



HISIMP NEWS

The Newsletter of Histon & Impington Parish Council
Fifth Edition - September 2013

TO PCSO OR NOT PCSO

Over a decade ago the Police Service examined ways of becoming both more effective and efficient. It surveyed the work of police constables and found that typically they only needed to be warranted officers for 10% of their duty time. They found that teams led by warranted officers and supported by Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) achieved significant improvements in performance. The Home Office and The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) agreed and the concept was rolled out to every one of the 43 police forces in England and Wales. Today there are 160,000 police officers of all ranks and 16,000 PCSOs.

The role of the PCSO has evolved with experience and considerable research. It is not simply that of a 'less authoritative police officer' but a different and complementary role that is focussed on 'visibility, engagement and problem solving'. Modern PCSOs work within the community and with its leaders to reduce misbehaviour and to provide an understanding of the related issues. Their skill set has evolved into a problem solving set: skills that are different from those of a police constable. A recent survey of the 43 police forces showed all but one force planning to retain the current number of PCSOs or to increase the number even though budgets are being cut.

The Cambridgeshire Police Force responded to the survey by stating that they were undertaking a review of the role of the PCSO in neighbourhood policing. We understand that the Chief Constable is undertaking the review and this will report shortly.

As a part of the exercise the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner, Sir Graham Bright, issued a three question consultation to which the Parish Council responded. We were so worried by its implication that we (David Jenkins, Chair, Denis Payne, Vice Chair and Hooda Abdullah) agreed to appear live on

the 10.30 BBC Look East News to express our concern and to reiterate our admiration for the impressive work being done by our local PCSO. We stressed that neither having occasional visits from a police constable (in between attending crime events) nor having a village ranger employed by other than the police service would be even adequate replacements: the current arrangements were fundamentally good and far better than both alternatives.

The Parish Council is currently undertaking research (is.gd/zoeFnw) in the village to develop its view of how the community should be policed. We note that Histon & Impington is a relatively low crime area (attributable in part to the proactive work of the PCSO) whereas Cambridgeshire is nearly average for the whole of England and Wales. However Cambridgeshire Police expenditure is the fourth lowest of the 43 forces per head of population.

The emerging model is that the PCSO is the local permanent coordinator of the 'behaviour management' system in the community. A system which relies on many other bodies in the community (schools, youth clubs, sports clubs, churches, the Parish Council) and all of us as citizens (if only to the extent of being careful with our property to reduce temptation) to act together. This reduces both crime and the fear of crime.

This system works to deflect those intending to misbehave, provide alternative outlets for energy and interest. For example the Parish Council funds youth work in the villages (including a Youth Club), provides play areas (now including up to 14 year olds and possibly for older age groups in the future) and sports facilities.

We need help from those in the village who would like to assist us use the extensive research information we have from the Home Office. We are also interested to hear from people who can suggest other ways in which we as a community can act together. We are privileged to live in a relatively well behaved

and safe community: we need to see how we can ensure we do our best to maintain or improve our community. Please contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance. Or go online and complete our PCSO: policing in the community survey at is.gd/zoeFnw

Brian Ing

PARISH COUNCIL CHANGES

September has seen two new councillors joining the Parish Council and one long serving and active councillor leaving it. The two joiners are Ruth Moulder and Jonathan Dixon.

Ruth Moulder has been a resident of Histon for six years. She's married with two adult children and one new grandson! She says that she's always been an active member of her community and strongly believes in the ethic of volunteering. Whilst living in Elsworth she was on the committee to re-instate a piece of council land as a nature reserve for the village.

Ruth has worked at Napp Pharmaceuticals for six years as a Senior Quality Assurance Officer. She is also a keen environmentalist and at work started the Environment Group. She hopes to bring some of her skills and qualifications to the role of parish councillor and looks forward to working for her local community. She also believes that it's the responsibility of those involved in politics, both at the local and national level to engage, include and inform the community of their activities.

Ruth says that she's joined the Council because she was impressed by the way that similar institutions in the USA attract so much public involvement and would like to stimulate similar interest here.

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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

Chairman

David Jenkins - Pease Way 07739 758859
david.jenkins@hisimp.net

Vice Chairman

Denis Payne - Impington Lane 233577
denis.payne@hisimp.net

Hooda Abdullah - South Road 235989

Marian Cleaver - High Street 232897

Ian Cooper - Brackenbury 236359

Marcus Dann - Cottenham Road 234060

Neil Davies - Dwyer Joyce Close 232514

Janet Diplock - Oates Way 503048

Jonathan Dixon - Youngman Avenue 236605

John Dunn - Croft Close 232698

Cedric Foster - Clay Street 234156

Brian Ing - Woodcock Close 234291

David Legge - Villa Road 233565

Derek Marston - Dwyer Joyce Close 236131

Ruth Moulder - Winders Lane 573445

Pene Nudds - Clay Close Lane 237155

Edd Stonham - Normanton Way 564534

Josephine Teague - Milton Rd 235127

County Councillors:

David Jenkins - Pease Way 236232

Mike Mason - Cottenham 01954 250391

District Councillors:

Jonathan Chatfield - Parr Close 520132

Edd Stonham - Normanton Way 564534

Neil Davies - Dwyer Joyce Close 232514

Councillor email addresses can be found at
www.hisimp.net

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Edited by:
Denis Payne

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Jonathan Dixon was born in the early 1970s in Essex. He went to university in Sheffield to study architecture and town planning. He moved to Histon four years ago. He is married with two children. Jonathan now works as a town planning consultant and masterplanner for a small family firm in Stevenage.

