



110 BUS SERVICE FACES AXE



The 110 Freedom bus runs every Thursday from Histon and Impington through Cottenham and Wilburton to Ely for the market. It arrives at 1020 and returns from Ely at 1315 allowing time for shopping and lunch. It's been running for several years and it's an institution allowing easy access to Ely to people who might not be able to get there otherwise. Certainly without this bus service the only way to sensibly get to Ely is by car.

The 110 service is a subsidised bus service. The County Council gives the operator, Freedom Travel, several thousand pounds a year to run the service and gets to keep for itself the fare income. The problem is that even though the service is well-patronised, about 30 people use it every week, its users are just about 100% concessionary travel card holders. That means they don't pay and the County Council has to claim money from the Government to fund their travel and that's the second problem. Although the full fare is £4.20 the Government refund for a concessionary traveller is less than a half of this and as a result the County Council loses money on the

service to the tune of about £4000.

The County Council is in a bit of a quandary. It has said that it will end all bus subsidies but it has also said that it will not remove a subsidy until an alternative is in place. Generally it thinks in terms of demand responsive 'flexible' transport as an alternative. But in the case of the 110 Freedom Bus there is no need for 'demand responsive' transport. The demand is pretty

regular and the people who use it do so because it's a part of their regular routines. And of course the Ely General Market takes place on Thursdays.

The sums are quite easy to do. Based on current fares all that's needed is another 18 who would pay full fare or another 53 concessionary fare passengers. The former is unlikely, such people are working during the day, and the latter is impossible without putting on another bus. But then you'd need more subsidy to cover the cost of the second bus! The sums are easy but coming up with a solution is not.

Fact is that the 110 Freedom Bus does what it says. It gives its passengers a little freedom. It enables them to get out, to meet friends and to do shopping which they would not be able to do in Histon. The County Council needs to recognise that as an investment in enabling the people who use this bus to lead full and rewarding lives £4000 for the 30 people who ride the Freedom bus is a good one!

STATION

In the summer 2008 our community came together to protest against plans to demolish Histon Station. It was successful and since then first the two parish councils of Histon and Impington and later the combined Council have been developing ideas for its future.

These ideas have not been focussed on the building itself but on the broader area on both sides of the guideway and include the



former EEDA building and the Chivers Clock, the Railway Vue public house and the Copse behind the crossing keepers' hut. This broader area has been named STATION.

In January of this year the Parish Council summarised its ideas in a proposal to be included in South Cambs' Local Plan. This plan will set the rules for development over the coming years. If the Council's proposal is included it will mean that future development of STATION must be consistent with it.

This proposal imagines the development of a proud gateway to Histon and Impington based around the guideway. It will be an exemplar of sustainable living and will include a mix of housing, commercial and public sector buildings and a public open space open for evening use; it will preserve the station building and other landmark features, and the copse.

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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

Admin/Planning: Chelsea Presland
admin@hisimp.net

Telephone: 235906

Recreation Manager: Lynda Marsh
rec.clerk@hisimp.net

Telephone: 232423

Parish Councillors

Max Parish - Church Street 234486

max.parish@zen.co.uk

Brian Ing - Woodcock Close 234291

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 564534

Josephine Teague - Milton Rd 235127

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

Why not join the Chat mail list?

Visit 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!

SOMETIMES A LITTLE HELPS

The role of most Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Street Coordinators is usually that of passing police warnings, policing needs and alerts to their neighbours by email, just in case; to be a point of contact should the police or their neighbours have the need. Very occasionally such a situation does arise (examples from elsewhere, not Histon & Impington):

1. I would like to tell you about Fred, not his real name, we keep confidences in NHW. He lives on his own in a very dark small bungalow at the end of a street of sheltered accommodation, which has a NHW Scheme with a Street Coordinator.

A resident noticed that Fred, who could not see very well, was not going out like he used to. He was staying in on his own, no longer shopping, socialising or sitting in his garden, his favourite occupation. She was concerned and yet shy about knocking and asking if he was OK. So, she went to her NHW Coordinator and said "I think that Fred has a problem".

The Coordinator called and found that Fred was being terrorised by youths using a passageway to the side of his property. They had made large holes in the fence; were abusing him and shouting at him through them, right alongside his patio where he would sit and the bedroom where he slept. The man was terrified that at any given moment "they" would come. So he had locked his doors and stayed in.

The Coordinator was not having this!

