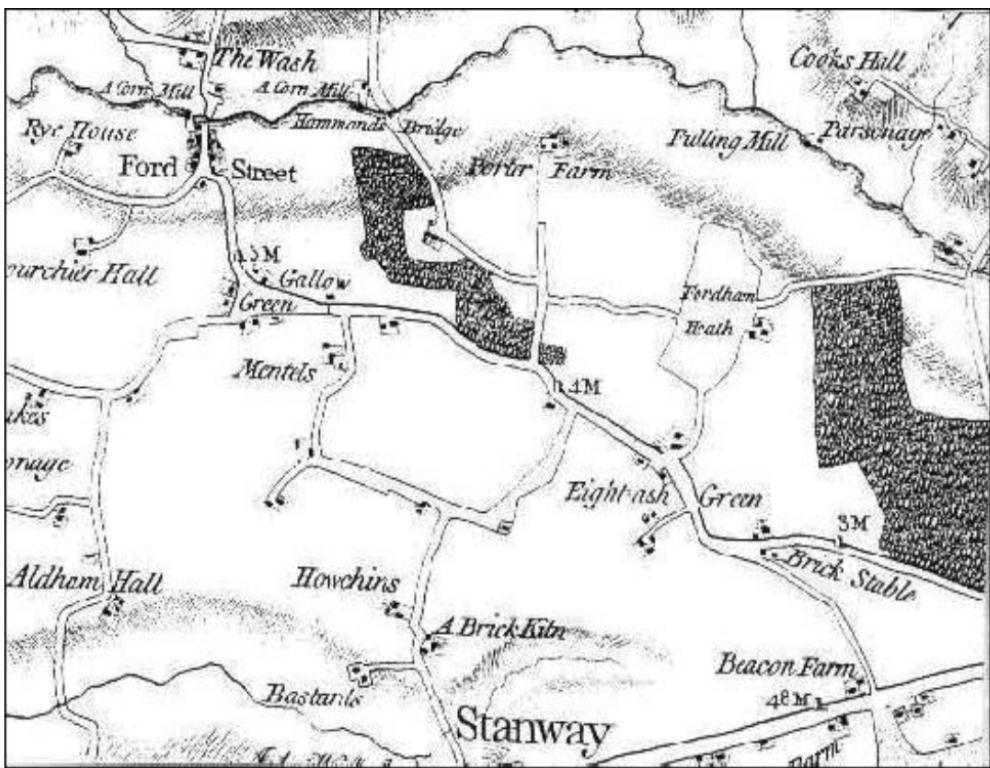


Eight Ash Green & Fordham Heath Quarterly Newsletter

March 2014 Spring Edition



From Chapman & Andre's Map of the County of Essex, 1777

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EIGHT ASH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



Andrew Cook

**07584
218280**
Co-opted

andrew.cook@eightashgreen.com



Syd Duty
560279

Co-opted

syd.duty@eightashgreen.com



Louise Greenwold
572645

Elected 5th May 11

louise.greenwold@eightashgreen.com



Keith Winterbourne
240497

Co-opted

keith.kinterbourne@eightashgreen.com

Parish Council Project Managers

(Not Members of the Council)

Website & Broadband Marcel Horst,

Marcel.Horst@eightashgreen.com

Village Speedwatch Anthony Robin

anthony_robin@hotmail.com



Derek Franklin
(Chairman)

210959

Elected 5th May 11



Leon Coombs
07526 743634

Co-opted

leon.coombs@eightashgreen.com

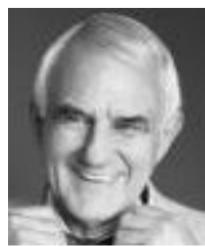


Josh Greenwold

572645

Co-opted

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David Mills

231572

Co-opted

david.mills@eightashgreen.com



Christine Willetts

240314

Elected 5th May 11

christine.willetts@eightashgreen.com

Parish Council Chairman's Report for Spring 2014

This will be my last report as Chairman and Councillor as I intend to retire, on finishing my term at the May AGM.

Firstly I would like to express my condolences to Helen Swinstead and family on their tragic loss. Older residents will know James and Helen have, in the past been in the forefront of village activities.

Secondly I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to present and past councillors, Ward Councillors, Parish Volunteers, Marcel Horst (Broad Band) Anthony Robin (Speed Watch), Susan Greenwold (Neighbourhood Watch) and John Allcock and his team on the Parish Plan and Village Design Project for all their help and assistance over the years.

2014 Meetings. We review all recent planning applications that have been made in regard to properties in the village. We have formally adopted the Village Design Statement as our planning policy, and we judge the merits of each application against these policies.

We have also carried-out the annual review of the Parish Plan. The plan identifies those top ten issues facing the village which were identified in public consultations, and therefore constitute our long-term action plan.

The location of dog bins is still being considered. The actual location differs from that on the village map. The result being the bins not always being emptied.

The village benefits from a locality budget provided by Colchester Borough Council, with matching funds provided by the Parish Council. We are using this year's locality budget to provide owl and bat boxes and bee rope hives on the Heath, an overhead cabinet for the large-screen TV in the village hall, a flag pole at All Saints church, a tree and Plaque on the Heath, and an issue of poppies in association with the World War 1 commemorations

We are reviewing our policy on Parish Council street lights. The County Council is turning off many of its street lights overnight. The street lights paid for and maintained by the Parish Council at present remain on overnight. We are considering an alternative policy by replacing our sodium lamps with super-efficient white LED lamps which consume hardly any energy. Due to the cost of replacement, we are still working on this investment appraisal.

