



# HISIMP NEWS

The Newsletter of Histon & Impington Parish Council  
Second Edition - November 2012



## OUR VERY OWN VILLAGE HERO!

When South Cambridgeshire District Council said they wanted to pay tribute to residents who have made a significant contribution to their local community, the Council were delighted to take the opportunity to nominate Neil Davies for the 2012 Village Hero Awards.

We were asked a series of questions:

### Why are you nominating this person?

12,000 people in total celebrated the Jubilee with Tea Dance, Talent Contest, Ball, Brass Band Concert, fun-day extravaganza and family trek; The Feast became a festival with street market, bands, competitions and a mini-olympics attracted over 1,250 school children from local villages. Neil worked tirelessly to make these events happen.

### What contribution has the nominee made to your local community?

Project Managed the £1.5 million Recreation Ground refit. Ensured Histon & Impington benefit from available funding packages and also regularly enjoy well organised exceptionally high quality community events, working with the Feast Committee, Friends of the Rec charity, Histon Hornets football team and others.

### Who or what has benefitted from this contribution?

- Children - 2 play area projects
- Older people - championed Older Persons co-ordinator role
- Sports clubs - facilities at Recreation Ground
- Anyone attending events laid on under Neil's leadership over last 15 years, including Feast week and inaugural Bonfire Burn 10K Run
- many girls have been introduced to girls football

### What skills have been needed and shown by the nominee?

Too many to list, including:

- Leadership and ability to communicate well
- Tenacity
- Ability to think "outside the box"
- Endless energy!
- Understanding the needs and wishes of residents
- Commitment
- Flair
- Good networker
- Ability to multi-task
- Vision

### What is the Nominee Like?

An unassuming person who does not court or expect recognition of his successes and triumphs. He is totally committed to every community project or role he takes on, gives time freely for the benefit of others. He is a family man, holds down a full time job and enjoys sports

### How long has the nominee been making this contribution?

Parish Councillor for 18 years. Highly involved in the Feast Committee for 25 years, a seasoned School Governor at the village schools. Community Mini-bus Organiser. He is also a long term contributor to Histon Hornets Football Club and other organisations, and newly re-elected as a District Councillor in 2012.

Neil and his wife Ruth attended the awards ceremony in September and we are absolutely delighted that Neil was named the overall winner!

At the ceremony Cllr Tony Orgee, South Cambridgeshire District Council's Chairman and host of the awards, said: "I'm incredibly proud to present these awards to people and groups



*for their courage, dedication and community spirit. They are an inspiration to us all and play an active part in making South Cambridgeshire a great place to live."* Cllr Pippa Corney, cabinet member for localism, said: "A village becomes a community when people go out of their way to help others and bring people together. Congratulations to each of our winners and to the many other unsung heroes across South Cambridgeshire for all your tireless work for the benefit of others."

Each and every resident would find themselves hard pushed to have not felt the benefit of Neil's contribution over a number of years, and long may it continue!

Thank you, Neil!



## Parish Office Contacts

Open at the Recreation Ground Centre

Monday to Thursday 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Tuesday 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Other times by appointment

Parish Clerk: Angela Young  
[clerk@hisimp.net](mailto:clerk@hisimp.net)

Admin/Planning: Chelsea Presland  
[admin@hisimp.net](mailto:admin@hisimp.net)

Telephone: 235906

Recreation Manager: Lynda Marsh  
[rec.clerk@hisimp.net](mailto:rec.clerk@hisimp.net)

Telephone: 232423

## Parish Councillors

Max Parish - Church Street 234486

[max.parish@zen.co.uk](mailto:max.parish@zen.co.uk)

Brian Ing - Woodcock Close 234291

[consult.ing@btinternet.com](mailto:consult.ing@btinternet.com)

Hooda Abdullah - South Road 235989

Marian Cleaver - High Street 232897

Ian Cooper - Brackenbury 236359

Neil Davies - Dwyer Joyce Close 232514

Janet Diplock - Oates Way 503048

John Dunn - Croft Close 232698

John Emmines - Kay Hitch Way 236932

Cedric Foster - Clay Street 234156

David Jenkins - Pease Way 236232

David Legge - Villa Road 233565

Derek Marston - Dwyer Joyce Close 236131

Pene Nudds - Clay Close Lane 237155

Denis Payne - Impington Lane 233577

Edd Stonham - Normanton Way 232345

Josephine Teague - Milton Rd 235127

Alison Turnbull - Mill Lane 473478

## County Councillors:

David Jenkins - Pease Way 236232

Sue Gymer - Cottenham 01954 252902

## District Councillors:

Jonathon Chatfield - Parr Close 520132

Edd Stonham - Normanton Way 232345

Neil Davies - Dwyer Joyce Close 232514

Councillor email addresses can be found at  
[www.hisimp.net](http://www.hisimp.net)

## Why not join the Chat mail list?

Visit [www.hisimp.net](http://www.hisimp.net) go to Contact Us and sign up to discuss anything that is relevant to happenings or events in

Histon and Impington

You can also join the news mail list!

