

NEWSLETTER



Winter 2015 Issue No.69

TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL, 2015/16 TPC RESPONSIBILITIES

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	REMIT		COUNCILLOR
CHAIRMAN			Carol Pratt
VICE CHAIRMAN			Geoff Bagnall
FINANCE COMMITTEE	Report & recommendations to full Council	4	Carol Pratt, Geoff Bagnall, Richard Cheetham, Sue Sprules
PLANNING COMMITTEE	Report & recommendations to full Council re Planning Applications, Housing Policy/Local Plan, Stansted Airport, SSE PC Liaison, coordination of consultations responses.	4	Carol Pratt, Pat Burnett, Jackie Cheetham, Tricia Barber, Geoff Bagnall
HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT			David Daykin
SPORTS FIELD			John Green
RECREATION GROUND			John Green
RIGHTS OF WAY/ FOOTPATHS/LAND	Rights of Way/Footpaths/Land Tree Warden, Flitch Way	2	Tina Domigan, Trevor Allen , John Green
MOLEHILL GREEN *	Green, Hall & Community		Carol Pratt & Trevor Allen
POLICE LIAISON/PUBLIC SAFETY			Trevor Allen
PUBLICITY	Notice Boards, Website, Newsletter, Grapevine, Press		David Daykin
NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION			John Green
REGIONAL/NATIONAL POLICY			Geoff Bagnall & Jackie Cheetham
EMERGENCY PLANNING	Coordinating key contacts & resources		Pat Burnett, Clerk & Asst Clerk
SCHOOL HOUSE WORKING GRP	Consider the future (Use & Ownership)		Carol Pratt, Tricia Barber, Trevor Allen, Tina Domigan, Pat Burnett.
STRATEGIC PLANNING (June 2015)	Facilities, services & Neighbourhood Planning		Geoff Bagnall, Jackie Cheetham, Linda Steer, John Green

*NOTE: Cllrs. Carol Pratt & Trevor Allen are trustees of Molehill Green Village Hall

TPC REPRESENTATIVES:

REPRESENTATIVE	COUNCILLOR/RESIDENTS
Essex Assoc. of Local Councils	Jackie Cheetham, Richard Cheetham, Carol Pratt
Area Forums (incl. PCT)	Tricia Barber
Parish Passenger /Transport Gps	Phyllis Altham (resident)
Priors Green Community Hall Liaison	Geoff Bagnall, Carol Pratt, Pat Burnett, David Daykin
Takeley History Society & School	Trevor Allen
Silver Jubilee Hall	Trevor Allen
SSE Parish Liaison Group	Tricia Barber Richard Cheetham
Health Provision	Sue Sprules, Linda Steer
Takeley Youth Club	Linda Steer
Takeley Primary School	Sue Sprules

All roles confirmed & agreed TPC Meeting 20th May 2015

This and back issues can be viewed on our website www.takeleypc.co.uk

Editorial

In which the editor has an explosive encounter with a Christmas pudding, has a minor Homeric diversion, discovers that Piglet is a pyromaniac and samples the historic delights of indoor fireworks.

*“It is the wine that leads me on,
the wild wine
that sets the wisest man to sing
at the top of his lungs,
laugh like a fool – it drives the
man to dancing... it even
tempts him to blurt out stories
better never told.”
Homer, The Odyssey*

Not, of course, that I am suggesting that I ever write these epistles under the influence of Bacchus’ dark nectar! Merely assume that the mediaeval clockwork that inhabits my cranium needs a little light lubrication from time to time. Taking that theme even further, think of me as one of those mechanical figures on old town clocks that comes out at regular intervals, brandishes a bent sword and then rotates back into the clock tower. Except that I appear every three lunar months and at this time of year am apt to bash anyone who comes too close with last year’s Christmas pudding.

Wonderful things, Christmas puds. I like them because you can set fire to them – they’re much better than indoor fireworks. Many years ago, when safety elves still played on their own in the woods, I set fire to just such a culinary masterpiece at my Christmas party. The lights were duly turned off and the incendiary object, doused with large quantities of cheap brandy, was ceremoniously ignited. This resulted in a pillar of blue flame, of truly biblical proportions, which ascended to ceiling height and shot radiating rings of cobalt tinged fire across the ceiling.



Everyone went “Ooooooh” and I wondered if I had any eyebrows left. But I mentioned indoor fireworks. Wonderful things. My family used to have them every Christmas. You know what I mean – mysterious packages that you set fire to on a plate. Vesuvian volcanoes that turn out to be a three second fizz of reluctant green flame or the bit of crinkled brown paper that is supposed to turn into a magic fern but ends up looking like a disintegrated cigarette!

Some friends and I had some at an after show party once. One of the cast members had brought her infant son, Sam, to the festivities and he was much taken by the indoor firework that purported to be a magic serpent. A small dark pellet was placed on a plate and duly lit. It gave out an evil smell and slowly expanded into a greyish black sausage that lay sullenly on the plate. Sam was much taken with this.

Later, when he was asked by his grandmother if he had enjoyed the party, he said: "Oooh yes. It was good and we had poo on a plate." Praise indeed.

Took part in the village firework display this year. Why do I like pyrotechnics so much? Must be the child in me, I suppose. And as I consider Winnie the Pooh to be the finest of philosophers, you may not be surprised at this little daydream.

All the pyrotechnicians in the Hundred Acre Wood were gathered for the show. Rabbit came bustling up and took charge, giving orders to all the animals which they either failed to understand or took no notice of. Pooh wandered around feeling cold, randomly shoving rockets into tubes and adding a little honey for luck. Kanga looked stressed and kept on trying to count the fireworks.



She really wanted to dust them all and sort them. Eeyore, meanwhile, wandered about eating thistles and the occasional Roman candle. "No good will come of this," he remarked gloomily. "You need animals with more than fluff for brains to do this sort of thing. I mean, look at my house. Pooh and Piglet blew it up last year when I wasn't looking." Piglet went pink and tried to disappear. He didn't want anyone to see him as he hadn't brought his safety hat so had tied a handkerchief round his head for protection. Rabbit, quite oblivious to the fact that nobody was listening to him, ran round in excited circles giving technical advice and using very long words like "duck" and "match" which only confused Pooh who took another mouthful of honey for comfort. Finally, the preparations for the display were complete and the fireworks started. The sky lit up with whizzes and explosions in lovely colours. Piglet got so excited that he tripped up in the dark and Rabbit lit his tail by mistake, which fizzed like a fuse. Kanga, meanwhile, was getting worried, as she had lost little Roo. Just as the first Catherine wheel was lit and started to spin, she heard his voice: "Look at me! I'm going round and round!" Roo appeared to be firmly fixed to the spinning firework.

"So he is," said Eeyore with mild interest. "When's he going to stop?"

