

Aldringham cum Thorpe with Sizewell Newsletter



Website:

www.aldringham.onesuffolk.net

December 2018

Stop Press 4/12/18 : ScottishPower Renewables select Friston site



Photo

ScottishPower Renewables

Early decision to make Friston substation site

In a **Press Release** issued on December 4th, six days ahead of the original deadline, **ScottishPower Renewables** has announced Grove Wood, Friston, as the most appropriate location for development of the onshore substations required for its East Anglia TWO and East Anglia ONE North offshore windfarms.

Extra consultation period

The decision comes following an additional consultation period for the projects (Phase 3.5), which, in parallel to the proposals for the Grove Wood, Friston, site, explored the opportunity to consider an alternative site at Broom Covert, Sizewell. Consultation Phase 3.5, which ran from 29th of September to 12th November, saw ScottishPower Renewables host public meetings and share consultation documents with local residents and

stakeholders. This phase of consultation also communicated additional information regarding connection to the electrical network, drainage, traffic and transport.

In response to this phase of consultation approximately 600 responses were received, in relation to both sites, from members of the public, local interest groups and statutory stakeholders. All of the feedback has been carefully reviewed and considered.

AONB concerns

This phase of consultation highlighted concerns regarding potential impact on the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and thus compliance with National Planning Statements. As a responsible developer, ScottishPower Renewables takes a balanced view towards site selection at all times, using industry leading legal and technical advisors, who draw on national planning policy, in addition to the company's project experience, notably in the successful development of East Anglia ONE and East Anglia THREE offshore wind projects.

Grove Wood deemed best

Based on responses to the consultation and extensive advice, it is ScottishPower Renewables' view that the Grove Wood, Friston, site offers the best location for the electrical infrastructure required to input the clean energy from the proposed windfarms into the grid network.

David Walker, Development Director at ScottishPower Renewables, said: "We would like to thank everyone who responded to this latest phase of consultation. The feedback received has played an important part in helping us make this decision.

"After carefully reviewing all of the feedback, it was decided that the Grove Wood, Friston, site will remain as the preferred location for the substations.

"We are now looking at the key matters raised in relation to the Grove Wood site and we are considering how these influence our plans going forward. In early 2019 we will be launching Phase 4 of our consultation and we encourage as many people as possible to continue engaging with us on the next stage of our plans."

Phase 4 consultations

ScottishPower Renewables' Phase 4 consultation will detail the approach to site selection and be based around the Environmental Statement, which will set out the proposed infrastructure and its likely environmental impacts.

More information on the site selection process can be found at spreastanglia.co.uk

Clean energy for 1.5 million homes

The proposed East Anglia TWO and East Anglia ONE North offshore windfarms have the potential to power 1.5 million homes* with clean energy.

The two projects, East Anglia TWO and East Anglia ONE North with a capacity of 900MW and 800MW respectively, follow on from the 714MW East Anglia ONE project, currently in construction and the 1,200 MW East Anglia THREE scheme, which received planning consent last year.

SCC and SCDC response

Local Councils share frustration over plans for power company's new substation

Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council have both responded with a great deal of frustration after hearing that ScottishPower Renewables has announced plans to site a substation at Grove Wood, Friston, as part of their offshore windfarms projects.

Both authorities had previously jointly stated that selecting one of the two proposed substation sites at Grove Wood or Broom Covert, was like choosing the lesser of two evils.

Local needs ignored

They feel that local needs are still being ignored and maintain their position that more should be done to co-ordinate these projects to minimise the impact on the local communities. Both authorities will continue working together, to express concerns to ScottishPower Renewables directly and through the next round of public consultations.

Adverse impact on landscape

Cllr Geoff Holdcroft, Suffolk Coastal District Council's Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Economic Development, said: "We have welcomed the ongoing interaction and consultation with ScottishPower Renewables during their pre-application process. However, we are concerned with their preference to site the onshore infrastructure at Grove Wood, Friston, as we consider this location to have significant adverse impacts on the landscape, heritage assets and the local community.

"We will continue discussions with SPR in advance of their next round of public consultation in seeking to maximise mitigation opportunities for this difficult site."

Cllr Richard Rout, Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Protection at Suffolk County Council, said: "We now find ourselves in a really difficult position. We have a responsibility to safeguard our fragile, unique environment in Suffolk but we also do understand that there is a desire for new jobs and economic development as part of a vibrant local and national economy. We have clear aspirations for Suffolk to become the Greenest County. These are still at the forefront of our minds and the potential impacts of such development are not particularly in keeping with our favoured approach.

Grave concerns

"We remain gravely concerned that Friston is the wrong place for such development. The leaders of Suffolk Coastal, Waveney Districts and Suffolk County have written to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy asking that the Government takes a more strategic view in planning how we manage energy infrastructure in the future so that issues such as this are dealt with properly.

"Although we are still opposed to the Friston site, we don't have the authority to turn down the planning of these major infrastructure projects. So, we will do what we can to work with Scottish Power Renewables to find the maximum mitigation possible to ensure their project causes the least impact in the event that it is accepted by the Secretary of State in due course."

Online details

Details of the Scottish Power Renewables consultation and decision can be seen here:

https://www.scottishpowerrenewables.com/pages/ea_two_phase_3_5_consultation.aspx

Information about the Councils' responses, including previous correspondence, can be found here: <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/offshore-windfarms/>

(Parish Council latest news on SPR included in Parish Matters –see Page 3)

A Very Happy Christmas and Peaceful and Prosperous New Year to All



Photo:

Roger Searle

Who have we here, then?

