

Clopton Newsletter

Autumn 2013

Parish Council Vacancies

There are presently two Councillor vacancies on Clopton Parish Council for which anyone interested is encouraged to apply, subject to certain conditions being met. In simple terms, these conditions are that you must be a citizen of Great Britain, the Commonwealth or the EU, that you are a least 18 years old, that you have lived in or within 3 miles of Clopton Parish for the last 12 months continuously and that you have not been convicted of any offence nor been in prison within the last 5 years, nor are the subject of a bankruptcy order. The appointment is up to 4 years at a time.

The Parish Council is the first tier of local government and contributes to the work of local councils, which are becoming increasingly significant under the government's localism initiatives. It represents the village in discussions with the District and County Council, and supports local action and work in conjunction with voluntary groups and organisations for the benefit of the overall community, based on local knowledge and experience.

There are 6 evening meetings per year which last for around 2 hours.

If you are interested in taking an active role in village affairs to make a difference by becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the Chairman, Chris Angwin (01473-735453), or the Parish Clerk, Esther Brown (07789-538430), either of whom will be pleased to answer your questions and to send you a copy of the Good Councillor's Guide, which explains the role and responsibilities in detail.

Chris Angwin

Produced by Clopton Parish Council

Church and Heritage Group

The bells will be returning to Clopton Church soon and should be installed in the new bell frame by 6th September. Thanks to all the volunteers who worked so hard during the bitterly cold weather in February to remove the bells. These volunteers will now be working to install the bells in the frame, and connect up wheels, ropes etc. The bells will soon be ringing out over Clopton after many years of being silent. If you would like to learn to ring contact 737602. (You don't have to be a church-goer !!)

There will be a Service of Thanksgiving on 8th September at 3pm followed by refreshments. If you would like to come please let us know so that we have some idea of numbers for catering. The Heritage Group will meet again on Friday 12th September at 7.30, at Thamaniya, Shop Road. These meetings are very informal and everyone is very welcome to join us. If you have any photos of Clopton past or present or any memories about Clopton please come and share them.

Doris Main

Clopton Ladies Group

is about to start its next round of speakers. Even though we call ourselves the Ladies Group, the meetings are open to all and men are welcome. Our next talk is one that may well have wide appeal: "The True Cost of Fish and Chips" which will be delivered by Andy Malcolm, from The Fishermen's Mission, who'll talk about the life of a trawlerman and the work of the Mission. We believe it may also include readings and shanties.

Why not join us on Thursday 5th Sept in the Village Hall at 8 p.m?

There is an entrance fee of £3.

Diana Dawson

CLOPTON PARISH COUNCIL - Extracts from Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on 18/07/2013.
The full minutes (once signed) can be read on the Clopton Website: www.clopton.onesuffolk.net

Public Forum - Topics raised in the Public Forum included:

- 1. The Bus Service:** John Dawson is currently in communication with SCC regarding changes to the service provider and service.
- 2. Village Fête 2014:** A suggestion to be put on the village website for a Village Fête to be held during the summer term. Some Parish Council funds may be available.
- 3. Church Bell Restoration:** The bells will be re-installed at the end of August ready for a dedication service in September.

County and District Councillor's Report -

In the absence of Cllr Bellfield the Clerk gave his County Council report: SCC are considering BT's offer of a lower priced provision of "back office" services after expressing decision not to renew existing contract.

In the absence of Cllr Bellfield, Cllr Fryatt gave his District Council report:

- 1. SCDC has adopted The Core Strategy** (to be called The Local Plan) which is providing some guidelines on planning matters. SCDC is now working on ensuring that there is a 5, 10 and 15 year land supply for housing growth. SCDC are to be more proactive in informing Parish Councils of policy matters.
- 2. East Anglia Wind Farm cabling and the suggested lorry route.** At the public hearing the Inspector gave reassurances that he had listened to residents' concerns and wanted to find a plan that would work for all parties. The frequency of lorry movements and the times these occur could both be restricted.

Matters Arising from the Minutes: Councillors discussed:

- 1. Reclaiming VAT:**
- 2. Village Hall Insurance;**
- 3. Flooding in Shop Road:** The company which maintains the drain and driveway of the houses have asked for a camera inspection of the drain. A resident has also asked for a professional company to do the 'levels'. There has been insufficient rain recently to test whether the drain is now working better following the removal of objects.

