



Iwade Observer

1st Iwade Scouts pictured trying their hand at Microlighting with 4th Milton Regis Scout Group last July. An amazing experience. We can dream of that beautiful blue sky Iwade!

March 2011

Quiz Night, Indoor Boot Fair and Easter Fayre!

The Village Hall are organising lots of exciting events this year to raise funds so why not go along to one or more?

Saturday 19th March sees the return of the popular **Quiz Night** in the Village Hall. £5 per person includes a Ploughman's Supper with a 7-7.30pm start, tables of 8. Tickets from Wynn 424502, Sylvia Francis 876449 or Sylvia O'Shea 478103.

On **Saturday 16th April** we can look forward to an **Indoor Boot Fair** in the Village Hall. To book a table for £7 (tables provided) contact Lisa on 07968 792 354 or email iwadevillagehall@hotmail.co.uk. Setting up from 8am. A great opportunity to de-clutter and beat the credit crunch or come along and grab a bargain.

If you are interested in coming along to browse and buy then the doors open for an Early Bird admission of 50p at 8.30am or from 9am for 20p. Open until Midday. Breakfast and Refreshments for sale.

More on **Iwade Village Easter Fayre** on **Saturday 23rd April** inside...

More Houses?

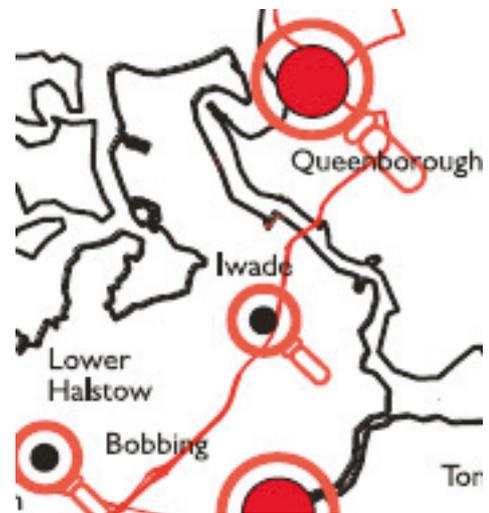
By Councillor Stephen Plumb

Iwade Parish Council at their February meeting looked at Swale Borough Councils document 'Pick Your Own' which describes their current public consultation on the development of housing and employment in the Borough over the next 20 years.

SBC present 4 options for growth. **Iwade is shown in 3 of these options as suitable for more housing developments.**

SBC are asking for the comments and opinions of residents. The Parish Council is making an official response, with each councillor making a personal one. Could I encourage you to look at the 'Pick Your Own' options and respond either by telephone 01795 417118, email pyo@swale.gov.uk or visit www.swale.gov.uk/pyo. Your comments must be with the council by 5.00pm on 14th March 2011.

I have called the council and if you are not online you can get a copy of the document at the Council Offices or from the library. In summary, Option 1 has no additional housing for Iwade in the next 20 years and Options 2,3 and 4 have varying amounts of additional housing. Vote Option 1 Iwade! Ed



Options 2, 3 and 4 of the document put additional housing in Iwade as per the orange symbol above. Option 1 is the only option where Iwade does not have additional housing.

Hérons U13 Derby



13th February saw the Iwade Herons Under 13s play against the Under 13

Blues at School Lane Recreation Ground in the Quarter Final of the Express Cabs Maidstone Challenge Cup.

The Blues were pleased with their performance with 6 players under 12 but came away 6-0 down.

Congratulations to the Under 13s for getting through to the next round.

