

The Newsletter of Histon & Impington Parish Council

Sixth Edition - January 2014

OUR FUTURE, OUR PLAN

Amongst other developments in 2013 two stand out as potentially having a major impact on Histon & Impington and, if our community doesn't respond with vigour, could result in changes which we would not want to see.



Community action saved Histon station

The first was the publication of the South Cambs Local Plan which was later approved by South Cambs' Cabinet and is now going through the 'objections' stage before it can be adopted. Our community and the Parish Council were largely successful during this process and as a result:

- plans to put 350 houses on Buxhall Farm were not approved although we can expect the developer to come back and object to this; and
- plans to use Bypass Farm for recreation space and for the area around Histon Station to be a mixed-use development were approved. However because the Local Plan is not yet adopted a developer has submitted plans for the Bishop's site (part of the station area) which do not conform.

The Local Plan referred to a Local Transport Strategy which included some grand ideas but no funding. This came along later.

The second development was the Government's approval of a City Deal for Cambridge. This will give Cambridge (and South Cambs) access to over £1 billion to support growth and it is this deal which will enable the Local Transport Strategy to be funded.

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BYPASS FARM- A NEW COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE ?

For some time the Parish Council has been seeking to find ways of increasing the public open space and recreational space in the villages. With less than half the national standards we are considerably below the minimum suggested provision for our current population.

Our searches have found very few opportunities and we reported in last September's edition of HisImp News that Histon and Impington Parish Council had been discussing the possibility of acquiring a 12 acre field at Bypass Farm. The 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.

As part of a consultation exercise the Parish Council held a Public Meeting at the Junior School in November which was attended by a large number of residents from throughout the community and a number who would be directly affected. The session was extremely useful for both the Council members and the residents, and there was a lively exchange of ideas and opinions. The principle of recreational use was widely accepted and supported with some debate following on about more specific aspirations in years to come.

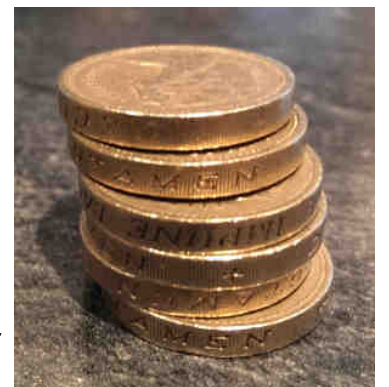


At that meeting it was confirmed that should the leasehold acquisition of the land take place a second phase of the consultation would follow about possible uses and the type of facilities that the community will like to see provided on the site. A commitment was also made to local residents to separately consult with them on usage, screening and reduction of the impact on them.

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COUNCIL TAX

At its meeting this month the Parish Council set a precept for 2014/15 which is 7.3% higher than the one for 2013/14. This will result in a total Parish component of Council Tax for a Band D property for the year of £87.67, an average increase of around £6 across the two villages.



The Parish Council has an ambitious programme for 2014/15 with a budget of £462,126. This is a big increase over 2013/14 and includes funding (80% from reserves) for the possible acquisition and development of Bypass Farm.

No decision has been made yet to proceed with the Bypass Farm plans. This will be debated and voted on at February's Parish Council meeting.

The Parish Council's programme will be financed with £58,085 income, £117,350 being taken from specific reserves and the remainder from precept.

When the Government introduced local Council Tax support (ie support for individuals who cannot pay the full Council Tax) in April 2013 they didn't give councils such as South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) all the money necessary to fund the scheme.

One of the results of this was that the Parish Council's income was reduced. Government provides funding to SCDC (and similar Councils) to pass on to Parishes to bridge the gap.

Last year SCDC had to pass on this money. But this year they have a choice, and they've chosen not to. This leaves Histon & Impington Parish Council out of pocket to the tune of £19,288. The increase in the precept is to replace this grant. No more and no less.

2014: AN EXCITING YEAR FOR HISTON & IMPINGTON

2014 promises to be an eventful year in our community. 2012 and 2013 were already pretty memorable with several Royal Wedding and Olympics inspired events and this year we've got the Tour de France and other initiatives.



The year starts slowly in January with the Friends of the Rec annual quiz on Friday 31st. The Friends (www.friendsoftherec.co.uk) was formed several years ago to raise money to support the new Rec and it's not lost the habit. It's raised over £100,000 over the years and now does much more organising and promoting a range of activities including a number highlighted below.