“Roo *dear*,” said Kanga, “stop spinning and come and have some supper.” Roo, however, was rotating faster and faster, letting out squeals of excitement. Suddenly, as the centrifugal force increased irresistibly, Roo stopped spinning and hurtled into the night sky trailing showers of sparks, squealing “Look at me. I’m flying just like a bird.”

His flight was abruptly terminated by a mid air collision with Owl who had been observing the festivities from what he considered to be a safe distance. Both he and Roo descended in a shower of feathers and a series of outraged hoots. As they sat in a tangled heap under a softly descending cloud of feathers, Owl remonstrated with Roo.

“Your random trajectory would appear to have intersected the parabola of my flight path and caused an unplanned descent in controlled airspace. We may suffer legal consequences.”

Roo couldn’t care less. “I’s flown like a bird,” he squeaked happily. What’s that I’m sitting on? It’s all wriggly.”

“It’s me,” said Piglet “You landed on me and my head hurts.”

“A handkerchief is no protection against falling debris,” said Rabbit severely. “You should have worn a proper hat. Always be prepared is what I say.” At which point, he promptly vanished up to the tips of his ears in a large hole.

“I think I need something to eat,” said Pooh solemnly.



Meanwhile, new houses continue to appear in our village at a terrifying rate. I was invited to view the newly refurbished school at Roseacres and was very impressed by what I saw. However, given the extra school places that it will offer as opposed to the number of dwellings proposed for Takeley, simple mathematics tells me that it will not be a huge time before we are calling for a third primary school. I fail to understand how any of this should come as any surprise to the highly paid executives responsible for planning.

And is it my imagination, or are the roads on new estates getting narrower? Four or five bedroom houses with only enough parking for two cars is ludicrous.

Mind you, planning has always been subject to peculiar vagaries. In ancient Athens, all doors opened outwards onto the street. By law, the householder had to knock loudly on his door before opening it in case he injured a passerby. Of course, this did not prevent the occasional accident. There is a record of a court case concerning a man who was knocked from his horse

and injured when a door was thoughtlessly flung open in his path. When the horse was asked if he too had suffered injury, he replied: "Oh neigh!"

You *are* allowed to groan.

And so to seasonal matters as Christmas, once again, is rolling down the hillside towards us like a drunken elephant in a Santa hat, crushing dissent and hurling unwanted gifts in all directions, scattering party goers and rendering those who fail to heed the trumpeted warnings mercifully unconscious.

Am I just a miserable old Grinch? Probably, but every time I go shopping, I suffer the full onslaught of the commercial world that seems to want to monetise an ancient and delightful tradition. *"After a while they played at forfeits; for it is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas, when its mighty Founder was a child himself."*
~ Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*

And as you sit down to Christmas dinner, think of this traditional Greenland recipe: To prepare kiviak, you need to take 500 dead auk birds and stuff them into a seal skin. Leave to ferment for 7 months and devour on the festive day. Meets with my seal of approval....

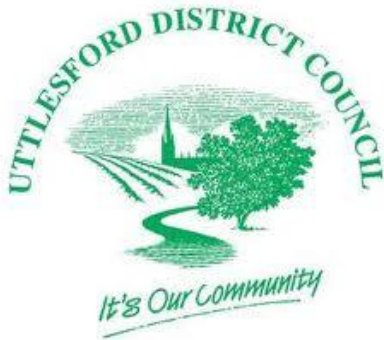
At which point, I must cease this muddled ramble for I hear noises from the kitchen. Could be an elderly white-bearded gentleman who has come down the chimney a month early and is desperate for a snifter of the hard stuff. Or I might be looking in the mirror.

Well, whatever, the kitchen and a bottle seem appropriately seasonal to me, so I'll amble casually downstairs to imbibe some liquid cheer.

"Ho ho ho," says I with gusto. Good health to one and all.

Paul Regeli, *Contributing Editor, Fellow of the Society of Amateur Safecrackers, Night Soil Man by appointment to the aristocracy, RA (reject), Village Idiot of note (and some notoriety).*





25 November 2015

Changes to bin collection times

Uttlesford District Council is advising residents that they may see a change in the collection times of their bins from next week. However, their collection day will remain unchanged.

The council is moving its transfer station activity to a new, purpose-built facility in Great Dunmow from Tuesday, 1 December – this is where bin crews take recycling, food waste and black bin waste before it is sent on for re-processing.

As a result of the move, rounds are likely to be altered. This means some residents will have their bins emptied earlier in the day than they do at present, and some residents will find their bins emptied later in the day.

All residents are reminded that bins must be left at the boundary of their property by **no later than 7am** on the day of collection. Failure to do so could result in their bins being missed.

This does not impact on the green waste subscription service.



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TAKELEY PARISH COUNCILLORS

UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

NAME OF COUNCILLOR		HOME ADDRESS
ALLEN	Trevor John	12 Elm Close, Takeley, Essex CM22 6SF
BAGNALL	Geoff	2 Maggott's Cottages, Warish Hall Road,Takeley, Essex, CM22 6NY
BARBER	Patricia Ann	Woodside, Smith's Green, Takeley, Bishop's Stortford, Herts, CM22 6NX
BURNETT	Patricia	47 Roseacres Takeley Essex CM22 6QZ
CHEETHAM	Richard Froggatt	Beech Cottage, Smiths Green, Takeley, Essex CM22 6NR
CHEETHAM	Jackie	Beech Cottage, Smiths Green, Takeley, Essex CM22 6NR
DAYKIN	David Roy Southan	St. Omer, Dunmow Road, Takeley, Essex, CM22 6SH
DOMIGAN	Tina	2 Chapel Fields Brewers End, Takeley Essex CM22 6TR
GREEN	John Albert	50 Takeley Park, Hatfield Broad Oaks Rd, Takeley, CM22 6TG
PRATT	Carol Ann	Woodfield, Brick End, Broxted, Gt. Dunmow, Essex, CM6 2BJ
SPRULES	Susan Elizabeth	The Lodge, Dunmow Road, Takeley, Essex, CM22 6SH
STEER	Linda	1A South Road Takeley Essex CM22 6RB
SULLIVAN-SMITH	Natalie	23 Orchid Close Takeley Essex CM22 6TN

TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The following are extracts from the September, October and November Parish Council minutes, which can be viewed on the TPC website: www.takeleypc.co.uk

Welcome New Councillor:

In October, Chairman Carol Pratt welcomed Cllr Natalie Sullivan Smith. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office agreeing to abide by the Code of Conduct was signed. Declarations were witnessed by the Clerk.

