

## Chairman's Report for the Depden Annual Parish meeting April 2016

Six members of the parish council were elected unopposed at the elections in May last year. Following John Walladge's decision to stand down at those elections, the vacancy was filled by the co-option of Graham Moyse. Unfortunately changes in working pattern mean that Graham has now had to resign from the parish council after just a few months, so once again we have a vacancy to fill – so any volunteers? If anyone is interested, please contact the clerk or one of the councillors. Peter Payne stepped down as Vice-chairman and his place was taken by Andy Barnetson. 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 for the Parish.

Last year we held our regular six Parish Council Meetings and two Policy and Planning Meetings, to deal with 2 planning applications, both of which were approved. We have recently taken to holding our meetings at Chevington Village Hall rather than here at the Erskine Centre to avoid competing with the rehearsals of the community choir, who can make much more of a noise than we can.

Cllr Clive Pollington is attending this APM in his new role as our Borough Councillor for the first time following his election last May and we welcome him and Mary Evans our County Councillor. Mary and Clive 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.

We are pleased to report that the poles for the Vehicle Activated Speeding Sign at either end of the Green have now been installed and the sign was recently in place for a 3 week period. Adjusted brackets are required which should be in place soon, allowing regular use of the signs in both locations in future. We are currently alternating use of the sign with Hargrave. We are grateful to Mary Evans for funding several of these signs shared between parishes across the area.

Following a series of accidents on the A143 near the Elms Farm turning, a plan for improved signage and road marking has been agreed by the County Council although we do not have a date for completion of the work. Again thanks are due to Mary for her support with this issue. Overnight lorry parking at the layby outside Paugers was also raised and a sign has been erected.

Our annual litter pick was performed on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and produced a crop of about 15 bags of litter. Thanks to Andy and Angie Barnetson, Peter and Evelyn Payne and Susan Boor and for their participation, and whilst disappointed that once again only the 'usual suspects' got stuck in I remain optimistically deluded that more residents will get involved in future.

The situation regarding the proposed development at Kelly's Meadow remains unresolved, after more than 6 years of discussions in the most recent phase.

And finally, a reminder that all our meeting agendas and minutes are available in accordance with the transparency code for smaller authorities on our website [www.depden.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.depden.suffolk.gov.uk). Last year we had 1176 users who spent an average of 1m 20s on the site, although not all of these seem to be real people and may be just search robots.

DEPDEN PARISH COUNCIL

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR ACCOUNT YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2016

LAST YEAR		CURRENT
y/e 31.3.15	RECEIPTS	y/e 31.3.16
2,766.00	Precept	2700.00
2.60	Bank Interest	2.84
3.00	VAT Refund	36.00
<b><u>£2,771.60</u></b>		<b><u>£2,738.84</u></b>
	PAYMENTS	
159.00	Insurance	184.00
110.09	Clerk's Expenses	90.54
1,062.25	Clerk's Salary - net	1075.24
265.40	Clerk's Income Tax	268.40
150.00	Clerk's Home Facilities	150.00
42.00	Clerk/Councillor Courses	192.00
175.00	Grass Cutting	175.00
135.00	Graveyard Maintenance	135.00
120.00	Subscriptions	123.00
130.00	Hall Hire	85.00
0.00	Parish Council Election Expenses	21.34
0.00	Brackets for VAS Signs	120.00
0.00	Posts for VAS Signs	300.00
<b><u>£2,348.74</u></b>		<b><u>£2,919.52</u></b>

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY

£3,938.65	Balance b/f 1 April 2015	£4,361.51
£2,771.60	ADD Total Receipts	£2,738.84
<b><u>£6,710.25</u></b>		<b><u>£7,100.35</u></b>
£2,348.74	LESS Total Payments	£2,919.52
<b><u>£4,361.51</u></b>		<b><u>£4,180.83</u></b>

