



Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council

NEWS LETTER



SPRING 2012

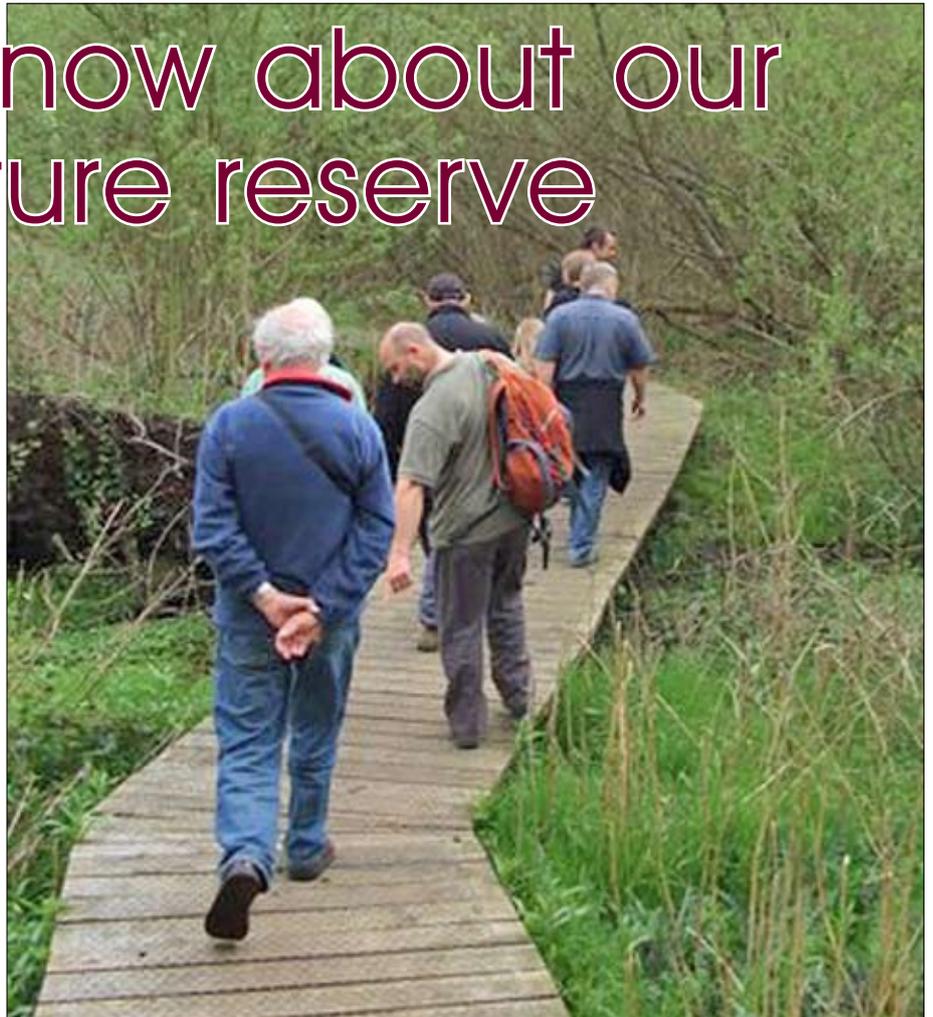
'SEEK THE COMMON GOOD'

Do you know about our local nature reserve

In conjunction with Suffolk Coastal District Council, the Parish Council takes great pride in the Sandlings and Millstream Local Nature Reserves. The area covers a wide variety of habitats and encompasses woodland walks, ponds, open spaces and a stream. It is ably managed by Greenways, using volunteer resources to provide ideal conditions for many varieties of insects, birds and animals to live in harmony with people.

One unique area is located just to the north of Ditchingham Grove. We refer to it as Church Meadow as we believe it was once associated with a church – indeed rumours abound that there once was a church somewhere in the Bixley Farm area. It is a sloping field where the grasses are left to grow and in the spring/summer months a myriad of wild flowers of all colours sway in the breeze. This provides a perfect habitat for butterflies and on a sunny day the area provides a magnificent sight.