Open Forum:

In October, residents from Takeley Street asked TPC for help in their campaign to prevent the **Green Man public house** from changing use from licensed premises (pub) to Coffee House & B&B. Since finding out about the plans for the building 6 days ago the group have been overwhelmed with support from the local community. They have a petition signed by 300 residents. 1530 individuals have joined the group via social media. Herts & Essex Observer published an article that was viewed by 1400 readers with many more showing an interest in the 400 year old pub. In order for the license to be removed the owners must provide a like for like establishment. The residents believe that as the café will close at 4.30pm every day this will not offer them the same amenity. A Planning Officer at UDC has confirmed that the planning application has been withdrawn as planning permission is not required for the change of use (same class of use). TPC has recommended that the residents work with CAMRA and contact the Enforcement Team at UDC. DCllr Derek Jones agreed to contact UDC Licensing Team to check the status of the premises licence.

In November, a resident from Takeley Street asked for an update on The Green Man public house. District Cllr Derek Jones contacted UDC after the TPC meeting in October. The new owners of the business have relinquished their alcohol license. Planning Enforcement have been advised of the internal condition of the building after concerns were raised regarding changes to a listed building.

District Cllr Jim Gordon reported: 85 Police establishments in Essex will be reduced to 30. Dunmow Police Station is amongst those to be sold off. PCSO's will be reduced from 250 to 60. The nearest Police Station will be at Saffron Walden but this will only be manned during the day. Cllr Gordon will be campaigning for more Special Officers.

Planning Appeal APP/C/1570/W/15/3006725 re UTT/14/2306/OP

Land West Of Canfield Road

Outline application, with all matters reserved except for access, for residential development for up to 211 dwellings, provision of open space with recreational facilities and site access, all with associated highway and infrastructure works including a new footpath along Great Canfield Road

Following refusal of the application by UDC, the developer Gladman Development LTD & Takeley LLP has launched an appeal which will be heard at inquiry.

The joint case (Takeley PC & Gt Canfield PC) is progressing:

- The Statement of Case was submitted for 14th August.
- Highways site visit took place on 26/8/15. The visit proved to be very helpful & all parties were very positive.
- TPC agreed on actions to be taken for upcoming deadlines, witnesses/Proof of Evidence.
- Representatives from TPC & GCPC to agree the responses to the deadlines & coordinate opening statements & witnesses.
- A joint meeting early October with TPC & GCPC.
- The Planning Committee will make recommendations to full Council after the meeting has taken place.

Cllr John Green to approach Takeley Park Residents Association as potential witness.

Inquiry starts on 5th Jan. 2016 and will run for 8 days. Deadline for Proof of Evidence is 8th Dec 2015. Draft to PCs by 15th Nov to be returned by 27th Nov. Comments to the Clerk by 25th. Planning Committee to coordinate the response.

Bovis Development, Cooks Hill: An enforcement file has been opened after the developers removed a boundary fence & erected a substation. This is partially on Highways land. An Enforcement Officer made a site visit and will report back to the UDC Planning Dept on 4th Sept. TPC to consider liaising with Highways. Line of sight has also been compromised and should be considered. TPC are extremely unhappy and will take action.

Highways:

Essex County Council has confirmed that CCTV investigation will be conducted on the **drainage system in Roseacres**.

Verge Cutting: TPC has received a reply from ECC re request to carry out our own verge cutting in the village. ECC said that at this time local councils were not permitted to take back budgetary control and instruct their own

contractors, but TPC /volunteers were very welcome to clear some areas themselves but without payment or at their own expense. TPC agreed that this response was unacceptable and would respond accordingly.

Mud on B1256: This is becoming a constant problem in the village with so much development taking place. All incidents are/should be reported to ECC Highways. This will only increase as we head into winter.

Byway 25/Jacks Lane: Cllr Geoff Bagnall to set up a meeting with Euan Kennedy & ECC Highways. They will discuss how the condition of the lane can be improved for public access. Cllr Bagnall is also collating a list of registration numbers of 4x4 vehicles still using the lane, he will forward them on to Jeremy Pine (UDC).

Policing: TPC received a reply from Essex Police Nick Alston regarding the lack of police presence in the village. TPC to write and ask why Essex Police declined the offer of £72,000 from UDC to pay for more PCSO's. A letter will also be sent to Sir Alan Haselhurst asking why members of the public are paying for a service they do not receive. A copy of a recent letter from the Policing & Partnership Inspector which promises regular meetings with the local police team will also be included.

2014/15 Annual Return & Accounts: External audit is complete and is clean. The Notice of Conclusion will be published & put on the village notice board.

For further information about Takeley Parish Council
please contact the Clerk or

visit the website: www.takeleypc.co.uk

Jane Heskey, Takeley Parish Council,

Station House, Sycamore Close, Takeley, Essex, CM22 6QA

Phone: 020 8270 1149

Email:takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com

Parsonage Road Residents

Several residents have contacted the Clerk regarding traffic issues on Parsonage Road in recent months.

One suggestion to ease the problems would be to stop any parking on Parsonage Road (from the village gates to Four Ashes traffic lights) by extending the Clearway.

If you are a Parsonage Road resident we would welcome your views.

email:takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com

2015/16 WINTER SALT SCHEME

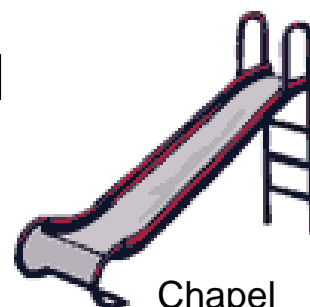
The Parish Council has agreed to continue with the Essex County Council Winter Salt Scheme (joined pilot scheme 2010/11) which provides a salt supply to the village and is controlled by TPC and distributed by registered volunteers.

Salt bins will be positioned at:

- Roding Drive corner of junction Roding Drive/B1256.
- Four Ashes junction, B1256



MORRELLS GREEN RESIDENTS



Some parents at Morrells Green (The Pastures, Orchid Close, Harvest Fields, Fields etc) have requested some additional play equipment for the play area (near the balancing pond). Whilst this area is a small play area, the Parish Council is willing to consider adding a further one or two pieces of equipment to the current offer.

Please let us know what you would like to see: Toddler Swings, Slide, Multi Play Unit, Additional Springers

email: takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com

or write to us at the Station House, Sycamore Close, Takeley, Essex CM22 6QA

Community Speed Watch Team

CSW does a very valuable job & we need try to keep it going & recruit new members.

The immediate focus is:

1. Reviewing the impact of Takeley Street Traffic Calming to be measured over 6 mths (Nov 15 - Apr 2016)
2. Speeding traffic (Station Rd, Parsonage Rd, Warish Hall Rd/Smith Green, Brewers End, Priors Green)

If you would like to know more about joining the team please email:

takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com

TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING SCHEDULE 2016

Meetings start at 7.30pm & are held in the Station House,
Sycamore Close, unless notified otherwise.

JANUARY 6th	FEBRUARY 3rd	MARCH 2nd
APRIL 6th	MAY AGM 4th	JUNE 1st
JULY 6th	AUGUST 3rd	SEPTEMBER 7th
OCTOBER 5th	NOVEMBER 2nd	DECEMBER 7th

Station House Community Café

Sponsored by Takeley Parish Council

We cater for all ages and our aim is to provide affordable food and great service within a relaxing and accessible environment.