With his permission she contacted her Village Coordinator and their PCSO. They met with him. The PCSO linked them with the council and with a charity and between them they sorted the Anti Social Behaviour; had his fence re built free of charge; visited and encouraged him. In no time he was restored to his former self. "Sorted".

2. A resident noticed a car parked in her road that just did not look right. She checked her neighbours and it seemed to belong to no one and with its immense value, did not "fit" somehow. Not certain as to what to do she contacted her Street Coordinator who advised her to report to 101. The police checked it out. It had been stolen and had been parked there by thieves in order to see if it had a Tracker device fitted, before they sold it on. The car was restored to its owner. "Sorted"

3. A resident observed a young male climb over a fence behind some newly built offices opposite her home. She knew that she should do something as this just did not look right but was genuinely too nervous to make a call to the police. She called her NHW coordinator who, realising the caller's situation, volunteered to call the police for her. She was still on the phone when the helicopter arrived. "Sorted"

A little can help. For information on how you can help by being a Street Coordinator please contact Josephine Teague (235127).

Histon and Impington Community Warden Service

The Community Warden Service assists older people in Histon and Impington by providing support to help them live independently in their own homes all year round.

The warden makes contact with older people using the service by telephone or in person to establish their well being. This can help to avert a crisis occurring.

The service can be arranged on an ongoing basis or for temporary periods (e.g. following hospital discharge).

The Warden Service is funded by the village Parish Council, The Feast Committee, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. It is managed by Age UK Cambridgeshire and is open to local people aged 60 or over for a small charge each week payable to the warden.

The warden will contact older people using the service daily (Mon-Fri), either by a personal visit or telephone. From this, it can be established what assistance is needed.

The Warden can assist with, for example:

- a listening ear

- making drinks and light meals
- feeding pets
- small items of shopping
- collecting prescriptions
- information and guidance
- watering plants

If you are interested in finding out more about the Histon and Impington Warden Service please contact Gillian Berry, the Community Warden on 07957608530.

(Continued from page 1)

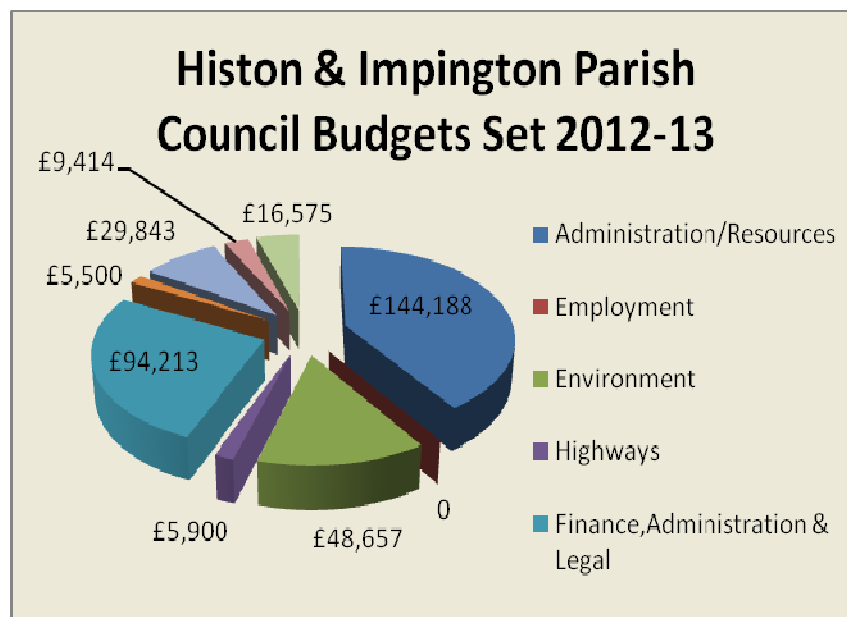
STATION

The Council is now consulting on its proposal and is writing to residents and businesses close to Station. It is keen to hear from all residents and other local stakeholders and consultation response forms are available from the Parish Office and from www.histonstation.com.

GOOD NEWS - PARISH PART OF COUNCIL TAX NOT TO INCREASE

Histon & Impington Parish Council will be keeping their portion of your local Council Tax bill for the coming year (2013-14) at the same level as this year. There will however be some increases in the County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Police & Fire Authority elements.

