



Iwade Observer

We'd like to give a warm Iwade welcome to our new PCSO, Aaron Harris. If you need him he can be contacted on 07772 226115 or at

aaron.harris@kent.pnn.police.uk

May 2012

More houses for Iwade?

by Stephen Plumb, Parish Council Chairman

Swale Borough Council (SBC) has been working on producing a 20 year plan, known as the Core Strategy (Local Development Framework), for the borough which is looking at where new housing, industry and roads will be built. At the early stages of the consultation SBC were offering 4 options, 3 of which earmarked Iwade for further housing development. This was featured in an article entitled "More Houses?" in the March 2011 edition of the Iwade Observer.

Iwade Parish Council, along with other neighbouring Parish Councils and the purposely

formed Swale RAHM (featured in the October 2011 Iwade Observer), used the public consultation process to voice objection to the proposals.

SBC have now announced the Core Strategy and the result for Iwade is that there will be no more new housing development above that which has already been granted permission, i.e. Hillreed's' Coleshall Development, Ward's Kingsferry Place and possibly two small brownfield sites in the village. It is good to know that the voice of local residents, the Parish Councils and RAHM were listened to by SBC, and thank you to all of you who raised your concerns.

IwadeVillage.co.uk

It's been a while since IwadeVillage.co.uk contributed to the Observer but here we are in the May 2012 edition and it feels good!

IwadeVillage.co.uk may not be as old as the Iwade Village Newsletter but we're in our seventh year and still going strong. It's a great place to find out what's going on in Iwade from the Parish Council minutes to the latest Iwade Herons results and Iwade news as it comes on. To ensure that you never miss out, make us your homepage, there's even a 'make us your home page' link on the banner for Internet Explorer users!

Briefing note - Iwade Health Centre, Sittingbourne

Minster Medical Group (MMG) has given NHS Kent and Medway notice to terminate their contract at Iwade Health centre from the end of April 2012.

NHS Kent and Medway is working to secure a new provider to take over the contract within this period however, if this is not possible a temporary solution will be put in place to ensure continuity in service for patients.

Throughout these changes the services that patients currently receive will not change and all staff currently working in the practice will be transferred to the new provider. However, patients will be contacted by letter informing them of these potential changes a copy of which is enclosed for your information. Patients have also been sent a short questionnaire with the letter which asks about their experiences and improvements they would like to see at the health centre.



Tinkerbells Early Years by Donna Barker

What a busy month it has been at the setting. The children have been very busy at the allotments, planting strawberries, potatoes and planting flowers in our donated work boots and wellies !! We will keep you updated with the progress of the allotment.

The children also have been going on trips on the bus, I would like to thank the villagers who get on the bus with us in the morning, you have all been very understanding when we get on with the children. We will be continuing with our weekly bus trips as it has been a great success and the children gain so much more new knowledge on each journey.



The children also took part in the tinkerbells easter egg hunt, made lots of eggcellent creations for the easter competition. We ended up purchasing more prizes as it was so difficult to choose winners!!



We have lots of activities to look forward to over the next couple of months, we have a Jubilee party and our very own Olympics in June. Tinkerbells are collecting the Sainsburys and Tesco vouchers and time is nearly up for collecting so if you have any laying around we would be very grateful for them.

Iwade Herons Under 9's Match Reports

31st March 2012

Barming Youth FC v Iwade Herons FC

0 - 2 | 0 - 2

Last Game of the Season, and a good one at that.

The need to win both games and the hope that some results went the Herons way elsewhere was the talk of Saturday. The first game started fantastically. With about 2 minutes played, it was George Baker-Moran on the left hand side of the midfield, he played probably one of the best passes of the season. Through the eye of a needle that some adults couldn't do he played in Alfie Roe who had found space in the box to turn and slot the ball past the stranded goalkeeper. 1 nil to the Herons. The game then became a little scrappy with some tough play in the midfield and it remained 1 nil until midway through the second half. It was becoming a little nail biting with some fantastic defending from Jack Hines who seemed to be everywhere and was throwing himself in front of every shot that came in from Barming, but it was George who stepped up to hit one of his trade mark power drives straight past the Barming keeper to make it 2 nil to the Herons and helped ease the pressure in this first game, 2 nil is how it finished.

