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The Elmswell Newsletter



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August 2016

ELMSWELL YOUNGSTERS GET FIRST RATE TREATMENT



Ofsted visit Elmswell - their verdict 'This is a good school!' ...full report next month



Street Farm Nursery commended in top awards ceremony...see page 10

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.

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Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate.

If you wish to comment, please do so via the office at Gobblins on the industrial estate behind the Fox or via email at; elmswellamenities@f2s.com. We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

175 HOMES ON THE EDGE OF A SUFFOLK VILLAGE IN A PLANNING FREE-FOR-ALL

Just the headlines many Elmswell residents expected recently as they tweeted and blogged and plotted and declared war on developers and their wicked land-grabbing heartless and pleasant...but a closer look reveals that the headlines, all very recent, refer to Stowupland, Framlingham and East Bergholt. These are active switched-on communities with good town & parish councils, with Neighbourhood Plans in the offing and effective ward members at District & County level...some mistake, surely?

They tried! Oh how they tried. With the weight of local opinion behind them they petitioned and met and protested, but the system won.

At East Bergholt they got as far as having the application 'called in' by the Government's Planning Minister – but, at the last minute he decided, 'the application should be determined at local level', and it stands. The system won.

Stowupland were supported by Mid Suffolk who agreed with the 200 letters of objection that the proposals should not be permitted, but the developer won at an appeal where 100 residents turned up to reinforce the case for refusal. The system won.

Framlingham, with a case strengthened by the heritage argument centring on their historic castle and college, argued that 3 successive applications - for 95, 99 and 163 dwellings respectively - was too much too soon, but the District Council Members, a specially formed Residents' Association and hundreds of individual objectors were overruled by a Planning inspector on the grounds that, "The development would contribute to redressing the under supply of housing in the area. The scheme is sustainable development and must be approved." The system won.

Our situation echoes rather ominously the experiences above. So, what is, 'The System'? The facts are simple:

- 1 Planning is strictly regulated – by statute, by official guidance and by case law. It is not a matter of likes or dislikes, of nice or nasty. Those are the results, not the process.
- 2 The central governing document – the rule book – is The Local Plan.
- 3 Mid Suffolk's Local Plan was published in 1998; there are elements of review in place and a new document is imminent.
- 4 Meanwhile, as a result of Government impatience with the slow Planning process at local level, a new master plan for town & country Planning was published in 2012. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) famously replaced many volumes of Planning guidance, statute and regulation with just one 58 page document. It begins:

150 NEW HOMES – DISPROPORTIONATE, INAPPROPRIATE AND BRUTAL SAY FURIOUS RESIDENTS

"The purpose of planning is to help achieve sustainable development.

Sustainable means ensuring that better lives for ourselves don't mean worse lives for future generations.

Development means growth.

We must accommodate the new ways by which we will earn our living in a competitive world. We must house a rising population, which is living longer and wants to make new choices. We must respond to the changes that new technologies offer us. Our lives, and the places in which we live them, can be better, but they will certainly be worse if things stagnate."

- 5 Part of the NPPF's rules is that District and Borough Councils must always have an up-to-date register of land available for house building sufficient for the next 5 years. A 5-year land supply must be identified, published and continuously updated or, and here's the killer, "Housing applications should be considered in the context of presumption in favour of development. Relevant policies for the supply of housing should not be considered up-to-date if the local planning authority cannot demonstrate a five-year supply of delivering housing sites" Effectively, without a 5-year land supply, NPPF rules.
- 6 Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning inspectors and developers alike have observed, 'falls well short' of the required target of a 5-year land supply. The Councillor for Stowupland, devastated by the recent appeal decision against the community he serves, said, "unless sufficient sites have been identified as available for housing development, every village in Mid Suffolk could be at risk from predatory developers who could take advantage of the present situation."
- 7 In summary; with no 5-year land supply identified, Local Plan constraints on development do not apply and everything reverts to the NPPF which says that there is a presumption in favour of development as long as it is sustainable.
- 8 Elmswell, with its wealth of facilities when compared with so many of its neighbours is, in Planning terms, 'sustainable'.

We have, this month, published over 4 pages of detailed response to the first of the inevitable stampede of consultations regarding large housing developments in Elmswell. There is ample evidence that Elmswell residents do not consider that the infrastructure of our community can sustain the scale of influx of residents proposed. Meanwhile, a consultation was held in The Blackbourne on another proposal for sites at Wetherden Road and at Warren Lane comprising at least another 270 houses. Robust suggestions were made there as to the inability of the school, the health centre and the railway crossing to cope. The proposal for a site

HOUSING NUMBERS BOOSTED BY 350 DESPITE HEAVY OPPOSITION

North of the railway which has been the subject of several consultations over the past 12 years is due to hit the system 'by Autumn'. Mid Suffolk's own assessment of land on the current boundaries of Elmswell which could be developed adds up to some 2,500 potential dwellings.

It seems very possible that Elmswell will, in terms of housing, double in size over the next 30 or so years. There is little to be gained by foot stamping. In light of the situation outlined here the arguments that, 'you are ruining our village', that, 'this isn't the village I moved into', or that the developers are, 'only in it for the money', will be unproductive. Lying in front of the bulldozers, raising petitions, forming committees or social media rants may relieve frustrations because 'we have to do something', but ask the people of Framlingham or Stowupland or East Bergholt whether it helped their causes.

The way forward has to be to fight within the system using the only tools we have – our elected representatives, from the MP up to the Parish Council, and the Neighbourhood Plan. SCC Highways may think that our roads and our access over the railway are good enough to take twice the traffic; SCC Education may think that it is OK to bus Elmswell children to other schools because ours is full; NHS England might consider that we can afford to wait 10 days to see our doctor. It seems that, when we were recently consulted, and from what we are telling our Neighbourhood Plan Group, we heartily disagree.

We must support our elected representatives in saying so. Elmswell Parish Council, recently strengthened by the addition of new very experienced and active members, has, in the past won concessions for the village when big developments are negotiated - Crown Mill Green, The Blackbourne and more. When the next tranche of formal applications begins they need our backing to fight our corner. We have a weak hand, we must, united, play it very very well.

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

August 23rd	September 27th
October 25th	November 22nd
December 27th	January 24th

...and don't forget you can view and buy most of the photographs in the magazine - and a whole lot more - by visiting the 'Elmswell Gallery' site www.elmswellgallery.com or ask at the Memorial Library or ring us on 241841.

Your editors:

Jean Barker, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow

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PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.

Your Newsletter has been published by the Elmswell Amenities Association (Registered Charity No 304879) on the first Friday of every month since 1986. The advertising administration and the printing are handled professionally – otherwise the whole enterprise is voluntary, including our team of 36 distributors. The costs are covered by advertising, so, please, support our advertisers, and do mention us if and when you use them. Last year the magazine made a contribution of £10,936.00 to the Association's funds – all of it directed to improvements in the village.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL ART CLUB

Sunday 17th June was a beautiful sunny day – just what the doctor ordered for Elmswell Open Gardens. The Art Club had a display stand at “Southlands” New Road and Juliette put on a wonderful show with a raffle, plant sale and delicious tea and cakes! Many thanks, Juliette, for making the day so enjoyable. Maurice Emmerson, an Art Club member also opened his garden and had his paintings on display.

In the evening a “silent auction” of our donated paintings was held in Mildenhall (organised by Ken Beale) which was a great success. Many thanks to all our members who kindly offered their work to help raise money the WSH (Rainbow Ward).

Pictures are of the display at “Southlands” and the Mildenhall auction and one of Maurice Emmerson’s paintings.

Denise Lawrence
Club Secretary 01359 245207



ELMSWELL CAMERA GROUP

This is just a reminder that the group starts another year on Tuesday, 6th September.

I hope all members had a good summer break and are looking forward to our new year.

I'm certain there will be more questions about your cameras you will be needing answered to.

For any one else who is interested please come along and introduce yourself to the group.

We shall be in our usual room at the Blackbourne, 7-30pm.

For further information phone (01359) 241431

See you all there.

Mike

ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

This month the club did not meet. Just a reminder to all members we will meet on August 16th at the Wesley Hall at 2.30pm. We will be holding our A.G.M. followed by a Strawberry tea. If anyone would like to be the new Chair person to relieve Sylvia please let us know.

New members always welcome.

Enquiries to Sylvia on 241 505



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ELMSWELL OVER 55's CLUB

Our meeting on July 14th has been voted the most successful event that we have staged at the Blackbourne to date with in excess of 130 people attending.

The St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir conducted by Mark Jefferson and accompanied by Calvin Goymer had produced a splendid programme for the evening which also featured a musical solo by Calvin and songs by Ross Van De Zande accompanied by Calvin. At the close of the evening the choir which numbered 61 remarked that it was a brilliant venue especially the acoustics and that they would love to return in 2018, after which they retired to the bar for a "melt down".

I would like to thank all the committee for their hard work getting the hall ready, preparing the supper for the choir, acting as door stewards, serving tea and coffee during the interval and doing all the clearing up afterwards. A big thank you to all who gave Raffle Prizes and also to the ladies who produced and printed the programmes for us.

Thursday July 28th saw a large number of members make the short journey to the Hut at Felixstowe for our customary day by the sea. On arrival the committee served Tea /Coffee and Biscuits which was followed by Fish and Chips for lunch from the Bounty Fish Shop. Some members then went for a stroll to take in the sea air. Afternoon tea and cake was served before we departed for home.

Our next meeting on August 11th will be Bingo, payment for the Afternoon Tea Cruise (£36) is due please at this meeting.

As a fund raiser we will be having a Tombola stall at the Bacton Fayre on Saturday August 5th as there is no Autumn Fayre in the village this year.

Diann (241002)



COMPANIONS

Companions is a group which meets in the Wesley Hall each fortnight on a Friday morning at 10am until 12.15pm – if you're new to the village, need a friend to talk to, feel lonely, are a carer or have a condition which affects your memory, why not come along and have a chat, play cribbage or scrabble, etc.

We recently enjoyed an outing to Taverham Garden Centre, where we shopped and enjoyed a fish and chip lunch, then did some more shopping! Unfortunately our journey home was delayed as our coach broke down and we had to wait for a replacement.

On Gardens Open Sunday some of our work was on show in the Church at the Flower Festival, showing off our 'colouring in', together with our Memory Book.

If you would like more details, telephone Linda Abbott on 242224 or call in at the Wesley Hall on 5 or 19 August.



FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL

Our Annual Meeting and Coffee Morning was held in the church on Saturday 9 July. We were able to report on a successful year of fund raising for the Fabric of St John's church. The following weekend we held a Flower Festival, coinciding on the Sunday with the Elmswell Open Gardens event. We had a very busy afternoon on Sunday, serving teas and selling items from our stall, which included Tea Towels, Jotters, etc. The Festival was titled 'A Feast of Flowers' and several of the displays illustrated this – in the porch one arranged in a saucepan represented the vegetables used in the soups we enjoy at Ladies' Lunch (see photo elsewhere in the Newsletter); further into the Church was a three course meal, with a wonderful Knickerbocker Glory in petals and leaves arranged in a glass. The Gardener Chapel depicted carpet bowls and outdoor bowls and the font a colourful 'Day at the Allotment'. Companions members had coloured in flower pictures which were attached to a tree. Another arrangement was called 'Lollipops' and the Children had assembled a Picnic.

'The Friends' was set up in 1995 to raise funds to help pay for the insurance, maintenance and repairs of the Church Fabric. If you would like more information please contact Jean on 242099.

ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP (formerly Elmswell Millennium History Group)

On 14 July we met up at Hawstead for our Annual Outing. This is where Taff Gillingham, the well known local historian whose main interest is in the history of the events and people of the First World War is setting up a First World War Visitor Centre.

The plan is to preserve a number (eleven at the moment) of 'Barrack' Huts, which have been obtained from various places in the country. One of them, which in 1915 had been the guardroom at Aldeburgh Royal Navy Aerodrome was later moved to Friston where it was called 'The Bungalow'. The aim is to tell the story of the huts and the people who inhabited them. One of the huts is complete and houses a small collection of museum items; the Guardroom is also complete, taking only 6 hours to erect on the Hawstead site.

Our group was able to explore the huts which are in various stages of rebuilding and to walk the length of the site, past a Bailey Bridge towards the top end of the camp as far as the woods, where various trenches will be constructed, illustrating how they were developed between 1915 and 1917.

Taff explained what the group is intending to do and answered many questions. He also told us that they are negotiating the acquisition of an original hut which was first erected at Elmswell's First World War airfield. We look forward to going back to the site at Hawstead to see it when it has arrived and has been rebuilt.

The next meeting of the History Group is on 8 September when the speaker will be Peter Davidson – his subject is 'Barnardo's Boys in Suffolk 1890-1950'. Annual Subscriptions will be due and collected at the meeting - £6.50 per person + £1.50 each meeting attended, so for that evening or the first meeting attended £8.00.

Programmes for September 2016 to 13 July 2017 will be available soon.

We meet on the second Thursday of the month at the Wesley Centre, School Road at 7.30pm and everyone is welcome.

For more information about the History Group please go to our web site www.elmswell-history.org.uk or telephone Stella Chamberlin on 01359 242601.

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ELMSWELL EVENING WI

The evening WI meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Blackbourne, the meeting begins at 7.30 pm but with social interaction from 7 pm. Not a member? Like to try? Visitors are always welcome.

We received a report from our delegate to the WI National AGM which was held at Brighton this year. Finuala told us that 4,500 members attended and the massed singing 'Jerusalem' was moving and inspiring. Denman, the WI college was struggling financially. Although those using Denman had increased, this remained low at 3%. An appeal had been launched to cover the cost of the refurbishment, some structural. However, it was felt that Denman would always need financial support.

The two resolutions debated this year were passed by the delegates, these being:

a) That appropriate care should be provided in hospitals for people with dementia. 79% of delegates voted in favour after hearing very emotional personal stories. **b) To avoid food waste and address food poverty.** We were told that France had recently passed legislation to stop large retailers from wasting food.

Stephanie reported on the success of the Village Café and other activities held in celebration of the Queens 90th birthday at the Wesley Hall. She thanked everyone for their support and flowers were given to the very hardworking Café helpers.

The speaker for the June meeting was a Law Advice Centre officer from ISCRE (Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality). This service allows ALL Suffolk residents and employees access to 30 minutes free legal advice. The advice is provided by local legal professionals, solicitors and barristers, who give up their time to ensure access to justice for our community. Since the legal aid budget was cut in 2013, ISCRE's valuable work had become even more important as it is now very difficult for members of the public to get public funding for legal cases. Their contact details are 01473 408111, email: discrimination@iscre.org.uk.

Sarah Webber is now our second Vice-president, Janet Baker being the other. Rachel Ives remains our president (01359 240483).



Lesley

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ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON W.I.

We met in the Olympic Room at The Blackbourne Centre for our **July meeting**. Our guest was Sheila Jeffrey, who is a **Marie Curie nurse**.

She told us about Marie Curie, who was born in 1867 in Warsaw and was a Physicist. We learned a great deal about this remarkable lady, her husband and their work with radium. She died in 1934 due to aplastic anaemia caused by exposure to radium. The organisation which bears her name provides nursing care for terminally ill patients. They mainly give support during the night to family carers. *Marie Curie*

They also work with nursing teams in the hospitals if needed. Sheila was an interesting speaker and is obviously passionate about her work. We had ladies

among our members who had benefited from the support of Marie Curie nurses and it was good to also hear their stories. What would we do without these Charities?

After refreshments we went through our business matters. Barbara reported that the Parish Council had purchased the Wesley Hall so we would be able to return in September. A great relief to us all. **Our August meeting** will be held in Carol's garden and the competition will be A Summer Hat. It won't be compulsory to wear this for the whole afternoon !!!

If you are interested in our group, we welcome guests and new members. Further details from Barbara on 242788 or Maureen on 241033.



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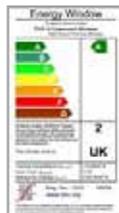
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GOOD NEWS FROM STREET FARM NURSERY WHO SUPPLY OUR CHILDREN'S PAGE EACH MONTH

We are so proud to achieve the Highly Commended award in the NDNA Nursery of the year category.

We were placed in the central region, which stretched from Suffolk to Greater Manchester and across to the Welsh border, incorporating 14 counties!!

To have come third in such a large area, is a fantastic achievement.

The NDNA said about the nursery:

"Street Farm Day Nursery has a dynamic influence on the early education of its children using practitioners' individual strengths to enrich learning. The atmosphere is homely and caring and the environment is inspirational, both indoors and outdoors. The aim is to create a wide range of exciting opportunities for children, encouraging them to become keen, enthusiastic, independent and confident learners.

A holistic approach is taken to promoting health and wellbeing, taking into account the age, stage of growth, development and maturity of each child.

Thank you so much to all the parents who voted and to our amazing team who are passionate and dedicated within their roles at Street Farm and, of course, the children who inspire us every day.



FRESCH

The last few months have been all about the Summer Fair for FRESCH. It's been a hectic time but well worth it as we raised an amazing £1920 for the School! This wouldn't have been possible if it wasn't for the following...

Thank you to the following for the generous donations we received. British Sugar, Elmswell Railway Tavern, JD & RJ Baker Farms Ltd, Foresters Friendly Society, Clear Financial Services Ltd, HC Wilson, All Homes, Colin Gould

Thank you to all the companies listed for the amazing raffle prizes donated.

Abbeycroft Leisure Centre, Adnams, All Fired Up, Baylham Rare Breeds Farm, Beacon Rally Karts, Bury Bowl, Cineworld, Colchester Zoo, Coop, Diaper Poultry, Dorothy's Tea Room, Easton Park Farm, Elmswell Chinese, Elmswell Pharmacy, Emzo, Greene King Museum, Goldstar Transport, Harveys Garden Plants, Hatter Street Studio, Hollow Trees Farm, Ipswich Transport Museum, K&M Tyres, Kids Play, Kit Crew Sports Camps, Margaret's Hairdressing, Maypole Inn, Wetherden, M&J Seafood, Monsters Soft Play, Narey's Garden Centre, Park Garage, Playworld, Post Office Pottery, Needham Market Prima Dance Academy, Regal Cinema, Stowmarket Self Centre, Bury Snakes & Ladders, Ipswich Stowe Vet Group, Theatre Royal, Thorntons, Travel Stop, TSB Stowmarket, Waterstones, Woolpit Complementary Health Centre, WH Smith, Woolpit Nurseries

Thank you to the following for donating wine for the 'Win a Wine' Competition. The Mace, Elmswell, The Kings Arms, Haughley, The Counting House, Haughley Wells Stitched Embroidery, Elmswell The Fox, Elmswell

Thank you to Sainsburys for all the food and drink that was donated to the cafe and to Goblins for the cakes.

Thank you to TESCO for the voucher used towards the BBQ and to the Scouts for running it.

Thank you to Clarkes Fencing for donating the wheelbarrow for the 'Barrow of Booze' raffle (which is now being used by the School) and the signposts.

Thank you to Pets at Home for donating the rubber ducks for the 'Chuck a Duck' game.

Thank you to Elmswild for running the Gruffalo Trails for us and for clearing the school wood.

Thank you to Hill Farm Stables for the horse rides and Gary Pinyoun for the football pitch and for giving FRESCH half of your takings.

We would also like to say a big thank you to all the teachers, staff and children that helped with

the fair too. Another big thank you to those of you that gave up your time to help with the event, I think we can safely say it was a success!

Last but not least thank you to all of you that came along to support our Summer Fair and Elmswell Community Primary School.

We will be having our AGM on Monday the 12th of September at 7.15pm at the school, please come along if you're tempted to join FRESCH or to find out a bit more of what we do!

Thanks again for all your support over the past year!

The FRESCH Team
fresch.elmswell@yahoo.co.uk



ELMSWELL BABY & TODDLER GROUP

It is that time of year again where we are preparing for our September Nearly New Sale! Make sure you put the date on your calendar – 24th September 2016.

There is still time for you to sign up to be a seller just email elmswell.nns@gmail.com and you will receive a seller number and an instruction leaflet on how to label your items. Please follow these instructions as it makes the sale run more smoothly.

We will be holding the sale at the Blackbourne in Elmswell from 11am until 2pm and you are guaranteed to pick up a bargain or two whether you are looking for a buggy, toys, highchair, clothes or any other baby or child related product you can think of. We sell clothes from newborn all the way up to 8 years old and we haven't forgotten Mum to be as we also sell maternity wear. Please no shoes.

The rota for helping on the day will be on the Baby & Toddler notice board at Wesley Hall, your support is what enables us to make the sale such a success (over £1500 made in March!) Even if you can only spare a couple of hours we appreciate it so much.

We are also running a raffle at this sale and have a number of local people donating items for which we are very grateful. If you would like to donate a prize please contact one of the committee members.

Having a large item room worked so well in March we will be continuing to do this again at the September sale and of course the café will be open for a cuppa and slice of yummy cake. If you would like to bake a cake but are not sure if your cooking skills are up to scratch please feel free to do a test run and the committee would be more than happy to sample it!

