

Teversham News

Welcome to the Winter edition of Teversham News. There are some important issues the Parish Council would like **your views** on, so please take time to have a proper read of the newsletter.

Whilst further on we have some very positive news to report, the two immediate issues we are dealing with, involving the County and City Councils, are not what we would have wished for!

The County is cutting important street lights to save money, whilst The Parish Council believes the City is wasting money on ineffective 20 mph signs.

City wastes money on 20 mph signs.



As part of a plan to spend £600,000 on introducing 20 mph speed limits all over Cambridge, the City Council is considering including the Teversham Foxgloves estate and Gazelle Way in the scheme.

Teversham Parish Council strongly objected to the proposal, on the following grounds:

1. 20mph was unrealistic and unnecessary on 'main roads' such as Gazelle Way, Wulfstan Way, Perne Road etc.
2. Unrealistic limits which are ignored encourage a more widespread and dangerous disregard for speed limits.
3. Although the new limits are widely ignored, bus drivers have to obey them, and this is having a serious impact on bus services.
4. 20mph limits are ineffective in minor streets without physical measures, and average speeds are already below 20mph in most of them.
5. The first phases have shown there is very little benefit.
6. This huge sum of money could be better spent.

We would like to know what you think – are these new limits which have little effect on speeds but a big impact on bus services a good way to spend £600,000 of council tax money?

Give your views or obtain more information about the project by contacting the Parish Clerk (details on back of newsletter)

Comments deadline: End of February 2015.

County Cuts Street Lights



The County Council is planning to **permanently remove 26 street lights from Teversham**, as well as turning off or dimming most lights at night.

The lights to be axed include 8 on the footpath from the Nisa shop that runs through the estate, and lights in; Fennec Close, Lemur Drive, Mandrill Close, Buffalo Way, Dolphin Close, Rush Grove, Spurgeons Close, Cherry Hinton Road, Church Rd, Sheppard Way, Whitgift Rd, Fulbourn Rd and Ferndale.

The Parish Council is not happy with these cost cutting measures which are part of the PFI (Private Finance Initiative) funding for the replacement of the County's lighting stock.

We are looking at whether we can save some lights by adopting them ourselves, but this may be costly,

Have Your Say!

The Parish Council has arranged consultation meetings (details below) with a County Council representative present, as it is essential we get resident's views.

So please drop in to see which lights are due for the axe and tell us what you feel should be done.

Street Light cuts consultation Meetings:

Monday 9th February 2015

5:00pm - 6:30pm Bewick Bridge Primary School

or

7:00pm - 8:00pm Hope Community Church,
High Street

The cut off for articles for the next edition of the Teversham News is 23rd March 2015. We welcome articles from any groups/organisations in our parish.

The Good News! (1)**Skate Park go-ahead**

The Parish Council is delighted (as many children in Teversham will be!) to announce that our

application for a grant from WREN towards the planned Skate Park at Borley Way was successful.

Council Chairman Dave Kelleway welcomed the "inward investment" of £32,000 to Teversham, and said; "Councillors were very concerned to minimise any noise from the park, and chose the quietest surface and have also added extra sound insulation to the ramps.

Dave added; "We are sure the Skate Park will be of great benefit to the health and well being of children in the Parish."

Work should start within a few weeks – look out for details of the Grand Opening!

**The Good News! (2)****Foxgloves grass and shrub cutting**

For many years, the grass on the Teversham Foxgloves estate was kept to a high standard - until 3 years ago, when South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) withdrew the grant to Teversham Parish Council (TPC) to put the estate in with a District wide contract.

The reduced number of cuts in the new contract meant it was a disaster for the appearance of the estate, and the Parish council have been struggling ever since to get SCDC to improve the situation.

TPC is delighted to announce that when the District wide contract ends this spring, we will again take over the grass cutting, **increasing the cuts from 4 to 16.**

The Parish Council will also be responsible for the shrubs, which will be cut twice during the year.

Whilst this will cost the Parish Council money, for work that is a District responsibility, TPC believes the unacceptable levels of maintenance by SCDC meant it had to step in.

