

Iwade Observer

February 2016



Iwade @ The Barn Belongs to Iwade! (Finally!!)

Iwade @ The Barn is now officially in the trust of the Iwade @ The Barn charity under lease from Swale Borough Council as of 11th December 2015. Iwade @ The Barn is a charity, registered with the Charities Commission, whose ultimate aim is to benefit Iwade residents. The Barn hopes to be a warm and open venue with coffee, wi-fi and computers but first it needs to be fitted out; listed planning permission for the fit-out has already been submitted to Swale Borough Council. A big thank you to everyone concerned and if you'd like to volunteer in any way do email iwadebarn@outlook.com and we'll be in touch. Exciting times for the community and a big thank you to everyone involved, and to those not involved, for your patience in getting to this point. Happy

New Year from the Iwade @ The Barn Trustees Graeme Horner, James Hunt, Nicola McKenzie, Les Mitchell, Louise Wade and Gemma Stokes; we hope to give you more news in the near future.

Litter Angels Bins Installed In Iwade Jessica McMahon



Local charity, Litter Angels, has installed two new litter bins in Iwade; one outside Costcutter and one in Dunlin Walk, opposite the primary school.

The new bins, which will be emptied by Swale Borough Council, were requested by

the owner of Costcutter and parents on the school run, who had noticed a build-up of litter in the two areas.

Gordon Henderson MP, who is also Chairman of Litter Angels, said,

"Litter Angels are always happy to have litter bins installed across Sittingbourne and Sheppey if they will reduce the amount of litter dropped on the ground.

"I hope that the residents and school children in Iwade will use the bins to keep their village clean and tidy."

Iwade Village Calendar Gareth Wiseman

Happy New Year to Iwadians old and new. After looking at many superb photographs on IVDFB I posted on IVDFB that it might be a good idea for Iwade to have a calendar as it would also be something the whole village could get involved in. For this we would need input in the way of photographs from fellow Iwadians. There is now a Facebook page called "Iwade Village does a calendar" for you to submit images to. We will also monitor IVDFB for any potential images, but we will request permission first to see if the owner would like to submit it.

We would also like your help as well. Initially there are 3 groups in the village that we would like benefit from the profits 1. Cubs, Guides and Scouts, 2. Iwade church restoration and repair and 3. The Iwade Herons to help with their kit and equipment, but we would like Iwadians to choose another fourth organisation so that profits can be shared 4 ways. Please post suggestions on the FB page.

Contact information:-

1) "Iwade Village does a calendar" FB page to submit images and basic contact.

- 2) A Flickr account - see <https://www.flickr.com/photos/137692922@N02/> or go to www.flickr.com and search for "Iwade does a calendar"
- 3) Through the Iwade Observer e-mail, the.iwade.observer@gmail.com
- 4) Or if you want to submit 'hard copy' please contact Rynn Kemp on 07941656669 to arrange

Please also take care with who is in the image and let us know if they have given permission (e.g. School photos), but also please be aware that if you are at a public event (e.g. Iwade Rocks) images will be taken by reporters and public alike and would/could be published anyway.

It is our intention to showcase photos reflecting Iwade throughout the year on the monthly calendar page that reflects when they were taken, but one year on (if that makes sense!!!). Photos should be taken from or within the parish.

In the immediacy we would like photos from November and December last year as we need the images sent to the printers by the first week in November to be ready for the Iwade Christmas market in 2016. Photos can be submitted via any of the above contacts, and we hope to reproduce a small sample each month in

Wednesday 27 January 13:00 | Pop Up Coffee Shop

Every other week at All Saints Church Iwade 1pm to 3pm every other Wednesday. Free, tea, coffee, home-made cakes, toys and stories for the children, why not get out of the house with or without children and meet some friendly faces.

Thursday 28 January 11:15 | Mobile Library

11.15 to 11.25am at the Springvale end of Sheerstone, one piece of identification required to join. Why not give it a try? For further information please telephone 0 3000 41 31 31 or email mobiles@kent.gov.uk

Tuesday 9 February 10:30 | Iwade Reading Group

Iwade Reading Group meet every month. Get in contact with Hilary Foulds on 01795 474656 or by email at hilary.foulds@hotmail.co.uk

Wednesday 10 February 13:00 | Pop Up Coffee Shop

Every other week at All Saints Church Iwade 1pm to 3pm every other Wednesday. Free, tea, coffee, home-made cakes, toys and stories for the children, why not get out of the house with or without children and meet some friendly faces.