He says that he's interested in far more than he ever get round to doing. He says his badminton is ok, at a recreational level, but that his golf is currently terrible. He's a keen gardener but notes that the Histon nettles seem a particularly hardy variety.

Jonathan is joining the Council despite having two young children. He says that there's never a perfect time but sometimes you've got to seize the opportunity. He's moved here because of what it offers to young families and he'd like to be able to contribute.

John Emmine has left the Council because he's moved to Yorkshire. He had been a councillor for six years and leaves a big hole. Not content with just being a councillor John was also the Council's allotment officer, play-ground inspector, health and safety officer and neighbourhood panel representative. He was also a member of the Recreation Ground

and Environment Committees. However John did not just live for the Council. He enjoyed a long a successful career at Cambridge University, he is a keen field sportsman and he's devoted to his family. Quite a balanced individual! We wish him a long and enjoyable retirement.

John's move means we have another vacancy to fill and we hope to be able to fill it at next October's meeting. Anybody interested should please contact the clerk (clerk@hisimp.net). Note that the new councillor does not have to take on all of John's former responsibilities.

They will be shared round the council.



GRITTING

Last year four residents volunteered to spread grit in the case of snow and ice. They received training, equipment and insurance from the County Council to do so, and when the inevitable happened they were on hand to keep our paths and pavements safe. The volunteers report receiving many personal thanks from other residents, especially more

vulnerable members of the community who can be made housebound by the risk of slips and falls on icy pavements.

Unfortunately one of our volunteers has moved away from the area for work, so if you or anyone you know is looking for a small but significant way to contribute to the life of the villages please contact the Parish Office

David Legge

FLY POSTING IS NOT 100% A GOOD THING

The appearance of posters around the village, tied or pinned to lamp-posts and other convenient points, is to some extent an indication of the vibrancy in the village. Most of them are advertising some event and they are one of the ways which our village communicates 'with itself'. Others include a number of Facebook pages, the hisimp-chat emails and, more conventionally, the community notice boards.

But there are problems in that there are some posters for out of village events, often posted by people from outside the community. And even the posters which we might regard as being appropriate don't take themselves down when they are out of date. This results in a lot of posters which are not needed.

So: here's some suggestions which might help

us to better control fly posting in the village:

- if you've got a poster which should remain posted for some time please put it on one or all of the community notice boards. There are such boards by the bus stop on School Hill, by the war memorial and on the Green
- if you are advertising an event by all means advertise it widely but please make sure there's a date on the posters and take them down when it's history
- if you see posters which are either not local or are already history please feel free to take them down.
- please do not pin posters to trees. It might kill them. Yellow ribbons are of course allowed.

This way we can manage fly posting without implementing any draconian and inappropriate rules.

David Jenkins



ELEC- TRICAL WASTE KERBSIDE COLLECTION - HELP OUR COM- MUNITY

Do you have electrical items that you no longer use or want? WISER Recycling can help you, and you can help your community....

WISER Recycling are a local recycling company based in St Ives and will be conducting a collection of household Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) in Histon & Impington!

Electrical items will be collected from 10am on the morning of 7th November 2013 by WISER vehicles. We will collect any electrical item (including non-working) from hairdryers, videos, microwaves, to televisions and fridge/freezers - basically, anything with a plug on. WISER Recycling will collect from right outside your house! With larger appliances we can assist with moving them from your property to our vehicle.

All items will be taken to our fully licensed treatment facility in St Ives for Reuse, Refurbishment or Recycling. The parish council will receive revenue for all WEEE collected for use on community projects

WISER has partnerships with many local and regional charities including Emmaus Charities, Lighthouse, and Eco-Computer Systems, through which it sells working items back to social groups and low income families. We are full permitted and authorised by the Environment Agency and operate to international standards; ISO 9001 (Quality), ISO 14001 (Environmental) and OHSAS 18001 (Health & Safety), ensuring a professional recycling and recovery service, second to none.

In the meantime, if you'd like to find out more about WISER's services, please visit our website: www.wisergroup.co.uk

KEEPING DRAINS FLOWING

Anglian Water has, in recent months, attended a number of incidents whereby the sewer network that serves this area has failed due to blockages. Investigations have revealed that some residents are using the sewers and drains to dispose of rubbish which should be placed for collection by the district Council.

Not only does inappropriate use of the sewers and drains have an adverse effect on those living locally, e.g. property being flooded with untreated sewerage, it can have impact on the local environment. Raw sewerage polluting local watercourses will affect fish and other wildlife, the effect of which can last for many years to come.



