



The Bull Site Development

The latest draft of the possible plans to develop the site seem to include most of the comments from the Village on the location of the younger children's playing area, the football pitch and access for maintenance vehicles. Until actual plans are submitted the consultation continues. The future of the Bull, however, is more uncertain. The petition to reopen the pub had been presented to Greene King at a meeting with the East Anglian Daily Times. It was understood the Bull would be placed on the market immediately but it now transpires this is not the case. There are *For Sale* signs but no permission to the estate agent to sell!

At some point it was thought the Council will need some legal advice on covenants etc.

Speeding

Speeding through the Village continues to be a problem and the Council discussed the possibility of purchasing flashing warning signs. The County are also planning to pilot, at the end of the year, the use of mobile speeding signs which can be moved between potential danger spots.

Mud

The Council heard complaints from residents at the end of Church Lane on the considerable mud left on the road, and damage to the hedgerow and verges, after the sugar beet harvest. It was thought Mr Maddever had probably taken the best option in reducing the amount of mud splatter through the Village; and had given prior warning on the need to cut the hedges extremely low to allow the large conveyor-belt to discharge the beet speedily onto lorries. Although a sweeping vehicle had been used after the work, the later heavy rain and battered verges probably didn't help the situation.

It was agreed to share concerns with Mr Maddever, in particular the longer term issues, and work-out lessons for next time. (The next beet harvest, however, will probably be in 3 to 4 years time!).

Reply

"I accept that the road was very muddy whilst the lorries were moving the sugar beet however I completely refuse to accept that the road was left in a bad state following the movements. I personally washed and swept the road on the first day (Friday) at approximately 4:30pm and there was no mud left anywhere on Common/Church lane that night. The

following day (Saturday) I did not sweep the road at night as it rained constantly all day, however I did

sweep and again wash the lane first thing on Sunday morning, as before at this point there was no debris left on the road.

I also take exception to the fact that the machine was deemed too large to access the lane. There was only one small section of council owned verge that was driven on, had the monstrously overgrown hedges opposite been maintained in the legally binding way there would of been no need to leave the tarmac surface as was demonstrated along the remaining length of Common Lane. With regard to the "ancient hedgerow" is this a fact? I seem to think that most of the species was made up of dead Elm saplings and Hawthorn.

I guess that perhaps with hindsight it may have been easier to not store the beet at the Top of Church Lane and to have tractors carting the beet through the village to tip on the pad opposite Hall Farm which I am sure you would agree would of inconvenienced many more residents".

From Andrew Maddever

Next Meeting

The next Parish Council will be in the Village Hall at 19.30 7th January 2013. Everyone in the village is welcome to hear progress and raise questions – even hear answers. The Councillors are your representatives and they will do their best to pursue answers for you. Please come along.

From Nigel Pitcher, Parish Clerk

Preparations for the Coming Winter

During recent winters the efforts of volunteers in spreading salt/grit on dangerous patches of road, and clearing snow and ice from pavements, was greatly appreciated. Names of villagers who are prepared to help this winter should contact the Parish Clerk – Nigel Pitcher 01284 763098 nep@fsmgpc.fsnet.co.uk

Some people may be concerned that if they help to clear snow & ice they may be liable for third party claims. The Council can confirm that anyone who grits the road or clears snow from outside their own or someone else's property might be liable for an accident only if their efforts clearly made the situation less safe than it was with the snow and ice undisturbed and as a result somebody is injured. Volunteers on Nigel's list will be covered under the terms of the County Council's insurance for public liabilities.

From Steve Boor, West Area Highways Manager

Building Community Resilience

The Borough wants to encourage small, sometimes rather isolated, communities to prepare and manage an emergency, either alongside the Emergency Services or in their absence due to abnormal conditions, or because of their relatively minor nature. A "magnetic" leaflet of self-help guidelines has been produced.

Perhaps Parish Councillors might consider likely risks eg deep snow, fallen trees, chemical spills, heavy mud on the road, loss of electricity etc and possible local resources the Village could call on: like grit bins, four-wheel-drive vehicles, chain-saws, long ladders, ropes, large sheets of tarpaulin, pumps and hoses, qualified first aiders, plumbers, electricians etc?

