

## News from The Brewhouse - Hello from Mandy and the Brewhouse team!

The ladies from our Knit & Natter Group – The Brewhouse Woolly Nattersers have been busy knitting & crocheting squares to make blankets for a charity for the homeless– Blankets for the Homeless. This charity organises people to knit or crochet 6in squares. They send them to 'Blanket Central' where they get passed to people to sew them up to a blanket and distributed to the Homeless.



The ladies are also busy making squares for Medway Maritime Hospital to make blankets for their older patients to use & take home, so that they can find their way back to their beds & the hospital hope it may reduce patient falls as the colours will allow patients to see the edge of the beds more easily.

If you would like to join in & help to create the squares and blankets for these amazing causes, the group meet every Monday morning at the BrewHouse at 10am – 12pm

They are always ready to give you a warm welcome.

Don't forget that Mother's Day is coming – Sunday 31st March

We are taking bookings for Mother's Day Afternoon Teas - £15.00 per person – all Mums receive a small present – to Book a table, call 01795 426520 or pop into the shop

At the Brewhouse we offer not only amazing coffee and artisan teas, but you can also find breakfast, light lunches and delicious ice creams and sundaes and don't forget our choice of cakes and cream teas.

If you want something special, why not book an Afternoon Tea, Baby Shower, Special Birthday Parties or even a 'Pawty' for your dog. Please call Mandy on 01795 426520 to discuss your requirements

Don't forget we hold various events and groups every week:

Every Monday morning between 10am – 12pm we run The Brewhouse Woolly Natters, a knitting and crochet group where you can bring along your current project and get inspiration or learn something new and meet new people and have a chat over a slice of cake and cup of coffee

Wednesday mornings (during School Term Only) between

10.30am – 11am, come and join our Baby Musical Rhyme Time, it is a musical mayhem for all Pre-school age group. Come and sing along to well-known nursery rhymes and songs & have some fun with our musical instruments and puppets. This is very popular, so we do recommend coming from 10am. Then why not stay and catch up over lunch with all the other Mums, Dads, and Grandparents or family members

If you run a group that is looking for a venue, give us a call on

01795 426520, or pop in & arrange a suitable date

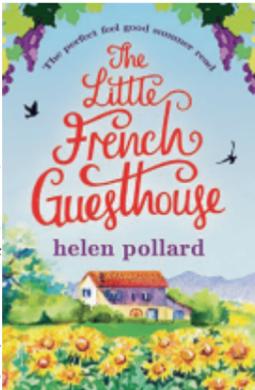
You can be kept up to date on all our antics, Special Offers and Events on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/mewsbrewhouse](http://www.facebook.com/mewsbrewhouse) We look forward to seeing you all very soon



### Iwade Reading and Book Club

Jackie Kemp

The group met, as usual on the second Tuesday of each month, at The Barn. We were much depleted for a number of reasons, and much missed those who couldn't make it. The book that was chosen for this month was The Snow Rose. The discussion focused greatly on the strangeness of the book, most of the events being viewed as unbelievable. The consensus is that the book was 'weird', and described by one member of the group as being "like a bad TV drama". The story featured a mother whose child was not with her but she upheld an imaginary pretence that the child was with her.



The book provoked a great deal of discussion. A couple of members had more favourable views than the (majority) others. Researching the book reviews on Amazon

indicates that the book could be seen as a "Marmite book" - you either liked or you didn't.

The book group next meet again on March 12th at The Barn at about 10.30. The choice for next month is The Little French Guest House written by Helen Pollard. Do feel free to join us either at The Barn, and enjoy tea/coffee and biscuits, or via FB: search -Iwade Reading and Book Club.

### Iwade Youth Club

Abi Pearson

Iwade Youth Club need YOU! After such a fantastic re-launch night, making Valentine's Day cards, along with sports and games, it is clear that Iwade Youth Club is very popular with 8-13 years olds in the village. To enable Iwade Youth Club to continue running smoothly, we are in desperate need of volunteers who could commit to at least 1 Friday evening a month. We run 6.30-8pm on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Friday of the month during school term time.

If you can help please contact [abi@brogdalecic.co.uk](mailto:abi@brogdalecic.co.uk)



# The Iwade Observer

March 2019

## Well we did it! Oh yes! we did!



Yes, Iwade had its first Pantomime for quite a few years and its entire cast were Iwadians.