To avoid any further problems with the waste water services in your area we would ask that you use the sewers and drains responsibly. Items and objects such as **fat, oil, grease, cleaning and facial wipes, dish cloths, paper towels, cotton wool, cotton buds, sanitary towels and liners, tampons, nappies, incontinence pads, condoms, plastic or similar materials including toilet block holders**, should be placed out as rubbish and not disposed of down the toilet or sink.

Please remember, irresponsible use of the sewers and drains, resulting in it overflowing, could affect you and your property.

OVERHANGING VEGETATION

Throughout the year, especially during the growing season the Parish Council Office receive many complaints concerning overhanging vegetation on to footpaths etc. These are dealt with by the Parish Clerk who either requests that a Parish Councillor takes a look who either calls on the resident to resolve the issue or arrange for the County Council to send a polite request that the offending



vegetation be cut back. If there is no response a follow up letter is sent and if necessary a final letter is sent to the resident giving warning that the County Council will do the necessary work and recover their costs.

Many footpaths and cycleways are the responsibility of the County Council, and these are brought to the attention of the Highways Maintenance Department.

May we ask residents in our community to play their part by inspecting their boundaries and should vegetation of any description be causing an obstruction to the public footpaths they take the appropriate action.

Thank you.

Cedric Foster

Diamond TV
Presents

IVC @ 75

**Are You Interested in
Filmmaking? Aged 13-18?**

To celebrate the 75th anniversary of Impington Village College opening the parish council youth committee are running a film project. The hope is to create a film about how school and life has changed in the 75 years the school has been open.

So if you are interested in taking part please email hello@stevenjwallis.com or call 01223 235906 for more info

over 18?

We are also looking for volunteers to help out on this project as well as village residents interested in talking about their school days.

So if this interests you or you know someone who would be great for this please do get in touch.

SAVE THE GREEN BELT CAMPAIGN

Villagers highlight plight of local green belt - Campaign group urges residents to respond to local plan

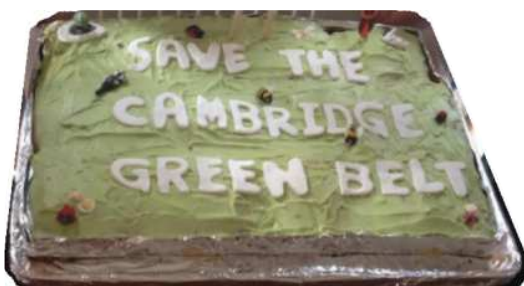
In early September, Histon & Impington Village Action Group (HAIVAG) baked an enormous 'green' cake and gave it away, free of charge, to local residents on Histon Green.

Symbolising what it believes is a 'great Green Belt giveaway', the event highlighted that Green Belt in Impington remains under threat of development - even though it is supposed to be protected.

The stunt, which attracted media attention, encouraged local people to sign a 'Save the Green Belt' petition and respond to the draft Local Plan prepared by South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC). This important document - which members of the public can comment on up until 14 October 2013 - sets out where thousands of new houses will be built over the next 18 years.

Impington Lane

Although SCDC recently dropped the idea of building more than 400 new homes at Buxhall Farm in Histon, it continues to pursue the creation of 25 homes on designated Green Belt off Impington Lane, land that is rich in wildlife and contributes to the rural



feel of the village.

HAIVAG is opposing this development and working with other groups in and around Cambridge who want the Green Belt preserved for future generations to enjoy. Across Cambridge, 61 hectares of Green Belt land is at risk with Cambridge City Council also planning to relinquish areas to developers.

Unnecessary destruction

In their draft local plans, SCDC and Cambridge City Council, pay lip service to preserving the Green Belt. Both authorities acknowledge its importance in maintaining the setting of the city, preventing urban sprawl and creating a defined urban boundary. Yet both present plans to excise more of this precious resource.

HAIVAG believes the destruction of the Green Belt is completely unnecessary and totally unjustified. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that Green Belt should only be used in 'exceptional circumstances' - something the councils have so far failed to demonstrate. HAIVAG also argues that the village's amenities are already swamped with long waiting times at the Doctors' Surgery and insufficient places available at the Infant School for local children.

Brownfield first

Rather than using Green Belt, HAIVAG wants SCDC to adopt a brownfield first policy, prioritising development on land already in use that would benefit from regeneration. Sue Lee from HAIVAG, said: "The land proposed for removal from the Green Belt in Impington

is a small field that is classed as agricultural land of high grade. SCDC's own assessment of the plot stated that 'development on this site would have 'an adverse effect on the landscape and townscape setting of Impington'. So why are they still pursuing it as an option? Earlier this year we ran a local survey and 96% of respondents said that they did not support development on the village's Green Belt.

This was completely ignored at the last stage of consultation. We want SCDC to sit up and take note of what real local people think. The more people that respond to the consultation and sign the petition the less likely it is that this development and the need-less destruction of the Green Belt will proceed."