Half the job done, and the usual change of personnel in the 2nd game the Herons again showed a little supremacy. Putting more and more pressure on the Barming defence the Herons forced a corner. Benjamin Beard put in another good cross for Alfie Coe to calmly finish at the far post, 1 nil to the Herons. Barming did seem to get stronger but with George on for Benjamin due to injury he picked the ball up in his own half to make a couple of one two's and using his power & strength to get into the Barming penalty area he slid the ball past the oncoming keeper to make it 2 nil to the Herons. The Herons did create a lot more chances in the 2nd half but again as we always do, the Herons seem to panic in front of goal and were just not able to convert the chances that fell. The game ended 2 nil to the Herons and all 6 points in the bag. Unfortunately, with the results going against the Herons elsewhere we finished our first competitive season 3rd. That still makes Darren and myself very proud because our points tally for the season was better than 3 other league winners within the under 9's section so the boys must have been doing something right. Well done boys.

I would just like to finish off by saying thanks for all your hard work this year boys. The comments we have received from our opponents managers is so pleasing, you have made it a pleasure for me to be your manager. All in all, a great season.

by Simon Beard

Editor's Note

by Tara Kent

I'm getting rather excited as I put together this edition of our Observer as I have been sent lots of info on events happening in the summer, there literally is something for everyone! I'm especially looking forward to Iwade Rock 2012, I hear there maybe some familiar faces on the bill! I don't know anywhere else that advocates community spirit more than we do here in Iwade. You only have to take a look at the "Iwade does Facebook" page to see how passionate we are about keeping our village nice (and free of dog poo!). If you're passionate about the Iwade Observer then please get in touch with articles, photos or anything else about Iwade that you'd like to see in it. Our editors (and all the distributors who do a great job) are purely volunteers who give up their time to put it together and it can only be as good as the content we receive. So if you fancy putting your journalistic hat on and writing a story for us then we'd love to print it.

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.

After losing their family cat Charcoal, the Grundys of Stangate Drive Iwade were overwhelmed by the community support that led to Charcoal coming home.

As a thank you to those who helped, Jim Grundy has offered a £50 donation to a village initiative for which we would like to give him a big Observer thank you.

Proposed for the donation is the new Iwade Nature and Conservation group which recently had its first meeting in the Woolpack to get started.

We'll keep you posted on what the group use the money for and thanks again to the Grundys for their kind donation.

Parish Council Notes

taken from the meeting of Wednesday 14th March 2012

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Chairman welcomed two visitors: Mark Steadman from D.S. Paper who had asked to come along and talk to the Council about how his company could interact with the community, and Jacqueline Blake, Watch Liaison Officer Swale, who had been invited by the Parish Council to discuss how to expand the Neighbourhood Watch service within the village.

First to address the meeting was Jacqueline Blake. She explained that at the present time the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (NWS) is still operating in Sheerstone, Kingfisher Close, Helen Thompson Close, Meadow Rise and Turnstone Close. The NWS is a community based initiative for all the community. The system has changed and Co-ordinators no longer exist; it is now preferable to have a 'contact' set up in each road all linking into a single Co-ordinator within the Parish Council, who would hold a portfolio for parish issues. This person would build up a list of all contacts; take and issue NHW messages to all contacts, who in turn would take the information out to the residents in their area. Likewise information received by the contacts from residents would then be fed back to the Co-ordinator.

At the present time the NWS sends out 1,000 messages each year (used to be 800); this increase is not because crime has increased, it's just that the system has got better. They work with Trading Standards, the K.C.C. and Street Wardens and one initiative that has been set up is 'Cold Calling Control Zone Areas', which aims to prevent people from becoming victims of ruthless cold calling tactics. Jacqueline is keen to expand the scheme in Iwade, particularly as

the village has grown dramatically since NHW was first set up here. She has scheme details which can be distributed to every home, possibly by way of the newsletter and is agreeable to liaise with the Parish Council to see how we wish to go forward.

The Chairman thanked Jacqueline for her input and offering to assist in the future and then introduced Mark Steadman from D.S. Paper.

Mark introduced himself as the General Manager of the company, a company which is part of a larger group with a 2.5 billion turnover and employs 2.5 thousand people across the U.K., Europe, Australia and Israel; the group has just bought SEA Packaging, which means it will double its size. The company produces packaging for such famous names as 'Cadburys' 'Walkers'; mostly made from recycled products.

As a business they are trying to establish a greater positive presence in the community and the environment. Historically they have supported football clubs and other organisations in Sittingbourne but now feel it is important to see if they can offer this support to the wider community. The company is not looking for anything in return; there are things the company can do to help, which doesn't always mean money but can mean providing things.

Mark ended his talk by commenting that there is no time restriction on this offer; the Parish Council is welcome to telephone him with ideas and he will see what he can do. The Chairman thanked Mark for his company's generous offer of support for the community and then opened the monthly meeting.