Not sure who is the most puzzled by this encounter – Father Christmas in his grotto at the Thorpeness Christmas Fair at The Dolphin, or young Finlay, who's looking very contemplative after his first meeting with the great man. Luckily, Ms Christmas is there with a reassuring smile. The Fair on November 24th raised £1,000 to be shared between St Andrew's Church and Rainbow Tots (full report further on).

Parish Council Update

Parish Councillors

Eric Atkinson	Chairman	01728 830497
Maureen Jones	Vice-Chair	01728 453915
David Mayhew		01728 452773
Pippa McLardy		01728 454565
Scott Squirrell		01728 833691
Alan Williams		07802 175184
Brian Davies		01728 830938
Katherine Shadbolt		01728 451906
Shirley Tilbrook	Parish Clerk	01728 830001

PARISH MATTERS – November 2018

Flooding

Concern continues over the length of time it is taking to resolve the flooding problems at both the Parrot in Aldringham and Old Homes Road in Thorpeness. There is little progress to report in Thorpeness. However, a number of us met with the Highways to review progress in Aldringham and to understand the findings of the

investigations carried out in September, which indicated the current pipe which drains the area is fractured and therefore unable to be cleared or put back into service.

If you have any news, or events of interest to the local community, please email details to the editor: Pippa McLardy pimclardy@hotmail.com

Following the meeting Highways have indicated they wish to undertake a topographical survey (which may have been completed by now) to determine possible long term solutions.

Coastal Erosion

Erosion to the cliffs north of Thorpeness and continuing damage to the defence bags SCDC and gabions continue to be of great concern. Work has started on preparing for a local consultation on the ongoing problem we face and possible solutions.

Tree Warden

If anyone is interested in taking on the role of tree warden for the parish please contact the Parish Clerk or myself for more information.

Planning

The parish council has dealt with nine planning applications since the last newsletter. We supported seven, raised issues with the application for the 40 houses at Aldringham and opposed one. Details of these and the current applications can be found via the Parish Website which links through to SCDC's website.

SPR Windfarms

Most of you will be aware the ScottishPower Renewables (SPR) introduced a phase 3.5 consultation, the main purpose of which was to introduce a further potential substation location between Leiston and Sizewell at Broom Covert, which could be a possible alternative to the one chosen at Grove Wood Friston.

I hope you went along to the presentations and had your say. The consultation concluded on the 12th November.

Regardless of the location of the substation, the landfall for the windfarm cables will be just to the north of Thorpeness in our parish, as will be the cable route. Therefore, we took the opportunity to meet with SPR and voice our concerns on the impacts that any works would have on our parish. We also included these concerns in our written response which can be found on the Parish Website.

SCDC Local Plan

The review of the Local Plan ended on Friday 14th September 2018 and we are awaiting the publication of the draft plan for comment following the review, when this is available we intend to restart work on our local Neighbourhood Plan.

Sizewell C

You should all by now have heard that EDF will start their Stage 3 Public Consultation for the Sizewell C Project on Friday 4 January. You will be aware that Stage 1 consultation ran from November 2012 to February 2013. Stage 2 took place from November 2016 to February 2017. The proposals that will be presented to residents have been informed by feedback received at the previous two stages and technical and environmental assessments.

The public consultation will run for 12 weeks and 14 public exhibitions will be held within the first two weeks. Please go along and have your say.

Other news

I hope you have all notice the planting that has been carried out on the triangle at Aldringham crossroads. We were issued a licence by Suffolk Highways in June for the work to be carried out. Well done to Christine and Brian Davies, who have with the support of Chris at the Parrot are doing the work.

You may be interested to know that the Ogilvie War Memorial at St Andrew's has been listed as a Grade II monument.

Dates of Meetings 2019

Monday 7th January

Monday 4th February

Monday 4th March (Annual Parish Meeting)

Monday 8th April

Monday 13th May (Annual Parish Council Meeting)

Monday 17th June

Monday 29th July

Monday 2nd September

Monday 14th October

Monday 25th November

Please see our Parish Website for the latest information and confirmation of the venue (usually The Tower Room or The Pavilion, Thorpeness).

Eric Atkinson - Chairman

District Council Report

Suffolk Coastal Cabinet

Tuesday, 2nd October, Deben Conference Room, East Suffolk House:

Amongst other items, the Cabinet looked at the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Spend, which was introduced in Suffolk Coastal in July 2015. Since then the Council has been collecting funds from new developments to help deliver infrastructure projects and facilitate growth across the district. This report provides details of the engagement that has been undertaken with infrastructure service providers, town and parish councils and local community groups to identify appropriate projects on which CIL funds could be spent in the financial year 2018/19. Eight community projects have been identified across the District in the 2018/19 financial year, worth £1.2million. It was recommended that remaining CIL funds should be banked.

Green bin rollout

Delivery of the new, larger garden waste bins to homes in Suffolk Coastal started at the beginning of October. Subscribers have received (or soon will) a larger 240 litre green bin for their garden waste (the current brown organic waste bins in Suffolk Coastal are 140 litres).

These new bins come with embedded, hi tech radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags. These can be "read" by a special device that the bin lorry crews will have, to ensure the right bins are emptied.

In a separate operation, teams are now returning to empty and pick up any unwanted brown bins. These should be put out with the blue bin on the normal collection day, re-using the bin hanger. Please securely attach the hanger to the unwanted brown bin so that the 'tick' is clearly visible. Residents can also put a securely attached and clearly visible note on any unwanted brown bin, asking for it to be taken away. On collection day, the refuse crews will empty ALL brown bins as well as green bins. Any unwanted brown bins will then be sprayed with temporary paint and left on the side of the road to be picked up later on the same day. The removal crews will only take the bins with the sprayed marking. If there is any doubt as to whether the bin is wanted or not, it will not be removed. SCDC will aim to publish a weekly schedule on the website of the roads from which the bins will be collected. This may change, depending on how many bins are left out for removal.