We felt that it would be really pleasant to be able to sit and watch this habitat



Stepping out along the boardwalk at the Mill Stream Nature Reserve

in all its glory. The Parish Council has decided to provide a seat to enable people to enjoy this vista, and we

are pleased to dedicate this seat to the memory of our former County Councillor, John Klaschka.

Results of Fit Village Initiative – the top three

Thank you to all those who responded. The top three activities requested were Zumba, Pilates, and Health Walks. With regard to **Zumba Classes**, we can tell you that there are already two venues in the parish where these are held. First is at Village Hall in Humber Doucy Lane on a Tuesday evening between 6.30 and 7.30 pm contact Jackie Flewett 07810 001662 and the second is held at Rushmere Sports Club on a Monday morning contact Gabriella Reeve 07929 755747.

There are no **Pilates Classes** at the moment, but there is space available at either Village Hall or Tower Hall if someone would like to start one.

Health Walks – we contacted the organisation Living Well and found a wealth of guided walks all over Suffolk including some here in Rushmere St Andrew. Details can be found on our web site at <http://rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net>

Also are you aware of our wonderful Mill Stream Nature Reserve situated in the southern half of the parish?

One of our Parish Councillors living in the village area of Rushmere St Andrew, was not aware of it until recently and had a wonderful time discovering it, together with the Jubilee Walk, created for the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002. Details of both can also be found on our web site.

Allotment Gardens

The Parish Council owned allotment gardens in The Street adjacent to Chestnut Pond are well used with an ever present waiting list for plots. There are currently 12 full size plots and 38 half size plots in use.

An Allotment Management Panel has been formed to examine the current site facilities with a view to making improvements to car parking, plus creating enough space to allow all tenants to have a shed and compost bin. It is also hoped that the work programme will create enough extra space to establish several additional plots.

Of necessity this work will take several years and probably involve movement of some of the existing sheds and compost bins.

Chestnut Pond

At Chestnut Pond, work has continued on its refurbishment with planting and tidying exercises taking place.

The promised flood relief exercise with replacement overflow pipes being laid across the adjacent field was satisfactorily completed by Suffolk County Council. As such we feel the major flooding problem in The Street in this vicinity has been eliminated.

We are aware there remains a small localised puddle which would appear to be caused by a surface water drain sitting slightly proud of the adjacent highway surface. We have advised Suffolk County Highways that this needs rectifying to eliminate a splashing problem. We're on the case to see that it is!

New County Councillor

With a vacancy on Suffolk County Council, a by-election took place on Thursday 9 February 2012.

Three candidates took part in the election, with the successful candidate being Christopher Hudson.

The Parish Council looks forward to working with Christopher and are confident he will fight our cause.

Limes Pond clean-up

Residents of the village area will doubtless be pleased to know that at long last a contractor has been engaged to remove the silt from Limes Pond. The location of the pond poses a number of challenges for the contractor, for example, traffic control in The Street and The Limes; pumping the water out to expose the silt – SCC have stated that the local surface water drainage system does not have the capacity to have that volume of water pumped into it, so a bowser will be making trips to haul the water to a main drain chamber in Holly Lane; silt will be removed to landfill (unless a local alternative can be found); the fish in the pond need to be caught and sent on a 'holiday' whilst the work is carried out and the pond refilled again. The work will commence sometime in the summer – exact date still to be finalised at the time of writing.

The village sign at the pond will be removed for safety reasons in the next few weeks as the mounting post has rotted at ground level and is now unsafe. The sign will be stored and then replaced on a new mounting once the pond clean-up is complete. There will also be some tidying and replanting of the peripheral areas of the pond.

Your Council Tax for 2012/2013

The Parish Council took the decision to keep the amount required for its needs at the same level as the previous financial year. With there being additional new-build houses to share the burden, a slight reduction in the charge per household therefore took place.

