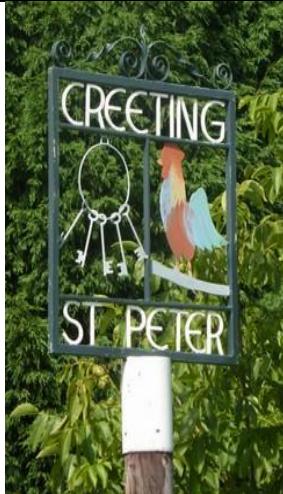


Parish Council News



Issue 39 – July 2021

Parish Councillors:

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Vice-Chair: Cllr Richard Hitt – 01449 721899
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Cllr Daniel Mason – 01449 678160
Cllr Lynne Jardine – 07766 030505

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Welcome to this Summer 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.

A few words from the Chair...

If I had thought for one moment that chairing the Parish Council was going to be easy, recent events have demonstrated that there is no such thing as “too quiet”. So, time for a quick run-through of what’s happened over the past few months...

We've got a new County Councillor in Keith Welham, who won the Stowmarket North and Stowupland division by 139 votes over outgoing Cllr Gary Green. Keith is familiar with our issues here, having served as our District Councillor between 2015 and 2019, and has hit the ground running. We look forward to working with him in the years ahead.

We've also got a new Parish Councillor in Lynne Jardine, who was co-opted at our Annual Parish Council meeting in May. She has already set to work on issues relating to Poundfield and the local footpaths on the western side of the Parish, and we're pleased to have her onboard.

No news from Gateway 14. Despite the initial expectations that the planning application would be heard by Mid Suffolk District Council at the beginning of the year, there is still no sign of a date for its hearing. Both the Residents Campaign Group and the Parish Council have made full submissions, as have many of you as individuals, although the remaining delays seem to revolve around highways, with Highways England having sought a delay until mid-September whilst their concerns are addressed.

Mid Suffolk District Council says no to extended hours for Poundfield. After more than eighteen months of uncertainty, the application was rejected – the company failed to supply the required noise and light reports required. The Parish Council will now focus our attention on seeking enforcement of the existing operation hours restrictions, and welcome reports of working outside those hours. The conditions are as follows;

No machinery shall be operated, no process shall be carried out and no deliveries taken at or despatched from the site outside of the following times;

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays with no working on Sundays or on Bank Holidays.
Please send your reports to our Parish Clerk (pc@creetingstpeter.suffolk.gov.uk).

An appeal for the “Meadows” site. Residents of the surrounding properties will be aware that an appeal has been made to the Secretary of State regarding the second refusal of planning permission to demolish the property and build four new ones in its place. The Planning Inspector will consider all of the evidence already submitted, and Mid Suffolk District Council are expected to actively defend their position given the potential impact on the Local Plan. We have no timeline for any announcement.

New street lights? Residents of the core village will know that our ten street lights are not in good condition, and some of them have been out of order for some time. They're expensive to maintain and increasingly obsolete. Suffolk County Council have announced a programme of replacing some 43,000 street lights with modern LED versions, and there is a possibility that we might be able to piggyback on that. We'll keep you updated on that.

An e-newsletter for Creeting St Peter? One of the key lessons from the pandemic is finding better ways to keep residents informed. Producing newsletters and delivering them by hand is slow and expensive, whereas if we could e-mail them to most residents, it would cut costs, allow us to issue newsletters more frequently, and improve our reporting back. We need to make sure that we're GDPR compliant though, and that those who don't, or can't, use the Internet aren't excluded. However, we'll be looking to seek your agreement to this over the coming months so, if one of us knocks on your door, don't be too surprised.

Finally, life is slowly returning to something more familiar as normal. However, there are still those amongst us who need support, and I know that many of you are looking out for friends and neighbours. Thank you to everyone who has gone out of their way to help, and whilst the path out of the pandemic is still a bit fuzzy, I'm hopeful that this will continue as long as it is needed.

County Councillor Keith Welham's Report:

Bus Back Better - Bus Back Better is being launched by central government, essentially as a response to Covid 19, but it could lead to re-regulation of bus services and could be a positive move for rural Suffolk.

The de-regulation of services, as we have at present, has led to the decimation of rural services in many communities, as this policy renders it unlawful to cross-subsidise routes. Re-regulation would allow an operator to cross-subsidise, and this should lead to greater choice and better services to our rural communities.