In February IVC will hold its annual art exhibition. This has been held every year since 1958 and has been the source of many paintings which are on display around the college. And maybe towards the end of the month we'll see new gates to Homefield Park although perhaps March is more likely.



We celebrate Spring in March with Choir 2000's Spring Concert (www.choir2000.org)

at the Baptist Church when it will be performing JS Bach's St John Passion. There will be other concerts in May (Come and Sing), June (Summer concert) and December (Advent concert).

Easter's late in 2014. It doesn't arrive until the middle of April when it coincides with the Red Lion beer festival

(theredlionhiston.co.uk). It's also the month when we expect to see the newly refurbished St Andrews Centre opening its doors for the first time. And we'll see the first events of the year organised by the Enviro Volunteers (hisimpenviro.wordpress.com) at the Crossing Keepers Hut, first to celebrate Easter and later St George's Day.

In May there's the annual parish meeting, and look out for something a little more than usual this year, and the start of summer activities at the Rec with the Impington Running Festival on Mayday Bank Holiday Monday

The Flaming June Half Marathon (hwww.theflamingjunehalf.co.uk) is organised by the Friends and will run for the first time in June, 2014. It will be followed at the end of the month by the Rec Sports and Funday which will include a local cycling event in anticipation of the visit of the Tour de France to Cambridge in July and an inter village Community Games. Watch out for more details which will be released 'shortly'.

July as always is the Histon Feast (www.hisimp.com/feast) which sets us up for



a summer of activity and we keep our fingers crossed that we can enjoy most of them outside.

There will be events to remember the start of World War 1 across the UK and around the world in August. Histon & Impington will participate and plans are being developed to ensure that we can all remember and understand.

There's more history to reflect on in September as IVC celebrates 75 years since it first opened its door to students. We can expect IVC75 to run through the next 12 months as the college uses this event to raise its profile and establish a good foundation for its next 75 years.

October's the time for Harvest Festivals and then with the end of summer time winter's rapidly approaching.

There's another Friends event in November: the successful Bonfire Burn 10k (www.bonfireburn10k.co.uk) in its 4th year. Later in the month we get to enjoy the fireworks at IVC and then at the end of the



month there's a Halloween event at the Crossing Keeper's Hut run by the Enviro Volunteers. And of course November is the month of Remembrance Sunday with the service at the war memorial.

Finally December: Carols on the Green, Santa's Grotto at the Crossing Keeper's Hut (Enviro Volunteers again) and, of course, Christmas Services at our churches. It's going to be quite a year.

KEY CONTACTS

Friends of the Rec, Neil Davies, 232514, neilsdavies12@gmail.com

IVC, Amy Wormald, awormald@impington.cambs.sch.uk

Choir 2000, Beatrix Bown, 561635, beatrix@ntlworld.com,

Histon Feast, Steve Cox, 237176, stevecox.histon@gmail.com

Enviro Volunteers, Pene Nudds, pene.nudds@googlemail.com



TWILIGHT AT THE MUSEUMS

Wednesday 19th February 2014
4.30pm to 8:30pm

As darkness falls, Museums and collections across Cambridge are opening their doors into the night for an exciting evening of FREE drop-in and bookable family events.

Taking place in twelve venues across the city, set out and discover the extraordinary world of Cambridge museums and collections after dark. Whether it's experiencing the sights and sounds of ice at The Polar Museum, journeying by torchlight through the Botanic Garden Glasshouses or creating amazing photographs in the evocative setting of the Museum of Technology, there will be plenty to explore!

Get ready for the adventure by visiting www.cam.ac.uk/museums/twilight

The following venues are taking part in Twilight at the Museums:

Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology,



Downing Street www.maa.cam.ac.uk

Cambridge University Botanic Garden, Brookside www.botanic.cam.ac.uk

Museum of Cambridge, Castle Street www.folkmuseum.org.uk

Cambridge Science Centre, Jesus Lane www.cambridgesciencecentre.org

Museum of Classical Archaeology, Sidgwick Avenue www.classics.cam.ac.uk/museum

Farmland Museum and Denny Abbey, Ely road, Waterbeach (A10) www.dennyfarmlandmuseum.org.uk

Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk

Kettle's Yard, Castle Street www.kettlesyard.co.uk

The Polar Museum, Lensfield Road www.spri.cam.ac.uk/museum

Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences, Downing Street www.sedgwickmuseum.org

Cambridge Museum of Technology, Cheddars Lane www.museumoftechnology.com

Whipple Museum of the History of Science, Free School Lane www.hps.cam.ac.uk/whipple

SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS FOR STATION ROAD AND THE HIGH STREET NEARING FRUITION

A year ago plans were in place to put in a traffic island between the Co-Op and The Boot, to help pedestrians cross a very wide 'splay' and discourage vehicles turning onto Station Road from cutting the corner. So confident were we that it was going to happen an article appeared in this newsletter announcing it. Well, as you may have noticed we were wrong - its not there. Yet.