Based on the 'typical' Council Tax band D property, the Parish Council will therefore receive £36.01 of the total receipt. This compares very favourably with Parishes of a broadly urban nature in Suffolk Coastal District.

With Suffolk County Council taking £1126.53, Suffolk Police Authority £166.77 and Suffolk Coastal District Council £149.40, the total band D amount within our Parish is £1478.01.

In comparison, the adjacent Ipswich Borough Council bill is just over 8% higher at £1596.96, a figure no Parish in the Suffolk Coastal area exceeds.

More Newsletter distributors needed

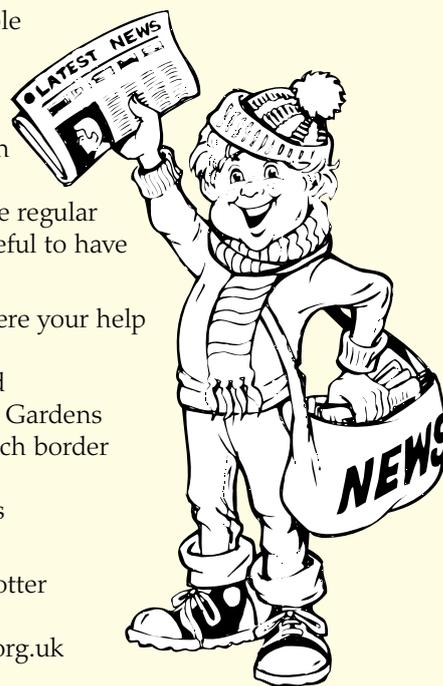
Thank you so much to all those people who responded to our last request.

In some cases there were two or three people responding for the same area. We shall keep everyone on the list because sometimes when a newsletter is due to be distributed the regular person may be on holiday; it is so useful to have your help as a backup.

We now have a few further areas where your help is needed:

- 1 Heathlands Park, off Foxhall Road
- 2 Cuckfield Avenue and Broke Hall Gardens
- 3 Foxhall Road, Golf Hotel to Ipswich border
- 4 Bixley Lane and Sandpit Close
- 5 Linksfild and Linksfild Gardens
- 6 Holly Lane

If you can help please contact Jean Potter on 01473 723409 or email assistantclerk@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk
Many thanks.





The bollards in place – helping to stop dangerous traffic cutting through by the nursery

Annual Meeting of the Council and Annual Parish Meeting

What is the difference between an Annual Parish Meeting and an Annual Meeting of the Parish Council?

Every council is required by statute to call an Annual Meeting of the Parish and hold an Annual Meeting of the Council. There are distinct differences between the two, including the business that must be transacted and the meetings should not be confused with each other.

The Annual Meeting of the Council must be held on any day in May or when following an ordinary election (every fourth year), on the fourth day after the election or within 14 days thereafter. Councillors are summoned to the meeting by the Clerk who must give them three clear days' notice of the business to be transacted. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a chairman of the Parish Council, appoint a vice-chairman (if required) and appoint councillors to committees and outside bodies where the council is represented.

The Annual Parish Meeting must be held on any day between 1 March and 1 June every year and cannot commence before 6pm. It is an opportunity for you as registered electors to discuss parish affairs. This meeting is also an opportunity for the Parish Council and other community groups to explain their activities over the last year.

Parish Councillors are not summoned to attend but it is considered good practice if they do. The meeting must be chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council if present, else the meeting may elect a chairman from the electorate in attendance. The purpose of the meeting is to enable the ordinary electors to have their say. Councillors will listen with interest and as electors themselves, also have the opportunity to raise questions and make comments if they wish

You have the chance to ask questions. A written record of the meeting will be taken by the Parish Clerk and kept in a special book. The rules on the signature and admissibility of minutes are the same as those for Parish Council meetings.

You are, therefore, warmly invited to attend Rushmere St Andrew's Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 22 May, 7.30pm at Tower Hall, Broadlands Way.

St Andrews Walk

The Parish Council, with support from the local Police SNT, Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council has now managed to get bollards installed on the pavement area to stop vehicles mounting the pavement and driving past the nursery doors to avoid the bus lane.