A phased 'retro-fit' of the security tags to brown bins, where people have joined the garden waste scheme but have not opted to have one of the new larger green bins is likely to happen towards the end of this year.

Latest consultation on offshore windfarms

Following pressure from SCDC as part of the development of the East Anglia TWO and ONE North offshore windfarms, Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) undertook a further phase of pre-application consultation from 29th September 2018 to 29th October 2018. The extra phase of consultation (3.5) provided SPR with the opportunity to engage with local communities on a number of recent project developments, including considering a new potential substation location between Sizewell and Leiston, as a possible alternative to the currently proposed substation site near Friston. The Statements of Community Consultation (SoCC) for each project have been updated and can be viewed at: www.scottishpowerrenewables.com/pages/east_anglia_one_north_statement_of_community_consultation.aspx www.scottishpowerrenewables.com/pages/ea_two_statement_of_community_consultation.aspx

Ward boundaries finalised for new East Suffolk Council

Ward boundaries for the new East Suffolk Council have been published by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. The final recommendations propose that East Suffolk's 55 councillors should represent eight three-councillor wards, ten two-councillor wards and eleven one-councillor wards.

(The new ward combining Aldeburgh and Leiston will have three Councillors, who, it is projected, will each represent 3,409 voters by the year 2023. This compares favourably with projected numbers in other wards - ed)

In response to local feedback during the public consultation, the Commission has changed some of the proposals it put forward in July, as well as changing the names of some proposed wards as a result of local

suggestions. The full recommendations are available on the Commission's website at www.lgbce.org.uk.

The proposed new arrangements must now be implemented by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force the recommendations – will be laid in Parliament in the coming weeks. The draft Order provides for the electoral arrangements to come into force at the authority's first elections in 2019.

Many thanks to those who took part in the consultation.

Leiston Leisure Centre

Work began on the £3.5million refurbishment of Leiston Leisure Centre in November and Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customers, Communities and Leisure, Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf was on hand to watch the kick-off.

"We're thrilled that work has started to transform Leiston Leisure Centre into a modern, exciting facility" she said. "The work will be completed over several stages with an initial closure period of about six months needed to undertake structural work. The centre will be partly reopened once the first stage is completed, and we expect the whole centre to be fully reopened in summer 2019.

"I want to thank members and the community for their support for the redevelopment so far. I understand that the closure will cause some inconvenience but we need to bring the aging Centre up to the standard we want for our leisure facilities."

The new leisure centre was designed with the Council's leisure development partner, Pulse Design & Build and operators, Places Leisure, and includes a new spacious gym with modern equipment, and a new health suite by the pool area.

The plans also include a high quality village style changing area by the pool. This will be family friendly with cubicles for parent and child, separate changing areas for groups, which can also be used by the public when empty and individual changing cubicles and showers.

More fitness classes will be available with two new dance studios and a group cycling studio, which will also serve as multi-bookable rooms.

The refurbishment is part of the Council's five year programme to improve leisure facilities for the district and encourage more people to become more active.

All current members of Leiston Leisure Centre have now been contacted by Places Leisure, regarding their membership and alternative options available to them during the closure.

As part of the refurbishment, the centre will get new, state-of-the-art leisure equipment. However, the gym's current equipment is still high quality and has many years of use left in it, so Suffolk Coastal District Council has donated it to the nearby Alde Valley Academy, Leiston, to bolster its ability to encourage youngsters to keep fit.

Cllr Haworth-Culf said: "Suffolk Coastal and Alde Valley Academy have worked closely together in the past and we look forward to continue to do so in the future to improve the health of the community and the quality of facilities available."

The academy's Physical Education team choose a mixture of mainly Techno Gym CV and fixed resistance

equipment from the leisure centre, which has now been installed and is available for use by the students.

Dan Mayhew, Principal of Alde Valley Academy said: "Alde Valley Academy is extremely pleased to be working with Suffolk Coastal and Places Leisure. The school is committed to inspiring our students to motivate them to want to develop a healthy body and healthy mind. These cardiovascular and weight machines of public gym quality will help us to achieve this with our students,"

This 'recycling' of the gym equipment to the local academy supports Suffolk Coastal's strategic aim of encouraging people of all ages in the District to live healthier lifestyles and become more active.

If you would like to stay up to date with the progress of the Leisure Programme, sign up to receive our regular newsletter by contacting leisure@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Free parking to support good causes

East Suffolk councils (Suffolk Coastal and Waveney) are playing their part in supporting good causes and local traders by offering free car parking at key times in the build up to Christmas (this was also provided for Armistice Day).

Events such as Christmas markets will benefit from two-hour blocks of free parking with Town and Parish Councils deciding which days they would like to operate the scheme, and in which car park(s) across east Suffolk. The nearest town offering free parking is Saxmundham on Friday 7th Dec from 4pm until 6pm for the switch-on of the Christmas lights, and on Saturday Dec 22nd between 11 and 1 for general Christmas shopping.

Superfast Broadband for rural Suffolk

Work is now underway to deliver broadband to remote areas in the district. SCDC is committed to reaching the parts that will be missed by the general roll-out of superfast broadband across the county. While the council has played a full role in the Suffolk Better Broadband Programme, which is delivering superfast fibre broadband across Suffolk, it is clear that up to 3% of properties will have missed out when the current programme is completed in 2020, and a disproportionate number of these will be in rural areas.