Wednesday 10 February 19:30 | Iwade Parish Council Meeting

Iwade Parish Council normally meet at Iwade Village Hall at 7.30pm every second Wednesday of the month. Public meeting and time allowed on the agenda for the public so why not go along and find out more about what goes on? Watch this space for the agenda as it becomes available.

Thursday 11 February 11:15 | Mobile Library

11.15 to 11.25am at the Springvale end of Sheerstone, one piece of identification required to join. Why not give it a try? For further information please telephone 03000 41 31 31 or email mobiles@kent.gov.uk

Sunday 14 February 10:00 | Iwade Village Food and Craft Fayre

Every second Sunday of the month 10am to 1pm at Iwade Village Hall. Great range of stalls and refreshments in the kitchen.

Wednesday 17 February 19:30 | February W.I. Meeting

Kent in the 19th Century by Bob Ogle. Vote of Thanks: Competition: Photo from the 19th Century. Raffle: 50/50. Birthdays:Phyllis Halll, Doreen Harrington, Vivien Hines, Ann Mills

Wednesday 24 February 13:00 | Pop Up Coffee Shop

Every other week at All Saints Church Iwade 1pm to 3pm every other Wednesday. Free, tea, coffee, home-made cakes, toys and stories for the children, why not get out of the house with or without children and meet some friendly faces.

Thursday 25 February 11:15 | Mobile Library

11.15 to 11.25am at the Springvale end of Sheerstone, one piece of identification required to join. Why not give it a try? For further information please telephone 03000 41 31 31 or email mobiles@kent.gov.uk

Tuesday 8 March 10:30 | Iwade Reading Group

Iwade Reading Group meet every month. Get in contact with Hilary Foulds on 01795 474656 or by email at hilary.foulds@hotmail.co.uk

Wednesday 9 March 13:00 | Pop Up Coffee Shop

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Sunday 13 March 10:00 | Iwade Village Food and Craft Fayre

Every second Sunday of the month 10am to 1pm at Iwade Village Hall. Great range of stalls and refreshments in the kitchen.

Wednesday 23 March 13:00 | Pop Up Coffee Shop

Every other week at All Saints Church Iwade 1pm to 3pm every other Wednesday. Free, tea, coffee, home-made cakes, toys and stories for the children, why not get out of the house with or without children and meet some friendly faces.

Thursday 24 March 11:15 | Mobile Library

11.15 to 11.25am at the Springvale end of Sheerstone, one piece of identification required to join. Why not give it a try? For further information please telephone 03000 41 31 31 or email mobiles@kent.gov.uk

Wednesday 6 April 13:00 | Pop Up Coffee Shop

Every other week at All Saints Church Iwade 1pm to 3pm every other Wednesday. Free, tea, coffee, home-made cakes, toys and stories for the children, why not get out of the house with or without children and meet some friendly faces.

Saturday 23 July 11:00 | Iwade Rock 2016

Iwade Rock 2016 is on 23rd July 2016 @ Iwade School Playing Fields 11am gates open – 10.30pm. Telephone or text 07921 151974 for more information or visit their facebook page IwadeRock

WEEKLY

Mondays and Wednesdays

Evening Walking Group

7pm for 7.15pm start at Woolpack, all welcome, sensible walking shoes or trainers are advised. All welcome. Sociable, fit group. No charge.

Tuesdays

Boot Camp. 6.20pm for 6.30pm meet at Stangate Drive Green (outside No 41) Different fitness levels, fun, £2 per person per session, all welcome

Parent Carer and Toddler Group. 9am to 11am Iwade Village Hall

Tuesdays & Fridays

Yoga. Iwade Village Hall. Friday 6.30pm and Tuesday 1.30pm

Thursdays

Healthwalks. 10.45am start at Iwade Pharmacy. All welcome, no charge

Saturdays

Bokwa. 9am Iwade Village Hall. All welcome, first lesson free, £4

Term Time Only

Kingsquad. Tuesday evenings termtime Iwade Village Hall 5pm - 6.15pm. For children school years 2-6, all welcome

For other clubs in Iwade such as Wargames, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows check out IwadeVillage.co.uk What's On Clubs and Activities

Editors Note

A big thank you this month goes to our new volunteer Marc Wilson who has spent hours and hours of his spare time editing this issue. Many thanks Marc hope we haven't put you off! Wishing Iwade residents a Happy 2016 from the Iwade Observer team (Rynn, Marc, Mel and Nicola) and do send in your contributions to the iwade.observer@gmail.com - thank you!