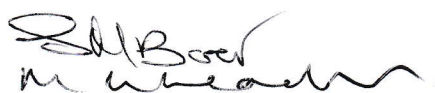
THESE CUMULATIVE FUNDS ARE REPRESENTED BY

**COMMUNITY A/C Barclays Bank PLC B.S.E.**

**EVERYDAY SAVER A/C Barclays Bank PLC B.S.E**

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the Parish Council at  
31 March 2016 and reflects it's receipts and payments during the year

Signed:  
Parish Clerk  
Chairman  
Date

  
12/04/16

Locally, speeding traffic is still a problem. I have worked with the Police and Crime commissioner to ensure that one of the two new speed camera vehicles which been deployed to tackle speeding in rural Suffolk, is on patrol in this area.

The plan is that we will link up the deployment of the four vehicle activated signs I have funded for the Clare area with the speed camera patrols so we can provide a truly effective deterrent to speeding motorists

In my past reports to you I have spoken about my concerns regarding two key county council services – education and highways and the need for us to perform better. I am pleased to report there has been really good progress over the last 12 months.

### **Education**

There has been a 4% rise in the number of pupils gaining five or more A\*-C grades, including English and Maths and Suffolk has risen 17 places in the overall league table.

77% of 11-year-olds achieved level 4 or higher in their SAT tests up from 73% in 2014.

Progress in Writing between Key Stages 1 and 2 is another area of improvement. The percentage of pupils making the expected progress rose from 89% in 2014 to 91% this year. The percentage of children making expected progress from Key Stage 1 to 2 in Reading and Maths also increased – with both seeing a 1% point rise. The increase in Suffolk was greater than the national rise.

I am especially pleased to report that the gap in performance between Suffolk's disadvantaged pupils and other pupils has also narrowed by 5% compared to a 1% increase nationally. We are committed to ensuring that our schools, while we retain responsibility for them, give all the county's children the best start in life

Suffolk County Council's Children's Services has been rated GOOD by Ofsted which praised the work of the council in protecting and looking after children and young people. Under the tough new inspection regime, 78 councils have been inspected so far and no authority.

The team we have working in this area do truly vital work – protecting very vulnerable children and young people.

### **Highways**

Our new Assistant Director for highways Mark Stevens has wasted no time in knocking some long overdue common sense into how we operate the highways contract.

We look after

- 6,500Km of roads – 4,000 miles to you and me!
- 4,000Km of pavements

- 102,000 unlit signs
- 160Km fences and barriers
- 68,500 street lights
- 12,000 lit signs, bollards and belisha beacons
- 5,000 bridges, culverts and retaining walls
- 9,800 Public Rights of Way in Suffolk – 5,600Km

Mr Stevens, who joined us late last summer, has rationalised the way we work with our contractors so we operate as a team. Initially 180 SCC staff were placing orders with Kier MG – generating a vast swathe of bureaucracy. That has been cut back to a small team running the orders and payments.

We are focussing on maintaining the roads in good order rather than rushing about on costly repairs – this is much better use of funds. To surface dress a stretch of road can cost as little as £2.50 per square metre compared with a staggering £95 for rapid response repairs.

So Suffolk Highways will look to carry out between 50% and 100% more surface dressing this year than in the summer of 2015. It is a very weather-dependent treatment and is best done between April and August. However, if we have a wet summer, we will defer some of this major programme to 2017. Details of where we are looking to surface dress this year will be on our website shortly.

We are also going to undertake work on rural roads more sensibly avoiding the expense and inconvenience of road closures and lengthy diversions.

## **Budget**

The council has saved more than £170million since the Government's deficit reduction programme began in 2011/2012 and faces the need to make further savings of over £80million during the next two years.

The budget we passed in April saw no increase in base Council Tax but the Administration decided to implement the 2% National Adult Social Care Levy to support the implementation of the National Living Wage. The budget for Adult Social Care and Children's Services was increased.

