

Chairman's Report for the Depden Annual Parish meeting

Last year was quite an uneventful we had our normal six Parish Council Meetings and two Policy and Planning Meetings. which dealt with 6 planning applications.

There were no changes in the composition of the council this year. Susan Boor has continued as our clerk and treasurer and I would like to thank Susan for the smooth running of council business. Pearl Sugden continued as our Internal auditor. Councillor Mark Leadbeater continued as Footpath Officer. Councillor Dennis Bibby continued as our representative on the Suffolk Association of Local Councils and Councillor Peter Payne continues to be the Tree Warden of the Parish.

We welcome Mary Evans to her first Depden Annual Parish Meeting as our new County Councillor and Derek Redhead, our Borough Councillor, to his 20th one! They have both regularly attend our Parish Council Meetings, despite their busy schedules, and we thank them for their support.

The council is very grateful to Angie Barnetson for continuing in the role of NW coordinator for Depden and ask all residents of the parish to support her in this role. Angie was also undertook the work to refurbish the village notice board, which now has two doors to avoid the need to balance the plastic cover on your head when attaching a notice!

The council remains concerned about speeding through the village, particularly across the green and this has been raised as a concern with the police at the Neighbourhood tasking meetings. We are currently exploring the potential for Vehicle Activated Signs to be installed at a suitable location and would look to share the cost with neighbouring parishes.

Our annual litter pick on March produced a bumper crop of 13 bags of litter, 1 wheel hub, a base of a traffic cone and 8 bags of dog mess. Thanks to Andy and Angie Barnetson, Susan Boor and Peter Payne for their participation, and urge more residents to get involved in future.

FOOPATH MEMBER REPORT

All the footpaths in the parish have been regularly walked and checked . There has been an unusual number of fallen trees due to the winter storms and these have been dealt with promptly by the landowner.

Suffolk County Council

Thank you for your interest and support over the past year. I was very pleased to award funds from my locality budget for the refurbishment of the village sign. I realise that speeding is a major issue in the village and I have forwarded the clerk details of the new scheme to allow villages to buy and operate their own vehicle activate signs. I do hope this is something in which we can get several villages to join forces to share the cost.

One of the county council's biggest schemes is our energy to waste plant at Great Blakenham. I recently had a fascinating tour of the facility at which, from 1 December, all our black bin rubbish will be burned rather than being dumped in landfill. The incinerator will generate electricity to power about 30,000 homes. The facility uses the latest technology to dispose of the waste amazingly efficiently and in a highly environmentally friendly manner: all the residues are recycled; the steam generated by the process powers a turbine to produce the electricity, the gasses generated are cleaned before being emitted, and the residue from that process are recycled; some of the heat generated is going to be used to heat 17.5 hectares growing tomatoes and the remainder is likely to be used to run cooling units for a data store and a food processing plant.

The site, includes a wild life area and a visitor centre. From the autumn they will be running tours. To find out more see www.suffolkefw.co.uk

Cliff Matthews the manager at Great Blakenham is very happy to show parish council round or to come out to address parish councils. He can be contacted on cliff.matthews@sita.co.uk

At a time of budget cuts it is important that we make the best use of all our resources.

Last year we wasted £3.5 million in Suffolk in sending items that could have been recycled to landfill. Truly, what a waste!

A new campaign for 2014, "Waste Less and Save More", has been launched by the Suffolk Waste Partnership, a group comprising Suffolk County Council and the local district councils. To point up the benefits for residents of recycling, both personal and financial, a new A-Z of Recycling has been launched to help everyone discover ways to reduce waste and save money. The A-Z of Recycling, a searchable directory, added to the Suffolk Recycling website, helps you to find out how to reduce, re-use and recycle standard household items. It also covers ways of re-using clothing and other textiles, as well as how to avoid food wastage. The A-Z of Recycling can be found by going to <http://www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/a-z-of-recycling/>

What to do in an emergency

I went to a training session recently to learn more about the key role councillors have in contributing to the council's actions in preparing for, responding to and recovering from such emergencies. The session was run by Neal Evans, SCC's Emergency Planning Officer. He took us through a discussion on how the county had fared in the storms and an exercise on responding to a plane crash over Suffolk.

He told us how in emergencies many people are not always aware of what to do or where to get help. For starters, many people are unaware that these days local councils do not hold stocks of sandbags to distribute to householders this because sandbags do not actually stop water getting into your house.

