

# ***THE PARISH PUMP***

## **The occasional Newsletter of Trimley St Martin Parish Council**

[www.trimley-st-martin.org.uk](http://www.trimley-st-martin.org.uk)

**August 2005**



### **From the Chair**

Since the last edition of the Parish Pump we have had a lot of meetings about several issues affecting the village but on none of these can I offer you the final details as these are all yet to be decided however the story so far:

#### **Felixstowe Peninsular Masterplan**

Councillors were recently invited to a preview evening of the findings to date, by the consultants that have been appointed to carry out the Masterplan. From the beginning we have been keen to represent the interests of residents in our village, since we feel that it is important that the peninsular is looked at, as a whole. Felixstowe is an urban town whose main employer is the Port and the exhibition, which incidentally was on public display on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> July, showed the advantages and disadvantages that this produced. The reports so far also showed that there is a fall in education rolls and also a shortage of affordable housing. However, Parish Councillors are anxious that Trimley is not to be seen as the answer to where all the new housing can be situated. Whilst we have never denied that a small amount of housing could be accommodated within the current village boundaries, we are more anxious to promote the rural aspect of the village. To this end we are currently exploring the upgrading the public footpath areas including access to the river, planting community woodland and providing better green recreation areas within the village.

We hope to be meeting with the consultants on the Masterplan to put forward our ideas for the village and impress upon them the rural area that can be enjoyed by local people, which is just a stones throw from a resort town.

#### **Dualling of Railway Line**

Councillors have also recently attended a presentation by the Port of Felixstowe in respect of the potential dualling of the railway line that runs through the village. If this goes ahead, it will present a huge number of logistical problems, not least the upheaval to local residents that the construction will cause. The Parish Council are being consulted on this project and I hope that many of you were able to attend the public exhibition that was held at the Memorial Hall in June.

#### **Acoustic Barriers**

Nothing more has been heard with regard to the Acoustic Barriers although we have been advised that surveys and reports are currently being carried out. The Parish Council will then be consulted on these, as also we understand, will those residents who will be most affected.

So as you can see nothing is yet finalised but be assured that your Parish Council will do it's best to

navigate the difficult waters between being the area through which all port traffic flows (weather by road or rail) and being a near neighbour of an expanding town while preserving at least some semblance of 'green' village life.

Nigel Smith



### **Clerk's Corner**

Well, by the time you read this, we will be half way through summer although its currently raining cats and dogs outside!! Much needed watering for the gardens but not much fun to sit out in!!

Howlett Way has been looking particularly dry and parched lately so hopefully this weather will improve the appearance although it will accelerate the growing of the grass which is on a fortnightly cutting schedule by SCDC. The plant beds along this road and on the roundabout are fairly established now and are looking great. However, the whole area is sometimes spoilt by the number of unauthorised advertising boards that keep appearing and even more annoying, cars parked for sale on the verges, which incidentally is not permitted. However, a phone call to the owners with the advice that their vehicles may be removed, usually gets them moving!

Although the Parish Council do not hold a public meeting in August, there are a number of issues that are ongoing which require Councillors attention throughout the summer, where the interests of the local residents are represented.

As you are aware from recent press coverage, there is currently a threat of the Felixstowe General or Bartlett being closed in order to recoup some of the losses sustained by the Primary Care Trusts. When the Fresher Future for Felixstowe scheme was launched about 18 months ago, Councillors were impressed with the plans for the health care for the area, especially since the Trimleys had recently lost their local doctors surgery. However, our hopes soon turned to despair as we read of serious problems that were surfacing and to this end, we invited the Clinical Director to our meeting in May to see if she could allay our fears for the future of Felixstowe healthcare. Whilst not denying that losses had been incurred and that some of the improvements and changes were being delayed, we were repeatedly assured that the future of the hospitals were safe. Imagine our shock then at recent events! Is it just a coincidence that assurances were given on the hospitals future two days before the General Election and it is not the case immediately after the election?????????

Hopefully, by the time you read this, the bus stop opposite Reeve Lodge will be in place!! This has always been a bus stopping place but when the street lights were replaced and moved to a different location, the bus stop sign disappeared!! This stop is important not least to the residents of Reeve Lodge and after a lot of emailed correspondence, it should now be in place!

The Trimley Carnival will by now have taken place and I do hope the weather was kind!! The planning for this event starts in November and is undertaken by just a few hardworking people. (Less than half a dozen, which out of a joint village population of about 6500, is pretty low!) I fear that this could be the last of the Carnivals if more people do not come forward to help, which will be a shame, because it is always well supported on the day and a lot of money is raised by local charities.

Tracey Hunter



## Rivercare

I am very pleased to report that, in my opinion, we no longer have a litter problem on the Orwell foreshore adjoining our parish. However an occasional pick is still required and I am extremely grateful to local people who are doing this unasked. At each end (downstream at the newly created salting, and upstream at the inlet towards the yacht harbour) still require some clearing.

To deal with these particular areas and the problem of carrying full sacks over a greater distance I am hoping to get extra help. This may come from a small group of young people from the Hollesley Bay Young Offenders Establishment, but is taking a while to arrange.

The new litter bin is also being used and I am servicing this about once a week at the present time to coincide with the Friday refuse collections. Incidentally, I may be asking for a volunteer to do this occasionally.

The use of single use barbecues on the beach are, I believe, acceptable but please, not disposed of in the litter bin whilst still hot! Although not actually in the black bag, I found one recently which had welded itself to the outside surface of the plastic bin.

I am very much against the lighting of fires especially when small branches are pulled off trees to feed them. Unfortunately there does not seem to be a byelaw regarding this, but I am looking into it.

But overall I am delighted at the improvement, and my sincere thanks again to all Rivercarers.

I recently attended the Stour and Orwell Estuaries Forum, which was both informative and encouraging. There are a lot of organisations and individuals working to maintain and enhance the two river estuaries, and indeed further upstream. This with the aim that they can be continued to be enjoyed by all.

New estuaries officer, Bill Parker, has been appointed and having met and listened to him I believe that he will be very good in the job. I would like to take this opportunity to wish him well for the future.

Further areas have been designated for special protection and SSSI. This will now include Bathside Bay - so read into this what you will!

The needs of all users of the two rivers are continuing to be considered including commercial activity, of course including the Port of Felixstowe. But a note of caution from English Nature that in their opinion, the site is in an 'unfavourable condition'. This is worrying but can, and I am sure will be rectified over the next few years.

Incidentally English Nature will soon become part of a new integrated agency called Natural England.

Keith Slaughter



It seems to me that if anybody wants to sell a car in the village, they dump it in the lay-by by Reeve Lodge Roundabout or park it on one of the landscaped verges. What are we going to do when the lay-by is full? I hope the council bills the owners of the cars who parked on the planted beds for the damage to the shrubs!!!! This is just another form of vandalism!!! I would have thought we all would have been proud of the landscaping?

I went to the May Parish council Meeting and listened to the dialogue with the Suffolk Coastal Primary Care Trust representatives (see parish council website for full report) — compare this with what has happened recently!!!! Promises, broken promises!!



## Trimley Saints Players

Saints are having a well earned rest this summer, so no summer show this year! They have been putting on 2 shows per year for the last 15 years, so a break is well overdue we think. However, plans are in place for a super rock 'n roll panto, 'Frankenstein the Panto', which we will be presenting on 11th - 14th January. Watch Parish Pump for details of when tickets go on sale — get your tickets early — we normally sell out!!!!

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