Please contact Graeme Norris with risks you feel should be addressed, and any help you might be able to provide in an emergency. He will then begin to draft a short plan for the Council to consider at the next meeting and publish.

From Steve Henthorn, Joint Emergency Planning Unit

Safer Neighbourhoods

The police said no crimes had been reported in the Village. A "Rural Security Day" has been arranged, however, for 20th November, 2pm - 8pm at Ben Burgess Tractors in Exning, Newmarket - just off Junction 37 of the A14 motorway. Those who have agreed to come along and 'man' an information stand on the day are:

- AGI Mobile - Tracking Security devices
- Farm Equipment - Clive Harris, Agricultural Vehicle Executive, & Andrew Ward, NFU Mutual
- Retainagroup - Vehicle / Property Security solutions
- Smoke Cloak - Security Fog
- Smartwater - John Jones, Risk Management Professional, Forensic marking
- Norfolk FarmWatch - Tony Bone will demonstrate a CCTV system and Tank Guard
- Freezemarking / Horse Watch information is being provided by Julie Dennis, Suffolk Constabulary
- Fertiliser & Terrorism information being provided by Clive Brown, Cambridgeshire Constabulary
- Firearms - Graham Williams, Firearms Officer will provide information and answer questions on weapons and poaching issues.

From Diane Townsend, Safer Neighbourhood Team Liaison Officer

Our Church

We were very disappointed that we had to cancel the now-annual Halloween event for the children, but in light of Jane's illness, it was not something I could undertake without help.

Our combined Carol and Christingle service takes place on Sunday 23 December at 11.00. Christmas Eve

Communion is at 8.00 pm on Christmas Eve, and there is a short family service at 10.00 on Christmas morning. The children are invited to bring that 'special' present to the service. The traditional team communion at Ixworth Thorpe is on the following Sunday (30th) at 10.00.

The annual Coffee Morning and Gift Day is set for Saturday 8 December from 10.00 to 12 noon in the Village Hall. This is always a wonderful opportunity to relax and enjoy a coffee before the headlong rush into Christmas.

There are several parishioners who need our prayers at this time. Please let me know if you are aware of someone who would appreciate a pastoral visit and/or prayers. We are very thankful for Jane's incredible recovery and pray that she continues to make good progress.

It seems very early to be sending holiday wishes, but they are no less sincere. Jeanne and I wish you a very Happy Christmas and a happy and healthy 2014!
Sunday 11th November 10.50 a.m. Remembrance Day

18th November 11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

25th November 11.00 a.m. Family Communion

2nd December 11.00 a.m. Advent Service

9th December 11.00 a.m. Holy Communion

16th December 11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

23rd December 11.00 a.m. Carol and Christingle Service

Tuesday 24th December 8.00 p.m. Family Communion

Christmas Day 10.00 a.m. Family Service

Sunday 30th December 10.00 a.m. Team Communion at Ixworth Thorpe

From Doug Neupert, Assistant Priest

Soup Day

Initially intended solely as a "thank you" for past support of St Mary's Gift Day, the Cheese and Wine Evening took on a more serious note after it became evident that the church was no longer able to support itself in its day to day running. A presentation outlined the concerns of the congregation, who are so few in number that they can no longer finance the everyday bills without regular contributions from non church goers and sustained fundraising. As a direct result of the discussion that followed, a regular Soup day was proposed.

Every Tuesday will be "Soup day" in the Village Hall from 11:30am - 1:30pm - £2.50 for lunch and a chat. Please come along, if only to receive my thanks for all the good wishes, after my fortunately relatively minor heart attack a few weeks ago.

From Jane Harland

The Village Hall

We are coming up to the Christmas Hols and, shortly, expect to put up decorations to bring a little added glamour to our beautiful hall and raise the Christmas spirit. It is party time and the committee hopes you will take advantage of all the hall offers over the coming days.

Remember it is YOUR hall and it is there for all of you to take advantage, if dates and times are available. Do check our Web Page, **Troston Village Hall**, which can be accessed either directly via **Google** or the **Your Hall** Web page. Bookings and availability are there for everyone to see.

We have produced a set of new coloured leaflets. If anyone would like to distribute to friends, families, local businesses, charities and members of the Forces, please let me know and I will be glad to let you have copies. Word of mouth is often the best recommendation.