The arrangements will initially be for one year, and the trees on the estate will continue to be the responsibility of SCDC.

**The Good News! (3)****Car Park surface**

The Recreation Ground car park (off the High Street) will soon get a much needed levelling, after the Parish Council recently gave the go-ahead for the work.

The Good News! (4)**Foxgloves improvements**

Following the major repairs and repainting carried out in the Autumn on all the play areas in the parish, Councillors are looking to install additional play equipment at Teversham Foxgloves, including a **teacup roundabout**, a **sunken trampoline**, and also new **football goals**.

The **bus shelters** on Teversham Foxgloves also are set for refurbishment any day now, with most of the glazing and some of the panels being replaced.

Please contact us if you would be willing to "adopt" one or more of the shelters, keeping it clean and reporting any problems.

The Good News! (5)**Airport Way junction improvements**

The Parish Council was successful in winning a bid for a County Council small grant for highways improvement at the Airport Way/Church Road junction, the scene of a number of accidents.

Whilst councillors were disappointed that the County would not agree to light the traffic islands, the scheme will at least provide much better signage, and improved line markings, once the road has been surface dressed in May.

The Good News! (6)**Grants available – apply now!**

Do you know of or run a local group that would benefit from a small grant?

Teversham Parish Council has a small budget available once a year for groups or charities that serves or involves residents of Teversham.



All you need do is write to the clerk (details on back page) explaining about your group, what you would like the money for, and how many Teversham residents will benefit.

**The deadline for applications is
12th February 2015.**



Happy New Year to all readers of the Parish News. We were delighted to be able to welcome so many local people to our Christmas services. Some services were back in the chapel which is a beautiful venue when decorated for Christmas and lit with candles and Christmas lights. It was great to be able to celebrate together and consider the difference made by the God who is not far off but came to live with his people.

We're meeting back in Teversham CE Primary School since New Year which gives us more growing room and space for our children's groups. If you've been thinking of coming along to visit, the new year is a great time to make good on that resolution! We love to welcome people whether they've been to church before or it's totally new.

Our regular community groups are up and running including **Little Hoppers** for 0s-3s (Mondays 10-11.30) and **Classic Cafe for over 60s** (alternate Fridays 2.30-4). We've also got a number of people who have expressed an interest in our **Christianity Explored** course which gives an opportunity to ask questions and explore the heart of the Christian faith, perhaps for the first time or maybe as a refresher. For further details on this or anything else please get in touch with Alistair MacInnes - 665369 or al@hopecommunity.org.uk or www.hopecommunity.org.uk

FLY TIPPING

Members are troubled by repeated fly tipping at the lay-by in Cherry Hinton Road.

If you see someone dumping rubbish, and it's safe, please take down their car registration number so we can report them to the police and the District Council.

New signs will be installed in the near future and we hope to encourage the land owner to cut the hedge back.

If you are caught fly tipping, you will be reported and possibly prosecuted!



District Councillor Caroline Hunt

A Happy New Year to you all.

Waste services update – The new bin collection routes which were introduced in September have been working well. Only 9 households had their collection day changed. The new routes are a more efficient way of working and using resources. Collections are now done in partnership with the City Council and are helping to reduce costs for both councils. For example there were streets on the boarder with the City where some residents were in the city and having their bins collected by the City and the rest were in South Cambs and having a South Cambs collection. The council has distributed leaflets and had articles printed in the South Cambs newsletter to inform residents of changes in the Winter\Christmas schedules. In order to make savings as from 1st December last year, for three months the green bins are only being emptied monthly – traditionally at this time of year green garden waste collection is severely reduced so this should have minimal impact on residents. Bimonthly collections will resume in March. Along with this there was a break in collections from 28th December to 5th January which resulted in savings of £25,000. All bin collection schedules are available on the Council website.

Contact Centre – Changes have been made which includes changing hours and new staff training, this has resulted in a huge improvement to the time taken to answer calls and 95% are now answered within 30 seconds. The contact centre number is **03450450500**.



