

Down to Business.....

Local Developments

The PC and the County Highways officer recently opposed plans to create offices and light industrial units at Villa Farm on the Watton Road. Our concerns were that the development would further increase traffic through the village and that traffic entering and leaving the site would create a hazard on an already busy road. We are surrounded by planned major housing and industrial developments and at risk of being a rat run due to the increase in traffic that will follow dualing of the A11 and developments at Wymondham and Attleborough. Therefore we believe that future industrial developments should be based at the Research Park where proper public transport can be provided.

Cycle Paths

Over 100 people have so far responded to the survey. All of those people would like to cycle to work or school if only there were a safe route. A manifesto that describes our requests has now been created and will be sent to elected representatives and Council officials. The manifesto and some of the comments that survey respondents have made can be read on the web site and there is information about how you can help us campaign for a safe path.

Motor Bikes at Hethersett Pits

The unauthorized riding of motor bikes around the Parish Pits at Hethersett causes noise nuisance to some LM residents, damages wildlife and intimidates walkers. The land is owned by Hethersett PC and Great Melton Estates - they are looking at ways to control the problem. If you are affected then please call PC Glenn Hambling on 0845 456 4567 whilst the riders are still there and he will try to speak with them.

For the Diary....

3rd Oct	Wildlife Group Fungus Foray Colney Hall 2pm
9th Oct	School Harvest Festival 9.30am at School
10th Oct	Church Harvest Supper 7.30pm Village Hall
11th Oct	Church Harvest Festival
20th Oct	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
22nd Oct	Meltonians Village Hall 2.15pm
24th Oct	Litter Pick Village Hall 11.00am
3rd Nov	Oil Economy Group last ordering day
19th Nov	Meltonians Village Hall 2.15pm
26th Nov	Meltonians Christmas Lunch Village Inn
1st Dec	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
8th Dec	School Xmas Play Dress Rehearsal 10.00am
12th Dec	Santa's Grotto Colney Hall
21st Dec	Church Carol Concert 7.30pm
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Little Melton Parish Council newsletter

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Cars parking on the footpaths is becoming a problem. This obviously means that those walking with pushchairs, wheelchairs, small children on bikes etc cannot use the paths safely. So would owners of vehicles parking on the footway please not do so and, in addition, would those receiving visitors who park their cars and obstruct the footway also please ask them not to do so. Please show some courtesy to others, the footpath is for pedestrians, not parking.

Tree Survey

If you read the last issue of the Parish Council newsletter you will know that I have taken on the role of volunteer Tree Warden for the parish. This role doesn't invest me with any special powers nor does it imply any particular expertise. I just like trees and would like to see more of them in the village.

Each year, to coincide with National Tree Planting week (end of November), the County Council organises a giveaway of native trees and hedging plants for use on community projects. I am keen for the village to benefit from this scheme and would like to identify some planting opportunities ready for next years' giveaway. The first step is identifying what is already here. To this end I am working on a tree survey of the parish. I have located the 16 trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders and mapped them on a Google MyMap accessible from the Parish Council website. Next I aim to add trees and hedges on Council land, followed by any other trees and hedges of note within the parish.

I would like your help to make the survey as complete and accurate as possible. If you own one of the trees marked on the map, or if it overhangs your garden, and you would allow me access to measure and photograph the tree then I would like to hear from you. Alternatively, if you have a tree or hedge that could be added to the map please let me know.

I will be updating the map as I get new information so please take a look and see how I'm getting on. In the meantime, if you see someone tangled in a tree with a tape measure, that'll be me!

Sue Bell, Tree Warden

01603 813166, tree.warden@little-melton.org.uk

Parish Council contacts:

Clerk: Richard Sinclair 01603 811432 - clerk@little-melton.org.uk

Chair: John Heaser - chair@little-melton.org.uk

Don't forget to visit www.little-melton.org.uk

MILL ROAD FOOTWAY

As most of you who use Mill Road will be aware the extension of the footway down to the village playing field was completed during August. Whilst this has resulted in a slight narrowing of the carriageway in some places, an overall benefit - most importantly for pedestrian safety - has been achieved. On the matter of the replacement of trees next to the new footway, only two of the seven will be replaced - these being the Cherry outside No 34 which is dead and the Purple plum outside No 28 which is in a very poor condition (Ganoderma). Replacements will be an upright Crab Apple and the other an early flowering Rowan tree. The Parish Council have also contacted Saffron Housing to request that the lower branches of the trees are cut to above head height.

