



Any progress on the Bull Site?

Last month the final amendments requested by the Developer, Burgess Homes, to the s106 agreement were accepted by the Borough's Planning Committee. In essence, the Parish Council had sought to prevent any occupation of the new dwellings until the new amenity land has been drained, levelled and laid to seed, for new play equipment to be installed and landscaping completed.

The Planning Committee agreed with the Developer that this would take too long and accepted that occupation of new homes could start as completed – but the power-cable should be buried at the same time as the footings are dug, and the new play area levelled and seeded.

So what happens next?

- 1) The wording of the final section 106 agreement has still to be agreed and signed between the Borough Council and Greene King.
- 2) Burgess Homes, will have to close the play area to dig test trenches in line with standard requirements for sites of possible archaeological interest.
- 3) Formal contracts have still to be agreed by all parties, including the Parish Council.

In the meantime, the curtilage of the pub has now been clearly defined by the planning permission and there seems little reason why a sale of the pub cannot now proceed (?!?), if a buyer can be found.

From Roger Anderson

When will the Play Area be closed?

We have a provisional date for the archaeological dig of 21st September – so safety fencing will be put up and the play ground closed from that date. Suffolk County Council have asked for seventeen 10 metre by 1 metre trenches! This seems a ridiculous

amount of work and will definitely destroy the playing field from then on.

Borough Planners then have 8 weeks to evaluate and then issue approval notices. Assuming nothing untoward is found we will then exchange contracts with Greene King and the Parish. I am keen to get the power-cable buried and the footings on the houses dug before we are in the grip of winter.

From Simon Burgess

Can we do something about Speeding Lorries?

Living at the edge of the Village, I'm probably more aware than most of the speeding traffic and inappropriate use of narrow country roads by heavy lorries taking a short-cut. I've emailed and phoned local businesses when I see their vehicles breaking the speed limit as well as having called the Suffolk Police non-emergency number to request police presence, yet the problem persists.

Subsequent to reading the last parish newsletter article regarding the proposed vehicle activated speed sign I had a bit of a thought which may help to combat the problem. The Parish Council could mark out a fixed distance which, if the cars were videoed passing in a certain time frame, would establish whether the vehicle is speeding or not within a reasonable level of certainty. Not intended as definitive evidence, just a sort of a DIY GATSO to be able to identify the problem to Suffolk Constabulary. The car registration number could be passed on to Suffolk Police, possibly for them to contact and at least speak to the offenders, or at the very least to apply some firm statistics to highlight the problem.

From John Burdis

Can anything be done about the smell from the Farm?

As the new manager of Troston Farm, I agree this is a problem. I have instructed the contractor, Jonathan Green, who keeps the

pigs in the village to use more straw-bedding and remove pig-waste more frequently. We also have a contract with Whites Recycling to put liquid food-waste in the lagoons – and last week they were overfilled... I can only apologise on their behalf and have erected higher windproofing to attempt to reduce the smell. The dumping of food-waste is highly regulated, so please contact me through the Village Clerk.

I appreciate there is a desire to know when there will be spraying of insecticides and fertilizer. This is difficult to do as it depends on the crop situation and weather conditions – but I will try to give some advanced warning.

From Edward Vipond

Can more be done to encourage responsible dog walking?

Complaints about dog mess continue and there was concern some dogs have strayed into gardens and killed chickens. Also, some dogs, when off the lead, can be rather exuberant and jump up on children frightened of dogs. It was suggested the Council might sponsor a dog-owner event and do more to encourage off-lead walks further away from houses – what do you think?

Who won the Lottery?

Winners of the last Village Lottery draw were:
£50 first prize Vera Gaught;
£25 second prize Allan Bennet;
£15 third prize Neville Theobald.

The next draw will be at the Quiz Evening on Friday the 2nd October in the Village Hall. The purpose of the Lottery is to raise money to improve amenities e.g. a large notice board to advertise events; and to grow our sense of being in a friendly community – perhaps a New Year Party? Please let me have your ideas.

