

Barningham Parish Council

February 2011

Last year the Parish Council sent out quarterly newsletters to residents and on the whole the limited feedback has been favourable. For this year the council has agreed to try a slightly different format of issuing newsletters only three times a year, in February, July and October. This will have the benefit of fitting in with the report on the previous year's activities, publicising the final accounts and the draft budget as well as making a small cost saving. The Parish Councillors would be very pleased to receive comments on both the timing and content of these newsletters. Please see the back page of the newsletter for contact details.

In this edition on pages 2 and 3 the year 2010 is reviewed, along with brief reports on recent meetings and an item on SCC, but first we are looking ahead to the changes expected in 2011.

In May the current 4 year term for parish councillors will finish and elections will take place for new councillors. There are 7 councillors for our Parish Council and some councillors have decided not to stand again. Anyone interested in becoming a parish councillor is welcome to ring me, any other councillor or the Parish Clerk to find out more about the role. The commitment is relatively small with one meeting a month for about 2 hours, some reading and occasional other meetings which councillors attend if they can. Each councillor takes on a particular interest within the council's remit, be it planning, tree warden, transport, community affairs etc. Training will be provided which may take about 5 or 6 hours but will hopefully be arranged at Barningham on a Saturday. The meetings are usually interesting, if a little sparsely attended, although all residents are warmly invited to attend. Forms will be available from the Parish Clerk and St Edmundsbury Borough Council from the end of March.

2010 Report

The year began and ended with bad weather which highlighted the need for gritting. The Parish Council (PC) has purchased 4 new grit bins. Residents are allowed to use the grit on footpaths and roads but must take sensible precautions if doing so. Contact the parish clerk if you want more information. New this year was the completion of the Hepworth Road footway which has been warmly welcomed by many residents. The B1111 has been of some concern over speeding and the bad parking of lorries and cars near the shop. Attempts are still being made to find volunteers for a Speedwatch programme which could reduce speeding in the village. Residents are still needed to come forward and sign up and be vetted for this scheme. Further details are available from the clerk or the local police.

The police provided regular reports on criminal activity around the village including anti social behaviour. There have been a small number of minor crimes and warnings on thefts from cars, outbuildings and oil tanks.

Councillor Lynne Gilbert has replaced Cllr Pat Callear who had to resign due to too many commitments.

The PC has purchased some outdoor games for youngsters to play with during Easter & Summer school holidays, notices about when and from whom these can be borrowed are put up before the holidays begin. Plans are still being developed to improve the provision of play or fitness facilities in the village and consultation on proposals should take place soon.

A Housing Needs survey was undertaken and the results led the PC to agree to try to get a small scheme of affordable housing for the village.

Continuing work goes into improving the cemetery and the gardens and hedges around the village as well as at Aggies Piece. Anyone interested would be welcome to join councillors on maintenance work.

Suffolk County Council – New Strategic Direction.

The PC needs to know residents' views on SCC's plans to save money over the next 4 years. Not all details are available yet but particularly urgent are comments on the library changes which could see the closure of Ixworth Library from 2012. The enclosed survey might help the parish council to improve the outcome of the changes to the library service so we would be grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete it and return it to us. All views can also be made direct to SCC through their website or by post to their headquarters in Ipswich.

Recent meetings

October

Budget proposals; old churchyard hedges; Aggies Piece including some fly tipping; Hopton Road safety issues; housing needs survey results.

November

B1111 parking problems; Millfield excessive speeds; faulty or overgrown streetlights; damaged or missing street signs; maintenance on Aggies Piece.

December

Discussion on road safety at the entrance to Hopton Rd estate; review of financial regulations, etc; Police report on anti social behaviour and speedwatch vetting; dog proofing play area; new grit bins.

January

Finance including budget monitoring report; crime report – gas bottle theft; public transport increase in fares and possible loss of current bus services; new streetlight for B1111; increase in information on changes affecting local councils.

Contact Information

The Parish Council meets monthly at the Village Hall at 7.35pm normally on 1st Wednesday of the month.