We use fresh, quality ingredients which we source locally.

So if it's a light lunch or just a drink and chat the community café is the place to visit.

So please drop in – we'd love to see you!

Your Community Café

Thursday 12 noon – 4 pm Friday 9 am – 1 pm

Station House, Sycamore Close, Takeley
off Station Road at the Four Ashes junction

AIRPORT PARKING

Please report on street airport parking to

Hotline: 0800 731 2385

This is a central database. A list of all cases goes to the Stansted Airport Highways Working Group (which includes Stansted Airport, Essex County Council Highways and Uttlesford District Council) which identifies 'hotspots'.

Where recorded evidence supports identification of a 'hotspot' Stansted Airport may contribute financial assistance to the statutory authority (ECC Highways) to provide a solution.

Neither ECC Highways nor Uttlesford District Council support resident parking schemes where off street parking is available.

The Parish Council has no statutory powers relating to Highways.

The Parish Council will make representations to UDC and ECC Highways Dept regarding airport parking issues but it is **only** the statutory bodies (UDC & ECC Highways) that have the powers to act.

Thank you

Stansted Airport Parking

Express Set Down discount scheme

This scheme was updated on 1 June 2015 and is open to all residents living within a ten mile radius of Stansted Airport.

The scheme is no longer available for commercial use. The new arrangements were agreed in partnership with the Stansted Airport Consultative Committee - an independent body comprising of elected representatives from neighbouring Local Authorities, user groups, the local community and on-airport businesses.

Q: What discount will be applied?

A: All residents living within a 5 mile radius of Stansted Airport will pay £0.50 for up to 10 mins and £0.50 per minute thereafter. All residents living within a 5 - 10 mile radius of Stansted Airport will pay £1 for up to 10 mins and £1 per minute thereafter.

Q: How do I apply?

A: You need to complete an application form and return that to Empark, who manage our car parks, together with proof of ID. Full details, including terms and conditions, are detailed on the application form. To request an application form email customerservice@empark.co.uk

Q: Once I've registered how will the scheme work?

A: You will be sent a discount card. Express Set Down is a ticketless system, using Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology to read entry/exit times and to calculate duration of stay. Discount scheme members will simply insert the discount card at the exit barrier, the discount will then be applied and you can make your reduced payment to exit.

Full details and information on how to apply to join the scheme can be found on the [Driving to Stansted](#) page of the airport website.

PRIORS GREEN COMMUNITY HALL

Can You Please Help Us?

We are new members of a small Management Committee set up to run the Priors Green Community Hall Charitable Trust. At the moment we are just three in number but ideally we should be a group of six. We **REALLY DO NEED** other folk to join us in the task of managing the hall. Extra members will not only lighten our load but will bring additional ideas on how the hall should be run and developed in the future for the benefit of the local community.

We need a range of different people to join us. Currently we have no Treasurer so someone with basic financial skills would be very useful. We also want to do the bulk of the maintenance at the hall ourselves to keep running costs as low as possible, so anyone with practical decorating, carpentry, plumbing or electrical skills would be most welcome to join us. Even if you do not fit into these skill sets please do not be put off, as we also just need folk who can bring their ideas to the table.

We have a great facility which if managed properly will be a huge benefit to the communities of Takeley and Little Canfield in the years to come. **PLEASE COME AND JOIN US** in making this a reality for us all.

If you are interested in joining us please contact:

Steve Casey.
Secretary.

For PGCH Management Committee.

Tel: 07552 018799

E-mail: caseysr@btinternet.com



WORRIED ABOUT THE FUEL BILL?

If you are worried about money, it's tempting not to turn the heating up – but a little bit of planning should ensure you save money and stay warm this winter.

- If you are having a problem paying your bill, contact your energy supplier as soon as possible. They may be able to help by changing your payment options, moving you to a cheaper deal or by installing a pay-as-you go meter.
- Get the right energy deal. With an estimated £200 annual saving in switching please visit www.goenergysshopping.co.uk and have a look! If you need help with this please call Uttlesford Citizens Advice.
- Alternatively, why not join a bulk energy buying scheme like Essex Energy Switch. For information go to www.uttlesford.gov.uk/essexenergyswitch or call 01376 552 525 and ask for the Energy Advice Team.
- Bulk buying oil – The Rural Community Council of Essex run an Oil Club and can be contacted over the phone on 01376 574340. Alternatively speak to your Parish Council to see if a club is operating locally or perhaps look at www.oil-club.co.uk or www.boilerjuice.co.uk.

“ I knew I could save money switching energy companies, but I didn't know that I could get my heating oil any cheaper. The CAB adviser told me that lots of villages have group oil buying schemes and gave me a telephone number. I've now joined mine and as well as getting my oil cheaper, I get an email every time they do an order which is a good reminder to check what I have left.”

- Get help if money is tight. You may be eligible for a WINTER FUEL PAYMENT OR A COLD WEATHER PAYMENT. Participating electricity suppliers offer a discount of £140 off your electricity bill if you are eligible. You will automatically qualify for the discount if on 12 July 2015 all of the following apply: • your electricity supplier was part of the

scheme • your name (or your partner's) was on the bill • you were getting the guarantee credit element of pension credit (even if you get savings credit as well). You may also qualify if you are on a low income or receive certain other benefits. You don't have to apply and should receive a letter by 24th Dec. If you think you qualify but have not received a letter call your supplier **before 29th January 2016**.

- It's estimated that £20 billion pounds of benefits aren't claimed every year. If you're worried about heating your home, give Uttlesford Citizens Advice a call on 01799 618840 – we have trained volunteers who can check your benefit entitlements and help with money worries if you have them.

Did You Know....You cannot be disconnected in the six months between October and March if you are of pensionable age and live alone, or if you live with people who are of pensionable age or under18.

This advice is an excerpt from 'Keeping Warm in Uttlesford 2016', which will be available across the district from January. If you don't receive a copy and would like one, please call Uttlesford CAB.

Big changes to consumer law – what this means for you.

A new consumer rights act became law on 1 October 2015. It's been billed as the biggest shake-up in consumer rights law in a generation, bringing together several pieces of legislation into one.

Some of the main changes in legislation are:

Digital rights

A big hole in the old consumer laws was it did not deal with digital content – music downloads or anything else supplied in digital form. The new act recognises digital content and says that such content must be:

- Of satisfactory quality
- Fit for a particular purpose
- As described by the seller.

If digital content does not meet these standards the consumer has the right to a repair or replacement; if this doesn't fix the problem, the costumer can ask for a price reduction. Retailers will have to provide compensation if any

device, or other digital content, owned by the consumer is damaged because of the digital content downloaded.

30-day right to 'reject'

There is now a specific timeframe in which you can reject a faulty item and get a full refund - 30 days from the date you purchase the product. Previously this was described as a 'reasonable time'. However, this right doesn't apply to digital content.