To help local people make sure they are prepared in future I can obtain copies of the Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit's 'self-help emergency guidelines'. These are in the format of an information sheet which folds up into a nifty little pack with a magnet so that it can stick to your fridge. If you would like one for your fridge— please let me know.

Best wishes

Mary

Mary Evans
Clare Division, Suffolk County Council

From: Mitchell, Sophie [Sophie.Mitchell@suffolk.pnn.police.uk]
Sent: 08 April 2014 18:26
To: 's.boor.123@btinternet.com'
Subject: Depden Crime Report

Hi Susan,

Here is the annual crime report for Depden for the period 09/04/2013 – 08/04/2014. Ahead of tonight's annual parish meeting.

Since the last annual meeting held on 9th April 2013 there has been 1 crime of note in the area.

- This was a burglary dwelling that occurred just yesterday, so as you can appreciate enquiries are still very much underway. The basic circumstances at this moment in time is at 14:57 on Monday 7th April an isolated property located on the outskirts of Depden just set back off of the A143 was broken into. It is not exactly clear what has been stolen yet, although it is believed to be jewellery and computers/electronic items. Police arrived on scene within seconds of the offenders leaving however no one was identified in the immediate area so we are now awaiting forensic examinations of the property and various other enquiries/investigations.

In comparison with the previous year from April 2012 – April 2013 there was just the one crime of note in the area also.

- This was a theft of front and rear number plates from a vehicle parked on the driveway of a property located on The Green.

Myself and PC Trish Sinclair are both on duty this evening and hope to attend in person. However if we are unable to make it please do not hesitate to forward any correspondence onto us for our attention.

Are there any updates as to the consideration of setting up Community Speed Watch in the village?

The SNT priority setting meeting was held on Tuesday 11th March. As a result our new priorities for the forthcoming period are as follows:

- 1) Targeting speeding motorists in the villages of Stradishall and Withersfield.**
- 2) Addressing the parking issues at Wickhambrook primary school before and after school times and in Kedington on Friday evenings through education and enforcement.**
- 3) Reducing the incidents of Burglary throughout the St Edmundsbury Rural South area.**

The next SNT Priority setting meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 10th June 2014, 7pm at Bury Police Station.

The PCC, Tim Passmore, will be hosting a public meeting for the St Edmundsbury district on Wednesday 7th May 2014 at 6:30 pm at The Samuel Ward Academy, Chalkstone Way, Haverhill, CB9 0LD. Chief Constable, Douglas Paxton will also be in attendance at the meeting.

General information worth noting:

- There has been a recent growing trend of purse/wallet thefts from handbag/bags in town centres. The victims are predominantly elderly with the majority of offences taking place on market days. Various methods are being used such as: Taking purses/wallets visibly laying in the tops of bags, targeting shoppers in charity shops, and at supermarkets watching pin numbers being entered for payment and then following the victim into the car park and using distraction techniques to steal the bank card used. The suspects range in descriptions and possibly work in small groups or teams consisting of both males and females. In the past

they have also used children as a distraction cover. We are asking people to be increasingly aware when out and about shopping for this type of behaviour and to report any suspicious activity to us on 101.

- We have had increasing reports in Suffolk of a fraud scam currently ongoing nationwide where by the offender phones an elderly victim purporting to be a Police Officer investigating a fraud involving the victim's bank account. The offender persuades the victim to withdraw cash or send their credit card by handing to a taxi driver who will courier to the offender. The offender can be very plausible offering bogus numbers for the victim to call to confirm that a Police Officer has contacted them.

In response to this the constabulary now has a county wide operation namely Op Allow targeting this type of crime. If you hear of anyone that may have been subject to this type fraud offence please urge them to call Police and report it straight away.

- A black new shape Vauxhall Astra, no index mark, with 2 white male occupants in their 20's was seen at the scene of a daytime dwelling burglary in Fordham on Monday 24th March where an air rifle was stolen. The vehicle is suspected to be on false plates. If any vehicle matching this description is seen acting suspiciously please report it to us straight away.
- A red and black Toyota Hilux index mark L274 SCR was stolen from Kedington overnight on Wednesday 18th March. Any sightings of this vehicle please call 101.

On the back of this, in recent months, rural areas in the Babergh region have had a number of reported theft of Toyota Hilux's particularly those on older registration plates. These vehicles have then been typically used to commit further offences. If you see anything suspicious surrounding this type of crime then please report it on 101. If you would like any further security advice or information on how to protect your vehicles then please contact your local SNT.