We look forward to seeing you all there.



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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The sunshine seems to have arrived in Elmswell Library and with it the annual Summer Reading Challenge – welcome to The Big Friendly Read!



This year the theme is Roald Dahl and we are celebrating all things scrumpdidlumptions!

As I write more than 30 children have signed up already and they're already reading their books and will be collecting their rewards when the volunteers start arriving on Saturday. The children simply have to read six books over six weeks, come to the library at the times below to talk to a volunteer and collect their Dahl-inspired rewards. It's an invaluable part of the year for the library, and it encourages children to continue reading for pleasure throughout the holidays.

The timetable until September 3rd is:

Saturday and Sunday 11am

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 2.30

Thursday 11am and 2:30pm

Each session is one hour long and for all those children who complete the six books there will be the usual cake-fuelled medal and certificate evening on Friday, September 9th.

And this year we also have the Read Me programme for 11-18-year-olds, which combines literacy and art. Youngsters have to read just two books and complete a workbook (no visits to volunteers required) to collect their reward – a lanyard and free DVD hire voucher.

And we also have the Gold Ticket draw – which is across all Suffolk Libraries – you can win an array of prizes by simply purchasing your virtual ticket over the counter. See in the library for more details.

And for the adults – please note that the Keep In Touch Group will not meet in August and will resume in September, and similarly the Family History Group will break for the summer and meet again on October 12th – if you are interested in joining the group, there are now a couple of spaces to start investigating your family history with the help of some keen amateurs. Just leave your name in the library for more details.

And finally – a date for your diary – the next big fundraiser at Elmswell – Beer, Bubbly, Bangers and Books is on Friday, September 2nd from 7pm. Hopefully the sun will stay shining for us and we hope to have a lovely evening with a selection of beers to sample, a BBQ serving sausages to keep the hunger pangs at

bay, bubbly for those who don't enjoy beer and all surrounded by books in your local library. Tickets are £12.50 each and bring some change because there will be a raffle too. All proceeds will go towards our continuing improvements to Elmswell Library and the service you provide. Tickets will be available from August in the library.

And for our wine connoisseurs, there is a provisional date of Friday, November 18th for our next wine evening.

We look forward to seeing you very soon.



ELMSWHEELIANS 2016

THANK YOU everyone who supported our "Bumblebees" Fund-Raising Bike Ride on

Friday 22nd July 2016.

On a glorious summer evening 30 cyclists turned out to tackle a very pleasant ride which

took us out of the village via Warren Lane, then on to Borley Green, Shelland Green, Harleston Green, Buxhall Fen, Buxhall, Rattlesden, Drinkstone, Drinkstone Park, Beyton, Tostock, and back into Elmswell via Bunkers Hill. Finish was "The Fox", for much needed refreshment, and more fun with a very well-supported Raffle.

Total distance covered was 15.8 miles.

Resulting from the evening's activities, we raised an amazing £558, which will all be given to the "Bumblebees" Childrens Charity. "Bumblebees" is a locally based organisation,

at Sproughton, which works directly with children with learning / movement problems, including Down's Syndrome. They rely solely on donations, do not have the marketing power of the national charities, and are always in need of support.

Further thanks must be recorded to the many non-cyclists who supported us Steve at the Mace Stores in the village; John & Tricia Noy at Eastern Frames;

Ian Ainsley at Tesco Express; the many individual donors of Raffle Prizes (27 in total); Lesley Reed for selling the Raffle Tickets; everyone who purchased Raffle Tickets; and last but not least, Jimmy and all his staff at "The Fox" for their help and support, and for making us so welcome.

As to the future, please note our next two rides are :

Sunday 21st August (15 miles approx.)

Sunday 25th September (15 miles approx.)

As usual both will start from Abbots Warren in Church Road at 10.30 a.m.

Contact : Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell. Tel : 01359 240908



DID YOU KNOW John & Katherine Hicks of White House Farm, Ashfield Road?

If so, do you know where they moved to, or any of their family?

Elmswell History Group has had an enquiry via its website, <http://www.elmswell-history.org.uk/arch/buildings/whitehousefm.html>, from someone trying to trace Mr & Mrs Hicks as part of their family research.

We believe that White House Farm (see picture) was in the Hicks family for approximately 30 years until the mid(?) -1980s, so if you have any information for this enquirer, i.e. the circumstances of the farm sale, or what became of John and Katherine, please contact EHG's Secretary, Stella Chamberlin, on 01359-242601, for which many thanks.





ELMSWELL AUTUMN FAYRE TOURNAMENT SPONSORED BY PARK GARAGE SERVICES

**The golf day is on Friday 26th AUGUST 2016
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4. Three course dinner and you are most welcome to invite your partners for the meal in the evening.
Presentation for the winners (Sponsored by Park Garage)
5. You will only pay what it costs the society as this is a non profit making day and the total will be £48 (less if you are a member of the Stowmarket Club as no green fees to pay.

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*Thanks, Terry Southgate
01359 240528*



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**Why, didn't you know?
There IS a gruffalo!**

And he's to be found at Elmswell Primary School, as we discovered at the School Summer Fair, when members of ElmsWild led a Gruffalo trail around the school grounds. His eyes are orange, his tongue is black, he has purple prickles..... We'll I'm sure I don't need to tell you the rest! Hiding away among the trees, he took a fair bit of tracking down, along with his woodland mates the owl, fox and snake, but we all had great fun re-telling the much-loved story while hunting through the trees with the redoubtable mouse in the lead. It was a perfect summer evening – the weather couldn't have been better for a gruffalo hunt. Thanks to everyone at FRESCH for all their hard work organising this event and for inviting us to take part.



A – maze – ing paths

We've been busy at Lukeswood over the last few weeks cutting some new paths through the woodland and the orchard. The vegetation has grown quite dense this year and the trees are getting taller, so the new paths allow walkers to explore right into the trees. It has the feel of a proper woodland now and the maze of paths gives you a new perspective that you didn't get from walking around the perimeter. The sunny glades are also a great place for getting a closer look at the wildlife, especially butterflies, dragonflies, damselflies and other insects such as crickets and moths. Why not have a walk through and see where the path leads you!



Butterflies are back

Despite a slow start, the recent hot weather has brought out the butterflies – not in the numbers we had a few years ago, but many more than we feared earlier in the year. At Lukeswood and Kiln Meadow alongside the ubiquitous Meadow Browns, Large Whites and Ringlets, we've spotted Gatekeeper, Tortoiseshell, Peacock, Red Admiral, Small Skipper, Comma, Speckled Wood and Small Copper. We're particularly pleased to see the Small Copper again as it is now becoming quite rare. At Lukeswood we've also seen the pretty red and black Cinnabar moth, along with its yellow and black striped caterpillars feeding on ragwort, and the spectacular Banded Demoiselle. The latter is a gorgeous azure and black damselfly, usually seen near water, but sometimes to be found basking on sunny leaves. If you fancy a walk and a bit of butterfly spotting, there's still just time to take part in Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count, which runs until Sunday 7th August. Go to www.bigbutterflycount.org where you can find out all you need to know to take part this year. There are some very useful downloads, ID charts, etc., and you can record and submit your sightings via an app (or online via the website if you prefer).



Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



ELMSWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group did not meet as a group in July. The Chairman, Cllr Sarah Mansel and other members met with the new head of Neighbourhood Planning at Babergh / Mid Suffolk, Bill Newman. They discussed the Group's concerns regarding the confusion surrounding the Neighbourhood Plan process due to the ever-changing Government guidance & legislation, the attitude of the Planning Inspectorate and Mid Suffolk's own lack of clarity and cohesion in advising groups. Bill Newman, who has been in office for just a few weeks but has already made constructive changes, is to liaise with Ian Poole, the Mid Suffolk specialist adviser attached to the Elmswell project and they will come back with a 'road map' whereby the process can move forward more efficiently.

The group is made up of the following members who can all be contacted by email:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Marian Abbott | Marian731@btinternet.com |
| Julie Cole | jules.cole@hotmail.co.uk |
| Peter Dow | clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk |
| Peter Edmonds | peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk |
| Mary Feeney | feeneymj@btinternet.com |
| Terry Garner | terryjgarner@btinternet.com |
| Peter Goodridge | elmswellrector@gmail.com |
| Sarah Mansel | Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk |
| Fred Pallett | fjp@oilgasassociates.com |
| Shaun Pratt | shaun.pratt@btinternet.com |
| Ann Richards | ann@richards47.plus.com |
| Jane Storey | Jane.Storey@councillors.suffolkcc.gov.uk |
| Julia Taber | Juliataber4@icloud.com |

FACEBOOK



WEBSITE





ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Contact: Revd Peter Goodridge tel: 240512
email: elmswellrector@gmail.com
 web: www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk

...and now find us on facebook!

We hope that you are having a lovely Suffolk summer time :)

July kicked off with our annual Summer Fair at the wonderful Wesley Hall. Thank you so much to everyone who attended and helped organise. There was BBQ food, water-into-wine stall, treasure hunting, handmade card selling, messy church craft activities and lots of cake... something for everyone :) We raised over £1200 which is awesome! Thanks again to everyone who supported this event. If you missed it, don't worry, soon it will be our annual Christmas fair...!

Some of our regular church activities and meetings have temporarily paused during August, but everything will starting again in September. We have a number of small groups within our parish that meet together regularly. The small group setting is the best place to get to develop deep friendships with other church members and to get that sense of belonging to something special.

Rather than being an optional aspect of Church life, small groups are a central part of church life, health and growth. Each groups has its own distinct style; some meet weekly and some fortnightly, some meet during the day and some during the evening.

However, all our small group shares four common aspects:

- Fellowship - deepening supportive Christian friendships
- Bible study - we seek to hear what God has to say to us from the Scriptures
- Prayer
- Serve - helping out in our churches and community

We have "mums" groups, "mens" groups and "coffee" groups. If you're interested in joining one, please get in touch :) Our contact details are above.

In November, a group of us are off to see Lou Fellingham and her band lead an evening of

modern Christian music at the Apex in Bury St Edmunds. Lou is a greatly loved worship leader, singer and recording artist. It promises to be a great evening!

Please join us on Sunday mornings!
 Everyone is always welcome :)

Sunday 7th August
 9:30am All Age Service
 11:00am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday 14th August
 8:00am Holy Communion
 10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 21st August
 10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 28th August
 8:00am Morning Prayer (BCP)
 10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 4th September
 9:30am All Age Service
 11:00am BCP Morning Prayer

ST JOHN'S FLOODLIGHTING

You are invited to sponsor the floodlighting of the tower at St. John's to help with the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church. You can choose to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other special occasion. Alternatively you can simply make a donation. For the summer months the lights will be on between 8.00 p.m. and midnight. A night's floodlighting costs £5.