The Suffolk Coastal Enabling Broadband Programme Board was set up last year, to ensure that these rural communities were not left behind. The council has worked with the local communities, plotting the worst-affected areas and what needed doing. This spring, the Conservative administration agreed to set aside £250,000 to pay for it. Work has now begun to deliver improved coverage in those areas, and ensure that all our Suffolk Coastal communities are able to grow and prosper. More information about our Enabling Better Broadband Programme is on the East Suffolk website, at this link: <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/enabling-better-broadband-in-suffolk-coastal/> (TJ sits on this board)

Universal Credit rollout continues

The rollout of Universal Credit continues across Suffolk Coastal, and the council has ensured that there is support in place to help people through the transition. This

includes making sure they are supported through the application process as well as having all the information they need about the benefit changes. In the Suffolk Coastal area the final Jobcentres to move over to Universal Credit Full Service were Leiston, Felixstowe and Woodbridge, which became Full Service Jobcentres in October. A huge amount of information is already available on our website. We are also working with a whole range of partners to make sure that people in this area can access the support they need to take the worry and uncertainty out of the change to Universal Credit. Find out more about Universal Credit at:

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/universal-credit

Rogue cold-call firms

Firms who cold-call private phones can now be fined up to £500,000 if they pester people who have not expressly signed up to hear from them. The tough new laws target firms making unwanted calls about payment protection insurance (PPI) or personal injury claims.

In the past, people could 'opt out' of receiving these sorts of calls by joining the Telephone Preference Service – a list of numbers cold-calling firms are banned from contacting. The new rules mean cold-call firms are only allowed to contact people who deliberately 'opt in' to receive their calls.

The crackdown is designed to curb the plague of nuisance calls that has left many Britons unwilling to answer their own phones. Around 3.9 billion nuisance phone calls and texts were made last year, the equivalent of 7,420 every minute, according to Ofcom.

The biggest problems involve firms pushing compensation claims for accidents and PPI. In the last year, the average adult in Britain has received 50 texts, calls and emails chasing them to make a claim, according to the Financial Conduct Authority. Many nuisance calls target the elderly and vulnerable.

The Government may also hand regulators extra powers to punish the individuals involved – by dishing out personal fines to the bosses of rogue firms.

Uppen about – some Parish News

Uppen: *to mention, disclose or reveal*
(a word 'much used around Aldbro' according to Edward Moor's dictionary of Suffolk Dialect published in 1823)

Birds in Paradise

When Bill Crow is not organising the Beach Clean or preparing his popular art classes, he enjoys many hours walking within the parish. Here he shares some reflections on his rambles

"I must confess I am not much of a bird watcher although I walk many miles over this glorious patch of paradise week in and week out with Sadie, our springer spaniel. She is not interested in birds except for occasionally springing an irritated noisy fat pheasant into the air. She is more interested in squirrels and will stand patiently

under a tree for ever it seems. I do not have that kind of patience which is also essential for bird watching.

My consequent lack of ornithological knowledge was recently brought home to me when researching birders' blogs for mention of rare birds who frequently, it seems, use Thorpeness Old Caravan Site and Common as a pit-stop. Let's call it more of an overnight bed and breakfast break on the long migratory flights from Scandinavia, and parts of central Europe before moving on to more western parts of Britain.

The birds' names are fascinating – firecrests, black redstarts, fieldfares, icterine and pallas warblers, willow warblers, ring ouzels and so on. I really must stop and look. Of course I do see and hear an enormous amount of bird life right from my very first few steps up through the allotments. On the immediate right, bang opposite John Westrup's field from whence come Thorpeness leaves, there, regularly every year, is a cheery nightingale who belts out his latest hits with the verve of a Freddie Mercury. Then further up in the little wood on the left is another nightingale chum, not to be outdone, whose multiplicity of vocal pyrotechnics echoes amongst the old birch trees as if in an ancient gothic cathedral.

I stood for ages one evening watching a rolling deafening flock of rooks and jackdaws arguing amongst themselves as they settled precariously on the three little trees on the far edge of the next field before all flying off in a huff, the jackdaws rising and dripping like pieces of black fluttery paper against the crimson sunset. (I am inspired by the writing of naturalist and corvid enthusiast Mark Cocker for his description of rook and jackdaw roosting behaviour in his book "ROOK").

My other treat is observing the sand martins come hurtling out of their burrows high up on the cliffs overlooking the beach. A fusillade of feathery cannon balls disappearing in a flash into the sky. There must have been one hundred or so pairs nesting this year which is a record as far as I am concerned. All precious reasons to be cheerful".

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Thorpeness 16th Annual Beach & Village Clean Good Friday, 19th April, 2019. Meet at The Dolphin Inn, 10.30 a.m.

Thorpeness/Aldringham/Thorpeness 3rd Annual Smugglers' Charity Walk, October 2019 (Final Date to be advised). Meet at The Dolphin Inn, 10.30 a.m.

For further information on these events contact: Bill Crow, 01728 454641, w.j.crow@aol.com

Read (h)all about it

A questionnaire has recently been delivered to 278 properties in Aldringham aimed at assessing the amount of interest in the village having its own hall/community centre, and what such a building should provide.

The questionnaire was devised and delivered by Pippin Byrne, an Aldringham resident for the past 18 years, who lives at Old Blacksmiths on Thorpe Road.

Pippin began testing the water with posts on the Leiston and area Facebook page. Next she took her idea to the impACT team and Parish Council chairman Eric Atkinson,

and then set about devising, publishing and distributing the leaflet, and accompanying posters.

Although the last Aldringham village hall was sold off by the Church in 1990 after it fell into disuse and disrepair, she believes the time is now right for a new one to be commissioned.

