

Great Ashfield Village News



ISSUE NUMBER 11

WINTER 2017

Parish Council 2017

Arthur Peake Chairman
408728

Roy Barker Vice Chairman
241045

Nancy Calderbank Responsible
Financial Officer 240445

Bob Fitch 241727

Ian Sadler 242570

Donia Stick 245813

Robin Watts 240678

Sandra Austin, Parish Clerk
242304

sandra_brown60@hotmail.com

Minutes of all Parish Council
meetings can be accessed online
at One Suffolk
greatashfield.onesuffolk.net/

Parish Council News

The council has met twice since the last newsletter including one specific planning session.

In addition a working party was held to respond to the Babergh and Mid-Suffolk District Joint Local Plan. This consultation covers a range of topics, housing, services, local development etc. and the response period closed on 10 November. Some feedback on potential development sites and the number of houses involved meant a formal response was required. Anyone interested in the Local Plan can find it at:

<http://www.babergh.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/new-joint-local-plan/joint-local-plan-consultation-document/>

The mini SID (Speed Indicator Display) has been deployed since September and is gathering information to allow the Community Speed Watch team to target key times (see report on page 4). We thank these groups for donations and grants towards the £3,690 total cost of the mini SID: *The Great Ashfield Playing Field Association and both the District Councillor and County Councillor locality funds.*

The County Council have now filled the salt boxes, including the new ones.

The next meeting is **Thursday, 30 November 2017, 7.30pm**, in the Lord Thurlow Hall.

And finally we are pleased to report that we no longer have a councillor vacancy as Ian Sadler (details in the Parish Council contacts) was co-opted at the October meeting. Among his many skills Ian will bring a particular focus on broadband which is still an issue for many residents.

Arthur Peake, Chairman

*Please send items for the
newsletter to the Editor,
Judith Constantine
village_news@barcham.org.uk*

**COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE 11 FEBRUARY 2018**

World War I

COPY TO COME

Dates for your diary

Friday 1 December

Christmas Village Inn, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm
Mulled wine and nibbles available

Sunday 10 December 5pm

Carol Service led by Revd Katherine Valentine, followed by refreshments
Collection will go to The Children's Society

Thursday 14 December

WI Christmas party, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

Wednesday 20 December

Carol singing around the village starting from the Lord Thurlow Hall at 6.30pm
Money collected will go to The Children's Society

Sunday 24 December 11.30pm

Midnight Mass at St Mary's Church, Pakenham

Monday 25 December 10.30am

Christmas Day Crib service for families *Children are invited to dress as shepherds, angels or kings. There will be outfits available at the church.*

Thursday 11 January

*WI meeting, *Jill Newell, Getting to know the WI*, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

Thursday 25 January

Parish Council meeting, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm
Village residents are invited to attend

Friday 4 February

Village Inn, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

Thursday 8 February

*WI meeting, *Members evening*, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

Friday 4 March

Village Inn, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

**Contact Midge Hawkins WI President 259399 for further information*

Barker's Babberlings

Major issues involving Mid Suffolk District Council (MSDC)

Council's Customer Services come to Stowmarket.

With the move of the offices of Mid Suffolk and Babergh DCs to Endeavour House, Ipswich, the Needham Market and Hadleigh offices will be closed. The councils have therefore introduced a new improved website, and a single phone number for all customer enquiries **0300 1234 000**.

However, the councils recognise that some residents will still need to access personnel face-to-face, and the new service centre at **54 Ipswich Street, Stowmarket, IP14 1AD**, will ensure they are able to do so, without having to travel to Ipswich. Officers can come and meet residents at Stowmarket with a prearranged appointment.

Boundary Review of Electorate Wards in MSDC

The Boundary Commission of England has looked at the electorate wards of MSDC. Their findings are to cut the number of councillors from 40 down to 34 and balance all the wards as equally as possible. Locally for us, the proposal means that the Badwell Ash Ward, which I represent, could be split up: Stowlangtoft moving to the Thurston Ward, Finningham, Westhorpe and Wyverstone moving into the Bacton Ward, and Badwell Ash, Langham, Hunston, and Great Ashfield moving into the Walsham le Willows Ward. If anyone has any strong views they can be submitted to the Review Officer (Mid Suffolk) by email reviews@lgbce.org.uk or by writing to them. These changes are planned for the 2019 Local Government Election. The date of the consultation ends on 11 December 2017.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan

The consultation on this, through parish councils and a mail-shot leaflet to residents, finished on 10 November 2017 and I would like to thank all who have contributed to the discussion. This plan, when adopted, will shape the communities and manage development up to 2036 and beyond.