## NEWS FROM KINGS MEADOWS

As you may know, Kings Meadows estate south of the A14 is in the parish of Impington and the Council is keen to try and keep in touch with residents there. In June the Council were delighted to award the innovative Kings Meadow Garden Project a grant of £250 towards their great work with The Prospects Trust

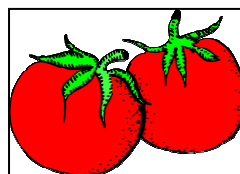
Support such as we were able to provide allows them to give a valuable assisted gardening service to vulnerable and elderly residents on the estate.

The scheme brings great benefit to its members by allowing them to continue to enjoy



## ALLOTMENTS

Histon & Impington Parish Council own two allotment sites in the villages, totaling 44 plots. Histon allotments are situated on Gatehouse Road, Histon. Impington allotments are on Glebe Way.



Impington allotments have seen many changes over the past year thanks to the enviro.volunteers and working parties attended by plot holders. Thanks to the hard work put in, additional plots have been created and the waiting list has almost been cleared!

Histon allotments are next to receive the help of working parties. Plot holders will be

## OVERHANGING TREES AND HEDGES

Now that Autumn is upon us many of us will be attending to those end of year chores, like cutting hedges and pruning trees. When doing this please take a moment to consider the outside of your property as well. People often forget that, in the eyes of the law, footpaths (as well as bridleways and byways) are minor highways. So it's worth remembering that any unruly growth from your front garden needs to be managed on the highway side too.

So often, we tend not to realise that our favourite fragrant creeper, prized rose, pretty shrubs or shady trees aren't always quite so jolly for others; especially when they spill out onto the pavement or highway. People on mobility scooters, kiddies on scooters/in push chairs or those with poor eyesight are all vulnerable. Please take a moment or two to consider just how hazardous your property frontage is!

their gardens, and the health and wellbeing benefit this brings, without the stress and worry of how to maintain them



The gardening service is provided by The Prospects Trust who work with people who have learning disabilities and provide work and training opportunities in horticulture. The scheme therefore not only benefits its own members but also offers valuable work experience to their students

Members contribute £10 a month to the project costs with all other funding coming from donations and grants.

invited to attend on an organised day to help clear pathways, meet new plot-holders, trim hedges, get to know your neighbour and receive great tips!



There are currently plots available on both sites, so if you are interested please call the Parish Office on 235906 or email

[admin@hisimp.net](mailto:admin@hisimp.net) to receive more details and get your name on the waiting list.

Is it easy (or even possible) for an adult with a toddler or a Carer with a patient to walk passed your property side by side?

Check that your nicely clipped hedge isn't in fact two feet over the pavement! That overhanging branches don't mean that people have to limbo dance under them, especially if it's raining and they have a brolly up. Don't forget too that tall branches or fast growing creepers can shoot up lamp posts at an alarming rate also causing problems.

So now is the time to get out those secateurs, pruning saws or loppers and get that offending overhanging vegetation trimmed back.

Remember owners are liable for any accidents caused by or involving overgrown vegetation and Cambridgeshire County Council Highways has the power to ensure that any obstruction or hazard is cleared. If you have any concerns please contact them on **0345 045 5212** or for obscured street lights contact [street.lighting@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:street.lighting@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

## FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2012 -A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

The enviro.volunteers will once again be transforming The Crossing Keeper's Hut into Santa's Grotto and the adjacent woods into a glow trail wonderland.

This years evening event will begin with a big Christmas Lights switch on countdown at



5:45pm, followed by a variety of entertainment including carols and a special visit by Santa of course!

Bring along your children, grand children, nephews, nieces and friends to kick off the festive season and enjoy a mince pie or two.

There will be fires and mulled wine or hot chocolate to keep you warm. Plus Station Stores will be serving a selection of hot Indian foods and the Railway Vue will have their usual fare inside as well as from an outside serving hatch.

So there'll be plenty to see, hear, eat, listen and do for everyone!

## RE-LIVE YOUR FAVOURITE JUBILEE MOMENT!

Film Premiere showing the village celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Histon and Impington Recreation Centre, New Road, Impington, start: 7.30pm

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

This amazing film recorded by a group of young people over the Jubilee weekend captures the variety and enjoyment of activities provided by the Histon and Impington community.

This special Film Premiere event will include the main feature film (approx. 30 minutes) and two "shorts" covering the other major events in the village calendar this year - the

Olympic Celebration and the Feast Festival. There will be an opportunity for Q&A with the film project team at the end.

The event is ticketed (because of space limitations) but tickets are free and can be collected from the Parish Office or by contacting Hooda Abdullah (t. 235989).

Refreshments will be available and a retiring collection will be held in aid of local charity, EACH.