Government requires public transport authorities to produce a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) and bid for funding. There is also an offer of 4,000 zero emission electric buses that can be bid for. Based on population, Suffolk's share could be 40.

A14 Night Time Closures - Closure from 8.00 pm to 6.00 of sections of A14 to allow the erection of large signs, and also pavement condition surveys, will be undertaken from late July to 11 August. Diversions will be signed via A143 and A140. I have expressed concern about the likelihood of traffic using A1120 or local roads instead. And, also, which routes will be signed to and from Stowmarket when the Stowmarket junctions are closed.

Infrastructure delivery Plan - I met with a member of SCC Infrastructure Team to discuss highways, education and health issues. Proposals currently include a new nursery school on the Taylor Wimpey land in Stowupland and on the Diapers' Farm development on the edge of Stowmarket and an increase in primary school places. SCC would prefer to see Freeman School enlarged but, if this is not acceptable to the Academy Trust, a new school will be provided on the Taylor Wimpey site. SCC accept that a roundabout will be required at the B1115/A1120 junction. I have requested a meeting with a representative of the health authority to discuss provision of a new health centre, preferably on the Diapers' Farm development or an alternative site accessible to residents of Creeting St Peter and Stowupland.

Gateway 14 - I have met a number of times with the Gateway 14 Campaign Group to discuss a range of issues. I will continue to push for a road improvement to bypass Clamp Farm Corner. I have asked for a site meeting with a highways officer to discuss the condition of Mill Lane and discuss its suitability for a likely increase in traffic during construction of the business park and as a rat run to and from Cedars Park, Tesco stores etc. So far requests for such a meeting have been refused. I am planning to raise highways issues in any meeting arranged to discuss the development with MSDC officers and councillors, and with the developer.

Footpath Issues - I can report that SCC have served an enforcement notice on the landowner of fields through which footpaths 14 and 15 pass but are completely overgrown.

Street Lighting Improvements - SCC has signed a contract for improvements and upgrades to streetlights which are their responsibility. If the Parish Council wish to take advantage of the possibility of advantageous rates for upgrading the streetlights in the parish, I can arrange for this to be investigated.

District Councillor Mike Norris' Report:

Mid Suffolk and Babergh submit Joint Local Plan for examination.

Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils have submitted their Joint Local Plan for independent examination by the Secretary of State. The final version of the plan was debated by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils last year before councillors moved to submit the plan for examination by the Secretary of State, after a six-week period inviting representations on the legal compliance and soundness of the plan. These representations have now been published and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration during the examination. Hearing sessions for the

examination are expected to resume again in September following a change of date – enabling them to be fully inclusive, whilst also ensuring public safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that the Stage 1 sessions, originally scheduled for June and July, will now take place over a concentrated period from September, with Stage 2 hearing sessions in mid-Autumn as originally planned.

Mid Suffolk communities receive close to £1 million in grants.

Mid Suffolk District Council awarded community grants totalling £996,855 in the 2020/21 financial year – supporting the district's Covid response and enabling improvements to local community venues and sports and leisure facilities. During the year, council officers have worked with clubs and organisations in the district to identify need and ensure that vital grant funding has made a real difference to Mid Suffolk's communities.

The council has also acknowledged the key role of community groups, along with town and parish councils, in easing the challenges faced by residents during coronavirus, and a new dedicated Covid-19 Emerging Needs Grant opened last May to help the district through the peak of the pandemic. More than 60 organisations benefitted from funding, including good neighbour schemes, foodbanks and community outreach projects.

An update on Covid-19 in Suffolk.

Regular bulletins continue to be produced to give a snapshot of the current Covid-19 situation in Suffolk - along with updates on the work being carried out as part of Suffolk's Local Outbreak Control Plan. You can find the bulletins [via the Suffolk County Council website](#). An update on the vaccine rollout can be found on the [SNEE NHS COVID-19 Vaccination Service website](#).

Next steps for councils' biodiversity and climate change plans agreed.

Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils have given the go ahead for £97k for projects aimed at boosting biodiversity and tackling climate change across their districts.

MSDC/Babergh Tree, Hedgerow and Wildflower planting scheme application deadline extended.

