



Fen Ditton

Parish Council Newsletter



July 2014

www.fenditton-pc.org.uk

Parish Council

The Council meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Church Street. Members of the public are welcome at meetings.

Vince Farrar
(Chairman)

Charles Jones
(Vice Chairman)
Finance

Mark Easterfield
Crime and Welfare
Cemetery
Marshall's Committee
Lead Planning

Carolyn Jaiyeola
Play Area
Website and Newsletter

Jenny Parr
Cemetery
Conservation
Highways and Transport
Townlands

Geoff Peel
Finance
Highways and Transport
Community Governor,
Fen Ditton CP School
Wilyms Almshouses Trustee

Laurice Suess
Website and Newsletter

Susannah Ticciati
Laurie Woolfenden
Crime and Welfare

All parish councillors are members of the Planning Committee and Trustees of the Recreation Ground Trust. Ian Winchester is co-opted to the Recreation Ground Trust.

Parish Clerk
Sarah Smart
Tel: 01223 862687
clerk@fenditton-pc.org.uk

Tree Warden
Alan Alderson

County Councillor
John Williams
John.Williams@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

District Councillor
Robert Turner
cllr.turner@scambs.gov.uk

From the Chairman

Since the spring, we have welcomed Carolyn Jaiyeola on to the Parish Council. We have been kept very busy with issues such as traffic, the grass verges, the upkeep of the pavilion and rec, and the results of the ACRE survey into the potential demand for additional affordable houses within the village. If built, these would be specifically for people with a local connection and hence could be on a Green Belt site that would otherwise be unavailable for development. Opinion is divided, and no conclusions have been reached or possible sites identified.

The most pressing concern at the moment, though, is the proposal to build a new bridge over the River Cam. Read the article below to find out why the Parish Council is unanimously opposed to this, and what you can do to have your say.

Please help to save the views on Ditton Meadows!

You will have received a leaflet in which the County Council's Transport Delivery Team outlines some proposals for a new foot and cycle bridge over the river, on the Fen Ditton side of the railway bridge.

Our county councillor highlighted some further details (or the lack of them) at the meeting on 1st July. The Parish Council is unanimously against the proposal as it stands – even though most of the councillors are cyclists and strongly support cycling, both for leisure and for transport.

The meadow is an area of natural beauty, and an important wildlife area within a conservation area.

It is listed in at least three of the City Council's policy documents. A 5-metre wide bridge and the extensive ramps leading up to it (which are not shown in the artist's impressions) would have a devastating impact on the vista. We do not think that this very special site should be spoilt by a badly thought-out £4m bridge that leads ... to where?

A look at any map shows that there is no simple direct cycle/footpath from the proposed bridge to the new station – nor do these proposals include one. People going to the station from Fen Ditton would need to travel beyond the railway bridge and then double back, and for people coming from town the Green Dragon bridge would be more convenient.

The Parish Council strongly recommends that residents visit the exhibition in the church hall from 5–7pm on 17th July. It is vitally important that everyone registers their views, either by returning the questionnaire in the leaflet or on line (www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/newbridge). The closing date is 28th July.

If you object to the principle of the bridge, please tick the 'neither location' box at Q7. You can record any preference about the two proposed locations in the 'other comments' area at the end of the survey.

Useful Contacts

POLICE

Emergency 999
Non-emergency 101
www.cambs.police.uk
www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk

Local PCSO

John Coppard
Tel: 101 ext. 7615

E-cops

Local crime info email list
www.ecops.org.uk

Cambs Crimestoppers

Freefone 0800 555 111

GAS

Emergency 0800 111 999

ELECTRICITY

Emergency 0800 783 8838

CAMBRIDGE WATER

Burst main 01223 706050

TRANSPORT

Bus passes
0345 045 1367

Traveline

Public transport information
0871 200 2233

National Rail Enquiries

08457 48 49 50

Highways Agency

0300 123 5000

Park & Ride

01223 845561

CamShare and BikeBUDI

Free online travel share matching and advice on best cycle route
camshare.liftshare.com
camshare.liftshare.com/bikebudi.asp

Dial-a-Ride

01223 506335

South Cambs District Council

03450 450 500
Mon–Fri 8am–5.30pm
South Cambs Hall
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
Cambridge CB23 6EA
www.scambs.gov.uk

