

NOBLE CHAFER WALK AND TALK – IWADE COMMUNITY ORCHARD, WOODPECKER DRIVE. SUNDAY 2ND MAY 2024 @ 2PM. MEET BY THE WOODEN NOBLE CHAFER!

Iwade residents are invited to come and hear all about Noble Chafer beetles, why they are so important, and what we have been doing to help this rare beetle in your area.

these beetles. We will also look at and discuss the habitat boxes we have put up around Iwade. If it rains the talk will still go ahead, so please come along and bring an umbrella!

Dr. Nicklas Jansson, an entomologist from Sweden and Laura Bower, Conservation Officer at Peoples Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) will show you around the orchards which are the main habitat for

We are looking forward to meeting you and talking about noble chafer beetles and orchard conservation.

Please email laura.bower@ptes.org if you need any more information.



THE DOGGY CAFE

Saturday 15th June 12 to 4pm

Iwade Barn, All Saint's Close Iwade ME9 8FP

The car park will be closed for the Doggy Café

PET SHOP STALLS * DOGGY TREATS * PUPCAKES

KATY LIZ PHOTOGRAPHY

DOG-FRIENDLY CANDLES & SPRAYS * ARTY DOGS

KENT BARN HUNT * WAGGY TRAILS

BARRITOS * COFFEE CART * BAKES * CANDY FLOSS

CHARITY RAFFLE & GAMES * FACE PAINTING

**FUN DOG SHOW £1 ENTRY
ENTER ON THE DAY!**

STEVE AND DOG KANO

CANINE PAWS ACADEMY



Safer Streets

Free Bystander Training Sessions in Swale and Folkestone & Hythe

As part of our local Safer Streets activity, we are pleased to announce our upcoming programme of free online training sessions to be delivered by specialists from Cultivating Minds UK. Bystander Training is all about equipping you with the skills to intervene and prevent harmful situations. Learn how to recognize, react, and support others in difficult circumstances.

Friday 19 April
2pm - 4pm

Monday 29 April
2pm - 4pm

Thursday 9 May
1pm - 3pm



SCAN ME

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

To book your tickets, please follow the QR codes above
(further dates will be made available over the next few months)



★★★★★

FESTIVAL

Vintage Edition

MICROPUB * MUSIC * STALLS

SATURDAY 25TH MAY 2024
12PM - 9PM
IWADE BARN, ME9 8FP

INAD@THE BARN

★★★★★



THE IWADE OBSERVER

MAY 2024

THE SWALE LADIES WHO LATTE - Tania Gough

We meet on the third Wednesday of every month (apart from August) in The Iwade Barn. I've been running the group for 6, maybe 7 years now and the group has been steadily growing since then. Each month I arrange a speaker to showcase their business or to help the members with their own businesses.

Our March meeting saw one of our members Adelle Martin talk about her business as The Executive Midlife Coach, helping menopausal ladies stay in business.

If you are a business woman in Swale, or you service the Swale area, why don't you come and join us? We'd love to meet you. Head over to our Facebook group 'Swale Ladies Who Latte Group' for more information.

Looking forward to meet you very soon.

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BUMBLEBEES HUNT FOR BUGS WHILE LADYBIRDS GET CREATIVE! - Caroline Wiles



Glimpses of summer sunshine have us all anticipating more time in our garden and, although we like to get out whatever the weather, sunshine definitely makes the world a brighter place. A few of our Bumblebees took advantage of a recent sunny hour with a trip to the park, checking for bugs and minibeasts along their route. On return to Happy Days, they were very keen to track down the creepy crawlies found in our garden. Rumour has it the garden bugs were extremely shy; and, in all honesty, who can blame them? Meanwhile, back at the ranch, other Bumblebees were all about exploring their own senses; experiencing lights, music and action in our sensory den. They had a blast as they made it their very own party venue.

Over in Ladybird Room, the children have been getting creative and incredibly artsy, which may just look like messy play to the untrained eye but we know these activities are invaluable in developing motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and encouraging children's language development. We love seeing the children learning and growing in their own unique ways, embracing all aspects of their development journey. Yay for messy play! It has been our pleasure to welcome new families to Happy Days over recent weeks as many parents take advantage of Working Parents' Funding for two-year olds. From September onwards, working parents with children of 9 months plus will also be

entitled to 15 hours funding per week towards their childcare costs. Visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk from 12th May onwards to check eligibility for funding and the Tax-Free Childcare Scheme. We are taking bookings for September 2024 and beyond and would love to hear from you. Please contact the office on 01795 424348 for availability, to book a visit or funding queries. We are always happy to help.

