

# From the Horse's Mouth

The Parish Newsletter of Trimley St. Mary Spring/Summer  
2012

[www.trimley-st-mary.org.uk](http://www.trimley-st-mary.org.uk)



## THE WELCOME HALL, TRIMLEY ST MARY

“Your” Community Building

The Welcome Hall has kept the Committee very busy this year. A decision was taken to redecorate and refurbish this Community building.

The Community Payback Teams have been redecorating the Main Hall, kitchen and front and rear entrances. This follows on from the installation of new windows and both give the Hall a very much more welcoming appearance.

The work is still ongoing at this time but it is hoped that all will be completed inside shortly. A new fence has been erected at the rear of the Hall and the railings at the front will be repainted by the Teams.

Refurbishment will carry on as a continuing theme. If you have any particular skills, some spare time or any items, that you think would be useful towards this end, the Committee would be pleased to hear from you.

Various activities take place on a regular basis at the Hall, if you care to join in. It is also available for private hire.

Anybody interested in hiring the Welcome Hall should contact the Booking Secretary, Jan Willis on 01394 211120.





Since the report in the previous newsletter the Parish Council has continued to try to make progress towards reducing traffic noise for residents closest to the A14. Predictably we find there is no straightforward solution. On March 2<sup>nd</sup> representatives of both Trimley Parish Councils, Suffolk Coastal District Council as the planning authority and the Port of Felixstowe walked the length of the most affected areas. We were able to point out the different land widths between the A14 and some houses and the varying relative heights of the road to the nearest houses and it became clear that different possible solutions have to be considered in different sections. Possibilities discussed were an earth bank where the land is wide enough, a tall highway barrier requiring maintenance space on each side and the installation of substantial long life garden fences. These would only be effective if a run of adjacent neighbours agreed to a scheme. We await an options report from the Port's consultants and as soon as there are clear possibilities to consider the residents most affected will be consulted.

Planning and Housing. When any planning application is made in the village SCDC put up a notice on the site and immediate neighbours are informed and the Parish Council is consulted. We try to be positive and supportive of applicants whilst seeking to protect neighbours from any overlooking or loss of important light and have copies of plans available for residents to see. We are sometimes also consulted on plans outside the village. Correspondence is ongoing with SCC about the access to the Felixstowe Academy and what some consider to be dubious land exchange arrangements with Trinity College. The PC has been consulted at each stage of the lengthy process that SCDC has had to go through producing a new Development Plan document. At every stage we have repeated the need for housing development on a modest scale which includes the agreed policy of 1 in 3 'affordable' properties and the need to avoid using farmland which is part of the more rural character of the village and essential for food production. We have stressed the need to protect residents from the greatly increased traffic levels which large scale housing development would cause. ....(cont. over)



Jubilee The two Parish Councils plan the traditional presentation of commemorative mugs to children in the village schools. At the time of writing it seems possible that the ‘Big Lunch’ held on St Mary’s Green for the last two years may not go ahead this year. However it is the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee weekend and you may have plans for your own local celebration. SCC has relaxed its rules and announced in March its decision “not to charge residents for a Special Events Order or for the production and installation of traffic management signs directly related to Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Now those considering organising a street party in Suffolk only have to follow a few simple steps to obtain a Special Events Order through the County Council’s website or over the phone via Customer Service Direct. SCC is urging party organisers to consider celebrating in community areas such as recreation grounds, cul-de-sacs and ‘no through roads’”.

Representatives of Trimley St Martin, Trimley St Mary, Kirton and Falkenham, Levington with Stratton Hall and Bucklesham PCs, have formed a working committee to discuss and plan a joint response to the possible application for the industrial use of farmland bounded by A14, Kirton Road and Innocence Lane.

All the regular Parish Council work continues. Among other things we await timetables of freight train movements for distribution to help those in Cordys Lane and shortly expect the challenge of the controversial Tesco application.

Please remember you are always welcome to attend and raise concerns at the Parish Council meetings at the Welcome Hall, held at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month, except August.  
Mary Dixon - Chairman

## Contact Details for Councillors

### Trimley St Mary Parish Councillors

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**NOTE:** Graham Harding and Richard Kerry (above) are also SCDC Councillors.

## **Trimley Women's Institute**

The Trimley WI meets on the first Wednesday of every month at the Welcome Hall from 2.30 until 4.30. Each month we have a visiting speaker or an activity and of course refreshments and a raffle. We also arrange the occasional outing. We are a friendly group and would welcome new members to join us.