We are taking bookings for 2013, and, indeed, are receiving added interest from groups and individuals outside the immediate area. However your support, ideas and encouragement are still necessary in order for the Committee to push forward and maintain the hall to its current high standards. Additional help to keep the area clean & tidy would be appreciated. Outsiders so often look upon us with envy that we have such a gem within our midst. In addition & importantly our charges are very reasonable and competitive.

The Committee would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas - a little early but this newsletter will be the last for this year. Thank you for your support.

From David Corrie

Women's Institute

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th November 19.45 at the Village Hall. We shall be confirming details of our Christmas Party and can then either have a Social Evening or perhaps play Banagrams the latest word game craze.

Our Christmas party will be on Wednesday 12th December, with a meal at the Village Hall.

The first meeting in 2013 will be on Wednesday 9th January, when subscriptions will be due. New members are always welcome. For further information, please contact me on 269769 or by email at

carolhony@gmail.com.

Best wishes to all for a very happy festive period.

From Carol Littlewood

RAF Honington Christmas Fair

A big thank you to the Village for supporting our Fashion Show. The feed-back has been very positive and was enjoyed by all! We raised £2537 - a superb amount of money for SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) at RAF Honington.

Our next event is our Charity Christmas Fair on Thursday 15th November 2012 from 10am until 2.30pm. Same venue (RAF Honington Officers Mess) and format as last year. All proceeds will be split equally between SSAFA and Prostate Cancer. Please don't forget, photographic Ids will be required!

From Jackie Hall

Village Exchange & Mart

Just an idea – but could we use the newsletter to encourage local businesses? A list of phone numbers of local trades, every other newsletter is fine, but perhaps we could have articles outlining the work of local people.

For example: my name's John Burdis and I live in Garden Fields, and my business installs multi-fuel wood burning stoves. We also undertake all associated building work to modify fireplaces etc. We're called 'Suffolk Stove Installations' at www.suffolkstoveinstallations.co.uk. My numbers are 077 177 12344 and 01359 269756 and I can offer a discount of £150 to anyone within a 10 mile radius of Troston who uses my business as a direct result of seeing this article.

Further, how about a barter arrangement for local people? The newsletter would simply be a place to link up so things could be arranged between individuals with something to offer. For example: I install stoves and flue systems but I need a kitchen installed, I need a house cleaner, some garden work done, etc. If a local kitchen installer put my kitchen in at a cost of £1000 and he wanted a flue system / stove installed at a cost of £1500 we'd each carry out the work and the net amount of money would change hands. ie £500 from him to me. Or if someone wanted a stove installed at a cost of £1500 and only had house cleaning to offer I could do the work and they could clean for x weeks / months until the balance is reached. Details could be worked out between individuals by mutual arrangement and a very simple contract could be worked out and signed by both parties.

What do other people in the Village think?

From John Burdis

Troston Heritage Group

An early date for your diaries. The Suffolk Festival of Archaeology will again feature the exceptional medieval wall paintings and early 'graffiti' in our Church – the event will take place on Saturday, July 20th, 2013. The event will also highlight a fascinating Troston resident from the past, Capel Lofft, a lawyer and liberal thinker who supported Robert Bloomfield, “the country poet” of Honington.

Capel Loft (1753-1824) was a prolific writer on political matters, held staunch republican sentiments and was a vehement supporter of Napoleon. His protégé, Robert Bloomfield came from an exceedingly poor family, and despite the popularity at the time of his work died in poverty in 1824. His poems described rural life in its hardest and least pleasant forms. Who will forget his ode to mashing turnips to feed the sheep on a freezing winter morning? Anyrate, his poems did inspire two of John Constable's famous paintings – The Gleaners and Ploughing Scene.

Other attractions are being planned including the usual popular refreshments. Meanwhile, the group will seek grant funding for the restoration of St. Mary's Jacobean pulpit and reading desk currently in a poor condition.

From Sue Sollohub

Police Commissioner Election

On the 15th November, we will be able to vote in the Village Hall from 7 am to 10 pm for a Police and Crime Commissioner for our area. The intention is to ensure the police force is more effective by bringing more of a public voice to setting priorities. The PCC will not 'run' the police force. Chief constables will continue to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the police, but they will be accountable to the public via the PCC.

