

# ST MARY & ST PETER NEWSLETTER

March 2010

## NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCILS

### BOXTED

From Paul Evans, Clerk to the Parish Council

Boxted Parish Council's web-site is located at <http://www.peke.com/council/boxted/bpcindex.htm>. I post any information and posters which are received from County or the Borough on the web-site. As I am retiring from the position of clerk in the summer If you are interested in becoming the next Parish Clerk then get in touch with me, or even come to Coffee Café on Tuesday morning [see the Parish Diary column on page 1—Ed.] for an informal discussion. I attend Coffee Café on the Tuesday the week before the parish Council meeting and the week after.

Little Owls Pre-School have been awarded their grant and Planning permission for a new Building alongside the Sports & Social Club.

Boxted Parish Council are unsympathetic towards more street furniture being added to rural lanes and don't see the necessity for any additional way markers at Runkins Corner. As a general point Highway only inspect the rural lanes once per annum. If you see any potholes or other road defects please report them at :  
<http://ehss.essexcc.gov.uk/>

County Councillor Anne Brown has raised the problem of the temporary road closure at the Weston Community Stadium at "match out" time. Cllr Brown would like to see a sign that the road is closed at the junction of Straight Road and Langham Road. If you have any comments let me have them and I will pass them on.

We need to prove that there is a demand for a 1630 bus service on weekdays from Colchester to Boxted. Please let me know if you would use such a service. Also, a pilot scheme for free Bus passes for those aged under 19 is starting in Colchester on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

Whilst we have a list of 22 Boxted residents who would like to have an allotment, the Parish Council has no land. We will be approaching the local farmers to see whether they would lease land to the Parish Council after this year's harvest.

As a result of a petition from Boxted residents about Bungalows for the over 60's, I will be writing to the Rural Housing Association as the first step in what is most likely to be a long drawn out process.

### LANGHAM

From David Winter, Clerk to the Parish Council

#### Planning

The planning application for the Community Centre extension has been received. At the Local Development Framework Committee meeting on 1 February, it was stated that Colchester Borough Council (CBC) will resist any proposals not in the site allocation document. Once the minutes of the meeting are available, the relevant section will be put in the village news and on the website. Parishioners who have any comments on the late submissions to the planners are urged to write to the CBC planning department *with a copy to the Planning Inspector.*

#### Roads and Transport

- Bus shelter opposite the Shepherd and Dog – a £4,700 grant has been approved, covering all but £80 of the cost.
- Vehicle Activated Sign on Park Lane – a further letter has been sent to the ten households explaining the next steps, and the reasoning behind the siting decisions.
- The Council proposes to conduct a survey of heavy goods vehicles in the parish and two residents, Mrs Kirby and Mrs Woodman, volunteered to help.

#### Recreation Ground

The proceeds from the evening are to go towards exercise machines for more mature people. A quote of £4,920.75 has been received.

#### General Purposes

The Parish Council's willingness to contribute up to £20,000 to the cost of the projected extension to the Community Centre was noted, together with its willingness to make available land adjoining the Pre-School for a Free Flow play area. The application for a SureStart grant was submitted on 22 January. The shop are confident that they have been awarded a grant from the Plunkett Trust of £20k, together with a loan facility for the same amount, provided they can match that with £20k of their own. John Jones, the shop Treasurer has asked the Community Council, the Pre-School and the Parish Council to contribute £5,000 each to demonstrate commitment. This will enable the shop to go ahead with Plunkett. HMRC has confirmed that the new building will not be zero rated. SureStart will pay VAT inclusive amounts if we are successful. As for the rest, there is a choice of ways to recover the VAT. The shop is registered for VAT and so would be entitled to recover the VAT anyway. However, the timing could be an issue and seriously affect their cash flow. As for the new entrance, we could contract for that as the Parish Council and then gift it to the Community Council. We could do the same with the shop. It was agreed that the Clerk would apply immediately for the £100,000 Community Initiatives Fund replacement grant.

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