



Fen Ditton

Parish Council Newsletter



April 2016

www.fenditton-pc.org.uk

Parish Council

The Council normally meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Church Street. This year's May meeting will be an exception: it will be on the 10th, as the Annual Parish Meeting is on the 3rd. Members of the public are welcome at the meetings.

After 5th May there will be a vacancy on the Council. If you might like to become a councillor, please contact the Parish Clerk to find out more.

Vince Farrar (Chairman)

Highways and Transport
Website and Newsletter

Charles Jones (Vice Chairman)

Finance

Felicity Bennée

Finance

Emily Bush

Jennie Conroy

Conservation
Highways and Transport

Mark Easterfield

Crime and Welfare
Cemetery
Marshalls Committee
Lead Planning

Wendy Irvin-Braben

Laurice Suess

Website and Newsletter

Laurie Woolfenden

Cemetery
Crime and Welfare

All parish councillors are members of the Planning Committee, and the Parish Council is sole trustee of the Fen Ditton Recreation Ground Trust (charity no. 288528)

Parish Clerk

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

Tree Warden

Alan Alderson

District Councillor

Robert Turner
cllr.turner@scambs.gov.uk

County Councillor

John Williams
John.Williams@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

From the Chairman

In December we welcomed a young face on to the Parish Council, with the appointment of Emily Bush. She has lived in the village all her life and I am sure will make a great councillor. Sadly, we must soon say goodbye to one of our longer-serving councillors: Laurie Woolfenden has now completed two stints but decided not to stand for a third term. So, sincere thanks from us all to Laurie for all her efforts and help.

We are still waiting for news of several proposals that affect the village. Just as this newsletter was being finalised, we were told that Marshall's planning application for the Wing development is being considered by a joint committee of the County, District and City Councils on 20th April. We will report the outcome of this, as well as any news of the county's proposed bridge over the River Cam or the City Deal's proposals for cycling improvements, on the website as soon as we hear anything definite.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Church Community Hall, Church Street
Tuesday 3rd May at 7.30pm

This is not a council meeting but an open meeting for the whole parish. Councillors and representatives of other organisations present reports and take questions. Come along and find out what has been happening in Fen Ditton over the past year.

Churchyard upkeep – have your say

In 1894 the graveyard around St Mary's church in Fen Ditton was closed for the digging of new graves and the cemetery on Church Street opened shortly afterwards. The church has maintained it since then, with occasional contributions from the Parish Council. It has now given formal notice requesting the Parish Council to take responsibility for the churchyard's upkeep, starting on 27th May. Under the law, parish councils must either agree to such a request or pass it on to the District Council (who could then pass their costs of doing the work back to the Fen Ditton taxpayers). In January, the Parish Council voted unanimously **not** to pass the responsibility outside the village.

When the Parish Council takes on the upkeep, it will need to cover the costs in its annual budget, so it is keen to find out what level of maintenance residents will expect to see. Please let us know what you think by completing the accompanying questionnaire and dropping it off to one of the addresses by **30th June**.

www.fenditton-pc.org.uk

As well as consultations, news and village events, our website contains many useful links. It is quicker and more effective to use these than to report faults by phone. The Parish Council uses this system to report faults it is aware of and encourages residents to do the same: the more individual reports of a fault, the higher its profile. As a result, drains in Church Street have been cleared this winter and potholes in High Street have been filled in.

Useful Contacts

POLICE

Emergency 999

Non-emergency 101
www.cambs.police.uk
www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk
Local PCSO Alice Tasker

E-cops

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

Cambs Crimestoppers

Freephone 0800 555 111

NHS

Emergency 999

Non life-threatening 111

GAS

Emergency 0800 111 999

ELECTRICITY

Emergency 0800 316 3105

CAMBRIDGE WATER

Burst main 01223 706050

HIGHWAYS FAULTS

Potholes, traffic lights etc.
0345 045 5212

STREET LIGHT FAULTS

0800 7838 247

TRANSPORT

Bus passes

0345 045 1367

Traveline

Public transport information
0871 200 2233

National Rail Enquiries

03457 48 49 50

Highways England

0300 123 5000

Newmarket Rd Park & Ride

01223 845561

Dial-a-Ride

01223 506335

CamShare

Free travel share matching
camshare.liftshare.com

Cambridge Cycling Campaign

www.camcycle.org.uk

South Cambs District Council

03450 450 500
Mon–Fri 8am–5.30pm
www.scambs.gov.uk

Cambs County Council

0345 045 5200
Mon–Fri 8am–6pm
Sat 9am–1pm
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Village Groups

Ancient Shepherds Book Club

Tel: Carol 292809

Badminton Group

Tel: Ian 292240

Bellringers

Tel: Laurice 292797

Bridge

Tel: Mike 862293

Church Choir

Tel: Mike 294317

Church Community Hall

fd.hall@outlook.com

Coffee A.M.