The Jubilee Film project is one of many youth projects supported by Histon & Impington Youth Committee and managed by our team of youth workers. This film has been edited under the direction of Steve Wallis and will be available on DVD to those that would like their own copy.

## HISTON & IMPINGTON FEAST

The Feast Committee were delighted with the positive feedback received from this year's Feast Festival which together with other Feast events helped the Feast raise nearly £4,000 in 2012. This total was distributed to this year's Feast good causes at the presentation in September. The Feast also received a generous donation of £2,000 from this year's Red Lion Beer Festival, and our grateful thanks to Mark Donachy and his team.

We are now looking to the 2013 Feast programme with Feast Week starting on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June. The Feast Committee have accepted an offer from the Friends of Histon & Impington Recreation Ground to organise a

2012 Olympic legacy event on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June on the Recreation Ground. The event to be entitled '2012 +1' will include a number of surprises and new ideas plus a live music stage. The Flower Festival will continue to be held on the first weekend.

The Green is the centre of our village communities and the Feast Committee would like to make The Green the focus of events on the second weekend. This could include a musical event on the Saturday evening ( 6<sup>th</sup> July ) and a Feast Festival on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July based on the concept of this year's Festival. Ideas include an outdoor Songs of Praise on the Sunday morning followed by stalls, fun activities and attractions. The Feast are also talking with Junior School about their involvement

## DAMAGE TO CROSSING

### KEEPER'S HUT

It is with great disappointment to report criminal damage to the much loved Crossing Keepers Hut. The Hut is used for many seasonal community events hosted by the enviro.volunteers . Last year saw it spooked up for Halloween and snowed under with children queuing to see Santa in Santas Grotto, which was a great success!

On Thursday 13 September damage to the door, was reported to the Police using the 101 phone number by the Parish Office. On 20 September additional damage to the door had to be reported to the Police once again.



You may have noticed the door has been removed for repair and we really hope continued community use of this facility will help protect it from such pointless vandalism

PCSO Tony Martin adds in his latest E-cops update:

We need your help. We are having problems at the Cross keepers hut beside the Guided bus way in Station Road. The door panels have been kicked in. A small fire was started in the inside fireplace and graffiti has appeared inside and outside on the metal electric boxes. We have had three lots of graffiti removed from the electric boxes to only reappear a couple of days later, so we are trying to catch any youths misbehaving at this location. If you see any youths causing any damage or graffiti we would like you to report this to us. You can use our new non emergency telephone number 101 for this.

Luckily this will not prevent our planned events taking place!

with the children and using their site for larger fun attractions. It would be probable that part of the High Street would again be closed. Much planning is still required and various permissions obtained.

There will be an opportunity to discuss the 2013 Feast Week at the Feast AGM to be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at 8pm at the Recreation Ground Centre.

Village groups and organisations are invited and encouraged to apply to benefit from next years Feast- application forms are available at [www.histon-feast.co.uk](http://www.histon-feast.co.uk) or call C 232514

Neil Davies  
Chairman Histon & Impington Feast Committee



## BIG TIDY UP

Following the first BIG TIDY-UP in May, it was thought by those who took part that we should repeat the exercise about every three months. So on 8th September, we carried out the second BIG TIDY UP.

27 volunteers took part, including a few children, and a big slice of our villages was covered. After the event, team photographs were taken and then those who could stay on joined us for a hot or cold drink and biscuits at The Methodist Church. Our thanks go to the Methodist Church for providing these refreshments as their contribution to the event.

The next BIG TIDY-UP will be on Saturday December 1st to coincide with the enviro.volunteers and the WI Ladies who do a splendid job litter-picking each month.

If you would like to take part in the December BIG TIDY-UP event on Saturday 1st December from 9.30 to 11.00 am, email Cedric Foster at [fosterfamily4@btinternet.com](mailto:fosterfamily4@btinternet.com) or ring me on 01223 234156. Grabbers, gloves, sacks and tabards are provided, so just come along with suitable clothing and footwear. Refreshments will be available afterwards.



Members of the BIG TIDY UP team with some of the results!

## SOLAR LIGHTS ALONG THE BUSWAY

Plans for solar stud lighting (as along Gatehouse Road towards Oakington and Girton) along the Busway cycle track have cleared the first hurdle. The County Council has funding which could cover this, but still has to approve the decision by the City's Area Committee.

Cyclists should still be at least properly equipped with legally required front and rear non-intermittent lights.

## COUNCIL WINS FUNDING FOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AT CO-OP CORNER

The junction of the High Street and Station Road is the meeting of many ways in the villages and as such is a crunch point for cars, vans, pedestrians, cyclists, school children, prams, push chairs, delivery lorries and so on.

Histon & Impington Parish Council and its predecessors have been investigating and proposing various schemes to improve the safety in this area for many years.