This practice was clearly dangerous and very irresponsible.

The Parish Council is now trying to get the bus lane repaired to stop traffic other than buses using this area.

The Police are taking a zero tolerance approach to anyone found contravening the traffic regulations, see their article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Nabbing the speeders

Due to an increase in reports of speeding vehicles in the parish, we have recently changed one of the priorities to speed enforcement.

We are currently looking for volunteers to set up a community speed watch Scheme (CSW). The volunteers have to be over 18 years of age, and full training will be given. Anyone interested should contact the Kesgrave and District SNT on 01473 613500 or 101.

Charitable Donations

The Parish Council's Standing Orders state that up to 1% of our precept (not exceeding £1,000) should be earmarked for supporting charities and other deserving causes. Most donations are taken from the Small Donations Fund which limits donations to a maximum of £250 per organisation.

Donations are normally made to charities known to be working within the Parish. Requests for donations or grants must be made in writing and are considered by the General Purposes and Finance Committee (GP&F).

Larger donations can also be requested but these must be given final approval by the full Parish Council. No organisation can receive more than one donation per year.

Any monies not used are returned to the General Carried Forward Fund at the end of the financial year.

Parishioners are welcome to attend the meetings of the GP&F Committee and to express their views on this or any other topic on the agenda. The agenda for each meeting is displayed on all Parish Notice Boards and on our website.

This year the following donations were agreed:

November 2011 – £150 to Cancer Research in memory of the late Councillor John Klaschka

February 2012 – £150 pounds each to Age UK (formerly Help The Aged/ Age Concern), Home Start (supporting families in need of help), Macmillan Nurses Cancer Support and Marie Curie Cancer Care.

If you or members of your family have been helped by a particular charity or organisation and you feel that a donation from the Parish Council might be appropriate, please write to Mel Bentley (Parish Clerk). Contact details are printed on the back of the newsletter.

Your request will be considered along with any others received. Please note that, in the interests of fairness, the GP&F Committee and the full Parish Council retain the right to make any final decisions.

Mirabel Brown (Parish Councillor)



Salehurst Road play area, showing the old basketball pitch in the foreground

John Klaschka

The Parish Council were deeply saddened to learn of the untimely death of Councillor John Klaschka on 26 October 2011. John represented parishioners as Suffolk County Councillor for the Division of Kesgrave and Rushmere St Andrew. He also served as Councillor for Kesgrave East on Suffolk Coastal District Council.

John regularly attended the meetings of the Parish Council and freely gave of his advice. He fought tirelessly for our local interests and really was the driving force in securing priority, and funding, to rebuild the life expired Foxhall Road highway and pavements from their noisy, bumpy state into the smooth surface we now have.

Unfortunately he did not see the fruits of his long standing challenge to alleviate the flooding problem at The Street with the installation of a new drainage pipe taking place very shortly after his death.

John was a really hard working and knowledgeable Councillor who will be sadly missed.

Keep your hedges, trees and shrubs under control

Footpaths and roads around the parish have seen an encroachment of growth from gardens which is impeding walkers and making life difficult for car drivers.

Also in some cases light from street lamps is being obscured by trees growing out beyond garden boundaries. It is not enough just to look at eye level growth.

ALL growth beyond your boundary needs to be trimmed back to your boundary line.

Your help and observance will be much appreciated by everyone.

Alan Eaton Bequest

In our last edition, we commemorated the life of Alan Eaton who had served as Clerk to the Parish Council for around 30 years.

The Parish Council were honoured to be named as a beneficiary in Alan's Will and have received around £8,000 from the estate.

We will be considering how we should make use of this bequest for the benefit of the Parish.

We would welcome any suggestions from Parishioners as to how we should commemorate Alan's life – please pass any ideas you may have to the Clerk.

Additionally, a garden bench from Alan's garden has been moved to the Village Hall, and a commemorative plaque will soon be attached to it.