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Dates for the Diary

MARCH

Youth Club Tuesday 1st March 7.30-9.30pm Village Hall

Mobile Library Thursday 3rd March 11.15 - 11.25am end of Sheerstone

Communion Service Sunday 6th March 11am All Saint's Iwade

Farmers' Market now Iwade Village Market Sunday 6th March 10am to 1pm Village Hall

Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 9th March 7.30pm Village Hall

Flower Festival Meeting Saturday 12th March 10.30am All Saint's Iwade

Church Open Day Saturday 12th March 10am to 2pm All Saint's Iwade

Family Communion Sunday 13th March 11am All Saint's Iwade

Deadline to object to more housing to Swale Monday 14th March 5pm

Youth Club Tuesday 15th March 7.30-9.30pm Village Hall

W.I. Monthly Meeting Wednesday 16th March 7.30pm Village Hall

Mobile Library Thursday 17th March 11.15 - 11.25am end of Sheerstone

Gardening Club Thursday 17th March 7.30pm Woolpack

Quiz Night Saturday 19th March 7 for 7.30pm start Village Hall tel. 424502

Communion Service Sunday 20th March 11am All Saint's Iwade

Family Service Sunday 27th March 10.30am All Saint's Iwade

W.I. Papercraft Workshop Sunday 27th March 2- 5pm

Mobile Library Thursday 31st March 11.15 - 11.25am end of Sheerstone

APRIL

Family Service for Mothering Sunday 3rd April 10.30am All Saint's Iwade

Scouts 'Phil the Bag' collection Monday 4th April 6pm Village Hall

Tabletop Sale Saturday 16th April 8.30am to Noon Village Hall

Saturday 23rd April Iwade Village Easter Fayre 10am to 1pm Village Hall

Editor's Note

Well hello March and here's hoping for some warmer weather in Iwade.

Thank you to those who attended the first newsletter Annual General Meeting in the Woolpack (I'd recommend it as a f.o.c. meeting venue on a Monday evening when the restaurant is closed!), it was really productive.

One thing that came out of the AGM was to find out what our readers think. A survey is in the making as I write so don't be surprised if someone knocks on your door (we won't knock after 7pm) asking you about the newsletter. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Happy March and hope you enjoy this issue!

Nicola McKenzie

Ps Note the Iwade Observer is a Not-for-Profit newsletter

Pps Did you know the Iwade Village Hall is a registered charity?!

Disclaimer

Whilst every care has been taken to ensure 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.



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Note that cheques for superfast broadband refunds are raised at the monthly Parish Council meeting, so if an application misses a meeting it goes on the payment list for the next meeting. Your patience is appreciated.

Tinkerbells

Iwade Village Hall 07592 544 285

Tinkerbells Early Years have now completed the Kent Quality Mark and are anxiously waiting for the results, feedback so far has been extremely good so fingers crossed. The staff have worked very hard to bring the setting up to the outstanding quality we want to provide, so well done to them. For all their effort and hard work we are going to see the show Wizard of Oz at the London Palladium, we are so looking forward to that (think it may be a little better than our production. LOL) We are saving the Sainsbury and Tesco vouchers so if you shop there please collect them for us, neighbours, Grandmas, Uncles, Aunts, Sisters and brothers, etc. we would be happy to pick them up from you, it is a really good project but you do need an awful lot of vouchers for the equipment, Thank you.

We are looking for story tellers, cooks, new languages, dancing etc. If you have a spare half an hour and would like to help us in these areas we would be glad to hear from you. Staff would be there to assist and help. Just contact Donna at the setting

or call 01795 428061.

On Monday 7th February the setting had a visit from the fire brigade, the children were very excited, are you aware that if you phone this free number 0800 923 7000 they will visit your home, fit a free fire alarm or check yours and give you safety advise such as best exit route, cool ah. We are hoping to arrange a visit from the police and on the 4th March we are having a show from animal antics, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, different assortment of animals and insects will be brought to the setting (Except the tarantula, just not brave enough for that one.) We have also arranged for the Discovery Bus to come and visit, unfortunately January had to be cancelled due to a broken clutch. Tinks would like to thank the Woolpack for allowing us to use part of their car park to accommodate the bus as ours is too small.

