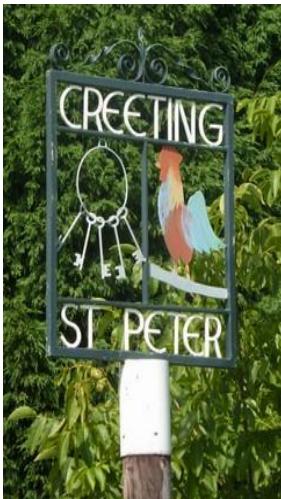


Parish Council News



Issue 37 – October 2020

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Welcome to this Autumn edition of the Creeting St Peter Newsletter.

To include articles in future issues, please contact the Parish Clerk

Would you like to advertise your business/service in this Newsletter for a small fee? If you would be interested in doing so, please contact the Clerk for more information.

Chair's thoughts...

It's been an unusual six months, I think we'd all agree. Many of us have had to deal with disruption to our usual routines, either working from home, or furloughed or, hardest of all, not being able to work altogether. Many of the things that we take for granted have been ruled out, or restricted, and the cycle of village life has been disturbed. Parish Council is no different. We've had to master virtual meetings, and find ways of reaching out to residents to keep you informed on key issues, predominantly around planning applications and future developments. It seems to have gone well enough so far, although the village's less than optimal broadband service has been an obstacle. But now, we are faced with a new challenge, Gateway 14. The Parish Council has discussed some of the threats and opportunities that the project brings, and we want to enable residents to contribute their thoughts too. Residents are encouraged to engage with the consultation currently underway, as we appreciate that, depending on where you live, your perspective may be very different. And, as the proposals are still very much at the drawing board stage, if there are potential benefits to be had, we should seek every opportunity to promote those and to suggest changes that might improve both the development and enhance the village going forward.

We've been talking to the developers to seek presentations, both to us as councillors, but to residents generally, and will attempt to find a way for those who don't have access to the internet, or who would prefer an in-person opportunity, to engage too. However, if you would like us to act as an intermediary, please ask, and we will represent your views as best we can. We have already had a valuable discussion with one of our District Councillors, Cllr Mike Norris, in terms of our initial thoughts.

Otherwise, it seems that the pandemic will be affecting us for some months going forward. Residents are reminded that, if help is needed, we are able to arrange support in terms of shopping, or collecting prescriptions, or simply offering a friendly voice if needed. Our contact details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, and please don't hesitate to ask us.

Finally, on a personal note, I've run into many of you over the past six months, as I walk around and around the village. It's been helpful to me to be able to talk through issues that concern you and where we might find ways to make things happen.

PLEASE NOTE – A questions and answers session has been arranged with Yellobelly, who are undertaking the public consultation. This will be for residents and will take place on **Wednesday, 21st October at 7.30pm**. This will be held **online**. If you would like to join the meeting, to either ask questions or just to listen and find out more information please contact the Parish Clerk by Monday, 19th October.

District Councillor Mike Norris' Report:

FROM RESPONSE TO RECOVERY: Over the past 5 months, the Collaborative Communities COVID-19 Board has been focusing on responding to the pandemic and supporting Suffolk. This includes the Home, But Not Alone phone line, food and medication deliveries, emergency food parcels, foodbanks, emergency housing and other support services.

The Board has agreed to move from an emergency response phase into recovery. Although there is a change of focus, the Board is conscious that the situation is changeable and will be ready to respond to any local outbreaks should the need arise.

The Board has agreed to focus on the following themes:

Food and hardship

Housing

Support to the voluntary and community sector

Restoring the social infrastructure of our communities and combatting loneliness

SPOTLIGHT ON SUFFOLK'S FOOD BANKS: Food banks are designed to provide short-term, emergency support with food during a crisis. Their aim is to relieve the immediate pressure of the crisis by providing food, whilst also providing additional support to help people resolve the crises that they face. As Covid-19 continues to unfold food banks have been hit hard in terms of meeting increasing demand with a matching supply. They play a major role in the provision of food by distributing donated and purchased groceries directly to families in need. Pre-C19 there were just over 20 established food banks in Suffolk; there are now 49 established and pop up food banks operating weekly. Since the end of March, Community Action Suffolk (CAS) has been working in partnership with Suffolk County Council, Ipswich Borough Council, East Suffolk, Babergh and Mid Suffolk, and West Suffolk Councils to establish a food supply chain to food banks across Suffolk. The newly formed collaboration has continued to meet regularly to look at the information being collected from food banks and offer help where needed; this has included additional food at short notice and extra storage. CAS have been able to provide advice on both funding and sustainability and appropriate governance for those food banks looking at a more formal structure going forward.

Mid Suffolk District Councillors Mike Norris mike.norris@midsuffolk.gov.uk Tel. 01449 720871 and Steve Phillips stephen.phillips@midsuffolk.gov.uk Tel. 01449 721710.

Representing Needham Market, Badley, Baylham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Darmsden

Quiet Lanes – are we interested?

Last week, Suffolk County Council launched a £235,000 fund to establish Quiet Lanes across the county. "And what is a Quiet Lane?" I hear you ask.