DISCLAIMER

Whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information in this newsletter, neither the printer, editor or distribution team can accept responsibility for any subsequent alterations, errors or mistakes in any material published herein. The views expressed in any articles are not necessarily the views of anyone involved in the production of this newsletter.



Word had slipped out that a story was in the air surrounding the Secret Santa's Grotto that sprung up in Stangate Drive just before Christmas. This clandestine event had been heard about in hushed whispers over the last couple of years, so ever eager the Observer team tracked down those in the know and we are here able to exclusively reveal the story behind this event.

Back in the mists of time a young boy, who for the sake of the story we shall call Simon, went to bed excitedly, as did children the world over, on Christmas Eve with the usual childhood dreams dancing around in his head. That evening before going to bed Simon had been playing with his Lego and had failed to make a proper job of clearing the Lego bricks away before going to bed. (Ed. An age old problem that many parents will recognise!)

In the quiet darkness of the very early hours of Christmas Morning, and while he was fast asleep dreaming of the gifts he was hoping to receive when he woke, Simon was startled from his sleep, by a loud shriek! Santa had arrived quietly in Simon's bedroom only to step painfully on one of the discarded Lego bricks lying on the bedroom floor. (An age old problem that many parents will recognise!)

Simon was quick to recognise the stranger in his bedroom (who could fail to spot the flowing red jacket and long white beard and not know immediately who it was!). In a remarkable Act of selfless Kindness Simon sprung out of bed and quickly helped Santa repair the damage to his foot so he could get on his way with his worldwide delivery schedule. Before he left Simon's room though, Santa promised that he would always remember this Act of

Kindness and would one day repay it. Simon, of course, went back to sleep (how he could possibly do that after meeting the great man himself remains one of life's great mysteries!!)

Moving forward many years to the 21st Century, Santa was however able to keep his promise and for a very limited time was able to set up a grotto in the garden of the house Simon now lives in as a grown-up. And what a sight to behold! A snowy, mystical winter forest had to be negotiated before reaching the grotto which was wonderfully decorated, warm and inviting with fur-lined walls, magical fairy-lit scenes, and sparkling lights bedecking the ceiling.

A well used, dog-eared map of Santa's Christmas Eve journey completed the scene. Many children were lucky enough to meet Santa for about 10 magical minutes while he was in Iwade and were privileged to see Santa's Black Book and his coveted Red Book (where you really want your name to be!!)

Santa has never forgotten Simon's Act of Kindness, and is keen for the children of Iwade to remember that an Act of Kindness costs nothing! So he tries to make sure that carrying out an Act of Kindness is something that children will remember to do during the excitement of Christmas Day. Santa's promise to the children as he hands over an early present in his Grotto is that "All the time you believe in me, I will never stop coming to see you at Christmas" (Ed: That's got to be worth believing in!)

Let's hope that Santa is able to make it back to Iwade again next year - we can all help to make that a reality by making sure we carry out as many Acts of Kindness as we can - let's make that Red Book overflow with Iwadian names! Thank you Santa.



Happy New Year to you all, we hope the festive season was good to you and that you didn't overindulge too much!

It's a mixed bag of news from us as in December, we said goodbye to Dr Dada. We know she was a very popular GP and we all wish her well for the future. It's always challenging to find GPs but IHC had a few options they were looking at to enable us to meet our appointment targets. We're really pleased to announce though that Dr Tim Mogga will be joining IHC in February and will be working 3 full days per week. Our Practice Manager, Sam, is due to meet him this week to firm up which days he will cover, so we'll be able to let you know in the March Observer.

A few reminders ...

The phone lines, as we're sure you're aware will be busier first thing in the morning as opposed to the afternoon, so if you want test results, please could you call after 2pm and the reception staff will be happy to help. Calling before then may result in them asking you to call back later.

We all find it easy to complain about services we encounter, but do we ever give praise where it's due? If you've been to IHC and would like to leave feedback, please go to www.nhs.uk and by putting your postcode in the search box for finding local services, you can then choose IHC and add your thoughts. If you don't have

online access, you can pick up a feedback form from the surgery. Lastly, even though winter is now well underway, it's not too late to get a flu jab if you need one. Just give IHC a call on 413100 this afternoon to book yourself in.