A 'tiered' remedy system

A 'tiered' remedy system is now in place for faulty goods, digital content and services; this means your rights to a refund are now more clearly set out. Whether you're entitled to a refund depends on how long you've owned the product.

- **Failed repairs.** After one failed attempt by the retailer to repair or replace a faulty good, you're entitled to ask for a refund or price reduction.
- **A second repair or replacement.** If you don't want a refund or price reduction, you have the right to request another repair or replacement at no cost to you.
- **Deductions from refunds** No deduction can be made from a refund in the first six months after purchase. The only exception to this is motor vehicles, where a reasonable reduction may be made for the use you've had of the vehicle.

Letting Agents

Lettings agents must clearly publicise a full tariff of their fees both on their websites and prominently in their offices.

Secondary Ticket Sales

Secondary ticketing sites, like 'Seatwave' and 'Get Me In' must now state the face value of tickets being resold - often for a much higher price. The companies will also need to make it clear if there are any problems with sight-lines and if seats listed together are actually next to each other.

Importantly, these secondary ticket websites will also have to carry an email address for buyers in case problems arise with the tickets.

Visit the Citizens Advice website for examples of how the new legislation will work in practice or for advice on what to do if you have a problem. www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Uttlesford Citizens Advice offers a free, impartial and independent service, with a wide range of support available from general advice to specialist help dealing with serious debt problems, employment disputes, housing and family issues. You can

call or email to make an appointment to speak to an experienced and friendly adviser in Saffron Walden, Great Dunmow, Thaxted, Stansted Mountfitchet, Wimbish (soldiers and families only) or by video link from Takeley.

Barnards Yard, CB11 4EB

T: 01799 618840

W: uttlesfordcab.org.uk

E: bureau@uttlesfordcab.cabnet.org.uk

Saffron Walden 9.30 to 3.30 M.T.Th.F. (appointments available Weds)

Great Dunmow 9.30 to 3.30 T. W. Th.

Thaxted 9.30 to 12.30 Monday (fortnightly – appointments only)

Stansted Mountfitchet 9.30 to 12.30 Thursday (weekly – appointments only) and

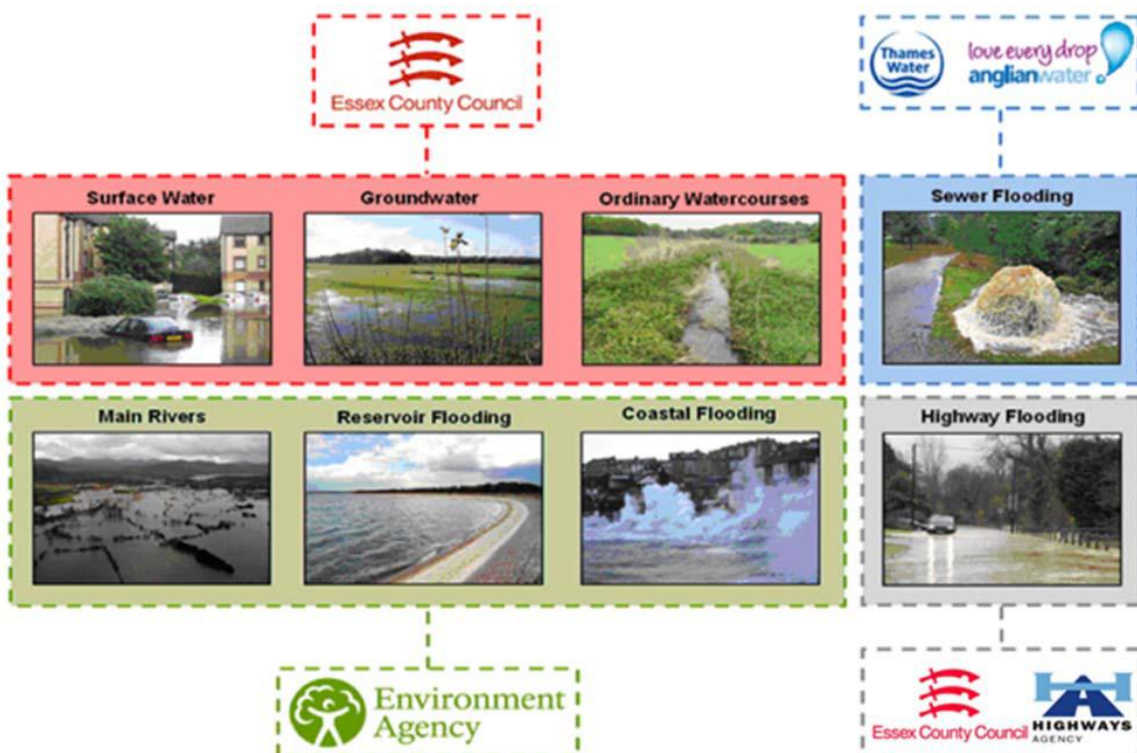
9.30 to 12.30 Monday (fortnightly – appointments only)

Takeley by video link Thursday and Friday by appointment only

FLOODING

Who should I report a flood to?

For more information on flooding please visit www.essex.gov.uk/flooding. As a quick reminder these are the following organisations that are responsible for flooding in Essex:



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

TIDY TAKELEY COMPETITION RESULTS 2015

Takeley Parish Council would like to congratulate all of those who entered the competition.

A presentation for the 4 winners was held on 11th Nov 2.30pm at Priors Wood Court.

The winners are:

- 1. Kingfisher Meadow - Best Street**
- 2. Mr & Mrs Taylor of King Fisher Meadow in the Residential category.**
- 3. Priors Wood Court Sheltered Accommodation- Best Commercial property.**
- 4. Lisa Carter of Priors Green wins the mystery prize for co-ordinating litter picking, gathering over 20 residents, on the development earlier this year which was a great success.**

THANK YOU

to Weston Homes for their sponsorship.

Vandalism on Morrells Green

There has been a spate of vandalism on Morrells Green. The two areas affected have been The Pastures, where some wooden bollards were kicked over and also Chapel Fields, where fencing around the Green has been deliberately broken. The fencing has been maintained by residents who have given up their own time for the general benefit of the community. It is not fair that their hard work should be casually and thoughtlessly damaged. Anybody spotting anything untoward happening should report the incident to the Parish Council or the Police on '101'. Where the culprits can be identified, there will be no hesitation in bringing a prosecution.

There has been a lot of vandalism in Takeley this year. We all have a responsibility to care for our environment and keep Takeley a pleasant place to live in.

Mindless damage spoils everyone's enjoyment of our village.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

‘Your Village Your Voice Your Future’



What is it?

The Localism Act 2011 gave local communities the right to produce a development plan, setting priorities for the development and use of land in a parish or local area. Once a plan is made, it becomes part of Uttlesford District Council's Development Plan, a statutory framework affecting all planning applications as a matter of law.