We are concerned about the dangers of water flowing over the pavement and the roadway in Spring Lane. This could be a hazard if we eventually have a winter. We have commissioned extensive testing to identify and remedy leaks, but still the water flows. Older residents of the village point out that "Spring Lane" is not called that for nothing!.

Members of the public are always welcome at our meetings. Each meeting starts with a public session at which any villager can address the Parish Council on any problem or matter relevant to the village.

Derek Franklin, Parish Council Chairman.

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Parish Clerk: Amy Harness

parish.clerk@eightashgreen.com

Tele 07530 873736



My name is Amy and I am the Parish Clerk for Eight Ash Green. The Parish Council is made up of volunteers who give their time to work hard for the parish of Eight Ash Green and its residents. If you have any queries or matters you would like bringing to the attention of the Council please get in touch.

My contact details are shown above. I work 10 hours a week (normally on a Tuesday) so please be aware you may not always get through to me straight away. It is good to be back at work after recently returning from maternity leave! Whilst I have been on leave Helen Cook filled in for me and I would like to thank her for all her hard work whilst I was away.

When I left in January 2013 we were a little short on the Council with only six members. I am pleased to report that in my absence three further members have volunteered to join the Council. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Syd, Leon and Andrew to the Council.

WEST BERGHOLT GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

Meetings at 7.30pm in the Open Hall, West Bergholt.

Large garden, allotment holder, small window box,
devoted gardener or just a passing interest -
why not join our gardening club?

17th March: Geoff Hodge on Luscious lawns

14th April Richard Ford on Hostas

19th May Annual Plant Sale

Summer Coach Trip to Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury, Bucks. 19th June.
Visiting the House, Gardens (Including the Aviary garden, and the water garden) and the wine cellars, £25 or National Trust Members £12.50.

New members and visitors always welcome. Annual subscription is £10; visitor entry £3. If you require information on our organisation please call 01206 241256 or e-mail wbgardeners@gmail.com





From the desk of Borough Councillor Dennis Willets Flood News - Wood Lane & Porters Cottages

For years the corner of Wood Lane and Porters Cottages has flooded after even moderate downpours. In recent months the problem has got worse. The water has been so deep it covers the kerbs. Drivers are unable to see where the kerb ends and the road begins, resulting in severe damage to the suspension of several vehicles.

Repairs to the surface water drains and re-alignment of the Kerb are included in the Highways Dept's 2013-14 work programme. At the end of February, the Council's contractors cleaned out and surveyed the pipe-work to assess its state. They found a complete mess. In addition to the damage from heavy vehicles they found:

1. Tree roots have invaded the damaged pipe-work. As well as forming an obstruction they also collected debris which eventually blocked the pipes.
2. At some time in the past, the section of drain around the bend has been replaced with a pipe of smaller diameter. Debris collects where the diameter reduces, leading to significant restriction in the flow.
3. The Gas company have mole-ploughed at least one gas pipe right through a drainage pipe. Roots and debris cannot be cleared from this area of the drain until the gas supply has been re-routed.

The drainage contractor has reported back to the County Council. We await their decision on what to do next.

Flood News - Argents Lane

Argents Lane continues to be a cause of concern. Part of the Lane was resurfaced early in 2013, followed by extensive repairs and complete resurfacing later in the year. Water from adjacent fields runs over the Lane for the whole year. As well as increasing the risk of skidding when it freezes, the wet surface reduces the longevity of any highways repairs.

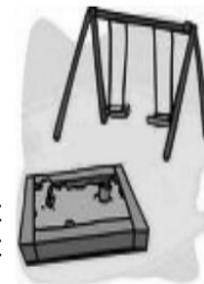
Both I and my fellow Councillor Marcus Harrington have requested an adequate drainage ditch to run alongside the entire length of the lane, which together with culverts should alleviate the problem.

Furthermore the Lane does not have proper foundations that will withstand the impact of HGVs. Unfortunately this is not a legal basis to ban heavy vehicles using it. We have continued with our campaign to have Argents Lane removed as a through route from the more popular GPS maps.