The County Council have recently decided to help fund a scheme to place a traffic island in the mouth of Station Road; this will have the benefits of:

- providing a half-way point for pedestrians crossing from The Boot Inn to The Co-operative, currently a very long way to cross in one go
- stop cars cutting the corner when turning right onto Station Road
- provide some 'shelter' for cyclists turning right onto the High Street

The Parish Council is still pushing for a further light-controlled crossing level with The Green to enable safe access to the Junior School, the newly refurbished play area and The Green itself.

## TOUCAN CROSSINGS ON THE A14/B1049 ROUNDABOUT

Since Impington Parish Council won funding for improvements at the A14/B1049 roundabout the Parish Council has been pressing for action.

Thank you to everyone who responded to the County Council's consultation on improving the crossing provision at this notorious roundabout. With all the positive feedback, it has been announced that the scheme will go ahead in the New Year.

Details of the scheme can be seen in the papers for County Council Cabinet [goo.gl/D290d](http://goo.gl/D290d)

Detailed designs are now being worked up, and more details will be published later when those details are available, and a more detailed schedule is available. It's currently expected that the work will be undertaken in Summer 2013.

Whilst there are concerns over any changes to the phasing of these important traffic lights, the scheme has been designed to minimise impact and it is hoped that there will be an improvement by having more modern equipment. The Parish Council has asked for the phasing of the lights to be kept under review in case of problems.

## ENVIRO.VOLUNTEERS ACTION

A recent enviro.volunteer working party saw the transformation of a 50m stretch of footpath alongside the necklace of woods around The Coppice. The footpath had become overgrown with ivy and grass; plus it was rather dark due to the fact the lighting column had become partly obscured with a fast growing plum tree. Also many overhanging branches from the trees in the adjacent woods had become very low, especially in wet weather....

So the volunteers set to "siding out" the path by removing surplus soil, and in so doing they exposed another foot of tarmac. Next more space on the footpath for pedestrians was achieved by trimming back the hedge to the fence line and more headroom achieved by cutting off offending overhanging branches.



Instead of making trips to the tip all arisings were used to create a dead hedge just inside the boundary. This is not only an attractive barrier between the traffic and the woods but also provides a good habitat for wildlife.

The enviro.volunteers are a friendly bunch of people (aged 8-80yrs) who meet regularly throughout the year, usually starting at 9:30am on Saturday mornings. A variety of different projects are undertaken from tree and hedge planting, ivy clearance, creating woodland paths, litter picking etc. - no experience is necessary, plus all tools and refreshments are provided. If you would like to get involved with anyway, then please contact Pene Nudds at [enviro@hisimp.net](mailto:enviro@hisimp.net) or check out their website [www.hisimp.net/enviro/index.htm](http://www.hisimp.net/enviro/index.htm)

## CHOIR 2000 ADVENT CONCERTS

Friday 7 and Saturday 8 December 8.00pm at Histon Baptist Church.

Tickets @ £10.00, concessions £8.00, students £5.00 available from Jane's Frames, The Beauty Studio, members of the choir or on the night. Seasonal light refreshments are included in the ticket price. Under 16s admitted free of charge.

The Concerts include: Music by Handel and Bach; Carols for choir and carols for all. Students from IVC take part on Friday and 'Sine Nomine' youth choir on Saturday. Also taking part are three soloists and the Choir 2000 chamber orchestra.

A charitable collection will be taken and shared by the Cambridge branches of Samaritans and Cruse.



## 500 MORE HOMES?

South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) has to produce a Local Plan - a set of documents defining the planning policies and proposals to guide the development and use of the land in the district for the period up to 2031. And once formally adopted, all planning applications will be assessed against the policies in the Local Plan.

It is not long since the last such plan (the Local Development Framework) was put in place, but changes introduced by Government (the National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF) have raised the priority of getting the new plan in place, and soon.

### Issues and Options

The first phase of the work was to look for land that could be developed to meet the housing needs in the District. This took place last year, and the results showing all the areas of the village put forward, were published in the HI Courier. Four times as much land as needed across the District was put forward for possible development.

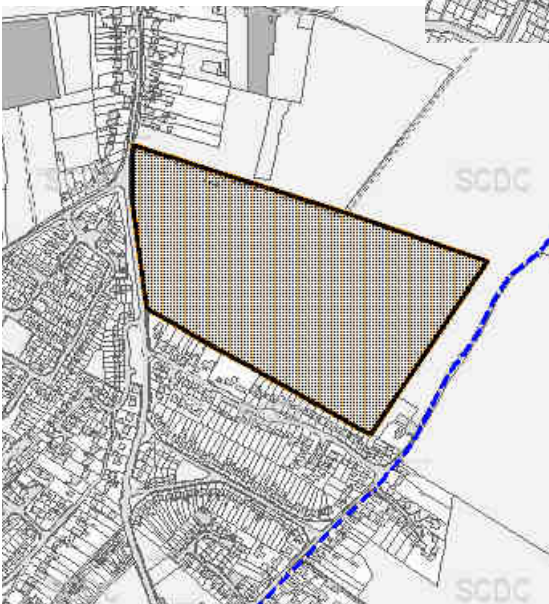
The District Council reviewed all those proposals and produced an Issues and Options report. This still contains more land for possible development than is likely to be needed - and also contains questions about a wide range of other policies including drainage, energy and car parking.