For a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) to be 'made', it will need to conform to planning policies and guidance at local, national and European level. It will also need to demonstrate support from the community through surveys and a referendum.

Can it stop development?

No. The aim of the plan is not to protect the village from **all** development but to ensure local people have a say in how targets for growth in our area are implemented in the parish. It will influence what land is designated as appropriate for housing, leisure use and green space and for the development of local business. It can however also help to ensure that the village's precious character and heritage is protected.

Where can I get more information?

There is a lot of information about the local planning process on the internet. Uttlesford District Council Planning department has got a lot of material on the website or follow this link:
<http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/>

Who needs to be involved?

It will need to involve the wider community in the formulation of the plan: residents, businesses, local groups, landowners and developers.

Will I be paid for any work I do on the plan?

No, it is a voluntary activity.

IF YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR VILLAGE IT IS UP TO YOU TO MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN AND GET INVOLVED

How can I get involved.....?

The Parish Council is learning about the process & is keen to gauge whether the community would want to undertake to prepare a plan for Takeley . A steering group of community would need volunteers to help with collecting data, arranging surveys and plans, getting up to speed on the requirements and putting together the plan in draft.

Please let us know if you think Takeley should have a NDP & how you can help.

email: takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com

or

write to: Takeley Parish Council, Station House, Sycamore Close,
Takeley, Essex CM22 6QA

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** 2015/16 rates, plus £5 joining fee for adults.*

TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

for electors of Takeley

Wednesday, 21st October 2015 @ 7.30pm

Silver Jubilee Hall, Takeley

**Re: Old School House/Youth Centre,
Dunmow Road B1256 at Brewers End, Takeley
CM22 6QJ**

*Over 2000 leaflets advertising the meeting hand delivered to
each home (incl Priors Green)*

Minutes:

Takeley Parish Council has the opportunity to buy the Old School House/Youth Centre, Dunmow Road (B1256) at Brewers End for use as a community hub. The Parish Council wishes to engage with residents to explain its intention to purchase and refurbish the building.

Chairman Cllr Carol Pratt, Cllr Trevor Allen, and Clerk, Jane Heskey, provided a short presentation outlining:

- History & background
- Why we need additional/different community facilities
- Proposed & potential uses for the building
- The purchase procedure
- Approximate costs & means of funding

Chairman, Cllr Carol Pratt invited questions.

Chairman Cllr Carol Pratt invited residents to show support (by a show of hands) for purchasing the building, and restoring it for community purposes, by borrowing up to £300k to purchase the site.

The overwhelming majority of residents supported the proposal

Residents were asked to complete a form leaving contact details for updates, comments, and offers of support if the project goes forward.

Old School House, Brewers End

Update The Diocese has handed control of disposal of the building to ECC (who own the outside areas). ECC has requested that TPC provide a formal bid to purchase the entire site (building & land) for offers over £350k by early September otherwise the site will be marketed for sale.

September

TPC agreed that this site is strategically important as it is the last available site, in a central village location, that could be used to facilitate additional services in this growing community. Current community halls are running near capacity, and it is recognised that additional flexible facilities are/will be required. A 'hub' for community services might include a permanent home for the new youth group, outreach CAB services, outreach food bank service, village archives, community cafe, public information point, Parish Council base, future part time health services, breakfast/afterschool club.

Chairman Cllr Carol Pratt proposed that TPC submit an offer to ECC to purchase both the land and the old school house building for £350 001. The offer would be subject to the following conditions:

1. Contracts
 2. Survey
 3. TPC's own independent open market valuation
 4. TPC's independent assessment of cost of repairs
 5. Full disclosure of relevant documents for the complete site
 6. ECC agreement not to market the site for sale
 7. Confirmation of residents support for financing. TPC agree to hold a public meeting for the residents of Takeley Parish to approve the purchase/financing within 4-6wks of ECC's response to the offer.
- TPC agreed (9-3) in favour of an offer being put forward to ECC.

October:

TPC were then asked to satisfy a number of conditions before the end of October.

Following the public meeting on 21/10/15, and details of a structural survey & previous valuations, TPC considered:

1. Should the Old School House be purchased?
2. Does TPC agree the price required by ECC?
3. Does TPC agree to borrowing up to £300k to fund the purchase?

November:

Members discussed:

- The strength of public support at the public meeting held on 21st October. There was overwhelming support to save the old School for community use. We have received many offers of support to assist with the renovation of the building and the creation of a 'community hub'.

- Members discussed the findings of the structural survey, the impact on refurbishment costs, long term stability of the building, and insurance implications.
- Gordon Silvester has provided an updated initial estimated costs based on the structural survey. £230-250k to refurbish & £270-300k to rebuild.
- The Clerk will verify the VAT treatment for both options.
- Conditions 2, 3, 4 & 8 have been satisfied (Structural survey, independent advice re valuation and estimated cost of repairs, and a public meeting was held on 21st October).

Takeley Parish Council (TPC) resolved that:

1. TPC wishes to proceed to purchase the property for community use (12:1)
2. The structural survey has highlighted that the foundations of the building have been undermined by nearby trees. Underpinning will be required to stabilise the building which will add approximately £60k to the cost of refurbishment. In addition there is a considerable amount of tree work to be undertaken to ensure that the building is not compromised in the future. The trees in question are on land adjacent to the site owned by the Diocese (west & north west of site). The Parish Council requests that ECC & CDB either guarantee that the tree works required will be dealt with (to our engineers satisfaction), or apply a significant discount to the conditional offer price (£350 001).
3. TPC wishes to apply for the County Council's Assisted Purchase Scheme which we understand would provide a 25% discount to be applied to the Essex CC portion of the transaction (approx 2/3rds of total or 70%)
4. TPC will apply for a PWLB loan up to £300k, over a period of up to 50 years, to complete the purchase.

Once it is known that ECC has accepted the offer and the transaction is proceeding the School House Working Group will be meeting to agree a process to specify and cost the renovation.

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No instruments, pure vocal harmonies.

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Sing Your Socks Off
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“Singing from the Heart”

Just £5-00 per session with refreshment`s afterwards. We start singing at 7-30 with warm up exercises beforehand.

Our final session for this year will be on December the 16th and we return on February the 24th.

May I take this opportunity to wish all our singers past and present a Happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year

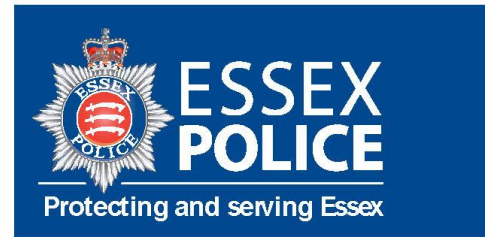
Paul Burnett 01279870578

paul@pburnett1.orangehome.co.uk

Braintree & Uttlesford Police



Christmas Message & Advice



#BeSureAtTheDoor This Festive Season

Rogue traders are people who call at your door pretending to be qualified tradespeople offering to do work on your home.