Get involved

To highlight that the Cambridge Green Belt is under threat, HAIVAG has joined forces with other local groups to raise awareness of its plight. Working together under the Save the Green Belt banner they have started an online petition and are sign posting people to local authority consultations. To sign the Save the Green Belt petition go to:

www.greenbeltsos.org.uk To comment on

SCDC's plans for Impington Lane go to:

scams.jdi-consult.net/ldf/. Guidance on

how best to submit a response is available on the HAIVAG website:

histonandimpingtonvag.blogspot.co.uk

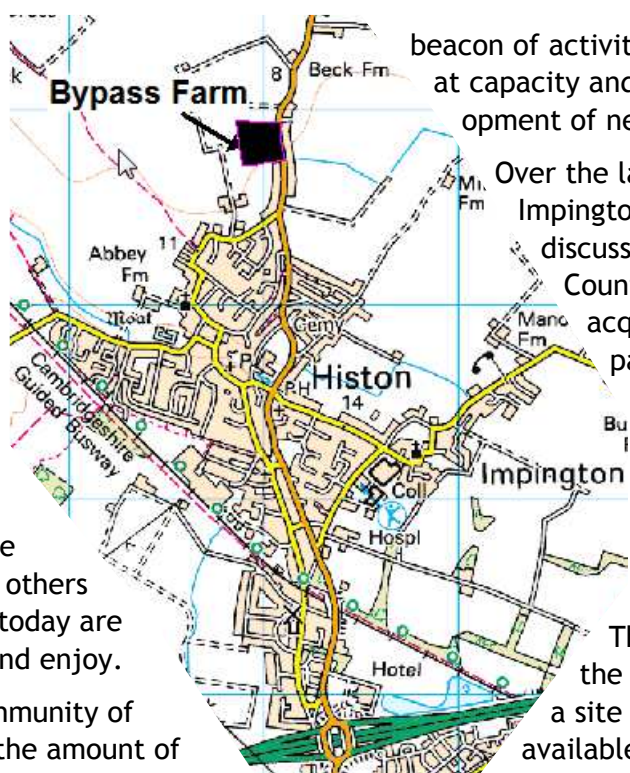
HAIVAG

A NEW COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

There are times in the life of a community when an opportunity arises which could have lasting benefits for generations and such an occasion now exists.

Throughout Histon and Impington there are examples of legacies of buildings and open spaces that have been provided, in some cases centuries and in others decades ago, that we today are able to benefit from and enjoy.

We have a vibrant community of over 8000 people but the amount of public recreational space we have in our two villages is way below national guidelines and the availability of land for any purpose is scarce. The village Recreation Ground is a



beacon of activity which at times is straining at capacity and this is restricting the development of new and existing activities.

Over the last couple of years Histon & Impington Parish Council have been discussing with Cambridgeshire County Council the possibility of acquiring a 12 acre field at Bypass Farm. This field is located to the west of the B1049 (Cottenham Road) after the last bungalow on the left as you leave the village when travelling towards Cottenham.

The location is on the edge of the village but the reality is that a site of this size will only be available on the periphery and much of that is in private ownership.

At its July meeting the Parish Council agreed to proceed to being able to acquire the lease

of the Bypass Farm field from the County Council. A final decision whether to fully proceed is expected by the end of the year.

The intention is to use the land as open recreational space for the villages for a range of uses for all ages, many of which have no other provision in the villages. The Parish Council will be undertaking a major consultation on uses if the acquisition should proceed.

The Parish Council over the last decade has a good track record of delivering new and improved facilities such as the Recreation Ground development and two play area improvement programmes, and this experience will be invaluable if the Bypass Farm project should proceed.

There will be an open public meeting on Monday 4th NOVEMBER 2013 at 7.30pm in the Junior School Hall, all residents are welcome to come and provide their views on the potential acquisition.

Neil Davies

LORD COE’S SPECIAL THANKS TO LOCAL VOLUNTEER

A hardworking Cambridgeshire volunteer recently crowned a Community Games ‘Shining Light’, has received a VIP invite to join Lord Coe on the -anniversary of the Olympics.

Neil Davies will receive a very special thank you by Lord Coe at the official opening of the Copper Box, at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park this Saturday 27th July 2013.

The 51 year old from Histon was awarded Cambridgeshire’s shining light as part of the Community Games Relay.

The Community Games Relay is retracing the steps the Olympic Torch took in England last year. It started in Land’s End on May 19 and is shining a spotlight on 70 areas last year’s Olympic Torch visited in the country.

Each day a volunteer who is a ‘Shining Light’ in their community is being acknowledged for the hard work they are doing. All 70 shining lights will come together in their jerseys to receive a thank you from Lord Coe at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on day 70 of the Relay.

On the day Lord Coe will pay homage to Neil and thank him for the role he has played in personally helping others to get involved in sport and cultural activities through Community Games.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough’s County



Sports Partnership (CSP) activities are delivered by LIVING SPORT’s Simon Fairhall who said:

“I am absolutely delighted Neil has been invited to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on day 70 to receive a special thank you by Lord Coe. Neil has been working tirelessly for over 25 years to ensure people in the Cambridgeshire area are able to avail of sport and cultural activities, and more recently through the Community Games programme has particularly embraced the inclusion of Paralympic Sports in this year’s highly successful “Celebration of Sport for All” Community Games Event at the Histon and Impington Recreation Ground”.