Thank goodness Spring is here, it's been a long winter. If you require any details, information regarding the setting please feel free to come and visit, we have an open door policy, or phone 07592 544285.

by Sue Nolan

Swale Travel

Swale Travel is a private hire business and is run by Gary Woodhams who now lives in Iwade with wife Claire and little girl. Swale Travel was born when the credit crunch hit the Woodhams' financial services business.

Gary has done an advanced driving course since moving to Iwade, gained an operator's licence for Swale Borough Council and the car is licensed for private hire.

Swale Travel's prices are set at a very competitive rate and they offer great value for money coupled with fantastic service. To book Swale Travel or find out more you can contact Gary on 01795 438413.



Broadband

By the time you read this the final cabinet at the top of School Lane should be live so those in the Chetney View area should now be able to sign up to bt.com/infinity or another provider.

Please contact Nicola McKenzie on 439892 / broadband@iwadevillage.co.uk if you wish to sign up and are unable to. Many thanks



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Iwade Village Easter Fayre Saturday 23rd April

If you're wondering what to do



with your children this Easter, then why not come along to the Iwade Village Easter

Fayre held at the Village Hall on Saturday 23rd April from 10am - 1pm. The hall will be full to the brim with eggciting activities for all ages including an Easter egg hunt, Easter bonnet competition, games, a raffle and much more. There will also be lots of eggcellent Easter goodies and refreshments to buy. Look out for further information coming soon on iwadevillage.co.uk.

Farmers' Market

A big thank you to everyone who came out to the Iwade Farmers' Market on Sunday 6th February to show their continued support for our third year. After a two month break many more people came out to sample the fresh bread, cakes, eggs, honey and meat. Many also took advantage of the hot food on offer and sat and read the local papers! For March we will have a new fruit and vegetable stall situated in the car park and a new name - Iwade Village Market. We will open from 10am to 1pm but you need to come out early to get your sausages as they sell out quickly! Spaces are still available for food stalls; please contact Amanda for further details at thehurrells@fsmail.net or on 07866 413207. At the moment we have a waiting list for craft stalls and are unable to find space for more until the weather improves and the garden area can be used.

by Amanda Hurrell 07866 413207



Don't be shy, join the IWADE WI

Meetings at Iwade Village Hall,

3rd Wednesday of each month.

Interesting and varied programme of speakers, outings, crafts etc

All ages welcome.

Contact 01795 474686

Farewell Cllr Wilks

Thank you to Peter Wilks who was Parish Council Chair for many years and has now resigned from the Council. Thanks for all your efforts for Iwade Peter now it's time to relax!

PTA *by Claire Bird*

Well, it's the start of a busy few months for the PTA members. Following on from the popularity of the Barn Dance held a couple of years ago we are hosting another one on 11th June and plans are underway for the Summer Fete on 3rd July. We hope these events will be a big success and give us the opportunity to raise more funds for the School and at the same time let people in the village have a fantastic time!

Remember we are always keen to hear from new volunteers, please contact the school office and pass on your details.



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Pothole Blitz

Kent County Council is more than ready for this year's pothole blitz. January and February saw an army of specialist tarmac firms launching a month-long campaign to fix safety-critical potholes across the county. Planning started as soon as the snow had settled and it became clear that we would yet again be required to respond to this challenge.

The local, small and medium-sized engineering firms are working alongside Kent Highway Services gangs in a £1 million drive to fix safety-related potholes across the

county. This means the total number of crews tackling potholes in Kent has roughly doubled to more than 60. Meanwhile, Kent County Council continues to plan ahead by launching a major drive to recruit tarmac firms for a repair campaign in the summer - when weather conditions are more favourable. This will aim to mirror the success of Kent's six-month 'find and fix' campaign, which ended in October 2010 after 31,000 potholes were filled and more than 122,100 square metres of road were resurfaced. Gangs repaired every fault in the roads they worked on, not just safety-related potholes, carrying out

around six times the amount of work than would normally have been done. County Councillor for Iwade, Mike Whiting, said, "The snow and ice of the past couple of months has caused fresh potholes to appear, as well as re-opening previous repairs. The county council has said it is determined to repair the roads and I am pleased they have ensured the money is available to do so. I am also pleased that the council will be encouraging small and medium-sized firms from across Kent to bid for the repair work, ensuring that as much of the money spent is spent with local companies and supporting the Kent economy in these hard financial times."