Please make cheques payable to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

AUGUST 2016 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 in memory of Andrew Jones.**
 "Always in our thoughts". Mum & Dad.
- 2 cherished memories of Dora Lily Handyside on her Birthday.**
- 6 5th Wedding Anniversary - Annette & Stuart Martin.**
- 10 remembering Trevor Borley, who left us 8 years ago. From all the family.**
- 18 in loving memory of Dean Goodchild. Love, Colin. xx.**
- 21 John Bennington.**
 "With love on your Birthday".
 From Elizabeth and all your family. xxx.
- 22 in loving memory of Betty Margaret Greathead.**
- 27 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.**

All bookings and payments please to :-

Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell (Tel: 240908)

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET

Parish Priest: Father David Finegan, The Presbytery, 29 Lockington Road,

Stowmarket IP14 1BQ Tel: 01449-612946

E-mail: ourlady.stowmarket@btinternet.com

MASS TIMES:

Saturdays (First Mass of Sunday)

St Mary's C of E Church, Woolpit IP30 9QG - 6.00 pm

Sundays

Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket IP14 1AW - 8.30 am & 10.15 am

Holy Days

Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket - 8.00 am, 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

Weekday services in the Parish are advertised at the front of Our Lady's Church,

in the weekly Newsletter and on the new Parish Website www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk

Father David Finegan

ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH



This is Margaret's and my caravan on a lovely site just outside Bideford in Devon, we spent a few days here on our summer wanderings. Actually I've cheated a bit because I took this picture 2 years ago, but if I'd taken a photo this year it wouldn't have had the church in the background!

If you're going away over the summer, even if it's day trips out, we trust you will have real "Holydays" and will come back refreshed mentally, physically and spiritually. If the children are getting on your nerves (or you're getting on theirs!) after a few weeks, send them along to the Kingdom Express Holiday Club at the Blackbourne from August 15th to 19th, 9.30am to 12.30pm each day. They will have a great time which you'll be able to find out about at the Sausage Supper on the evening of Thursday 18th. Telephone 241323 to register them or bring them along on the Monday morning at 9.15am. It's £12.50 per child for the week (or pro-rata if they can't come every day) with a maximum of £25 per family.

ELMSWELL FELLOWSHIP

Our midweek activities take a break in August but will resume in September:-

The Ladies Friendship Group resume meetings on Monday September 5th at 7.45pm when Flory Heller will be reminiscing about her holiday in New Zealand. Phone Margaret on 241541 for more information.

Food & Friends have a month off in August, the next meal will be at midday on Thursday September 8th. A chance to meet other people and enjoy a nutritious meal at nominal cost. This is run in conjunction with Age UK. Phone Jackie on 245918 to book your place.

We are grateful to all those who come to lead our worship each week. Our preachers at our 10.30am services in the coming weeks are as follows:-

- August 7th Stephen Spurgeon
(inc Communion)
- August 14th Stephen Spurgeon
(All-Age Service)
- August 21st Ann Rudland
- August 28th Eileen Warner
- September 4th Eddie Kerridge
(inc Communion)

An advance notice is our All-Age Harvest Service on October 9th, we hope the Elmswell Scout Group will be joining us again for this and we will be having a Harvest Lunch to which all are invited after the service, please telephone 241541 to book your place.

A warm welcome is extended to all who wish to attend any of the above events.

Visit our website at www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk, email cockant2@btinternet.com or telephone any of the numbers in this text for further info.

Tony

THANK YOU

My family and I wish to thank all our friends in the village and far afield for their cards and expressions of sympathy over our recent sad loss. Enid had many friends and colleagues in numerous clubs throughout the locality, many not really known to me. All of you have been most kind over the past few months whilst Enid was ill and more recently when she passed away.

It will not be easy to reply to all the cards and messages, as many had no address, so I hope all our friends will accept this as heartfelt thanks for all your kindness and sympathy.

Yours most sincerely

Tony Chaplin



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Last month we published an invitation from the developers' agent for response to the proposals for some 60 houses on land to the east of the village, North of the railway, accessed via Borley Crescent.

The response to the Borley Crescent proposal, as forwarded by the developer's agent, is reproduced here in full together with their own response to the main objections which were made to them.

WHAT WAS SAID:

- I would just like to say I detest the idea of MORE new houses blocking the view across the field from my home. I hope my opinion is taken in to consideration.
- As the Harris site is adding 190 house on the already busy railway crossing another 60 is far from good
- I have the misfortune to clean the sewer line down Ashfield road to the Anglian water works, the system is currently near capacity without the 190 house mentioned above, Will you be finding an alternative line to the treatment works?
- Why build in a greenfield site, 190 house going up in the near future I can see why on a brownfield site but not on agricultural fields
- I strongly oppose this, as I know others do as well. Why are you determined to ruin our village. There is already planning for 190 houses, which is outrageous, this new proposal of yours goes to the point of being madness. You are ruining our countryside and outlook. Stupidity comes to mind, our village school cannot cope now, nor can our Health Centre. No thought to the infrastructure. Also this will add to more traffic, our village cannot cope with that either. I do not feel that the government means to ruin our countryside. This Matthew Jewers is using this as a get out for his own financial gain, with no care for Elmswell or the people living in it.
- My initial concerns revolve around the increase in levels of traffic, this development would bring by only having a single access on to both Blackbourne Road & Station Road. Not to mention the added risk of accidents due to the already high levels of on street parking, not just on the estate, but during school hours, station road almost becomes a single track from Blackbourne Rd to beyond Elmswell Butchers.
- The access almost opposite Blackbourne Road from the new development on the bacon factory site is going to cause a further increase in the level of traffic and congestion at various points of the day. The railway crossing will also have an effect on this congestion.
- Perhaps you should consider including a 2nd vehicular access on to the Blackbourne estate, along with an additional exit from Borley Crescent on to Blackbourne Road at the top of the site (north) making the crescent an actual crescent, also include as part of your plans should include a Foot bridge across the railway to ensure a safe route to the school and other village amenities.
- Construction vehicles access during development due to existing on street parking.
- Destruction of Tree hedge belt currently bordering the west side of the site currently provides privacy to all houses bordering the development.
- Inadequate capacity to accommodate additional children at a Local school
- Water supply already stretched due to already high demand
- From a personal perspective it would greatly spoil the view from our property and close access to walks which we regularly enjoy with our children. This is one of the most appealing aspects of where we live and one of the reasons for us buying the property. From a community perspective we are concerned about the addition of yet more houses to this side of the level crossing. Our understanding is that there is already likely to be 160 new houses being built on the site of the old Bacon Factory. This in itself is problematic given the traffic build-up when the level crossing is down and also insufficient amenities in the village for the additional population (for example lack of a GP surgery and space at the primary school).
- We appreciate that there is a shortage of housing in the region but overloading this side of the village will only add to problems that are not being sufficiently addressed.
- The significantly extra amount of traffic which, in the current plan, will be using Borley Crescent. This is a cul-de-sac which often has cars parked on the road, including opposite our property at No 5 which is on the bend just before the entrance to Pyes Meadow. Increase in traffic will only add to the congestion problems in this area. We fully appreciate that accommodation in the village must be increased so we suggest that access to your proposed new development could be from Blackbourne Road, using the spur road to the right, just before the entrance to the Blackbourne Centre car park. I attach a copy of your document with the alternative access route marked for your information.
- The increase in traffic requiring to use the Blackbourne Road/Station Road junction is a further concern. This will become an even greater problem when the Bacon Factory development becomes a reality. Some form of traffic management will be required in this area.
- It is a loss of valuable farmland.
- It is a premature proposed development whilst the large brown field site of the bacon factory remains undeveloped.
- It would further strain the present water, drainage, school and healthcare provision of the village.
- As most households have two vehicles, a further 120 vehicles using the estate and village roads would considerably worsen the daily congestion occurring at the railway level crossing.
- Should development proceed then access to the site for construction vehicles would be safer from the end of Blackbourne rather than along narrow, twisty Borley Crescent. Are reason for purchase and choosing to live in Elmswell was the fact we backed on to outstanding views, were able to be with nature at the drop of a hat, we own a dog and use the field as source of 95% of his daily exercise, the children are safe and happy our current environment due to the lack of traffic, danger and are able to play outside without disturbing other people. Losing the hedges trees and flowers will have a massive effect on the current wildlife which are blessed to have. One of the currently standing trees in an oak tree which is and lead to believe has a preservation order on it this development would cause this to be removed. The field take a lot of natural water out of our area and stops flooding in our area with foundations and concrete being put in the ground would not be able to absorb this. Currently this field is used for crops this means losing another area of our food sources which is something we cannot afford to do.
- As the owner of an existing property on Borley Crescent (Number 11) I am concerned over the projected increase in the number of cars using Borley Crescent to access the new site.
- The only vehicular access to the proposed development is through Borley Crescent and this development would therefore result in a significant increase in the traffic flow along Borley Crescent,
- A development of 60 houses would generate in excess of 100 additional cars accessing the site each day and this would significantly increase safety issues, noise and congestion.
- The access road is inadequate for the extra traffic. The traffic levels would be over double the current levels.