From Richard Walker

Are we going to be a charged?

The Borough Council is to vote next week on the proposal to charge £50 per year for emptying “brown bins”. An idea already adopted by eight other Boroughs. I hear, however, Troston Parish Council has little enthusiasm for this plan and will vote accordingly. Indeed, there is a fear there will be an increase in fly-tipping, and if too many people opt-out, then the charge will have to increase.

From Simon Brown, Pakenham Ward Councillor

Troston Poor’s Estate

Any person over the age of 65 and who has lived in the village over the last two years is entitled to be considered for an annual payment from the above charity. One payment per household.

If you think you might be entitled to this payment and are not already receiving a payment please contact me at “Sunnyside” 7 Heath Road or telephone 269 219 before the end of October.

From Vic Simmonds

Church News

It was a pleasure to welcome so many visitors to the church on the day when the NGS Open Gardens attracted so many visitors to The Lodge and Church Cottage, despite the dreadful weather. Medieval graffiti expert, Matthew Champion, enthralled and enlightened us with his interpretations of St Mary’s graffiti. If you would like to know more about the graffiti in East Anglian, you will be interested in Matthew’s recent publication, *Medieval Graffiti: The Lost Voices of England’s Churches*.

In August the church was full to capacity again, this time celebrating the wedding of local man James Carn-Pryor to his beautiful

bride Sophia; what a very joyous event and every good wish is given to them as they begin their married life.

The Harvest Festival service was a celebration of all that we have whilst remembering those less fortunate. Four boxes of food were donated to the Thetford Foodbank and £71 was donated to Farming Community Network, a charity that provides support to all those in need of help in the farming community. Thank you to everyone for their generosity.

The National Association of Decorative and Fine Art have spent a year photographing and documenting the contents of our Church for the National Archives. We have a unique legacy of stained glass, carved furniture, flint-work and paintings. These are believed to have survived the ravages after the Civil War because the leader charged with the removal of medieval religious artefacts had family that lived in Troston! If you would like to borrow this beautiful illustrated book, please contact me 01359 268144

There will be no Café Church in September because too many members of the church are away. Services in other villages are advertised, as usual, on the notice-boards in the village.

25th October will be Café Church in the Village Hall at 11am, come a little earlier to share in the breakfast.

Remembrance Day will be commemorated with a service in the church on Sunday 8th November at 10.50 am, allowing us to observe 2 minutes silence at 11 o'clock.

Cycle ride

Unfortunately, Ann and Malcolm Grimwood have hung up their cycling legs after over 20 years of riding for St Mary's Church in the Historic Churches Trust sponsored cycle ride. We are very grateful for all the sponsorship money they have raised (St Mary's receives half of all collected) and for being an inspiration to younger riders.

My grandchildren, Amber and Ethan and I will be cycling around the Brandon area this year; if you feel able to sponsor us, we would be very grateful. We will not be able to visit the number of churches that Ann and Malcolm always managed to fit in to the day, but we will do our best.

Next year the bike ride will be 10th September 2016

From Jane Harland

Life....

In the original script of the film "Frankenstein", when the monster creation comes alive the doctor says: "now I know what it feels like to be God". The line was cut by the film censor – it never was in Mary Shelley's novel anyway - but the notion of scientists playing God has ever since edged into public consciousness. The concept re-appeared recently when a Dr Venter announced that he had created artificial life in his laboratory somewhere in the USA. Venter was described by a fellow scientist as "creaking open the most profound door in human history". "He is playing the role of God, potentially peeking into the destiny of the human race, with the potential for creating life forms that could never have existed naturally", said an Oxford Professor.

It made me reflect, life is what you make it. At the centre of our lives in every village in Suffolk is parish church. Troston's is particularly fine and full of images which helped our medieval cousins to get through life as they knew it, including a St Christopher, the size of a Frankenstein figure. I am a self-supporting Anglican minister called Tony Redman and I am looking forward to trying to get to know Troston better. I am not a monster, although I appreciate that most of you do not know me at all. Whoever you are, I look forward to meeting you.