Play Area Proposals

-An Update on progress-

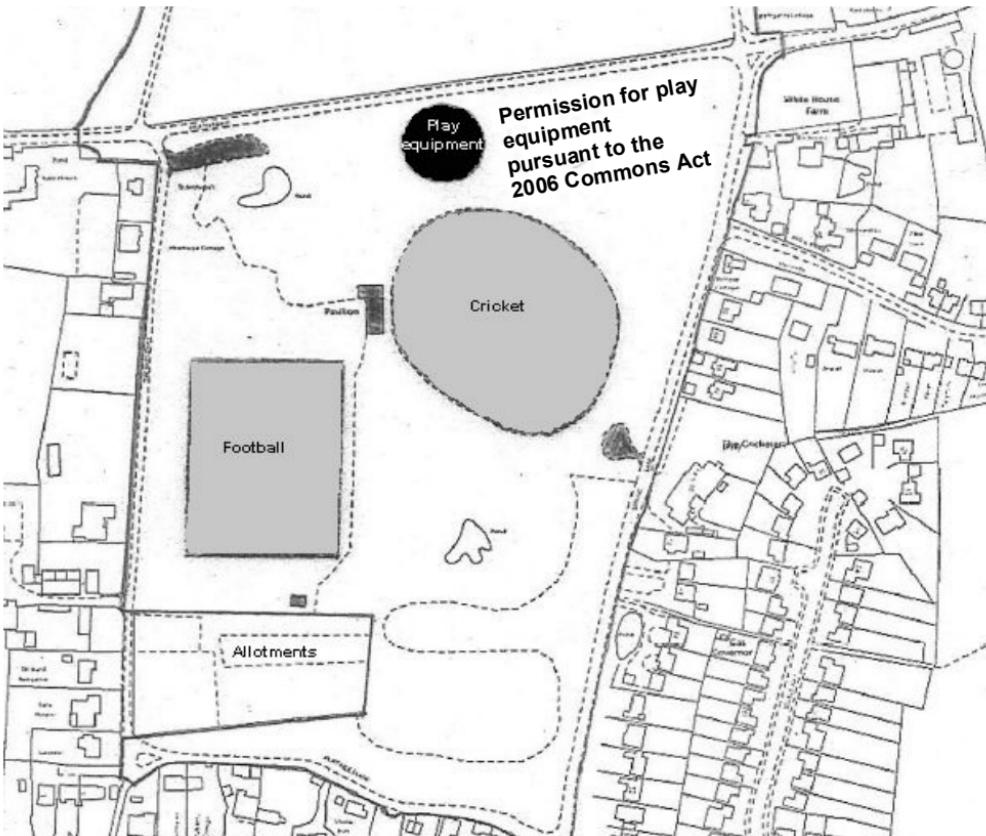
By Parish Councillor Andrew Cook

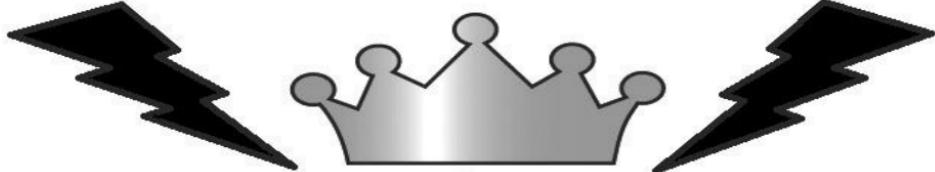


January saw the long awaited visit from the Government Planning Inspector to decide whether play equipment could be located on "Common Land" on The Heath.

The Inspector's visit took place on the 21st January. Members of the Parish Council, residents of the village and the cricket club all met with the independent Inspector to understand more about the process.

The Planning Inspector published his decision on 19th February, finding in favour of the Parish Council's application. The Parish Council will now consider the next steps at its March meeting, including how to proceed with procurement of the equipment and grant applications to assist with its funding.





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TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir....



I would like to respond to the article re allotments, in the November issue. I know the allotment holders are sensitive

to the direction of the wind and the opinions of others when lighting their bonfires and the fact that neighbours were offended would not have been the intention. I would like to add something, however.

The only people who could be very affected by bonfires on the allotments would be those living in Huxtables Lane, or, at a stretch, the top of Spring Lane. I am pretty sure that if you asked these residents why they choose to live where they do, or what they like about it, they would mention that they want to live in the countryside.

I wonder if they would also complain about the call of cockerels and the smell of muck spreading, or getting stuck behind a tractor. Maybe they wouldn't. But, I do wish that people who choose to live in the country would accept country pursuits. It is a consensus vote amongst anyone I know who embraces the countryside, that bonfires are a necessary part of country life, whether it be on an allotment or in a sizeable garden.

Yours sincerely, Gwyneth Hambleton



The Church Wood

Ranger Bill Roberts

07761 570 454

ranger.bill@colchesterborough.com

removing dangerous and infected branches and small trees, in compliance with TPO. I will be thinning some of the canopy. That will allow new species and further growth on the woodland floor.

Plans for 2014

Liaise with residents on a regular basis

Develop dense habitat encouraging song birds to nest.

Develop dense areas of foliage to protect the habitats of ground dwelling creatures.

Discourage the disposal of litter and other refuse in the wood.

Select suitable sites to install nest boxes for birds Bats & Owls.

Erect a number of 'Beetle Towers' and provide protection.

Encourage the healthy growth of the apple, plumb and other fruit trees growing wild.

Liaise with Essex Wildlife Trust to establish best practice in what I do.

No 88 Timetable: Monday to Friday

Brick & Tile to Colchester

Earlier from Wood Corner

(0756 School days only)

*(*Spring Lane opp Walk)*

0703	0724	0746	0741	0756	0811*	0841	0916
0941	1016	1041	1116	1141	1216	1235	1241
1316	1341	1416	1441	1516	1541	1616	1641
1741	1811	1859	1916	2014	2208	0001	

From Colchester Bus

Station to EAG

** indicates via Spring Lane*

& the Cricketers

0540	0600	0730	0810	0840	0910	0940	1010
1040	1110	1140	1200	1210	1240	1310	1340
1410	1440	1510	1550*	1610	1620	1620*	1650
1710	1740	1750*	1810	1850	2040	2240	

No 88 Timetable: Saturday

Brick & Tile to Colchester

Earlier from Wood Corner

(indicates Spring Lane*

opposite The Walk

0741	0815	0841	0916	0941	1016	1041	1044*
1116	1141	1216	1235	1241	1316	1341	1416
1441	1516	1541	1616	1641	1716	1741	1821
1918	2018	2208	0001				

From Colchester Bus

Station to EAG

** indicates via Spring Lane*

& the Cricketers

0645	0735	0810	0840	0910	0940	1010	1040
1110	1140	1200	1210	1240	1300	1310	1340
1410	1440	1510	1540	1610	1640	1710	1740
1810	1850	2040	2240				

No 88 Timetable: Sunday

Brick & Tile to Colchester

1003	1203	1403	1603	1803	2003	2203	
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From Colchester Bus Stn

0848	1048	1248	1448	1648	1848	2048	2248
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All Saints Church Eight Ash Green

Mission in May!