## **Rural Transport Provision**

Changes to how Rural Transport is provided will come into force in June and will streamline services - or example in future residents will have a single phone number for each area. Most of operators are proposing to run services for longer each day. The whole county will be covered so there are no areas with gaps in service. Area launch events have been organised so local people can meet the service operator teams and find out more about how services will be provided in their area. Our event

will be at West Suffolk house on 1 June with a drop in between 10.30am and 11.30am

### **Devolution Deal announced for East Anglia**

Leaders from councils across Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and the New Anglia and Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnerships have signed a devolution deal with the Government.

Details are still being discussed and it is not clear whether it will actually be ratified. The proposal requires the creation of a Combined Authority and directly elected Mayor and it is proposed that the first mayoral elections would be in May 2017 alongside county council elections.

**Mary Evans**  
**Clare Division**

## **NHW Report for 2016**

### **Latest Scam (January)**

Police forces have become aware of a fraud circulating that is targeting elderly and vulnerable members of the community.

It has been reported that some people have received telephone calls from a caller who purports to be from the GP Surgery and is asking for an appointment to discuss their personal mobility needs. During the appointment, the person is persuaded to buy mobility aids which are either unnecessary or inappropriate and always expensive.

### **Burglaries**

Wickhambrook – Giffords Lane – 18/01/16 Entry gained to grain store building by forcing door removing gardening equipment – crime number 37/15655/16

Stradishall – Wickhambrook Road – 01/02/16 between 7pm to 7.15pm Attempted entry to tack room on land of farmhouse entry first gained to a further insecure shed and bolt cutters taken 3m males seen to approach tack room but disturbed and left without gaining entry or taking anything – crime number 37/16150/16

Hawkedon – Between 06/02/16 7pm to 07/02/16 9am Attempts made to break into shed using force on the padlocks and trying to disable an alarm suspects disturbed no items taken – crime number 37/16477/16

### **Thefts**

Hawkedon – Between 15/01/16 to 16/01/16 An electric fence post has been removed from edge of a field – crime number 37/16047/16

### **Criminal Damages**

Wickhambrook – Nunnery Green – Between 31/01/16 11.59pm to 01/02/16 11am outside pane of UPVC window has been cracked by unknown means – crime number 37/15425/16

Hawkedon – Hall Lane – Between 08/01/16 to 09/02/16 Damage caused to a fence post in a field – crime number 37/16043/16

Wickhambrook – Clopton Park – between 28/12/15 3pm to 05/02/16 12.40pm An unattended parish council notice board has been damaged by pushing Perspex really hard causing beading to pop out – crime number 37/16187/15

If you have any information in relation to any of the above crimes please contact 101 or Crime stoppers anonymously on 0800555111.

## NHW Report for 2016

### Feb

- Reports of interference with a motor vehicle on Wratting Road, Great Thurlow, Haverhill. The incident took place sometime between 10pm on Friday 22 January and 5.30am on Saturday 23 January. Suspect/s cut the main live lead, deactivated the alarm and tampered with the steering column on the green Landrover **Defender** 90, index mark RF55 DJK.
- On Tuesday afternoon (16 Feb) two men in a black car were reported to 101, flying a drone over Cavendish church. If you see anyone hanging around any of our rural churches, please report to 101 and try to get a vehicle registration number.
- A man was arrested and £30,000 of stolen agricultural equipment recovered after police executed a warrant at premises in Whepstead. A 24-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of theft and taken into custody at Bury St Edmunds Police Investigation Centre where he was interviewed. He was then bailed to return on 8 April, while further enquiries are made.

### March

- **New inspectors: Matthew Dee (BSE) and Danny Cooper (Sudbury/Haverhill)**
- Fixed penalty email scam appearing as if sent from DVSA (Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency)
- **Burglaries:** Hawkedon – Garage in Thurston End broken into and tools stolen.  
Whepstead, Attleton Green – Bird scarers approached and had their gas bottles and batteries stolen.
- 3 men in a white van offering to clean gutters, removed a tile from the roof of a house and then quoted £3,500 to repair damage. Owner refused and they left without replacing the tile.
- An 18 year old man was arrested in Luton in connection with an aggravated burglary in Cavendish.