Play area – Salehurst Road

Sometime ago the Parish Council embarked on a programme to refurbish and improve play areas. As part of that work the Basketball facility at Salehurst Road playing field was relocated. This has left a hardstand area which we thought might be suitable for Skateboarding. However, the cost of this has proved prohibitive.

Now we are looking for ideas as to what kind of facility or play equipment residents would like to see for this spot.

Perhaps some of you have ideas for us to look at so that the relevant committee of the Parish Council can move forward on this issue. Please contact the Assistant Clerk, Jean Potter 01473 723409 email: assistantclerk@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

Play equipment is very expensive when you factor in safety surfaces, regular safety checks as well as the equipment itself. We do have some funds and we also have access to play space funding.

This playground, along with the one at Tower Hall on Broadlands Way, belongs to the Parish and has to be maintained by the Parish Council. However, Suffolk Coastal District Council (in common with other local authorities) is divesting responsibility for such playgrounds. There are three more playgrounds in the Parish that will eventually become the responsibility of the Parish Council to maintain in future.

James Wright (Parish Councillor)

Parish Web Site

Our web site is now up and running. It is a work in progress. Please do take a look; we would welcome your ideas, suggestions and comments as to what can be added, what you would like information on, details of what else goes on in Rushmere St Andrew. There are contact details on the web site or email Jean Potter assistantclerk@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk



Doesn't the time fly. Its been two and a half months since I arrived at Kesgrave, and what a lovely time it has been, even the sun's been out in force. I have now had time to get my feet under the table, and get a taste of how the SNT works, and areas we need to take a closer look at.

Recently I had a meeting with the local councils, where we decided to change the police priorities for the area. The priority that is remaining is the parking outside the schools. This is an ongoing problem and unfortunately will not go away because as soon as we take our eyes off the problem, it will get bad again. Both my team and I are going to take the zero tolerance approach and will be issuing fixed penalty fines to drivers. We have also introduced a second priority, looking at speeding vehicles in the area of Foxhall Road and The Street in Rushmere and general speeding vehicles in our area. This is also a huge problem, especially first thing in the morning when parents are taking their children to school. If the problem isn't addressed now there may be some serious outcomes. Over the next few weeks I have arranged for Community Speed Watch and the Special Constabulary to assist us, so that we can get maximum coverage.

Over the past few weeks we have been hit by thefts from motor vehicles and thefts from garages. Many of these have been in the Kesgrave area, where 13 out of 14 were insecure, and where items of value had been left on view. As a result we placed signs out in Kesgrave, warning residents and visitors to lock away items of value and also to lock their property. I have noticed that this has had a positive effect, as the crimes have decreased. Although this is not a real issue for Rushmere, we need to make sure that we do not have a similar problem. We will be carrying out routine checks on vehicles in the area on our patrols, to make sure that they are secure. If we find insecure vehicles, we will notify the owner in person or by letter.

I was updated with the issue of vehicles using St Andrews Walk (Broadlands Way) as a cut through, which I totally agree cannot happen. I have been to assess the area and it is a clearly marked bus lane. Unfortunately we cannot patrol the area all the time – however I would like to encourage people to take the vehicle details and email them to the SNT. We can then send letters out, and keep a spread sheet, so that we can deal with persistent offenders. Contravening a bus lane carries a £30 fine, or report for summons, which could lead to a larger fine.

Overall, Rushmere's crime is very low comparing it to other areas of similar size, but we need to make sure that we continue to work together to make sure that it stays that way and that we try and make it a crime free place.

Hopefully I will get a chance to meet many of you over the next few weeks, but if you have any issues you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact us or pop into the Kesgrave office and where we can discuss this in person.

There is now an easy number to remember if you need to contact the police for a non-urgent reason. No matter where you are in the UK the number is 101 and this can be used to report crime, to get in touch with your local Safer Neighbourhood Team or for any non-emergency enquiries. If your call is an emergency – if you think a crime is in progress or a life is in danger – the number is still 999.

