

# **CODDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

## **ANNUAL NEWS-SHEET**

### **APRIL 2011 No. 30**

#### **FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

The purchase of the land on which the community centre is built is progressing, and is likely to be completed soon. Despite having to service the additional 20 year £40,000 loan from the Public works Loan Board (needed to purchase the land) the Parish Council has been able to reduce the precept this year without compromising the level of service to be provided to the community.

Affordable housing in the village is a continuing project with Hastoe Housing Association having identified its preferred site in Green Hill. We are still waiting for the answers to questions raised about the selection of the site above others, and this information will be made public when it is received. The next stage is for a detailed plan to be submitted for public comment.

It is wonderful to see the village shop given a new lease of life with an improved range of both basic and speciality products available. It is also a really friendly place to drop in for a chat and a coffee as well as some excellent quality food. Congratulations to Jane and Julia for taking on this venture, and still to be so enthusiastic and welcoming despite working all the hours that they put in.

The County Council has told us that Lower Road will remain closed for some months as further falls of garden land into the road are expected. Stabilisation of the bank is proving difficult to organise as the ownership and legal responsibility is not clear. A detailed engineering survey is taking place to design suitable slope reinforcement. Temporary measures are being planned to reduce traffic speed in Green Hill/School Lane.

An election for the Parish Council is due in May. Anyone interested in standing for the Council should contact the Clerk or the Returning Officer at Mid-Suffolk County Council.

We now have a group of people in the village, led by Tom Boles, who are trained to use vehicle speed measuring equipment. They co-operate closely with the police in monitoring traffic speed.

Annual Parish Meeting – Community and Sports Centre, Thursday 7 April, 7.00 p.m.

This is an important meeting in the life of our community – we will be looking for suggestions specifically to find alternative uses for part or all of the bowls green and ways of raising match funding to get floodlights erected at the tennis courts. All the usual reports will be made by our local Councillors as well as local groups and clubs who will give details of their activities. The Parish Council accounts books will be available for inspection. I look forward to seeing you.

Footpaths - Please enjoy our footpaths responsibly by keeping to the marked routes (yellow or blue arrows) with dogs under close control. For many years now, the Parish Council has kept seasonal growth cut back so that paths are passable in the summer, supported by a grant from SCC. This year it looks as though Coddensham will have to fund the work itself. Let the Clerk or myself know if any footpaths become difficult to use.

***Donald Burton***



## **Neighbourhood Watch**

Co-ordinators are: Hall Farm area – Rita Boles, High Street – Tina Jeffrey and Brenda Goodchild, Lime Kilns – Debbie Sparkes, Church Road – Brenda Goodchild/Helen Wyles, School Road – Brenda Goodchild, Mary Day Close – Keith Prescott, Catherines Hill – Malcolm Goodall and Green Hill – Brenda Goodchild. Contact via Brenda on (01449) 760379. Our Emergency Planning Officer is Sylvia Harris on 760254. If anyone would be interested in looking after Green Hill's interest, please contact Brenda.

## **Community & Sports Centre**

For bookings and more information on the following, please phone Louise on 760500. Regular activities include Badminton, Yoga, Mums and Tots and Youth Club, with Football at weekends and Tennis during the summer. New participants are always welcome. Crockery, cutlery, tables and chairs (130 covers) – as well as the hall itself – are available for hire. The tennis courts and basketball court are available on a pay and play basis, although priority is given to people who have booked. The courts are a wonderful facility, and need to be used more extensively by all levels. The Bowls Green is currently operating on a pay and play basis only.

## **HGV traffic through the village**

There is a four pronged attack on traffic taking place through the village: We are pressing SCC to include improvements in its 5 year transport plan. We believe that this is happening, but we will wait to see the final version before celebrating. With help from MSDC, the Mary Day Foundation, Eddy Alcock and local funds, we have been able to introduce a project to reduce speed by the installation of a vehicle activated speed sign which is partially installed at the time of writing and a radar speed gun for the use of village volunteers. The latter is already in action is 14 drivers have been reported to the authorities.

Coddenham is participating in a new pilot scheme to report offending lorries contravening the rules. Leaflets have been circulated to every house on the B1078 and those close by. Anyone interested in participation in the SpeedWatch or Lorry Watch schemes should contact Tom Boles on 761950. More volunteers are urgently needed.

**Coddenham Youth Club** - Thank you to The Day Foundation, Gardemau Trust and The Suffolk Foundation for their continued financial support. The Youth Club is available to children 8 to 16 on Fridays during term time, 7.00 - 9.00 pm. Please contact Barbara on (01473) 890690.

**TENNIS CLUB** – Coddenham has 2 tennis courts available which can be booked through Louise on 760500. The Club offers junior, senior and family membership, details of which are available from Rowena Clark on 760383. Coaching is available through Martin Orton on 719377.

**Football** – Coddenham first team is currently sitting second in Division 4 of the SIL, and will be hoping to gain promotion to Division 3. In addition, they achieved the best Omnico cup run making it to the fourth round before losing to a team, six divisions above, 3-1. The reserves in Division 5 have struggled, currently second from bottom with an outside chance of survival.

*Allotments – the nine plots are looking well; worth a look if you are wandering over Broom Hill from Love Lane.*



**Broom Hill and Mill Hill** - We are fortunate in having these two excellent 'wild' areas, close to the village centre, which provide enjoyable and varied footpath walks. The wild flowers in spring are outstanding. Broom Hill now has a barn-owl box (which shows signs of being lived in) and a number of smaller bird boxes. The grass is cut yearly by a group organized by social Services, but otherwise all maintenance is done by volunteers. On Mill Hill the trees planted some years ago are now beginning to be able to look after themselves. The footpath through Mill Hill and the route through Nucleus Plantation are particularly attractive when the snowdrops and, later, the bluebells are out.

