

ST MARY & ST PETER NEWSLETTER

April 2010

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCILS

BOXTED

Paul Evans, Clerk to the Parish Council

The Annual Parish meeting will be held on 12th May 2010 in the Boxted Village hall starting at 19.00. This year ECC Highways will be in attendance. This is an ideal time to give them your point of view of the local roads and traffic problems.

The lease for the use of the land next to the Sports and Social Club for Little Owls, (Preschool) is almost agreed.. It is planned that the work will be done over the Summer Holidays with the new building open for use in September. As a result of the re-organisation of the facilities on the KG playing field, the Parish Council has decided that the area of land beyond the cricket pitch, that was acquired in 1995 will be dedicated to "Fields in Trust". This means that the whole of the site is dedicated to "outside play"

The ladies football appears to have been very successful. However, this has meant that there is increased useage of the pitches and the Parish Council will have to increase charges for the formal use of the playing fields. The Parish Council has done some initial design work done on a new Sports & Social Building which would double the number of changing rooms. Preliminary costing suggest that the scheme could cost as much as £0-75M. We are now considering much more modest schemes.

The Parish Council has decided that the sand pit next to the children's play area will taken out of use and turfed over. Last month the play area suffered an attack from the local graffiti artist. It is very disappointing that young children coming to play on the slides are subjected to such vandalism. If any parent wishes to help in cleaning up the mess then please get in touch with me.

The Parish Council has given permission for a fete to be held on the King George Playing Fields on July 24th. As a special one off concession we will be allowing the fete to include a dog show.

Boxted Village Design Statement has gone through its final draft. The statement is on the Parish Council's website.

There is a link to the report from the parish Councils homepage.

. <http://www.peke.com/council/boxted/bpcindex.htm>.

Is there so little need for a 1630 bus service on week-days from Colchester to Boxted, I have had only 3 responses. Come to the Annual parish meeting and show that you are interested.

LANGHAM

David Winter, Clerk to the Parish Council

Points from the Annual Parish Meeting 8 April

Finance

Expenditure for the year was £64,754 compared to the budget of £31,355, the increase being largely donations from the Council towards the Community Centre improvements, much of which was met by grants. Funds on hand were £58,359, of which about £48,000 is "ring- fenced" for particular projects.

Roads and transport

- A grant for a Vehicle Activated Sign in Park Lane has been applied for.
- A traffic survey for HGVs going through the village has begun.
- A grant for a bus shelter in Moor Road opposite the Shepherd & Dog Inn has been approved.
- The possibility of using ECC-owned land adjacent to the Primary School for drop-off/pick up parking is being pursued in the context of plans for the new School.

A12 Cuckoo Farm Junction

There will be a meeting with ECC planners about the new A12 junction at 7pm on 12 May at Boxted Village Hall (before the Boxted annual parish meeting). Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Community Centre

Planning permission has been obtained for self-contained annexes for the Community Shop and the Pre-School. Funding has been obtained for the Pre-School. Some funding has been obtained for the Shop, though more grants are being sought.

Colchester Borough Council (CBC)

The electoral system is likely to be changed from electing a third of the council each year to electing the whole council every four years. Planning permission for the Travellers' site expires this year. ECC is not pursuing it because CBC is very close to its prescribed allocation of sites.

Local Development Framework (LDF)

CBC saw fit to bundle up a number of late representations for potential large scale developments in Langham and forward them to the Planning Inspector.

The Parish Council position is that: the representations have not followed the due process in the LDF as set out by CBC; they have escaped public scrutiny; they fly in the face of democratic accountability; the submission of these late representations by CBC is contrary to the guidance given by the Planning Inspectorate on its own website.

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