A Quiet Lane is a nationally recognised designation of single track road (i.e. no line markings), typically with less than 1,000 vehicle use per day. Quiet Lanes are used by a variety of people and transport modes including walking, cycling and horse riding. Motorised vehicles can use Quiet Lanes but they need to drive with caution.

The scheme has adopted the phrase "Expect and Respect" – urging people to expect Quiet Lane routes to be used by a variety of people, animals and transport modes and to respect the rights of all users. A Quiet Lane is hosted by a local, rural community, such as a parish or village group, who recognise that Quiet Lane designation can bring benefits to their local quality of life.

For more information, visit <https://sites.google.com/view/quietlanessuffolk/home> where there is a slide show presentation, maps and (very) detailed guidance.

And, if enough people are interested, bearing in mind that any Quiet Lane designation must have local support, we'll lodge a declaration of interest. Let us know which Parish lanes you think are suitable, bearing in mind that Mill Lane, with its heavy goods traffic, will almost certainly not be deemed to be eligible for inclusion. Responses should be sent to the Chair, Mark Valladares, at markv233@aol.com.

Bonus Ball/Village Lottery Winning Number

PLEASE NOTE – Due to Coronavirus the Village Lottery was suspended for a number of weeks.

It has now been resumed and the winning numbers will be put into the next edition of the village Newsletter



Fen Alder Carr Nature Reserve

 This site remains closed to members of the public.



Play Area – Should anyone have any issues, or notice anything that needs attention please do not hesitate to contact Cllr Dan Mason, or the Parish Clerk. Thank you.

The Parish Council were pleased to receive a good Play Area Inspection report from the District Council. All areas were low or very low risk.

The plan is to still replace the slide but have decided to wait until the current situation improves.



Poppy Appeal – 2020 – It has been confirmed that due to the current situation door to door poppy sales will not be carried out this year.

Community Emergency Bag – A reminder that this is something that has been given to the village and is in the care of the Parish Council. It will be kept in the new shed adjacent to the Church Hall, which will be locked with a key kept in a key box – the code of which will be available from any member of the Parish Council. The bag and its contents are for the use in an emergency and contain the following:

a wind-up radio/torch, a wind-up phone charger/torch, a Barracuda wind up/solar torch, 4 Hi-Viz jackets, 4 foil blankets, 4 emergency ponchos, barrier tape, strip water purification tabs, a waterproof notepad and pencil, a whistle, 16 hand wipes, a pair of rubber gloves, a waterproof document wallet and a first aid kit.

Wildlife Group – Following the installation of some Swift boxes on various houses around the village in the spring, to encourage more Swifts to nest, the Wildlife Group have been unable to be active, due to the current situation. But, they would like to remind everyone to put out food & water for the birds, not to be over tidy when gardening as so many insects and hedgehogs can hibernate over the winter.

If anyone has any concerns about Hedgehogs you can contact Suffolk Pickles Hedgehog rescue at Stonham Aspal.



Footpaths – If, whilst walking the parish's footpaths, you see any broken signs, missing way-markers or any other issues in relation to the condition of the path please report to www.suffolk.gov.uk or contact the Parish Clerk.

ADVERTISEMENTS



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Church News

Services for October

Holy Communion at 11am on Sunday 28th October.

There are services in other churches of the benefice and on Zoom every Sunday and some weekdays – details are in the 10 Village news.

We are planning on having a service for Remembrance Sunday at 10.50am.

Church open for private prayer

The church continues to be open for private prayer 10am-5pm Sundays. This will change to 10am-3pm after the clocks change. Please follow social distancing rules. Thank you to all those who are helping us to do this by cleaning the church and opening and closing up.

Flower rota

There is no flower rota at the moment but there will be flowers in the church when any services take place. Please get in touch with Donna Risby if you are able to contribute or willing to join the rota. The church looked very beautiful for the Harvest Festival.

Church cleaning rota

As we are opening the church every weekend and due to Covid-19, it will need cleaning every week. If there is anyone who could help by filling the gaps above, please let Alice know.

Suffolk Churches Ride 'n' Stride

Sarah and Russell had a beautiful day for their walk and would like to thank everyone for the generosity of their donations.

Church APCM

This is taking place on 20th October, as opposed to sometime in May. Alice will not be standing for election as Churchwarden but will continue for the time being to do the role. Anyone who is interested in joining the PCC to help keep our beautiful Grade 1 listed church in one piece and a relevant part of the village, please get in touch.

Church building work

After all the support given by the village at various events and funding given by Suffolk Historic Church Trust and the National Churches Trust, this will take place shortly.

Church finances

As can be appreciated, with few services and no events, little income is being generated at the moment. However the parish share still has to be paid to the Diocese and the buildings insured. Thank you to everyone who has generously contributed financially to the PCC so far this year. Please get in touch with Jenny if you feel you can help in this regard.

Building and churchyard maintenance

Thank you to the Mason family who continue to look after the Church Room and to the Jardines who maintain the churchyard - Peter did a particularly great job for the church and all-round the village as part of his DofE this summer.