Highways

The highways portfolio of Suffolk County Council, which is responsible for the roads etc. has been passed to Councillor Jane Storey, our own County Councillor. She should be able to help you or point you in the right direction on any Highways issues. Jane can be contacted by email: jane.storey@suffolk.gov.uk.

If you have any local problems please contact me; if I cannot help I can aim you in the right direction. This only leaves me to wish you a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Roy Barker

roy.barker@midsuffolk.gov.uk or 01359 241045

Designed and produced for Great Ashfield Parish Council by Judith Constantine 241079

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CAROL SINGING

If you enjoy singing and want to be in the spirit of Christmas in a village, join the merry band of singers who carol around a third of the village each year. We are not a choir but enjoy coming together to sing carols each year to raise money for the Children's Society. We gather at the Village Hall at 6.30pm – this year on Wednesday 20 December – leaving vehicles there before boarding a tractor and trailer. Torches are essential, as is tinsel or other bright decoration to make us more visible to passing traffic.

The route this year will be from the Village Hall down School Road, turning right along Elmswell Road towards the Church and Main Road. If you live on that route and know you are going to be out, it does help if you could let Di Barker know: so we don't spend time and energy singing to an empty house!

ALL ARE WELCOME, young and old! Refreshments on board but any offerings en route are very welcome!. Money collected will go to The Children's Society. If you, or anyone not on the route, would like to donate to The Children's Society, the Carol Service on 10 December at All Saints' Church, will also have a collection for the Society.

Di Barker 241045 dibarker@keme.co.uk

All Saints' Church

Priest in Charge

Revd Katharine Valentine
01359 235095

Monthly pattern of Worship

First Sunday No service at Great Ashfield. Benefice All Age service at St Mary's Church, Pakenham 9.30 for 10 am start

Second Sunday 9.30am Morning Prayer

Third Sunday 11.00am Family Communion

Fourth Sunday No service at Great Ashfield but there are others around the benefice.

Details of all church services and Benefice news can be found on www.vcnews.org.uk or contact your Church Warden

Roy Barker 241045

Raymond Mayhew 240741

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

You may have noticed that a double-glazed window has been installed on the west facing side of the hall together with a new front door. We are hoping to replace all the windows in the main hall by the Spring next year. This will be achieved through various local grants that Roy Barker has secured for us and our fund raising events, so thank you for your support.

The annual Pumpkin Night was very busy this year (the youngest attendee being four weeks old!) and, as always, everyone who entered received a rosette. Top class winners were:

Champion Pumpkin grower and winner of the June Taylor Rose Bowl, with a weight of over 19 stone (120kg) **Simon Laidler**

Heaviest Marrow at 14lb 6oz (6.5kg) **Reg Emerick**

Basket of Mixed Vegetables **Roy Clarke**

The Last Rose of Summer **Stephen Miles**

Vase of Other Flowers **June Clarke**

Children's Cup for the best carved pumpkin **Max Ryall**

Please contact Di Barker (see above) if you would like to do the bar for an evening next year. Instructions will be provided and members of the committee will be there to assist if necessary.

VILLAGE HALL DRAW

The Village Hall Draw raises money for the Hall and gives £25 as 1st prize, £15 as 2nd, £10 as 3rd and £5 for 4th prize, each month, Your local collector will soon be visiting for annual payments for the draw. If you would like to become part of the monthly draw, please email Di Barker dibarker@keme.co.uk It costs £1 per month and you can pay for a year: £12.00

Lord Thurlow Hall

Committee members

Roy Barker Hon Chairman and Treasurer *pro tem* 241045

Sue Howes, Hon Secretary 242983

Sue Perkin-Ball, Hall Draw Organiser 242422

Peggy Elms 408357

For hall bookings contact Di Barker 241045

Church News

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Harvest Celebration Weekend. The event raised £677 of which £177 was sent to Stowmarket Food Bank; the rest will go towards the repair of the roof due to take place next year. The produce and gifts decorating the church were given to Tayfen House, Bury St Edmunds.