From Rev Tony Redman

Footpaths

Following the success of the Ixworth Walk Guide, I am keen to follow up the idea of connecting existing rights-of-way by seeking permissive paths around Troston. This would continue to respect land owned by local farmers, of course, but encourage a margin around some fields which walkers could use without causing any concern. The aim is to improve the “well being” of the village by establishing a couple of safe circular walks.

A large scale map is being given to the Troston Walking Group to identify possible circular walks - and so begin discussion with landowners on possibilities.

From Claire Dickson, Public Rights of Way Officer

Heath Wood

Did you enjoy the ten hour Swedish fairytale-noir Jorgscott on TV recently? Heath Wood is an untouched oasis for wildlife and over the years has become home to rare plants and insects. Next month we have agreed with the Parish Council to start clearing away some of the scrub and improve the paths. The hope is to engage the help of Suffolk Wildlife Trust to identify the various trees, insects and animals and make a trail that young children can explore and learn more about nature. Would you be interested in helping? I can't offer the presence of the tall blond beauty of the TV star Moa Gammel, but we do have Martyn Smith 01359 269632

From Emma James, Well Being in the Brecks Officer

Heath Wood History

The Wood was originally the old gravel pits which were owned by the Greengrass family in the 16th and 17th Century. The Will of William Greengrass in 1558 states: "I give to the reparations of the King's highway in Troston, where the most need is, 20 loads of

gravel". In 1807 the pits were designated to the village by the Commissioners at the time of the great Enclosures. In 1892, they were taken over by the Thingoe Union when it became responsible for the upkeep of local highways. St Edmundsbury subsequently inherited the land from Thingoe and in 1991 offered to sell it to Troston Parish Council. However, with research for the Troston History Book, it was discovered that the pits had already been given to the village in 1807, and so the land was transferred to Troston free of charge!

Women's Institute News

1st October: Meeting at 19.30 with the Grafton Group at Barnham Village Hall.

9th – 15th October: Centenary Exhibition at The Edmund Gallery

14th October: 40th Anniversary Celebration.

22nd October: Suffolk West Federation Autumn Council Meeting at Culford School.

11th November: Malcolm Crowe of Capricorn Crafts will talk about ‘The Work of a Toymaker including string puppets, wooden tours, games & puzzles’ There will be a chance to buy gifts for Christmas.

7th December: CAROL CONCERT, St. Mary's Church, BSE.

9th December: Christmas celebration.

We are always pleased to welcome new faces to our meetings, so do come along and see whether the WI is for you. For further information please contact our President: Jenny Simmonds on 01359 269769 or Secretary: Sonia Farnaby on 01359 268667.

From Jenny Simmonds

Village Social Club

The curry night was a great success - thanks to Richard Walker for cooking and David and Sonia for waiting at tables. People stayed for

the Pop Up Pub afterwards and by all reports there was a real party atmosphere .

There will be a Pop Up Pub again on Friday September 25th and October 30th at 7-30 in the Hall. Come along and have a chat with your neighbours and/or play cribbage or other pub games. Bring a drink.

The quiz's are always well attended and enjoyed by all who take part. The next one is on the 2 October. Contact David Farnaby (01359 268667) if you would like to take part. We do make up teams on the night so you don't have to be part of a team of four if that is not possible. Bring your own drink and refreshments will be provided. Cost £4.

On the 31st October we plan a children's Halloween party. Watch the notice board for details. We hope that children will come in their Halloween outfits and join in the fun and games. This will be completely free and party food will be provided. We ask that all children bring a parent please! We are looking for volunteers to help, so if you are good with kids parties please get in touch with me or Sonia Farnaby on the number above.

