

ST MARY & ST PETER NEWSLETTER

April 2011

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCILS

BOXTED

Denise Humphris, Clerk to the Parish Council

Items from the 9 March meeting

Boxted St Peter's CEVC School

The proposals to increase pupil numbers up to 210 by September 2015 at Boxted CE (VC) school were discussed in some detail. Mr Cowley, the Chairman of the school's Board of Governors attended the meeting and put the case for the school who are in favour of the increase as it will not only mean more funding for them but it will also provide three new classrooms which free up the library and ICT suites, and will also mean that children no longer have to be taught in mixed year or mixed key stage groups. After much debate the Council agreed that whilst they were fully supportive of the School Governors and the staff in their efforts to maintain and improve standards at the school, they could not support an increase in pupil numbers because of the increased traffic and problematic parking issues that would be caused by the proposed additional 70 pupils.

Allotments

The Council currently have a list of approximately 20 people who have expressed an interest in taking up an allotment but we are still desperately seeking some suitable land. We would need a minimum of 1 acre and a maximum of 2 acres to accommodate the people on our current waiting list. Do you have any land that you would be prepared to lease to be used as allotments? Alternatively is there anyone who has a large garden who would be happy to see part of it used as an allotment for one or two people? Any one with any ideas, please contact the Parish Clerk on 329019 or e-mail parishcouncil@boxted.org.uk.

Council Tax Bills/Annual Budgets

The Council are pleased to confirm that despite a cut of 50% to the Revenue Support Grant usually provided annually by Colchester Borough Council, the Parish Council have been able to use some of its reserves to keep the Parish element of the Council tax bill at the same level as last year, with no increases.

Parish Council Website

Don't forget to look at our website

www.essexinfo.net/boxted-parish-council/.

If you have any ideas to improve the site or any information you would like to see included please contact The Clerk to the Council.

LANGHAM

David Winter, Clerk to the Parish Council

Items from the 1 March meeting

Broadband

The Parish Council endorsed the need for improved broadband in Langham and with Mr. Creber, will discuss means of establishing the level of interest amongst residents.

Planning

Powerplus Engineering's application for change of use to provide 13 staff car parking spaces was considered and a decision deferred.

Roads and Transport

There will be a bus user's questionnaire inserted in the next Newsletter.

Village Cinema

There is interest in starting a village cinema, and anyone willing to help should contact Ron Smith or Sue Armstrong.

Proposed Changes to County Library Services

We have been assured that there will be no changes to Langham's mobile library service.

Village Handyman

Ernie Schofield regrettably feels he will have to give up the job of village handyman. The Parish Council thank him for all his work for the village, and wish him all the best.

Annual Parish Meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish meeting on Thursday 21st April 2011, at Langham Community Centre at 7.30pm. The River Stour Trust has been asked to tell us about their activities, and expects to be able to attend. The Parish Council extends a warm welcome to all members of the Parish.

Please mention the Newsletter when replying to an advertisement

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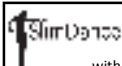
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