Four possible areas for development in the village came forward:

- the former SAICA cardboard factor site. This already has planning permission for 72 homes and is being developed
- two sites off Impington Lane

These two sites can only be developed together - with access to the eastern site being from the larger site adjacent to Merrington Place.

SCDC believe 35 homes could be built on these two sites (though the applicants suggest rather more).



- a site at Buxhall Farm
- This site, currently part of the County Council's Farms Estate was originally proposed for 400 homes, but SCDC believes that 250 homes is a more reasonable number.

### Local Response

We know that people need homes - and we particularly need homes for those that need to work in the area, be they able to afford their own homes or need an affordable home.

However, what we also need is the infrastructure - roads and services, schools, doctors, Post Offices, shops and open space, play areas, football pitches etc.

And that's what we've not got. We've only got just over 30% of the open space we should have, local families couldn't get their children into the Infants' School this term, and how possible is it to get an

appointment at Firs House? And what about the B1049?

Any of these developments would have a real impact on all of us!

The Parish Council, and in excess of 200 residents, have objected to the inclusion of these sites in the plan, on capacity and other detailed matters. The Parish Council's submission can be seen at: [goo.gl/g1gp5](http://goo.gl/g1gp5)

### What next?

SCDC are currently working through over 12,500 comments and responses. These will eventually be published on their website.

There will be a second Issues and Options Consultation in January and February 2013. This will look at the overall development needs of Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire and the most appropriate development strategy to meet them. Part of this will be considering whether there are any specific sites on the edge of Cambridge that are currently in the Green Belt that should be subject to consultation for development.

SCDC will take the chance to consult on other matters raised during the initial consultation that are reasonable options for the new Local Plan.

SCDC will be developing a draft Local Plan next year. SCDC will consider all the comments received during both Issues and Options consultations. The Local Plan will include policies and proposals covering topic areas consulted on. It will include the development strategy being proposed for the district and will identify the sites for development during the plan period up to 2031. There will be further public consultation on this draft Local Plan in summer 2013.

The draft Local Plan will be submitted to Government later in the year and be subject to a formal review in 2014. It is expected that the new Local Plan will be adopted in 2015 - and it is only then that development on the new sites can possibly start through the planning process.





GET READY FOR WINTER  
GRITTING FOR 2012

Following the success of last year's winter gritting volunteer pilot, this will be run again for winter 2012/13.

We have been lucky enough to get 2 more volunteers coming forward from Histon & Impington making a total of 4 for our team. More would be very welcome !

Volunteers will need to undertake an hour's training on either 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> November, so if you are interested you need to act quickly!

In the meantime we want to thank our new team of volunteers for taking on this work. With their help perhaps we can prevent people from having nasty falls and put Addenbrookes A&E out of business!