The Walking group meets at 9-50 every 4 weeks on a Wednesday in the pub car park or hall car park . The next walks are on the 30 September and the 28th October. Thanks to Martyn and Pat Smith for leading us. Check our website for details

<http://troston.onesuffolk.net>

From Anne Walker, Coordinator

Ixworth Surgery

Alas waiting times at our GP Practice have not been as short as we would like. Two of the senior partners have decided to take early retirement, and another broke his leg! Our two nurses also gave in their notice. The bureaucracy in hiring temporary staff hasn't helped. A great cause for concern is that although we have advertised widely, no young

GPs (so far) have shown an interest in joining a small rural practice.

However, as is typical, over the last two weeks 20 patients did not turn up for the appointment they had requested with a Doctor, 50 patients did not turn up for the appointment they had made with the Nurse and 13 didn't bother to attend the session they had scheduled with the Health Care Assistant. This resulted in about 20 hours of wasted appointment time that could have been used by other people.

Polite enquiries suggest the individuals concerned "just felt better" and didn't feel they needed to cancel; or it just took too long to go through the log list of options on the telephone answering system. If you are unable to keep an appointment please take the trouble to contact the surgery on 01359 230 252 because we can use your cancelled appointment even at short notice.

Your help in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Waste of prescription medicines

One of the reasons for wasted prescription medicines is when people on repeat prescriptions choose to stockpile their medicines by continuing to order medicines they no longer take or need. There is also a human cost to this waste as this money could have been better spent on potentially life-saving treatments or enabled extra healthcare staff to be employed.

We want people to think carefully before ticking all the boxes on their repeat prescription form. If a carer or pharmacist orders your medicine for you, make sure they know what it is you need. If you are still ordering repeat prescription medicines and aren't using them yourself, please speak to your doctor or pharmacist. They won't be annoyed or angry, in fact they'll be pleased to help you resolve the issue. They'll help ensure that you have the right medicine for your

needs, which will in turn reduce the amount of wasted NHS medicines.

Always check your bag of medicines before you leave the pharmacy and hand back what you don't need. Once medicines have left the pharmacy they cannot be recycled. If you don't need a medicine that was prescribed for you in the past, please don't order it.

From The Partners, Ixworth Surgery

Patient Revolution Conference

Our annual "patient revolution" conference in July generated fantastic feedback and ideas that will be used to shape our healthcare commissioning over the next year. In particular, better recognition of eating disorders in young people was discussed. There was also continued concern over diagnosing dementia and providing advice in planning care. The stress of looking after a loved-one can be very demanding, and respite and carer support services are important as well as specialist dementia care homes.

You said that you wanted easier access to services in the community. This has been a key element of the new diabetes service which began in April. You said you wanted to see health and care services working better together with care home staff, and we are moving (perhaps still a little slowly) forward to provide better connected public services.

Please come along to our next Governing Body meeting in public. This event is happening on Wednesday 30 September at St Edmundsbury Cathedral from 9am. There's free tea and coffee and it's a great opportunity to talk with local GPs and CCG staff - we hope you can come along!

From Dr Ed Garratt, West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group

Police Report Unfortunately we are still without our speed gun as it is being calibrated. Accidents from driving too fast are still the major reason for our call-outs. Incidents of note have been:

Daytime trespass in the pursuit of game: a group of five males were spotted entering farm land with three lurcher type dogs which were released to pursue game.

Theft: pro-active policing found an offender in a field stealing onions – claims to gleaning rights were unfounded.

Daytime trespass in pursuit of game: three males caught on private farmland, their 4x4 became stuck in the field, and when we arrived five lurchers were found and suspected of being used in hare coursing.

Driving whilst unfit through drink/drugs: after a car chase a motorist involved in a collision was stopped in Troston and provided a positive test for drugs. The motorist was further arrested for possession of a quantity of Class A drug.

Your help in keeping your eyes open to possible criminal activity is much appreciated.

From Claire Teakle, PCSO 3268 Ixworth

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be in the Village Hall at 19.30 2nd November. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any issues you would like raised at the Meeting so they can be put on the Agenda.

trostonparishcouncil@btinternet.com)

From Linda Harley, Parish Clerk