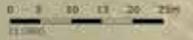
- The access road would be unsuitable for the machinery needed to build the development. The land is currently agricultural land and shouldn't be lost to housing.
- Planning permission for 190 homes on a brown field site within a few hundred metres has already been approved.
- Current infrastructure, utilities, schools and health care services are inadequate for this much growth.
- Increased noise and pollution from the extra traffic is detrimental to the health and wellbeing of the current residents.
- Current rural landscape and aesthetics would be spoilt by the development.
- The development would be purely a money making venture for Matthew Jewers and the developers and have a huge negative impact on the lives of all the current residents of Blackbourne development.
- A quiet cul de sac would be turned into a busy thorough fare.
- how will the addition of 60 houses affect the railway traffic which is already present on a busy train track, with a level crossing which is down for approx 30-45 minutes of every hour.
- are there any further health care provisions in the village? With the development on the bacon factory also, surely getting appointments and access to other local level health care is going to be strained? Let along a further 60 houses.
- how will the school - already nearing capacity- cope with an additional development on the bacon factory and then another 60 houses on the site suggested.
- Traffic around OXER close currently is a nightmare at school times, how will this be addressed? Where will the children from families go to school??!
- I believe that should this be passed this will cause undue pressure on the village infrastructure and reduce the amount of green field access to the community. Bearing in mind the imminent development of the bacon factory and additionally the proposal for the Warren Lane/ Wetherden Rd area I am very concerned that the current services and facilities will be under extreme pressure. Elmswell hasn't got enough access to education, health or local services to justify building yet more homes and increasing the population, the road and railway line will increase traffic congestion and this will directly impact on the health and wellbeing of residents.
- I would like to register my objection on the above development proposal, on the grounds that the road infrastructure through the village is stressed enough, along with the existing schooling and health care requirements. There has been a lot of housing built in recent years and with the possibility of the Bacon Factory site being developed in the near future there surely is no need for further housing. As one of the largest villages in Suffolk enough is enough for Elmswell.
- Building on green field when there are brown field sites within the village still waiting to be developed after many years,
- Loss of farm land used for agricultural use,
- Access to land is restricted due to the level of vehicles in the proposed entry point
- Parking facilities are restricted and a problem at the present, adding more vehicles looking for parking spaces would create an even bigger issue,
- While the proposal is to create 2 bedroom properties and bungalows they will still not be in the financial reach of local people on a national minimum/living wage, most likely outcome is the houses will be predominately sold to private landlords who will charge a higher rent as a knock on effect of purchasing the properties at a higher rate leaving local people paying high rent unable to save a deposit or have a chance of getting onto the property market,
- There are hedge rows that look as if they are being removed and loss of the wildlife,
- Oak trees that will be removed, again a loss to the countryside,
- All the houses that overlook the field at present will lose this view and then be overlooked by new properties and loss of privacy and light, this will then devalue their properties due loss of scenic country view.
- I have no objections to the new development itself, however my concerns lie with the existing village infrastructure and services. The railway crossing is already beyond bursting at peak times; the additional cars will worsen this problem. Also the additional number of villagers will add to the already full doctors' surgery at Woolpit and I also imagine the school may already be at its upper limits. Building new houses is fine, so long as there are the services to go with the increasing village population....

THE AGENT'S RESPONSE:

Comment	Response
<p>Consultation Extent Some respondents queried the extent of the consultation mailing</p>	<p>Approximately 250 leaflets providing details of the emerging proposals were delivered to properties in the immediate vicinity of the site on 29th June 2016. A distribution map is available on request. The same leaflet was also included as an A4 feature in the 1st July 2016 edition of the Elmswell Newspaper which is delivered to every property in the village. A 2-week consultation period was given for comments to be issued by email or post. 16 responses were received.</p> <p>A Statement of Community Involvement will accompany the planning application.</p>
<p>Highways and Access Concern was raised in respect of traffic generation and congestion through nearby estate roads and at the railway crossing, with reference to the cumulative impact of the recently approved development for 190 dwellings at the Former Grampian Harris/Bacon Factory Site</p> <p>Some respondents commented that a second access should be proposed to the site via Blackbourne Road and suggested the provision of a footbridge over the railway line</p>	<p>The project highway consultants have confirmed that the proposed residential development is anticipated to generate in the order of 32 additional two way movements in the morning peak hour and 34 two way movements in the evening peak hour. This would equate to approximately 1 movement every 2 minutes during the peak hour. Assessments of the local highway network have been undertaken which have demonstrated that there is sufficient capacity to accommodate this, including traffic generated from committed sites.</p> <p>The level crossing and the time and lengths of closure has also been surveyed. The survey has demonstrated that the barriers close twice in the peak hour and the maximum closure period is 240 seconds. The traffic flow distribution undertaken demonstrates that the development could generate approximately 1 vehicle every 150 seconds within the peak hour at this location, which could result in an additional 1 or 2 vehicles queueing in the peak hour. This change is not considered to have a significant impact to the level of queueing and would likely be within the daily network fluctuations.</p> <p>The applicant does not have control over adjacent land and as such a secondary access is not able to be proposed at this time. However, the proposed internal road layout is such that a further access could be provided at a later date if the land becomes available. All existing pedestrian and cyclist facilities are considered suitable to facilitate the development and there is no justification or policy basis to provide a pedestrian footbridge over the railway line.</p> <p>A Transport Assessment and Travel Plan will accompany the planning application.</p>

A1

BLACKBOURNE MEADOW



Accommodation Schedule

PRIVATE		
House Type	No of Bedrooms	No
1 Bed Flat	1	2
2 Bed Flat	2	14
2 Bed Bungalow	2	16
2 Bed House	2	22
3 Bed House	3	4
Total no. of units		58

NOTES
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REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	CHKD BY
1	Issue for Tender	03/06/18	MM	MM
2	Revised for Issue	03/06/18	MM	MM

- KEY
- Site Boundary
 - Plot Number
 - House Type
 - Block Form
 - Garage
 - Public Open Space
 - Existing Trees
 - Proposed Trees
 - Topsoil
 - Gravel Surface
 - Private Drive



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Sketch Layout - 01

DATE	TIME	BY	CHKD BY
1:500 @ A1	30/05/18	PM/hzs	-
JEW160105 SKL-01			B

THE AGENT'S RESPONSE CONTINUED:



<p>Impact on local infrastructure Some respondents were concerned about the ability of health care services, schools etc to cope with the additional demand generated by the proposed development</p>	<p>The District Council adopted its Community Infrastructure Levy in April 2016. Elmswell is located in a High Value area for CIL purposes (calculated at £115 per square metre of market home floorspace) with 15% payable to the Parish. As such, the development could generate payments in the region of £450,000 which can be used to fund a wide range of local infrastructure in line with the Council's CIL 123 list where necessary such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public transport improvements • Provision of library facilities • Provision of school places • Provision of health facilities • Provision of leisure and community facilities • Provision of 'off site' open space • Strategic green infrastructure • Strategic flooding; and • Provision of waste infrastructure
<p>Water supply/sewerage capacity Some respondents questioned the capacity of the local water supply and sewerage system to accommodate the development</p>	<p>Consultation is underway with Anglian Water to establish the capacity with both water and sewage however there is not expected to be any issues arising.</p> <p>A Services Report will accompany the planning application.</p>
<p>Loss of agricultural land and preference for brownfield development Some objected to the development of agricultural land and commented that brownfield sites should be developed first</p>	<p>The site is not high quality agricultural land. Mid Suffolk Council is required to plan for a far greater number of new homes and as part of this will need to release greenfield sites on the edge of existing settlements, particularly at the sustainable Key Service Centres such as Elmswell. Compared to other alternatives, the site is considered to be a particularly suitable and sustainable site for residential development. Permission has recently been granted for residential development on the Former Grampian Harris Factory site. There are considered to be no other suitable alternative brownfield sites in the village to accommodate the level of growth needed.</p>
<p>Impact on neighbour amenity Some concern was raised in respect of overlooking/loss of light etc</p>	<p>The matter of neighbour amenity would be considered in detail at the Reserved Matters stage. However, given the contained nature of the site by existing hedgerows and the ability to position properties such that overlooking would not occur, it is considered that impact on amenities of the limited number of existing surrounding properties would be minimal.</p>
<p>Loss of countryside views Some respondents commented that the development would result in the loss of a scenic view</p>	<p>Whilst the loss of a view cannot be considered as a material planning consideration, the landscape aesthetics with views out to the east will be retained and appreciated from new footways along the eastern boundary of the site. From points to the east, the development will seek to improve the landscape setting of the village with a stronger and more consistent landscape structure along the eastern boundary of the proposed site. This will enhance landscape character and rural views.</p> <p>A Landscape Visual Impact Assessment will accompany the planning application.</p>
<p>Loss of trees, hedgerows and impact on wildlife Some comments were received raising concern about loss of planting and ecological habitats</p>	<p>All existing trees and hedgerows are to be retained and enhanced. Extensive survey work has been undertaken which has confirmed that there would be no significant effects upon protected species and that the proposals would be in conformity with relevant legislation and policy. The retention of existing vegetation and habitats and provision of a series of green corridors and open spaces will offer overall ecological enhancements</p> <p>Arboricultural and Ecological Reports will accompany the planning application.</p>
<p>Loss of walking opportunities and accessible green space Some raised concern about the loss of dog walking opportunities</p>	<p>All existing footpaths are to be retained and enhanced. The existing PRoW to the south of the site will be enhanced as part of the development proposals and the character of the existing PRoW along the western boundary is to be replicated as proposed new PRoW on the eastern boundary of the site. It is considered that with new footways and additional accessible open space within the development there will be more provision that exists at present</p>
<p>Increased noise and pollution A comment was made that a residential development on the site would lead to undue noise and pollution impacts</p>	<p>It is considered that the anticipated traffic generation would not give rise to any undue noise/pollution to existing residential properties.</p> <p>A Noise Survey will accompany the planning application.</p>
<p>Properties will be of reach of local people One respondent commented that the proposed dwellings will most likely be predominately sold to private landlords charging a higher rent</p>	<p>35% of the dwellings will be affordable in line with local planning policy in order to contribute to meeting local housing needs. The comment on the ownership of the market homes is noted however this is outside of the control of the applicant or planning system.</p>
<p>Loss of property value Some commented that the development would degrade the value of nearby properties</p>	<p>The Courts have taken the view that planning is concerned with land use in the public interest, and as such the impact of a development on the value of a neighbouring property is not a material consideration.</p>
<p>Construction Impact The impact during the construction period was raised as a concern</p>	<p>A Construction Method Statement, which can be secured by planning condition, will control operating procedures during the construction period to minimise any disruption that will occur during construction.</p>



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Walking the walk...



Clr. Julia Taber

GREEN BEGINNERS

In a discussion following a Parish Council meeting, Julia Taber mentioned Bowls and said she would like to try it. Dick Burch immediately suggested that the Council should raise a team and challenge the Bowls Club to a friendly match, as the Firemen have done annually for several years, and so the idea was born.

The, possibly, inaugural game, took place on Saturday, July 2nd, when a somewhat random collection of councillors, past and present, and augmented with Bowls Club Chairman, Linda Abbott, and match sponsor, Alan Wells, took on the full might of the EBC. The Bowls Club won, unsurprisingly, by 89 points to 40, but some of the councillors showed a great deal of natural aptitude and gave a good account of themselves whilst having a really good time. Also, as you will see, some of them were not lacking in technique. As the old adage goes 'if you can't

play well, try to look good' and maybe no-one will notice. After a short training session under Linda's expert tutelage, the councillors were ready to take the field and play commenced. One rink came pretty close to an upset, actually, when Julia, husband Andy and Chris Wiley lost by only 12 points to 19. Guest star, Linda Abbott, lead Alison and Mike Schofield to a doughty 10:22 defeat, Alan Wells and Peter Dow, lead by Dick Burch, were unable to avoid a 10:23 reverse, and former Bowls Club member, Steve Harrison, Shaun Pratt and Mike Friend were tucked-up, as it were, by 8:25. The score was, of course, pretty irrelevant, and, it has to be said, the Bowlers coached and advised the councillors throughout the game. I don't know if Elmswell is exceptional in that regard, but I know of no other sport where your opponent will tell you what you need to do in order to beat him and

I have witnessed that in games that actually do matter!