In May, from the 3rd to the 11th, All Saints Church are delighted to be hosting a team from 'Two Rivers Mission' - a Christian mission covering Essex and Suffolk. Starting at the sources of the Colne and Stour, the mission will take in many towns and villages over a period of two weeks, as they follow the rivers to the sea. You can expect to team members walking through Eight Ash Green in their distinctive blue mission shirts.

The team will be helping All Saints Church in various ways - for instance they will be carrying out an anonymous survey of beliefs to help inform the work of the church, and will take part in the various fun events to which we would love to invite you.

Amongst these will be an inter-village sporting competition (Fordham v Eight Ash Green) on Bank Holiday Monday, 'a Pamper Evening' on Wednesday 7th May, a supper and talk by our Diocesan Bishop Stephen Cottrell, on the Thursday, and on Saturday, a 'Night of Colour' with Daniel Cozens. Daniel is the founder of Through Faith missions, the organisers of the Two Rivers Mission (and many others). He is also a talented artist and uses his paintings to illustrate a really interesting talk about his work.

Please put these dates in your diaries. Most of the events will be at the John Owen Barn, at Fordham Hall and although there will be tickets, there will be no charge. We look forward to seeing you at some or all of the events. Hopefully it will have stopped raining by May!

For further information, contact the Church Office at 01206 243261, or visit the church website link at www.eightashgreen.com.

Nick Durlacher, *Two Rivers mission co-ordinator for Eight Ash Green*



If anyone is interested in setting-up a Neighbourhood Watch for their road, street, or part of the village, then please do get in touch with me. I can help you get started by giving you the relevant contacts.

susan.greenwold@colchesterborough.com



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Eight Ash Green & Fordham Heath Open Gardens

Sunday 15th June 2014, 2pm to 5pm



The first Eight Ash Green and Fordham Heath Open Gardens will take place on Sunday 15th June 2014, 2pm to 5pm, when hopefully we will have some sunshine.

As it is the first such event in the village, it will be smaller than some of the more established events such as Aldham. Open Gardens is a community event - get to know other people in the village.

We hope that many villagers will agree to open their gardens, whether it be a small front garden, or just a lawn and rose at the back. Most householders are very proud of their garden, whether "ground force" standard, or more likely "the pets and kids live here" look, or "still work in progress after umpteen years". It should be an enjoyable afternoon.

The Scouts will publish and sell the Open Garden programmes describing the gardens that are open, their features, and whether refreshments are being served. Programmes for the afternoon will cost £2 per adult. The proceeds will go towards rebuilding the scout hut. The Scouts will have a presence in each road or street at which one or more gardens are open.

If you wish to open your garden, please contact me before 1st June so that the programme can be printed on time. If you would like to volunteer your help beforehand, or on the day itself, or just want more information, do get in touch. Christine Willetts on 240314.



Eight Ash Green Music Festival and Fun-day

Richard Brown - Chairman



The 2014 Music Festival & Fun Day will be held on Friday 18th and Saturday 19th July 2014 so put it in your diaries. Without your support we couldn't continue.

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The EAG Syndicate now consists of 23 active members mostly in EAG, but also in Fordham, Aldham and Great Tey. To date the Syndicate has ordered 64,900 litres of oil. Average price is 59.19p/litre including VAT. The dearest price was 67.10p on 25/03/2013, and the cheapest was 52.50p on 11/07/2012. Price for the Syndicate's latest order was 56.60p.

If you are interested in joining the Eight Ash Green Oil syndicate, please e-mail your name, address and telephone number to Trevor Westall at EagOilSyndicate@ColchesterBorough.com

Many thanks to Trevor for managing the Syndicate for the village.

OUR VILLAGE MATTERS

By the Sage of Spring Lane.

Early to Rise. Keen to Walk.
Strolls the Heath & Fields.
Takes a twirl down Searle.



I imagine most of us are used to seeing water leaking from the odd meter hole in the pavements, but one in Spring Lane – quite near the Village Hall – is sending a regular stream of water across the pavement and into the road. Only a minor inconvenience at the moment, but if we get a freeze, we'll have our own private skating rink in Spring Lane !

There are parts of the village – the older parts, in the main - where uniformity of housing has never happened, and very nice they are, too. But in the newer areas, where uniformity of modern design has been employed, it really should be kept that way. Except, it isn't happening.

We seem to be getting more instances of properties being upgraded – as a lot of 70s-built houses have to be – but instead of being just modernised, they are being completely altered in external appearance. In one memorable instance, a two-bed bungalow became a four-bed house, looking nothing like the rest of the houses in the road.

Yes, variety of design is fine, in its place, but where a degree of uniformity exists, it should be maintained. If someone wants originality, there are plenty of areas in our village where growth has been gradual, and not pre-planned, where a wealth of originality exists !

Talking of design originality, I see a new house is fast emerging in Halstead Road; at least, I think it's a house – at present it resembles an Argos Warehouse. Doubtless it will improve in due course, though God help the new owners when they try to drive out into Halstead Road, or Brands Hatch as it's increasingly being known !