### April

- Community restructure on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Teams and resources redesigned following the Suffolk Local Policing Review. Police to be available at all times for an urgent response – public safety remains a priority. Online services to be improved to make sure more information is readily available.

### Today

- Appeal for tracing a man, Matthew Holloway, 45 who is believed to be behind a number of frauds in the Cambs area, worth a total of over £100,000. (Photographs attached to original report)

Suffolk NHW Association, AGM – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April at Woolpit Village Hall, Mill Lane, Woolpit, IP30 9QX

at 7pm



Angela Barnetson &lt;abarnetson@gmail.com&gt;

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**RSW Alert - Spot and Report these Hare Coursing Vehicles**

1 message

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Rural South Watch <ruralsouthwatch@hotmail.co.uk>  
Reply-To: Rural South Watch <ruralsouthwatch@hotmail.co.uk>  
To: abarnetson@gmail.com

Thu, Feb 4, 2016 at 4:19 PM

Report all suspicious activity to 101 promptly (and then e-mail ruralsouthwatch@btinternet.com)

Is this email not displaying correctly?  
[View it in your browser.](#)

## Suspected hare coursing

**Police have released details of seven cars they think may be involved in hare coursing.** The following vehicles were reported by members of the public as suspected of being involved in hare coursing last week.

CF03 HVW – a green Jeep Cherokee (no tax)

X431 EPP – a silver Subaru Forrester (no tax)

X307 YEX – a red Citroen Xantia (no MOT)

CP05 YNZ – a silver Honda CR-V

X847 XAU – a blue Honda CR-V

DK05 XYC – a blue Ford Focus

KN03 DFU – a green Hyundai Santa Fe (no tax)

Farmers and others in our rural communities are asked to keep an eye out for these vehicles and to report future sightings on 101. If lurking or possibly hare coursing call 999, but keep clear.

Regards, Bob.

For a printable Word version of the current vehicle list, e-mail  
[ruralsouthwatch@btinternet.com](mailto:ruralsouthwatch@btinternet.com)



# RSW Vehicle List (51)

These suspicious vehicles have been reported but not yet explained. If seen, report to 101 (Control

com) promptly as noted below, then e-mail [ruralsouthwatch@btinternet.com](mailto:ruralsouthwatch@btinternet.com) so others can be alerted.