Our MPs argue commissioners will be vital in helping victims of crime, while ex-Police Commander John O'Connor claims they will be a waste of money and time.

Vote YES. *“On November 15, we will get a unique chance to make our streets safer — and it's crucial you seize it. Never before have we had the power to pick the people in charge of policing. And it's never been so important for us to tell them where we want them to focus their energy and resources. Police and Crime Commissioners will be accountable to local people and must listen to your demands. They'll also be in charge of the people I care about — the victims of crime and the witnesses who make sure villains are prosecuted.*

Do you want to ensure that help is there for victims of crime when they need it? Want to give victims a greater say in how offenders are punished? These elections are your chance to help make these things happen.

PCCs need the public on their side when they tell the police to think again on priorities. They need to show they have a mandate and are carrying out the people's demands. While it's their duty to listen to victims, I want them to go further and put victims and witnesses at the heart of criminal justice so lives are not wrecked by crime. And remember, if PCCs don't respond to these demands we can kick them out at the next PCC election in four years. Voting will send the clearest signal to ministers about what you want to see.”

Vote NO. *“There isn't a real role for these elected commissioners whatsoever. It's a complete waste of money — another layer of bureaucracy that will cost upwards of £100,000 per commissioner.*

One of the arguments for the role is so the public can go to the commissioner with their issues regarding the police. But that already exists — we have the Police Complaints Commission. The public can also go to their MP and councillors, or directly write to their chief of police.

It has been a hastily thought-out plan, a knee-jerk reaction. It's a pale imitation of what American rural forces do when they vote in sheriffs. We're creating another layer of expensive bureaucracy, of potential leaks, of potential corruption. You're going to set elected individuals with populist agendas against professional senior police officers and the pursuit of major crimes. I fear the risk of undue influence from outside to get someone released from prison, or drop an investigation, it's another route for manipulating and corrupting the police.

A big concern is that most of these candidates are people with no public profile in major public roles, and whose ability to manage public service hasn't been tested — look at the election statements of most of the candidates. I'm not going to vote at all. I just hope it gets such a low turn-out that it's laughed out of court”.

The Candidates Election Statements

Jane Patricia Basham (Labour) says: *“I have experience with Suffolk Police. I led a civil rights charity in Ipswich and worked with vulnerable victims of crime as well as with offenders and ex-offenders. I have experience of working with others, of holding services to account and of business and commissioning. I will:*

- *Stand up for the people of Suffolk against the 20% cuts*
- *Keep the police a public service — no more privatisation*
- *Put victims at the heart of policing and criminal justice*
- *Prioritise action on: violence against women and girls; domestic violence; hate crime; unfair stop and search; road safety and crimes against those vulnerable in society — children, young & older people and those with disabilities.*

- *Ensure victims of anti-social behaviour receive a swift response within 24 hours & that sanctions are appropriate*
- *Develop the role of volunteers in community safety from Special Constables to Neighbourhood Watch*
- *Be accessible across the county from the largest town to the smallest rural hamlet*
- *Be accountable – helping all communities develop an effective voice*
- *Build dynamic partnerships and use victim centred restorative justice opportunities to divert offenders away from crime to make Suffolk safer”.*

David Cocks (Independent) says: *“Policing has a significant impact on all sections of our community, young and old alike. I believe that the people of Suffolk should have an independent Commissioner who will not be “handcuffed” to any political party.*

Having lived and worked in Ipswich for the majority of my life, I understand Suffolk well. I have worked as chief executive of both broadcasting and health companies for more than 20 years, with corporate responsibility for good governance and the delivery of services scrutinised by independent monitors. As chair of a Suffolk mental health charity, governor of a major high school and a grant board member of Help an East Coast Child in Lowestoft, I have widened my understanding of the needs of the county. I am committed to :

- constantly listening to the needs of individuals, groups and organisations and ensuring their priorities are reflected in the police plan, building on the work of the Suffolk Police Authority

- ensuring that there is no hiding place in Suffolk for criminals by prioritising the number of front-line police officers

- ensuring strong partnership working produces measurable positive outcomes across the wider criminal justice system

- an improved service for victims of crime

- being a catalyst for innovation and reform

I will not make promises that I cannot implement. I will not shrink from making difficult decisions. I will make decisions for the people of Suffolk, free from political influence and pressure”.

