

The Parish Pump

The occasional Newsletter of Trimley St Martin Parish Council

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From the Chair

The Local Development Plan (LDF) still continues to occupy the council's time. Annoyingly we seem to take one step forward and two steps back on this. The current situation is that "it is again out for public consultation". SCDC Cabinet decided that they would support the proposal by the LDF working party that "development is spread across the district". This will allow smaller developments in the small towns and villages. There is now a proposal to build a large number of houses on the "BT Village at Martlesham". This does lessen the chance of large-scale development taking place in our village. Your Council's views on any large-scale development within the parish have not changed; although we do recognise that in order for "low cost social housing" to be provided we will have to accept some development. At the moment approximately one

third of any development has to be low cost, e.g. the "Old Piggeries development" behind Mill Lane that will exit onto Old Kirton Road opposite the Trimley footbridge is now for 10 houses of which three will have to be "low-cost housing".

We are concerned about the proposal by the Chief Constable to reduce the amount of police response hubs in Suffolk. Under this proposal Felixstowe Police station will lose its response teams. Only the Safer Neighbourhood Police officers and the associated Police Community Support Officers will be stationed at Felixstowe. 999 and other response to telephone calls e.t.c. will be by "area Response Teams" working from Ipswich. We have written to the Chief Constable and after a month received a dismissive reply from him—there was no attempt to answer the specific points we had put to him. Subsequently our Suffolk County Ward Councillor arranged for the Deputy Chief Constable

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and the Felixstowe Inspector to meet with the local county councillors, the Chairman of Trimley St Mary Parish Council and myself. This meeting did nothing to allay our concerns.

We also made representations against the proposal to take "heart attack" patients direct to Papworth or Basildon or Norwich hospital for treatments, there would be no injection by the paramedic—the "golden hour mysteriously changes to the golden two hours". However we are now in a 6 month trial whereby you will be invited to go direct to one of the hospitals mentioned above but you will also get the injection in the back of the ambulance. I wonder what the success criteria will be?

We are concerned about the progress made by Suffolk County Council, the Highways Agency and the Port of Felixstowe in finding a permanent location for Operation Stack. At the time of its move to the old A45 at Levington we were told that the timescale for relocating it to a permanent suitable location would be two years. I have raised this matter at meetings and have been told:

- That for operational reasons, the stacking area should be located within 10 mins travelling time from Dock no 2 Gate.
- That a stacking area based on the Orwell Truck Stop would not be suitable.

- Yes—the Innocence Farm site (area surrounding the old Trimley Heath Radar Station) off the A14 has been/is still being considered.

We are very conscious that this greenfield site is adjacent to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (ANOB) and is situated in flat, open countryside.

The re-surfacing of the Trimley High Road including Reeve lodge roundabout as far as Church Lane was overdue and we welcomed it. We have always maintained that stretches of Trimley High Road within the parish were not wide enough for mandatory Cycle Lanes (i.e. cars cannot use them or park in them), or even the Advisory Cycle lanes, i.e. the broken lines whereby vehicles are able to park on them, which due to a number of properties in the village not having off street parking is a necessity. Despite our objections that much of the cycle lane through the village is of no useful purpose, particularly in the post office area, the project went ahead in any case!

The anti-social behaviour of some of the residents of Seven Oaks is of concern to neighbours. We believe the imposition of ASBOs, Premises Closure Orders could bring this matter to an end. We are working with Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team and their partners to restore peace and quiet to this area.

John Barker



CLERKS

CORNER

Well, the kids have gone back to school after what

seemed like a very long summer break and I notice the advent calendars are already in the supermarkets – how depressing!! There seems to be a general feeling of always rushing towards the next 'event' although with regard to the Local Development Framework, time does seem to be standing still!! I started this job as Clerk seven years ago this month and the whole process was just about beginning!! By the time it comes to fruition, I expect most of the young house buyers looking to purchase their first property, will in fact be looking for a retirement bungalow!! All the work that has been undertaken by SCDC (*of which there has been a considerable amount!*) could of course all be for nothing if there is a General Election and a new party takes over who has other 'greener' ideas or if in fact we have a new Unitary Authority taking over in the next few years! You may recall that we were consulted on two options, one a single unitary authority serving the whole county and the other being one serving Ipswich/Felixstowe and another authority being allocated the remainder of Suffolk. However, SCDC challenged the Boundary Committee on the grounds that their process was unfair as their 3

way East/West/Ipswich option was not considered and the High Court have decisively ruled in their favour, thereby quashing the draft proposals that the Boundary Committee issued on 19 March. Following the High Court ruling made on 10 July the Government announced on 14 July that the BCE no longer had a date by which it had to publish its recommendations as to what, if any, changes would be made to local government in Suffolk. (*Yet another considerable time and effort wasted!!*)

Back to more local matters, I expect you have seen the new bus shelter adjacent to the Hand in Hand! Despite the best efforts of our bus shelter cleaning man, the only option was to arrange for this horrible smelly bus shelter to be demolished and a new Perspex one be put in its place, which has been provided by SCC at a significant cost but I hope that the many people that use this bus stop will find waiting for a bus much more pleasurable!

One of the highlights of the year was the Trimley Carnival, the huge task of which is undertaken by one of our councillors John Sills along with his wife and a very small band of volunteers. Due to the success of the day, the carnival committee are able to donate about £3000 to local charities including Trimley Red Devils, the Blue Cross and the First Walton Guides. Much of the revenue comes from the brightly

decorated shields that adorn the lamp posts leading up to the carnival day advertising local businesses. Over 130 shields were put up and taken down by the carnival committee, no small task!! If anyone would like to be involved with the preparations for the carni-

val (*they are already preparing for next year!*) or even just on the day, then please contact John Sills on 210721, I'm sure he would love to hear from you!

Tracey Hunter

Trimley Saints Players



Trimley Saints are now rehearsing for their annual Panto: 'Babes in the Wood'. The dates for the show are Wed 27th - 30th January in the Memorial Hall. Tickets sell out fast, so book yours early on our Box Office, tell 671119. This year Saints were pleased to donate cheques totalling £1500 to local charities/organisations. All your local favourites will be treading the boards once again, with some good rock'n roll music

Trimley Memorial Hall

The Hall has is constantly being updated, and is in much demand, not only for local groups, but also for private events. Regular groups that meet are: Table Tennis, Trimley Wives, Embroidery Club, afternoon Tea Dances, Quilters Club, Line Dancing, and our local drama group, Trimley Saints. If you are interested in joining any of these, please ring the Hall secretary on 275575. Please note the Hall now has Wednesday evenings free, so again call the secretary if you are looking for a regular venue.

The Parish Clerk of Trimley St Martin is:

Mrs Tracey Hunter,

18 Punched Way

Trimley St Mary

☎ 01394 210337

email: hunter.trimleymartinparish@ntlworld.com