This scheme offers free trees and hedgerow plants to all parishes regardless of whether the planting is on council, parish, church, or private land. It is preferred that applications are submitted by Parish councils so that Parish local knowledge ensures that the right trees are planted in the right place. The major change to the scheme is that it is now a rolling programme of tree and hedge planting with no deadline for application submission, or dates by which trees or hedgerow plants need to be in the ground. It is not expected that all trees will be planted this year and there will be funding for subsequent years to come. There is also an associated scheme for wildflower planting.

To find out more please contact biodiversity@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

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

A message from Alice Matthewson...

We have finally moved to Scotland, although at the time of writing most of our belongings are still in transit. Thank you all so much for the very generous gifts and lovely messages in my card. The event in the churchyard was very special and after so many months, a treat to see so many of you in one place. A particular thank you to Jenny and Sarah for organising it. Being part of Creeting St Peter village and church has been a great privilege and pleasure and we will miss you all.

Poundfield Site

A recent planning application for extended working hours, outside of 8am and 6pm, was recently refused by Mid Suffolk District Council. Therefore, if you witness activity outside of these hours could you please inform the Parish Clerk via pc@creetingstpeter'suffolk.gov.uk asap. Thank you.

Bonus Ball/Village Lottery Winning Numbers (R) Indicates a Rollover

20th Jan – 42, 6th Feb – 6, 13th Feb – 48, 20th Feb – 10, 27th Feb – 20, 6th Mar – 15, 13th Mar – 20, 20th Mar – 21, 27th Mar – 29, 3rd Apr – 5, 10th Apr – 30, 17th Apr – 4 (R), 24th Apr – 1 (R), 1st May – 14, 8th May – 15, 14th May – 50, 22nd May – 7 (R), 29th May – 44 (R), 5th Jun – 17, 12th Jun – 50, 19th Jun – 14, 26th Jun – 19, 3rd Jul – 23, 10th Jul – 1 (R)



Congratulations to all the winners!

What is the lottery money used for?

At the moment there are no plans for the use of the lottery funds, which currently stands at £3,718.56. We will keep you posted as to what it will be spent on in the future.



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.



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.

Fancy the Newsletter by email?

The Parish Council are considering the possibility of the Newsletter being sent to villagers via email. What do you think? If you would be happy to receive the Newsletter by email please contact the Parish Clerk at pc@creetingstpeter.suffolk.gov.uk as soon as possible.

ADVERTISEMENTS



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Church News

The church is open every Sunday from 10am to 5pm at present. This will be reviewed as lockdown is eased.

AUGUST SERVICES FOR CREETING ST PETER

Sunday 8th August: 11am Holy Communion Service in the church.
Online Zoom services available each Sunday at 9.30am.

FUTURE PLANS

The members of our small committee met recently to plan future events as lockdown eases. If anyone is willing to help with any of the following events please do get in touch with Jenny on 07833620777 or jennyhitt@icloud.com, we would be very grateful. We are hoping that we will be able to celebrate after a very long 18 months by getting together and meeting again at these events.

Cream Teas in the Churchyard – Sunday 22nd August

Lynne Jardine has kindly offered to organise this event and it will take place from 2pm to 5pm in the churchyard. There will be cream teas available with a cake stall and raffle to look forward to. The churchyard is a lovely, peaceful venue in the countryside for such an event.

Village BBQ – Sunday 5th September

More details will be in the September church magazine, on the village Facebook and WhatsApp pages.

Coffee Mornings

We hope to resume the monthly coffee mornings from 10am to 12 in the Church Room, starting in September. These are always held on the second Saturday of each month. The dates for 2021 are: 11th September, 9th October, 13th November and 11th December.

Ladies Supper – Friday 24th September

We are hoping to hold this on the evening of Friday 24th September. More details will follow about this evening which is always well supported and enjoyed by all who attend.

Village Pub Nights

These will return this autumn. Proposed dates are Friday 19th November and Friday 17th December.

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES CYCLE RIDE

This event will take place on Saturday 11th September this year. Sarah & Russell Stott have cycled/strided to raise funds for our church for several years but are unable to do it this year. We would be grateful for any volunteers who would like to do this on 11th September and visit churches in the area. The church will be open again this year on that day and volunteers will be needed to man the church in order to welcome cyclists and sign sponsor forms. Please contact Sarah Stott on 07400991715 if you can help with this.