Bill Mountford (UKIP) says: *“This is your opportunity to make a real difference by voting for a change to the way policing works in Suffolk. Cut backs to front-line policing are a false economy with large long term costs. I am a Suffolk County Councillor, but definitely not a professional politician. I have served my time in the real world, working for twenty years in the hydrographic survey industry, in the North Sea, and worldwide. For the last eight years I have run my own small business as a driving instructor in Lowestoft.*

In 2009 I was a political novice, new to local government. Like many people in Suffolk I was disillusioned with the three main political parties all of whom seem to promise everything but deliver nothing. Conservative controlled Suffolk County Council decided to abolish the “Lollipop” school crossing patrols. Working closely with the crossing patrol officers, I ensured that this service was saved across the whole of Suffolk.

The UK Independence Party is different from other parties in many ways but particularly in that it does not operate a whip system. This leaves me answerable only to the people of Suffolk. Our police service must never be politicised. Accountable yes. Political never. I believe in old fashioned high profile policing, with more bobbies on the beat. The people of Suffolk expect and deserve police support when they need it. I believe that the law applies to all, and everyone should be treated fairly and equally, without prejudice and without favour”.

Tim Passmore (Conservative). According to Tim’s election agent: *“Tim and his wife of 26 years, Heather, live in North Suffolk with their three boys. Born in Felixstowe, Tim moved to the village of Witnesham near Ipswich. Suffolk is a county Tim knows well and loves.*

Educated at Ipswich School, Tim went on to study agriculture at Wye College, University of London, where he majored in management, marketing and economics. He recently gained an MBA from the Open University specialising in marketing, international enterprise, strategy and financial strategy. Tim is a self-employed agricultural and rural business consultant. During his career Tim has been an intensive livestock producer, and has advised on pig production and genetic breeding programmes across four continents.

One of Tim’s most satisfying projects involved securing a significant Defra grant of £500,000 to re-establish hop production in Suffolk following a gap of more than 100 years. Tim has extensive experience in Suffolk’s tourist economy, currently worth over £1.7 billion per year. He is particularly passionate about Suffolk’s food and drink sector and its considerable potential for expansion.

Tim referees Rugby Union at adult and junior levels, officiating at clubs across East Anglia and South East England. He also ran the First Eye Scout Group for 25 years. Tim is an accomplished amateur musician playing the bassoon for various orchestras and

ensembles in Suffolk and Norfolk. Other hobbies include tutored tasting sessions of Real Ale and Single Malt Scotch Whisky and growing English scented roses.

Tim has been leader of Mid Suffolk Council for eight years and chairs the influential Suffolk Public Sector Leaders group. He has considerable experience of handling large budgets and developing partnerships across the public, private and voluntary sector”.

Thank You

Thank you to all contributors and distributors – only through your efforts has this newsletter been possible! Don't hesitate to send in news items which might be of interest – and your thoughts on Emergency Planning before the next Council meeting 7th January.

Contact Graeme Norris at Church Cottage, Church Lane, IP31 1EX or email graeme@lmrinternational.

Local Contacts:

Clubs & Societies:

Women's Institute	269219
Bowls Club	269468
Book Club	269614
Village Hall Bookings	268134
Custodian, Troston History Book	268622
Troston Heritage Group	269574

Schools:

Honington CEVC Primary	269324
Ixworth Middle School	230387
Ixworth CEVC Primary	230228
Thurston Community College	230885

Health Services:

Ixworth Surgery	230252
Ixworth Pharmacy	234020

St Mary's Church:

Rev Doug Neupert	269614
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Emergency:

Electricity (power cuts)	0800 783 8838
Water (emergencies)	0845 714 5145
Environment	0800 807060

Police:

Police non-emergency	01284 774100
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Government Officials:

Troston Parish Council Clerk	01284 763098
St Eds BC Cllr Christopher Spicer	230800
SCC Cllr Becky Hopfensperger	07876 683516
David Ruffley MP (Bury St Eds)	244199
Matthew Hancock MP (W. Suffolk)	01638 565945