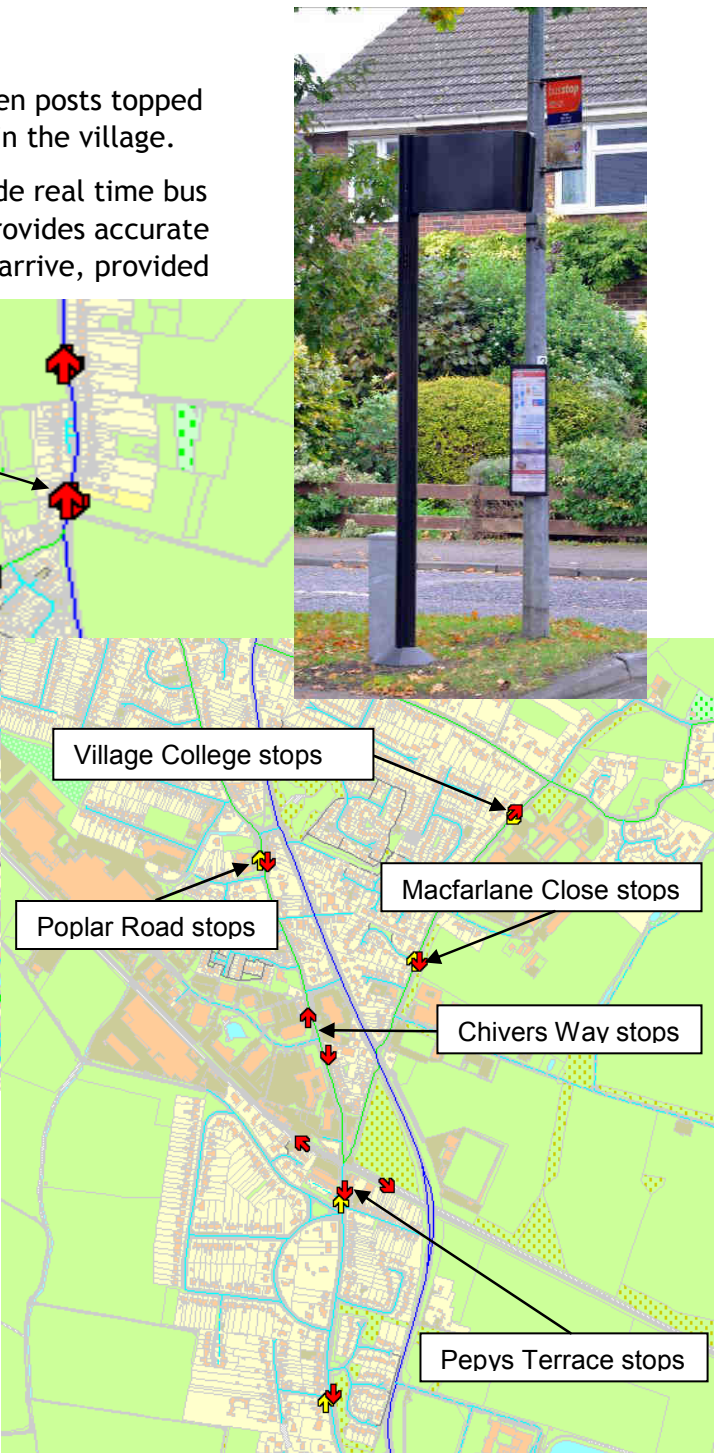
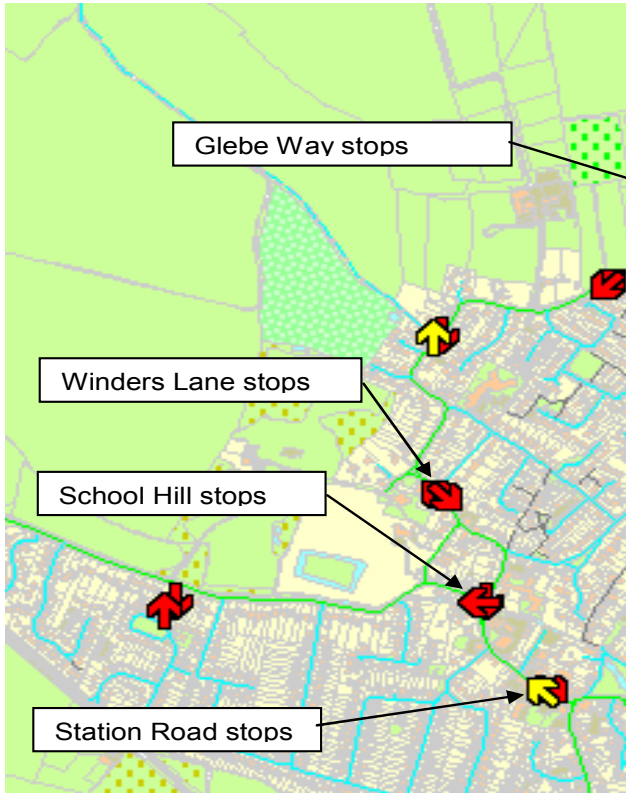
Please show your appreciation to the team if you happen to see them out and about clearing snow or spreading salt on the footpaths this winter - they are stars.



ALIENS ARE LANDING

No - not really - but alert readers will have seen posts topped with rectangular black panels at various sites in the village.

Once complete and turned on these will provide real time bus times. This is a state-of-the-art system that provides accurate information as to when the next bus is due to arrive, provided



by the County Council.  
Only the stops named on the maps will be equipped, but for those waiting for the next Citi 8 this will be a great step forward. It's expected to be fully operational by Christmas 2012.

A14

Improvements at the Girton Interchange, widening between Girton and the B1049 junction, widening from Milton to the A1 have all been announced by Government. So what is happening, and when?

The first announcement, the "A14 £20m" fund. This increases the separation of M11 and A14 manoeuvres to improve capacity and safety at the west bound Girton Interchange. Due to be complete by March 2014. All works within existing highway boundary.

The "Pinch Point Programme" fund - the latest announcement. Creates a "Lane gain/ Lane drop" arrangement to provide an additional lane between Girton and Histon junctions to improve capacity and better separate turning and through movements. Due to be complete by March 2015. All works within existing highway boundary.



This latter scheme will, according to the Highways Agency, provide the additional capacity that will allow the first phase of the Northstowe development to go ahead safely. The Parish Council will be monitoring these plans closely, and will be seeking improvements to both drainage and noise barriers.

And as for the full blown scheme? Every indication is that it will be similar (at least here) to the earlier proposals - but with tolling (possibly from the M11 junction) but today, with no funding in place.

Initial design work is (funded to the tune of £5M) is due to be complete by March 2013. The current estimate for start of construction is 2018, with completion by 2021.

Watch this space for more information as we have it.



Looking for a local venue to hire?  
Have you considered the excellent facilities at the Recreation Ground?