Lee Mason, Chief Executive, from the CSPN said:

“The Community Games programme brought thousands of communities together during the Olympic year, supported by a dedicated group of volunteers.

It is fantastic to see the work of these volunteers being celebrated and acknowledged.

It is only fitting that Lord Coe who himself, helped to light up the nation, thanks those who similarly light up their communities.

I am very encouraged that there has been an appetite across the country to come together to celebrate the spirit of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2013. We already have more than 1,000 Community Games registered to take place this summer in communities all over the country.

Press release issued 25th July

CONSULTATIONS, CONSULTATIONS

Many of you will be aware of the South Cambs District Council Local Plan Consultation which currently includes the proposal to build on the Green Belt and 25 houses in Impington.

There are a number of other consultations going on which could have an impact directly on you, or the villages as a whole. The Parish Council tries to represent your views and respond to each of these, but there’s nothing like a direct response from a resident.

Alongside the Local Plan is the County Council’s Transport strategy for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire. Worryingly whilst 7 radial routes into Cambridge (yes, that’s most of them) have been designated ‘Strategic’, the B1049 isn’t one of them.

This is concerning as we all know how busy it is, and if Northstowe goes ahead traffic is only going to get heavier (from Northstowe

itself but also with traffic from further afield avoiding Northstowe).

Then there is traffic that will avoid tolls on the A14 which brings us on to our third consultation. This is the £1.5Bn scheme. So it’s big. But the consultation was both announced at short notice and is not long (ends in October). For a scheme of such impact and implications this is disappointing. Details can be found here: www.hisimpnews.co.uk/proposed-upgrade-of-the-a14

Finally, of potentially more immediate and direct effect on you are consultations on replacing streetlights throughout the villages. Maps are being published showing where lights will be put (and removed), also shown by white paint on the ground.

Just take a few moments to check that you won’t have a light shining directly into your bedroom, or that you will be able to get onto your drive. Details here: <http://is.gd/2cncAZ>

David Legge

Histon & Impington Parish Council

www.hisimp.net

FOOTPATHS IN OUR VILLAGES - CONSIDERATION FOR ALL!

It is a fact of life that sometimes our “linking” footpaths are also used by people on bicycles as well as pedestrians, dog-walkers, parents with buggies and mobility scooter users.

The Parish Council and the local PCSO Tony Martin have been receiving comments about the dangers of this, particularly where there are bends or junctions in the footpath, as with Kingsway, Pages Close and some areas in Hereward Close.



Whilst it is impossible to stop cyclists using the routes, and we would not wish to, it is to be hoped that all users of the footpaths can give consideration to their fellow residents. Elderly people and the very young especially need to feel safe when getting about the village so dogs should be on a short lead and cyclists should give way to other users when not on a designated shared-use cycleway.

NEW RECYCLING BINS FOR IMPINGTON

Sharp eyed residents may have noticed the blue recycling bin that was trialled outside the Station Stores in Cambridge Road from last year. This site was chosen because of its proximity to the Guided Busway stop.



It seems that a lot of people did indeed notice it, and used it for its intended purpose. The successful trial was implemented by South Cambs District Council and as such the trial recycling bin and existing litter bin at this location have now been replaced with a permanent dual litter/recycling bin.

In making this change the District Council pointed out that the footprint of the dual bin is no greater than the two separate bins it replaces and as such will reduce the overall amount of ‘street furniture’.

The existing litter bin at the end of Cambridge Road has also been replaced with a dual litter/recycling bin. All bins are emptied by the District Council on a weekly basis

The Parish Council very much hope that residents will continue to use the bins correctly and look forward to this welcome “green” initiative being rolled out to more areas across the District.

September 2013

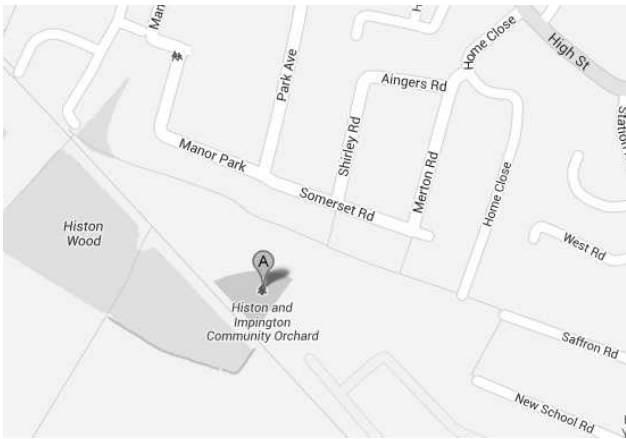
HEDGING OUR BETS!

Why are we creating a community orchard in Histon? There are many reasons. We can protect the green space in the field next to the former Chivers jam factory by planting historic fruit trees (some of which were originally bred in the village).

When fully established villagers will be able to enjoy varieties of delicious healthy fruit that can no longer be bought in local shops. The orchard will become a rich habitat and local schools will be able to teach schoolchildren about the wildlife. These are just some of the benefits from planting an orchard on an acre of land on the edge of the village.