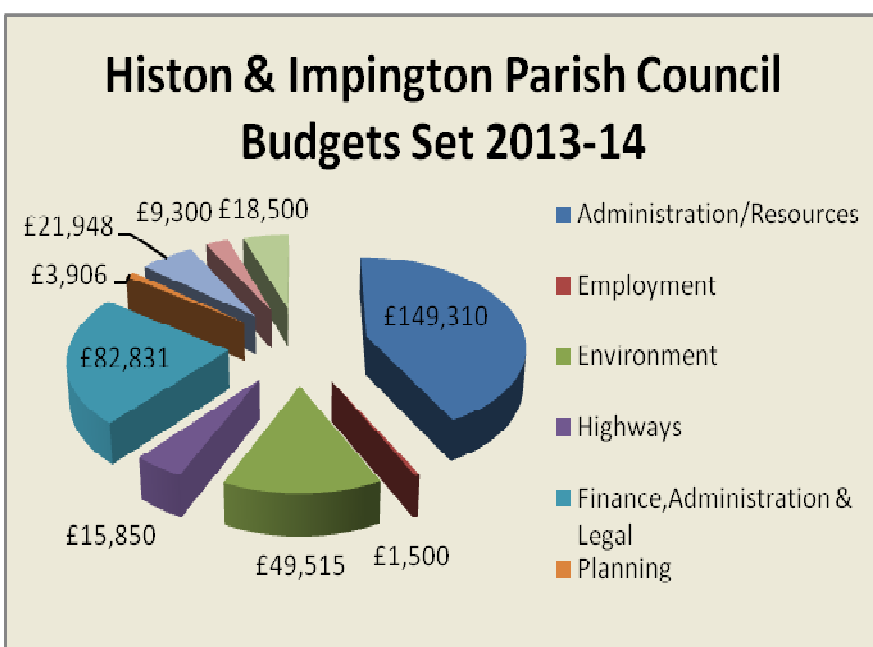
Our budget this year will be partly funded by initial savings made as a result of the formation of a single Parish Council in April 2012, including administration items such as insurance premiums and streamlining of procedures, and the increase in the number of houses paying Council Tax in the villages.



106 funding, received from new house builds for local infrastructure, on open space projects

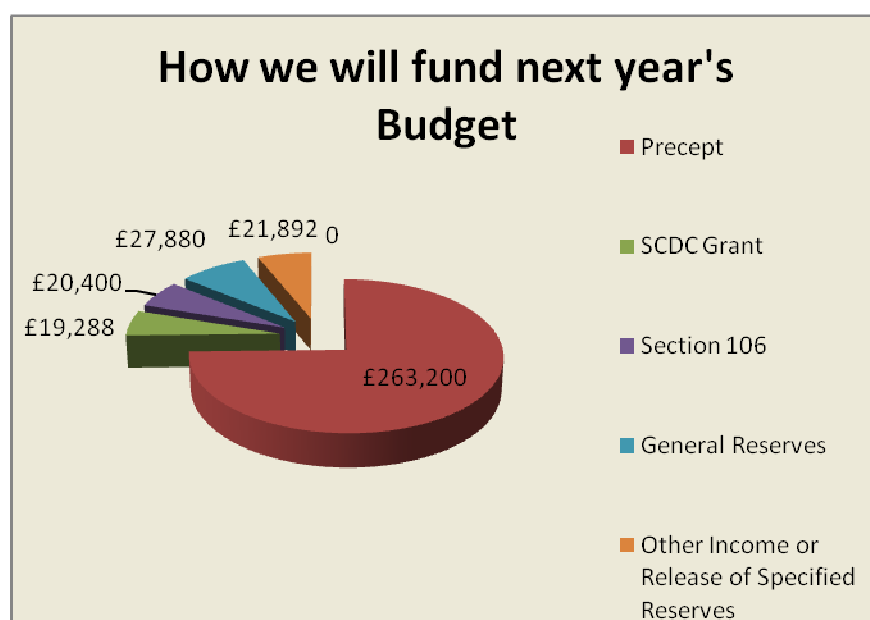
Remaining expected expenditure will be funded by use of general and specified reserves

We continue to invest in long term projects to improve facilities within the villages and expect to see these aspirations start to become reality during the next year



There will be an additional payment of £19,288 by the District Council in the form of a grant to partly compensate for the way that Government has changed the way that the local government council tax is set from this year.

The Parish Council also expects to use some Section



HISTON & IMPINGTON OPEN GARDENS - SUNDAY 16 JUNE 2013

By kind invitation of the owners, 16 gardens in the villages will be open to the public 12noon - 6pm on Sunday afternoon 16 June.