Finance

- 1.** Payments totalling £1,315.92 were authorised;
- 2.** Internal Audit Review Recommendations were reported on;
- 3.** Standing Orders and Financial Regulations – Council to adopt the SALC models as the basis for Clopton Parish Council's Standing orders and Financial regulations;
- 4.** Asset Register – Clerk to try to ascertain which items currently on the Clopton Parish Council Asset register are the responsibility of other parties e.g. some road signs.

Planning Matters:

- 1.** Council discussed Planning Application C13/1259: *1 Market Hill Cottages, Market Hill, Clopton – Erection of a 2 storey rear extension.*
- 2.** Clerk reported formal notification that *application C13/0405-Erection of extensions and permanent retention of existing mobile home to supervise equestrian business at Larkvale Stud, Grundisburgh Road Clopton*, had been granted subject to various conditions.
- 3.** A planning application had been submitted for *Corner Farm, Shop Road.*

Casual Vacancies on the Council: There are vacancies for volunteer councillors on the Clopton Parish Council. The posts to be advertised.

Clerk's Position : The Clerk has withdrawn her resignation and agreed to continue.

Church Lane : There is difference of opinion about whether Church Lane is a footpath or a "U" road. It is currently classed as a 'U' road by SCC, and SCC Senior Legal Officer has recently

confirmed this. However, local landowner believes historical evidence shows it to be a footpath and that not all the evidence has been assessed and has written to SCC to that effect.

The Parish Council has no remit on the classification of existing Rights of Way and, for reasons of impartiality, is unable to support either side, especially since it does not know the collective residents' view on the matter. Council has an interest to ensure that all evidence is looked at before a decision is reached by SCC. Cllr Angwin to write to SCC to: **a)** ensure that all available evidence is considered and, **b)** to request that the Parish Council is kept informed of developments especially as they should be notified if rights of way are to be reclassified.

Rouse Hall Estate: Ditches in the area have been cleared to the Environmental Agency's satisfaction. Flagship housing association has been contacted about a leaking drain cover. Residents encouraged to report any drain/sewerage problems on the estate to CPC.

Wildlife Area by Concrete Road: After discussion, the project to be reconsidered at a later date.

Neighbourhood Plan : Following a discussion, the development of an NP to be postponed.

Parish Council v Parish Meeting : Legal Topic Note 3 produced by NALC covers this. Cllr Angwin summarised some of the differences between a Parish Meeting and a Parish Council. Parish Meetings are designed for villages with a smaller number of electors than Clopton and rely on volunteers to complete the legally necessary tasks and run effectively. Decision – Clopton to continue as a Parish Council.

SCDC :

Suffolk Coastal Community Awards: Cllr Pryke proposed nominating Sylvia Freeman for a lifetime achievement award. Cllr Pryke to complete the nomination form.

Technology task Group: Cllrs to inform Cllr Fryatt of any ideas that would improve communication between SCDC and Parish Councils. The planning department is hoping to improve its service with the e-planning system.

Clerk's Report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting :

1. Following correspondence received from residents regarding the siting and volume of 'bird scarers' Council will request that farmers/landowners abide by the NFU guidelines and this will be printed in the Spring edition of the Clopton News.
2. Due to the perceived increase in crimes in the vicinity Cllr Angwin to write to The Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore, on behalf of the Council, to find out what action is being taken to combat this.

Officer's and Representative's Reports:

Speedwatch. The current co-ordinator of the Clopton Community Speedwatch Group to retire. Cllr Angwin to talk to Mr. Malcolm Gooch about finding a replacement.

Matters for the next meeting :

1. Village Fête 2014.;
2. Asset Register;
3. Discussion and possible adoption of amended Standing orders and Financial Regulations;
4. Adoption of Safeguarding Policy

Matters for future meetings:

1. Internal Control and Risk Assessment Review (March 2014 Meeting)

Dates of next Meetings :

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 19th September at 7:30pm.

The date of the following meeting is on Thursday 21st November 2013 at 7:30pm.

Environment Agency -

Challenges and Choices consultation 22 June – 22 December 2013

What is Challenges and Choices? ‘Challenges and Choices’ is a consultation about the biggest issues that affect the water environment in our region.

Why is Challenges and Choices important? It’s important that we all value water because it’s a precious resource. It allows the natural environment to flourish, and businesses, agriculture and the economy to grow and prosper. Water is essential to people’s enjoyment of life and wellbeing. It gives us beautiful places to play in, to explore or just to get away from the world.