Chivers Delight first bred by Stephen Chivers in 1920



Progress

It is nearly one year since our community group began work on the orchard site. In that time we have planted 26 trees including apples, pears, and gages, all from the East of England. Local school children helped plant the trees and have also been planting wild flower plugs around them. The trees are beginning to settle in to the site and in June we held a ‘Moth Break-fast’, our first event since the planting ceremony in February.



Malcolm Ausdem (a local resident and principal ecologist with the RSPB) captured some moths overnight and then brought them to the orchard. Over 100 villagers came along to share coffee and croissants with us and to view the moths. It was extraordinary to see the variety and beauty of the moths. Exotic colours and camouflages, moths shaped like broken twigs or coloured like Victorian factory pollution.

Your help needed

Our next major project will be to plant hedges around the orchard. These are important as we wish to make the orchard as safe as possible for children’s visits by ensuring there is a secure boundary around the or-

chard. We’ve spent a lot of time talking to the local community including the Parish Council about the exact boundary location. One of our aims was to avoid re-routing the existing informal paths, but inevitably compromises had to be made. The path along the factory will remain as it was outside the orchard, but the path parallel to the busway will be re-routed around the orchard boundary. The hedges will be planted using native species this autumn, creating further habitats for wildlife. They will be maintained at no more than one metre high.

There is a lot of work involved in planting the hedges and we very much need extra help. Please contact us (by email or telephone) if you are available to spend an hour or so during one weekend in November or December to help. We will supply the plants, tools and guidance if you are able to help us.

Looking to the future

Over the next two years we will plant about 40 more fruit trees. We believe our plan will create the most beautiful orchard that everyone can enjoy for generations to come. We need your help, not only to create the orchard but to enjoy it too! So when you are next in the Park Farm, Somerset Road, Guided Busway area - come and have a look to see our progress!

www.hicop.info info@hicop.info Paul Christie - 01223 234588

NEW WEBSITE FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is launching a new website. It's had the current one for some time and it was state of the art in its day but recent developments, especially those related to social media, have left it behind a little and it's appropriate that it gets up to date.

We have used the opportunity to do a little thinking about who we are as a parish council, what our ambitions are and how we should be engaging with people and groups who relate to the village in any way. That meant that before we've been ready to build the new website we've been going through a process which still has some way to run.

We started by describing our village and what we expect it to look like in 2020 and beyond. This is an essential corner stone of our neighbourhood plan work and has resulted in what we call the H&I 'identity and vision'. This will be on the new website and is currently version 1.0. We expect it to go through several iterations as a part of the Neighbourhood Plan process.

We then invited several designers to look at our identity and vision document and asked

them to translate that into a 'visual identity' of colours and fonts and a logo. This proved more difficult than we expected because there are no well defined Histon & Impington colours, although there is some link to red, and no single strong image to use as a logo.

In choosing one designer to work with we looked at his or her connection to the village, understanding of the brief, professional approach to the challenge and creativity and selected Matt Willatt (www.mattwillatt.co.uk). Matt went to IVC, he grew up in Girton and now lives in Orchard Park. It's Matt's design that is now being used in the new website.

The elements of Matt's design are:

- colour: the base colour is a purple which is a combination of the 'heritage' red of the villages and the blue of Cambridge. It reflects our view that the unique nature of Histon & Impington is the result of its strong links to the heritage of the original two villages and to its proximity to (but separation from) Cambridge.
- font: Kindersley Street, designed by David Kindersley in Cambridge, is used for titles and headings. It has good legibility (it is used for street signs and for the signage in



Grand Arcade) and is claimed to be 'commanding yet characterful'. Trebuchet MS regular is used as a secondary typeface on all materials for body copy. It is good for use both online and with printed media (*Ed: and is what is being used here*).

- logo: a 'speech bubble' containing 'hi'. This emphasises communication, it is informal (to contrast the natural formality of the Parish Council) and youthful, and is a natural fit with web-based media.

It's our intention to use this new website to increase the two way flow of information between the Parish Council and the village. There will be visibility of all meeting agendas and minutes (as now) plus the Parish Council calendar and its finances. All councillors will be able to post to it and visitors to the site will be able to leave comments.

The new website will be available at www.hisimp.net but will only address the parish council elements of the old one. We will be addressing the community's needs for a news site and a new directory over the next weeks. We will also be looking to build strong links on-line with other community sites.

David Jenkins

RECREATION GROUND WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AUTUMN 2013

Activities for all ages held in the Recreation Ground Centre unless otherwise advised, organised by Friends of the Rec and others

Sunday

HITT (Histon & Impington Table Tennis) 5.30pm every Sunday. All welcome including children aged 10 & over

Monday

Rec Monday Club 10-11am. Make new friends during gentle exercises seated and standing + refreshments. Transport can be provided

Stroke Survivors/Recoverers Group 11.30 - 1.30 with experienced instructors from Pos+Ability. Transport can be provided

Tuesday

Well-being Pilates Class 9.30am to 10.30am. A friendly group of 6 ladies currently attend and any new members would be welcomed. Payment per term or half termly. Contact Jax Eade 262767; pilates@jaxeade.co.uk

Insane Training 7.30pm to 8.30pm. Circuit training - functional based fitness class. New members welcome. Weekly payment on the door or via website. Contact Neil Marsh - 07902031765/ Ashley Edwards - 07785117630. Insanetraining.co.uk

Wednesday

Multi skill activities 4pm to 4.45pm for 4-6 year olds with a qualified coach.