Favourite gardens from previous years - and gardens you've not seen before. There will be teas and music in some gardens.

Admission by purchased programme - cheaper in advance

All proceeds support Histon and Impington Feast; Home-Start Cambridge & District; Emmaus UK

www.opengardens.org



SHOPPING SERVICE - AGE UK

Funding has been received from Wilkinson's and the Department of Health to enable us to continue running our online shopping service.

The service is for Cambridgeshire residents, aged 60 and over who are unable to, or may have difficulty in doing their grocery shopping. Many supermarkets now offer online shopping but unless you have a computer you cannot take advantage of this convenient service.

Orders can be placed over the phone to our shopping service and we will make all the arrangements, and arrange delivery to your home. There is no commitment to shop every week.

Age UK Cambridgeshire makes no charge for this service but supermarket charges for delivery may vary.

Enquires and orders can be taken from Monday-Friday between 9-12 noon on 01354 696650

14 NEWLY QUALIFIED BABY-SITTERS AVAILABLE TO START WORK!



Histon and Impington Youth Committee are pleased to announce that 14 girls from the local area have completed the British Red Cross Babysitting Course.

Run by youth workers from Cambridgeshire County Council and funded by Histon and Impington Parish Council, the girls have attended weekly sessions, in their own time.

The course covers: expectations, rights and the law; accident prevention and fire safety; looking after babies and children; first aid; dealing with challenging babysitting situations and a visit to Histon and Impington Early Years Centre.

Having now completed this comprehensive programme run over a 12 week period, the 14 young people are now equipped to babysit safely and confidently.

Andrea Cramp, Young People's Worker said "young people take on a lot of responsibility when accepting babysitting requests. This course helps them to become more skilled, knowledgeable and prepared for the task and able to handle difficult situations. As a result parents can expect a confident, prepared, well presented babysitter to look after their children".

This course will be running again in the New Year. Please contact Andrea Cramp at andrea.cramp@cambridgeshire.gov.uk if you would like further information.

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

The East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust is looking for volunteers to come on board as community first responders who live or work in Histon and Impington



Community first responders (CFRs) volunteer in groups, and are activated by the Ambulance service to attend 999 emergency calls within the community they live or work in. They receive free training to help them provide vital basic life saving skills which can make the difference in a life or death situation before the arrival of an ambulance resource. Volunteers take it in turn to be 'on call' and carry basic first aid equipment and a simple-to-use automated external defibrillator (AED). The emergency operations centre sends them to the scene of category A (immediately life threatening) 999 calls.

The present group co-ordinator is Angus Macaulay, one of the founder members. In 2012 the group contributed 2951 hours of cover and attended several incidents in the local community.

For more information on the group, contact Angus Macaulay 01223 526616 (after 7pm) or the responder admin office on 01284 731802 or email responderadmin@eastamb.nhs.uk

See also : www.eastamb.nhs.uk/community-first-responders.htm

THE BIG TIDY UP - UPDATE

The third quarterly Big Tidy Up in 2012 was held on Saturday 1st December, when some 30 residents of all ages, including Histon Scouts, The Enviro Volunteers and WI ladies, covered a large part of our two villages. Afterwards the Methodist Church, coffee morning kindly stayed open a little longer to provide refreshments for all those volunteers who fancied a hot drink and a chat, when Brian Ing took some photographs.

We would welcome new volunteers for future events, so that we may cover an even larger area, so if you can spare a couple of hours, give Cedric Foster a ring on 01223 234156 or email him at fosterfamily4@btinternet.com.

Whilst on the subject, the enviro.volunteers and WI are looking for more volunteers for their monthly litter picks (normally on the first Saturday of each month). If you would like more information, again please contact Cedric Foster who will pass your details on.



KEEPING WARM THIS WINTER - FREE ENERGY EFFICIENCY ASSESSMENTS

Age UK Cambridgeshire has received funds from the Department of Health to enable us to carry out assessments at the homes of residents aged 60 years or over within Cambridgeshire to determine if measures can be put in place to make homes warmer and reduce energy costs.

Our assessors may recommend certain measures such as draught excluders, radiator panels, nightlights, manual socket timers and hot water cylinder jackets to name but a few.

The service is completely free and for more information, please call 01354 696650 or 01480 700205.

NEW ART AT THE RECREATION GROUND

Following the Paralympics Class 5SS at Histon Junior School produced two murals featuring Jonnie Peacock the gold winning UK sprinter and a second featuring other images from the

Olympic Stadium.