We're loathe to do it, but we'll need to end on a sad note unfortunately. After years of trying to get the Patient Participation Group more successful with new members, fresh ideas and more input, we've had to admit defeat. Monday 8th February will be our last 'real' meeting before the group moves to be a virtual one. We've tried many different ways to attract new members, from advertising in here, at IHC, on Facebook, email, local pharmacists and on the IHC website, but at each meeting, we have the same few loyal bunch of patients and no new ones. Having the loyal few is great, but the group needs to be able to grow in order to be the asset we want it to be for IHC patients. We'll hopefully see you on the 8th? It's 7-8pm and we always have a member of staff from IHC in attendance to answer any queries you may have.

Until then, my personal thanks to Joe for steering the ship from the start and for guiding the group so very well over the years. More time for bowling now maybe Joe!

With very best wishes from us for a healthy 2016.

Porchlight Appeal - 2015

In a cosy, atmospheric and welcoming All Saints' Church, upwards of 70 people took part in a "grand wrap-up!" on December 2nd. People of all ages came loaded with gifts for eventual distribution to Porchlight, a charity who provide care for young homeless people between the ages of 16 and 25. In a lively atmosphere with Christmas music playing in the background over 50 gift bags and boxes were filled with wrapped goodies. Everybody enjoyed themselves, drinking tea, coffee and squash etc. and eating the (as ever at All Saints) obligatory cakes and sausage rolls as they wrapped.

Iwade Scouts were superb, wrapping and lending a hand wherever needed, and later met with representatives of Porchlight at their meeting on Thursday, 10th December when the gifts were handed over.

What a great evening of generosity from the people of Iwade - you will certainly have made a difference at Christmas to those who may not be as fortunate as the rest of us - you have sent a message that somebody does care! - thank you all so very much.

IWADE WI by Glenn Walters

We finished off our Centenary year with a Christmas meal at the Red Lion in Sittingbourne where we enjoyed excellent roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings, a rousing rendition of Jerusalem, courtesy of the landlord, and a very enthusiastic Twelve Days of Christmas! In addition there was a secret Santa and a prolific raffle (thanks to Iwade Pharmacy for their contribution).

We started our New Year with a Soup and Bingo evening in January to which we invited some of our twinned WI from Rochester. A lovely way to spend a winter evening!

We have a very full and varied programme for 2016 with many extras so members can choose to come to just a meeting or join in one of the many other things on offer. Want to try? Come along, you will be most welcome, it's the third Wednesday of the month at the Village Hall. Contact Glenn (Secretary) on 01795 436515

1950s Iwade School Days David Whitehead

On a typical school day I would wake up with my two brothers - all of us in the same bed - sometimes to a freezing cold bedroom; our house had no heating other than an old black cast iron range in the living room. There were grates in all the rooms but we couldn't afford to light all of them.

We had gas lighting and you had to buy "gas mantles" they were like delicate little bags (looking a bit like an empty teabag!) that you tied around the gas outlet on the lamp, which when lit gave a nice bright light, but they were so fragile and broke very easily! We used Candles to go to bed with and nobody wanted to get out of bed to put them out, so we would get into bed and roll our socks up and throw them at the candle to put it out! (Ed's note - no concerns about health and safety in those days then David??)

We didn't have carpets, so mum used to keep the skins off the Christmas rabbits & sew them together with hare skins that we'd shot and made mats to stand on. Then we would have breakfast and walk to school; there were Elm bushes nearly all the way and on foggy mornings they would be covered in cobwebs and moisture droplets and looked beautiful.

When we arrived at school we would have "Morning Assembly" and your names were called out; when yours was called you answered, "Present Miss"! Then, after you'd had your morning third of a pint of milk, you went into the playground for "Physical Exercise" which was done in your shorts, jumping on the spot, and opening your legs whilst touching your shoulders with your hands. Because it wasn't long after the War the Government was trying to build us kids up; there was Ricketts and Polio about so we would be given a tablespoon of "Cod Liver Oil" (later Malt was added) and "Rose Hip Syrup."

There was a Nurse that called from time to time (Nurse Kettle)

Iwade Reading Group Hilary Foulds



We very much enjoyed our Christmas lunch at The Woolpack where we exchanged Secret Santa books. It was fun trying to choose a book we felt our recipient would enjoy. I got "Three Men in a Boat". I was really happy with that.