The newly formed Iwade Community Entertainers (ICE), a product of a group of friends within the village with the plan of creating something for the village by the village, with any profit, going back into the village for a good cause. We set about writing a script version of the classic tale of Robin Hood with its adventures taking place in and around Iwade itself with the Mews Brewhouse, Woolpack and All Saints' Church all involved in the action.

Our characters were also based around Iwade with the main characters being Robin of Bobbing, Maid Marion of Milton and the Sherriff of Sittingbourne with the support of Snow White, The Seven Dwarfs and Darth Vader. As you may see a very different version of the classic tale!

The finance for the production was raised with a table sale, a £200 donation from the Parish Council and many personal donations from the cast and ICE committee themselves, but of course many thanks should be given to The Village Hall Committee, The Barn and All Saints' Church for allowing us to rehearse free of charge.

This was a mammoth undertaking and I don't think any of us really understood how much hard work we needed to put in to create the finished product. Within the group we made most of the costumes, all the stage set and props, and even a sound and lighting system. We did experience quite a few setbacks on the road to the final performances with some of the original offers of support being



withdrawn, losing two directors and lighting and sound, giving us the problem of finding equipment we could afford and right up to the week before the performances, due to a family bereavement, losing main characters.

It became apparent also that the venue of the Iwade Village Hall would not work for us either for a number of reasons but at the last moment Jenny at the Criterion Theatre in Blue Town, Sheerness offered us the use of their venue and so just a week later than planned with the great help of Rick at Blue Town we performed to audiences of nearly 250 people over four performances. Of course, none of this could have happened without the countless hours of support from the "grown-up" cast, backstage crew, costume and prop-makers and of course the wonderful parents who lent us their children for rehearsal after rehearsal and of course the final performances. But we cannot forget and thank all those audiences who helped make it such a success, with reviews telling us it was really worth seeing. So a really big thankyou to all those who stuck with us through thick and thin and maybe just maybe we will try again next year. Of course, we are now "professionals", but we still will need help and over the next few months we hope to involve new children and hopefully their parents/family and friends to turn our dream conceived in an Iwade winter into a regular for the future.



## Couch 2 5K 42K!!

Emma Russell

It has always been a dream to run in the London Marathon for a charity that has personal meaning to me and my family. I say dream because I couldn't run...!



That changed on 16th May 2018. Moving to Iwade, Kent, I joined a Couch 2 5k group to make new friends. Now, with many new friends made, we are an established running group called Run Iwade and I'm so proud to be a part of it. Running at least 5k, up to 4 days a week, I love it!

Through my work at London Luton Airport, we are

currently supporting Macmillan Cancer Support, and they very kindly invited me to run the London Marathon on their behalf. I'm honoured and privileged to have this opportunity.

With the support of new friends and old, and my fabulous family, I am striving to raise at least £3,000, as well as train for this awesomely iconic event. I'm not getting any younger so this may be my only chance!

Please help me achieve my dream by donating to this worthy charity, who cared for my Mum in her final days, and who may well have cared for someone close to you, giving me the determination, willpower and encouragement to train through wind, rain and snow!

Thank you, Love to all x  
Dream - Believe - Achieve

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/emma-russell73>

## Taking care of brass ornaments

Iwade NHS walking group  
James Apps

Aha, missed the last issue! However, some of us turned up for walking during the Christmas and New Year break; at times it was certain that some legendary brass ornaments were at risk of embarrassing injury, but we are made of sterner stuff and walked anyway. The public footpaths were muddy after frost and at times the wind was too cold for adventurous excursions so we confined ourselves to the village and its immediate surrounds. Although in places the village showed signs of winter's ravages the place was and is full of colour and interest. We took to taking strolls around parts we do not normally walk and found quirky little odd spots, alleyways we do not normally use and in general had a good nose around the place.



We took to the roads and pathways when the weather more or less warmed up - the heady highs of three to five degrees Celsius - ventured out into the wilds. We use the pathways of Woodpecker park (or reserve) and come the first walk of February when passing the pond on a frosty morning the Coots and Moorhens were doing a 'Strictly come skating' session on the ice. It was a day of worry for those brass ornaments.

We would like to wish you all a belated happy new year. Roll on the Spring and bulbs and blossom bursting from the trees, and those breath-taking views over the estuary.

