



Troston Parish Council--The Parish Council met on Monday 7 January, and here are some of the items discussed:

Parish Plan: It was reported that, following a meeting held in November, a number of people had volunteered to help devise a Parish (or Village) Plan, and an inaugural meeting would be held on Thursday 24 January, 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, to decide the way forward.

Local Cases of Theft of Domestic Oil: A report by the community officer representing the Safer Neighbourhood team highlighted some local cases of theft from domestic oil tanks. At particular risk were plastic tanks, some of which had even been padlocked. Most thefts appear to have been committed at night, under cover of darkness, and in some cases as much as 500 litres had been siphoned into small containers whilst residents slept. If anyone has any information that can help the Police, please call 01284 774100.

Bottle Bank: The Parish Council wished to thank the people of Troston for using the bottle bank alongside The Bull public house, as a result of which the princely sum of £266.68 had just been received for the 6-month period April to September 2007. All of this money can be used to help fund worthwhile community resources in the future, so please continue to recycle your empties in this way. Remember it's a mixed glass facility, which means you don't even have to sort it by colour, and the more you put in, the more money will come back into the village.

Minutes of Parish Council Meetings--The Parish Council meets every two months, and full transcripts of their minutes can be viewed by logging onto the Troston Village Website, on www.troston-village.co.uk/parish-council/minutes. The next scheduled meeting is Monday 3 March, starting at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Church News -- The first snowdrops should be appearing any day, and before long, the daffodils and crocuses will be pushing up through the ground, a sure sign that spring is on the way. On the other hand, we could find ourselves shoveling our way out from several inches of snow. Whatever the weather may bring, Easter is early this year—March 23rd—and we begin the Lenten period with a service of Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday, February 6, at 8.00 p.m.

The popular Lent Lunches are on offer again this year on February 13, 20 and 27 and on March 5 and 12, 12.30 – 2.00 p.m., although venues were not yet set at this writing. See the February team newsletter, available in the church from the beginning of the month, for more details. Monies raised will be given to the charity chosen by the host.

There will be Sunday evening services throughout the team during Lent, all at 6.00 p.m.: Feb. 10, Fakenham Magna; Feb. 17, Bardwell; March 9, Ixworth; March 16 (Palm Sunday), Ampton; and March 2, Barnham.

Our lay elder, Mrs. Grace Horn, was recommissioned at the communion service on January 13. Grace is a very valuable member of our team ministry, one of five lay elders in the Blackbourne Team.

Rev. Doug Neupert, OLM (269614)

Services for Mid-January - February

Sunday, January 20 th	11.00 a.m.	Morning Worship
27 th	11.00 a.m.	Family communion
February 3 rd	11.00 a.m.	BCP Matins
Wednesday, 6 th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday
Sunday 10 th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
17 th	11.00 a.m.	Morning Worship
24 th	11.00 a.m.	Family communion

Collection of Prescriptions from Ixworth Surgery--The Pharmacy at Ixworth Surgery has taken over the prescription run from the village volunteers. It will operate exactly as before, with completed scripts needing to be dropped off at Amanda Stoner's Chiropody Practice by 9 a.m. Tuesday, and medicines available for collection on Thursday afternoon.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank Ixworth Pharmacy for taking over this service, and also extend my gratitude to everyone who has ever been involved in the "prescription run" over the years, which provides a much-valued service to many members of our community.

Lynne Fugle

Saving Troston's Heritage Group--The exciting news is that an application is to be made to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding for the conservation of the important medieval wall paintings at the Grade 1 listed Troston church. We hope to be successful in making a case for a sum of up to £50,000 and have the forms ready! Completing them will be challenging them, but the Heritage Lottery Fund regional office at Cambridge will help with this so we remain undaunted...

All support is very welcome. Meanwhile, we MUST continue with our community fund-raising efforts. The group met on January 10th to discuss plans for the Hen Party refreshments in the church on Easter Saturday and the church flower festival on May 25th and 26th. As always, volunteers are key to their success; please help and support events which will be very enjoyable.

For further information, please contact David Corrie on 01359 268134 or Susan Sollohub on 01359 269574.

Troston Women's Institute-- A Happy New Year from the branch. We are looking forward to a glimpse of spring at our February 13th meeting. John Hewson, of Great Barton, will talk to us about preparing the garden for the season.

Members and guests enjoyed an excellent Christmas dinner at The Bull and the following week raised money for the West Suffolk Hospital Stroke Unit with carol singing in the village. Thanks to Jenny and Vic Simmonds, who hosted a gathering of singers at their home afterwards.

Please note that meetings are now held on the second WEDNESDAY of the month at the village hall at 7.45pm unless otherwise stated. Residents are welcome at many of our meetings. Enquiries to Carol Littlewood, president, on 01359 269769 or Jenny Simmonds, secretary, on 01359 269219.

Troston Women's Institute Programme for 2008:

February 13th, Preparing the garden for Spring

March 12th, Techniques and ideas for card making

April 9th, Illustrated talk on Alaska

FRIDAY APRIL 11th, 7.30p.m., OPEN QUIZ NIGHT

May 14th, Resolutions evening

June 26th, Outing (members only)

July 9th, Members and residents are invited to bring their collectables to an antiques roadshow

August 13th, Social event

September 10th, Demonstration of traditional toys

October 8th, Insight into teaching prisoners by member Sue Bishop

November 12th, Annual Meeting

December 10th, Christmas dinner

December 17th, Carol singing