

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

November 2016



New Schools Project

The Parish Council have been working to ensure the leases are in line with the Memorandum of Understanding, between the Parish Council, CCC and the Leisure Centre. It is hoped that formal signing of these will take place shortly.

We have hosted a "Meet and Greet" event with the Active Learning Trust and local stakeholders, to explore opportunities for the local groups to work with the new schools.

The schools and LLC are both on programme to finish on time. You can view a 3D walk through the schools, just follow the link on our website.

Paddocks

We are still waiting for land to be signed over to our ownership from the District Council. When we officially have the land we will be running a public consultation on ideas for the use of the area. Any ideas will need to fulfil the requirements for green spaces and prove a demonstrable need for any ideas that are taken forward.

Cemetery

Following the purchase of the land, Horsey Hale, we have commissioned an archaeological dig and report. The dig has taken place by representatives from the University of Cambridge and their final report is currently awaited. We also hosted a seminar on the complex business of planning for a new Cemetery. Once we have the final report on the dig we can start the design and planning process and to assist us in this we have retained the ad hoc services of a specialist cemetery consultant who will guide us through the extremely long and complex process.

At our annual Cemetery walk around, working with Tony, our on site manager, we now have a continuance plan to provide burials for the next 3yrs and have extended the area for interments

Local plan

Following the District Council's recent Call for Land we are informed that the new draft Local Plan (which will be in place for 30 years) is expected by the Parish Council at the beginning of November for a 6 week consultation. Once the document is published by the District Council we will post a link on our website for anyone interested in seeing where possible development will take place across the Parish.

Transport plan

The Parish Council, with local residents, would like to develop a local transport plan for Littleport. This plan will include paths, cycle routes and any improvements we would like to propose to Highways. If you are interested in joining this group please contact us via email at clerk@littleportparishcouncil.gov.uk. The first meeting of the working group has yet to take place but it is hoped that a first draft will be available by the end of the year.

Toilets

As you may have read in the local press, the District Council are requesting all parish councils to take over the responsibility of their local public toilets to prevent closure (as a cost cutting exercise). We have agreed that we will be taking over the public toilets from the District Council to stop them being closed. At the time of writing the final details had not been agreed

High Street Improvements

Littleport Town Team was set up nearly two years ago with a mission to "breathe life into the town centre". Comprising of shops and businesses the group has organised a number of promotions and events to help raise the profile of the town centre. Without a doubt the Team's most successful initiative has been Littleport's Adams Community Market. Working with the Adams Heritage Centre, the market celebrated its first year in September and has been successful in increasing footfall, increasing awareness of the Heritage Centre itself

and bringing back a “buzz” to the town centre, at least once a month. However, whilst we now have a loyal following of core traders as well as regular guest traders popping up, we still need continued local support. Please sign up to our monthly newsletter by e-mailing littleporttownteam@eastcambbs.gov.uk or follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/Littleport-Adams-Community-Market-1076078129140387/?fref=ts> to ensure that you have all the news on the latest traders. Please make a note in your diary now to come along on the first Saturday of each month 9 am until 1 pm and support us.

Our next event is the Christmas Special on Saturday 3rd December so please once again spread the word and come and support your local shops. There will be a range of activities happening throughout the day including special offers, activities and of course the market at Adams Heritage Centre.

The Team has also recently turned its attention to look at improving the general appearance of the core town centre, in particular, the street furniture. It is working with the Parish Council to apply for external funding to create bespoke furniture that tells the story of Littleport. If successful in its application, this will be a large community project with lots of consultation and public involvement so expect to hear more!

Website

The Website (www.littleportparishcouncil.gov.uk) is continuing to grow and new pages have been added to give everyone relevant information about the new schools project, the community speedwatch initiative, Littleport Project Group etc. We are always looking for more community group/event information to add to the site so please send us any relevant information/photos etc and we will make sure that it is included.

Any information should be sent, in the first instance, by email to info@littleportparishcouncil.gov.uk. You can also drop paper copies of things into The Barn and we can digitise them for you and get them uploaded.

Parish Office

As you are aware Lynda is preparing for the luxury of retirement and whilst she does so will be working for 4 days a week (Monday to Thursday). This has meant that the Parish has a new Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Su Field.

Su is in the office every day from approximately 8.30am till 1pm and the doors will be open to all from 10am till 1pm. Please feel free to pop along if there is any information you require.



We hope you like this first edition of the Parish Council News – we aim to produce a regular newsletter to keep you up to date with the comings and goings and routine work of the Parish Councillors and the officers.

If you would like to receive our newsletters via email please email us at info@littleportparishcouncil.gov.uk and we will pop you into our distribution list.

Su Field
Parish Clerk on behalf of
Cllr Clive Webber – Parish Council Chairman