*Photo shows a bright February day by The Swale*

## Brownies glow!

Kerry Holman

What a busy half term Iwade Brownies have had - where did it go? We welcomed new Brownies at the beginning of the term back in January. Since then, we have attended a screening of Mary Poppins with many other members of the Girlguiding movement. We started the new Brownie programme and did an activity where we had to create pieces of art which portrayed a message to make a change in the world ... everything from sculptures to banners. That took far longer than we thought! We ended the term with dancing, music and games at our very own glow stick party!



## GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN/VILLAGE CLEAN UP

The Parish Council is looking to hold a Village Clean Up on Sunday 14 April 2019, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

As there was insufficient interest last year, please let the Clerk to the Council know if you are interested in getting involved by emailing - [iwadepc@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:iwadepc@blueyonder.co.uk)

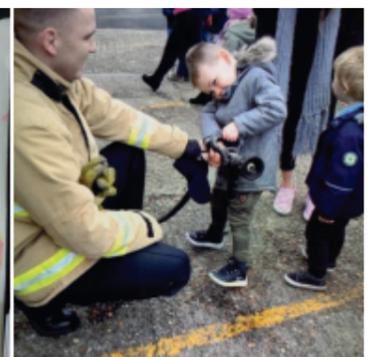
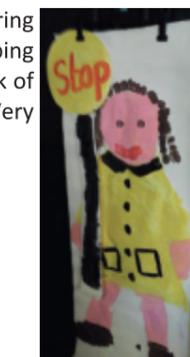
## Tinkerbells Early Years

Donna Barker

Term 3 was an exciting term at Tinkerbells. The children celebrated Chinese New Year, this year being the year of the Pig, the children were involved in various activities and we had a Chinese themed snack time where the children tried various Chinese dishes. They also took part in lots of activities relating to 'People who help us', the children created 'mini me' versions of people which were displayed for all to see and we talked about all the people in our community who help keep us safe. We were fortunate to have a visit from the Fire Brigade, the children learnt about the role of a fire-fighter and were able to get hands-on with some of the equipment and clothing that is used. They were shown around the fire engine allowing them to ask questions and investigate the equipment close up and they had the opportunity to get inside.



Term 4 we will be exploring 'mini beasts' and in keeping with this theme the book of the term will be 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.



We are currently full at both of our settings and sessions are filling quickly for September 2019. If you are interested in a place for your child please call in for a parent information pack, alternatively you can contact us via email: [enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk)

## Monday Friendship Group

Janet Phillips-Gregory



At our January 21st meeting we enjoyed a very informative talk from Kent/Surrey/Sussex Air Ambulance's Rob Sterry. His presentation was very enlightening, and who would have guessed that the Air Ambulance helicopter is equipped to such an extent that is in fact a self contained mobile A & E Department? Or that it is a charity, not part of the NHS, and totally reliant on public donations? Needless to say we gave a donation to this worthwhile lifeline.

February saw us having fun with a "beetle drive", and Graeme Horner telling us about his plans to involve Iwadians in a Local History Group - more news on this next time.

We meet on alternate Mondays at The Barn, and March meetings are on 4th and 18th at 10 30 am; we look forward to meeting Iwade residents old and new for a friendly chat and cuppa for £1.

If any local groups or businesses would like to book a free 20 minute promotion slot, please pop in to find out more.

### Message from Kent County Council:

“During last summer’s Big Conversation with residents, many people told us that they didn’t know who to give feedback to about bus services.

To make this clearer, we have launched a Bus Feedback Portal. It includes information about how to make a formal complaint or compliment about bus services and who to contact in the event that bus users experience problems.

It also includes a feedback form for residents to let us know about their experiences of using buses and the quality of service provided.

We will use the feedback to get a greater understanding of what types of problems bus users experience and to spot trends about the areas or on which services they arise. We will use this information to inform the conversations that we have with bus operators through our Quality Bus Partnerships or more generally and help improve things for bus users.

KCC is encouraging people to use the form to let us know about their experience of using buses and the quality of service provided. You can access the Bus Feedback Portal at: - [www.kent.gov.uk/busfeedback](http://www.kent.gov.uk/busfeedback)

If you have any comments about the portal please email [public.transport@kent.gov.uk](mailto:public.transport@kent.gov.uk)”



### ***MEN'S TUESDAY BREAKFAST CLUB***

Ron Francis

February’s club was very well supported. One of our members, Bob Phillips, fascinated us all with a tool quiz. With an array of tools, we had to discover their real purpose. As you can imagine this generated lots of discussion and amusement. Surprisingly some groups got very close to their true purpose.