Councillor Mike Whiting

Churchwarden's Notes by Sylvia O'Shea

As I sit writing this, I can see that God has worked his annual miracle and all the bulbs are showing their heads from the ground that was frozen with the snow and ice. Each year it never fails to amaze me how something so fragile survives such harsh conditions.

Even more amazing is the way plants force their way up through tarmac paths. Some folks are so resilient under pressure too, whereas others seem to crumble. Just asking for help from Our Lord really does help.

In my effort to help you, I wish to mention that during April, there will be a slight change to the pattern of services. On April 3rd we are having a special Family Service for Mothering Sunday at 10.30am, when a little posy of daffodils will be given to all ladies present. A further change occurs at the end of the month when Easter falls over the 4th weekend. On Friday 22nd GOOD FRIDAY, there will be a family service at 10.30am after the Walk of Witness from the Village Hall at 10.15am. Hot Cross Buns and Coffee/Tea will be served afterward. A Meditation Hour will be held at 3-4pm in Church too the same day. On Easter Sunday a Family Communion Service will replace the normal Family Service at 10.30am. PLEASE make a note of these changes and come and join us.

A little thought to share -

"When you're afraid of what's ahead,
Remember God is near.
He'll give you strength and joy and hope,
And calm your inner fear."

Kingsferry Place
Congratulations to Sophie Coleman aged 7 of Pintail Drive who won the competition to name the new development behind Woodpecker Drive with Kingsferry Place. Sophie won £50 of WH Smiths vouchers and her class will be invited to the opening of the new development.

Cabinet Position
County Councillor Mike Whiting who covers Iwade in his role as Councillor for Swale Central has been appointed Deputy Cabinet Member for Education, Learning and Skills at Kent County Council.

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1st Iwade Scouts *Thursday evenings - Iwade Village Hall 7:15 to 8:45pm*

It's been a long time since we told you what we've been doing at Scouts so this is a brief history of the last twelve months.

We took part in the District Camp which was held at Bexon Lane. The scouts had the chance to try activities like climbing, abseiling, power kiting, archery, shooting and power boating.

We held joint meetings with the Scouts from Tovill in Maidstone. Our GSL's son goes to that group and they invited us over for a joint meeting on the day of the General election as we could not use the Village Hall. Everyone had an excellent time and in return we invited them over to take part in a Scavenger Hunt a few weeks later.

The Sailing Club at Sheerness ran taster sessions for young people over the Summer months and we all went mob-handed to have a go at sailing their one-man "Toppers". I was especially impressed with how well the Scouts took to it and how far some of them had progressed by the end of the evening. Of course, some decided it was just a good opportunity to try and capsize each others boats and there were a few very wet scouts at the end of the evening!

In July three of our scouts joined Scouts from the 4th Milton Regis group and tried their hands at Microlighting. We drove to Old Hay airfield and each scout had

a flight in the microlight where they were given the opportunity to take the controls for a while. The leaders who accompanied the scouts also had the chance to take a flight and I think our grins were just as big if not bigger than the scouts when we landed. An amazing experience.

At the end of July we said goodbye to our Senior Patrol Leader, Jacob Saussus. Jacob had been with the 1st Iwade group since the Beaver colony started and it was quite sad to see him go. We wish him well in all his future endeavours.

September saw the start of the new term and the departure of a number of scouts (or rather the non-return). It's the same every year but always a disappointment to the leaders who work hard each week to plan and run the meetings.

In October, several scouts took part in events run by Sittingbourne District and were awarded their Pioneer and Climbers badges. At the end of October we took the scouts out for a night hike, cooked hot dogs and invested a new scout into the troop.