This is a central area of the villages, and is a 'meeting of ways', with a lot of traffic, school children, parents with buggies and much more, all coming together at one crunch point.

The County Council took the scheme back to the drawing board and in consultation with the Parish Council have come up with a more comprehensive set of improvements; and it should be worth the wait.

The original proposal was for a traffic island to slow turning traffic and ease pedestrian crossing, however an alternative is to build out the kerb on both sides. The two schemes have been drawn up and analysis is being done to ensure larger vehicles can make the turn safely. The final hurdle is submission to a 'Safety Audit' which is due in the near future.

Whichever of the two Station Road schemes are chosen, work to improve the wider area is also planned. The pavement and kerbs outside the Co-Op Food and Pharmacy stores will be tidied up and realigned to improve safety for pedestrians and encourage a safer flow of traffic. Finally, the prospect of a crossing onto The Green is much welcomed in the form of a zebra crossing.

This work is funded by money coming from infrastructure budgets from large developments in the 'Cambridge Northern Corridor'. For anyone interested, the scheme is to be presented at the Council Meeting on 17th February at 7:30pm at the Rec Ground.

BUS BOOST FUNDING TO HELP IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY AT THE COPPICE

Having taken some time to evaluate the state of the bus facilities - alongside similar exercises for dropped kerbs, cycle parking provision and footpath barriers - in and around the villages, the Parish Council was able to identify that the bus stop at The Coppice needs some attention.

It was brought to our attention that it can be difficult to get on and off at this stop due to the height difference between the path and the road (unusually, the path is lower than the road) - especially for those with mobility problems.

So when applications were invited in the autumn for ways to improve bus services, the Parish Council was able to respond quickly with an already developed scheme. Funding has been provided by the Department for Transport under its Better Bus Area Fund and is being administered by the County Council. Work must be implemented by the Government's deadline of 31 March 2014.

Confirmation has been received that our bid was successful, so hopefully by the next newsletter the work will have been done.



NEW SAFER LIMIT NORTH OF THE GREEN

As you may well have noticed, the speed limit through the villages as you approach from Cottenham on the B1049 has now been dropped to 30mph. This is one of the most requested changes from residents, especially after the speed limit was dropped south of The Green as part of the cycleway improvements two or three years ago:

A local resident reported "My 6 year old is asking when the 30 speed limit is going to happen so that we can cross the main rd more safely. Why is an important safety issue taking so long to implement after it was agreed?"

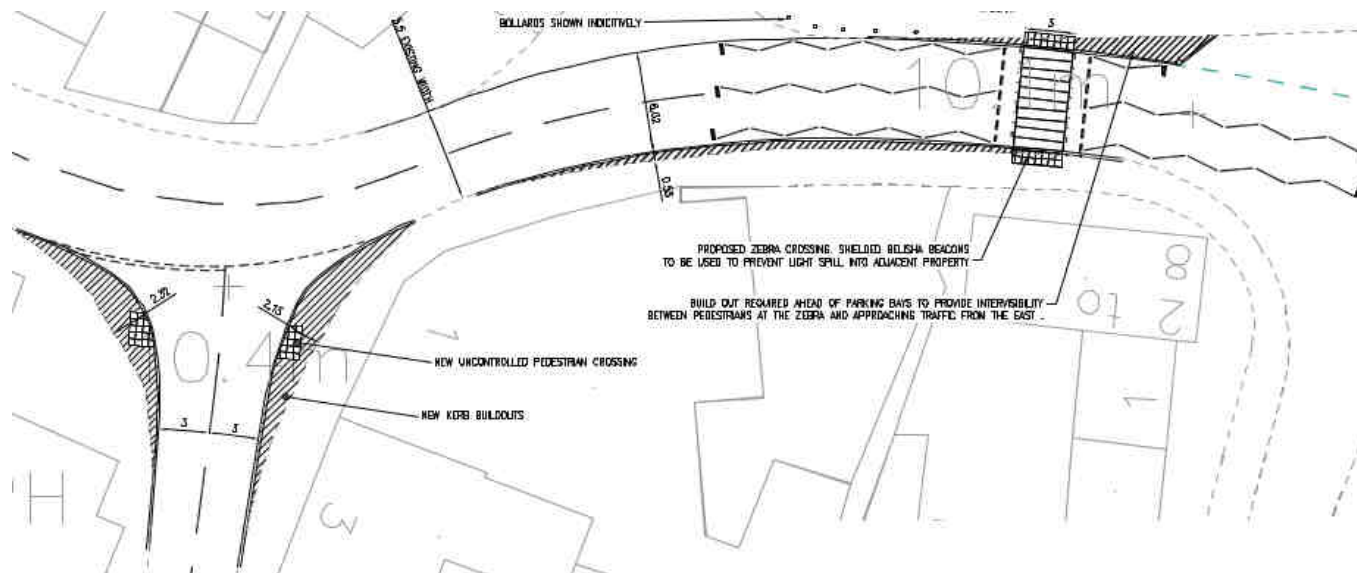
When it became clear the County Council were not going to make the speed limit change themselves, the Parish Council agreed to fund work. In discussion at Full Council it was almost unanimously requested to reduce the speed limit from the furthest extent of the village.