Available for meetings, seminars, exhibitions etc.  
(Wifi available)

Children's parties, family functions  
Also available for leisure class hire  
Kitchen facilities included, ample parking



Enquiries to:  
Lynda Marsh, Recreation Ground Manager  
Tel: 01223 232423 [rec.clerk@hisimp.net](mailto:rec.clerk@hisimp.net)



## A VILLAGE WIDE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH GROUP?

### What is Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)?

Histon and Impington NHW comprise people who care about their environment and who do want to make a difference. This is in fact a country wide voluntary organisation with the aim of making each area a better place for people to live, work and play. We encourage neighbourliness and provide reassurance to those who may come in contact with crime or antisocial behaviour.

We provide a forum by which the public can have easy contact with the police through which they can communicate their concerns. By empowering a community through support and advice we actively prevent crime. This has been recognised by the police and we have a formal written working Agreement with them.

They keep us up to date with their concerns and regarding relevant incidents by email, with news direct from our local officers that is locally specific to us. They impart information and alerts to us that cannot for policing reasons be circulated more widely by e-cops.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

We work closely day to day with our local police officers. They need us to help them. This is a partnership against crime and to prevent



fear of crime.

Villagers also work as a team in order to be efficient. Ideally each village has a Coordinator who encourages and promotes crime prevention and each street has a person willing to act as a "good neighbour" to assist and advise when necessary, they are called street coordinators. All that we ask is that persons applying are honest, able to totally keep a confidence and have the desire to keep the villages safe places to live.

Street coordinators communicate relevant messages to their neighbours. Each coordinator is registered with the police. All are supported by Cambridgeshire. NHW. It has been found that where there is such an arrangement, reporting of crime goes up and levels of crime go down! That a community is made stronger as it works together.

Membership of NHW is free and belonging to a scheme should get you a reduction in household insurance premiums as you are less at risk from crime. Your Street Coordinator would like your email address to keep in touch.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The Parish Council are assisting NHW to look for a Village Coordinator for Histon and Impington and for further street coordinators in order to establish a Village Scheme. Please contact Angela Young, Parish Clerk.

## HISTON POLICE STATION UNDER THREAT

As with all authorities that are Government funded (Councils, Police, Fire etc. etc.) the Police have been looking at ways of saving money. And one way is to close, and sell off, some of their Police Stations.



Up to now, decisions like this have been taken by the Police Authority, but with the coming of elected Police Commissioners the final decision here will be taken, in January, by the new Commissioner.

The Police Authority report said, about South Cambridgeshire:

*As the buildings are meeting their specified purpose for local policing, it is recommended that Cambourne, Melbourn, Linton and Sawston should be retained. Although the Histon site provides a good base for the neighbourhood team it would be possible to service this community from an alternative site and release the asset for disposal.*

Note that Papworth Police Station is likely to be sold this financial year.

The station is the base for between twenty and thirty police officers, officers who start their days there and work in the villages of South Cambridgeshire. Closing the station would mean these officers would have to be based elsewhere. The station is occupied round the clock, though the front desk is only open 4 hours a day on four days in the week.

We were told that officers were able to use the station to do as much as possible locally, including letting people come in and provide their driving documents if they had been required to produce them, and things like providing state-ments and interviews were carried out.



It seems odd to be planning to close such a valuable resource - particularly when the only stations then left will be south of Cambridge or in Cambourne.

As always, the mantra is use it or lose it - and perhaps challenge the candidates for the new Police Commissioner role as to what they plan to do!

## 101

101 will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The system will identify where you are calling from and connect you with the local police for that area.

### When to use 101:

In an emergency always call 999 - for example, when an immediate response is



needed because a crime is happening, someone suspected of a crime is nearby or someone is injured, being threatened or in danger.

Callers should use 101 to report less urgent crime or disorder, to contact the police with a general enquiry or to speak to a local officer.

For example:

- If a car has been stolen
- If property has been damaged
- Where there is suspicion of drug use or dealing
- To report a minor traffic collision
- To give information about crime in an area
- To speak to a local officer.

If the incident is recognised as an emergency, the operator or police call handler will put the caller through to 999.

## POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS

Will be held in Cambridgeshire on 15 November 2012. The Commissioner will replace the Police Authority, the independent watchdog that is responsible for overseeing the work of Cambridgeshire Constabulary, and will have more powers.

The candidates (in alphabetical order) are:

- ALI Ansar (Independent)
- BRIGHT Sir Graham (The Conservative Party Candidate)
- BULLEN Paul (UK Independence Party)
- GOLDSPIK Stephen (English Democrats - "More Police - Catching Criminals!")
- MOHAMMED Farooq (Independent)
- MOSS-ECCARDT Rupert (Liberal Democrat)
- MURPHY Ed (Labour Party Candidate)

Details (including emails) [goo.gl/J9NZl](http://goo.gl/J9NZl)

### E-Cops

Have you joined E-Cops to receive regular updates on crime and anti-social behaviour in your area? It's a great way to stay in touch with community issues.