## **Overgrown Boundaries**

This is a plea from someone who regularly has to do battle with overgrown hedges and straying branches. Branches are a particular danger at night when they seem to take on a life of their own and attack passers by for no reason! Please check your boundaries and ensure you have no overhanging greenery that is likely to get in the way of anyone passing by.

## **The 1st Trimley Rainbows**

We meet on Wednesdays from 5pm until 6-30pm  
at Trimley St Mary School  
The age range is 5 – 7 years  
Names for the joining list can be added from 4 years

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Trimley Brownies**

We meet on Wednesdays from 6.30pm until 8pm  
at Trimley St Mary School  
The age range is 7 – 10 years  
Names for the joining list can be added from 6 years

## TRIMLEY PARISH CHURCH

The two churches of St Martin and St Mary are prominent landmarks in the village but we haven't actually put our words into the Horses Mouth (so to speak!) so we thought we should let everyone know about our services and activities.

Our services are:

### **Sundays 10.30 am**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month: All Age Worship

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: Holy Communion

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Family Praise

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Songs of Praise

All followed by coffee

### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month 4.00 pm**

Afternoon praise – an informal service for everyone



Trimley St Mary Church

### **Wednesdays 10.30 am**

Holy Communion followed by coffee

In addition we have a number of activities during the week to which anyone is welcome:

### **Mondays**

The Art Group meet in various homes – from novices to grand masters!

### **Tuesdays**

**Café 10** – Coffee and a chat 10.00 am until noon in St Martin's Church

**Prayer Group** – meet in various homes to pray for concerns and needs of the parish and further afield.

**Mothers Union** – meet at 2.30 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, with garden meetings in June and July

**Alternate Wednesdays 12.30 pm** (on 21<sup>st</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April)

Lunchbox in St Mary's Church Centre – a two course lunch and a good natter

### **Friday afternoons in term time**

1.30 pm to 3.00 pm **Trimley Tots** for pre-school children and their carer's in St Mary's Church Centre

We have just had the path up to St Martin's Church re-laid to make getting into the building more accessible. We are also looking to improve and level the access to St Mary's memorial gardens too.

We have reluctantly decided that we do not have the manpower to continue with the Fun Day so this has been cancelled. Instead, we are holding a plant and cake stall at St Mary's Church on the morning of 19 May (times will appear on the banner on the railings nearer the time). We are also doing hanging baskets (new or refills) and anyone interested should contact Corinne Day (283327) or Nina Davis (670367) for details.

Later in the year we plan to have a stall after the Carnival procession at the Trimley Sports and Social Club, where you will be able to purchase, among other things, homemade cakes, a speciality of ours – yummy!

For your pastoral needs, weddings, baptisms and funerals etc, please contact the vicar, Val White on 286388.

Nina Davis

## **The View From Our County Councillor**

The Welcome Hall is getting a birthday, the committee are working tirelessly to improve the hall both visually and the facilities on offer. A conversation was had regarding a new heating system and how funding might be raised to pay the costs of the system. I have some locality funding which I am happy to give but obviously that will not be enough. Discussions with a County Council external funding officer soon made it clear that a new heating system was not exactly what was needed. The only way to get funding would be to seek to “thermally enhance” the building with things such as insulation of ceiling and other green and carbon reduction schemes. Oh and by the way a new boiler and radiators! Grant funding is all about telling the grant giving bodies what they want to hear.

Apart from the usual stuff that we as councillors get involved with we have recently been endeavouring to persuade Network Rail to move crossing telephones. Oddly enough one in each of the Trimley Villages, there have been problems for horse riders trying to cross the lines and the horses being frightened by trains. Whistle boards are now a thing of the past so no warning of that sort. The other problem arises with the new quiet trains and the continuous welded rail which is now in use. The approaching trains are now so quiet it is unbelievable, and it is easy to see why a horse that is suddenly confronted with a speeding train can get spooked. Progress is often one step forward followed one step backwards.

Still on the subject of trains the Port has suggested that the Felixstowe branch line should be given over to freight trains only. Whilst this would clearly take a lot of LGVs off the A 14 it has created a storm from fans of the passenger train. One step forward or one step back.

Regards to all.

John Goodwin. 07734 806040 [john.goodwin@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:john.goodwin@suffolk.gov.uk)

## **Litter and Dog Fouling**

We still have a problem with litter in the village despite having a litter picker. Too many people seem to think it is OK to drop whatever they are carrying, be it a sweet wrapper or a cigarette packet. Please either use the many litter bins throughout the village or take your litter home. This should be the norm when out in the countryside as well as along the streets. Litter is unsightly and can be downright dangerous.