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL REQUEST

We are seeing an increase in off-road bikes being used in the area and we would like to put forward a campaign for any incidents witnessed to be reported to Kent Police by Calling 101.

IWADE INSPIRATION: TROLLS, DRAGONS AND HOBBITS

At the time of writing, St George's Day is just around the corner when we all get a bit patriotic and nationalistic. Nothing wrong with that of course but at our April Assembly on Sunday we focussed more on the Dragon in the story. Fighting and overcoming Dragons wasn't confined to knight crusaders, we learned. All of us may be called to face Dragons in life, of one kind or another.

Trolls, Dragons and Hobbits are all mythical of course and if you're a fan of J.R.R. Tolkien (as I most certainly am!) you'll know they all pop up in his Middle Earth stories. But are they just mythical? Dragons in stories tend to be fabulously wealthy, deviously cunning and relentlessly savage. Plus - they breathe fire! The ones in real life may be actual people, problems or perspectives that fill us with dread and despair with their threatening aspect and tempt us to run and hide.

And what about Trolls? I used to think they were confined to the pages of The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings until I started out on Facebook. You don't need me to tell you that a Troll is "a person who intentionally antagonizes others online by posting inflammatory, irrelevant, or offensive comments or other disruptive content". I withdrew from social media when I retired as a clergyman four years ago but in the last few days I've revived my Facebook account so that I can focus on another way to spread good news and try to make a difference in my local community.

I'm really grateful to Nicola and Joa who are already old hands on Facebook and have invited me to contribute to the Iwade Village page and also revive the Iwade Patient Participation Group site. I hope to offer both some focus through this column!



I'm guessing that I may have to face one or two Trolls and perhaps some Dragons both on and off Facebook but I remember Bilbo Baggins faced both these creatures in Tolkien's tales and he overcame them. Hobbits may be small (in stature, outlook or influence) but they can make a difference. They are gregarious, they love good food and drink and they laugh a lot. Despite being rather homely, they also tend to have adventures. And as someone once said: "Hobbits really are amazing!"

So, come on all you Dragon fighters and Troll defenders ... why not join this Hobbit on the next adventure?!

God bless you

John



SUNDAY 7th JULY
10am - 2pm

Community wide garage sale - only £3 to register as a seller with all profits to charity

For more information and to register as a seller, please visit Iwade Garage Safari on Facebook



SALE

PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Friends,

As I write, the sun is shining, the birds are singing, and the air is full of the sounds of lawn mowers, strimmers, and power tools as people get out into the garden and start to get things ready for the coming warmer months.



Our gardens can be a real source of joy: a space where we can enjoy the fresh air, get our hands dirty and relax. There is masses of research and anecdotal evidence which supports what we probably all know – gardening, and being outside, are good for us. Gardening can increase our levels of physical activity, which is beneficial, and time in a green environment has been shown to reduce stress and improve wellbeing. Many of us are fortunate enough to have that outside space, living as we do in villages, or we have places nearby where we can enjoy the glories of creation.

A well-cared for garden, filled with plants, can be such a source of joy. Flowering plants bring colour and beauty, and growing vegetables and fruit can be hugely satisfying. But I believe we need to garden in harmony with nature, not in opposition to it. I was really disturbed when I was at one of our local supermarkets the other day to see just one small shelf dedicated to products for those seeking to garden with respect for nature, while there were five shelves of packets and bottles containing substances

promising to kill ants, slugs, snails, weeds, moss, and all manner of things. Do we really need to douse our gardens with what are, essentially, poisons? Why are we so obsessed with control and neatness?

There are many ways we can garden in harmony with nature, from planting for pollinators – the most obvious being honey bees, but there are many other insects which pollinate – to providing plants with seed heads for birds, water features which encourage all kinds of wildlife and companion planting, which establishes groups of plants that are beneficial to each other. A lovely example of this is planting nasturtiums near brassicas – cabbage white butterflies will lay their eggs on the nasturtiums, rather than on your precious veg. And fennel attracts hoverflies, which prey on aphids. Garden to encourage hedgehogs – they love to feast on slugs and snails!