We welcomed two new members and still have room for more. So if you’re thinking of joining our group please get ready to embark on 5th March for our next meeting when we are having a “nautical quiz”

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month, at 09:30 at the Barn, for bacon butties and tea/coffee – why not come along; you’ll be assured of a warm welcome.

### *Dear friends*

As I write I am still picking out dirt from under my fingernails after a glorious Messy Church at Hartlip School. We were exploring ideas about the Good Shepherd together, and were blessed with a visit from Bishop Trevor, probably his last to The Six before his retirement. We enjoyed all sorts of craft activities, and worshipped together, as we thanked God for his care for us. But my favourite – and messiest – activity was making sheep poo wildflower bombs! No real sheep poo involved, but a mix of compost, flour, wildflower seeds and water, mixed together (hence the dirty fingernails) and formed into lumps which, when dry, can be crumbled or thrown to distribute the seeds. I loved this because I enjoy getting my hands dirty, but more particularly because it is something which will, I hope, enhance our green spaces as the year goes on.

We can’t escape the fact that habitat destruction, pollution and pesticides have all contributed to a steady and often serious decline in bees and butterflies, as well as other forms of insect life. Our roadsides are not filled with flowers as they once were, and we all know how much pressure there is to build on agricultural land. So, do we just sit back, wring our hands and cry doom? Or is there something we can do?

Each of our parish churches has an ancient burial ground, where we walk among the graves of parishioners from generations back. There are more recent graves too, and these churchyards are a magnet because of their peacefulness and heritage value. While we may love to see them looking neat and tidy, there are ways we could manage these precious spaces for the benefit of the community and for wildlife. The burial stones and walls themselves are home to a range of mosses and lichens – just take a moment to look sometime. Stop for a moment and listen to the birdsong; especially as spring is in the air and the breeding season gets into full swing! The garden at the Hartlip Retreat Centre is another beautiful spot to survey the glory of God’s creation.

There is a lot happening in these places already; how can we improve on that, so they become places of frantic insect and bird activity where we can revel in God’s bountiful variety and generosity? How can we make them places where the community will be able to walk among the wildflowers and connect with the wildlife that previous generations took for granted?

God’s Acre ([www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)) is a charity which works alongside those caring for churchyards, encouraging sensitive management to maintain their beauty and to make them a refuge for wildflowers and our native wildlife. Around the country there are more than 20,000 burial grounds, ranging from medieval churchyards like ours to large Victorian city cemeteries. Caring for God’s Acre offers advice and encouragement, and in June there is even a week designated as Love Your Burial Grounds Week, when communities are encouraged to celebrate churchyards and other church grounds. And Kent has its own God’s Acre Project, working in conjunction with the national scheme, for the dioceses of Rochester and Canterbury, working together with partnership organisations who provide specialist advice.

I wonder if we could take a fresh look at our churchyards in the coming months; take time to appreciate their peace and beauty, and to ponder how we might enhance that sense of timelessness and the glory of God’s creation? Could we in some small way be agents of God’s renewal in creation?

Wishing you blessings and joy in God’s creation

*Rev Amanda Lane*

### **An introduction from the new Executive Principal of Timu Academy Trust**

My name is Mrs Browning and I am delighted to have been appointed as the new Executive Principal of Timu Academy Trust. I am very aware of the huge shoes I have to fill continuing on from Mrs Ware. She has without doubt achieved amazing things for both Iwade Primary and Bobbing Village School, and as a result her legacy in Education will live on. Although I do expect she will continue to give her time to the education system in some way, in between well-earned holidays and spending time with her grandchildren despite officially retiring, as education is in her blood!

I was previously the Headteacher of South Avenue Primary School in Sittingbourne where I amalgamated the Infant and Junior schools into a Primary and moved the school from a Special Measures Ofsted judgement to Good. I am passionate about developing children holistically, allowing all children to do their best and to shine as individuals. Previously I worked in a small village school near Sandwich with 70 children and a consistently Outstanding 3 form entry Church school in Herne so I have a range of experiences to draw on in my new role.

I would also like to introduce the two new in post Heads of School, Mrs. Smith at Iwade Primary and Mrs Stewart at Bobbing Village School. Both have been at their respective schools for many years and have great knowledge of the school and the community they serve.