Bus Stops aside, our village is hardly overloaded with benches on which casual walkers can take a breather for five minutes. It would be nice to see more benches around the village, Parish Council take note.



Dog bags are available from Village Volunteer Chris Payne, 46 Heathfields. Tele 768580 or just call when walking past with your dog. Cost is 50p for a pack of 50.



The Cricketers

Spring Lane, Fordham Heath,
Colchester, Essex CO3 9TG

Tel: 01206 240 666

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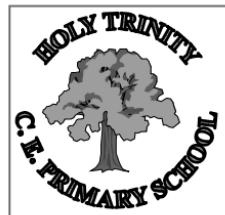
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Report from Holy Trinity School

From Heather Hann, Headteacher



We are having another busy term at Holy Trinity! Class 1 and 2 are learning all about Spain and India in 'Create and Celebrate' and Classes 3, 4 and 5 are learning about Chocolate through a topic entitled 'From a Bean to a Bar'.

This term has seen the completion of our new Food Technology Area which allows groups of children to learn the vital skill of cooking food. In celebration of the opening of the new area we held a Healthy Heart Week during which all the children had an opportunity to create, prepare and taste healthy meals. These included stir fry, pitta pizzas, fruit salad, paella and breads. The children loved using the new area and finding out all about how to look after their hearts with diet and exercise.



For details of school events or to find out more about your local village school please contact us or visit the school website www.holytrinityeightashgreen.co.uk

The Allotment News

Allotmenter Gwyneth Hambleton



My allotment is generally behind that of anyone else and seldom am I more proud of my produce than I am envious of theirs. This winter has been conspiring against us all but we still have a champion allotmenter who would be the envy of anyone (mention no names). Some plots look as though they have been abandoned. But some new takers look serious competitors. Well done them! Alas, when it rains you can't do anything, when the sun shines you want to do something, and then you remember that it is too early to do anything anyway. Confusing!

I suppose I can be pleased that hardly a week goes by when I can't harvest something, even if it is a few leaves of self sown lettuce. So, winter has given me chard, sprouts, red cabbage, pencil thin leeks, mini carrots and beetroot and now I can pull some young turnips. I am so excited - and maybe pick some sprouting broccoli. My broad beans and over wintering peas are doing well under netting cloches and my rhubarb is being forced (to do what?).



News from Cllr Marcus Harrington

After seven months of cajoling, the North Essex Parking Partnership finally organised their own survey of support for the Residents Parking Zone around the Holiday Inn Roundabout. Although the wording was almost identical to our own community survey held back in June '13 they felt they needed their own. Apparently it's to comply with regulations. Wouldn't we all love to see an end to meaningless red tape? The 21 day period of reply has now ended.

Not surprisingly the result was the same as our own survey - overwhelming support for the RPZ with backing from the Parish Council, Borough Councillors (Dennis Willets and me), County Councillor Anne Brown, Bernard Jenkin MP, Doucecroft School and the Holiday Inn Hotel. There were no objectors. I figure the project stands an honest chance of progressing to implementation. I did ask when this might be but the man at the NEPP suffered apoplexy at the thought of giving a date. At least this survey is a tangible step in the right direction.

The current administration in the Town Hall took away the Parish Support Grant which our Parish Council used to perform tasks in this Parish that the Borough Council does in the town. It means your Parish Precept has to go up. Curiously, they replaced this money with a Locality Budget for Borough Councillors to spend on projects in their Wards that are of benefit to the community. It makes Dennis and me feel a little like candy men but we have been pleased to support, at the request of the Parish Council, new owl boxes and bee hives for the area around the Heath and allotments, a cabinet to house a TV screen in the Village Hall and a flag pole for the village to be erected in the church yard to enable the flying of flags to commemorate appropriate occasions.

As usual, much work goes on behind the scenes with such matters as planning applications and dog poo bins. Dennis and I are always happy to give whatever help we can with any issue concerning the Borough Council.



Eight Ash Green Music Festival & Fun Day

Friday Evening 18th & Saturday 19th July 2014

Marcus will be bring his donkeys to the Fun Day, weather permitting

**Essex County Council
Mobile Library
Use it or lose it !**



**Porters Cottages
Fordham Heath
16:25 to 17:05**
Mar: 5, 19
Apr: 2, 16, 30
May: 14, 28
Jun: 11, 25
Jul: 9, 23
Aug: 6, 20

**Village Hall
Spring Lane
14.30 to 14.55**
Mar: 11, 25
Apr: 8, 22
May: 6, 20
Jun: 3, 17
Jul: 1, 15, 29
Aug: 12, 26

HBC 2014 SUPERHEROES Holiday Bible Club



**All Saints Church Eight Ash Green & Fordham
Invite primary school children to 3 days of fun
23rd-25th July 10am to 3pm, arrivals from 9am.**

At John Owen Barn, Fordham Church
£15 per child includes all craft materials plus morning and afternoon snacks.

Application form at www.fordhamchurch.org.uk
or contact AJ on 01206 243265 for more details



Garden Waste Recycling
Only 4 garden bags from
April until October inclusive

Colchester Borough Council Attended Freighter Service

School access, Fiddlers Folly	11:00am - 11:25am	05 April, 31 May, 26 July
Car Park, Top of the Heath	11:30am - noon	05 April, 31 May, 26 July

Calling all Walkers

Parish Councillor Keith Winterbourne

explains the Parish Paths Partnership [P3]

In order to maintain the quality, safety and accessibility of our village footpaths, the Parish Council has joined the Parish Paths Partnership [P3] run by Essex County Council. P3's Objectives are:

1. To encourage villagers to protect their local Rights of Way
2. To promote community involvement
3. To promote awareness of our public Rights of Way and the surrounding environment

To begin with this would be a very informal grouping of volunteers who would be given Public Rights of Way survey forms. On completion these simple tick box forms would provide an overview of the condition of the footpaths in and around the village. P3 would then be made aware of the necessary action to be taken should any areas need attention, replacement or repair.