They may seem friendly and persuasive but too often they target vulnerable elderly people and carry out poor quality household repairs to roofs and driveways.

If you need work done on your home, find a vetted trader who operates in a legal, honest and fair way at www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk

Be Aware Of Bogus Callers

Most people who call at your home will be genuine but it's important to be on your guard and remember there are bogus callers about.

Remember:

- Always be sure the caller is who they say they are before letting them in.
- All genuine callers will have identification and won't mind you asking to see it.
- Representatives from water, gas and electric companies rarely visit without appointments.
- Fraudsters may also try to steal money over the telephone.
- Police or bank officials would never call you by telephone and ask for your full bank details or ask you to withdraw large sums of cash.

Don't Suffer Domestic Abuse In Silence This Christmas

The festive season can be a stressful time for many but especially for those living with domestic abuse. If you are worried or concerned about a friend or family member there's lots of information on our website about how Essex Police can help you.

If you decide not to speak to the police, please don't suffer in silence.

We also have information on alternative organisations all over Essex and the UK that can offer advice, support and counselling.

If you require any further information on any of the above headings please visit our website www.essex.police.uk



In an emergency always dial **999**. For non emergencies dial **101**
www.essex.police.co.uk

New Community Policing Team for Uttlesford

- It is proposed that the new Community Policing Team for Uttlesford and Braintree would be made up of: one local policing and partnerships inspector, two sergeants, eight constables, two dedicated youth officers and six PCSOs.
- The team will be locally based and will prioritise: protecting people from harm; preventing and reducing crime; bringing criminals to justice; engaging with the public; and ensuring the public are satisfied with the service they receive.
- The team will work closely with partners to deal with all aspects of neighbourhood policing, from tackling night-time economy related violence to responding to emerging crime trends.
- They will not deal with low level non-policing matters such as long-term neighbourhood disputes, low level anti-social behaviour and parking issues, but will work alongside partners, for example the local authority and Community Safety Partnership, who will address these matters.
- Under proposals, currently under consultation with affected staff, 20 of the 27 PCSOs jobs in Uttlesford & Braintree may be removed. Affected staff would be retained as PCSOs, redeployed elsewhere in the force or made redundant. It is proposed that the new Community Policing Team for Uttlesford & Braintree will retain six PCSO jobs.
- The Community Policing Teams will hold monthly Local Community Meetings where residents can raise their crime-related concerns. Street meets will be discontinued.

Stations proposed for closure and sale

- **Hatfield Heath** closed to the public in November 2011. The station is still used as an operational base by officers. It will close and is being proposed for sale.
- **Stansted Mountfichet** police station closed the front counter to the public in November 2011. The former Essex Police Authority approved the sale of the station in June 2012.



Saffron Walden Police Station

- Saffron Walden police station will stay open with proposed front counter services provided from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.
- An average of two people per hour per day visit Saffron Walden police station's front counter.
- Research carried out over two separate months showed 551 people visited Saffron Walden police station's front counter.
- Saffron Walden police station will house: local policing teams; CID; domestic abuse investigation teams; and public protection.
- Great Dunmow police station front counter is proposed for closure to the public. It is currently open Monday to Saturday 12pm to 6pm.
- The station also currently houses the Business Centre and support staff.
- Research carried out over two separate months showed 376 people visited Great Dunmow's front counter. A large proportion of these visitors were making deliveries to the Business Centre.

People can continue to use the 101 number of 999 in an emergency to contact police.

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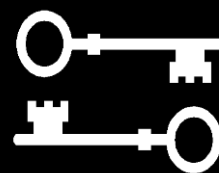
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TAKELEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

UNLOCKING THE PAST

<http://tlhs.org.uk>

chairman@tlhs.org.uk



We are very pleased to note that the Parish Council are actively seeking to save the Old School and keep it as a village amenity. The village is undergoing a period of extremely rapid change and without intervention every available space would soon become a building site. I believe that one thing attracting newcomers to Takeley is the rural feel and mix of older buildings that we have. In the past few years we have lost the old forge on the Barkers Tank site (now Morrells Green), Takeley Nurseries (now Priors Green), the station yard (now Sycamore Close), Fyffes Chaff Factory site (now Weston Homes offices), Percy Read's garage site (now several new houses), The Old Mill pub (redeveloped as three houses) and now the view of Hatfield Forest from the top of Cooks Hill has been lost to houses. These diverse old sites were part of the character of Takeley. We are very fortunate that our Parish Council care about our key historic buildings and I hope the entire village will be behind the council when volunteer help is called for to see this project through.

At our November meeting we were extremely pleased to welcome Dr John Ashdown Hill MBE. He spoke to us regarding the evidence he uncovered leading to the discovery of the remains of Richard III in a Leicester car park. Subsequent verification that the remains were those of Richard used DNA evidence that John had previously collected from a descendant of Richard in Canada. The presentation was well attended, including several visitors to the meeting, and we hope to invite Dr Ashdown Hill back in the future.

Our next meeting will be on 2nd February when the subject will be much closer to home, welcoming back local historian Alf Wright. It is four years since we last saw Alf and his superb collection of old local photographs of Takeley and the surrounding villages. Alf uses these to take us back several decades into the recent past. The speaker for our 3rd May meeting is still to be announced but on 13th September Tony Carter, a local detectorist, will be bringing a large number of his finds to discuss with us. I can highly recommend these event to anyone who would like to learn more about the local area from speakers with first hand local knowledge. I would particularly extend this invitation to anyone new to the village. Graham Thompson and myself met a number of new faces at the stall at the Xmas Bazaar and we know that there are many of you out there who would like to know more about the history of the local area. Our meetings start at 7.30pm at Takeley Primary School (Priors Green) and all are made very welcome.

Steve Hazon, Chairman, Takeley Local History Society

Articles from the past, by Pat Salmon

Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Saturday 29th May 1926.

FOOTBALL CLUB SMOKING CONCERT.

To further celebrate the successes achieved by the Football Club during the past season, a smoking concert took place at the Club's headquarters, the Green Man Inn, on Wednesday evening, at which there was a large attendance. The room was tastefully decorated with the Club's colours. Mr A Piper occupied the chair and was supported by officials of the Club. In an interval the Chairman proposed the toast of "The Takeley Football Club" which was received with musical honours and Mr A Piper (Captain of the Club) made a suitable response. An enjoyable musical programme was carried out. Among the contributors were -- Messrs Armstrong, C.Dobson, J.Dobson, M.Childs, J.Machin, A.Hockley, T.Lambert, and others. The accompaniments were played by Mr Saggs.

FOOTBALLERS ENTERTAINED.