I am keen to work alongside the local community and look forward to getting to know residents and local businesses over time. We are currently in the position of requiring new Governors to join both our Trust board (which oversees the strategic direction of the Trust as a whole) and the schools committee (which looks at the work of the 2 individual schools). We are looking for people with business skills such as health and safety, finance, premises (such as builders or architects) or holistic approaches such as wellbeing or fitness. This involves up to 6 two hour meetings a year and reading papers ahead of the meeting. You don’t need to be a parent, nor have any wider experience of Education. Please call into either school, or give Jenny Lyrakos a call to find out more.

**Ed's plea!!  
Desperately needed !!**  
**We are seeking a volunteer to take on the role of Distribution Manager for The Observer. This entails sorting and distributing the Observer print run to our team of 'deliverers' around Iwade at the end of each month. If you would like to help or would like to know more please email:- [the.iwade.observer@gmail.com](mailto:the.iwade.observer@gmail.com)**

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### **Report from Mike Whiting Kent County Councillor for Iwade**

It’s a busy time at KCC at the moment. The County Council has had to make £600m in savings over the past few years, while government grants have been cut and a limit put on how much money can be raised through council tax. This has squeezed services, but I am pleased that spending on social care for adults and children has been increased, and that we have found more money for potholes and road repairs. KCC has also found money for more highways inspectors to check the quality of repairs, and more drainage engineers to help ensure our roads remain safe.

I have asked that our footways be cleared to make them safer and KCC has started a £200,000 program of work. Pavements have been cleared in Bobbing and Keycol; if you have a path that needs clearing then please contact me.

Brexit is playing its part too. KCC has been working with government and other agencies to plan for a “No Deal” exit from the EU on 29 March. The main focus has been on ensuring that any delay imposed by the French at Calais, does not result in Operation Stack clogging up our roads for months on end. Instead, Operation Brock has been devised, as an alternative to Stack, which keeps the M20 open. KCC was successful in getting £29m from government to help ensure all our A roads are repaired to the best standard they can be before we leave the EU on 29 March, and this money is being spent, for example, on resurfacing Detling Hill.

I continue to press Highways England, who own the A249 between the M2 and Sheerness, to repair the dangerous potholes that have been there for ages. They have now said they will start work this month.

Parking continues to be an issue in many areas of the village. Swale Borough Council has, over the years, given planning permission for the various developments in the village with insufficient parking spaces and roads that are too narrow. We could put yellow lines down everywhere, but many residents who rely on parking in the street would object and it is doubtful we would get permission. Parked cars that are causing an obstruction need to be reported to the police on 101. They have legal powers to remove or fine vehicles that are causing an obstruction, KCC and Swale don’t.

Parking of buses has also been an issue, and I am working with the police and others to ensure safety on the roads is not compromised.

I regularly update my Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/CLlrMikeWhiting/>, and share news on the various village Facebook pages, however, I rarely monitor these pages, so if you need my help then please email me at [mike.whiting@kent.gov.uk](mailto:mike.whiting@kent.gov.uk).

## IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 9 January 2019

### 1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Langham, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 12 December 2018 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Langham, the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 12 December 2018 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

### 2. Councillor Vacancies and Committee Membership

Four candidates interviewed on the 7 January, all were of a very high calibre and after much deliberation, two were selected. The Chair welcomed Barrie Whiting and Stuart Lancashire to the meeting; they took up their posts as Parish Councillors and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Agreed to leave the membership of Committees as they are.

### 3. Visitors/Public Time

**1. Visitors** – Residents attended to raise concern at the outline planning application for land to the South of Dunlin Walk. Issues raised were insufficient parking and the impact of existing parking. Vehicular access to site. Safety of public right of way/existing footpath and safety of children using route to access school/bus stop. Traffic implications in conjunction with the proposed development to the rear of Sanderling Way; safety and the need to redesign the junction of Sanderling Way with The Street/Ferry Road; overlooking and privacy (both residential and the School); flooding and emergency vehicle access; lack of infrastructure. Residents were advised when they purchased their properties, that the site was for the expansion of the School. The land has been used for recreational purposes for at least 15 years.

**2. County and Borough Councillors** – County Cllr. Whiting sent a written report - Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott agreed to visit Swale West and will be at Lower Halstow on 15 February for an informal coffee morning drop in to discuss Rural Crime. Cllr. Whiting has asked KCC officers to set up a programme of footway clearance. Many footways, particularly those adjacent to earth banks, suffer when soil and weeds start to encroach, narrowing the path and making it hazardous for those with pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooters. He is

aware of various emails between the Clerk and Kent Highways regarding Sheppey Way (new gateway) and Section 278 works.