The Anglian River Basin District is home to approximately 7.1 million people, including many important animals and plants. Some key challenges the water environment faces is a growing population, climate change and Man's interventions both now and in the past. It’s our role to make sure water is protected and improved. We want to work with you to overcome these challenges and make the right choices to protect water for the future

What will happen as a result of the consultation? This consultation is an important step in managing the water environment in England and will help us plan how to improve water quality between now and 2021.

What do I need to do? We want you to help us develop plans to improve water quality in Anglian Region by telling us what you think.

Take part in our consultation:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/33252.aspx>

The
Local Government
Boundary Commission
for England

Electoral Review of Suffolk Coastal

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England is carrying out an electoral review of Suffolk Coastal District Council.

The review will draw new council ward boundaries across the district.

Following a public consultation, we are proposing that the council should have 43 councillors in future, twelve fewer than the current arrangements.

Now we are asking for evidence about your local area to help us decide a new pattern of wards for Suffolk Coastal.

Your views will make a difference

Local people know their area best. That’s why we are asking you for evidence on a range of issues:

- Do you have suggestions about where your ward boundaries should be?
- Which areas do you identify as your local community?
- Where do people in your area go to access local facilities such as shops and leisure activities?

For more details and interactive maps, visit:

consultation.lgbce.org.uk OR **www.lgbce.org.uk**

cont.. ↗

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

On 17 July, at the Clopton coffee morning, we were visited by the Safer Neighbourhood Team from Suffolk Constabulary who demonstrated a range of home security locks and visual burglar deterrents, which were available for purchase.

The Community Watch and SNT Liaison Officer for Suffolk Constabulary (Coastal), Ms Anne Powell, gave a short talk on neighbourhood watch schemes and gave out some literature on the subject.

The Police have a crucial role to play in reducing crime but cannot succeed on their own. They rely on local people to share responsibility for tackling the problem, as local residents are the eyes and ears of the community.

Neighbourhood Watch gives local people in residential areas the chance to play an important role in making their community safer.

An ideal Neighbourhood Watch Scheme covers an area of between twelve and fifty properties and at least 60% of the households within the area need to participate in the scheme. If a scheme is wanted, interested householders are asked to complete a short questionnaire and attend a Neighbourhood Watch Launch Presentation by the Community Watch Liaison Officer. At the meeting three volunteers are selected to assist with the day-to-day running of the scheme which mainly consists of passing on information and occasional liaison with police and other Watch groups.

If anyone would like to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in their area or road, I have some literature I can pass on and am willing to liaise with the police representative for you if required..

Contact Della at: cloptonnews@gmail.com or phone: 01473 737805

Further information can be found at: www.suffolk.police.uk/neighbourhoodwatch



Have your say

Send your views to:

The Review Officer (Suffolk Coastal)

Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Layden House

Turnmill Street

London EC1M 5LG

Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter: [@LGBCE](https://twitter.com/LGBCE)

The consultation closes on
1 October 2013

streetlife.com is a community forum where local people can talk, share news, views, recommendations and help each other out.



[Doglost.co.uk](http://doglost.co.uk) is a useful site for helping to trace lost dogs or the owners of found dogs.



Check the dates of local events on the Clopton website: <http://Clopton.onesuffolk.net>



Send your email address to:

cloptonnews@gmail.com to get local info including police information, horsethatch news, suffolk community newsletter, and information and news about what's going on in and around Clopton.

Suffolk Libraries – we’re open to everyone!

Not everyone may realise what the library service in Suffolk has to offer them.

There are 44 Libraries in the county which, as well as offering a huge range of books, of course, also offer a range of other services and activities.

As well as books you can also hire CDs and DVD titles for a small charge. You can get online for free in all libraries – ideal for filling out job applications or keeping in touch if you’ve not got a computer at home.

There are a wide range of activities – Bookstart, Baby Bounce and Tot Rock story sessions for young children and Top Time groups for older people.

We also provide free Bookstart packs for babies and three year olds.

From 21 July to early September all of our libraries will be offering children the chance to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge which is a fun and rewarding way of encouraging children to keep reading during the holidays. You can find out more at your nearest library.

The library is a great place for the community to come together to share information and even if you can’t get to your nearest library easily, it can come to you!