Caroline Hunt District Councillor
01223 292388

Dates for your Diary

Monthly Parish Council Meetings - 7.30pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend

2nd February 2015

Hope Community Church, High Street,
Teversham

2nd March 2015

Bewick Bridge Community Primary School,
Fulbourn Old Drift, Cherry Hinton

30th March 2015 (April Mtg)

Hope Community Church, High Street
Teversham

All meetings commence at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated.

Evidence Suggests the 'Poo Fairy' does not exist

Recent months have shown that no-one is magically appearing to clear up the dog excrement that a minority of dog-owners are regularly leaving along paths and on playing fields. Please, please, please will the few people responsible start clearing up and try to understand just how unpleasant this is becoming for regular users of paths and playing fields. Perhaps it helps to offer a few reasons why this needs to change.

Actual danger – the paths in Teversham are frequently narrow and there are times when pedestrians, particularly those with pushchairs, walking with young children or an older person with a walking frame may choose to leave the path to avoid a badly-fouled section of path.

Disease – young children are not always that discerning about what they put in their mouths or whether they carefully wash their hands before eating. Once that dog mess is transferred to pushchair, bike, scooter wheels or shoes, trousers and socks it's not only disgusting to clear up but an actual health hazard.

Preventing or delaying the use of recreation facilities – the football clubs at the Rec regularly have to spend time clearing dog mess from pitches prior to playing; and inevitably miss some leading to players being exposed to the foul and potentially hazardous consequences. There are dog bins (and sometimes even bags supplied by the Parish Council, although hundreds have vanished at a time sadly). Some play areas such as Borley Way have children kicking balls and feet through excrement even at this time of year.

Giving all dog-owners a bad name – it seems likely that a small number of people are regularly allowing their dogs to foul and failing to clear up. It's not fair on those that are responsible owners for them to be regarded with suspicion because of the actions of a few.

The bottom line is that it just **disgusts most people and makes us feel regularly disappointed, frustrated and even angry** in what is otherwise a really pleasant environment.

On the morning this article was written, parents and children had to avoid 4 or 5 lumps of faeces left by one dog over about 10 feet of path outside the Tamarind and then another between the Parish church and the school – it was clear that not everyone had seen these in time. Prior to Christmas time had to be spent clearing up outside the chapel before the Little Hoppers toddler group, despite the fact that dog mess had been cleared up by another user the night before. In the past 24 hours the author has been spoken to by at least three other pedestrians about the issue without even raising it. One mum had even made 'Poo flags' to stick by piles of faeces on Borley Way Rec to warn others. **PLEASE will whoever is responsible change their habits before we have to consider legal avenues.**



Teversham Community Warden Scheme

The Community Warden Service assists older people by providing support to help them live independently in their own homes.

The warden makes contact with older people using the service by telephone or in person to establish their well being. This can help to avert a crisis occurring.

Light duties can be carried out for a short period, particularly if an individual suddenly becomes unwell. The service can be arranged on an ongoing basis or for temporary periods (e.g. following hospital discharge).

The Warden Service is funded by and closely supported by Teversham Parish Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and the DG Marshall of Cambridge Trust. It is managed by Age UK Cambridgeshire and is open to local people aged 60 or over for a small charge each week payable to the warden.

The warden will contact older people using the service daily (Mon-Fri), either by a personal visit or telephone. From this, it can be established what assistance is needed.

The Warden can assist with, for example:

Watering plants/ feeding pets, small amounts of shopping/posting letters, collecting prescriptions/ help with paperwork and above all, to be a regular source of reassurance and information to support independent living.

If you are interested in finding out more about the service for yourself or someone you know, please contact the Community Warden Kirstine Lewis on **07754 107 943** or Age UK Cambridgeshire's Helpline on **0300 666 9860**.

How to Contact Teversham Parish Council

Chairman, D Kelleway

01223 293743

dave.kelleway@homecall.co.uk

Clerk, K Quiggin 07956 099009

tevershamparish@aol.com

You can also write to
Teversham Parish Council
c/o 49 Lower End
Swaffham Prior

Cambridge CB25 0HT

This newsletter is available with live links on our website at www.teversham.info