Parish Clerk – Vicki Gay tel: 01379 898733

Chairman – Brenda Last tel: 01359 221307

Councillors – David Pettitt 07771541990

Colin Bullock 07801197878

William Martineau 01359 221495

Mike Millett 01359 221204

Lynne Gilbert 01359 221902

Kathy Cummings 20 Hopton Road.

Website: www.onesuffolk.co.uk/BarninghamPC

The website has back copies of the minutes and agendas as well as information on the village. The agenda and minutes are also posted on the PC notice board near the shop and on the one opposite the church.

County Councillor - Mrs Joanna Spicer 01359 230800

St Edmundsbury Borough Cllr - David Ray 01359 250912

Police – 01284 774100 for Community Beat Officers or

www.onesuffolk.co.uk/saferSuffolk/StEdmundsburyRuralNorth. Please report all anti-social incidents to the police (criminal damage, graffiti, fly tipping, harassment, anti-social drinking and vehicle nuisance, etc). If you see it happening call 999, if you see it after it has happened call 01284 774100.

2011 village information sheet.

The monthly **Parish News** has local information & adverts and is sold at the shop or by annual subscription.

Editor: Dorothy Lodge 01359 221636, Treasurer: Harry Last 01359 221307.

Schools: Barningham Primary tel: 01359 221297,
Blackbourne Middle tel: 01359 250611,
Thurston Upper tel: 01359 230885.

Doctors Surgeries: **Hopton & Stanton** Drs Hassan, Wheble & Wallace 01953 681303
Ixworth & Stanton Drs Cannon, Lockyer & Harpur 01359 230252

Bus services: 01284 702020 or 01842 752226 or check timetable outside the George.

The mobile library calls fortnightly on Thursday and is parked outside the school.

Church Services: see Parish News or Church notice board.

Churchwardens: Mr W Martineau tel: 01359 221495 & Mr J Hall tel: 01359 221719.

Barningham Charities: for assistance or information contact : Mike Breadmore – 01359 221627.

Aggies piece – local pocket park and wildlife haven – to find it follow the road past the Church and take the second turning on the right (on the bend), follow the road round the next left hand bend and about 100 yards further on is a signpost on the right hand side of the road. A small parking area for disabled visitors is further up the road at the next right turn. There is a circular trail with signposts, also benches and a picnic table.

The Royal George – tel: 01359 221246 – food and drinks.

Barningham Village Stores and Post Office run by SPAR. Currently open 6.30am to 9.00pm Monday to Saturday and 8am to 9.00pm Sundays. (Post Office - standard opening hours, closed Wed. 4pm)

Paigles Flower shop run by Patsy Pettitt – 01359 221799. open 9.30 – 12.30 & 2 – 5 Mon – Fri, 9 -12 Sat.

Barber: Michael the mobile barber calls every 6 weeks on a Saturday morning and can be found at the Village Hall from 9.00am. For dates see the Parish News.

What's On

Village Hall: available for hire for meetings, parties, weddings etc. New regular activities welcomed.

Bookings – tel: Mrs Ellinor 01359 221752.

Regular activities:

Parent & Toddlers Monday 1.15pm- 2.45pm *free(SCC supported)* tel: Sharon Ungless 01359 232967

Carpet Bowls Mon. & Fri. 7.30pm – 9.30pm tel: Gladys Marsh 01359 221375

Whist Tuesday 7.30 pm tel: Paul Austin 01359 250351

Rainbows & Brownies Wednesday 5.45pm – 7pm tel: Carol Butcher 01359 221702

Knit & Stitch 1st Wednesday of the month 2- 4 pm tel: Brenda Last 0135 221307

Social Club Thursday 2- 4pm tel: Brenda Last 01359 221307

Keep fit Friday 9.45 – 11am tel: Ali Metcalfe 01953 681531

Barningham W.I. has now joined with Hepworth and meets on 2nd Thursday of the month at Hepworth Village Hall. Contact Brenda Last (01359 221307) for information.

British Legion: contact Ian Jerrold - tel 01359 221604. The local British Legion has organised various events for the year including a Quiz (26th March), Treasure Hunt (31st May) and a Walk Picnic (30th July). More details on the PC website or from Ian.

If you want to add a village event to the website please contact Brenda Last on 01359 221307.