It is hoped that dropping the limit will provide a safer environment for less confident cyclists and pedestrians to move about the villages, and be able to cross a busy road. As a stretch of road that suffers with congestion in and around the peak hours it is also hoped that it will encourage smoother traffic flows, with less acceleration and consequent braking - reducing harmful emissions as a result.

The Parish Council has had a number of complaints about the Ambrose Way junction being unsafe for traffic turning right from The Green with fast moving traffic coming from the north - by dropping the speed limit the chance of accidents should be reduced.

With the change to signage being fairly subtle - it mainly involved the removal of small 40 'repeater' signs, but with no equivalent replacement signs required - it has been reported that some drivers have not noticed the different speed limit. Perhaps you could help out by mentioning it to people and make a point of observing the limit if you are on that stretch. There are plans to provide some '30' signs for wheelie bins to residents and we are hoping the new @HISpeedWatch group will be running some more sessions in that area soon.



DO YOU LIKE MEETING AND HELPING PEOPLE?

And have some time to spare?

Are you looking for something new to do in the New Year?

Voluntary drivers are needed in Histon and Impington for the community car scheme

The villages are currently covered by Cottenham CareCar.

Drivers are needed to help residents in Histon and Impington.

- The community car scheme provides a life-line for those who would otherwise be unable to get to medical appointments, shopping and other services or to keep in touch with relatives and friends.
- Drivers use their own cars.
- They are covered by their own motor insurance.
- Additional insurance is provided by Cambridgeshire County Council.
- Passengers make a contribution to their journey and mileage expenses are reimbursed.
- All journeys are booked through a coordinator.
- Drivers can give as much or as little time as they wish.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact Jane Johannessen at Care Network on 01354 211919 jane.j@care-network.org.uk

SWITCH TO CHEAPER ENERGY

Cambridgeshire residents are being given the chance to cut their energy bills with the launch of the Cambridgeshire Energy Switch scheme. The scheme, which is being supported by [Cambridgeshire County Council](#), uses the collective bargaining power of residents to bid for better prices for electricity and gas to save you money.

From this week residents can



sign up via www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/switch - the deadline for joining this first switch for 2014 is 18th February when energy suppliers are given an opportunity to offer this group of residents a deal to provide their electricity and gas. The more who sign up the better. There is no obligation to accept an offer from companies and the service is free of charge.

The aim of the Cambridgeshire Energy Switch scheme is to save money on energy bills at a time of rising prices. All residents on both credit and pre-payment meters qualify to join the Cambridgeshire Energy Switch.

Anyone wishing to sign up or find out more should log onto www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/switch If people do not have access to the internet they can use one of the computers in their local library or contact Cambridgeshire County Council via emma.middleton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

OUR FUTURE, OUR PLAN

(Continued from page 1)

There's a lot in this which doesn't directly affect H&I but there's also much that does including congestion on the B1049 and improvements in bus services including guided bus connections.

If we are going to be able to influence these developments in a way that ensures that they enhance our villages and improve the quality of our lives we must have our own planning framework in place and that means a Neighbourhood Plan.

Neighbourhood Plans are relatively new and not many have been developed. Typically local councils (town and parish) take the lead but they must reflect extensive local involvement. When adopted, the process can take 18 months to two years, the plans are material planning considerations and development plans can be rejected because they do not conform.