Once the 'woods' were put to bed we adjourned to the Fox where Mr Jimmy served the Alan Wells sponsored refreshments, where the councillors' true talents really came to the fore. Alan brought Stan Howe along to watch the match and it was great to see him in the pub with a pint in his hand, in a mug, of course. Nice one, Alan.

So, if this should be the first EPC vs EBC match, and not the last as well, then the bar has been set pretty high, I would say. Should it not be repeated, however, it did, at least, demonstrate to several people that bowls isn't a game just for 'old folk'. It is just a coincidence that most of us are!

Harry and Olly - with dad Andy



Alan Wells - Council team 'friend'



Chris Wiley - one of the young councillors

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It was back in the cold, dark days of February when the Gardening Club took the decision to have an open gardens event in 2016, and 17th July was the chosen date.

Ten members of the club volunteered to open their gardens together with five other supporters in the village. The early summer was extremely wet and cold which left many plants struggling to get going, and this concerned some of the gardeners that their gardens would not be ready for the event. However, gardeners are a hardy bunch and all beavered away coaxing their gardens into life.

In the meantime, the publicity machine was under way with posters, articles, newspaper notices, and culminated in a double-page spread in the East Anglian Daily Times, featuring the garden of the Club chairman, Brenda Begg. Programmes were printed, direction signs and the garden numbers were ready to display.

Juliet and John Walker's garden began to resemble a tented village and was ready to provide refreshments, sell raffle tickets, plants, and honey from Elmswell's Mulberry Farm. This year we were joined by the Elmswell Art Club with a display of their excellent paintings, although the early breeze was causing a few difficulties with the mounting.

Then, all we could do was wait for the people to arrive.

The weather on the day turned out to be beautiful with much sun and some light cloud which, after an indifferent week, brought 170 enthusiastic visitors, which was easily the highest number in the last 10 years. People came from all parts of Suffolk and Essex as well as from Elmswell itself, and there were many compliments on the gardens and the friendly welcome they received, as well as appreciation at having the chance to visit St John's Church with its lovely Flower Festival.

The result of all the hard work was an impressive amount raised of £790, which will support the Gardening Club and enable some monies to be donated to local charities.

All of this could not have happened without the people who opened their gardens and worked diligently to get them looking so good on the day. Many thanks also to the club members who helped with various tasks during the day selling programmes, refreshments, plants and raffle tickets, especially Juliet and John for the use of their garden. The Art Club display was much appreciated by the visitors and our thanks go to the people who took part, as well as to the members of Elmswell for "manning" the Memorial Garden.

Finally, many thanks to Travel Stop for sponsoring our programmes, the MACE shop for their support, and the Co-Op for allowing us to pitch camp in their car park. *Nick & Brenda*



WHAT IS A MEN'S SHED?

A Men's Shed is a larger version of the typical man's shed in the garden – a place where he feels at home and pursues practical interests with a high degree of autonomy. A Men's Shed offers this to a group of such men where members share the tools and resources they need to work on projects of their own choosing at their own pace and in a safe, friendly and inclusive venue. They are places of skill-sharing and informal learning, of individual pursuits and community projects, of purpose, achievement and social interaction. A place of leisure where men come together to work.

A Shed's activities usually involve making or mending in wood (e.g. carpentry, joinery, turning, carving, whittling, marquetry, furniture renovation, leather work) but may include metalworking (milling, sheet metal, welding, etc.) bike repair, gardening, electronics, tool renovation, boat renovation, model engineering

(model railways, planes) Making community projects such as planters. Reclamation, reuse and restoration will feature strongly – and some say that is true of the men too! Although Sheds mostly attract older men, some have included men of any age, women and young people. Whichever activities are pursued the essence of a Shed is not a building, which some don't have, but the network of relationships between the members.

There is a direct link between mental health and such activities. In particular after a life of routine work, to be plunged into retirement can destroy one's self esteem. The partner may be used to the house being empty, having friends round for tea, going to social groups during the day and that leaves the retired partner feeling alone. Then of course after a lifetime of partnership the inevitable loss of a partner.

While I have tried to keep this gender neutral these problems seem to present more in men than women. The Term men's shed is used as a description not to imply exclusivity. Everyone over 18 is welcome at a shed.

I am actively involved with Men's sheds and would welcome any enquiries either to form a shed, donate tools or sponsorship. There are over 400 such units in the UK. See <http://menssheds.org.uk/> contact me mike.friend@easidoor.co.uk





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ELMSWELL BOWLS CLUB

Elmswell's Open Gardens Day

The Bowls Club opened its gates to all Villagers on Sunday 17 July; 'Elmswell's Open Gardens' day. Some 60 people visited during the time, who were particularly surprised to see the well-kept and varied gardens alongside the beautifully-kept bowls green. A good number also tried a bowl or two and a few have now said that they would like to consider joining-in with the bowls scene.

Results for EBC's matches in July

The Club played its long-standing, annual 'Tommy Cooper Memorial' charity match with Risbygate and St Botolph's Bowls Clubs on Sunday 17 May at 2:0pm; which was played in superb weather. The match was held at St Botolph's Club and the result was a win for Risbygate, with St Botolph's second and the EBC; a close third.

EBC Intra-Club Competitions

Three competitions were held in July:

- 9 July - The Mixed-Singles Competition;
- 23 July - The Mixed Pairs Competition and
- 30 July - The Horseshoe Trophy (Drive 3)

The winning semi-finalists will play their finals matches over the weekend of 3-4 September.

- Winning semi-finalists in The Mixed-Singles competition are: Brenda & David Begg and
- The Mixed Pairs: Michael Bizley & Michael Waspe (with many apologies for calling him Michael Woss in the June Newsletter)! The other semi-finalists were Ian Tullet and Sheila Watkins.

The EBC **Thursday evening Team** continue to dominate their League and remain top with 11 wins from 11 games and will almost certainly be promoted to the next division (Division 2) at the end of the season. Our congratulations and continuing best of luck to them for the remainder of the season.

We should also recognise the extraordinary comeback in one of the two teams playing against Haughley Bowls Club on 26 July, away to Haughley 'B' team. Ray Puxley and Neil Smart were 10 points down at the halfway point and then turned it around to win by 6 points and gave the EBC an overall team a good win! Well done to both of them.

Stowmarket & District; League 3 (Monday Evening)			
27 June	Rookery 'B'	A	Lost: 59 - 91
4 July	Earl Stonham	H	*Lost: 67 - 83
11 July	Needham Market 'B'	H	*Won: 104 - 39
18 July	Bildeston	A	Lost: 76 - 67
25 July	St Botolphs 'B'	H	Next Issue

Stowmarket & District; League 3 (Tuesday Afternoon)			
28 June	Bye		
5 July	Stanton 'B'	H	Lost: 29 - 30
12 July	St Botolphs 'C'	A	Won: 31 - 29
19 July	Thornham Magna	H	Won: 45 - 20
26 July	Haughley 'B'	A	Won: 46 - 35

Area 'D' Triples League 1 (Tuesday Evening) *			
21 June	Great Barton		Lost: 58 - 60
28 June	Coney Weston Swan		Won: 43 - 56
5 July	Ixworth		Lost: 95 - 54
12 July	St Botolphs		Won: 94 - 56
19 July	Rookery		?
26 July	Greene King		Next Issue

* Note: Each match is played 50% at Home & 50% Away. Therefore, A & H not applicable for this event

Triple League (Wednesday Evening)			
29 June	Wortham	H	Lost: 48 - 56
6 July	Bildeston	A	Won: 104 - 39
13 July	Old Newton	A	Lost: 55 - 78
20 July	Thornham Magna	H	Lost: 44 - 58
27 July	Walsham Le Willows	A	Next Issue

Bury & District Bowls League - Division 3 (Thursday Evening)			
23 June	Thetford Ex Services	H	*Won: 76 - 64
30 June	Shield (Round 1)	*	
7 July	Hengrave 'B'	A	Won: 56 - 101
14 July	British Sugar	A	Won: 57 - 87
21 July	Risbygate 'B'	A	Won: 50 - 111
28 July		H	Next Issue

(Errors & Omissions excepted, E&OE)

Trevor Clarke
26-July-16



WESLEY PURCHASE

In order to go ahead with the purchase of the Wesley chapel and facilities on School Road for the community at large, the Parish Council had to formally agree to proceed accordingly.

This could only be considered once the issues of the Planning applications which the owners had made were dealt with so that a sound professional valuation could form the basis of negotiations towards an agreement on price.

The following Resolution was passed unanimously at the July meeting of full Council: *That Elmswell Parish Council (the Council) seeks, through the Suffolk Association of Local Councils, borrowing approval from the Department of Communities and Local Government under paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 1 to the local Government Act 2003, the Council to borrow an amount not exceeding £285,000 (two hundred and eighty-five thousand pounds) for the purchase of the Wesley chapel and halls facility at School Road, Elmswell (the property) and, subject thereto, that the Council applies for a loan in the sum of £285,000 (two hundred and eighty-five thousand pounds) from the Public Works Loan Board for the purchase of the property at the prevailing fixed term rate of interest, over an intended borrowing term of 25 years.*

For the avoidance of doubt, the following paper was published to Councillors in advance and to the public at the meeting.

BACKGROUND

In October 2012 worship in the Methodist chapel on School Road in Elmswell ceased and the building was mothballed. Two ancillary halls on the site were let to community groups and for private lettings. In advance of the site being put up for sale it was registered as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) in January 2015. The hall users sought the collaboration of the Parish Council and of the Elmswell Amenities Association towards purchasing the facility for continued community use. Both of these bodies were entirely supportive of the proposed way forward and confirmed, through their comprehensive community networking, widespread popular support for such a purchase. In July 2015 the owners applied for Planning permission to demolish the larger of the 2 ancillary halls and erect a dwelling. Numerous formal objections were made by Elmswell residents citing the loss of the community asset as a major factor. These objections were vigorously backed by the Parish Council whose reasoning included reference to the Government's National Planning Policy Framework strictures on 'meeting places', reasoning that the facilities were a 'viable and widely supported meeting place... serving a broad range of community uses.' Planning permission was refused on grounds that included the fact that the facilities had been registered as an Asset of Community Value, 'for which significant community support has been demonstrated.'