She says: "A local village hall would benefit those who are really busy as much as those who have time on their hands. The possible benefits to all the people of Aldringham are significant, long term and with wide-ranging possibilities. I implore those who are reluctant to complete the questionnaire to reconsider and make that extra effort for the sake of the village and community.

"If, like me, you have lived here some years and still don't know many of your fellow residents then one really has to make extra efforts to avoid social isolation. This is what I hope to make easier for everyone with the provision of a community based heart to the village i.e. a village hall.

"Aldringham is not a huge village and yet there is little social opportunity to 'bump into' one another. Dog walking and school age children help bridge this, but this doesn't suit everyone. Although we are blessed with the Parrot and Punchbowl, nobody has a bottomless wallet.

"As I stated in the questionnaire, if local residents can evidence sufficient demand and support for a village hall, then it should be possible to turn such a venture into a reality.

"Please do complete the form because your views are important. Your interest, or your lack of it, are both relevant. Please let Aldringham work for you and your family".

By the end of November, more than 70 responses had been received – 53 in favour, 10 neutral and 10 against. If you would like to make your views known but have misplaced your questionnaire, Pippin can supply a copy. Contact her at pippinbyrne@uwclub.net

AA Rosette shows Golf Club well up to par

Ogilvie's Restaurant at the TA Hotel and Golf Club in Thorpeness was recently awarded an AA Rosette for the quality and consistency of its food for the second year running.

Upgrading works also continue on the Golf Course, with works to the bunkers on the 7th green, and the walk-off areas on the 3rd and 9th greens. Work also continues to regenerate heather in areas overtaken by bracken and gorse.

Membership fees for next year are being pegged at 2018 rates.

Help needed with Community Emergency Plan

The last 6 months have been busy for the Emergency Planning teams across the County, for a number of reasons, not least of all storms, flood risks and coastal erosion. Earlier this year Pippa and I attended an Emergency Planning Workshop hosted by the Suffolk EP team at Melton, and there will be a Rest Centre workshop and exercise early next year, which we plan to attend.

There has also been changes in legislation that has affected the emergency planning communities. The

introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in May 2018 has meant we have had to review the content of our Emergency Plans and ensure that we comply with the Regulations. Most emergency plans have a section(s) that contains contact details for primary responders, community responders, vulnerable residents and support organisations. The new legislation questions whether these details can be held securely in an emergency plan, and accessed as freely as they have been, prior to May 2018, whilst meeting the new levels of confidentiality detailed in the legislation.

I am waiting for Suffolk Coastal Emergency Planning Management team to offer some clear guidance concerning the GDPR. When I know the direction that the County is taking, I will amend our plan accordingly and place a copy on the website that residents can access.

Ours is a Community Emergency Plan and will rely on members of the community to make it effective. I am pleased to report that since the last update I have met with representatives from 'ImpACT' (Aldringham based Community Action Group) and they have confirmed that they will be ready to assist if an emergency incident occurs.

However, we still need more volunteers to fill some of the key roles, such as Community Coordinators, Neighbourhood Watch volunteers, Flood Coordinators and volunteers who have specialist equipment such as chain saws, pumps and generators that can be used during an emergency.

If you can assist by taking any of these roles please contact me, or Pippa McLardy Editor, at the email addresses below.

Roger Brown roger.brown72@btinternet.com

Pippa McLardy plmclardy@hotmail.com

Far better than Fair

Wendy and Maureen would like to thank everyone who contributed and gave their help to make the Christmas Fair on Saturday 24th November 2018 a fantastic success.

A big THANK YOU to David James from the Dolphin for allowing us to use the premises and helping set up the Father Christmas Grotto.

We had a good selection of stalls including our famous cake stall with many Christmas Cakes for sale, craft stalls, one of Chris's fantastic Gingerbread Houses and Guess the Name of the Reindeer. Also Tombola stalls, Draw for a Hamper, Thorpeness Village Shop, books and a wonderful raffle, as well as Father Christmas who had an enormous pile of presents to give out to the children who visited him.

Everyone who attended had a lovely time and it certainly had a wonderful Christmas atmosphere. We managed to raise £1,000 which will be divided between The Rainbow Tots and St Andrew's Church, Aldringham.

Once again thank you, and we hope to see you all again next year.

Wendy Sturmeay

Maureen Jones

Local Groups



St Andrew's Church

Christmas Services in Aldringham and Thorpeness

Sunday 9th Dec Carols around the Christmas Tree
4.00pm (The Meare, Thorpeness)
Monday 17th Dec Carols on Mill Hill, Aldringham 6pm
Sunday 23rd Dec Carol Service 11am
Monday 24th Dec First Communion of Christmas (Midnight Service) 11.30pm (Friston Church)
Tuesday 25th Dec Said Holy Communion for Christmas Day 8.00am
Tuesday 25th Dec Sung Holy Communion for Christmas Day 11.00am
Everyone is most welcome at any of our services and all of us at St Andrew's Church wish you a very Happy Christmas!

Mark Lowther (Rector)
mark@thelowthers.com

01728 452807

The Friends of St Andrew's Church

The Friends held their Quiz Night on Friday 9th November. Thirteen teams took part. After expenses were paid, we raised £505.37p for the Church Fabric Fund. Thanks go to all the teams who took part in the Quiz, Christine Brooks, our Quizmaster and Mary Rolf, our Scorer. We also thank the team of helpers, those who made cakes and sandwiches and the Kitchen Team which served the food and drinks, also those who helped to set up the tables and chairs and put them away again. Not forgetting the Draw Ticket Team and those who donated prizes. Our small committee of five could not have achieved this successful evening without you. Our events are advertised in the Parish Magazine, the local press and posters displayed around the area. If you would like to join The Friends of St. Andrews, you will find Membership Forms in the church porch.