**3. Community Warden/PCSO** – Checked fly tipping. Found Graffiti on new bus shelter. Fifty black sacks dumped Sheppey Way near Dancing Dog public house, evidence found and the Borough Council to prosecute. Cormorant Road parking problems. Was unaware of issue in the fields to the rear of Woodpecker Park, suggested residents be made aware of the need to phone 101, report on-line or in an emergency call 999 if similar incidents occur. He added that by reporting incidents to the Police it would enable them to establish if there is a pattern to these events. Clerk to place this comment in the next edition of the Iwade Observer.

### 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

**1. Dark Nights = Double the Dog Poo** – Assistance from Dog Warden – Clerk reported that the Dog Warden had suggested targeting Iwade with an anti-dog fouling campaign after the Christmas break, including getting coverage in local media etc. She had taken up this offer.

**2. Christmas Lights Competition** – Three individuals took separate trips around the village to look at all the lights; they each came back with a list and only the winner appeared on all three lists.

### 5. Planning

**1. 18/506328/OUT:** Outline Application for the erection of 20 residential dwellings (access being sought all other matters for future consideration): Land To The South Of Dunlin Walk Iwade Kent ME9 8TG – Agreed to object on the following grounds:

In the adopted local plan, Bearing Fruits 2031, the parcel of land to the south of Dunlin Walk was not included in the council's development plans highlighted in A17. It must therefore, have been deemed unsuitable for any such development and not in accordance with policy ST4 as indicated on the planning statement and as defined in the adopted local plan. The Local Plan has already identified in Table 4.3.5 that Swale has a surplus of 932-982 dwellings against the requirements placed upon the Council. This would suggest that these dwellings are not even required and as Iwade has already more than contributed to Swale's housing targets (from an original 350 homes to at the

present time well over 1654) residents feel that other parts of Swale (that are yet to see significant development) should be targeted first.

Policy DM7 - vehicle parking is not adequately covered. Land Registry documents pertaining to this estate show no designated visitor parking space currently for the western end of Dunlin Walk (houses 1-6). We understand residents currently use the end of the cul-de-sac between houses 4 and 5 (the proposed access to this development) for the purposes of visitor parking; we assume they have done so since the completion of Dunlin Walk. The loss of this parking is not be offset by any new provision of visitor parking for the current Dunlin Walk residents.

Policy DM14 - Conserve and enhance the natural and/or built environments taking in to account the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets – is not met by the proposed development. The site is used regularly by residents of all ages for recreational purposes; it is a safe area for children to play.

Policy DM14 - Be both well sited and of a scale, design, appearance and detail that is sympathetic and appropriate to the location. Does not appear to meet this Policy: the proposal is to construct 20 houses up to 2.5 storeys high directly abutting a primary school, with the development accessed via roads with limited capacity across a pedestrianised walk.

Policy DM14 - Achieve safe vehicular access, convenient routes and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, enhanced public transport facilities and services, together with parking and servicing facilities in accordance with the County Council's standards. This proposal would fail to provide safe vehicular access. Apart from the issues of the junction of The Street and Sanderling Way, access to the site is unacceptably unsafe. Vehicles exiting the proposed development from the western end run the very real risk of collision with vehicles entering and exiting the parking spaces of residents at houses 1-4. Pedestrians are at greater risk of collision going east to west along Dunlin Walk with vehicles entering the proposed development, particularly as the electricity

substation next to No. 5 Dunlin Walk results in a restricted view. Dunlin Walk is the main pedestrian thoroughfare for residents in the northern and north-western part of the village to the village centre. It is currently a safe route for children walking to school or nursery with their parents from the Sanderling Way estate. It is also a safe route for youngsters walking to bus stops to get onward travel to their secondary schools in Sittingbourne. If this proposed development is approved it will mean the unhindered path to the village centre will be broken up by an access road to the new houses. Children and young families will face a less safe route to their destinations with the crossing of a road.

Policy DM28: Biodiversity and geological conservation – It is well known that Great Crested Newts are present on this parcel of land, this is backed up by Ward's Estate Management's comments to residents that grass cutting can only be carried out at certain times of the year.