In February 2016 the owners applied for Planning permission to convert the chapel into a dwelling house. 42 formal objections were registered from individuals, pleading, once again, the value of the community asset which

the application sought to destroy. The Parish Council, again, made vigorous objection and, again, cited the weight of public support for a community facility on the site. Planning permission was refused on grounds which included, 'the loss of the church as a community facility (which) would be harmful to the provision of community facilities in the area and adversely affect the vitality of the locality..'

A formal Notice of Intention to dispose of the site had been received on 3rd December 2015 and the Parish Council had, accordingly, registered a formal Expression of Interest to bid and instructed Messrs Lacy Scott & Knight, Land Agents, to act in the matter of negotiating a fair value price once a market valuation was possible following the determination of the Planning applications. On 11th February 2016 the vendors appointed Messrs Jackson Stopps & Staff as their negotiators in the matter. The advertised price was £330,000.

The second Planning application was determined on 10th April 2016 which effectively triggered the beginning of a negotiating process as it allowed for an empiric valuation, taking into account the marketing constraints of the ACV registration, to which, both sides agreed, should be added a sum representing the 'community premium', reflecting the worth of the facility to Elmswell.

Agreement on a price of £285,000 was reached between the parties on 7th July 2016.

VIABILITY

Elmswell Parish Council has considerable experience in funding, developing and running community facilities having established and expanded the very successful Blackbourne complex in close collaboration with the Blackbourne Management Association. Resources which, until recently, have been channelled into the Blackbourne Project, can now be released towards what is seen as a necessary adjunct, ie a second community facility site on the South side of the railway and very near to the geographical heart of the village. Projections show that a PWLB * loan on their EIP basis over 25 years can be managed without requiring a specific rise in precept, even allowing some worthwhile contingency against immediate costs of transfer of ownership.

Management figures since the cessation of use as a place of worship show a surplus on operations and steadily increasing income from lettings.

The Methodists' Management Committee suggests that there is room for continued healthy growth in income. There has been some restricted opportunity to consider serious re-shaping and development to maximise the potential offered by the acquisition of the chapel building. This poses an attractive funding opportunity for grant aiding bodies and the Elmswell Amenities Association has expressed its willingness to support an appropriate scheme as it did so effectively in the case of the award winning Blackbourne project.

NEED

There are some 12 community groups using the current Wesley facilities. With a formal Notice to Quit served by the owners and

effective on 4th July 2016, minds have been concentrated on alternative arrangements. Temporary accommodation at the Blackbourne and elsewhere has proved possible for some groups, although this has meant extra travel arrangements and a willingness as to flexible times and venues. One major user has suggested a temporary closure in the hope of a late solution, one has clearly to close as no suitable alternative is available and one has had to consider meeting out of the village if necessary. There is clearly a current and pressing need for more community meeting facilities in Elmswell. This is compounded by the looming prospect of housing growth. 190 dwellings are to be built beginning March 2017. There are on-going public consultations on 4 other sites promising some 330 extra households. Approaches have been made by several other developers suggesting that the drive for housing will, imminently, impinge dramatically on Elmswell with a commensurate increase in the need for community facilities. There is currently no room for expansion at Blackbourne; a second facility in the village is an imperative in the face of the impeding growth.

SUPPORT

There are some 240 regular uses of the facilities at the Wesley site. They have been voluble and insistent in seeking to retain them. However, there has been far wider public support within a community which clearly recognises the heritage value of the chapel, the growing need for community space and the desirability of a site at the geographical heart of the village. The user groups have been clear in their regular contributions to The Elmswell Newsletter of the value they place on the facilities. The Newsletter has itself championed the cause of retention and development of the site. The Planning meetings at which the proposals for other development of the site have been subject to concerted lobbying and input urging that the site remains in community hands, and this is reflected in the heartfelt appeals to the Planning Authority which proved to be key and effective. At all other opportune moments, in Parish Council meetings and at the Annual Parish Meeting, there have been questions and pleadings from residents that the facility be saved. Social media postings have clearly indicated the backing of a wide range of supporters taking a broader view than the here-and-now with an eye to the future and to legacy as well as to heritage.

CONCLUSION

It seems obvious that Elmswell currently needs the facilities offered on the Wesley site. Similarly, that this need will increase as the village grows dramatically within the medium and longer term future. The Parish Council, in concert with the Blackbourne Management Association and with the backing of the Elmswell Amenities Association has the experience and the resources to take on the Wesley project on behalf of and with the clear backing of the community - both the user groups and the wider population alike. There has been no voice raised against the Wesley project, which should proceed.



THE COST, AND WHERE THE MONEY'S COMING FROM

As it did 5 years ago when Blackbourne Phase II was to be financed, the Parish Council is to approach the PWLB, the Government's *Public Works Loan Board*, which has the power to make loans to parish & town councils once formal *Borrowing Approval* has been granted.

Borrowing Approval is granted by the Department for Communities and Local Government via the local County Association which in our case, is SALC – the Suffolk Association of Local Councils. SALC will only forward an application if evidence is provided that the council in question has adequately budgeted for the scheme of which the loan is a part, can cope reasonably with the repayments and that the electorate is aware of the proposal to undertake the scheme and the borrowing. SALC were contacted the day after the Proposal was passed and, having examined the dossier of evidence presented by Elmswell Parish Council, have approved the application to go forward for approval. This may take up to 4 weeks. Once approved the loan application is made and is, effectively, a formality.

Councillors have agreed to opt for an 'Equal Instalments of Principal' loan over 25 years. At the prevailing rate of interest, the average 'Band D' council tax household will pay £1.07p each month to cover the repayments. In the debate as to where to pitch the loan, which could have been extended to 50 years, the following points were taken into account:

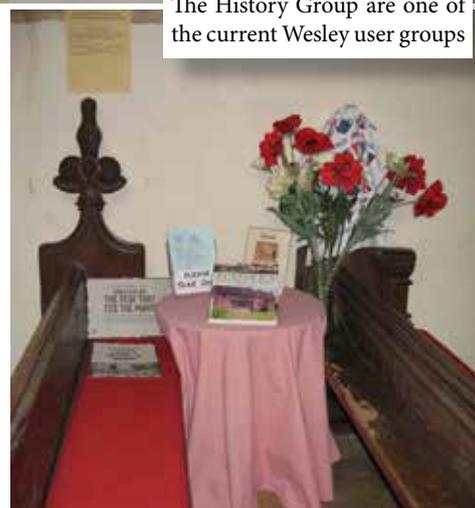
- The loan repayments reduce each half year by £59.97;
- As the housing stock in the village increases the monthly repayments per household go down;
- The loan is at a fixed rate;
- The loan rate when the money is drawn down might vary from the current quote – but it would be lower, given the current market conditions;
- The length of the loan term dictates who pays for the purchase – the longer the term, the greater the contribution made by future users;
- The longer the loan term the more expensive the total cost;
- Early repayment in part or in full is an option without penalty;
- 25 years seems to be a fair 'middle way' in light of the above.

All of the options are laid out on the PWLB web site which has a ready-reckoner allowing for any variations in the interest rate.



The History Group's flower display at St John's Church Flower Festival, with many thanks to Helen Taylor for her floral expertise. The display also featured a model of the BE.2.C. single-engine biplane which was one of the types of aircraft flown by the Royal Flying Corps from Elmswell Aerodrome during the Great War - the model was very kindly loaned by Peter Rutt.

The History Group are one of the current Wesley user groups



The Council's negotiating team.





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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL - JULY REPORT

Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August, at 7.30pm. The July meeting, took place on 18th at The Blackbourne with 7 of the 10 current councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Member Mrs Sarah Mansel, Parish Clerk Mr Peter Dow, and 11 members of the public.

This report is compiled from that meeting by the Parish Clerk and edited by the Council's Editorial Board which comprises the Council Chairman, Cllr Fred Pallett, the Council Vice-chairman, Cllr Shaun Pratt and Cllr Mike Friend, nominated by his peers to join them. It seeks to cover some of the more interesting or significant items thought to deserve wider public attention. Included, where appropriate, are matters reported to the meeting by external bodies such as Ward Members or as raised at the meeting by members of the public. Further background and reference to subsequent events are included where relevant.

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when published, are available on line at www.elmswell.onesuffolk.net, in the Memorial Library and from the Parish Clerk by arrangement. Bound copies of older Minutes are lodged with the Suffolk County Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds. The most recent Minutes, from the June Council meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

New councillor

The Meeting welcomed Cllr David Barker who replaces Brian Hawes following his recent resignation. Cllr Barker has previously served for some 12 years on the Council, the majority of them as Chairman. As a solicitor with considerable experience in the charitable sector, he offers valuable input as Council enters a phase of intense Planning pressure and the need to develop infrastructure, such as the Wesley project, in the short and medium term future.

County Council

Cllr Mrs Jane Storey submitted a written report urging people to respond to the consultation regarding the current devolution proposals and inviting notification to her, as Cabinet member for Broadband, of any broadband problems via Jane.Storey@suffolk.gov.uk or on 01359 240555.

District Council

Cllr Mrs Sarah Mansel's written report included confirmation that the devolution process is accessed via www.eastangliadevo.co.uk and that Mid Suffolk / Babergh are looking to establish a building works company in order to deliver a housing repairs and maintenance service across both districts.

Men's Sheds

Cllr Mike Friend tabled a brief explanation of the 'Men's Sheds' movement whereby facilities exist in many towns and villages providing a place for anyone who needs some respite from retirement, loss of a partner, medical issues, mental health issues, loneliness, boredom and many other things. The 'sheds' have a proven track record especially with men's mental health and have a contributing factor in prolonging life. The movement is supported by many agencies including SCC, Age Concern, mental health organisations and government. Many provide a 'community workshop' where things can be made, repaired, painted or crafted. A 'shed' provides something to look forward to, companionship, where skills can be learned, rekindled or passed on to provide a service to the community such as the making of planters, or repairs to street furniture and to assist community furniture projects by making abandoned furniture fit

for use. As no site is currently available in Elmswell, Mike has joined forces with the trustees of the Meadlands Social Club on the PPG industries site in Stowmarket to help build a shed on land by their indoor bowls rinks. There is an anticipated open day on 25th September. He can be contacted at mike.friend@easidoor.co.uk or on 241699.