Cambs County Council

0345 045 2000
Mon–Fri 8am–6pm
Sat 9am–1pm
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Village Groups

Badminton Club
Tel: Ian 292240

Bellringers
Tel: Frank 292797

Bridge
Tel: Mike 862293

Church Choir
Tel: Mike 293417

Coffee A.M. (Nov–Apr only)
Tel: Linda 292795

Coffee Pot
Tel: Elizabeth 292697

Cricket Club
Tel: Adam 07708 261555

Gardening Club
Tel: Brenda 293705

Football
FDFC Tel: Peter 293223
Kitsonians FC
bakerowen3@aol.com

Keep Fit (50+)
Tel: Wendy 293205

Morris
coton.morris@gmx.com

FD Baby & Toddler Group
Thursday mornings at the
Church Community Hall

Recreation Ground
For pavilion and ground
bookings contact
clerk@fenditton-pc.org.uk

Church (Community) Hall
fd.cch.hall@live.co.uk

Sunday Club
10–11.30am, first Sunday
every month except August
fdsundayclub@gmail.com

Wing Update

The Cambridge East Community Forum meeting that was to have been held on 8th July has been postponed by the District Council owing to unforeseen circumstances, till later this summer. The next scheduled Forum meeting, at which Wing matters are raised and discussed, is planned for 28th October at Fen Ditton CP School, starting at 7pm. These meetings are open to everyone.

FEN DITTON VERGES GROUP

We are forming a group to focus on the village's grass verges.

The objectives will be:

- protecting the village verges and how we can best go about this
- deciding which verges should be cut regularly and which should be left in a more natural state, while still needing some management
- planting wild flowers around the village verges appropriately.

We will need both know-how and grafters, and would be specially grateful for the advice of those who have looked after the verges for many years. If you think you can help, please contact Jenny (07870 846523), Laurie (295722) or Susannah (susannah.ticciati@fenditton-pc.org.uk)



www.fenditton-pc.org.uk

Please visit our website regularly to keep up to date with news and events in the village. Under the Parish Council tab, you will find a link to the Consultations area, where you can let us know your views on current issues. At the moment these include whether or not there should be yellow lines and/or traffic lights at the crossroads and possible improvements to the pavilion. Please let us know what you think.

Helplines

www.helplines.org.uk

AgeUK
0800 169 6565

Benefits fraud hotline
Freefone 0800 854 440

Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)
020 7981 2800

Child abuse – NSPCC
Freefone 0808 800 5000

Childline
Freefone 0800 1111

Citizens Advice
0844 848 7979

Civil Legal Advice
0345 345 4345

Consumer Advice
08454 04 05 06

Cruse Bereavement Care
01223 633536

Disability – benefits
08457 123 456

Domestic Violence
Freephone 0808 2000 247

Litteraction
info@litteraction.org.uk

Marshall's Noise Helpline
01223 373950

Missing People
Freefone 116 000

National Debtline
Freefone 0808 808 4000

RSPCA Cruelty & Advice
0300 1234 999

Victim Support Line
0845 30 30 900

HIGH DITCH ROAD BRIDGE

Many vehicles going over the bridge are travelling too fast to be able to stop within the limits of visibility in an emergency. A recent survey showed a typical speed of about 48mph, but a worryingly large number significantly faster than that. The Parish Council was recently successful in its application under the county's Local Highways Initiative to have the speed limit reduced from the present 60mph, and they are currently exploring alternatives with the County highways team. One scheme that is looking increasingly likely is to have a 40mph 'buffer zone' into the village, starting on the far side of the bridge and with SLOW markings on the road surface.

Watch the website for news of progress.

The Bumps – again!

First, a big thank you to everyone who helped to keep traffic moving smoothly through the village streets during the May Bumps, either by volunteering to help with the traffic cones and car parking or by moving their cars to the Rec on the Saturday. A total of £1626 was raised, which will go towards village facilities.

The Town Bumps, which run in the evenings from 22nd to 25th July this year, are likely to be rather less busy. But we will still be providing car parking on the Rec and putting out cones on Plough Hill and a sign to discourage visitors from parking in Stanbury Close.

Once again, we will need volunteers for help with putting out the cones and parking cars safely. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you can help.