Litter Pick

The next litter pick is to be held on Saturday 24th October - meet at the village hall at 11.00 am. If you are able to join the "team" please bring gloves. Reflective jackets and metal pickers are provided. It does not take too much time and is followed by a drink at the Village Inn at 12.15.

Hethersett and District Aid in Sickness Fund

was formed to provide assistance to the sick in the area of Hethersett, Ketteringham and Little Melton. Funds can help individuals who are sick, infirm or convalescent and for help in the supply of medical or nursing equipment. Our contact is; Allan Bennett, 99 School Lane, 01603 813077 or e-mail: h99@btinternet.com

Wildlife Group

About 12 members enjoyed a bat walk in July and several species of bat were detected. Sam Phillips from the Norwich Bat Group gave a brief talk and showed us a live bat that he was nursing whilst its wing healed. A Fungus Foray is planned for Oct 3rd, meet 2.00pm at Colney Hall in the car park - we will walk several miles through the woods.

We will be having a half day trip in December to view migrating wetland birds at a nearby reserve. Details will be on www.little-melton.org.uk or phone Peter on 814134.

Oil Economy Group

We are still going from strength to strength. Because of extra people joining, we are looking for someone who is computer literate, who would be willing to assist us on a quarterly basis. Please contact us for further information.

John Sanders on 810720 or

John Copson on 810142

John Sander's email address is;

woodell@talktalk.net

John Copson's email address is;

johncopson@talktalk.net

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Since the last newsletter there have been no incidents of criminal activity reported in the village. This is obviously good news but residents are warned not to become complacent. There are still reports of bogus callers operating under various guises in other parts of the county. Whilst not wishing to talk anything up, in view of the current 'quiet' situation it has been decided to have the next public Homewatch meeting to coincide with the Annual report to the Parish Council in March. However if anybody has a matter they wish to discuss, please contact Ron Websdale on 01603 810652

PARISH news

CHURCH NEWS

We were so delighted to have so many people with us (and the wonderful flying pigs) at the Grand Opening and Dedication of our new building. It is already making a great difference to us and will be invaluable at all future events.

We are continuing with the special fund raisers introduced for the extension in the coming year, to support the Walugu Project, an education initiative in Ghana. The first is 'Santa's Grotto' at Colney Hall on Saturday 12th December.

Our next Church event will be the Harvest Supper at 7.30pm on Saturday 10th October at the Village Hall with the Harvest Festival service at the church at 10.30am the following day. We shall be pleased to receive edible gifts to be sent to the Ashcroft Project in the Wymondham area (Tea, Coffee, Biscuits, sweets etc.) The Friends Carol Concert is booked for Monday 21st December at 7.30pm at the Church.

The Friends will be selling Apple Juice again this year, contact Sue on 812230 or buy at the Village Store.

We are planning another Art Project to involve local Schools. Details of this and all the others will be in the Good News Magazine.

Primary School update

This Autumn topics are based on the general theme of 'Discovery'. Classes have chosen topics to fit this including the Romans, Scientists discoveries, Dinosaurs, the land under the sea and also the discoveries of Sir Francis Drake. These topics will enable the children to engage in some research and make some discoveries of their own.

We would be grateful to anyone in the community who would like to come in and help with any of the above topics. The School also would like to here from anyone who wishes to help in class with reading, painting, gardening etc. Please feel free to contact us if there is **anything** you feel you could help the school with; additional helpers are always more than welcome!

Our 'Eagle Owl' class will be recreating their own Mosaics, so if anyone has any spare ceramic or mosaic tiles please bring them into the school for this project. Thank you.

And finally, villagers are invited to both our Harvest Festival on Friday 9th October at 9.30am and the dress rehearsal of our Christmas Play on Tuesday 8th December at 10am. We look forward to welcoming you to our school

Now may be the time some maintenance is needed to front boundary hedging/shrubs which prevent proper use of the roadside footways. So if your front boundary hedge does encroach over the adjacent footway the Parish Council would appreciate this being cut well back to facilitate ease of use by pedestrians, especially mothers with buggies, children, the older amongst us and of course blind persons. Pedestrian safety is of paramount importance and should not be compromised and it has to be stressed, once again, that should such a situation be reported to the Local Highway Authority, the Norfolk County Council, can undertake the maintenance and charge the owner the cost of the work!