These colourful murals were mounted in the Headteacher's office and Lesley Birch kindly agreed that we could use the pictures.



With assistance from Screen Graphics in Cottingham images of the pictures have been mounted so that they can be permanently displayed at the Recreation Ground - one outside on the front wall of the Centre and a second inside the Community Room.

The Friends of Histon & Impington Recreation Ground have paid from part of the surplus made at the Jubilee Weekend Celebrations.

Neil Davies, Friends of the Rec

THE IMPINGTON & HISTON ANNUAL WALKABOUT

This is a planned event when one or more Parish Councillors, meet a representative from Cambridge County Council Highways, to walk the streets of the two villages to record defects. These are collated on a spreadsheet and during the following year items are either taken off as resolved or items added that come to the attention of the Parish Council.

In October 2012, the exercise was carried out over two full days, and the need to use cycles enabled us to cover every street and public footpath.

With finances being tight at County level, defects are classified as either urgent, moderately urgent or non-urgent, but all are revisited regularly and at the next Annual Walkabout, which is planned for October 2013.

If residents have a particular concern they should report it direct to The County Council by email to

street.scene@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or telephone 0345 045 5212. If emailing please copy to the Parish Council so that their records are kept up to date clerk@hisimp.net

For reporting of faulty Street lights, please ring the free number 0800 7838 247. When reporting please describe the SC or CCC identification number (found on the plastic plate attached to the light or stencilled directly onto the column) with street name and village, and fault description, e.g. 'not working' or 'lit during the day' or 'dim'

REAL TIME BUS INFORMATION - UPDATE

At the end of January, the status of the RTBI displays was as follows:

Histon High Street (Inbound) - Flag installed, commissioning planned for next week

Histon High Street (Outbound) - Flag installed, commissioning planned for next week

School Hill (Inbound) - Completed and working

School Hill (Outbound) - Completed and working

Glebe Way (Inbound) - Completed and working

Poplar Road (Inbound) - Flag installed, commissioning planned for next week

Pepys Terrace (Inbound) - Planned for completion end February

Chivers Way (Inbound) - Planned for completion end February

Village College (Inbound) - Flag installed, commissioning planned for next week

SANTA'S GROTTTO

Santa's Grotto and the evening's activities were only possible due to supreme efforts of lots of people and the very kind support of businesses in the community, so a big thank you to.....

Santa – for making a stop in his busy schedule to visit us!



The enviro.volunteers – for giving lots of their time co-ordinating and preparing everything!

G & H Scaffolding (Simon Gillies) – Providing an excellent temporary stage and tree stand

BBC Radio Cambridgeshire's Jeremy Sallis – as Master of Ceremonies and Lights switch on



Pulsar Light of Cambridgeshire Ltd – Loan of effects lighting in the woods

Oakington Garden Centre – Donation of Christmas Tree

Tates Tree Works – Felling and delivery of Christmas Tree

Sue & Alison Borley + The Guides – for making many of the Christmas decorations

Tami Brown Design (www.tamibrown.com) – Donation of design services for poster

Histon and Impington Parish Council – Loan of gazebos and allowing use of The Hut

Cambridgeshire County Council – Providing the temporary electricity supply

Station Stores – Providing outside hot food service (plus normal shop facilities inside)

The Railway Vue – Providing outside hot food serving hatch plus normal pub fare inside)

Hairy Hosting & Designs (www.hairyhosting.co.uk) – Banner

Campbell Buchanan – Donation of Fes-ton Lights for tree

STREET LIGHTING

The County Council is replacing street lights in Cambridgeshire which do not comply with modern standards. This is being financed through a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) project



which means that it's partly funded by money from central government. The PFI contractor is Balfour Beatty. There's more information at www.lightingcambridgeshire.com

The new lights will be more efficient, they will cast a white light so we will say goodbye to the sodium yellow which has been around for the last 50 years or so, and there will be fewer of them.

This means that some street lights will be replaced, some will just have their lanterns (bulbs) changed and some will be untouched by the project.

We will be visited by this project starting in April when Balfour Beatty will be changing the lanterns in streets where no other changes are considered to necessary. These are typically in more recent developments. A list of these streets is available on the website: click on 'new lighting' in the menu bar and scroll down.