God created this beautiful planet of ours, and it is

possible for us to co-exist with all manner of creatures, and weeds, rather than simply controlling and destroying things that seem to us to be out of place. And if we spend less time wrestling with nature, maybe we can have a little more time to just 'be' in the natural world and appreciate its variety and complexity.

Enjoy the blessings of creation this spring!

Rev Amanda

Why not join us at
ASSEMBLY on SUNDAY



Cakes and biscuits, songs and stories, make new friends!
Children, parents, grandparents, family and friends.

All welcome!

Sunday, 12th May
in Iwade School Hall at 3.00pm

ASSEMBLY ON SUNDAY is a joint project of
All Saints Church and the Pourn Alliance Multi Academy Trust.
Further details from: John Guest 07710 353461

NEWS FROM CITIZENS ADVICE SWALE - APRIL 2024

At Citizens Advice Swale we help people sort out their problems, by giving all kinds of advice – and it's all totally free. Did you know, we rely on donations and grants in order to change the lives of local people? We're a totally independent small charity, and we don't get money from central Government.

In 2023/24 we advised 2,627 clients, wrote off £325,002 debts, and helped our clients gain income of £1,133,321. Every £1 invested in Citizens Advice Swale was worth £12.04 in value to the people we helped, or £21.62 in public value. The smallest contribution really can make a big difference.

We're grateful to all our current supporters who help us continue to provide a service in Swale. There are several ways you can help.

Cashback when you shop online: <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/citizensadvice-swale>

One-off or regular cash donations: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/citizensadvice-swale>

Become a Friend of Citizens Advice Swale: <https://citizensadvice-swale.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Friends-application-form-May-2023.pdf>

Choose us as your local charity through the Faversham & District Community Lottery: <https://www.favershamdistrictlottery.co.uk/support/citizens-advice-swale>

Here's how to contact us for advice:

Drop-in sessions (no appointment necessary)

Mondays 10am-12pm, Sittingbourne
Tuesdays 10am-12pm, Sheppey
Wednesdays & Fridays 10am-12pm, Faversham

Telephone advice

Call Adviceline on freephone 0808 278 7979 (Monday-Friday 10am-4pm)

Email advice

Contact us online at www.citizensadvice-swale.uk/email-general-advice (Monday-Wednesday)



Debt advice

Request a call back

from our money advice team at www.citizensadvice-swale.uk/debt

To stay up to date with our opening times, please visit www.citizensadvice-swale.uk or follow us on Facebook or X.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEER: PRODUCE THE IWADE OBSERVER!

Are you passionate about our village news and looking to make a meaningful impact? The Iwade Observer plays a vital role in keeping residents informed and connected. Currently we're seeking a dedicated volunteer to take over the production of our beloved publication. Full software training will be provided, so no prior experience is necessary—just a willingness to learn and a commitment to serving our community.

If you're interested in taking on this rewarding role, please contact the.iwade.observer@gmail.com

BOOKS, COFFEE AND CAKES - WHAT'S NOT TO LIKE! -

Jackie Kemp

Iwade Reading Group held their usual monthly meeting on April 9th, at The Barn, to discuss books we have chosen, and others we had not all heard of.

The group was smaller than usual, but the chat was good, and extended beyond book reviews, just as you would expect if you have ladies together, with coffee and cake.

In the last month the majority of the group had been reading a thriller, Alice Feeny's novel 'Daisy Darker', but as usual, not everyone had managed to read the book chosen, due to a variety of reasons. In discussion it emerged that the book was either liked or not finished. Some said the story dragged,

or it was repetitive, but there were others who persevered and enjoyed the book by the end; Glenn in particular enjoyed it so all is not lost!

The choice for the next meeting, May 14th, is 'Lola is Missing' reported to be 'a totally gripping crime thriller'. The author, Alison James is well recommended and so we can look forward to the discussions in May.

Thank you to Lynn for refreshments on the day. Glenn has kindly offered to bring some goodies to eat with tea and coffee for next month. We meet at The Barn, at 10.30 on the first Tuesday of each month, and chat away about anything and everything until 11.30 ish.



IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 MARCH 2024

PRESENT

Cllr. S. Tolhurst – Acting Chair

Cllr. S. Fuszard

Cllr. P. Holowczycki

Cllr. P. Hyde

Cllr. S. Lancashire

Cllr. R. Stalley-Moores

Cllr. D. Waters

Samantha Gray, Clerk

Police Constable Philip Clemens

2 Residents

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting; apologies received from Parish Cllrs. Langham, Guest, and Dollimore.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Fuszard, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14 February 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

VISITORS/PUBLIC TIME

1. VISITORS: A resident reported they are having issues with a 2.5 ton van parking dangerously on a bend by their property and asked the Parish Council for their support. The Chair advised that we have a Highway Improvement Plan meeting on 20th March and will ask Kent Highways for advice about how to deal with this issue.

2. COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS - none attended

3. COMMUNITY WARDEN / POLICE CONSTABLE - Police Constable Chittim supplied a newsletter, see Appendix 1. (Please find on <https://www.iwade-pc.gov.uk/community/iwade-parish-council-18357/agendas--minutes-2024/>)

Police Constable Philip Clemens introduced himself to the Parish Council, he is taking over the area from PC Chittim.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. MEMORIAL PLAQUE POLICY – The Clerk has circulated a revised draft of the Memorial Plaque Policy and is waiting for a quote for the cost of installation for the Memorial Plaques to complete the policy. Will bring back to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

2. IWADE BOUNDARY – The Clerk circulated a diagram of a proposed new Iwade Boundary, proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Hyde, members agreed for the Clerk to contact democratic services to apply for the change to the Iwade Boundary.

Action: Clerk

3. CCTV – Cllr. Tolhurst advised the installation of the 5th CCTV camera did not go ahead on the 14th February and is waiting for a new installation date to be provided by Swale Borough Council (SBC).

4. JACKSON CIVIL DONATION – Cllr. Tolhurst advised the Environment Agency and Swale Borough Council currently have no resources to help clear the Reedmace in the pond at Woodpecker Park. Cllr. Tolhurst will keep pursuing this. Keep on the agenda.

Action: Clerk/Tolhurst

5. SOUTHERN WATER/KCC LEAK INVESTIGATION – Southern Water notified the Parish Council that two separate leaks have been found on the water main, which they believe are close to the Village Hall. The work will require traffic management. The Clerk will ask Southern Water to carry out the work as soon as possible to avoid this work happening when Grovehurst Road is closed for the next phase of the A249 improvements.

Action: Clerk

6. BOLLARD – School Lane – Members considered installing a bollard on a foot path in School Lane to prevent quad bikes

from riding on the pavements, but resolved not to go ahead as members agreed the bollard may not prevent the issue. Council members will report future incidents directly to the CCTV control room. Keep on the agenda.

Action: Clerk

PLANNING

Applications are viewable on: Swale: <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications>; KCC: <https://cloud2.atriumsoft.com/KCCePlanningOPS/searchPageLoad.do>

1. 24/500457/FULL: Conversion of existing garage into habitable space with creation of first floor extension over existing garage. Erection of two storey rear infill extension. 15 Meadow Brown View Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8XB. No Comments.

2. 24/500618/PNEXT: 32 School Lane Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8SE. Prior notification for a proposed single storey rear extension which: A) Extends by 8 metres beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling. B) Has a maximum height of 2.95 metres from the natural ground level. C) Has a height of 2.95 metres at the eaves from the natural ground level. No comments.

3. 24/500019/OUT: Outline application for the erection of 6no. dwellings (Access being sought). Land At Sleepy Meadows Sheppey Way Bobbing Kent ME9 8QX. Council members commented that the proposed housing development would further reduce the green space between Iwade and Bobbing.

4. SW/20/500291/RA: Non-material amendment to planning permission SW/20/500291 for the minor amendments to the site layout and design. Plot 6B, Ridham Dock Estate, Iwade, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8FQ. No comments.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. INTENDED SOUTHBOUND SLIP ROAD CLOSURE AT GROVEHURST ROAD – A resident has asked the Parish Council to support their request for temporary traffic lights on The Street between the coffee shop and the Woolpack pub. Members agreed that following the slip road closure the level of traffic needs to be monitored and will consider supporting the request for temporary traffic lights which would need to be manually operated at peak times. Members noted that there is an ongoing issue with traffic on this stretch of road and will raise this at their next meeting with KCC Highways.