*Sergeant 347 Gordon Campbell-Barr
Kesgrave and District Safer Neighbourhood Team
Tel: (01473) 613500 or 101. kesgrave.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk*

Trees and hedgerows are protected by law – so please put the chainsaws away and leave alone

During the past winter there has been quite a lot of activity in the Parish with a team of workers coppicing trees and hedgerows on the Sandlings Local Nature Reserve and other areas.

This work is not always immediately understood especially where trees are cleared. However, the work is carried out as a joint project between Suffolk Coastal District Council Countryside Rangers, Greenways and the Parish Council and is part of a management scheme which is in place throughout the Parish and is carried out by trained and qualified personnel.

The tree removal and coppicing is part of a planned programme to generate new plant growth and, in turn, provide an ideal habitat for some of our most endangered butterflies.

As part of this clearance, the brushwood has been used to create hurdles to encourage a dense undergrowth thus providing further habitat for a range of wildlife. It follows, therefore, that attempts to remove these hurdles are not welcome.

Much closer to home (literally) are a number of trees and hedgerows consisting of mixed oak, elm, ash, blackthorn, hawthorn etc. Some of them border ancient bridleways and all are protected in law.

Many of these are beside garden

boundaries and some residents see these as little more than a nuisance. Whilst there are those of us who are qualified to understand the importance of the balance of nature, there are also those who see a tree or a hedge as nothing more than 'blocking our view'. For others, having a tree removed would mean more light in the garden.

We've even had requests to remove trees to stop squirrels running across someone's patio! We often have the argument presented 'they (the trees) will fall down in the wind and damage our property or fall on us'.

There have actually been only a few such incidents in the last ten years (all very minor) and to date no one has been injured. Nor are we complacent. Wherever such a risk is brought to the Council's attention the matter is investigated by qualified SCDC arboreculturalists.

What we have seen recently though is absolutely unacceptable. Some local residents have taken it upon themselves to come onto the Sandlings Nature Reserve and cut down the trees or hedges to suit their own ends – in some cases even employing someone else to do the work.

This is simply illegal. It is nothing short of vandalism and therefore a criminal act.

Imagine how you would feel if you arrived home and found that your neighbour had chopped down a row of trees in your garden so that they could get more light or removed your hedgerow so that they could get a better view of the sunset!!

Legally you may prune branches overhanging your property in a vertical line above your boundary after checking that there is not a tree preservation order in place. The cuttings may legally be placed back over your boundary fence. It is not legal to lean out beyond your boundary to extend that pruning.

It therefore follows that it is quite illegal to come onto council land (or anyone else's land) with ladders, saws, ropes, pruning shears or any other equipment to cut, chop, prune or remove any vegetation – nor may you employ contractors to do the work on your behalf.

Unfortunately we have some persistent offenders who have declined to respond to polite reminders. We are seeking legal action to deal with these people. Leave our trees and hedges alone – we will deal with them.

We regularly discuss these matters and the message to our Parishioners is that the value of properties in Rushmere St Andrew reflects the fact (by several thousand pounds!) that we live in a superb setting with wonderful open spaces and countryside on our doorstep. Along with our own lovely gardens this all supports a rich diversity of wildlife.

Whilst on these matters it is also a criminal act to 'fly tip' your lawn cuttings, prunings or any other waste you produce from your garden or household by simply tipping it over your fence. The whole of the Parish is served by an excellent Brown Bin scheme and the Foxhall Recycling Centre is in the next parish – so there is no excuse. It really is possible to live alongside nature.

Contacts: James Wright, Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council Tree Warden. 01473 721499

Peter Ross, Countryside Ranger, Suffolk Coastal District Council. 01394 444619

Bixley Farm – the latest plans

It may surprise some people that the development at Bixley Farm has been ongoing for over 25 years. Planning applications have been made as each phase of development is designed, and then built.

Whilst the planning authority, Suffolk Coastal District Council, decide whether an application is granted, the Parish Council is a Statutory Consultee and traditionally review and comment on all planning proposals made within the Parish.

Earlier this year, an application by Chater Homes for the development of three discrete areas on the Bixley Farm development was received. Each area encompassed a different style of housing – smaller affordable 2/3 bedroom units, larger 4/5 bedroom units and 'retirement' bungalows.

The Parish Council felt this application would be of general interest to the public, and thus publicised and held a very well attended exhibition of the plans at Tower Hall on 28 February. The Parish Council took full account of comments received from members of the public in their submission made to Suffolk Coastal District Council.

New member on the Parish and District Council

I'm Mark Newton and I'm one of your newest Parish and District Councillors. I've been given this opportunity to say a few words about who I am, what it's like to be a Councillor and what I've been doing on your behalf.

My Background

I'm 65 and married to Lesley with two children and four grandchildren.

I came to Suffolk from Leeds in Yorkshire about 32 years ago to work at BT Labs, now known as Adastral Park, on the development of digital Telephone Exchanges. I'm the son of a Pharmacist who was very active with the local Chamber of Commerce – I believe that his involvement in this affected the way I saw communities and the part commerce plays in community life. I've been retired now for a few years.

How I came to be a Councillor

I suppose I became a councillor more by accident than by design. I had been actively involved in a local issue and at about the same time two of our long-standing District Councillors, Dennis Gooch and Gordon Laing, had decided to stand down.

I suppose it was because of the concern I'd shown for the local issue, that I was invited by The Conservative Party to stand for Dennis's seat at the 2011 Local Election. I had already decided to stand for the Parish Council so that I could be more effective in supporting local residents.

What I've Been Doing

At the District Council I'm active on two committees: Development Control and Licensing & Health. These both take up a lot of time but the work is really rewarding.

There's also lots of training and other meetings to attend. I also represent the District Council on the Greenways Joint Advisory Committee.

At the Parish Council I'm active on several Committees including Planning and the News Letter and Website Editorial Advisory Panel.

What I've Achieved

As a resident I would moan and groan about the way local and national government was working. As a

Councillor I've found that I can actually do something about it, helping many people along the way. I've handled many concerns from individual local people and I've been able to resolve many of them ranging from blocked drains to dangerous trees.

I've been involved with a small dedicated team who have together established the Parish's new web site and last year the same team saw in the first Parish newsletter for quite a time – and now here's another!

I've found it extremely rewarding when I've been able to help local people who had Local Authority issues. To see these residents go away delighted is a wonderful thing.

What Next

I'm working hard to preserve the green areas of our parish and looking for ways to improve pedestrian safety where there are no footpaths.

I'll continue to work with the Parish Council editorial panel who help improve our communication with parishioners through improvements to the Web Site and produce regular Newsletters.

Finally, I'd like parishioners to continue asking for help should there be Local Authority issues. Contact information is in this newsletter, on the Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council Web Site, on Parish notice boards and on the Suffolk Coastal Web Site.

Do you remember this . . .



This steam roller, built by Ruston and Hornsby, works number 122282 and known as 'Gladiator', was supplied on 22 July 1924 to Alfred Dawson & Co of Rushmere St Andrew, and became No 7 in their steamroller fleet. She spent all her working life in Suffolk and parts of Essex, not retiring until 1970, by which time it is thought to have become the last commercially used steam roller in this county.

This photograph was taken in 2009 at Suffolk at Carlton Colville, but she is now believed to be in Lincolnshire.

RUSHMERE ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors and Officers

Mrs M Brown	15 Chestnut Close, IP5 1ED	01473 725720
Mrs J Clarke	734 Foxhall Road, IP4 5TE	01473 430226
Miss A Cracknell	148 The Street, IP5 1DH	01473 719746
Mr D Ealham	1 The Willows, IP5 1BX	01473 715053
Mr D J Francis	14 Clovelly Close, IP4 5UF	01473 723453
Mr G W Laing	6 Butterfly Gardens, IP4 5TF	01473 725841
Mr M Newton	11 Chestnut Close, IP5 1ED	07899 011098
Mr R F Nunn	835 Foxhall Road, IP4 5TJ	01473 320433
Mr P M Richings (Chairman)	29 The Pastures, IP4 5UQ	01473 436688
Mr S G Skinner	21 The Pastures, IP4 5UQ	07787 893131
Mr M Sones	18 Brendon Drive IP5 1NJ	01473 625511
Mr B Ward	12 Playford Road, IP4 5RH	01473 622272
Mr R E Whiting	105 Playford Road, IP4 5RQ	07833 441347
Mr J Withey (Vice-Chairman)	8 Newby Drive, IP4 5UY	01473 273471
Mr J Wright	5 Butterfly Gardens, IP4 5TF	01473 721499

Clerk to the Parish Council and Responsible Financial Officer

Mr M R Bentley
PO Box 456, Rushmere St Andrew, IP4 5WH 01473 711509
Parish Council email: mel.bentley@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

Assistant Clerk

Mrs J Potter
21A Claverton Way, Rushmere St Andrew, IP4 5XE 01473 723409
Email: assistantclerk@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

Web site <http://rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net>

Registrar to the Burial Authority

Mr A Duncan 8 Crofton Close, Ipswich, IP4 4QR 01473 727389

Kesgrave and District Safer Neighbourhood Team

To speak with an Officer at the above SNT – telephone 01473 613500 or 101.

Email: kesgrave.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Write to: Suffolk Constabulary, Kesgrave and District Safer Neighbourhood Team, c/o Kesgrave Town Council Office, Ferguson Way, Kesgrave. IP5 2FZ

For further information about Safer Neighbourhood Team's (SNT) including Team Members; Priorities; Campaigns and Meetings, please choose the following link. <http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk/safersuffolk>

Parish Halls News

Last time we gave you a flavour of some of the activities and events that take place on a regular basis at both Tower Hall on Broadlands Way and Village Hall on Humber Doucy Lane. There are still some daytime vacancies in each hall if you are thinking of starting a group. The halls are also available for one-off hires for events such as wedding receptions/anniversaries, special birthdays, exhibitions, children's parties, the list is endless.

At each venue there is a main hall with use of the kitchen included in the hire price, and a separate meeting room for hire. Details of our hire charges are on the web site at <http://rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net>

To book or discuss further contact Jean Potter on 01473 723409 or email parish.halls@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

Doggie mess and fly tipping

We all love our dogs, but the parish does not love irresponsible dog owners. We have seen an increasing amount of doggie mess on paths and grass verges around the parish during the winter months.

Some owners are picking up the mess in plastic bags and rather than find a doggie bin or take it home are throwing it in the nearest hedge or bush.

Similarly fly tipping of unwanted toys, domestic appliances, and garden rubbish, have appeared in our hedgerows.

None of this is acceptable and is also a criminal act. More to the point it is a further cost to the Parish Council which ultimately gets passed onto you as council tax payers. Every household has bins, there is a recycling centre at Foxhall, and good quality second hand goods will be welcomed by the various local charity shops and organisations.

Forthcoming Parish Council Meetings

Full Parish Council

Annual Meeting Thursday 10 May 7.30 pm Village Hall
Thursday 12 July 7.30 pm Tower Hall
Thursday 13 September 7.30 pm Tower Hall
Thursday 8 November 7.30 pm Tower Hall

General Purposes and Finance Committee

Thursday 14 June 7.30 pm Village Hall
Thursday 9 August 7.30 pm Village Hall
Thursday 18 October 7.30 pm Village Hall
Thursday 13 December 7.30 pm Village Hall

Parish Amenities and Services Committee

Thursday 21 June 7.30 pm Tower Hall
Thursday 16 August 7.30 pm Tower Hall
Thursday 11 October 7.30 pm Tower Hall
Thursday 20 December 7.30 pm Tower Hall

Planning and Development Committee

These meetings are arranged as and when we receive planning applications for discussion. Notice of meetings and agendas will be placed on notice boards and web site.

All of the meetings listed are open to members of the public, and agendas are published on the notice boards around the parish and on our web site.