[www.cambs-police.co.uk/myneighbourhood/ecops](http://www.cambs-police.co.uk/myneighbourhood/ecops)



A DAY IN THE LIFE .... OF A PARISH OFFICE

Meet the Team!



Left to right: Angela Young, Parish Clerk, Lynda Marsh Recreation Ground & Office Manager, Chelsea Presland Administration Assistant and Planning Clerk

Monday morning

8.30 a.m. First staff member arrives bright eyed and bushy tailed for the week ahead!

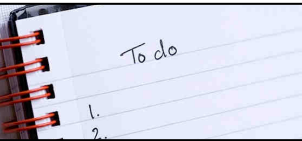
Fire Alarm tests and Boiler maintenance man. Lots of noise!



Open up recreation centre for day's activities - Zumba class and H&I Ability group first two bookings for the day

Emergency call from contractor needing access to the play area to fit roundabout being re-sited from The Green. Think they forgot to let us know they were coming! Quickly arrange for key to be issued and cycle over to confirm actual positioning for the new safety surface

Take a look at the "To Do" List filled out last week, put aside for now ....



Throughout the day busy preparing for Full

Council meeting and other Committee meetings due this week - agendas, photocopying, collating, preparation of payments and reports. Phew, never ending

In between, various residents with bookings for multi use games area or tennis court call in to pay their dues! Others call by to pay their allotment rents or simply to have a chat about local issues that are worrying them. A great way for us to find out what is going on and to give people some comfort when things are exaggerated by Chinese Whispers! One man even calls in to congratulate the Council on a job well done!!

Meeting with groundstaff to catch up on weekend happenings - sadly some damage to play area again but all recreation areas have been a hive of activity. So good to see.

Meeting with PCSO Tony Martin for regular exchange of information. Most useful.

Visit to the Burial Ground to meet with the grass contractor and tree surgeons. Looking lovely as usual, such a peaceful place.

Couple of Councillors call by to make sure all is well and drop off plans they have been inspecting ahead of Planning Committee (we are fortunate of the 18 Councillors on the Council most are very hands-on when it comes to Parish

Council workloads).

Catch up with Councillors on any issues raised at the monthly Council Surgeries held Fridays 7 p.m. at the Recreation Centre or Orchard Park Community Centre

Lunch time arrives

12.30 p.m. Quick bite to eat, bit of surfing on the South Cambs District Council and the Cambridge News websites for anything interesting for H&I, and then straight back to work

Afternoon

1 p.m. Accounts and Budgets - not long now till the Council will need to put together plans for expenditure for 2013 - 14, but lots of work to do yet - starting with a simple record of how much exactly has been spent on budgeted items this year to date.

Final re-touches to the Welcome Leaflet for new residents - if you know of any new Histon & Impington residents let us know!

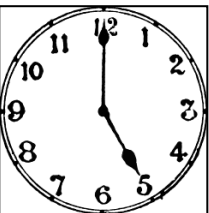
Photocopier overheated!!! Put in call for service - we cannot do without it! Half an hour filing slotted in as a result. Visit to Bank, Post office and to put up notices follows.

Prepare orders for quotes accepted: Fitting of benches on Village Green, Tree works on Council owned trees, installation of notice board at Crossing Keepers Hut, turfing work on The Green.

Make sure any items with an **absolute deadline** of today or tomorrow have been sent!

Weekly meeting with Chairman to look at priority issues and items for forthcoming agenda. Big list of emails to send as a result!

Fill out the daily "To Do" form for tomorrow - hang on that looks familiar! Oh well, there's always tomorrow



Last member of staff leaves at 5 p.m. today.

But back for Finance Legal & Administration Committee meeting from 7.30 p.m. Finished at 8.55 p.m. - Early night! Councillors beginning to see the benefit of the new rule brought in when they grouped that meetings should last no longer than 2 hours!

Daily Count:

E-mails	130
Visitors to office	10
Cups of coffee (each)!!	6!!

Forthcoming Council & Committee Dates

See website for details: [www.hisimp.net](http://www.hisimp.net)

Environment - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 26th November 2012

Planning - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 6th November, 27th November, 11th December 2012, Tuesday 8th January, 29th January, 12th February, 26th February 2013

Community Facilities - Parish Office 8 p.m. Wednesday 7th November 2012, 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 5th February 2013

Recreation Ground - contact office for venue 7.30 p.m. Thursday 6th December 2012 (TBC), Monday 28th January, 25th February 2013

Highways - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. Thursday 6th December 2012, Thursday 17th January 2013

Youth - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. Monday 10th December 2012

Finance, Legal & Administration - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. Monday 7th January 2012

Full Council, Recreation Centre from 7 p.m. - Monday 19th November, the Council may not meet in December but this to be confirmed, Monday 21st January, 18th February 2013

Residents are welcome to attend all Council meetings.



Full Council normally meets on the third Monday monthly. There is a standing agenda item for Public Participation