Our book of the month for January, "To The Lighthouse" by Virginia Woolf, had mixed reviews from our group. As Lianna said, it was like Marmite "You either loved it or hated it. It was certainly a challenge to follow

who went through your hair with knitting needles to see if you had nits, then you had to walk a straight line to see if you had "Pigeon Toes or Flat Feet".

What I did like was the games we played; we played "Rounders" and another strange game that I've never seen since. It was called "Bats" - it was played like Rounders but with big heavy hardwood bats that looked like big table tennis bats!!

Some of the other games we played were Conkers (when they were about), football with a huge leather laced-up ball that really hurt when it hit you in the face on a wet day (Ed's note - yes I remember those old leather footballs, David, they weighed a ton when they got wet and nearly knocked you out when you headed them!) There was also another game we called 'Sheep Sheep Come Home' where nearly all the kids would stand at one end of the playground and one would stand at the other (he would be the Shepherd) but hiding in the middle there would be boys who would be the Wolves. The Shepherd would call, "The Wolves have gone to Devonshire and won't be home till next year - Sheep Sheep Come Home" The sheep would then have to get to the Shepherd without getting caught by the Wolves!

There used to be a big brick built shelter near the playground where all the sports equipment was stored. It had no windows and was full of spiders webs and there were swallows nests everywhere.

Lots of the girls would be doing handstands against the walls and playing hopscotch and the boys would be playing Marbles, Flicking Cards and Shove Halfpenny. BUT my absolute favourite was "Kiss Chase," a chance to kiss the girl you had fallen in love with!! (You old romantic David!!)

Woolf's stream of consciousness style of writing. I am going to try "Mrs Dalloway" next to see what I make of that.

The book for our meeting on 9 February is "Follow You Home" by Mark Edwards, a page turning psychological thriller. Looking forward to that one. Then for Tuesday 8 March we will be reading another thriller, "Our Endless Numbered Days", the debut novel of Claire Fuller. Reviews call it a grown up thriller of a fairy tale, as warped and sinister as any Grimm fairy tale. I had planned to recommend we read "The Miniaturist" by Jessie Burton until I realised it's 600 pages long.

Are you reading along with us? Would you like to join us for a chat and a coffee? We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. You can find us on the Iwade Reading Group page of Iwade Village Does Facebook, or email us at

IWADE HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY by Iwade Parish Council

The Rural Housing Enabler (RHE) from Action with Communities in Rural Kent was commissioned by Iwade Parish Council to undertake a housing needs survey in the parish to identify what, if any housing is still required in the parish.

A survey was posted to every household within Iwade in October 2015. 1522 surveys were distributed with 429 surveys being returned, representing a response rate of 28%.

Analysis of the returned survey forms identified that 91% of respondents are owner occupiers either with or without a mortgage; the remaining 9% are a mix of renters (private and social housing)

and shared owners. 42% of respondents have lived in the parish for 10 years or more.

Our analysis has also identified that:

11 households need affordable housing – a total of 5 single people, 1 couple and 5 families; 17 households need open market housing – a total of 3 single people, 9 couples and 5 families; In total 3 older households (over 60) need affordable housing and 7 older households need open market housing; 5% of respondents who answered the question said they would not be supportive of future housing development in Iwade parish; 62% of respondents who answered the question said they would not support a development of affordable local needs housing if there was a proven need for people with a genuine local connection to Iwade parish.



Well, what a holiday season it was! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year period and enjoyed some much needed time with your families to relax and share some joy. Is it just me or do the months go by quicker as you get older? As I write this, it's past the middle of January and we're well on our way to February and Valentine's Day no less.

Valentines Day (forgetting all of the romantic notions) happens to be the day we have our next Food and Craft Fayre. Yes, that's right, Sunday 14th February between 10am – 1pm is when you can come along and get the food for Sunday roast, the present you forgot to get your loved one, or just come out for some fresh air! The stallholders work really hard to make and create their merchandise, so please, come down to support them.

At the last Fayre, the organisers offered a free raffle for anyone who bought something. It was really successful and grateful thanks are sent to every stallholder who donated an item and to you, the buyers who made it such a success. See you on the 14th for a romantic liaison at the Fayre! If you're interested in having a stall for March and beyond, please email Gaye or Geri at fayre@iwadevillagehall.co.uk. The March Fayre will be on Sunday 13th and will have special Easter treats on sale.