November saw a group of our Scouts and a few hardy leaders taking part in a winter camp called "Bex on Fire" with Scouts from across Sittingbourne and Sheppey Districts. For 2011 we are focusing on helping our scouts to meet the requirements for the Scout Challenge badges. Once they have gained eight of these badges, a scout is awarded the



Chief Scouts Gold Award – The highest award available to the Scout section. The County Team run special award sessions twice a year where the scouts can be presented with their certificates by a special guest. Last year, the presentations were made by the UK Chief Commissioner. The Sittingbourne District is running a full program of events over the coming year and many of our scouts have already signed up for them. A Winter camp for Patrol Leaders, their assistants and experienced scouts is being run in February and in March we are covering navigation skills with a Hike to the Kent Scouts Campsite at Sandling.

Thank you to Kevin Grimshaw for this article. Kevin has now 'retired' as Leader of 1st Iwade Scouts and I'm sure we all wish him well.

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On Your Bike!

Put Saturday 10th September in your diary for this year's Church Cycle. With around 10 cycling from Iwade last year let's make it 20 this year and raise more money for our beautiful ancient Church!

Iwade Herons

The Herons are planning to restart the U12 & U14 teams for training ready for next season's U13s & U15s. If you know of anyone in these age groups or other please encourage them to have their parents contact us to attend training for a bit of fun and/or a discussion on joining Iwade Herons FC. Contact Secretary Jo Simms (07597 947226 / ifcsecretary@hotmail.co.uk) or Club Chairman Gary Butcher (07881 818979 / ihfcchairman@gmail.com)

Community Survey *by Stephen Plumb*

The village of Iwade has undergone quite considerable change over the last ten years, and what better way to find out what the local residents think about this, than to ask them. A Community Survey, compiled by Local Missioner Stephen Plumb appeared in the July edition of the Observer and was also posted up on the Iwade Village website. If you would like a copy of the full survey results they are available from Stephen at captainplumb@btinternet.com. A big thanks to everyone who responded to the survey questions. Below are a reminder of the questions and a brief summary of the responses.

Responses

Q1. How long have you lived in Iwade?

Less than 5 years 23%, more than 5 years 39%, more than 10 years 15%, more than 20 years 4% and more than 30 years 19%.

Q2. Where did you move from?

Iwade born 8%, less than 5 miles 15%, less than 10 miles 15%, less than 20 miles 35% and more than 20 miles 27%.

Q3. What do you like/value most about living in Iwade?

Family & friends, village lifestyle, countryside, housing costs, access to M2.

Q4. Is there anything you dislike about living in Iwade?

There seemed to be common agreement between those who have lived in Iwade a long time and the 'newcomers' that the environment which makes Iwade a desirable village is under threat with the potential for more new builds/development.

The very unpleasant 'smell' that occasionally 'hangs over' the village was a concern too many. However, interestingly the second highest response to this question was 'none or nothing' and suggests that generally people are happy/content living in Iwade.

Q5. What do you think would make life better here?

More Amenities 19%, a Café 12%, a Fish Bar 15%, no more building 15%, better parking provision 12%, more community activities 8%, other 19%

Q6. How have you got to know people in Iwade?

Village life, neighbours, school, Parent & Toddlers, walking group, commuting.

Q7. Do you have a religious faith/experience?

This question was answered by all but one person. 31% said that they had no religious faith, while of the remaining 69%, 12% described themselves as 'spiritual' and the others as Christian (49% C of E, 8% Catholic)

Q8. What are the ages of your household members?

Households with Adults only 61%, Adults and children under 11 years of age 27%, Adults and Children over 11 years of age 12%.



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Parish Council

Wednesday 8th December 2010

Clerk received a response from KCC Planning re Countrystyle odours & the firm & KCC are happy to meet with the Parish Council.

Parishioners reported the triangle shaped verge at the bottom of Sanderling Way in a poor state because contractor's vehicles have used it as parking. Clerk to contact Highways.