Junior HITT (Histon & Impington Table Tennis) 5-6pm for 7- 11 year olds with qualified coach

Thursday

Pilates 10-11am and Tai Chi 11.30 -1pm
Whole body exercise

Rec singing group 2.30 - 4pm. Not a choir, no audition, good friends, good company. Held 2nd & 4th afternoons

Hatha Yoga Sivananda 7.30pm to 9pm. Open level - everyone welcome. Weekly payment. Contact Francesca Porcu 07515265527; Kamala.HathaYoga@gmail.com

Friday

Healthy walking group 9.45am to 10.45am, meet outside the Rec Centre

Active Start Club 1.45 - 2.45 for pre-school children aged 2 to 4 . Parent and child sessions focussing on fun, playful games and movement skill with a qualified coach

Hockey coaching on the MUGA 4-5 pm for young people in School Year 7 upwards; 5-6 pm for children in School years 4-6

For information on general activities call Neil on 232514 & for older people call on Jean 07772 437789

Neil Davies/Lynda Marsh

ANOTHER BONFIRE BURN UP IN NOVEMBER

The third Bonfire Burn 10k takes place on Sunday 3rd November, and again features a route including two iconic regional landmarks; the Cambridge Guided Busway and the Cambridge Science Park.

The Bonfire Burn is a charitable event organised by a Histon community charity and it is hoped that nearly 1000 runners will be bought together on the day.

The 10k run devised by race director Neil Davies in 2011 follows a multi terrain route from Impington, along the Guided Busway cycleway to the Cambridge Science Park, through the Park to Milton Road, before returning to the Bus cycleway back to Cambridge Regional College. The route then proceeds into the country along the ancient Mereway Bridleway returning to Impington and the finish at the village Recreation Ground.

Neil Davies enthuses on how the run has developed; “ The Bonfire Burn seemed to catch the imagination of the running community immediately it was launched two years ago, we had over 700 runners in 2011 and last year this increased to 900. This year for the first time we have chip timing ‘

Online race registration is available at; www.bonfireburn10k.co.uk

The entry fee is £12 for adults, and Under 18s £7 (the minimum age for entry is 15).

Organised and staffed entirely by volunteers, the event is sponsored by Progress- The Cambridge Centre for Health and Performance, Impington Sports Centre and Tucker Gardner.

The event is being organised by Friends of Histon & Impington Recreation Ground, a charity that fundraises to improve leisure and sporting facilities on the village Recreation Ground. In the last two years nearly £10k has been raised from the run, and this has helped fund new initiatives such as the weekly stroke recoverers and survivors club held at the Rec, sports coaches and landscaping improvements.

Event information also available from Neil Davies 232514

Neil Davies

A14 CHANGES

The Parish Council's A14 Working Party - a mix of residents, interested parties and councillors, and including a representative from Girton - met with the Highways Agency to get more information on the schemes planned for the A14.

Whilst a consultation on the large £1.5Bn tolling scheme has been announced in the meantime, the group was concentrating on 3 smaller schemes which are due in the next two years. These schemes combined will make the stretch from Girton to Histon & Impington 3-lanes each way. This will obviously have a direct impact on our villages especially nearby residents.

The meeting was constructive and our concerns across many aspects were explained to the Highways Agency. The two councils agreed on the following statement:

"Girton Parish Council and Histon & Impington Parish Council have studied the proposals to make the A14 3-lanes each way between our villages, and agree on the following comments:

1. We are concerned at potential increases in atmospheric, noise, light and visual pollution as well as drainage. We ask that adequate safeguards are implemented through our villages;
2. As a contribution to reducing most forms of pollution and standing traffic and to improve safety and reliability, we request that engineers consider the imposition of a 50mph limit through our villages; a 50mph limit would increase the capacity of the road;
3. As a contribution to reducing chronic noise pollution we request the entire stretch of road is surfaced with sound-reducing tarmac through our villages;
4. As a contribution to providing direct line-of-sight protection for our villages, we request that suitable physical barriers are provided and ultimately large vegetation to provide cover and absorb pollutants through our villages."

David Legge

THE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Are delighted to announce the publication of "Cheers! : the history of the Pubs of Histon and Impington."

It will make a great Christmas present for dads and brothers etc!

The original booklet, researched and written by John and Monica Allen in 1989, has been updated and enlarged to an A4, laminated,

104 page book, containing a wealth of fascinating photos, some never seen before, history, documents, reminiscences and anecdotes.

Copies are £11.99, and can be obtained from Histon Library or 233397, 564716 or 232744.

Photographic Memories has now been re-printed, price £9.99 and can be obtained by phoning the above.

Barbara Parr, Village Society

THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Last year and for many years previously a herculean task was undertaken,

To light the Green for Christmas. With tree, and lights so beautiful, to take your breath away.