Rewinding back to Christmas; what a fabulous day we had with the grotto on Christmas Eve. We may have run out of tickets but we



never ran out of energy, it was amazing and our sincere thanks go to everyone who made it happen. I am in fear of missing someone out by listing names, so I'll avoid it by just saying that the people who gave up their time are such lovely, giving people. They asked for nothing, offering their own Christmas Eve up so the children of Iwade and beyond could have a special treat that day. I smile as I remember events of that day ... the electricity cutting off an hour before the first child was booked in, the Iwade 'Coca-Cola' truck fitting through the gates much easier than we thought, the cranberry mince pies (yum), the 6 week old twins that were passed around for cuddles, Father Christmas having a well-earned can of

lager at the end, but most of all, I will remember the team work. Huge thanks to everyone who helped. Same time, same place next year?

If you are interested in hiring the hall for a party or just a get-together, please take a look at the online diary that can be found at www.iwadevillagehall.co.uk/hiring. Once you've found a date, you can email us at bookings@iwadevillagehall.co.uk and we can work with you to secure the time and date you want.

One last thing before we finish, have you got great organisational and admin skills that you'd like to share? We are in need of one more Trustee to join our merry band of volunteers at the hall. I won't fib, it's not all plain sailing and your commitment will be tested at times, but the community spirit is strong in Iwade and you can help nurture and grow it even further. Organising events, designing adverts, giving up some spare time for meetings and events, plus we'd love some new ideas too! If you think you have something to give this registered charity, please email secretary@iwadevillagehall.co.uk

Tinkerbells Early Years by Jody Paine

Last term at Tinkerbells was very busy with the run up to Christmas. Our Christmas carol concert, which was held at Iwade village church, was a great success and we would like to thank the church for welcoming us once again. We would also like to thank all the children involved and their families for taking part.

Our Christmas Nativity went extremely well and we would like to say how proud we were of all the children that took part in the performance. They were all little stars!

This term at Tinkerbells the children have been taking part in activities supporting our topics 'People who help us' and 'keeping safe'. They have had great fun learning about different occupations and recreating some of our own 'people



who help us,' which are being displayed around the hall for all to see. We are hoping to have a visit from the local police and fire station and also some paramedics to speak with the children about the need for keeping themselves safe.

The children will be given opportunities this term to take part in activities about our book for the term, Superworm. They will also be learning about Chinese New year celebrations including sampling Chinese food.

At present both of our nurseries are full, and spaces for September 2016 are now limited. However, if you are looking to put your child's name down for September 2016 in either setting, please feel free to call in at any time to have a look around and pick up a prospectus and application form.



The Club started in 1974 at Raspberry Hill and have been flying at Orchard Farm, Iwade since 1986. We have been collecting for the Air Ambulance since 2004 and have raised over £12,000 for the charity to date.

This year we have had displays (static) at Borden Village Fete and Bredgar Light Railway, and are always willing to give a talk about radio control model aircraft to any clubs or organisations that are interested. This year the new Solar Farm nearly ended the club, but due to the size of the farm being reduced we were able to continue at our site.

The picture shows our Club Presentation to Mr George Wildridge from the Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Trust. This year we raised £1740:00, not bad for a Model aircraft club.

If you like further info have a look at our website: <http://www.medwaymfc.org.uk>, or contact :- Phil and Jane Fearn by email at: pfiwade@blueyonder.co.uk

We have been asked by The Parish Council to share the following from Swale Borough Council

SWALE BOROUGH COUNCIL – PRESERVATION OF ROAD MARGINS/GRASSED VERGES WARNING !!!!

The Bylaw is intended to prevent vehicles causing damage to grass verges and to enable contractors to have access to the verges for maintenance.

Any person offending against this Bylaw will be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £500

Offences should be reported to Swale Borough Council's Environment Wardens on 01795 424341.



As you read this, I am getting closer to the end of my incredible journey to run the 2016 Virgin London Marathon. The date is set for Sunday 24th April and all my training has been leading me to this one goal. This challenge has certainly not been taken lightly and the training has been a struggle if I'm honest. Where I am getting the focus and drive from is in my goal to fundraise for the JDRF, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund. The money I raise will go a long way to trying to improve the lives of many people who live with this life changing condition.