The mobile library visits 200 villages and hamlets and 475 stops in Suffolk. Each stop is visited every four weeks. There is also an At Home Library Service which involves volunteers delivering books to people who find it difficult to get to a library or mobile library stop – usually because they are older or disabled.

You can also access and browse the full library catalogue from www.suffolklibraries.co.uk and we even offer access to a range of free eBooks and eAudio books. It’s free and easy to sign up to be a library user and if you have any queries about any of our services or activities you can find plenty of information on our website or call Suffolk Libraries Direct on 01473 584563.

All of Suffolk’s library services are now run by Suffolk Libraries which is an independent and charitable organisation supported by the county council.

You can also follow Suffolk Libraries on twitter @SuffolkLibrary or Facebook at <http://facebook.com/suffolklibraries> to keep up to date with news and activities and you can sign up to our newsletter on our website: www.suffolklibraries.co.uk

Article supplied by Suffolk Libraries.

MOBILE LIBRARY - *The mobile library visits Clopton every 4th week on Thursdays from 1:20pm to 1:45pm stopping at the corner of Rouse Hall Estate and Shop Rd.*
Future dates are: Sept 26, Oct 24, Nov 21, Dec 19.

Suffolk Wheels 2 Work

<http://www.communityactionsuffolk.org.uk/what-we-do/community-development/suffolk-wheels-2-work/>

Community Action Suffolk loans scooters to people who live or work in the Suffolk Coastal District Council area and have difficulties getting to work, training or college due to a lack of suitable transport. Prices start from £40 a week and include all the training and equipment you need to get on the road. All scooters are insured and maintained for you. You can also use the scooter in your own time to get out and about.

To qualify for the scheme you must be able to prove that you have a real need for transport; live in the Suffolk Coastal District Council area and have trouble accessing training, education or employment due to problems with transport.

If you are accepted onto the scheme **Wheels 2 Work** will provide :- A Honda Vision 50cc scooter; Insurance; Road tax; MoT (when required); Compulsory Basic Training (CBT); Safety equipment (including Crash helmet, gloves, Armoured Motorcycle Jacket);

Security lock; Full Maintenance & Repair Service; Breakdown Cover; Support & advice.

In return you will provide Fuel and £40 per week towards the running costs of **W2W**

If you are interested, please ask for an application form: Phone: 01473 345400

E-mail :

w2w@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Strawberry Tea

The weather on 29th June started off dull and overcast, but brightened up and, by the afternoon, the sun was blazing down on the strawberry tea at Thamaniya, Shop Road.. Strawberries, cream and delicious home-made cakes were enjoyed by all and the afternoon raised £408 for the Church Bell fund.



Community action for wildlife

Are you involved in a local wildlife project or would you like to find out more about taking action for wildlife where you live?

FREE community action conference

Join Suffolk Wildlife Trust on Saturday 21 September at Thornham Walks, Red House Yards, for a day exploring community action for wildlife.

The day will include:

- Expert speakers
- Case study presentations
- Workshops about funding, community engagement & habitat assessment
- Question and answer panel session

How to book

suffolkwildlifetrust.org/communityconference
or 01473 890089

Places are limited, but thanks to funding from Heritage Lottery Fund they are free and lunch will be provided.





FitSteps® with Louise Mayhew

Join the latest dance fitness craze and dance your way fit!

Adult classes coming to a venue near you this September!
£4 per class, £3 students and under 18's
(Under 16's welcome but must be accompanied by an adult)
You don't need to book, just turn up on the day

- ◇ NEEDHAM MARKET COMMUNITY CENTRE – Mondays 11.00am to 11.45am, commencing 9th September
- ◇ WICKHAM MARKET VILLAGE HALL – Tuesdays 10.15am to 11am, commencing 17th September
- ◇ OLD FELIXSTOWE COMMUNITY CENTRE – Wednesdays 9.15am to 10am, commencing 4th September
- ◇ GRUNDISBURGH VILLAGE HALL – Thursdays 10.15am to 11am, commencing 5th September
- ◇ GORSELAND PRIMARY SCHOOL (Martlesham) – Fridays 7pm to 7.45pm, commencing 6th September

Please arrive 5-10 minutes before advertised class times to sign in

For more information contact Louise –
07769182199
louisemayhewdance@gmail.com
Visit my website - www.louisemayhewdance.com



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