**Recycling** - The banks on the Community Centre site are well used and every effort is made to get the contractors to empty the bins when full. Please note that only refuse from the hall may be put into the wheeled grey bin at the hall, and do not leave bags or boxes around the recycling bins. Bottles and jars only please in the bottle bank - no plate glass. The revenue from this helps the Council's finances.

**MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP** - This is run every Wednesday from 10.00 – 11.30 in the Community Centre for pre-school children and their parents, grandparents or carers. We have many larger toys for older children, and a play mat for babies. Arts and Crafts are also available. The cost of each session is £1.50 per family, and a warm welcome awaits all.

### **The Six Village News**

Our monthly magazine continues to be popular, containing information about future and past events, both in Coddensham and its surrounding villages. The annual subscription of £5 has not been raised for several years, and surely represents excellent value. A good deal of the cost is paid for by the advertisements, which concentrate on local services where possible. Our circulation continues to rise gradually. Production and distribution is entirely by volunteers, to whom grateful thanks are extended.

### **HAYSEL HOUSE**

Hayssel House is open to all residents aged 55 and over who are from Coddensham and the surrounding area covered by the six parishes. Regular activities include: bowls (summer), skittles (winter) on Friday afternoons, a Benefice meeting with soup lunch on Tuesday mornings (Contact: Judy Hailes 760375), and an exercise class on Monday afternoons. A chiropodist calls on a regular basis. Always open for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat with friends especially on Wednesday afternoons and when the library van calls on Friday mornings. The hall is available for hire. For more details contact: Keith on 761732.

### **History Club**

A programme of talks, an evening outing and occasional local walks have been arranged for the coming year, and details will be on the village noticeboards at the due time. To receive the History Club's 2011 programme, please contact Sylvia Harris on 760254.

### **Coffee Shop, St Mary's Church**

This is open, usually, on the third Saturday of each month, 10.00 – 12 noon. The aim is to get everyone in the village together to enjoy friendship within our beautiful church. Look for various themed days throughout the year as we aim to incorporate notable dates/seasons/events, etc, Any ideas you would like to see on this morning, please contact Sue on 760686..

### **D O G S**

**Please inform the Parish Clerk, or the MSDC dog warden if you see an incident of dog fouling; only the dog owner's name is essential. We now have eight dog waste bins - please use them and keep our countryside clean.**



**Please use our Post Office as much as possible – we do need to preserve this essential service in, at least, some form**  
**Opening hours: Monday 9.00 – 12.30 pm,**  
**Wednesday 9.00 – 12.30 pm and Friday 1.30 – 4.30 pm**

### **Coddenham village shop - 760227**

We are so lucky to have such an amazing village shop which serves our community so well. It is an invaluable amenity not just to shop for all the basics, but it also provides a large range of menu suggestions for special occasions, and all washed down with freshly brewed coffee, filled rolls and cakes, available to eat in or take away. Vegetables and bread are delivered daily, and local suppliers – some in Coddenham itself – are used wherever possible. The deli counter is stocked with many cheeses and pates, and the meat, local of course, is of an excellent quality.

Newspapers and a range of unique gifts complete this exciting shopping experience – take the time to come and have a look; you can be sure of a very warm welcome. Opening hours are 7.30 – 6.00 Monday – Friday and 8.00 – 6.00 on Saturday..

***Enjoy your milk really fresh – speak to Helen Wyles, Manor Farm, Church Road!!***

### **Useful Information** (Telephone numbers have code 01449 unless shown)

- \* Police – PCSO Chris Bales (01473) 613500 or Community Information Hotline (01284) 774029
- \* Rev Tim Hall, The Rectory, Stonham Aspal, IP14 6AQ. Tel 711409
- \* District Councillor: Tim Passmore, 767131
- \* County Councillor: Eddy Alcock, (01728) 860564
- \* Country Club, High Street. For a social drink, game of snooker and a lot more. New members welcome. Contact 760577 (evenings).
- \* Six Village News co-ordinator/distributor – Sue Groom (760686)
- \* 'Mid Suffolk Events', published by-monthly by the Mid Suffolk Tourist Office.
- \* PCSO Chris Bales visits the shop every third Monday morning.
- \* Broom Hill Nature Trail pamphlets from the church porch.
- \* Local History Recorder – Helen Wyles (760233)
- \* Mobile Library: alternate Fridays, 10.05 – 11.00 a.m. outside the Community Centre

### **Contacting the Parish Council**

**Clerk:** Mrs Sue Groom, Oak Lodge, High Street, Coddenham IP6 9PN, Tel 760686

**Current Councillors are:** Donald Burton (*Chairman, footpaths*) 760499

Brian Aspinall	760680	Michael West	760389
Julia Jaques ( <i>Vice-Chair</i> )	761929	Helen Wyles	760233
Isabel Burgess	761992	Brian Cook	760617
Steve Causer	760769	Janet Fawdry	760715
David Hudson ( <i>Broom Hill/Mill Hill</i> )	760428	Sharon Lee	761859

*Debbie McDonnell remains the Chair of the Community Centre Committee 761793*

Electors are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings. Notices are placed on the village notice boards at least three days in advance

### ***Got a new neighbour?***

Let Sue know on 760686 and she will deliver a copy of this Newsletter