I am speaking from first hand experience as my eldest daughter, Isobel, was diagnosed with type 1 Diabetes at the age of 6 and it hit us like a bolt from the blue. Since diagnosis, we have been through a few tough times as a family trying to come to terms with the condition. Our lives are now controlled by carb counting and keeping blood sugars within a certain range to prevent health problems in later life. This is where the JDRF come in. They are a charity focused on raising money to find a cure for diabetes and develop technology to make day-to-day management of Diabetes easier. All the money raised through sponsoring me will go towards doing that. This is why I need to raise awareness for the charity whilst challenging myself, in the hope I can raise as much money as possible. If you would like to contribute to the JDRF, the link is: www.virginmoneygiving.com

Any donations, large or small, would be gratefully received. Many thanks in advance.

Iwade Walking Group - Evenings Christopher Wood



Let me start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. Is it time for you to lose some excess fat, get in shape or do you want to simply make some new friends? If so then the Iwade Walking group has now added a Monday Night to its already popular Wednesday evenings. A reminder that this group is free, there is no sign up forms and anybody can take part.

Walks start at 7:15pm and last between 1hr and 90Minutes. Routes are different each week but can sometimes be changed due to the weather. We all meet outside The Woolpack for 7pm for a prompt start. Sensible walking shoes or trainers are advised.

If you need further information then please contact me on my email address; chris.wood116@googlemail.com or message me via the Iwade Walking Group Evenings Facebook Page.

Meeting held on 11th November, 2015

Matters arising from the Minutes

Grovehurst Roundabout and Slip Roads – No further information received from Highways England; Clerk to chase in two weeks' time.

Planning

15/508913/COUNTY: Iwade County Primary School, School Lane Iwade Kent ME9 8RS: Details of an updated Travel Plan pursuant to condition 11 of planning permission SW/14/500739 at Iwade Community Primary School, School Lane, Iwade, Kent. Members agreed to object owing to the following concerns:

Condition 11 of the Planning Consent states that: "prior to the first use/occupation of the classroom accommodation hereby permitted, an updated travel plan shall be submitted for the written approval of the County Planning Authority. The Travel Plan shall review whether any local parking restrictions are necessary to assist travel movement during peak time, in addition to encouraging sustainable travel and responsible parking behaviour by parents. It shall also include measures for effective engagement between the school, parents, the local community and the Local Transport Board and shall be reviewed on an ongoing basis, the first taking place 6 months from occupation of the classroom accommodation hereby approved. The Travel Plan shall be reviewed on a 6 monthly basis thereafter; Reason: In order to encourage safer and more sustainable patterns of school travel"

This 'engagement' should be with the Parish Council, public, KCC and the JTB and Parish Councillors thought that this should be dealt with before the new build is opened; Alun Millard has advised that this will be done after so that the impact of the new pupils can be seen. The condition states that the travel plan is to show effective engagement but the plan does not say how the engagement will be done in an effective way. There needs to be more detail on this consultation, e.g. public meeting which will show how effective it's going to be. Local businesses also need to be involved in the consultation as School Mews is a private road and the car park is for users of the shops only. Extra vehicles using the school will have a major impact on these businesses.

The Travel Plan states that the review will be carried out 'annually', but the conditions state 'six months'

Item 9.1 of the Travel Plan mentions Pupils Scootering – the plan mentions no scootering but we are aware that many children scoot to school.

General: Members commented that there is already carnage on School Lane at dropping off/picking up times; residents cannot get out of their driveways and indeed one resident needed day care, which could not get to him because his drive was blocked. There is a real need for double yellow lines down both side of School Lane to provide a safe area for children and an area free of parked cars to allow the flow of traffic. The shopping centre car park is full throughout the day, which means customers cannot park and this is having an impact on trade. The Parish council raised all of this at the planning stage and this is why the Conditions were put in in the first place.

Members would add that there have already been issues since September because of new children which have been taken into the school and the school has approached certain members of the council with concerns asking what can be done.

15/508514/FULL: Demolition of existing

building and erection of 6 No. 4-bed detached houses and 2 No. 3-bed semi-detached houses with garaging, access and landscaping - Coleshall Farm, Sheppey Way Iwade Kent ME9 8QY – Agreed to object to the proposal on the following grounds:

The proposed development will damage the natural environment due to the possible loss of trees on the site and the Parish Council request that the Tree Officer, Paul Hegley, is consulted. Councillors request that as generally garages are not used for cars anymore these be replaced with car ports to ensure that vehicles are sited off the road, thus avoiding many parking problems. Iwade Localism Project (Swale Borough Council) The Barn – The Barn has not been handed over as yet. It needs to be signed off by D.H. Dean before Wards can then hand it over to the Borough Council.