Kind Regards

Sophie

Sophie Mitchell

PCSO 3265

St Edmundsbury Rural South

Safer Neighbourhood Team

Clare Police Station

Clare

Suffolk

CO10 8PH

Telephone number - 101

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St Edmundsbury Borough Councillor's Annual Report

2013-14

This last year has been a busy one but at the same time frustrating. The joint working of the two Councils, St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath, has brought about a lot of changes in the way that we work, some of which are for the better and some of which most certainly are not.

As most of the decision making is now taken by the two cabinets it means that those members on the backbenches have little knowledge of what has been agreed until after the event, by which time it is too late, as full council has now become a rubber stamping exercise only.

The Apex is still proving popular with some theatre goers, staging a variety of programmes throughout the year, but it is still requiring an unacceptable level of financial support, three quarters of a millions pounds in the last year, and this is council taxpayers money.

I am pleased to say that the Rural Grant Initiative is still alive and well, so if you have any new initiatives of your own then please let us know about them.

Finally, I have to say that the 2031 Development Plan is now complete and in circulation for comment and will soon be back to full council for adoption.

Derek Redhead

Wickhambrook Ward

Annual Report to Depden Parish Council for 2013

Report from St Mary the Virgin, Depden Parochial Church Council

Date: 8th April 2014

Membership:

1.Church Wardens

Evelyn Payne

Anne Nicolson

2. Secretary/Electoral Roll Officer/ Child Protection Officer

Sandra Ashman

3.Treasurer

Tim Freathy

Meetings:

4 in member's homes

Electoral Roll: 17

Key Events

Monthly Eucharist continues as per the Benefice rota with additional services .The Easter Sunday dawn service was held at the highest point of Suffolk on Elms Farm. The Christmas Carol service was well attended.

The Harvest Project was the Vineyards Charity. The "Knit and Natter" gathering at Depden Farm Shop on Thursday morning is a growing initiative.

The lawnmower has finally "died" and has been recycled. A second hand ride-on mower has been purchased and is to start work spring 2014. The church is grateful for the ongoing financial support of the parish council for the maintenance of the churchyard.

Life of the Church

Benefice Magazine continues to be distributed to all households of Depden

Villagers continue to participate in the life of the church

Currently financially "black". The church building is in good order.

The PCC is grateful for the ongoing support of villagers and Depden Parish Council in supporting the church as a secular and spiritual resource for all.

All are welcome.

Anne Nicolson Church Warden

DEPDEN POORS' ESTATE CHARITY

The Trustees of the Charity are pleased to announce another successful year.

In May 2013, Rosie Eaton resigned as Chair and a Trustee. Ruth Moyse was nominated and accepted the role as the new Chair.

One of our new ventures was to implement our plan to increase support for those residents who can feel quite isolated and abandoned following the axing of regular buses to the village. Our rural initiative was to set up a trial run of a free mini bus service once per month in 2013 to test the need. It received some local Press cover to expose the problem of increasing isolation particularly for the elderly and young mums in Suffolk villages. The mini bus service was valued and we have decided to run it again this year, once every two months on Market Day in Bury St Edmunds.

The idea of having a "summer" picnic, in June 2013, wasn't so warmly welcomed! The stalwarts who did turn up had to gather round closely to avoid the bitter wind during this truly memorable but chilly social event. The Food hampers were enjoyed and wine consumed but we were all glad to get home to warm up afterwards.

In October we welcomed Janet Webb to the committee and she was formally signed up as a Trustee

The 16th of December saw our annual Christmas supper, free to all Depden residents. Over 30 locals enjoyed this social occasion with a traditional two-course buffet style meal, Carol singing and a good catch up with many friends and neighbours. We held a raffle and there was a prize draw for a £25 voucher to spend in Depden Farm Shop. We also enjoyed a talk from Rosie Freathy, one of the many young people the Charity has helped with a grant to assist their educational trips abroad.

This year at the supper we launched our feedback survey to ask for views about the way we are providing services from the Charity. It was an overwhelmingly good response and gave us ideas for the years ahead.

One new scheme in recent months has been to give Welcome Cards to newcomers moving in to Depden, hoping they are settling in well, and telling them about the Website, some local facilities and the Charity. We hope they will use the Mini Bus service and join in the other events we plan for the months ahead.

In April 2014, Nicky Rabett resigned as Treasurer and Trustee. Angie Barnetson was nominated and accepted the role as the new Treasurer.

Thank-you to everyone who has supported us this year.