We expect work to begin in the 3rd quarter on streets where there will be replacement of columns and removal of some lights. Because there may be fewer lights and because some of the replacements will not be in the same place as those which they replace Balfour Beatty will be advising residents and consulting with the Parish Council. However it's a tight timescale and residents will have to react quickly if they are to make a meaningful response.

It's a 45 day process and Balfour Beatty will advise the Parish Council of its proposed work program for a street at least 42 days before they are due to start. The Parish Council then has a 4 week window in which to respond. At the same time Balfour Beatty will be doing a leaflet drop to residents and that's when it's important for you to react swiftly either direct to Balfour Beatty or via the Parish Council.

WINTER GRITTING

Following the success of last year's winter gritting volunteer pilot, the scheme was again run by Cambridgeshire County Council

Our 4 trained volunteer gritters have been out and about gritting main footpath routes in the villages throughout the winter months and this kept them all busy for quite a few weeks!

Thank you to them all - salt of the earth (if you can forgive the pun!)

If you would be willing to join this dedicated team next year, and enable even more routes to be covered, please contact the parish office on 01223 235906 to register your interest in the first instance.



HISTON & IMPINGTON PARISH COUNCIL CONGRATULATES....

Just before Christmas, Sue and Surinder Saini (and their three children) invited their customers to join them to celebrate their 15th anniversary of running Station Stores. Mulled wine, mince pies were shared and a large cake was cut to commemorate the occasion.



Histon & Impington Parish Council

GROUNDSMAN RETIRES AFTER 18 YEARS TENDING CEMETERY

The Parish Council maintain the cemetery in Mill Lane, Histon. Its use as a burial ground dates from the mid-19th century when the land was a field belonging to Chivers. When 2 of Stephen Chivers' children died before they had been Christened they were buried in the corner of the field as they could not be buried in the churchyard at that time. Later the field became a non-conformist cemetery administered by the family and eventually handed over to the (then) Chesterton Rural District Council in 1928. In due course the cemetery was handed over to the Parish Councils of Histon and Impington.



Terry Farr started work with Impington Parish Council on 29 April 1994 as Groundsman at the Burial Ground. This was under the Chairmanship of the late Bill Easy, when the clerk to that Council was Gerald Walker. Terry previously worked at the Newmarket Road Cemetery and had also had spells as gardener at Girton College and Gonville & Caius before taking on the part time role at our Burial Ground. At that time it was a bit of a wilderness and Terry has lovingly brought it up to the wonderful standard it now enjoys. So very many people have commented on how peaceful and tidy it is. Terry has also become almost part of the family for some of the residents visiting their loved ones graves.

The staff and Councillors will all miss Terry and his conscientious approach to work - coming by even when on holiday to check the bins are not full - phoning the office when things don't look quite right - and coming in at "out of hours" times to attend funerals. We all have some very fond memories of his time with us and the current Chairman was able to recount a few stories when we presented Terry with a bird bath to mark his retirement at a gathering recently in December.

Terry has always lived locally, attending Impington Village College and taking his apprenticeship with Unwins Seeds from the age of 15. He and Jane have been married for nearly 50 years, living in Girton. Terry had a very famous Uncle in Snowy Farr!

We all hope they will enjoy a long and happy retirement together, no doubt involving Terry's passion for gardening and trips to the Norfolk coast.

Thank you once again Terry for your long service and commitment to Histon and Impington.

JUBILEE FILM PROJECT - WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

2012 was an exciting year in the villages of Histon & Impington, not least because of the Queens Jubilee, the first Feast Festival and the Olympic celebrations, but because these events allowed us to run a special film project to capture all the fun and excitement residents had in taking part.

Starting last April a group of young people started to learn all about filming and sound recording so that by the holiday weekends in June and July they were ready to start



filming. During the 6 days of filming they collected over a terabyte of footage.

In the autumn term they then had to learn how to edit all this footage and create films. The main film and 2 short films are an outstanding achievement and a fantastic memento of 2012 for the village. The films were shown on 3 consecutive days before Christmas at the Recreation Centre. All screenings were well attended and the young people and the film producer Steve Wallis were in attendance for lively discussion as part of the Q&A.

For those that missed these, the films are available on DVD for £3 from Jane's Frames, Lighthouse Toys, Station Stores and also the Parish Office.