Last year, despite all efforts, we were told, it did not even cause a gasp, let alone a breathless moment.

Ah ha we thought, something must be done, but what can we possibly do. A budget yes, but limited funds,

A real conundrum it was. Then a voice was heard to say, “Why not ask our businesses to perhaps, donate a little ..”

“We can’t do that” said a few. “How do we ask?” said others and “Who do we ask?” said some.

A lot of thought was generated and in the silence a voice was heard to say “I will do it.” Looking around for whence the sound, I realised it was ME!!

Once said it could not be retracted, so my plan was born,

Pick a day when it was fine, pin a smile upon my face and jump into the fray.

A simple plan, go door to door, find the boss and try to look appealing, professional and avoid tripping over my feet, my walking stick and my words.

With trepidation, I set forth, my mission to accomplish. I parked the car, and set off prepared with ID card, BACS details and full of hope. As I parked the car, my mind wandered off, on its own, as usual. As part of my working life, I use metaphors, or stories, to impart a useful message.

One of the tasks I used to set my students in constructing metaphors was to create a story out of a list of random words or phrases, so, in no particular order, here is the story constructed from the generous businesses that have donated or promised to donate towards the lights on the green this Christmas.

A group of gnomes and fairies went out for a walk one day and as they walked along they saw a beautiful mirror in the distance with an exquisite frame, they stopped to admire it and noticed the name engraved on it “Jane”. This must be Jane’s Frame they decided. It was a magical mirror, so being gnomes and fairies, it seemed quite reasonable to walk through it, and the next thing they experienced was quite a shock, there they were,

face to face with a Red Lion! At this point, all the gnomes and fairies did not know what to do, when out of the blue a figure appeared full of good advice, called Barclays. “Fear not” he said, I advise you to feed the lion with a special brew called Barley Mow, you

can get this from the good witch EAS Accountancy (she’s very good with numbers as well). Interestingly the lion was a pet of the local monarch King Bill (officially King William), he was a friendly and benevolent fellow.

The fairies and gnomes chose to visit the king, but one of the fairies felt she needed to de-tour via The Beauty Studio, where they adorned her with a Daisy Chain. While she was doing this, the gnomes remembered all

the gold they were carrying and deposited it with the Cambridge Building Society who were very appreciative of the deposit.

The journey then continued and in a field they met a chap, who said his name was Tucker and he was a Gardner (his pronunciation). He was doing a fantastic job in the field, making a lot of people happy. One of the ways he kept up his energy was to buy lots of his meals at the Histon Fryer. That was easily ascertained by his girth.

The gnomes and fairies were getting a little tired by now when they stopped for a rest, at the side of the road they saw a very smart Boot. A single boot so therefore the gnomes named it The Boot. In the distance a bird with amazing colours was sighted and they laughed with delight. It was the first time anyone there had seen a Phoenix. As they enjoyed the sight a tinkling laugh was heard, they looked around and there they saw a huge Christmas tree and perched right on the topmost branch was a Christmas fairy, who introduced herself as Florateg.

After all this excitement it was agreed to record their adventures, get a Print Out and take it to the Post Office in order to send it to the King for his amusement.

So, Dear Reader that is where my mind wandered. The day passed quickly and in most premises I was met with courtesy and interest. So thank you to all who have donated or promised donations. It is not too late, if you wish to donate towards the lights please send your donation, to the Parish Council Office, it will be gratefully received and acknowledged in our newsletter after Christmas. Best wishes to you all.

Josephine P Teague

HELP! WORLD WAR 1 MEMORABILIA WANTED

The Histon and Impington Village Society is planning a special display of World War 1 memorabilia to mark its start on 4th August 2014, with a meeting about this in January next year.

This all takes time, so please can you start looking in your attic, chest of drawers, shed, etc. to find what you have in the way of photos/pictures, letters, documents, medals, etc. we can copy or photograph?

Or, you may have recollections of what your forbears said about it all?

We’ll have more info in the next edition of the Hisimp News in the New Year, but in the meantime, please get in touch to tell us what you have found or to discuss the idea further, by contacting

Geoffrey Smallwood, Chairman, 234258 geoffrey@thesmallwoods.com or Barbara Parr, Secretary, 233397 cats.cradle@hotmail.co.uk

Council & Committee Meetings

See website for details: www.hisimp.net

Full Council - Recreation Centre from 7 p.m. - Monday 21st October; Monday 18th November 2013

Planning - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Tuesday 1st October; 15th October; 29th October; 12th November; 26th November; 17th December 2013

Highways - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Thursday 14th November 2013

Finance Legal & Administration - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 7th October; 16th December 2013

Environment - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Tuesday 22nd October 2013

Community Facilities - Parish Office 7.45 p.m. - Thursday 12th December 2013

Recreation Ground - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 25th November 2013

Youth - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 14th October 2013

Kings Meadows - Venue and time TBC - Wednesday 4th December 2013

By-Pass Farm - Junior School Hall 7.30pm - Monday 4th November 2013

Residents are welcome to attend all Council meetings.

At Full Council there is a standing agenda item for Public Participation