Reg.	Description	Call 101 - the police may want to intercept:
NJ 08 UNX	Silver Ford Transit panel van	Unsolicited call to Clare farm yard and then intercepted with no tax or MOT. 4/2/16
AX 13 FXF (or similar)	Silver [Peugeot] estate (patchy paint)	Cruising in Wixoe, mid-afternoon on 22/1/16. Please obtain correct number and email RSW. If lurking call 101 or consider 999.
NJ 54 HHE	Ford Transit lorry with black load deck	Cruising between Hundon and Kedington in the afternoon. Police log. afternoon 22/12/15
EY 05 BFL	Black Peugeot 307	Repeated lurking at midnight near commercial units in W Wratting 14/12/15
Y741 VGF	White Ford Transit panel van	<b>Call 999 if seen</b> - Oil theft in Hargrave towards 3pm on 16/12/15. Crime no 37/21383/15 (And suspicious calls before dusk to south of our area a few days before) <b>(No Tax or MOT)</b>
LC 05 MKL	Red Ford Transit panel van	Cruising/lurking by barn conversion site in Stradishall. Police log. around 12.00 on 13/12/15 Similar van cruising Ousden 27/1/16
V213 JKK	Green VW Golf	<b>Call 999 if seen</b> - Wanted in connection with theft in Whepstead 12.35 on 8/12/15 <b>(No Tax or MOT)</b>
BJ 15 BHD	Blue Ford Transit panel van with crew side window	Peddling generators, kitchen kit etc, in Brockley Green & Hundon, Stanningfield and Thurston End on 9, 11 & 14/12/15
X 237 HLE	Burgundy/red Volvo estate.	Reported to 101 trying locked gates after dark in Stradishall. May link to farm prowler + break in near Clare same evening. Police log 7.30 pm 17/11/15 <b>(falsely registered as blue)</b>
AO 64 YTT	White Toyota Verso estate/MPV	Four men reported to 101 selectively touting for building work in Hargrave. Police log late a.m. 12/11/15.
EK 64 LHR	White Vauxhall Vivaro panel van signed 'Historic Buildings'	<b>Call 999 if seen</b> - Two men scouting round Lidgate church (no connection to church, despite van signage and no contact details on vehicle). Cowlinge church roof targeted next day - crime no 37/11236/15 Police log 185 of 22/10/15
BU 51 USX	White LDV panel van	<b>Call 999 if seen</b> - Wanted in connection with aggravated burglary Gt Wratting in evening 13 Oct. Crime no. HH/15/2612. <b>(No tax or MOT)</b>
R 294 VOB	White Ford Transit lorry	Reported to 101 cruising at Stansfield church. Police log 343 of 28/9/15
LY 03 YBE	Silver SEAT Ibiza hatchback	Lurking after dark outside rural houses, Hundon. Police log 22.00/23/8/15
KN 51 OSD	Burgundy/red Ford Transit panel van	Scrap touting W. Wratting May 2015. Previous cruising and trying vehicle doors Hundon and Clare in Aug 2013. Police log 11.50am 5/8/13

Annual Report to Depden Parish Council for 2015

Report from St Mary the Virgin, Depden Parochial Church Council

Date: 12th April 2016

Membership: as at APCM 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015

1.Church Wardens	Evelyn Payne Anne Nicolson
2. Secretary/Electoral Roll Officer	Sandra Ashman
3.Treasurer/Safety Officer	Anne Nicolson
4 Members	Tim Freathy/Safeguarding Officer, Hannah Kingston

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 Millenium Farm Trust. The “Knit and Natter” gathering at Depden Farm Shop on Thursday morning is a growing initiative.

The lawnmower is working well and is annually serviced.The church is grateful for the ongoing financial support of the parish council for the maintenance of the churchyard. The Millenium Farm Trust clients undertook maintenance work on the graveyard during the year

A musical concert with the Cantilena Singers was held in the church in the summer. The Benefice Magazine continues to be distributed to all households of Depden.

Villagers continue to participate in the life of the church including enjoying the Harvest Supper and Beetle Drive

Currently financially “black”. The church building is in good order. Three new gazebos have been purchased for community use – hopefully donations when used will facilitate purchase of replacements when necessary. A contribution to cost from local councillor’s locality budget will be gratefully received.

Rev Cheryl Collins has supported fully the life of the church in Depden

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.

Anne Nicolson Church Warden

Report to Depden Parish Council AGM 12/4/16

## Depden Poors Estate Charities

The Depden Charities are run by a Committee of Trustees with the welcome additional support of Friends of the Charities.

We are pleased to announce another successful year of social events for Depden residents including a large get together for the annual free Christmas meal, with music from a local band and hot festive punch for all! Having enjoyed the wide variety of home cooked savoury and sweet dishes Trustees collected feedback from old and young alike ... and have already booked our venue at Hargrave for December 2016!

Listening to village news and needs we have again helped to sponsor Student Educational Visits abroad, assist those in need or hardship and signpost people to other supports or services. A regular income is received in rent from a small field in Hargrave, and by occasional fund raising events to provide important socialising opportunities. Those events are few in rural villages that have had even the poor bus service axed within the past few years.

