

March 2021 issue of Look-Out.

Parish Council News in brief...

Our 26th January meeting was again by 'Zoom' and lasted just one hour. It wasn't as exciting as the 'Handforth Parish Council' meeting in December, but we did have a full complement of Councillors and three members of the public, so it was very well attended. We were joined by District Councillor Wendy Scattergood and our County Councillor David Finch and as always, thank them for giving up their evenings and giving us their reports.

If you'd like to 'Zoom into' our future meetings, the link is on our website or Diane, our Clerk, will be happy to send the link to you. Everyone is invited to our meetings, you can have a say in the public session at the start of the meeting and you can leave at anytime if the excitement does get too much!

A131 Long Gardens – Traffic Calming.

The application to the Local Highways Panel (L.H.P.) is awaiting validation, so it is progressing albeit it will be a long haul. As mentioned before, some of the properties come within the Twinstead boundary, so we will be working with Twinstead Parish Council.

Church Road Additional Parking.

It is now on the Highways agenda in March for discussion.

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

We didn't have a great response from residents to form an NDP group, but five of your Parish Councillors have stepped in to fill the gap. We still need representatives from businesses, local groups, landowners, developers and residents to form the group.

Your commitment in time is just a couple of hours a week, not every week and no specific times, except for a monthly group meeting, presently via Zoom.

Shellards Cottage.

There were concerns about the progress of the refurbishment works and it was agreed we should contact the Planning Enforcement Officer for assurances. May we take the opportunity to thank Alan and Barbara for giving us an update on the renovations.

Christmas Tree.

It was agreed to purchase a Christmas tree 7ft tall with good roots and to be planted by the end of March at a cost approx.£145.00. It will be planted next to the flag pole.

Useful contacts....

Wickham St. Pauls Parish Council Responsibilities:

We hold bi-monthly meeting to discuss local matters with residents and our roles and duties include maintaining land we own, (The Green), local planning advisory and support concerns and projects of residents. Your initial contact ideally is with your Parish Clerk, but your Councillors are always there to offer assistance where we can.

Our continued thanks to all our residents who do contact us direct with their concerns and suggestions and we will continue to address them to the best of our ability.

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|----------------|---------------------------|--|
| Clerk: | Diane Jacob, 07907 631172 | parishclerk@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org |
| Chairman: | Derek Stokes tel: 269284 | derekstokes@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org |
| Vice-Chairman: | Martin Cooper tel: 269236 | martincooper@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org |
| Councillor: | Janice Barlow | janicebarlow@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org |
| Councillor: | Angela Johnstone | angelajohnstone@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org |
| Councillor: | Paul Snazell | paulsnazell@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org |
| Councillor: | Ian Ward | ianward@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org |

Wickham St Pauls Parish Council website: www.e-voice.org.uk/wickham-st-pauls

Braintree District Council Responsibilities:

Some of the services they provide include refuse and recycling collections, street cleaning, enforcing environmental and other legislation, planning applications.

Website: www.braintree.gov.uk
Address: Braintree District Council, Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree.CM7 9HB
Tel: 01376 552525
Email: csc@braintree.gov.uk

Your Ward Councillor for Stour Valley South is Mrs Wendy Scattergood.

Tel: 01787 267800
Email: cllr.wscattergood@braintree.gov.uk

Essex County Council Responsibilities:

Some of the services they provide include Highways, traffic management, libraries, adult and social care, education.

Your County Councillor is Mr David Finch.

Website: www.essex.gov.uk
Tel: 0345 743 0430
Email: contact@essex.gov.uk

Westminster Member of Parliament is Mr James Cleverly MP

Email: james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk
Address: House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
or

Braintree Conservatives Association Office:
Suite 11, The Centre, Lakes Industrial Park, Braintree, Essex CM7 3RU

Your Local Police Contact

PC 3655 Craig Wheeler
Essex Police -C shift
Community Policing Team - Braintree
Phone 101 ext 400155 email: Craig.Wheeler@essex.police.uk

General information....

Tree Survey.

The Parish Council had an inspection done in November of all the trees on Parish Council land to identify the condition of the trees and if work is required to ensure the Health and Safety of residents and visitors. Whilst this is also a requirement of our insurers, it does raise an interesting question as to whether private households are obliged to have their trees inspected to satisfy the conditions of their own insurers? As I type these comments, (Sunday 7th. February), a tree has fallen down across a main road in Gestingthorpe, blocking it. There were no reports of injury, but could the incident have been avoided and could it have proved serious?

Just a thought!

Does anyone know anything about planting water lilies?

We are aiming to plant some water lilies in the main pond and Susan Hillhouse of Park Farm has kindly donated some. Has anyone got green-fingers or in this case wet-green-fingers, that can advise us how to plant them?

Contact Derek 269284

Recycling.

There is a Tetra Pak black bin sited next to the Bottle Banks in the Victory Inn car park, which specifically takes food and drink cartons i.e. milk, juice, custard, takeaway cups, all of which are difficult to separate at the recycling depots. We are only one of five parishes in the Braintree area to have these bins on a trial basis, due to end in June 2021. Our residents and neighbours appear to be making good use of it, please continue to deposit your cartons when you visit the Bottle Bank.

The Bottle Bank sometimes gets overflowed, but it is emptied every Tuesday, except for Bank Holidays and then it's a day later.

Flag Flying Programme.

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| 1 March | Saint David's Day | St. David's |
| 10 March | Birthday of the Earl of Wessex | Union |
| 11 March | Commonwealth Day (2 nd . Monday in March) | Commonwealth |
| 17 March | Saint Patrick's Day Northern Ireland | Union |

The St. George flag will be flown most of the time in between other appointed flags.

A full list of our flag flying days is posted on the village notice board and on the W.St.P. website.

Derek
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