Current Committee Members:

Revd. Sheila Hart (Chairperson), Mrs Anne Norton (Membership Secretary), Mrs Angela Chandler (Treasurer), Mrs Fiona Gimson, Mrs Budge Little.

Mrs. Anne Norton Membership Secretary.
114 Carr Avenue, Leiston, Suffolk, IP16 4AT.
Tel: 01728 830519 anneenorton@aol.com

ImpACT (Aldringham Community Team)

Defibrillator Appeal

For a long time, it has been felt that Aldringham needs its own defibrillator. True, there are 'defibs' at Thorpeness and in Knodishall, but as speed is vital in dealing with heart failure, it seems important to have one within walking - or running - distance from any incident.

In October, ImpACT, assisted by Chris Theobald, landlord of the Parrot, and owners of the building the Ei Group, launched an appeal for a boxed defibrillator to be installed on the outside wall of the pub, adjacent to the old Smoke Room door. We have also been helped greatly by Jayne Biggs of Heart2Heart Defibrillators, who are responsible for placing more than 80 of these units throughout East Anglia.

There were collecting boxes on the Parrot bar combined with a raffle that managed to raise well over £200. We also received great support from our District Councillors, Maureen Jones and T.J.Haworth-Culf and County Councillor Russ Rainger, who are all still chasing funds to cover a large part of the costs.

At present, we are awaiting Planning Permission, and hopefully, without any objections, we should be fitting the unit in about two months' time.

More information on defibrillators and our progress will be posted at the pub and on the village notice boards. At the end of the appeal when the unit is operational, Jayne will spend an evening at the Parrot, explaining the user instructions and CPR techniques to anyone interested.

Flowers at the crossroads

Many of you will have noticed a lovely display of planting at the crossroads opposite the Parrot and Punchbowl. What was once a dowdy triangle of manhole covers and couch grass is now a riot of colour and interesting plants. For this we have to thank Christine and Brian Davies, who conceived the idea, and with the help of Alan Williams, did the hard graft of stripping a significant area of the 'turf' on the hottest day of the year. A very generous donation from Chris Theobald at the Parrot covered the planting costs. The pub has also been on hand with watering facilities throughout the blistering summer heat - good job most of the plants are drought - tolerant. The areas stripped are still expanding, so keep your eyes on progress in the coming year.

Christmas Carols on Mill Green.

Yes, it's that time again! Christmas is nearly upon us. We are pleased to invite everybody to the Annual Community Carol singing on Mill Green on Monday 17th December at 6.00pm followed by mince pies and mulled wine at the Parrot.

Contributions of mince pies are most welcome. Contact Jill Hubbard Tel: 830778 or Christine Laschet Tel: 833662 to arrange collection, or deliver to the Parrot on the day.

It is always a special event and marks the start of Christmas festivities in Aldringham. Last year, if you remember, it was held on a freezing cold night with a light dusting of snow - a perfect Christmas setting, complete with a sheep

This year, the carols are led by our Rector, Mark Lowther, and we hope for the same weather again. Come along – it's a lovely night.

And with that, we at ImpACT, wish all parishioners a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Aldringham Carols on Mill Green.



You are invited to our annual carol singing to celebrate the beginning of Christmas.

Monday 17th December at 6.00pm

Afterwards we are welcomed by Chris Theobald at the Parrot for a convivial glass and mince pie.

(Good idea to bring a torch and wear warm clothes)

Retiring Collection for The Children's Society

Art Group - Vienna Secession blockbuster

I should like to thank all those art enthusiasts who came along to the talks in November. At one time we thought it would be standing room only in The Dolphin which was packed to capacity. Next April I shall be re-running some of my old lectures from material I have on file from when it all started a few years back. Further details will be available hopefully at the end of February 2019 - early booking will be strongly advised. In the meantime keep your critical cognivity sharp for more great art history in 2019.

Bill Crow 01728 454641 w.j.crow@aol.com

Aldeburgh Photographic Group

Photographs are literally everywhere these days, on phones, tablets, PCs, etc, as well as all the printed ones of course. So why do we still wander around with cameras around our necks? Well the majority of these "phone" pictures are record shots, of where we are, who we are with etc. Don't get me wrong, there is nothing wrong with taking such pictures. However, if you feel that within you there is some creativity that wants to express itself through photography, then devoting some time and thought to the pictures we take can be very satisfying.

Firstly the equipment; phone cameras are getting better all the time and there are many occasions when you would be pushed to tell if a photo was taken on a phone or a camera, be it a compact, bridge, mirrorless or DSLR. This is particularly true if you only view your pictures on a phone, or even a tablet, but what if you want to print your creations, or use techniques such as blurring the

background behind the person who is the main subject? Well then we start feeling the effects of the laws of physics. We need to use lenses with larger apertures that let more light in, but importantly can provide a shallow depth of field to isolate our main subject from the background. If these terms confuse you, then you are not alone. However, if you would like to find out more, to see presentations by some very competent photographers and to practice some of the basics of photography with like-minded people, then Aldeburgh Photographic Group (APG) is an ideal local club to visit and hopefully join. There are also experienced people in the club, who are only too pleased to help "newcomers" with "tips and tricks".

We start our meetings at Aldeburgh Library at 7:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except December when there is no meeting). The AGM is set for 16th January, when, amongst other things we will talk about what people want out of the club, e.g. more field trips, practical evenings etc.