Finance

The Financial Regulations were formally adopted.

Fixed Asset Schedule/Insurance – Clerk reported on items not owned by the Parish Council but placed on the Insurance by the previous Clerk which is due for renewal June 2011; Clerk will obtain quotes & ensure amendments are made to the items covered & the Fidelity Guarantee Insurance, which will be increased once the current claim has been resolved.

The Fixed Asset Schedule to be reviewed annually & the Clerk will delete refuse bins, oak posts & dog waste bins.

Audit – 2008/09 Accounts – Agreed the following response be sent to the Audit Commission:

‘The council confirmed that the following has been put in place:

- Revised Bank Mandate designating Signatories & instruction regarding signing of Direct Debits; & administration of bank accounts.

- Independent Accountants have been appointed to prepare wages & calculate Income Tax/National Insurance

- A Cheque List is prepared & submitted to monthly meetings, together with supporting documentation (e.g. invoices & cheques)

- At each meeting:

- the cheque list, invoices, cheques & other documentation are checked & each signed by two Councillors.

- Members receive a copy of the

the Income & Expenditure Account, showing the balance as at that date of the Current and Deposit Bank Accounts.

- The reconciled Bank Statements are presented – Chairman signs against the closing balance on the Statement, after checking this figure agrees with that shown on the Income & Expenditure Account

- Minutes are numbered on each page.

- A Fixed Asset Schedule has been prepared initially using Insurance valuations & this will be reviewed & updated annually

- The Schedule of Insurance was discussed & recommended amendments will be put forward to Insurers.

- Fidelity Insurance will be increased to £25,000 following the outcome of an outstanding claim; this will be regularly reviewed

- Now the full extent of the fraudulent V.A.T. claim has been revealed this will be repaid to H.M.Customs & Exise

- A new independent Internal Auditor has been appointed. Half-yearly internal audit for the current year carried out.

- Draft Budget to be presented to the Council in December of each year for approval.

- An annual Risk Assessment be carried out in January of each year

- The Financial Regulations have been adopted & will be revised annually.

- Model Standing Orders for Local Councils, 2010 have been adopted & will be revised annually.

- The Code of Conduct, May 2007, has been re-issued to all Members

- A formal risk assessment, covering financial & non-financial risks to be carried out annually

- To use as a check list the internal control objectives as set out under Section 4 of the Annual Return.’

Draft Budget 2010-2011 agreed & agreed precept remain the same with no increase to residents.

Agreed that a level be put on miscellaneous donations under

Section 137 of £50.

Sensory Garden, Bus Shelters, Notice Boards & Contingencies – Clerk advised the school would like a sensory garden. Cllr. Hurrell & Mrs. Exley volunteered to meet with the Headteacher to discuss the project; once details finalised the agreed grant of £2000 for the work will be released.

It was agreed to replace the existing bus shelter located adjacent to the village park, with a new ‘rustic style’ building & the Council approach local firms to see if they can come up with a suitable design.

Members agreed to replace the up-stands for the notice board outside the Post Office & plan a programme of installing new/replacing old notice boards as & when necessary.

As per the Audit Commission, it is normal practice to have a contingency sum set aside in the Reserve Account; this sum is normally a half year's expenditure – £15,000 in the case of the Parish Council, added to which needs to be £12,000 earmarked for bus shelters – Members agreed a sum of £27,000.

Grounds Maintenance 2011 – School Lane Playing Field – A quote has been received from Landscape Services for mowing the field for 2011. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Landscape Services to see if they will renew the contract on a month to month basis, until the field passes over to the developers.

Parish Council supported Village Hall Committee with proposal for a new hall.

SW/10 1261 -1 Swaysdown Game Farm – refused.

KCC/SW/0379/2010 - Countrystyle Recycling – Objection re vehicle movements, extension of hours & increase in tonnages of compostable waste & processed waste.

Full minutes at iwadevillage.co.uk