If you would like to be involved [as much or as little as you like] please contact the Parish Clerk on parish.clerk@eightashgreen.com or any member of the Parish Council, whose details are listed at the back of this newsletter.



EAG PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Syd Duty co-opted onto Parish Council

Originally from Yorkshire, Syd moved to Colchester after 23 years in the Army (REME). He then joined the Civil Service, working in Whitehall for as a Health and Safety Adviser to Garrison Commanders for a number of years. He retired in 2009 from

Merville Barracks in Colchester. Since 2005 he has been a magistrate sitting in Colchester and Chelmsford. After living in Shrub End for many years, Syd moved to Eight Ash Green 3 years ago.



Parish Councillor Andrew Cook, one of the County's leading environmentalists, has recently been appointed Chairman at Eastern Region Waste Technical Advisory Board, Chairman at East of England Aggregates Working Party, as well as Vice Chairman at Essex Planning Officers Association

LITTLE MALTINGS

**Feline Lodge (Cattery)
Fully approved**



Abbotts Lane
Eight Ash Green
Colchester CO6 3QL

01206 564401
07956 429102

Prop. Brenda Eagland

James Swinstead

Most villagers will have read of the tragic death of James Swinstead of Seven Star Green. He and his wife, Helen, embarked on a "once in a lifetime" cruise to Brazil and the Amazon. On their return voyage, as the ship neared Tilbury docks in the middle of a storm, a freak wave engulfed the ship causing severe damage to the restaurant in which James and Helen were dining. Unfortunately James did not survive the accident.

The Editor's Column

Dennis Willetts, The Retreat, Wood Lane.
cllr.dennis.willetts@colchester.gov.uk
Telephone 240314

This is the time of year when we are usually clearing snow from our drives, but not so far this rather warm winter. However, the warm weather has been accompanied by record levels of rainfall, which has been almost as destructive to our roads.



We publish two decisions by Government Planning Inspectors: an appeal against a planning decision by CBC to refuse an application in Turkey Cock Lane, and a decision in favour of play equipment on Common Land, namely the Heath.

Essex County Council is turning off many of its street lights over-night. The Parish Council also owns and maintains some street lights in the village. Do you have an opinion on whether they should also be turned-off overnight?.

As the civil parish of Eight Ash Green was not created until 1949, we have no war memorial. Well done to the Parish Council for negotiating a Memorial Flag Pole in the grounds of All Saints Church.

Finally might I thank the Parish Council and the advertisers for funding the Village Newsletter, and the diligent band of foot-soldiers who deliver it to all houses and businesses in the village. The next edition will be in July 2014, with an editorial deadline of 14th June, so get writing.

ESSEX HYPNOTHERAPY PLUS

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If I am unable to respond immediately, please leave a voicemail, and I will contact you as soon as possible - thank you

Enrolments now being taken for the 2014 Professional Hypnotherapy Practitioner training course - please visit website for full details

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRAIN FOR A HIGHLY REWARDING CAREER?

If you can answer "yes" to the following then this exciting opportunity is for you....

- Do you have a caring nature?
- Are you a good listener?
- Are you interested in the way people think and behave?

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Parish Plan & Village Design Statement Group



John
Allcock
Chairman



Steve
Brown
Secretary



Keith
Winterbourne
Treasurer



Dennis
Willetts
Press Officer



Jenny
Jones
Committee

REVIEW OF VILLAGE ACTION PLANS DECEMBER 2013

Development inside & outside Village Envelope	The Borough Council's Local Development Framework proposed no extension of the Village's development envelope. This was confirmed by the Government Planning Inspector in Sept 2011.
Public Transport	Shopping bus is up and running and is well received. There are now two buses an hour during the daytime, which is a great improvement.
Traffic in the village	Speedwatch has started with a group of volunteers operating speed checks. Analysis of the Speedwatch data has been passed to the Parish Council and the Highways dept of Essex County Council. 24 hour traffic monitoring is to be installed in Spring Lane for a time to assess average vehicle speeds.
Pedestrian Crossings in the village	There has been no progress on getting new pedestrian crossings at Wood Lane and Turkey Cock Lane. It is suggested that the Parish Council liaise with our County Councillor to expedite this matter.
Pavements and Footpaths	No progress on widening pavements along A1124 because principal constraints are the Electricity Poles. Local Highways Panel assessed the costs of providing a footpath along Heath Road, and this was not considered for addition to the priority list of work.
Protection of the Heath, Greens and Woodland	New waste-bins and repairs to existing seats have been completed. Maintenance of the Heath is an ongoing action. CBC has acquired an extra 20 acres of public woodland as a part of the development of the old railway sidings. They will manage this for five years and will then transfer the land to a suitable authority for onwards management.
Play Area in the village	On 21st January 2014 the Building Inspectorate will inspect the proposed site and give a yes or no response when the formal inquiry has been held.
Post Office in the village	The old Post Office has now been converted into residential accommodation. Post Office Counters Ltd is unlikely to establish another Post Office in the village because there are 2 other Post Offices within 2 miles.
Broadband in the village	County Broadband is up and running but growth is stagnating and needs a new marketing impetus to sell the service. BT has provided superfast broadband to one part of the village (Max 128 households) as a response.
Environmental Issues in the village	This plan is continuous and issues are discussed at Parish Council meetings when brought to their notice. Are there enough Dog Bins in the village and where are they? - could a note/map be put into the Newsletter.