Matters Arising from the Minutes
Village Park/Pond – Cllr. Hunt, along with Cllr. Plumb and the Clerk, attended a meeting with Debbie McNamara of the Environment

Agency, who would like to clear out the village park pond. She and her team, with the assistance of the Parish Council, would like to organise this as a family fun day, with children being able to pond dip and do drawings; the E.A. would also like to install bird boxes in the park and a duck house in the centre of the pond. A second meeting has been arranged for May to discuss this project further.
Action: Cllrs Hunt/Plumb and Clerk

Queen's Diamond Jubilee
Trees/Celebration – Swale
Borough Council has confirmed that they now own the meadow side of the Village Park and are happy for the trees to be planted in this location. There was a question mark over Great Crested Newts, but K.R.A.G. seem to think this is not a problem, but recommend that machinery is not used to dig the holes for the trees. A check is being made to determine where drains are located in this area to avoid future damage by tree roots.

It was agreed that Cllr. Hyde checks with the Nursery to ensure we are planting the right type of trees for the area, e.g. soil, drought and nearby buildings/drainage; Clerk to contact Wards Homes to discuss their offer of tree guards and to see if they will volunteer manual help to plant the trees; there will now be a Tree Planting Ceremony only to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee as there has been no uptake on further activities. *Action: Cllr. Hyde/Clerk*

Replacement of old Parish Lighting – Clerk has received a quote from KCC Highways to replace the 27 columns owned by the Parish Council. To replace this lighting with the same style columns as in the new areas of the village will

cost £47259.71p, plus V.A.T., which the Parish Council can reclaim. Members asked the Clerk to put this on the Agenda for the Finance meeting at the end of this month.
Action: Clerk

Updates

Clerk advised that she has:

- Approached Royal Mail regarding the installation of a third post box in the village, her request has been acknowledged and she is awaiting a further response.
- Gone 'round and round' in her endeavours to get approval for roundabout sponsorship; at the present time a section within Swale Borough Council is blocking this.
- Contacted the Dog Warden and asked for one of the dog bins in the village park to be relocated to the green area in Fans Lane. The Dog Warden has promised to meet with the Clerk to look at a new initiative being trialled in Sheerness, 'Green Dog Walking', to see if this will alleviate dog fouling problems in the village.
- Contacted Highways and a report on the yellow lines requested for School Lane is going before the Local Transport Board Committee this month; if there are no objections it is hoped that this work will be put in hand at the beginning of the new financial year (April). County Cllr. Mike Whiting is also trying to help to get this actioned as soon as possible.
- Been informed that Iwade Health Centre has three doctors working at the practice, which now comes under the Minster Medical Centre. This information was reiterated by the Practice Manager in a recent newspaper report. Cllr. Hunt advised that Gordon Henderson, M.P., has received numerous complaints and become involved in this issue. Members agreed that the Parish

Council needs to know if a service is going to be provided for the residents of Iwade and instructed the Clerk to write to the PCT stating that the Council is aware of serious issues with Iwade Medical Centre and is concerned about its future and the needs of the village, particularly as Iwade has a growing population.
Action: Clerk

Visitors/Public Time

Parishioners – A parishioner complained that his wife had tried to telephone the medical centre; there was no reply so she walked up there only to be told by the Receptionist that the telephone had been turned off!

Another parishioner queried whether there were three Doctors; one was ill and one was a locum who could not speak English. He has complained several times in writing to the practice but nothing ever gets done. On one visit he was told by the Doctor to make a further appointment in three weeks; however the Receptionist could not book it until he went back in to the Doctor, who then booked it. He went back for the appointment but the Doctor did not turn up (was sick) so he saw another Doctor who did not know why he had come and then could not trace his records. He returned to the surgery again this week only to find that another patient's notes were written on his notes. He has gone through the complaints procedure, but the surgery never responds. His illness means that he should have a regular blood test; he has not had one for the past six months.

Cllr. Hunt advised that there is a continuing discussion on 'Iwade does Facebook' <https://www.facebook.com> – there are two conversations, with an over all total of 108 comments regarding Iwade Medical Centre. Many residents have been expressing

their frustration and concern with the present service provided by the practice and many are now starting to complain to the PCT. As mentioned previously, Gordon Henderson, M.P., has become involved and has written to the PCT to ascertain the current situation.