On the first Sunday each month from December our Benefice is starting a refreshing new service at St Mary's Church, Pakenham which brings our six parish churches together under one roof to enjoy worship for ALL AGES to be called family@church. Members of each church will be involved with the service. The first service will be Christingle on 3 December when refreshments will be available from 9.30am before 10am start. Do come along.

COFFEE MORNING

Ernie and Shirley Meekings would like to thank everyone who came, or donated money to the Macmillan Coffee morning at All Saints' Church on 2 October. The grand sum of £274 was raised. Well done everyone!

PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

The Great Ashfield Playing field Association committee would like to inform the residents and all those who very kindly donated to our good cause in 2007/8 that the fund money of £750 was put towards the SID (speed indicator device) for safety in the village.

Many thanks from all the committee members

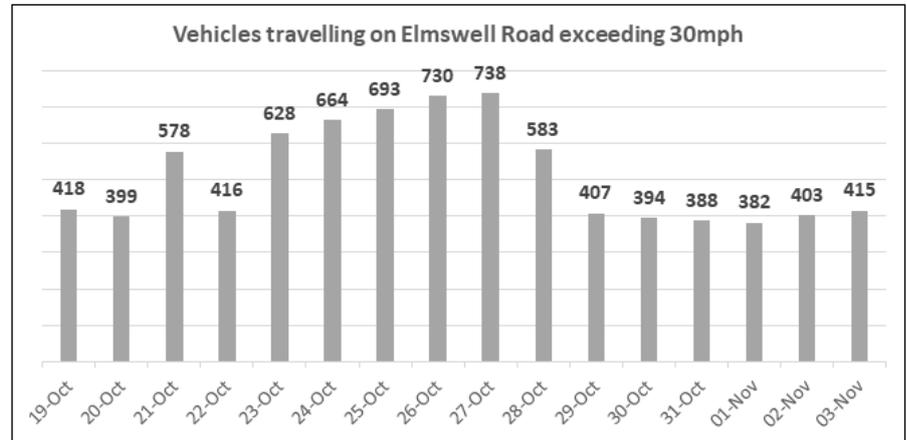
Speed Watch Update

Our mini SID (Speed Indicator Device) arrived and was set up on 19 October by Meadow Farm on Elmswell Road, facing Badwell Ash.

On 29 October we moved it to the pole near the village sign, facing it towards Elmswell. Coincidentally on 30 and 31 October our Community Speed Watch team was working at the same time.

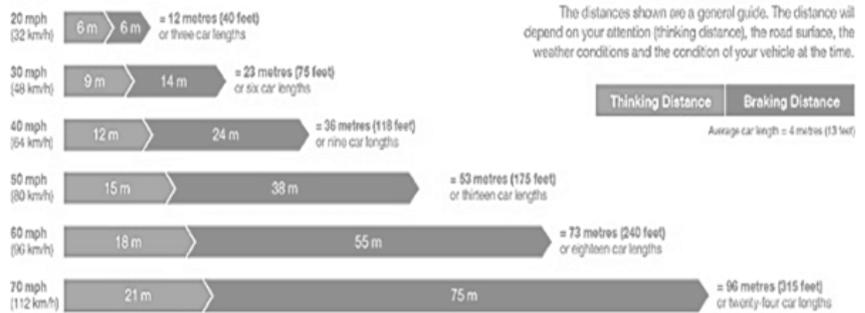
During the 16 days that it was on Elmswell Road the data recorded shows that it counted 15,576 vehicles. Of these 8,236 were exceeding the speed limit.

The count of speeding vehicles over the 16 days was:



The highest speed recorded was 85mph, twice, at 13:00 and 21:00 on 1 November.

Typical Stopping Distances



Perhaps it is worth reminding ourselves of the stopping distances of vehicles moving at different speeds:

[Image retrieved from <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/general-rules-techniques-and-advice-for-all-drivers-and-riders-103-to-158> 7 Nov 2017]

and to remember that

- If you hit a child whilst driving at 40mph – you will probably kill the child
- If you hit a child whilst driving at 30mph – the child has an 80% chance of surviving

[Source: <https://www.drivingtestsuccess.com/pages/stopping-distances-and-the-theory-test> accessed 7 Nov 2017]

Donia Stick
donia.stick@gmail.com (preferred) or phone 01359 245813