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BULLBANKS FARM

Halstead Road, Aldham, CO6 3PT
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LOOK



Bluebell Pre-school has opened in Fordham Heath.

Would you like your child to attend this outstanding pre-school?

Would you like your child to have fun while learning?

Would you like your child to be prepared for school life?

Then look no further – bring them along to
Bluebell Pre-school at Holy Trinity School, Fordham Heath.

Available sessions:

Tuesday 9am – 3pm

Wednesday 9am – 3pm

Thursday 9am – 3pm

For further details please call Jackie Leach 01206 241677



EAG Village Speedwatch

Anthony C Robin
Spring Lane, 01206 571910
anthony_robin@hotmail.com

Volunteers from both Eight Ash Green and West Bergholt regularly use Police-approved equipment to monitor the speeds of passing vehicles. The details of speeding motorists are passed on to the Police, who will initially send the motorist a polite letter asking them to obey the limit.

The number of motorists we catch within an hour usually goes into double figures. Whilst the heavy lorries and skip lorries are particularly intimidating to pedestrians on the narrow footpaths in the village, only a small minority of these are actually speeding. The vehicles we find speeding are of all types, cars, vans, 4x4. The drivers are also of all types, some male, some female, some young, some old.

We usually monitor speed on the A1124. But recently in Spring Lane, whilst the traffic density was much lower, we still caught quite a lot of speeders. With less traffic, those who wish to speed are more easily able to do so.

Most of the traffic in Spring Lane is through traffic to Fordham or West Bergholt. Not unreasonably many wish to avoid the level crossing at Chitts Hill. However with the hill, bend and the Village Hall restricting visibility, it is only a matter of time before a speeding motorist causes a serious accident.

If you would like to become involved with this project, please contact me on 571910. You will need to have a couple of hours training by the Police on safety issues, and how to use the radar equipment. Then you can go, whenever you and some colleagues are free to do a session.



Cricket Club News

Richard Parker, President

EAGCC is in excellent shape. It may be a miserable and wet winter, but the club is already planning for another successful season over summer 2014. Perhaps the best news is that we have appointed a new head coach and will be offering lots of cricket for all ages, shapes and sizes.

We always welcome new members from the village – youth or senior, playing or non-playing - and anyone interested should get in touch. For contact details and all the season's fixtures please visit our web site at www.eagcc.com. We look forward to seeing you this summer.

Appeal Decision

Site visit made on 16 January 2014

by **D J Barnes MBA BSc(Hons) DipTP MRTPI**

an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Decision date: 6 February 2014

Appeal Ref: APP/A1530/A/13/2201974

Brarberry Barn, Turkey Cock Lane, Stanway, Colchester CO3 8NB

- The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 against a refusal to grant planning permission.
- The appeal is made by Mr Gary Jordan against the decision of Colchester Borough Council.
- The application Ref 121627, dated 14 August 2012, was refused by notice dated 23 January 2013.
- The development proposed is the retention of new stables and hay store. Alterations (as built) to the approved plans of the barn (additional window/changes to the style of windows, inclusion of a 1st floor and alteration to the pitch of the roof). Use of existing stable block as a farriers forge and use of the barn in connection with the farriers forge.

Decision

1. The appeal is dismissed.

Application Decision

Site visit made on 21 January 2014

by **Peter Millman BA**

Appointed by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Decision date: 19 February 2014

Application Ref: COM472

Land at Fordham Heath, Eight Ash Green

Register Units: CL195 and VG187

Registration Authority: Essex County Council

The application, dated 15 April 2013, is made under section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act") for consent to carry out restricted works on common land.

The application is made by LSR Solicitors and Planning Consultants on behalf of Eight Ash Green Parish Council, c/o Parish Clerk, 3 Searle Way, Eight Ash Green, Colchester.

The works comprise:

- The erection of play equipment for young children, the individual components of which cover an area of 240m² within an area of around 1200m².

Decision

Consent is granted for the works in accordance with the application and the plans submitted with it. The location of the works is shown in red on the attached plan.

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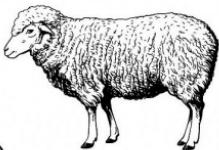
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The Shoulder of Mutton has recently re-opened under new ownership. Situated in an idyllic spot in the heart of Fordham we welcome you to come and meet our friendly team and enjoy a leisurely lunch using all fresh, locally sourced produce accompanied by great ales and fine wines and ciders. Why not plan a party or host a meeting/workshop in our spacious function room which is available to hire, please let us know your requirements.

Explore your creative side in our hobby and craft room, The Beehive and bring along your own project, whether it be sewing/embroidery and quilting or card making, knitting etc. there will be somebody like-minded to chat to and share your enthusiasm. We have ample space, excellent lighting and plenty of plug sockets for your gadgets. Perhaps you are looking for a venue to hold classes? We have availability most days, please call in for a chat to discuss your requirements.