A Neighbourhood Plan for Histon & Impington is important and we need your support.

The Parish Council has initiated the Neighbourhood Plan process and there will be an open meeting on Thursday 6th February 2014. Come along if you're interested in how our villages will develop in the future and how you can play a role in that process.

There's more information about the Neighbourhood Plan for Histon & Impington at www.hiplan.net.

CHOIR 2000

Choir 2000 traditionally holds a retiring collection



for a local charity at its Advent concerts. Thanks to the generosity of the audience at the Advent concerts on 6th and 7th December 2013 the choir was able to send a donation of £900.00 to Arthur Rank Hospice. We wish to thank all those who contributed so magnificently.

The next Choir 2000 concerts will be held on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd March, at 8.00pm at the Histon Baptist Church with performances of the 'St John Passion' by J.S. Bach.

Ticket prices will be held at £10.00, £8.00 concessions, £5.00 for students. Under 16s free. They will be available from the middle of February from Jane's Frames, Histon

SPONSORED BY:

- Holiday Inn
- Spirit Health Club
- Find your true Spirit
- South Cambridgeshire District Council

UP & RUNNING

Register online:
www.theflamingjunehalf.co.uk
or call:
01223-232514

A rural multi terrain half marathon across flowing Cambridgeshire countryside

Start & finish: Histon and Impington Recreation Ground, Cambridge CB24 9LU. Male/female age groups - 17 upwards

Chip timing. Momento to all finishers

£20 entry fee. Refreshments, toilets, car parking

THE FLAMING JUNE HALF MARATHON

SUNDAY 1st JUNE 2014 10am

DO SOMETHING SPECIAL... BECOME A FOSTER CARER IN 2014

Cambridgeshire County Council needs more foster families to help transform lives and meet the needs of local children and young people. Although the service has seen an increase in enquiries they still need to encourage more people to make that call and consider fostering.

People become Foster Carer because they want to give children and young people a home for as long as they needed it. There are so many positive changes that a families love and commitment can make and anyone who has a caring nature should consider fostering.

Every child is different so we need different Foster Carers. If you have a spare room and can offer stability, security and the positive experience of a loving family then we want to hear from you.

You might be:

- Married, in a civil partnership, single or living with a partner
- From an ethnic background
- In work, unemployed or retired

Recruiting local people will mean that children and young people can live in their own community, continue to attend the same school and maintain contact with their family and friends.

In return we offer generous allowances including a start up package, 24 hour support and full training.

Call our freephone number on 0800 052 0078 or email fanda@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

BYPASS FARM- A NEW COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE ?

(Continued from page 1)

Negotiations have since progressed with the owners, County Farms (part of the County Council) and it is anticipated that in the near future, possibly at the February Parish Council meeting, a proposal will be made to proceed to acquire a lease on the land.

The Parish Council Community Facilities Committee believes that the leasehold purchase of the land at the Bypass Farm now is justifiable in itself to provide usable public open space irrespective of specific developments for specific purposes. They consider that the acquisition would represent a strategic investment for the future and safeguard the land from development.

An incremental approach to provide facilities over a period of between five and ten years could provide both flexibility and momentum to encourage active participation from the community.

The Parish Council over the last decade has a good track of delivering new and improved community facilities but will require help if the initial first step to acquire the land is agreed. If you would like to become involved please contact Angela Young at the Parish Office on 235906 or email clerk@hisimp.net

RECREATION GROUND WEEKLY ACTIVITIES SPRING 2014

Activities for all ages held in the Recreation Ground Centre unless otherwise advised

Sunday

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

Monday

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

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

Tuesday

Well-Being Pilates Class 9.30 - 10.30 am (term time): Contact Jax Eade - 01223 262767, pilates@jaxeade.co.uk

Zumba Gold - New for 2014! - 11 to 12 noon (term time): Contact Davina Mee 07779 244250

April Martin Ballet Classes 4 - 7 pm (term time): Contact April Martin - 01954 200533, tuturus@ntlwold.com

Wednesday

Jill Bridger Melody Bear Dance Classes 9.45 - 11.45am (term time): Contact Karen Dear - 01480 469711, karendear99@aol.com

Multi Skills Activities 4 - 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 a qualified coach

Zumba Classes 6.30 - 7.30 pm all year round Contact Katie Granger - 07980 429730, katiegranger.zumba@gmail.com