County Councillor and Borough Councillors

Borough Cllr. Alan Willicombe apologised for his lack of attendance, due to the dates conflicting with other meetings. He still has £1000 left in his budget and has until the end of the current financial year to spend this. He referred to the recent edition 'Inside Swale', in connection with R.A.H.M. and confirmed that there will be no more homes built in Iwade during the period covered by the Core Strategy.

County Cllr. Mike Whiting has put in a request to Highways to inform him of the cost of installing four 20 mph speed signs. He mentioned the L.E.F. meeting on the 3rd April at the Wyvern Hall. There will be a presentation from Tesco and Morrisons, plus Iwade Village Hall appears on the Agenda (Cllr. Gregory will be attending to speak on this).

Temp. Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO – the report circulated by the Warden, regarding dog fouling, parking outside the School, parking problems in Cormorant Drive, fly-tipping and trading standards issues was noted by Members.

You can read the Parish Council notes for all meetings in full at iwadevillage.co.uk



The photograph features some of the members of Iwade W.I

who knitted squares to make up the "Olympic" cushion in the picture. Val Pugh, our President, (centre of back row) knitted the squares together to form the cushion and arranged for it to be filled with British Wool.

This is an initiative from Woolsack, www.woolsack.org, whose intention is for British wool cushions to be given as a personal welcome gift from the people of Britain to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic athletes. It is meant to be a personal gift that is beautiful, functional and a little bit of Britain to take home. Woolsack is an Inspire Project and part of the Cultural Olympiad.

It has been adopted as a project by the Knitting and Crochet Guild of Great Britain.

Our understanding is that Woolsack has already received some 1000 completed cushions and is hoping to reach 5000 by its May closing date. Woolsack know that athletes travelling to the UK for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games have worked incredibly hard to get there and many will not have much in the way of funds to spend on presents or mementos. The idea is to give every athlete the opportunity of having a hand-made cushion, made from British products and stuffed with British wool. This is a personal gift from individual craft makers, using sustainable and historic materials and skills, reflecting the history of the UK and the importance of wool to that history, so that it can be a real and



lasting gift. Those participating in the project include schools, colleges, community groups, individuals, craft groups, smallholders, farmers, breed societies, British Wool yarn producers and processors, hand-spinners, dyers, the knitting, crochet and craft press and media. Each cushion is different. We chose to make it clear that our cushion came from the Womens Institute so used the organisation's cream and green colours with the WI logo.



We currently have a few Neighbourhood Watch schemes in Iwade, but Iwade Parish Council & Swale Neighbourhood Watch would like to increase the net work of Neighbourhood Watch (Nhw) members within the parish. Each household will receive information on Nhw & a registration form to receive Nhw alert messages. We will then contact members to find a willing volunteer and establish who the Nhw Contact for their street will be. Neighbourhood Watch is about people coming together to build a community that look out for each other and make that community a friendlier and safer place to live. Membership of Nhw only requires you to keep your eyes open and report anything suspicious, or help out a neighbour.

If you would like more information about Nhw please contact me on any of the numbers below.

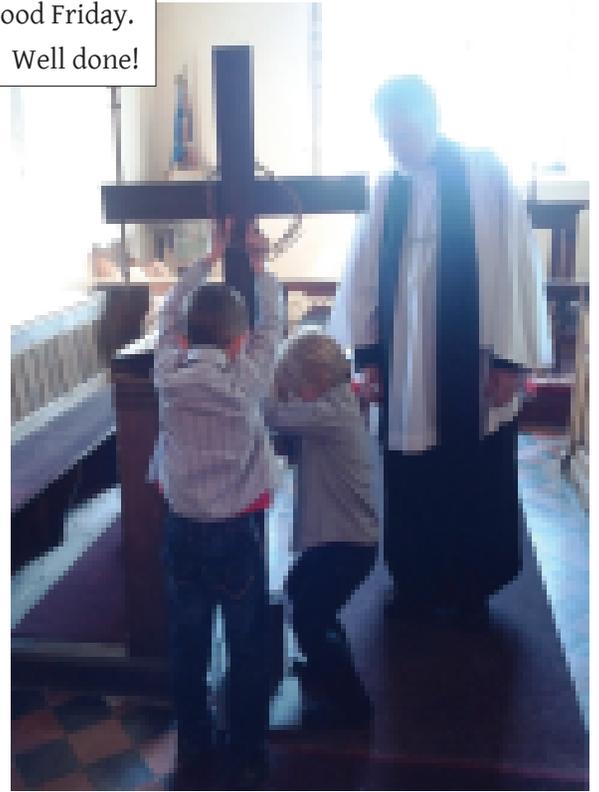
Jacqui Blake, Watch Liaison Officer Swale
01795 419 212 office | 07870 999 887 mobile