Tel: Jo 292520

Coffee Pot

Tel: Elizabeth 292697

Cricket Club

Tel: Adam 07708 261555

Juniors Tel: 07792 129077

Gardening Club

Tel: Brenda 293705

FD Baby & Toddler Group

10–11.30am Thursdays

toddlers@fenditton.org

Football

FDFC Tel: Peter 293829

Kitsonians FC

bakerowen3.ob@gmail.com

Friends of Ditton Meadows

friendsofdittonmeadows

.org.uk

Keep Fit (50+)

Tel: Wendy 293205

Morris

coton.morris@gmx.com

Parish Church

All enquiries Tel: 441900

Recreation Ground

fdrgt@fenditton-pc.org.uk

Scottish Dancing

Tel: Pamela 292493

Sunday Club

10–11.30am, first Sunday of

every month except August

fdsundayclub@gmail.com

Fen Ditton Recreation Ground Trust

Thank you to everyone who came to the recent consultation evening on the Trust's proposals for improvements to the Pavilion and recreation ground. The feedback from the 50 responses to the survey was broadly positive; we are currently modifying the plans in line with the results, and further site surveys have taken place.

We are progressing funding options from the sports associations and other bodies, and are also planning a number of fund-raising events ourselves including the following dates for your diary:

- Friday 20th May – **Cheese and wine evening** (in conjunction with Noel Young Wines)
- Saturday 16th July – **Ceilidh dinner dance** by the river

We are still looking to appoint someone to manage the Pavilion and recreation ground bookings and potentially also to support the refurbishment project – a few hours' flexible work a week. If you are interested in the position, please phone 07500 117224.

Keeping Fen Ditton Beautiful

A big thank you to everyone who took part in the litter pick and cemetery tidy-up recently, at which we welcomed both regular and new faces. The Parish Council organises a number of community working parties like this throughout the year, undertaking various maintenance jobs around the village. If you can help and want to be kept informed of future events, please contact the Parish Clerk.

ROADS AND CYCLING PROPOSALS

The Parish Council was disappointed that its bid for County Council funding for double yellow lines at the crossroads and on parts of High Ditch Road was unsuccessful this autumn. However, the City Deal's proposed cycling improvements through Fen Ditton would also involve changes to the road layout at the crossroads. The Parish Council is grateful to everyone who took part in the public consultation on these, held this January; the results are due to be published in the next few weeks. As part of its own response, the Parish Council asked to be kept fully involved in the development of the plans if the scheme goes ahead. Councillors will work to get double yellow lines included as part of the scheme if possible or else re-consider them once any new road layout is finalised.

Inconvenience from bonfires

Especially in the warm weather when people may have windows wide open, or be enjoying their gardens or drying washing outdoors, smoke from bonfires can cause inconvenience. Please consider your neighbours before deciding to light one.

Helplines

www.helplines.org.uk

Age UK Cambridgeshire

0300 666 9860

Benefits fraud hotline

Freefone 0800 854 440

Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)

020 7981 2800

Care Network Cambridgeshire

01954 212100

Child abuse – NSPCC

Freefone 0808 800 5000

ChildLine

Freefone 0800 1111

Citizens Advice

0344 848 7979

Civil Legal Advice

0345 345 4 345

Consumer Advice

03454 04 05 06

Cruse Bereavement Care

01223 633536

Disability – benefits

0345 712 3456

Domestic Violence

Freefone 0808 2000 247

LitterAction

www.litteraction.org.uk

Marshalls Noise Helpline

01223 373950

Missing People

Freefone 116 000

National Debtline

Freefone 0808 808 4000

RSPCA Cruelty & Advice

0300 1234 999

Samaritans

01223 364455

Victim Support Line

0808 168 9111

Grass verges and conservation

The Parish Council manages the maintenance of verges in the village on behalf of the County Council, with five grass cuts each year, starting around the end of April. During the early part of the season, strips will be cut in the High Street 'extension' and Green End, to allow wildflower growth. We are grateful to all those who have 'adopted' and maintain the grass verges outside their own properties.

The County Council recently cleared overgrowth back to property boundaries in places where it was encroaching on the highway and public rights of way. These areas will recover in time, but it has meant loss of established habitat for wildlife in the meantime.

The County Council have asked us to remind land owners to keep their hedges trimmed back away from footpaths and the highway.

The Bumps!

The May Bumps will be happening from 8th to 11th June this year. Parking will be provided on the Rec as usual, and will be free for residents.

In an effort to keep the traffic flowing through the village, we will be putting out traffic cones on the Saturday, starting around 7.30am. We would be most grateful if you could move your car to the Rec before then. We will also put up a sign at the entry to Stanbury Close to discourage visitors to the village from parking there.

As in previous years, **we will need volunteers** to help with putting out the cones and parking cars safely. Please contact the Rec Trust or the Parish Clerk if you can help.