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

The film crew were: Adam Griggs, Chris Berry; Alison Berry, Jessamy Headicar, Isobel Dewolf, Louisa Brett, Giorgio Ciaccio, Thomas Field, Hatesh Saini, Libby Mulvaney, Simon Cade



Diamond TV - The project has opened up the possibility of setting up a permanent community based film-making organisation which could be used to film other local events or private functions. If you are interested in this or film making in general and want to get involved please contact Steve Wallis at steven-jwallis@googlemail.com

The two projects above are just some of the youth activities supported and funded by the Youth Committee of Histon & Impington Parish Council. The committee is looking for a couple of new members - residents (of any age) who can be co-opted to the committee without being a member of the Parish Council - to help identify new projects for our young people. If you think you would like to do this please contact the Parish Office at clerk@hisimp.net

CHOIR 2000

Friday 22, Saturday 23 March at 8pm

Histon Baptist Church

Choir 2000 and Cambridge Sinfonietta

Bizet: CARMEN (concert performance)

conducted by Peter Britton with soloists from the Birmingham Conservatoire

Tickets: £10.00, £8.00 (concessions), £5.00 (students), under 16s free

from Jane's Frames, Histon and The Histon Beauty Studio, from members of Choir 2000, or on the night or contact info2000@choir2000.org

GRAFFITI

Graffiti is increasingly a problem in Histon and Impington. Although the Guided Bus way is the main focus where the noise barriers seem to offer an attractive canvas it is also seen on electrical boxes, waste bins and other surfaces throughout the village especially around the station. It's unsightly and letting it stay suggests that the community somehow tolerates it.



It's not just a community problem; graffiti is also a personal issue. It can be distressing for those whose property is defaced and/or damaged and even though sometimes clean-up is free to the property owner through the Youth Restorative Justice team there's still a cost to the tax payer.

Councillors raised the issue last October and it featured in a Cambridge News article at the time. More recently it was a topic at a joint county councillor/parish councillor/Guided Bus team meeting and then subsequently the Neighbourhood Panel meeting of January, 2013. The Panel agreed that graffiti should be a priority and there will be extra patrols and CCTV surveillance. Other stakeholders including Impington Village College and the youth services team at the County Council will also be involved.

The focus will be on prevention and the police will compile a portfolio of 'tags', the signatures which these people use to sign their works, so that they can work directly with those responsible.

It is important that the community supports this 'no tolerance' approach and reports any new graffiti immediately for removal. Go to the South Cambs website, www.scambs.gov.uk, and click on 'Report it'. Then go to '[Report an abandoned vehicle, dog fouling, fly tipping, graffiti or littering](#)'. Or call 03450 540500. South Cambs promises to prioritise offensive graffiti.

Parents specifically have a role. They should please be alert to the paraphernalia of graffiti in their children's bags. If there's any evidence that their children are involved they should please counsel against such activity. The police for its part will challenge anyone they suspect of being a graffiti merchant.

If you see graffiti being applied please call 999 immediately. This will give the police a chance to catch the offender in the process of committing the crime. Our PCSO, Tony Martin, will follow up immediately.

Graffiti is a community problem. We all have a role in preventing it. We must work together to eliminate it.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

We hope you enjoyed the Christmas light display on The Green this year, once again paid for and organised by the Parish Council. It was great that since the purchase of new LED lamps last year, funded by a donation from Histon & Impington Feast, there were no Christmas call-outs for staff or Councillors due to failures!



The Christmas tree has been provided by the Feast Committee for some years now but this year an unfortunate communications problem meant the Committee were delayed in organising it, and it was thanks to local firm Flora-Tec that they managed to obtain a donated tree at such short notice. The Parish Council has agreed to take over the responsibility for obtaining and erecting a tree in future years if required, as it is appreciated that the Feast Committee's main focus is in the summer months when so much effort is put into arranging the wonderful events we all have chance to enjoy during June and July every year. The Council wish to thank the Feast Committee for all its help in adding to the Christmas "magic" on the Green

Next year we have already put in place plans to introduce some new lighting effects, although there are difficulties in that some of the trees are too far apart to hang looms and we may be looking at perhaps lighting up single trees

We have had some comment on the hisimp-chat forum that the display on the Green does not reflect the community spirit we pride ourselves on and was somewhat of an embarrassment. One resident feels particularly strongly about this and has offered to assist the Council with next year's display. However, a second resident commented that she liked the display. If you have any views, please let us know as work will start early in the year to plan for next year

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

HISTON AND IMPINGTON OLDER PERSONS CO-ORDINATOR - 2012 / 2013

Hello, my name is Jean Newman and I am the co-ordinator for Histon and Impington. I thought I would tell you about some of the things I have organised as co-ordinator.