Neighbourhood Plan – Agreed that due to the Housing Needs results it is felt that the Parish Council should not push forward with the Neighbourhood Plan. Clerk to take this off the Agenda.

Setting Parish Policies - The Chair suggested this was a good way forward to cover such things as how the Parish Council deals with events, needs, etc. It was agreed to seek guidance from Officers at Swale Borough Council; Clerk to ask Borough Cllr. Stokes to set up a Localism Meeting with this in mind.

Meeting Held on 9th December, 2015

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Grovehurst Roundabout and Slip Roads – pedestrian warning signs have been placed on the A249 northbound exit slip road but not the southbound.

SW/14/500739/R12 Local traffic management plan which reviews the existing parking situation in detail and proposes robust solutions/on street restrictions in close proximity to the school, pursuant to condition 11 of planning permission SW/14/500739 – Iwade Community Primary School, School Lane, Iwade, ME9 8RS

Proposal

There needs to be a clear plan on how the local engagement will work and this needs to be done at the soonest opportunity. Any findings from this engagement and details of local consultation need to be submitted to the JTB for approval. The JTB only meet quarterly with their next meeting in March 2016 so it is important that this deadline is met and any engagement is done for a report to be submitted at that time. If the March meeting is missed then it will not be possible for the JTB to consider what changes are needed until their June meeting which may not give enough time for changes to be implemented for September 2016 when the school will get an additional intake of children and the traffic problems will get worse.

The Chairman then referred to the recently received amended School Travel Plan; although not on the December Agenda this is also covered by the above application. Most of the comments on the School Travel Plan are inconsistencies, not objections. Discussions have taken place with the School and the document will be amended to rectify these inconsistencies; hopefully the revised draft will be forwarded to the Parish Council by KCC.

Finance

Budget and 2016/17 Precept – Draft Budget circulated. Clerk is awaiting details from Swale Borough Council in order to calculate the required Precept for 2016/17 so that the budget

can be finalised.

Iwade Localism Project (Swale Borough Council)

The Barn – The plans are done and hopefully will be submitted this week. Barn still not handed over; this is down to Ward's Solicitors; Swale Borough Council chased again on Tuesday.

Setting Parish Policies – Localism meeting set for the 13th January. Two Borough Council officers have been invited; agreed to ask Borough Cllr. Stokes to also invite Stephanie Curtis.

Cllr. Horner attended a meeting with Victoria Hadfield at Swale House and now has paperwork to go through. They discussed procedures for residents living on floodplains and suggested equipment; the Parish Council would only need to deal with the emergency for the first hour and then the emergency services would kick in. Agreed Cllr. Horner to proceed with this.

Reports from Representatives (Village Hall and KALC)

Hall – Cllr. Gale reported that Hall Committee is looking for a cleaner and someone who can take Minutes. Recent funds received included £250 for the Spiritual Evening and £120 for the Christmas Fayre. The Christmas Grotto event is being attended by 80 children; Mrs. Christmas is doing story telling. The Chairman has resigned and it has been decided not to elect anyone at the present time; ACKR will formulate an appropriate job description for the new person.

Any Other Matters Arising

Cllr. Wastall has tendered his resignation and this will be his last meeting. Members wished him well and thanked him for his work and assistance during his time as a Parish Councillor. There is a need to appoint a new KALC Representative. Clerk to display the appropriate notice and put this on the January Agenda.

Cllr. Hyde queried why the highway white lines had not been refreshed; Clerk has requested this twice; she will chase KCC again.

Cllr. Hunt updated on ANPR Cameras; the cost of each camera is £5500; installation £200 and transmission £365 per year. The camera needs to be replaced after six years. Also need to investigate whether there is good 3G coverage.

The Christmas tree lights event went well; special thanks to Cllr. Dawn Gale for her help; Iwade Garage for assisting with the installation of the tree and helping with electricity on the night and to Stuart Yates for installing the tree. Perhaps next year the event can be bigger and to look at B.W. May to put up the lights as the tree is getting higher and higher!

Cllr. Gale stated that a Christmas Grotto has been donated to the village and asked if the Parish Council is happy to accept a Deed of Donation from the company that has offered it? Members agreed to accept it. The company has stipulated that it cannot be hired out; has to be returned to the Village Hall within 48 hours of being used and is only for the use of Iwade village community groups, e.g. the hall, School, Herons, etc. The Village Hall has agreed to store it.

FULL minutes can be found on the village website www.iwadevillage.co.uk; under the 'Council' link