Thursday

Pilates 10 - 11am

Tai Chi 11.30 - 1pm whole body exercise

Rec Singing Group 2.30 - 4pm. Not a choir, no audition, good friends, good company. Held second and fourth Thursday afternoons

Friday

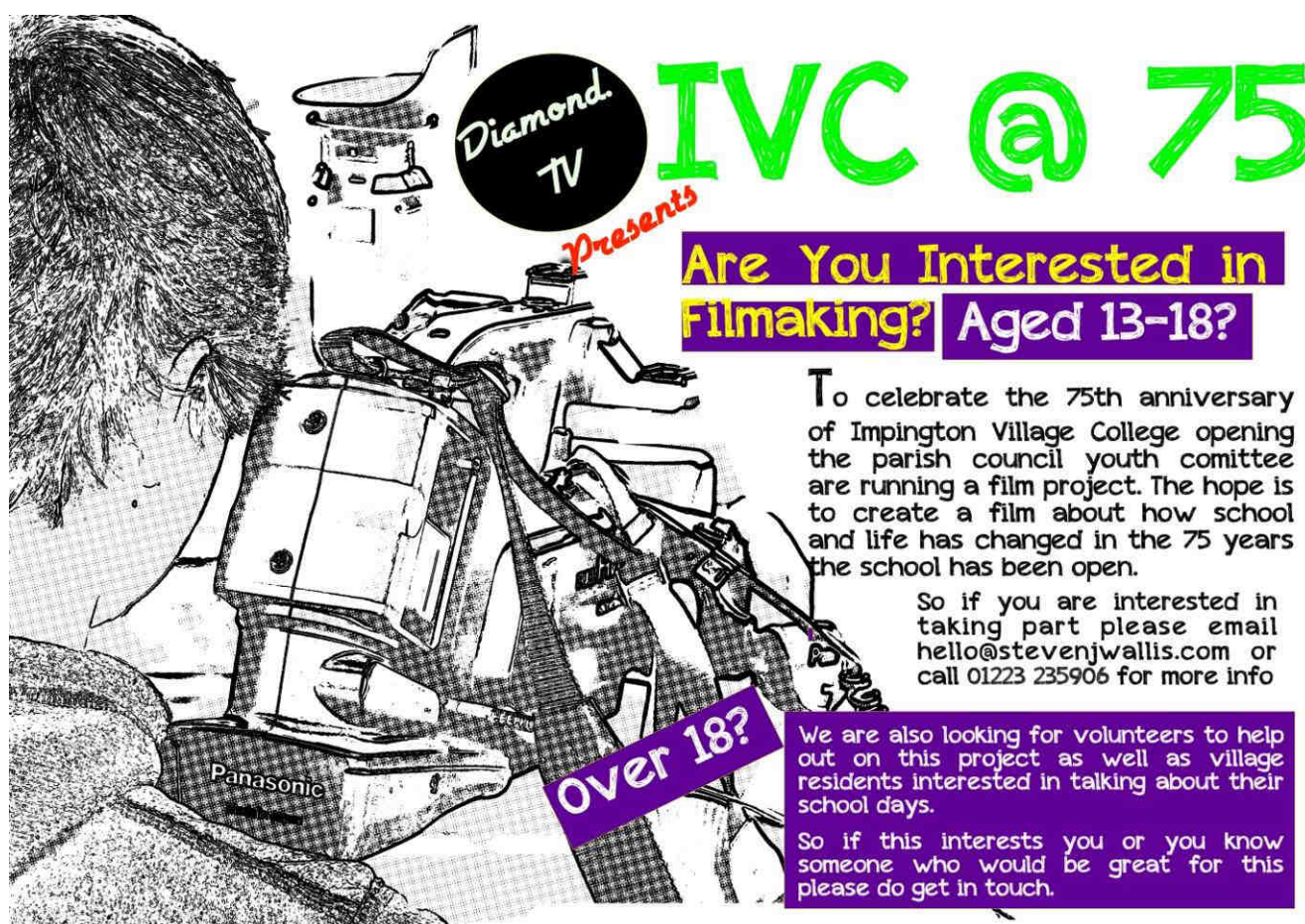
Healthy Walking Group 9.45 - 10.45am, meets outside Recreation Ground Pavilion

Baby 'Sing and Sign' classes 9.30 - 12 noon (term time): Contact Lorna Dunn 07795 576801, singandsigncambridge@yahoo.com

Where no contact details are given, the event is organised via Friends of the Rec and the contacts are:

General activities: Neil 232514

Older people call Jean 07772 437789



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.

