

Waterbeach Parish Council News

February 2009

From the Chair of the Parish Council

Goodbye ... And Hello

We were sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Sheila Burke who was only with us for a few months. We thank her for her contribution during that time. Meanwhile we welcome two new councillors, Mr Paul Mabbs and Mrs Melanie Welburn.

Welcome back

We have missed our Clerk, Sarah Smart, during her absence over the past few months. We have all learnt a lot and it has made us appreciate all the more the work that she does. We are very pleased to report that she is now starting to take her up duties again.

Parish Precept 2009-2010

At the Parish Council Meeting on February 3rd it was agreed that the precept for the next financial year should increase by 4.95%. For a Band D council tax property this means an increase of about £3 per year.

This increase is in line with the maximum that District and County Councils can set before they are likely to be capped by the government.

The money raised pays the salaries of our Council employees as well as for maintenance of the Recreation Ground, Gault and Green and Cemetery and a few other open spaces in the village. We also support Waterbeach & Landbeach Action for Youth,

our independent lending library, and some local street lights.

The Parish also makes a contribution to some of the Highways improvements such as the flashing signs on Denny End which have been so ultra sensitive to speeding bicycles!! It is hoped that by the time you read this they will flash only at speeds of 30mph and above. Also that the 20mph lights near school will finally be working.

County Council Minerals and Waste Consultation

Following Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's Mineral and Waste Planning Consultation held last Autumn on the Minerals and Waste Plan setting out proposals for mineral extraction sites and new waste management facilities to 2026 some new sites were proposed. Most are not near Waterbeach. However Network Rail have put forward a proposal for a railhead to take aggregates and waste by the railway to the north of Waterbeach village. You can view the site and respond on line by visiting www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/environment/mwplan click on 'additional sites consultation 2009' and then on 'Railhead'.

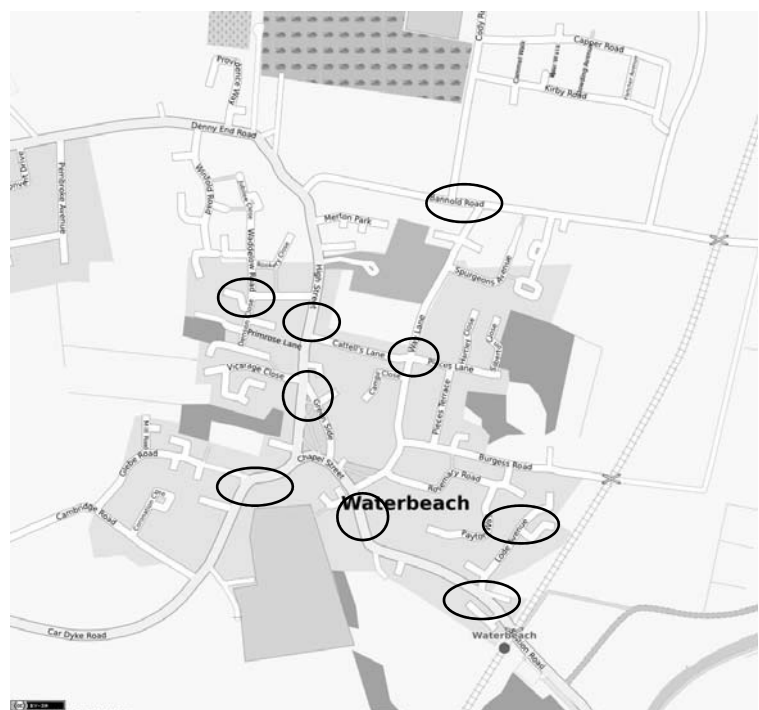
Double yellow line consultation

A number of residents have come forward with suggestions for places where parking might be prohibited. There is a list on the notice-board and this map shows roughly where people think they are needed.

In addition to the double yellow lines, there is a proposal to limit parking to ½ hour in the layby opposite Village Stores.

If you would like more detail or would like to comment, please contact the Clerk or any Parish Councillor.

We hope to make available a more detailed map for anyone who would like it.



Community and Youth Building update



By the time you read this the Youth and Community Building working party will have started the process of appointing someone to manage the project so that building work can start as soon as possible. The Parish Council are actively seeking funding, and there are some very promising sources which may be available and which could make a substantial contribution to the overall cost.

There was a pleasing response to the consultation leaflet which went to every house in the village. The Parish Council is still collecting responses, which can be left at the Post Office or e-mailed to council@waterbeach.org.uk.

Meanwhile, another building project, the new shed for the Groundsman's equipment is just about finished. This will keep our valuable machinery in much better accommodation than before.

Annual Parish meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting this year has been arranged to take place on

Wednesday April 29th at 8.15pm

at the Community Building in the school grounds. This is an opportunity for you to find out what the Parish Council has been doing on your behalf during the year, to ask questions and to meet Parish Councillors.

The meeting starts just after the library closes, so why not come early, take out a library book and stay on?

Potholes and Streetlamps

One way of reporting street lights which have gone out, dangerous potholes, or other highways issues is to use www.fixmystreet.com.

By putting in a road name or postcode you can mark on a map where the problem is and then describe it. The report is then forwarded to the relevant bit of the District or County Council. It doesn't get results for everything but is worth a try for things which can be sorted out fairly easily

If you use this method of reporting a problem the Parish Council would like to know whether it was actioned, how long it took and how satisfied you were with the outcome.

Contacting the Council

www.waterbeach.org.uk

Your Parish Councillors are:

Jane Williamson (Chairman - 440751)

Janet Cornwell (vice-Chairman - 861276)

Alan Ball (570814)

Peter Johnson (560918)

Paul Mabbs

Melanie Welburn

Kate Grant (511455)

Robert Jones (862734)

Christine Smith (507087)

Michael Williamson (860899)

Will Grant

Maurice Leeke (441562)

Gabrielle Smith (511492)

Adrian Wright (861846)

All phone numbers (except where stated) are area code 01223. Councillors can also be contacted by a standard email address which is firstname.surname@waterbeach.org.uk. For example, alan.ball@waterbeach.org.uk.

You can also contact the Clerk, Mrs. Sarah Smart at Barton Ley, Bannold Drove, Waterbeach, Cambridge, CB25 9QQ. Tel & fax: 01223 440018, email council@waterbeach.org.uk

Your County and District Councillors

Cambridgeshire County Councillor (also represents Landbeach and Milton)

Michael Williamson. Tel: 01223 860899 email: michael.williamson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

South Cambridgeshire District Councillors (also represent Landbeach)

James Hockney Tel: 01223 861419 email: cllr.hockney@scambs.gov.uk

Peter Johnson Tel: 01223 560918 email: cllr.johnson@scambs.gov.uk