Kent Police raised issues with the development layout, the perimeter, boundary and divisional treatments including neighbouring boundaries and that of Iwade School, adding that the proximity of the school requires a CSE policy or additional boundary treatments. Parking, including visitor spaces and lighting policy were also of concern.

Provision of parking - inadequate, particularly only four spaces for visitor parking. Tandem parking is not efficient and often not be used. The existing parking facilities within Sanderling Way are not adequate for the current residents and their visitors and the proposed allocated parking will have a further detrimental effect on this.

Concern that increased parking in this area will impede emergency vehicle access.

Access to the site will be via Sanderling Way, already overpopulated with parked vehicles and pinch points. The proposed junction is on a corner and will struggle to cope with the additional demand of a possible two to four cars per new household. Coupled with the proposed access for a potential new development (18/505157/OUT) on a blind corner, it will create a traffic nightmare in an area that already has issues. The junction of Sanderling Way/The Street is also a blind corner for those turning right from Sanderling Way onto The Street; many

vehicles do not stay on the correct side of the road at this junction and this has resulted in several near misses. Indeed, the Parish Council has used this objection in relation to 18/505157/OUT, requesting that the junction is redesigned to improve safety. Recent accidents on the A249 have again seen Iwade used as the main through road from Sheppey to Sittingbourne and vice versa. The Village is no longer capable of receiving such traffic demands, due to increasing numbers of parked cars, inconsiderate driving and the pinch points at several points along Ferry Way and The Street and the impact this has on the junction of Sanderling Way/The Street.

Public footpath ZR91 passes over the proposed vehicular access to the site. KCC have commented that this is an adopted highway is used as a cycle route. They have also advised that no furniture may be erected on or across Public Rights of Way without the express consent of the Highway Authority. Furthermore, there must be no disturbance of the surface of the right of way, or obstruction of its use, either during or following any approved development.

Privacy - The development as proposed will (western end) overlook a number of houses on Mallard Close/Sanderling Way.

The School sits at the southern edge of the proposed development's boundary and its playing field and playgrounds will be directly overlooked by the new houses. Parents expressed views that this creates a significant child safety and child protection concern; they do not feel their children, whilst on their lunch break or in P.E. attire, should be overlooked by houses so close to the playing field.

This could be classified as an 'infill' development and over intensive development of a small site.

A transport assessment is necessary before any comments can be made regarding traffic figures.

When purchasing their properties in Dunlin Walk, many residents were assured that the area of land would not be built on; as the village grew and the School needed to expand and the land was to be handed over for expansion of the school's playing field so that this amenity was not reduced. The School could reach its maximum size of 630 pupils in 2 years' time. With further housing proposed in the current Local Plan, another expansion of the school is very

realistic.

Drainage – Iwade suffers from flooding – this is well known and many properties around the site suffer issues. Drainage in this area is not good and any development on this site could result in run-off on to the playing field, compounding the problem the School already has with flooding.

Infrastructure - the planning proposal mentions good facilities, including the Medical Centre. Iwade Medical Centre has issues and difficulty with staffing. Swale Clinical Commissioning Group wrote in August 2018 (in connection with the Wisers Lane development) expressing concern that there will be a lack of funding to provide medical facilities. The Surgeries in Iwade, Grovehurst and The Meads are already at capacity and patients face unprecedented waiting times for appointments. Swale NHS Clinical Commissioning Group, acknowledge that further planned population increase will not be sustainable in the provision of their already overstretched services.

Infrastructure in the Village needs improvement to cope with future housing; this should be done prior to any further development and not retrospectively (or not) as so often has happened in the past.

### 6. Projects/Project Updates

Suggestions for Projects 2019/20 – Agreed to look at the following:

- Extending the festive lights from the Christmas tree to Grovehurst Road gateway.
- Bollards in The Street, to look at this due to parking in between the existing ones, making it impossible for traffic to pass on both sides of the road.
- Organise a Village running event.
- Village Clean Up Day

### 7. Any Other Matters Arising

Clerk advised of an emergency in the Pub when an ambulance attended. The Call Centre was not aware of any defibrillators in the village (there are four - Medical Centre, School, Pavilion and the Barn) and commented none were registered with Secombs. Cllr. Trower advised that the Barn has definitely registered its defibrillator and he will check to see why this statement was made. The village has two First Responders and one has now given a Defibrillator to the Pub. There is good coverage in Iwade.

**Next meeting March 13th 2019**