be putting up the Christmas lights, getting involved in a sports event or running an event at the village hall, any help is greatly appreciated.