Dog fouling is still a problem. There are a lot of fido bins in the village and of course dog walkers can use the litter bins as well for bagged 'poo'. There is someone who constantly fails to pick up close to the school side entrance. Whoever you are please stop this practice. Children walk and play on the grass where you are walking your dog and the consequences of your action are too horrific to contemplate. Other areas in the village are 'hot spots' for this same lack of responsible behaviour, please dog walkers take responsibility for your dog and pick up.

There is a constant problem on Stennetts Playing Field. Please take notice of the signs at both ends of the field, NO DOGS. Some residents are using this field to exercise their dogs. This is not permitted, so again please stop. The people in charge of putting on the football matches have to scour the pitch before play can commence. This is something that shouldn't need to be done. I have to remind everyone that fines can be imposed on dog walkers who do not pick up, starting at £80. Don't let it be you.

Someone is leaving full plastic sacks of pet litter beside fido bins in the village, please STOP and use your own bins for this purpose. This is unsightly and unhygienic particularly in warm weather.

## **Trimley Tots**

Trimley Tots is a weekly held group, for pre-school children and their parents/carers, which comes under the umbrella of activities organised by Trimley Parish Churches.

The sessions are held, during term time, at St Mary's Church Centre on Fridays 1.30pm-3.00pm.

The aim of the group is to provide a friendly atmosphere where parents/carers can relax for a chat, with a cuppa, whilst keeping an eye on their charges. There are a wide range of toys to play with including a slide, Wendy house and toy kitchen.

The team of about four helpers organise refreshments and provide a weekly craft project.

They are happy to hold a baby and lend a friendly ear.

If you would like more details, please phone 01394 766306 or pop into one of the sessions.

Wendy Rainbow

### **The threat to off-peak trains on the Felixstowe line**

A number of parishioners have voiced concern at the recent suggestion – and it is no more than a suggestion because the Port of Felixstowe has no powers to amend the passenger rail service - that off peak trains between Ipswich and Felixstowe should be removed to allow for more freight traffic. Whilst the idea of moving freight by rail should be supported, this must not occur to the detriment of the passenger service, and nor need it be, if the dualling of the track between Trimley and Levington were to be carried out. This is a requirement in the original planning agreement made in 2004, which allowed the expansion of the Port to proceed.

The Port's suggestion that these trains should be replaced by express buses sounds alluring superficially, but in practice this action would be strongly disadvantageous to the travelling public. For example, the intermediate stations of Derby Road and Trimley and Westerfield are used by many day trippers – this is particularly evident in all school holidays and half terms. It would be impractical and uneconomic to serve these stations with an express bus.

The Port appears to be under the mistaken impression that the rail service is operated by large diesel locos rather than the very economic single railcars which are currently used on the line. Also, their assumption that most passengers wish to travel to the centre of Ipswich rather than elsewhere is wide of the mark. Many people use these off- peak trains to travel much further afield such as Central London or to Heathrow Airport as the initial stage of a far longer journey, and if the express buses were to serve Ipswich town centre, it would slow them down as the congestion around Ipswich town centre can be heavy at most times of the day.

The local public transport support group, Felixstowe Travel Watch, has alerted the three Members of Parliament whose constituencies lie within the line and has called for the dualling of the line to be completed by the end of 2018 in accordance with the agreement referred to above.



*The station building – At present looking a little sad. But let's hope the Action Group can restore it as a village asset*

### **Trimley Station Update**

One of the side effects resulting from the recent change of train operator in this area from National Express to Abellio was that the new operator has taken over responsibility for station buildings from Network Rail.

In practice this means that the new operator has appointed agents to handle property affairs on its behalf, and this has led to a hiatus in progress towards a short term lease being arranged so that the station preservation group may access the building. At the time of going to press, the group has made repeated efforts to negotiate with the agents involved, but so far these efforts have not elicited any response from them.

The group will keep trying, and the matter will also be taken up with the train operator at a number of meetings during the next few weeks. As ever, it's a question of watch this space!



(Soon to be renovated)

## **Clerk to the Parish Council**

**For information or enquiries, please contact the parish clerk, Debbie Cooper, on 01394 285193 during office hours Monday to Friday or, by**

**e-mail:**

**[clerk@trimley-st-mary.org.uk](mailto:clerk@trimley-st-mary.org.uk)**