

Woolverstone News

November 14th 2016

Dear All

The dark evenings are upon us and the shortest day is just over a month away. It seems scarcely credible with so many leaves still on the trees. Our hedgerows are alive with berries and it's almost time for the sloes to be picked. The falling leaves, though a wonderful sight across the grounds of the Hall, make the footpaths slippery. Extra care needs to be taken.

Road Closure

The Main Road between Harkstead Lane and Marina Road will be closed from 7pm to 5am on Wednesday 16th Nov, Thursday 17th Nov and Friday 18th Nov for re-surfacing. This will mean anyone coming from Ipswich to the far end of Woolverstone will come in through the back lanes. There is an official diversion for people from Chelmondiston and Shotley but for us Glebe Lane and Harkstead Lane will probably be much in use. (I'm guessing there is a way in and out for residents between the two lanes!)

Please take extra care. The re-surfacing work will put a lot of evening traffic onto the back lanes which are all single track and bordered by ditches, verges, banks and hedges. With luck, the weather does not look too wet, but there will still be mud and surface water to cope with, too. Please drive carefully.

Freston Children's party

Elizabeth Aldous, Chair of Freston Parish Council, has kindly invited children from Woolverstone to join with Freston in their children's Christmas Party. The party is for children over three and under 10 years old. Date: Wednesday 21st December. The party is free but contributions of food for the tea would be much appreciated. The entertainer is "Abra Ca David" from Felixstowe. There are pictures of last year's party if you follow this link: <http://freston.onesuffolk.net/assets/Village-Hall/Past-Events/Childrens-Christmas-party-held-on-21st-December-in-the-Village-Hall.pdf>

To help Elizabeth and Lucy plan for this event, please would you email me by Friday 18th November to let me know if you would like a place(s). Please let me know how many and how old.

Parish Clerk

Sadly, Anna Block has had to step down from the role of Parish Clerk due to ill-health. We are now urgently seeking her successor.

When Romy Blackburn retired last year she wrote: *"This is not an onerous job, I kid you not. I started as clerk when my daughter was 15, I am a single parent, I had a full time job and I had no difficulty in fitting in my clerical duties. This is a job you can take on doing as little or as much as you want."*

The basics are:

- *Taking minutes of meetings held 6 times a year. The meetings last 2 hours. Writing up the minutes takes an hour, may be an extra half hour to allow for preparing the agenda.*

- *Maintaining the website: honestly, truthfully, if I can do it with no website training, so can you... uploading the minutes, the agenda and the village newsletters... 5 minutes a pop maximum.*
- *Emailing the councillors reminding them of the meetings ... another 5 minutes.*
- *Forwarding email correspondence.... another 5 minutes, 3 or 4 times a week at the outside. Read them, by all means, but it is the Councillors who should be reading them.*
- *Planning applications - we get about 20 a year. I keep a list on my PC. I email the councillors to advise that we have received an application and giving them the reference so that they can look at the plans on the Babergh website. That takes all of 10 minutes.*
- *Take the occasional phone call... and I mean very occasional.*
- *A bit of filing - the files are kept in Berners Hall. Not my personal favourite task and it is cold in the winter months, so filing is done a couple of times in the summer months! Takes, may be an hour a session.*

The plus side of the job is that you are involved in the community. The councillors are, I would hope, my friends. Laughter... yes, most meetings.

Please come forward, if you possibly can. The village needs you. My choice was not to be paid but you are entitled to payment, should you wish."

If you think you could help, or would like to ask some questions, please send me an email or contact me by phone.

Christmas bin collections

Revised Collection dates:

Recycling (Blue)

Wednesday 21st December > No change

Refuse (Black)

Wednesday 28th December > 1 day later > Thursday 29th December

Recycling (Blue)

Wednesday 4th January > 1 day later > Thursday 5th January

If you know your neighbour is not on the internet, or does not get this newsletter, please print of a copy and drop it through their letter box. If you know someone who would like to be on the mailing list please ask them to send me an email to the address below and I will add them to the group email list. Many thanks.

Best wishes

Simon Pearce. Chairman, Woolverstone Parish Council (780009. simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk)