

Parish Council Clarion

An occasional Great & Little Gidding Parish Council newsletter

February 2010

Parish Councillors

Andrew Alexander (Chair)

Robin Hayden (ViceChair, Highways & Police)

Julie Byard (Press & PR and School Liaison)

Paul Hodson (Finance & Charities)

Henry Hill (Councillor without Portfolio)

Chris Howden (Village Hall, Recreation Ground and Allotments)

Rose Foster (Rights of Way)

62 Main Street - 293315

Warren House - Main Street - 293360

5 Chapel End - 293576

17 Chapel End - 293782

9 Mill Road - 293404

9 Main Street - 293679

4 Winwick Road - 293411

Parish Clerk: Sally Dalley,
Tree Warden: Michael Trolove

*The Parish Council Office in the Village Hall is open on Tuesdays and Thursday from 11:30 to 1:30.
Phone 293068 or email giddingspc1@btinternet.com*

This newsletter is published occasionally when the Parish Council has particular news that we wish to publish throughout the parish, including those households who do not have access to the monthly Parish Magazine or the Giddings website at <www.thegiddings.org.uk>.

Great Gidding Ponds

As you may have seen, work carried out on the pond at Chapel End has been very successful. The contractors have done an excellent job. If funding comes available work to improve the pond in Main Street will be investigated.

Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee

Thanks to the hard work of the Committee a lot has been achieved in the past few months. There is now a toilet in place on the Recreation Ground which will be fully functional shortly.

The Village Hall has also had the following improvements:

- décor of the hall.
- double glazed replacement windows fitted
- flat roof had been re-felted
- new flooring in the small hall
- a new shed erected.

Next on the list to be completed are the refurbishment of the village hall toilets and the heating.

We are very keen to encourage more residents to make use of the Village Hall, and the Recreation Ground. Evening classes/groups would be most welcome.

*Paul Hodson (chairperson) – Tel 293782
Chris Howden (treasurer) - Tel 293679
Julie Trolove (secretary) - Tel 293598*

Parish History Project

David (Shep) Shepherd is keen to hear from anyone with information that anyone may have about the history of the parish. Shep can be contacted on 293479 or find him at Crown Cottage on Main Street.


Allotments

After a number of enquiries about the allotments, it was agreed that the plots not being used as gardens would be given notice to vacate. This would free up space for those waiting for allotments and will take effect from 1st April 2011. The council is also currently working on obtaining a mains water supply to the allotments.

If you have any queries relating to the allotments then contact Councillor Chris Howden (Tel: 293679).

Post Office Van

There are new times for the Post Office Van that is situated in Chapel End near to Main Street.

Mondays 11.30am - 1 pm 
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
9.30 am - 11.00am

If you have any concerns/suggestions regarding this service then please contact Mark Lawrence who is happy to address any concerns. He can be contacted by email :
mark.d.lawrence@postoffice.co.uk

or by letter to the following address:

Mark Lawrence
Network Development Manager
Post Office Ltd.
29 East Street
Wimbourne
Dorset
BH21 1AA

Police News

There has been a spate of oil thefts in the village. Please be aware when you receive a delivery of oil that you are more likely to be targeted than usual.

For all non-emergency enquiries contact Cambridgeshire Constabulary on 03456 456 4564

Access to the Village Hall

The Parish Council have applied for funding to improve the pedestrian access to the village hall.

School Plans

The Parish Council are fully supportive of the school in their plans to improve aspects of the school building. Hopefully this is a temporary measure and with the support of the parish a new school will be on the horizon in the next few years.

"Use it or lose it"

Sadly the Busybees preschool will be closing at the end of this term. This has been due in part to a lack of students. The phrase "use it or lose it" really does apply at the moment. With the loss of the Post Office and now the preschool it is vital that we support the other core services in the community. Without that support we could lose our village shop, our school and the Fox and Hounds Pub.

Thanks

Thanks to Richard and Sylvia Fuller for their generous donation and the hard work of the volunteers in putting together the vegetable boxes for the older members of the Parish. If you know of someone who didn't receive a box then please contact the Parish Office and we can add them to the list for next year.

Vehicle parking on Main Street

Two meetings have taken place with the Highways Department and they had produced a plan for yellow lines to break the line of parked cars and allow a space for vehicles to pass. The Parish Council agreed in principle to this suggestion but funding for this work would need to be found. The school have agreed that they are happy to move vehicles when deliveries are being made. You can contact the school on tel: 293466.

Highways and Street Lights

As you are probably aware, the state of the roads around the Parish is in a poor state of repair after the recent cold spell. This has particularly been a problem on Chapel End, where parked vehicles have exacerbated the pot-hole situation. County Councillor Viv McGuire visited the village on Thursday 28th January and met with Cllr Alexander. She saw firsthand the problems caused by parking on Main St and the blocked drain and damaged road in Gains Lane leading into Chapel End.

You can help as an individual if you have specific concerns regarding the roads as follows:

You can report any type of highway fault as follows: by phone: 0345 045 5212

email: street.scene@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

or use the online form:

http://www2.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/db/CCCForms.nsf/highway_defect

You can also contact your County Councillor Mrs Viv McGuire directly:

c/o Members' Services RES1108 Shire Hall,
Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP

Email: viv.mcguire@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

You can also report a streetlight fault as follows:

by phone 0800 253 529

or use the online form

: http://www2.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/db/CCCForms.nsf/streetlight_defect

Annual Report

There have been significant achievements this past year by the parish council. These will be detailed this coming April when the Parish Council will be sending out its Annual Report which will also include the Financial Accounts for the past year.