Do come along and give it a try, or, if you want to know more, get in touch with me (contact details below) – Meanwhile have a great Christmas and take some good photos!

Roger Searle 01728 451401 (please leave a message if I am not around, I will get back to you)

rogerpsearle@btinternet.com

<http://www.aldeburghphotographygroup.org.uk/>

Good Neighbours

Christmas came early for some of our clients and volunteers when James and Chris at the Parrot and Punchbowl in Aldringham treated guests at the community lunch on Friday November 30th to a full festive feast, complete with crackers. Around 23 people were there and voted it one of the best community lunches ever. Many thanks indeed to everyone at the Parrot and the Dolphin in Thorpeness for hosting these popular gatherings. We hope to arrange more in the new year.

If you have a small task you would like help with, or if you would like to become a Good Neighbour, call us on

07521 047 843

Pippa McLardy - Chairperson

Can you help?

Home-Start in Suffolk are looking for family support volunteers across the county.

Home-Start provides support and friendship for families who are struggling to cope for any number of reasons. Although they value parenting experience, you don't have to have children or grandchildren of your own to help. You just need a little time and a willingness to make a difference.

By joining their team, you will receive accredited training, ongoing support and friendship and authorised expenses are paid.

Volunteers support a family on a weekly basis for between two and four hours.

If you think you could give some of your time to support a Suffolk family, please contact Fiona on:

01473 621104 www.homestartinsuffolk.org

By giving the gift of time, you will help to change the lives of families in Suffolk.



Thorpeness and Aldringham Heritage Group

At Last.....

This is it! I can now FINALLY announce that the Parish Council have signed their part of the leasing agreement to enable us to go ahead with our small Information Centre. We have already selected a builder and are at the moment discussing a start date which looks like being in late summer 2019. All of us on the TAHG committee are pleased to feel that at last we have got things in motion. We will be upping our fundraising and hope that we can also attract more new members. We don't want to put our membership fees up, they presently stand at £5 for a single person and £10 for a family membership, and we also now offer a life time membership of £50 for a single person and £100 for a family. We feel that is a reasonable sum and affordable for most people. Also if any of you are in the Dolphin over Christmas our 'House in the Clouds' collection box is on the bar and we would greatly appreciate any of your loose change, or even the folding sort if you can spare it! Not always easy at this time of year.

Our new membership year will [start on 1st Feb 2019](#) and membership forms can be obtained from Mrs. Elizabeth Tipping at 5 Peace Place Thorpeness. Or emailing me at info@tahg.org.uk for more details.

We will be increasing our fundraising events in 2019 so do please join the membership and get priority notice for tickets. Our events are usually very well supported so we rarely have to advertise. Of course it would be nice to have a bigger venue so we can increase our ticket numbers but we also feel it is very important to keep it local. Our thanks , as ever go to those who have helped us do this.

Our AGM is [on Tuesday 19th March](#) In the Garden Room, The Dolphin, Thorpeness. Do please come along and see for yourselves what we are up to and hopefully increase our membership, there is absolutely no pressure to join the committee as there can be at some AGM's although we would, of course, love to welcome new people onto it. I can honestly say after serving on many committees that TAHG is one of the best.

As ever we at TAHG would like to wish you all

🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲 **A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS** 🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲
 🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲 **AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR** 🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲

Sue Atkinson, Membership secretary.

Thorpeness Cricket Club 2017 Season

Our club is becoming more established, underpinned by a group of reliable members. We were fortunate to enlist the services of some young chaps who lifted the skill level.

Our last match of the season was versus Middleton who are an established, competent side. We lost by 12 runs in a 20 over game, Jon Chandler taking 4 wickets for 12 runs secured by the taking of 2 catches from soaring shots. Catches win matches and the fact that we took all available catches and generally fielded well is a positive portent. James scored 27 not out, Arthur 15, Rob 17 and Edward 13.

We've taken advice from an experienced groundsman and plan to improve the flatness of the wicket and its turf over the winter and spring.

We have practice nets over the winter weather permitting at the new time of 10.30am Sundays. Anyone who would like to join in can turn up to nets or contact Francis Byrne 07775791441 byrneengineering@uwclub.net

Francis Byrne 07775 791441

byrneengineering@uwclub.net.

Thorpeness Croquet Club

The Thorpeness Croquet Club has had a successful season, with a number of new members joining. Club days at the Pavilion Sports ground are on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday afternoons and new members are always welcome. You can come along twice before deciding if croquet is the game for you and then joining.

We held two one day competitions in September, the winners each receiving a bottle of Prosecco.

Play will continue during the winter if the weather is kind, but probably best to check first by ringing Gerald Lomax on 01728 768846. Otherwise do join us once it warms up in the Spring.

We were fortunate during the summer to be awarded a grant from Suffolk Coastal District Council's Enabling Communities Budget scheme. This enabled us to replace some rather dilapidated fencing around our boundary.