An enjoyable function took place at the Saracens Head Hotel, Dunmow, on Friday last week, when a dinner was given in honour of the Takeley Football Club. Who have won the Dunmow League Championship for two successive seasons. The dinner was given by Mr W.J.Armstrong, of Takeley, and in addition to the members of the winning team there was also present several League Officials, and the Secretaries and Captains of all the Club's in the competition, the company numbering over 50. Mr A.C.Piper (president Takeley F.C.) occupied the chair and was supported by Mr A.E.Floyd (president of the League) Mr H.G.Knight (League Secretary) and Mr E.Hicks (Felstead). After an excellent meal several toasts were honoured, that of the Takeley F.C. being received with much enthusiasm. Mr A.J.Piper (Captain) and Mr F.Fields (vice-captain) replied, on behalf of the team. Other toasts were given by the Rev S.E.Burton (Congregational Minister - Takeley) and the Rev G.M.Wilson, Vicar of Great Canfield, a former boxing champion of Oxford University. Mr Armstrong was accorded musical honours for giving the dinner.

Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Friday 16th October 1953.

NEW GROUND AND PAVILION.

Takeley Football Club's new ground at Stane Street, was opened officially by Commander A.Cory-Wright, a member of the Hatfield Forest Committee of the national Trust, on Saturday. He was introduced by Mr A.L.Frost, chairman of the club and a member of Essex County F.A. who commented that it was only through the help and co-operation of the Forest Committee, and the hard work of members that the club were able to have the ground.

He went on to say that club members had started on the job of clearing the ground six months ago, when it was scrubland with two bomb craters in it. Now they had a good ground - apart from the eternal rabbits, which was causing some concern.

MEMBERS BUILT PAVILION.

Commander Cory-Wright also commented that the club "started with a bomb site" but now had a presentable ground with an adequate pavilion, which contains a kitchen and store room, and had cost about £100. The building had been erected by club members. Their first match was against Saffron Walden Youth centre in the first round of the Essex Junior Cup. The ground is on land owned by the National Trust.



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Book Review by Elaine Wyld

The Miniaturist

By

Jessie Burton

The book takes the reader back to the year of 1686. The story is set in a respected Merchant's House in Amsterdam.

When Nella Oortman accepts a proposal of marriage from Johannes Brandt she sees her future as bright and comfortable. The death of her father has left her mother with little money after paying his debts. A prudent marriage seemed the best course of action to Nella. Travelling on the canal with her few belongings and birdcage and precious parakeet, "Peebo" Nella arrives at the steps of her new impressive home in the Herengracht.

However, once she settles into the new house, the circumstances she finds herself in are not quite as she had imagined. She is not greeted by her new husband, but his austere and religious sister, Marin Brandt. The household consists of a maid, Cornelia, and a black servant called Otto. She learns that her new husband is a sugar merchant and a member of the Dutch East India Company who has travelled extensively and successfully, selling sugar. Other than that, she knows little about him. Lonely and bored, Nella is pleased to receive a wedding gift from her husband of a beautiful and expensive wooden doll's house, which is an identical design to her new home. Nella enjoys the distraction of furnishing the doll's house and orders new artefacts from The Miniaturist. Each new order is accompanied by extra gifts from The Miniaturist. These are copies of the furniture in her house and the little doggies that belong to Johannes. Subsequently, small doll people who are exact replicators of the inhabitants of the house arrive. The Dolls House begins to predict future events with amazing accuracy.

Nella determines to track down The Miniaturist who proves to be very elusive, to discover how he knows everything about her and her new family.

As time passes, Nella is shocked to discover the secrets of her new sister-in-law, the man-servant and the worst secret of all about her husband. As tragedy strikes, the doll's house inhabitants mirror events. Nella has to mature and take control of her life and determine if there is an unnatural force at work or whether the family has an enemy who is set on their destruction.

A gripping and compelling page-turner.

Picador

ISBN 978-1-4472-5093-7

£7.99

About the Takeley Parish Council Newsletter

The Newsletter was started up again in the autumn of 1998 (after an interval of some 10-15 years) as a result of opinion expressed in the Village Appraisal. It is designed to provide a free community magazine for Takeley Parish. It is intended that the Newsletter should reflect all aspects of Parish life and should provide an opportunity for community matters to be raised and discussed.

The Newsletter team currently comprises a Contributing Editor (Paul Regeli), a compositor (Steve Hazon) and a distribution and advertising coordinator (Jane Heskey) but no official reporters. An interest magazine, therefore, depends on articles, news and advertisements coming from people in the village and nearby which can be sent to:

**Jane Heskey, Clerk of the Council, Takeley Parish Council, Station House, Sycamore Close, Takeley, CM22 6QA
Tel. 0208 270 1149**

or email to newsletter@takeleypc.co.uk

The closing date for submission of material is the 15th of November, February, May and August for the respective quarterly issues.

It is not always possible to publish everything submitted and sometimes changes have to be made to the length of a contribution. Non-controversial articles cannot always be published immediately but they will appear later unless the contributor is told otherwise. Contributions of up to, say, 400 words, have a greater chance of being published in full than longer ones.

The name of the person (and in what capacity if appropriate) submitting the material must accompany the contribution. If you do not want your name published you must make that clear. However, articles without the author's name are only likely to be published if they are non-controversial. Ultimately the responsibility for publication rests with the Parish Council, which has veto powers as to content.

Advertising rates per issue (quarterly) are listed below. Payment and details must be supplied to the Newsletter by the closing dates listed above although we do prefer annual payment in advance to reduce administration.

1. Full Page (i.e. one half A4 sheet size), £25.00 Photo or disc ready
 2. Half Page, £15.00 Photo or disc ready
 3. Quarter Page, £10.00
 4. One Eighth Page or less, £7.00
- (10% discount for pre-booking all four issues in a year)

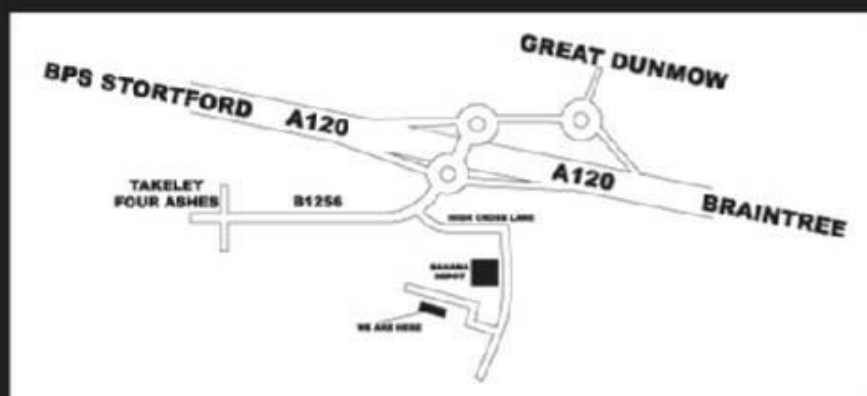
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