Action: Clerk

2. DATE OF MEETING WITH KCC HIGHWAYS – The Clerk has arranged a meeting with KCC Highways to discuss the 20mph zone, Sheppey Way, and parking in Stangate Drive. Cllr Tolhurst will also attend, and Cllrs Stalley-Moores and Holowczycki also hope to attend.

Action: Clerk/Tolhurst/Stalley-Moores/Holowczycki

3. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY – The Clerk has advertised the current Parish Councillor Vacancy, the deadline for applications is 3rd April.

FINANCE

1. STREETLIGHTS – repair to lamp column outside 50 Sheerstone – Members did not agree to the increased payment of the invoice for the hire of scaffolding, which was undertaken without authorisation.

2. ACCOUNTS AND CHEQUES RAISED AT THIS MEETING - Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Tolhurst, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to 29 February 2024. Members agreed not to authorise the BACs payment to streetlights. Cllrs. Lancashire and Hyde to log in and authorize the following payments:

Action: Cllrs. Lancashire/Hyde

For details please refer to <https://www.iwade-pc.gov.uk/community/iwade-parish-council-18357/agendas--minutes-2024/> for

full minutes for this meeting

PROJECTS – UPDATES ON CURRENT AND NEW

1. D-DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY BEACON LIGHTING – 6 JUNE 2024 – The Clerk has been in contact with the Paper Mill Band who advised they may be able to play during the Beacon Lighting Event. Members advised they would like to book the band from 8.50pm, for 20 minutes to play the national anthem and war time music. Members agreed to a donation of £100 to the band, proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Stalley-Moores.

Action: Clerk

Proposed by Cllr. Waters and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, members agreed to purchase a flag of peace for the cost of £34.50p.

Action: RFO

Cllr. Hyde agreed to be the First Aid representative for the event, and the rendezvous point for missing children/vulnerable adults will be the Village Hall.

2. CHRISTMAS EVENT 2024 – Traffic Management – The RFO has supplied quotes from two Traffic Management Companies. The Clerk advised she contacted Jackson Civil, and will look into the sizes and number of signs required and provide Jackson Civil with the details.

Action: Clerk

3. PARISH COUNCIL 'TRACKER' UPDATE – The tracker has been circulated to all members who have read and noted the updates. Cllr. Tolhurst advised that the two new Hornbeam trees have been installed at Woodpecker park.

4. VILLAGE REPAIRS:

a) Pond Management – Clear Reedmace – Cllr. Tolhurst advised he is continuing to correspond with the Environment Agency. Keep on the agenda.

Action: Clerk

b) Lamp column painting – The Clerk advised she has contacted KCC for an update. Keep on the agenda.

Action: Clerk

c) Any other updates – nothing to report.

5. VILLAGE CLEAN UP EVENT – Members agreed to hold the next clean up event on Sunday 26th May. Members asked the Clerk to send the Litter Picking Scheme poster to Iwade School to let them know about the initiative and hopefully encourage volunteers.

Action: Clerk

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE – The committee are still working on the new website. Nothing else to report.

KALC AREA REPRESENTATIVE – no update.

SWALE WESTERN AREA COMMITTEE – The Parish Council representative was not able to attend the last meeting. Cllr. Tolhurst advised the draft minutes of the meeting are on the Swale Borough Council (SBC) website. The subject at the meeting was to discuss passing SBC land over to Parishes.

ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING

none.

NEXT MEETING(S)

Wednesday 10 April 2024, 7.30 p.m., in Iwade Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 08.45 p.m. and moved into Closed Session for the following agenda items.

CLOSED SESSION

1. UPDATE REGARDING DAMAGE TO THE BOLLARDS AT 44 FERRY ROAD – members agreed not to pursue the claim with the insurance company due to the lack of evidence to support a claim.

2. COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE – members agreed all council members will attend meetings of the complaints committee.

3. TELLY TUBBY HILL – Members discussed a complaint relating to an incident that occurred on Telly Tubby Hill. Members agreed for the Clerk to respond to the complaint, to explain the action taken and the council now consider the matter closed.