You can contact me on 07772 437789 or on jean.newman7@ntlworld.com.

Here are activities which take place regularly:

- **Chair based exercise class**

This is a class that takes place on Monday at the Recreation Centre. It is well attended with an average of 15 people. Everyone gets picked up by the mini bus. We now have two volunteers working with this group; they assist the driver with the pick ups, make the tea and collect the money.

- **Stroke survivors exercise class**

In this class we have 10 -12 people, we currently have one Volunteer helping with tea and collecting the money. We have a promise of another volunteer to start in January.

- **Singing group.**

We have between 8 -12 that attend on two afternoons a month, we now have a volunteer who plays the keyboard for us. We went to Bramley Court Care Home in the summer and Etheldred House on the 13th December.

- **Volunteers for the Mini bus shopping service**

We have two volunteers at present to assist on two of the shopping trips, Morrison's and the Friday village run.

There is a new volunteer driver for a once a month village run on a Wednesday for shopping and the community coffee morning. I assist the driver on this run.

I try and visit the community coffee shop as often as possible.

Here are activities which were "one-offs":

- In September I arranged for the Launch of Cambridge Celebrates Age to take place at the Recreation Ground with the Mayor from Cambridge City Council and the Leader of South Cambs District Council and other dignitaries attending. I am now on the steering group for Cambridge Celebrates Age.
- I arranged for a T'ai Chi taster session which 20 people attended and 17 of those would like to attend a class, which I hope to start in the New Year.

- I have co-ordinated the supply of free Tutors from IVC for Bramley Court, Etheldred House and the Day Centre for activities in 2013. I help at the Day Centre at least once a month and collect new people when attending for the first time and stay with them on their first visit.
- I co co-ordinated a Staying Steady awareness morning at the Methodist church hall with the Community matron and a team from Chesterton Hospital giving advice and hints to the frail elderly.

Here are some of the other support activities I have carried out:

- Attended training seminars on vulnerable adults and mental health issues and will be arranging seminars in the village next year for our volunteers and the sheltered housing workers.
- Arranged for 4 people in the village to be visited by the Benefits Agency and they have received an extra £200 a month which is being spent on extra care to assist them in the mornings with personal care and breakfast.
- Given talks to various groups in the village including Histon Library.
- Became a registered volunteer for the Door Step library to enable me to help any older person in the village who needs assistance with the collection & return of library books
- I volunteered help for 3 days over the Jubilee and during Feast week
- Co-ordinated the use of the mini bus and assisted the driver with the collection of some of the frail elderly so they can attend the Sunday afternoon Songs of Praise at Impington church.
- Worked with the new charity in the village - Besom, to help the less fortunate in our villages with assistance at home.

My aspirations for 2013

- A "Drop In" session for carers once a month - this will enable people who are caring for someone who needs advice to be able to call in see a friendly face and pick up information.
- To find interests for older males in the village. For example use the mini bus to take them to Histon Football games, in the summer to watch bowls, cricket, croquet and table tennis at the Recreation Ground.
- To start a lunch club to visit local pubs in the village once a month.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES

There are 2 vacancies on the Parish Council which we hope to fill at the next Council meeting on 18 March.



Any resident who felt able to take on this role would be coming in at the start of a new year, with new and exciting challenges ahead. Whether your particular interest is Planning, Environment, Recreation, Youth or perhaps Highways matters, there is always a project you can become involved with

To find out more about becoming a Parish Councillor contact the parish office on 01223 235906 or by email clerk@hisimp.net or speak with any of the 17 existing Councillors.

Forthcoming Council & Committee Dates

See website for details: www.hisimp.net

Full Council - Recreation Centre from 7 p.m. - Monday 18th March 2013; Monday 15th April 2013; Annual General Meeting - Recreation Centre from 7 p.m. - Monday 20th May 2013

Community Facilities - Parish Office 7.45 p.m. - Thursday 14th March 2013

Environment - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Thursday 7th March 2013; Tuesday 26th March 2013

Finance Legal & Administration - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 8th April 2013

Highways - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Thursday 28th March 2013; Thursday 30th May 2013

Planning - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Tuesday 12th March 2013; Tuesday 23rd April 2013; Tuesday 28th May 2013; Tuesday 2nd April 2013; Tuesday 7th May 2013

Recreation Ground - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 29th April 2013

Youth - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 11th March 2013; Monday 13th May 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