We remain mindful of the needs of those who may struggle and feel isolated or abandoned. We give Welcome Cards to newcomers hoping they are settling in and informing them of local information and websites. This year we are planning our own website for Depden Charity Information and how to apply for our small grants, and hope to launch another feedback survey to help us keep abreast of the news, views, and needs of our village.

A glorious afternoon in June was enjoyed by all who attended the Family Barbeque and Summer Social in the lovely grounds of Beech Hall. This summer the Trustees will be assisting with the village 'street party' event to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

A mini bus trip to the bustling Christmas Fayre at the end of November heralded the final outing for 2015. Since then the Committee has decided, due to changing needs, to cancel our bi-monthly taxi service to the Bury St Edmunds Market day for the time being. We will re-assess Depden's transport problems later this year. We welcome comments from all residents especially on this matter.

Thank-you to everyone who has joined in our events, supported us or donated funds this year.

Ruth Moyse

Chairperson

Depden Poors Estate Charities

## FOOPATH MEMBER REPORT

All the footpaths in the parish have been regularly walked and checked and are in good condition apart from byway 11 north of the green which remains muddy after the flooding and ditch works over winter. An issue with motorbikes using bridleway 10 was raised by the landowner with Suffolk CC and a temporary notice has appeared. The sign on the green at the start of bridleway 10 has fallen down as has the sign for footpath 3 at the junction with footpath 1 and there is no longer any signage at the junction of footpath 1 and footpath 4 (i.e. both footpaths across the field to the church).

## HAVERHILL SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

### Report to Depden Annual Parish Council Meeting for 12/04/16

This report covers the period from 01/04/2015, through to and inclusive of the date of this report...12/04/2016. During this period there have been 4 crimes recorded within the Parish of Depden, this compares to 7 for the 2014-2015 period.

#### Breakdown of Crime

Burglary Dwelling -	2014/15	- 2
	2015/16	- 0 (decrease on last year)
Burglary Other Buildings -	2014/15	- 0
	2015/16	- 0 (same as last year)
Vehicle Crime -	2014/15	- 0
	2015/16	- 1 (increase on last year)

....overnight from 28/04/15, residents from The Green area woke to find one of their private vehicles covered in white emulsion paint.

Assaults & Public Order -	2014/15	- 2
	2015/16	- 1 (decrease on last year)

....reported on 11/04/16, a complaint of common assault has been made from one resident against another. As this investigation is ongoing, I'm sure you can respect that we can't divulge anything else on this other than there are no risks to any other persons.

Theft -	2014/15	- 1
	2015/16	- 2 (increase on last year)

.... On 16/12/15 a resident from The Green area of the village, disturbed a lone male helping himself to “set aside” scrap metal left alongside a rubbish, the suspect made off empty handed... hence an attempted theft was recorded.

....Overnight from 23/02/16, a residential dwelling suffered a theft of heating oil.

Criminal Damage -	2014/15	- 1
	2015/16	- 0 (decrease on last year)
Miscellaneous Offences -	2014/15	- 1
	2015/16	- 0 (decrease on last year)

Additionally, as of 04/04/2016.... A new Local Policing Model was implemented in our county and this all stems from the Suffolk Local Policing Review which is published in great detail on the Suffolk Constabulary Website. Much has been in the local media of late regarding the closure of some Police Station front counters, the slight reduction in frontline staff numbers and the like but there are many more factors involved as well. Another significant change being that Haverhill Town SNT has now merged with St Edmundsbury Rural South SNT.

Should anyone from the Parish Council ....or indeed any parishioner be interested, our new area Inspector....Insp. Danny COOPER and some of the new SNT Team will be providing more information next week at the Samuel Ward Upper School in Haverhill. Doors open at 1900hrs on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016... it's a walk in event. Again, please see our force website for more details on this info sharing event.

Report prepared by Pc 270 Darren Marshall.....C/o Haverhill Safer Neighbourhood Team