Opening times:

11am to 10.30pm every day (Sunday and Monday close at 5pm)

Weekend breakfast served 9.30am to 11.30am Saturday and Sunday

Dinner served 7pm on Fridays and Saturdays (last orders 9.30)

- * Fresh home cooked food * Guest Ales and good selection of Wines *
- * Disabled access * free Wi-Fi * plenty of parking *
- * Function room available *

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mothering Sunday 30th March * Vintage Afternoon Tea *

Easter Sunday 20th April * Easter Egg Hunt *

Spring Bank Holiday Monday 26th May * Real Ale Festival and Hog Roast *

Police Constable David Underwood PC71091, Neighbourhood Policing Team



Garage and shed security

Most houses have adequate security. What is often neglected is the shed or garage, "nothing much in there" I hear you say, "Just a garden spade and fork", **but these are perfect tools for a burglar to use to get in your house.**

Garages and sheds always going to vulnerable. Often the supplied locks provide just the barest minimum security. On **garage** doors, add locking bolts to both sides of the "up and over door" or a garage door defender in the ground in front of the door. With **sheds**, coach-bolt and plate the padlock hasp sections to the frame and door, use a good quality "Close Shackle" padlock. Don't forget the hinges. ensure they cannot be unscrewed.

Consider using "Ground Anchors" or "Shed Shackles". Again good quality padlock and chains. Protect windows with a wire mesh and fit a curtain or white wash the windows to prevent prying eyes.

Security-mark your property with your post code and house number. This reduces the value to the thief; you can even register serial numbers free of charge at www.immobilise.com .

Fit a shed alarm to the shed or garage. Security lighting is relatively inexpensive and available from most DIY/hardware stores. If installing a new shed, position it within sight of rooms in the house routinely occupied.

Products that are fit for purpose can found by looking for the "Secured by Design" or "Sold Secure" logos, or on their websites <http://www.securedbydesign.com> or <http://www.soldsecure.com> .

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in Fordham village hall for fun, friendship and listening to a good speaker.

April - 1st The Perennial Mr Potter



May - 6th AGM, Cheese & Wine, Games evening

June - Outing to Fairfields Farm Crisps

July - 1st Garden Meeting at Nancy Cannon's

For more information, phone our secretary, Mrs Judith Rose,
01206 240426, or just come on the night.

Village Contacts

Essex County Council	0845 743 0430
Colchester Borough Council	282222
Eight Ash Green Parish Council	07530 873736
Holy Trinity Primary School	240880
Stanway School	575488
Village Hall booking	562860
Police Constable Dave Underwood	999 or 101
Revd Aella Gage (Church of England)	243266
Revd Ruth Ridge (Methodist)	242183
Father Tom Lavin (Catholic)	576898
Zen Dental Clinic, Tollgate	762417
Francois Rossouw, Dental Practice	764111
Tollgate Heath Centre	710030
The Cricketers	240666
Bernard Jenkin. MP	01376 564292
Cllr Anne Brown, County Councillor	321241
Cllr Marcus Harrington, Borough Councillor	241411
Cllr Dennis Willetts, Borough Councillor	240314
Derek Franklin, Chairman Parish Council	210959
Andrew Cook, Parish Councillor	07584 218280
Leon Coombs, Parish Councillor	07526 743634
Syd Duty, Parish Councillor	560279
Louise Greenwold, Parish Councillor	572645
Josh Greenwold, Parish Councillor	572645
David Mills, Parish Councillor	241572
Christine Willetts, Parish Councillor	240314
Keith Winterbourne, Parish Councillor	240497
Anthony Robin, Speedwatch Coordinator	571910
Marcel Horst. Parish Volunteer, Village Broadband	07917 586132



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EAG VILLAGE DIARY

Monday	—— Scouts (ring 0844 414 2746 for time and venue) 19.30 Ladies Monday Club, Methodist Church 20.00 Cardio Blast, Keep Fit, Holy Trinity Primary School
Tuesday	—— Explorer Scouts (ring 0845-0946-208 for details) 14.40 Pilates, Village Hall 19.30 Line Dancing, Village Hall 19.30 WI, (1st Tuesday) Fordham Village Hall 20.00 Harley Davidson Club (1st Tuesday), The Cricketers
Wednesday	09.45 Zumba, Village Hall 10.30 Lower Body Blitz, Village Hall 18.30 Village Youth Club (3rd & 4th Weds) Village Hall 19.00 Wednesday Club (1st Wednesday) Village Hall 19.30 Parish Council (2nd Wednesday) Village Hall 20.00 Quiz night (alternate Wednesdays) The Cricketers 20.00 Mini Club (1st Wednesday) The Cricketers 20.00 VW club (alternate Wednesdays) The Cricketers
Thursday	10.00 Daisy Beaders, (2nd Thursday) The Cricketers —— Cubs (ring 0844 414 2746 for time and venue) 11.00 Holy Communion, (Last Thursday) All Saints Church 19.30 Christadelphians Bible Class, Village Hall
Friday	16.30 Karate Club, Village Hall —— Beavers (ring 0844 414 2746 for time and venue) 19.30 Mens' Darts & Snooker Club, Village Hall
Saturday	Village Hall available for hire
Sunday	09.30 Worship, EAG Methodist Church 10.00 Worship, Fordham (EAG and Fordham congregations) 11.15 Morning Prayer, All Saints EAG (1st Sunday in month) 14.15 Christadelphians Memorial meeting, Village Hall 16.15 Christadelphians Bible Talk, Village Hall

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Opinions appearing in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Parish Plan Group or Eight Ash Green Parish Council.