Planning results

The meeting noted the following decisions made by Mid Suffolk District Council, the Planning Authority:

Application 2257/16 for the crown reduction of a Holm oak at The Grange, The Street - GRANTED EPC had made no comment

Application 4438/15 for the variation of condition 2 on the proposed 2-storey rear extension at Grantrose, Rose Lane - GRANTED, EPC had objected

Application 2259/16 for the erection of new single-storey detached dwelling at Termalles, Warren Lane - GRANTED, EPC had supported

Application 2262/16 for the erection of first floor extension at 45 Bennett Avenue - GRANTED, EPC had made no comment

Planning applications

The Meeting supported the following Planning applications:

2680/16 for the removal of an existing conservatory and the erection of a single storey rear extension at 10 Baker's Mill

2705/16 for the change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house at Mulberry Farm, Ashfield Road

2802/16 for the erection of a single storey rear extension at White Gates, New Road.

Notification of the Council's support, or otherwise, of applications which are passed on to the parish council for consultation is sent back to mid Suffolk District Council for a decision by the professional Planning officers or by a Planning Committee as appropriate.

Speculative development approaches

It was noted that a further meeting had been held, including County and District Ward Members, with a developer seeking to assess the possibility of development

on sites abutting the 1998 Local Plan village development boundary. Under the constraints of the Council's pre-application protocol the meeting was shown plans for a site to the North and South of Wetherden Road at the Eastern edge of the village and a site between Cresmedow Way and Warren Lane, accessed from Warren Lane. The scope and nature of the proposals were to be made clear in a community consultation at Blackbourne in advance of a Planning application being made to Mid Suffolk. On the village's behalf the shortcomings of the current infrastructure had been clearly and forcefully highlighted, with particular reference to education, health and traffic problems over the railway crossing. Such factors are addressed within the Planning process with reference to the agencies involved - County Council education and highways officers and the local NHS. Their expert view is weighed against the relentless Government drive for housing and is determined with reference to policy and guidance from the Department of the Environment, tested, as necessary, through the Planning Inspectorate appeals process.

Wesley

The refusal in April of a second Planning application for development on the site of the Wesley chapel on School Road having triggered a formal bidding process, the Council has agreed to purchase the facility from the Methodist Church for £285,000. Formal acknowledgement of this was made at the Meeting which also authorised the process whereby the necessary money can be borrowed from the Government's Public Works Loan Board. The unanimous decision fulfilled the Council's long-held promise to retain the site for community use.

CAB

In 2006, when the Elmswell bacon factory was closing down, the Parish Council discussed the possibility of a Citizens' Advice Bureau facility being made available in the village to handle the many ensuing personal problems and help towards managing the inevitable changes in personal circumstances and situations. This initiative did not succeed, but was recently revived by Cllr David Hawes whose proposal formally establish-



ing such an arrangement was unanimously agreed at the meeting. A CAB, 'outreach', session is to be held at Blackbourne on a rolling fortnightly basis from September. The Parish Council has agreed funding of £1,000.00 towards the trial with a similar sum donated by the Elmswell Fire Crew and help and support from the Elmswell Amenities Association.

Notice boards

Council agreed, at the request of Cllr Chris Wiley as one of their Blackbourne Management Association representatives, to buy 2 new glazed lockable notice boards to help with directional signing in the car park at Blackbourne. The increasingly busy venue often has two or three events running at the same time when it is important that visitors are guided efficiently and directly so as to avoid disturbing other users.

Newsletter reports

Cllr Mike friend was unanimously elected to join the Chairman and Vice chairman in editing the monthly report which goes into the Elmswell Newsletter and to the local press. The reports are written by the Clerk and submitted to three elected members for consensus agreement as to the content prior to publication.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 19th September at 7.30pm in The Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council and Council committee meetings and the agenda will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published on line at www.elmswell.onesuffolk.net, on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op outside the Post Office.

Enquiries on any or all of the above, or on any Council matter, are invited through the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow at the Parish Clerk's Office, Station Road, Elmswell IP30 9HR. telephone 01359 244134 email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk.

The office is situated on the Station Road Industrial Estate, behind the Fox pub and right next to the railway line above Gobblins factory premises. It is open for business on weekdays from 9.00am - 5.30 pm, excepting Bank Holidays. The answerphone is monitored daily.



THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AND FUNDED BY ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

FOOTPATH WALK

Our next walk starts, as usual, from Crown Mill, on

SUNDAY 14th AUGUST beginning at 11.00 am

Open to all comers & led by Footpath Officer Dick Burch

A couple of hours gentle walking on the footpaths in and around Elmswell

Dogs on leads welcome – stout shoes recommended



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To speak to an officer from your local SNT, because they may well be out on patrol, the easiest option is to telephone the number 101, which is the new number across England and Wales for local police forces. You will then be told you are being put through to Suffolk Constabulary's Police HQ, where you can speak to the operator and either ask to be put through to a particular officer, or to Mid Suffolk South Safer Neighbourhood team office.

As an alternative you can email them directly through the following link:
Email:
stowmarket.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

What's On in Elmswell ?



To be included in our events diary make sure you send separate notification of your announcement.

For a full year's calendar of what's booked at Blackbourne, please go to the Parish Council website at www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

August 2016

- 3 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Members Meeting - Garden Party at Carol's
- 5 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 9 Elmswell WI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Members meeting
- 11 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 16 Elmswell Exchange Social Club AGM and Strawberry Tea at the Wesley Hall 2.30pm
- 19 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 25 Over 55's Club Afternoon Tea Cruise on "Orwell Lady from Ipswich"

September 2016

- 5 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church 7.45pm - Memories of a holiday in New Zealand with Flory Heller
- 7 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 7 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Colin Hopper - The World of Optical Illusion
- 8 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Peter Davidson: "Ups & Downs - Barnardo's Foster Children in Suffolk, 1890-1950". *Annual SUBS due*
- 8 Over 55's Club Harvest Supper and Bingo
- 8 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 Elmswell WI at the Blackbourne for 7.30pm Harvest supper
- 16 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 20 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Passion for Gardening
- 20 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Speaker T.B.A. Raffle
- 21 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Outing to Suffolk Punch Horses
- 22 Over 55's club Sing along with Hank
- 23 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 24 Elmswell Toddlers Club Nearly New Sale 11am - 2pm
- 26 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30
- 30 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 30 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

October 2016

- 3 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church 7.45pm - Modern Day Nursing with Alice Skull
- 5 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Andrea Davey - Let's Build a Gingerbread House
- 6 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 11 Elmswell WI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Elmswell Butchers Speaker Alistair
- 13 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley**

- Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Christine Redington: "Women's Work in the Great War"
- 14 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 18 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Good Companions
- 18 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Mr. Parfitt Return to Bhutan in the Himalayas Raffle
- 20 Over 55's Club Mike Reed entertains OPEN EVENING
- 21 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 28 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 28 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

November 2016

- 2 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Jason Salisbury The Story of Suffolk Cheeses
- 3 Over 55's Club Hot Dogs and Quiz Night
- 7 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church 7.45pm - Preparations for Christmas with members
- 8 Elmswell WI we meet at the Blackbourne for 7.30pm Haughley Hoofers
- 10 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 10 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Pip Wright: "Class of 1763, Earl Stonham Charity School"
- 11 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 15 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne AGM + tba
- 15 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Bingo Raffle
- 17 Over 55's Club Stowmarket Concert Band
- 18 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 18/21 Over 55's Eastbourne Turkey & Tinsel book early
- 25 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 25 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

December 2016

- 3 Over 55's Club Xmas Party with "Jim Bob Duo"
- 5 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church 7.45pm - Nosh & Natter, entertainment by Born in a Barn - open to men as well
- 6 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Christmas Lunch
- 7 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Christmas Celebrations
- 8 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Michael Rimmer: "Angel Roofs of East Anglia" featuring beautiful music & stunning photographs. Light seasonal refreshments will be served. *This event is ADVANCE TICKETS only, none on the door. Tel. 01359-242601 for details.
- 8 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 9 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 13 Elmswell WI at the Blackbourne for 7.30pm

Xmas Party

- 16 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 16 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

2017

January 2017

- 12 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 12 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speakers Peter McGee & Graham Mack: "Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines - Elmswell's Great War Aviators"

February 2017

- 9 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 9 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Helen Geake: "After Roman Britain, who were the Anglo-Saxons?"

March 2017

- 9 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Gareth Davies: "Pablo Fanque's Fair & early Victorian Circus"

April 2017

- 13 **Elmswell History Group's 17th Anniversary meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Chloë Cockerill: "East Anglian Saints, including St Edmund"

May 2017

- 11 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Mark Mitchels: "Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, Doctor & Mayor of Aldeburgh" *July tickets on sale*

June 2017

- 8 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7pm A.G.M., then Speaker Paul Peachey: "Elmswell's historical Postcards" *July tickets on sale*

July 2017

- 13 **Elmswell History Group - Annual Outing: To be arranged**



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Badminton courts available during the day @ £5.00 p.h. and to fit around evening bookings @ £6.00 ...call 244134 to register and book

Regular meetings at Blackbourne

Monday
Guides 6.30 - 8.00,
Youth Club 7.00 - 9.00

Tuesday
Beavers 5.15 - 6.30
Slimming World 5.30 & 7.30
WI (2nd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 - 10.30
Gardening club (3rd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 - 10.00
Guides Trefoil Guild (1st Tuesday monthly) 7.00 - 9.00

Wednesday
Scouts 5.45 - 9.00
Jujutsu martial arts class 7.00 - 9.00
Winters Academy - dance classes 4.00 - 6.00

Thursday
Brownies 5.30 - 8.00
Over 55's 7.00 - 10.00 (2nd & 4th monthly)

Friday
Bingo (last Friday monthly) eyes down 7.30
BATS - Badminton & Table Sports - 7.00 - 10.00
Karate 5.00 - 7.00

Sunday
Sozo Home Church 10.30 - 12.30, usually every 3rd Sunday. All welcome. www.sozohomechurch.com
Forge Church one Sunday each month 1.30 - 6.00

To make a booking enquiry
Call; 244134
Email; clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



Walsham-le-Willows
Open Gardens

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY & MONDAY



c/o John Stebbing, 2 Vine Cottages, The Street, Walsham Le Willows,
SUFFOLK IP31 3AZ
home 01359 259061
work 01284 704546
john@architectatwork.co.uk

**WALSHAM le WILLOWS
36th OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND**

'The Original Open Gardens Event'

Bank Holiday Sunday and Monday

28th and 29th of August 2016

11.00am to 6.00pm

£7* per head and children under 16 FREE

**A great day out with over 30 Gardens, a
Flower Festival in the Church, Music, Art,
Village Market, Vintage Cars, Lovely Lunches
a big BBQ and very Scrummy Teas
Go on spoil yourselves it's the best value in
the whole of the eastern region.....**

www.walshamopengardens.com

***To enable us to claim GIFT AID the charge includes a voluntary contribution of 10%. Visitors can elect to pay the standard entrance fee of £5.45 without the donation.**