Angela Clarke Thorpeness Croquet Club Committee Member aficlarke@gmail.com 07851 780842

Stop Press: Mulled Wine and Mince Pies for Myeloma UK

Congratulations to Joy Day and Hazel Searle for raising in the region of £1000 for Myeloma UK with a Mulled Wine and Mince Pie event in Lakeside Avenue, Thorpeness on December 3rd. Thanks to all who all who helped out and to all who attended.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Aldringham cum Thorpe Parish Councillors

Eric Atkinson Chairman	01728 830497
Maureen Jones Vice-Chair	01728 453915
David Mayhew	01728 452773
Pippa McLardy	01728 454565
Scott Squirrell	01728 833691
Alan Williams	07802 175184
Brian Davies	01728 830938
Katherine Shadbolt	01728 451906
Shirley Tilbrook Parish Clerk	01728 830001

District Councillors

TJ Haworth- Culf	01728 451933
terry-jill.haworth@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk	
Maureen Jones	01728 453915
maureen.jones@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk	

County Councillor

Russ Rainger	01728 688739
russ.rainger@suffok.gov.uk	

Police - Suffolk Constabulary
Always Dial 999 for Emergencies, including Coastguard

Dial 101 for Non Urgent Issues
 Aldeburgh Police Station, Leiston Road, Aldeburgh
 Leiston Police Station, 34 Kings Road, Leiston

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

If you'd like to join, contact:
 Aldringham – Maria Chapman-Beers
 Email tribunegang@gmail.com
 (Aldeburgh Rd and roads off except Aldringham Park,
 to borders with Leiston, Aldeburgh, and down Thorpe
 Rd towards Thorpeness)
Thorpeness - Bill Crow - 01728 454641

Hospitals

Aldeburgh & District Community Hospital Park Road, Aldeburgh	01728 452778
Ipswich Hospital Heath Road, Ipswich	01473 712233

Doctors Surgeries

The Surgery Church Farm, Victoria Road, Aldeburgh	01728 452027
The Surgery, Main Street, Leiston	01728 830526
The Surgery, Lamsale Meadow, Saxmundham	01728 602022

Non-emergency health problems advice 111

Dental Surgeons

Aldeburgh Dental Practice 167 High Street, Aldeburgh	01728 452884
The Dental Surgery Crown Street, Leiston	01728 830790
High Street Dental Centre 98 High Street, Leiston	01728 832133
Saxmundham Dental Surgery 9 High Street, Saxmundham	01728 602537

Pharmacies

Aldeburgh Pharmacy 125 High Street, Aldeburgh	01728 452763
Coopers Pharmacy Leiston	01728 832231
East of England Coop Pharmacy High Street, Saxmundham	01728 602051

Veterinary Surgeons

Leiston Veterinary Clinic 1d Eastlands, Leiston	01728 833566
Fromus Veterinary Group Fromus House, Street Farm Road, Saxmundham	01728 602599

Thorpeness Croquet Club

Gerald Lomax	01728 768846
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Good Neighbours Group

Chairperson Pippa McLardy	07521 047843 01728 454565
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Local Heritage Group

Mrs S Atkinson "Logwood", Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham	01728 830497
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Rainbow Tots

Ms Anja Shaw Every Tuesday 10am - 1:30am Aldeburgh Community Centre	01728 453295
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Tea & Toast

Mrs E Tipping	01728 454165
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Thorpeness Cricket Club

Mr F Byrne Email: byrneengineering@uwclub.net	01728 830834
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**Connecting Communities Transport
Non-emergency police line 101**

01728 635938

WHAT'S ON – Dec 2017 to March 2018

December	Place	Event
Mon 3 rd 10.30 -noon	Lakeside Avenue, Thorpeness	Mulled wine and mince pies for Myeloma UK
Tues 4 th 10.30 – 12 noon	The Kitchen, Thorpeness	Good Neighbours volunteers' coffee morning
Fri 7 th	The Dolphin Thorpeness	Village Christmas Party
Sun 9 ^h 4pm	By Thorpeness Boathouse	Carols by the Meare with Salvation Army Band
Weds 12 th 8pm	Thorpeness Tower Room	Fun Christmas Quiz
Mon 17 th 6pm	Aldringham Green	Carols around the Christmas Tree and mince pies
Fri 21 st times below	Thorpeness and Aldringham	Mobile Library
Sun 23 rd 11am	St Andrew's Church	Carol Service
Mon 24 th	Dolphin Thorpeness	Christmas Eve Bash
Tues 25 th 8am	St Andrew's Church	Holy Communion (said)
Tues 25 th 11am	St Andrew's Church	Holy Communion (sung)
Weds 26 th		Boxing Day BANK HOLIDAY
Weds 26 th	Dolphin Thorpeness	Open for lunch
Sun 30 th	St Andrew's Church	NO SERVICES HERE TODAY
Mon 31 st	The Dolphin Thorpeness	New Year's Eve Party – Theme The Blitz
January		
Tues 1 st		BANK HOLIDAY
Wed 2 nd	Throughout area	SCHOOL SPRING TERM BEGINS
Mon 7 th 7 – 9.30	Tower Room Thorpeness	Parish Council
Wed 9 th and 23 rd	Tower Room Thorpeness	Fun Quiz
Fri 18 th 10 – 12noon	Tower Room	Good Neighbours Dementia Workshop
February		
Mon 4 th 7pm - 9.30pm	Tower Room	Parish Council
Wed 6 th and 20 th	Tower Room Thorpeness	Fun Quiz
Fri 18 th		SCHOOL HALF TERM Begins
Mon 25 th		SCHOOL BACK FOR 2ND HALF SPRING TERM
March		
Mon 4 th 7pm-9:30pm	Tower Room	Annual Parish Meeting
Wed 6 th and 20 th	Tower Room Thorpeness	Fun Quiz
April		
Fri 5 th		SCHOOL SPRING TERM ENDS
Mon 8 th	Tower Room Thorpeness	Parish Council
Good Fri 19 th		Annual Beach Clean

The Mobile Library calls at Thorpeness Almshouses from 10.10am, Aldringham Ogilvie Homes from 9.45, Aldringham Church from 10.30, and Aldringham Mill Hill from 10.50 am. Each stop is 15 minutes.

*Quizzes take place fortnightly in Thorpeness Almshouses Tower Room (Pavilion when weather improves) at 8pm