Speedway to help youth football pitch shortage

Sittingbourne Speedway have been busy during the winter months preparing their track which is situated just off Raspberry Hill Lane for the coming speedway season however the Club attended the Iwade Parish council meeting recently and heard of the problems the Iwade youth football teams were having over the shortage of football pitches. The Club looked closely at the tracks centre green and found a couple of mini football pitches or a junior size pitch could be accommodated within the centre green confines. To this end the Club have started work to rip up the surface, level the ground and rotavate the whole area. It is hoped that grass seed would go down this week with the intention of having the area ready for the Iwade village teams to use for football and training purposes by the start of the football season. The Club are very keen to help provide this amenity and will keep you updated of their progress during the summer months.

All Saints Church

A few snaps I took during the Walk of Witness and Family Service on Good Friday. The children pictured bottom right each beautifully read out a prayer. Well done!



Upcoming Church Events

Sunday 6th May 10.30am	Sung Communion, All Saints Church
Saturday 12th May 10am-2pm	Church open for visitors
Sunday 13th May 10.30am	Family Communion, All Saints Church
Thursday 17th May 7.30pm	Songs of Praise on Ascension Day
Sunday 20th May 10.30am	Sung Communion, All Saints Church
Sunday 27th May 10.30am	All Age Service for Whitsun
Sunday 3rd June 10.30am	Special Service for Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Churchwarden's Notes by Sylvia O'Shea

I'm amazed how quickly the months are flying by.

Supermarkets do not help by selling items like mince pies alongside Hot Cross do they? Here we are celebrating Christ's rising at Easter and already looking forward to Whitsuntide on May 27th.

As you will have read we have lots to look forward to at your beautiful church. The special service to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee on June 3rd. The fete on July 14th and between these two events we have

the annual Open Air Band Concert in the Church grounds on July 7th at 7pm.

If you have not been able to join us for past concerts do put this years in your diary. Cost of tickets will be just £5 with concessions £3.50, which includes light refreshments half way through the concert. The U.K Band give a wide range of music with lots to tap the toes to. Look forward to seeing you there. Full details next month.

Quite a number of our newer residents have been taking up the

invitation to come and spend a little time in the church. It is open for visitors every 2nd Saturday of the month 10am-2pm. We normally have some baking for sale together with a selection of books etc. We also offer a FREE cup of tea/coffee. Perhaps you would like to join us for an ALL Age Service on the 4th Sunday of each month. (Formally known as Family Services). We keep a box of toys and books to occupy the young ones so don't worry about bringing them too.

Dates for May

Sunday 6th May 10am	Iwade Village Market, Village Hall
Monday 7th May 11am	Iwade Allotments Official Opening
Wednesday 9th May 7.30pm	Iwade Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall
Thursday 10th May 11.15am	Mobile Library, end of Shearstone
Wednesday 16th May 7.30pm	WI Meeting, Village Hall
Thursday 24th May 11.15am	Mobile Library, end of Shearstone
Sunday 27th May 11am	Ickle Pickles Summer Fete, Village Hall

Summer Events!

Iwade Allotment Association
Official Opening
 by the Mayor

on
 Monday 7th May
 11:00 am at the allotment site
 Refreshments - Raffle - Home made cakes,
 jams etc.



Come along
 to our Fete
 on Sunday
 27th May,
 11am-3pm

at the Village Hall. There'll be lots of stalls,
 cream tea, a live band, raffle, nambata and
 lots of the fun for the kids. We are raising
 money to turn our Nursery garden into an Eco-
 Sensory Garden. We will be collecting bric-a-
 brac, cakes, raffle prizes and selling raffle
 tickets before the day so any donations will be
 gratefully received.

Iwade Church Fun Day

Come and join us on 14th July 2.00pm at Iwade
 Church Grounds for A Fun Day

We invite all ages to come along and enjoy a fun
 time.

We will have various stalls and games including
 A coconut shy for the dads to try their hand,
 there will be a delicious strawberry tea availa-
 ble with fresh cream and scones, there will be
 a BBQ and candy floss stand in grounds.

We hope to organise a fancy dress competition
 with prizes for the winners and other games for
 the children.

If you are a local group who would like to help or
 participate in our Day please ring Sylvia on
 079004 19498

7th July 2012.....

A day of music, sunshine, beer and
 children's entertainment..... on your
 doorstep!

Full details in the
 June Observer.



Iwade Rock 2-012