

Village Hall News

About 40 people enjoyed singing carols around the Christmas tree as the lights went on outside the Village Hall on Saturday 10th December. Thanks to the Village Hall committee who provided both the tree and the welcome refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies. Rehearsals and back stage preparations for 'Puss in Boots' are well under way, ready for Kettleburgh's fourth Pantomime. Performance dates are Thursday 9th, Friday 10th and Saturday 11th February at 7:30p.m. There is also a Saturday matinee performance at 2:30p.m. Tickets are priced at adults £5, children under twelve £2.50 and are available from Jackie Clark, tel:723623; in The Chequers; or at the February Coffee Morning. You can also book a pre-show supper at the Chequers - contact Debbie: 724369

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

The first weekend of June has been set aside for celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee of our Queen. The local village organisations are combining to plan a day of celebration for Kettleburgh on Sunday 3rd June. The main event will take place on the Village Green, with a 'Big Lunch' for all Kettleburgh folk. Plans so far include - bellringing to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee, a Commonwealth theme, activities for children, a barbecue lunch, music to reflect 60 years of Queen Elizabeth's reign. The Village Hall will be the setting for a 1950's living room, with afternoon tea provided. A special celebration service will take place in St Andrew's church and the evening celebrations will continue with live music at The Chequers. Kettleburgh also plans to take part in the 2012 beacon lighting on Monday 4th June. Please note these dates in your diary and look out for more information soon. It is hoped that there will be something for everyone to enjoy and remember on this very special occasion. If you would like to become more involved, or to help in any way, please contact one of the committee members: Deborah Bell, Richard Baker, Robert Marzetti, Jackie & Bill Clark.

Third Gateway for Kettleburgh

Thanks once again to SCC Cllr Peter Bellfield, plans are being made for a third gateway to the village, to be sited on the Framlingham Road alongside the 30 mph roundel. This will complete the project, planned many years ago.

Ditches

At this time last year the problem of excess surface water and effluent overflow was of real concern to the Parish Council and several Kettleburgh residents. The matter was drainage system was the part of the original problem, so it is perhaps timely to remind residents that it is vital that any surface water from your property that enters ditches or soakaways is not prevented from doing so by blockages or debris.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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District and County Contacts

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Police: PCSO Christian Hassler	01473 613500	christian.hassler@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Report from Kettleburgh Parish Council meeting held on 9 November

SCC Cllr Peter Bellfield spoke about the new Chief Executive of SCC, Deborah Cadman. She had previously been CE to St Edmundsbury Council and the East of England Development Agency, and was appointed by a unanimous vote, with a salary of £155,000. Suffolk libraries are to be run by a charitable company and with a consequent reduction in business rates, there will be a 28% saving of costs. It is expected that the current fleet of 6 mobile libraries will be halved, with monthly rather than fortnightly visits. All Highway maintenance will be put out to private tender with a reduction in overall costs.

The report sent from our District Councillor, Bob Snell, gave details of the timetable for the production of the Local Development Framework; outlined some of the fears expressed of the National Planning Policy Framework; and welcomed the inclusion of Wickham Market in the route for the Olympic torch next July.

There was no Police report, but Councillors expressed their concern over the continued communications received about the Community Speed Watch campaign. You can read full details in the Parish Council minutes.

More information on other topics covered at this meeting - Broadband coverage in Kettleburgh and plans for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, can be read elsewhere in this newsletter.

Notes from an on-site meeting held at the Pound in October were brought to the meeting, where it was agreed that the canopy of the lime tree should be raised, that the nettles should be sprayed with weedkiller when they are actively growing in Spring 2012, and that bulb planting should be delayed until the nettles are dealt with. The Management Plan for maintenance of the Pound will be reviewed at the meeting in January.

The budget for 2012-13 was discussed. It was noted that the Parish Council's only source of income is the precept and that there is very little margin for cutting costs. The final budget will be agreed at the January meeting and the precept set for 2012-13.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 March at 7:15pm in the Village Hall, with refreshments served from 7:00p.m. You are most welcome to attend.

Planning applications in Kettleburgh

C11/2249: The Old Piggery, The Street – Erection of 2 new cart ports, a single garage and relocation of polytunnel.

C/11/2436: Land NE of School House – Erection of shed for storage of a tractor and other agricultural implements.

Both of these applications were approved by the Parish Council and by SCDC.

You can read more details in the minutes of the meetings.

C11/2591: The Old Rectory - Provision of a ménage

The decision from SCDC has not yet been made on this application.

Kettleburgh Broadband Survey - Feedback

Many thanks to those people who responded to the Kettleburgh Broadband Survey. Sadly the response was very low with only 4 households giving any information about their broadband experience. Combining this response with the speed tests conducted by Parish Councillors we can see a wide range of broadband download speeds across our community. The southern half of the village languishes around 0.6Mbit/s whilst the northern end can achieve rates of around 4.3Mbit/s. The average is around 1.9Mbit/s. User perception of the service received ranged from "totally inadequate" to "perfectly satisfactory for what I do".

This is typical for an East Anglian rural community.

Given the low concern shown by parishioners regarding broadband, and the fact that it appears Kettleburgh is not any more disadvantaged than any other similar community, the Parish Council is not planning any more proactive action on this subject. We encourage all parishioners who are unhappy with their broadband service to be persistent with complaints to their service provider. We will continue to report on National and Regional developments as appropriate.

Cllr Wheeler-Rowe

Preparing the Parish Council Budget

The following points were considered at the November Parish Council meeting, in preparation for setting the budget for 2012-13 and determining the annual precept in January:

- As the traffic calming measures have been financed externally, the reserves that were built up to cover this are being gradually reduced.
- The only source of income is the precept raised.
- As expenditure exceeds income, there will be a point in the future when there are no further reserves from which to draw.
- It may be prudent to raise the precept in line with inflation, especially as the recent slight increase in houses in Kettleburgh will mean a lower tax burden per property.
- A projection for the next three years will be undertaken.

Old scams are always the best!

Be aware of people calling claiming to be Microsoft engineers. They claim that you have recently had an update on your PC and it has come to their attention you have serious issues with your computer. They offer to show you how to locate the problem and will take you into your computer's software. This will always show warnings and errors and is NOT a fault. They will then offer to repair the problems over the phone but will need to take payment and ask for your card details. If they get your card details they go shopping. Microsoft will never call you directly and offer to run repairs on your computer.

Cllr Bell