

THE PARISH PUMP

The occasional Newsletter of Trimley St Martin Parish Council March 2003



From the
Chair

This is the first time that Trimley St Martin Parish Council has produced a newsletter. We have always posted any information on the village notice board outside the Memorial Hall and will continue to do so but times have changed and we thought it was time to try a new form of communicating with the residents of the village. It is hoped to deliver a newsletter to all households within Trimley St Martin on an occasional basis.

The Parish Council

The Council is comprised of eleven elected members of the village who meet on the first Tuesday of every month usually in the Memorial Hall. Our meetings start at 7.30pm and are open to the public. There is always a part of the meeting when anybody from the village is welcome to raise an issue that concerns them. The Council has an annual budget (precept) of around £10,000 to use in carrying out its duties in the village; these include maintenance of the Memorial Hall, some grass cutting and bus shelter cleaning. The Council is also consulted on all planning applications that are submitted within the village and any larger planning matters that occur further afield such as the expansion of Felixstowe Dock or issues relating to the A14 trunk road.

Local Plan

The Local Plan for the future of the whole peninsula is coming up for review. The Parish Council have made their initial submission to Suffolk Coastal District Council in February 2002 and a copy of this is posted on the village notice board and copies may be obtained from the Clerk. The primary concern of this Council is that Trimley St Martin remains a separate village with its own identity but that it should be able to provide the needs that a community of around two thousand inhabitants require.

The Link Road

This Spring you will notice some planting taking place along the link road into the Trimleys this is a joint undertaking by both the Trimley parish council's to create a more pleasing approach to the villages and has been designed to complement the recent footway and crossing point completed last Autumn. Once established the mixture of trees, shrubs and grasses should provide an attractive entrance to visitors and residents alike. The project is being largely funded by a locality budget provided by Suffolk County Council but the work and ongoing maintenance is being done by the parishes.

Trimley St Martin Allotments

Though the allotments at the back of Mill Close are not administered by the Parish Council two members of the council act as Charity Trustees, the annual revenue has to be distributed to 'those in need within the parish of Trimley St Martin'. There are strict guidelines that have to be adhered to but if anybody knows someone in serious need or is in need themselves then please contact either Rev Terry Wells tel:01394-286388 or myself tel:01394-275437 any enquiry will be dealt with in strictest confidence. The amounts we have to distribute are not massive but they can help in certain circumstances.

Monthly Meetings

Finally please remember parish council meetings are open to the public and your comments and involvement are always welcome, our

Clerk Tracey Hunter and myself are usually contactable during reasonable hours. As a council we do not have enormous powers but we are the only 'voice' at parish level and who's views have to be considered by larger authorities. We try to reflect the wishes of the parish and although I cannot guarantee that they will always be granted it is always the councillors' intention to do the best they can.

Nigel Smith

Clerk's Corner



Clerk's Corner

I thought that for this first issue of what we hope will become a regular newsletter, I would introduce myself. I took over the role of Clerk in September 2002, from George Harlow who had held the post for over 25 years! George will be a hard act to follow but hopefully with my 'office' skills but more importantly my familiarity with Trimley, will stand me in good stead for the role. I have lived in Trimley for the last 24 years as do most of my family and village life and preserving the qualities that make a village environment, are very important to me as I am sure they are to you. Issues affecting the village are discussed at the monthly Parish Council meetings and members of the public are always welcome to attend. On Tue 1st April we will hold the Annual Parish Meeting, details of which will be placed on the village notice board outside the Memorial Hall, do come along, it's a chance for you to be involved in issues that affect your life as a resident of your village. Hope to see you there!

Tracey Hunter

River Care Scheme

The Rivercare 'adopt-a-river' project has been set up in conjunction with Anglian Water for community groups to get involved in improving their local river environment. The Parish Council are in the process of arranging for such a scheme to be implemented along a stretch of the River Orwell and if you would like to know more about becoming involved, please contact Keith Slaughter on 01394 283646 or see details on the village notice board.

Memorial Hall

Trimley Saints Players have just completed a successful pantomime at the Memorial Hall, playing to packed houses. A good profit was made, and will be distributed between our two beneficiaries, the local Multiple Sclerosis group and the Memorial Hall. After a good break, the Players will start rehearsing for the next production, which will be 'The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas'. A great singing and dancing musical! This will be staged during the first week of September, tickets will be on sale during the summer.

Dock Spur Roundabout

You may have read about the improvements that are currently being made to this roundabout in an effort to increase driver safety at this accident blackspot.



The Parish Council are doing all they can to push for further safety requirements and a meeting is currently being arranged between all the local parish and town councils affected, along with the County Council, John Gummer MP, representatives of the Port of Felixstowe and the Highways Agency, in a bid to look at ways that this roundabout can be made safer. Obviously, speed of vehicles is a major factor and

hopefully the current changes being made to the roundabout will go some way to lowering the speed of approaching vehicles. However the Parish Council will continue to press for a long-term solution that ensures the physical separation of traffic going to the Port from traffic entering Felixstowe via Candlet Road.

One of our other concerns is that when an accident does occur, probably necessitating, either the complete or partial closure of the roundabout, vehicles are either diverted or attempt to cut through the Trimleys, which is of course completely unacceptable especially for large lorries to be travelling through a small village high street.

Having voiced these concerns to the County Council and the Police, it is hoped that dock bound lorries will now be "stacked up on the A14" until such time as the road is cleared.

SAFETY IN THE HOME



It's not just in the big cities that burglaries occur and it is important that we protect our belongings as best we can. Most burglaries are committed by opportunist thieves and over a third of them gain entry to the property via a back window. Make sure that you have key operated locks on windows and remove the keys from the locks, but keep in an accessible place in the event of a fire. Since most thefts happen under the cover of darkness and in empty houses, invest in a timer switch for your lights to come on whilst you are out and when on holiday, ask a friend to look after your house whilst you are away, perhaps calling to open and close curtains and picking up any post that may be visible through a glass door. Visible burglar alarms and prickly boundary hedges are all ways to make a burglar think twice! If you have recently moved and especially into a rented property, consider changing the locks, you don't know how many tenants that may have lived there before you who may still have keys!!

KEEP PROTECTED - KEEP SAFE

A Parish Council for just 4.3p per day!

The average household based on a band D equivalent in Trimley St Martin pays around £15.80 per year or 4.3p per day.

This provides for, amongst other things:

- " Employment of a part-time Clerk.
- " Maintaining and insuring the Memorial Hall.
- " Cleaning and repairing the bus shelters.
- " Contributing towards the running of Felixstowe Cemetery.
- " Dialoguing with SCDC on planning issues & commenting on planning applications within the parish.
- " Consulting with both SCC & SCDC on other parish matters such as highways, street lighting e.t.c

Councillors are:

- " Unpaid.
- " Give several hours a month of their time.
- " Required to sign a Declaration of Interests.
- " Withdraw from any discussion that they might have a personal interest in.

Trimley Carnival Committee are holding a

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Trimley Sports & Social Club

Saturday 29th March

7.30pm till late

Tickets £2.50 from:

Sports & Social Club, Sausage Shop or Jane Welton tel: 272135

**Volunteers wanted for Carnival Day on July 19th
phone Jane or Kevin Welton on 272135**

The Parish Clerk of Trimley St Martin is:

Mrs Tracey Hunter,

18 Punchard Way

Trimley St Mary

? 01394 210337

email: hunter.trimleymartinparish@ntlworld.com