SWEETNESS AND LIGHTS

'The lights reflecting in the pond were enchanting and captured the magic of Christmas.'



Such reflections as this from one observer, in themselves, give the same warmth and delight as the lights on The Green clearly provided over the holiday period. Indeed, feedback generally, both through conversation

and online, offered much encouragement to those responsible for the festive display to ensure that the tradition of lighting the villages at Christmas is sustained and developed next year and beyond. We also managed to obtain a Christmas Tree to brighten the area for our Kings Meadows residents and some super solar lights for the Copse just in time for Santa's Grotto this year.

People's personal tastes, where Christmas displays are concerned, are never likely to achieve much in the way of common ground: and whilst, for some, the spangly necklace, new this year, was somewhat 'vulgar' or 'out of place', and others consider having too many lights 'tacky and garish', there have been many more who felt that the whole spectacle was 'up with the best' and hoped that we 'might have some more next year'.

Whatever developments do emerge depends on a number of constraints -



practical, budgetary, logistical, as well as those simply of 'taste'; to help address all those issues, the Council would welcome positive suggestions for next year, in addition to any offers of practical assistance, particularly in the context of events or activities which could 'happen' during the Christmas period.

In the meantime, our sincere thanks must go to our electrician Adam Edwards, his helpers on the day Trevor Smith and Derek Marston, Floratec for donating the Christmas tree which 'looked lovely' as it sparkled in the windy darkness and was repeatedly described as 'great!' by those who replied online; and to all those businesses who responded so generously to the Council's appeal for financial help, so making The Green a bright place to be at Christmas:

Village Fryer The Phoenix Purple Media
Daisy Chain The Boot Inn Jane's Frames
Cambridge Building Society Print Out
Barclays Bank The Red Lion Tucker Gardner

THE HIGH STREET: CHANGE HAPPENS

This year we'll see big changes at both ends of the High Street.

At the top end at the School Hill junction we will see the new St Andrews Centre (www.standrewscentre.org.uk) opening. Not only will we see the refurbishment of the hundred year old Church Halls but the community will also acquire a new cafe and several modern meeting rooms.



Artist's impression of the new St Andrews Centre

And at the bottom end the High Street and Station Road junction will be remodelled. This (see page 4) will deliver significant improvements for pedestrians who cross Station Road, walk across the front of the Co-Op and cross onto the Green.

We are fortunate in having such a vibrant and successful High Street and other shops and cafes and a pub along Station Road and in Vision Park. We also plan to add to these in developments close to Histon Station.

Looking forward most people would say that we should protect the High Street; in fact we'd probably like to see it develop and respond to the community and its needs for the future. Now's your chance to say how this might happen. We've set up a survey site at is.gd/BL8oOv. Please go to the site and give us your ideas.



ELECTRICAL WASTE KERBSIDE COLLECTION - HELPING OUR COMMUNITY

You may well have been one of the residents who took advantage of the kerbside collection of unwanted electrical goods on 7 November.

Despite efforts to advertise the service on our website, various notice boards and via this newsletter, some residents were unaware of the event. It will be repeated on 8th May 2014 - look out for details! A great way to clear out that clutter without a major trip to the landfill/recycling site.

3,081kg was collected from 78 properties, ranging from large appliances like fridges down to small ones such as kettles. This has resulted in a payment to the Parish Council of £102.04 which will be used towards improvement projects planned in the villages.

The WISER Group are a local electrical recycler, based in St Ives who have been operating for nearly 10 years, employing local people, working with Charitable Organisations providing work for the long term unemployed and young people.

ARE YOU, OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A BROWNIE?



This year we celebrate 100 years since the formation of the Brownies, or Rosebuds as they were initially

known, and you are invited to join in with a very special challenge.

Our local Brownies will be taking part in a number of exciting activities to celebrate the occasion, and one of these is a challenge to the whole community.

We would like to invite anyone who has ever enrolled as a Brownie to place a candle or light in their window on the evening of the 22nd February from 5



- **8.00pm**. 22nd February is of course our 'Thinking Day' and Brownies both past and present all over the country will be taking part in this challenge. The girls will be going out during the evening to see how many Brownies there have been in our villages.

