

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL *NEWSLETTER*



January 2011

Welcome to the Winter edition of our Newsletter.

Best Kept Garden Competition

We plan to invite judges to visit the gardens during April for a 'Spring' theme this year. Further details will be posted on the noticeboards in due course.

Play Area

Some repairs have been carried out to the edges of the safety surfacing. The surface will be cleaned around March/April and tidied as necessary.

Neighbourhood Panels

Next meeting: **Little Thetford on 24 January, 7.00 pm**

On **21 March** the meeting will be hosted here at **Witcham** in the **Village Hall**. Do come along. This is your opportunity to have your say on matters that concern you such as crime, the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour; safety, speeding, parking, housing and planning issues, provision for young people, health, environmental issues, refuse and recycling collections.

At these multi-agency quarterly meeting forums decisions are made on which issues to focus on over the next three months. The panel agrees what actions need to be taken and by whom between meetings. This is an opportunity for communities to have a say in how services are delivered. Due to the cuts the District Council is having to make in its budgets, parish councils have been asked to make a financial contribution to keep the panels running. It is not yet clear what will be happening in the future.

For further news about Neighbourhood Panels, and the District and County Councils, including up-dates on proposed financial plans please go to –

www.eastcambs.gov.uk

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Speedwatch

We are still looking for volunteers to carry out speedchecks, weekends/weekdays. Training provided. If you could spare a couple of hours once or twice a year and would like to help please register your interest with Karl Mackendar or the Clerk..

Village Hall Improvements

Plans have been submitted to the District Council Planning Office and a decision is awaited.

Droves - Bury Road

The County Council is proposing to carry out a survey on the width of this drove and has engaged with the Parish Council. Unfortunately from the documents we have access to it is not clear what the definitive width along this drove should be.

The County Council is also engaging with parishes regarding options for future maintenance of public rights of way in the light of the certainty that County budgets will be cut.

Parish Elections

Our current Councillors will have completed their 4 year term of office this year and the elections will take place during May. Further information about the elections will be published in due course.

Dogs

Dogs are not permitted on the recreation ground. Dog owners are asked to use the dog bins provided for disposal of dog waste (located by the bus shelter, at the end of High Street/Headleys Lane, and by the concrete road on The Slade). Please do not use the normal street litter bins.

Mobile Library Service

1st Wednesday of every month
Village Centre
2.15pm to 2.35pm

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

STREET CLEANING

(early Friday mornings)

Unfortunately Cleanaway is unable to give us a definitive list of dates because they say they have to re-schedule according to needs. However, it should continue basically on a 4 weekly cycle.

It really does help if as many vehicles as possible can be removed from the highway on the morning the road sweeper is expected.

RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Please put your refuse and recycling items out by 7.00am on day of collection. (please be aware the earliest is the evening before, otherwise you are deemed to be committing an offence!)

Additional bags available – phone VEOLIA 01353 863864
(Max 4 brown garden bags will be replenished per household, may use cardboard box for grass cuttings)

FAULTY STREET LIGHTS

If you notice a faulty street light please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk or any member of the Council quoting street light number and name of street.

NAME	CONTACT
CHAIRMAN Ashley Bamforth	01353 777453
VICE-CHAIRMAN David Saberton	01353 778309
COUNCILLORS	
Chris Watson	01353 776394
Allistair Berry	01353 778081
Karl Mackender	01353 777640
Julia Bibby	01353 777267
COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS	
Philip Read Cambridgeshire County Council	01353 778603
Anna Bailey East Cambridgeshire District Council	01353 663253
Tony Goode East Cambridgeshire District Council	01353 664491

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