If you would like to learn more about Girlguiding or Brownies you can do so via our website www.girlguiding.org.uk or, more locally www.histondistrictguiding.btck.co.uk

HOMEFIELD PARK: A NEW ENTRANCE WAY

Tim Ward of Circling the Square Ltd is a well-known public artist appointed by the Parish Council to create a new feature gateway for Homefield Park. The project is part of a longer-term strategy to increase the use and interest in the park, and relates to some research carried out during the Feast Week a few years ago. Based on this it was decided to commission something to make the entrance more obvious and more welcoming and to celebrate the park.

Tim has gathered historical information about the Park from the Histon & Impington Village Society and has worked with students at the Junior School and Impington Village College. Some of the students work was displayed during the Day in the Park in December, and images of the event and some of the students work is on display in Histon Library. Tim is using the research and ideas generated to design the new gateway for Homefield Park. The finished design will be shown in the library in due course.

The Parish Council recruited Tim to complete the project because apart from being an talented artist that produces elegant designs, he has experience of working with community groups.



Consultation at Homefield Park - December 2013
© Trevor Lee

The money for the project has come via a S106 planning agreement with SCDC from the extension to the NIAB buildings at the end of Villa Road. A key part of the agreement is that the money can only be spent on public art and within a set timeframe.

Over the last few years the Park has seen significant improvements including installation of paths to improve access, maintenance of fencing and control of vegetation. The improvements have been achieved through a combination of voluntary contribution and employed contractors.

Consequently the daily use of the park has increased, and along with The Histon Early Years centre using the Park as a venue for their Forest School activities, Pinders Circus have been holding performances there each

Spring for the last three years.

Future Public Art Projects

There is further money available resulting from the housing development on the old SAICA site - now called Primrose Lane. In order to secure the funds, the Parish Council has to provide information about what the money would be used for to SCDC. In order to do this the PC are asking people what sort of future public art they would like to see in the villages. You can take part in the survey by visiting the library where there is a display and some voting forms, or online at:

In order to take part in this please complete the survey on line at: is.gd/Sxn8Ap

The survey will close on 16th February 2014 so make sure you have your say before then.

MEMORIES OF HISTON AND IMPINGTON PROJECT - CAN YOU HELP?

The aim of our project, as part of the Histon and Impington Village Society History Group activities, is to record, transcribe and publish the memories of the Histon and Impington Communities - starting with our older residents, especially for the period 1930 -1960. One of our older residents especially requested that memories be recorded and saved for posterity.

We have responded by recording some small groups in the evening in pubs, and in the afternoon at other venues. We are also able to record individual's memories in their own homes, if preferred. We hope to cover topics such as schooling, sports and pastimes, and work, as well as life in the villages and national events.

We have begun making recordings, and our team will continue to conduct interviews throughout 2014. We hope to publish a book of the memories in 2015/2016, with the possible help of a Heritage Lottery Fund grant to assist with all the costs of recording, transcribing and publication. We are looking ahead to the future when the results can be used by heritage and history researchers as well as students working on local projects.

Do circulate this information to anyone who might be interested in taking part, either by sharing memories, or helping with interviewing or transcribing the recordings.

If you are interested in being part of this Project, please contact Geoffrey Smallwood, 01223 234258, Jane Gilmour, 01223 234176, or Barbara Parr, 01223 233397

RECREATION GROUND VACANCY



The Parish Council are looking for a Groundsperson to assist the Groundsman with general ground duties to include use of machinery.

Hours up to 8 per week (flexible) to include weekend work. The position is from March to September 2014.

For any additional information please feel free to contact our Groundsman, Steve Campin on 07951 462347

Rate of pay dependant on experience.

Please apply in writing to the Parish Office or by email to rec.clerk@hisimp.net. Closing date for applications **Monday, 3rd March**

Council & Committee Meetings

See website for details: www.hisimp.net

Full Council - Recreation Centre from 7p.m. - Monday 17th February; Monday 17th March; Monday 14th April 2014

Planning - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Tuesday 28th January; 11th February; 25th February; 11th March; 25th March; 8th April 2014

Highways - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Thursday 13th March

Finance Legal & Administration - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 31st March 2014

Environment - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Tuesday 4th February; 22nd April 2014

Community Facilities - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Wednesday 29th January; Thursday 20th March 2014

Recreation Ground - Recreation Centre 7.30 p.m. - Monday 27th January; 24th March 2014

Youth - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 10th February; 7th April 2014

Kings Meadow - Wherry Housing offices 7.30 p.m. - Wednesday 26th March 2014

Residents are welcome to attend **all** Council meetings.

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