

Woolverstone News

September 27th 2019

Dear All

We have just slipped past the Autumnal equinox and entered astronomical autumn. The time of darkness will now increase by a few minutes a day until 22^{nd} December. A time of a great wind-down in nature.

It has been a delight to watch squirrels furtively burying the nuts they have gleaned around Church Field. The mice have also been preparing for harder times. In fact, it seems to have been quite a year for mice! We have caught five in the conservatory; all taken away to be released in the fields. Most have been the exquisitely beautiful Field mouse with their large shiny black eyes, velvet soft brown coats and delicate white feet. I freed one near the base of an ancient oak tree and was surprised by the route to freedom it took. Rather than race across the grass and find the nearest bolt hole it scampered up the deeply fissured trunk. I watched it climb vertically, then out under an overhang fourteen feet above the ground and into a hole where a limb had been removed many years ago. Its agility was breathtaking. I hope the hole it had chosen wasn't shared with an owl.

Now I know how they manage to get up into the roof!

Parish News

The deadline for return of your views on Babergh and Mid Suffolk's Joint Local Plan Preferred Options consultation is Monday 30th at 4.00pm.

The new Joint Local Plan will be the blueprint for development across Babergh until 2036. It is an important document. It decides where houses will be built. Make sure you have your say!

You can repond using the interactive portal on Babergh's website:

https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/new-joint-local-plan/joint-local-plan-preferred-options-july-2019/

You will have to register or log in to record your view. The Parish Council think it is a cumbersome format and if you wish to send your view in an alternative way that will be acceptable.

Your response can be by email: Robert.Hobbs@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

or post: Robert Hobbs, Planning Policy, Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan Consultation, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Rd, Ipswich IP1 2BX

Headlines

- Joint Local Plan requires Woolverstone to absorb a minimum of 31 houses. This is a 30% increase in housing in the village.
- 16 houses are accounted for by permissions already given: Whitehouse Farm (7), Home Farm (4) Walled Garden (4) Dairy House 1.
- 15 further houses are designated for two sites south of the Main Road. 5 in Glebe Field.10 in the space between the Village Hall and the Widows Homes
- This has **nothing** to do with the G Mayhew proposal that was the subject of a village meeting recently.
- This is stipulated as a **mimumum**
- The settlement boundary has been re-drawn on the South side of B1456 to facilitate this.
- The settlement boundary has also been re-drawn to include the whole of the Walled Garden making development more likely in the two acres within the walls, despite being supposedly protected.
- Our Conservation Area is under threat of losing its unique open character, landscape setting and its heritage assets
- There are few facilities and services within the village. Any development would not constitute "sustainable development"
- All dwellings will be dependent on cars for work/services/facilities
- The proposals for housing in Woolverstone are contradictory to the proposed policy for Hamlets LP01
- The Shotley Peninsula is being treated in a piecemeal fashion. Developments further up the road will impact on us with no mitigation possible

If you need any help, please make contact. Details at the bottom of the newsletter.

The Parish Council reponse will be posted on the village website from Thursday evening. http://woolverstone.onesuffolk.net/

Make sure you have your say.

Ipswich High School

Ipswich High School staff and pupils are delighted to be finalists in the Independent Schools of the Year awards 2019. The school will be vying for the titles of Social Mobility and Rising Star for former Sixth Form student Isabelle Tucker.

Find out more here:

https://www.ipswichhighschool.co.uk/school-is-finalist-in-independent-schools-of-the-year-awards-2019/?fbclid=IwAR0n17x26kGJvQc5Xn-smxHRsHTR6f2rcPBsrOuXzoVvqb5cMEeaXa1Qix8

Dairy House

The first cohort of 15 boarders, with a mix both weekly and full time, have moved into the Dairy House. "The boarding team worked hard to make sure that The Dairy House was welcoming and ready for its new occupants. All of the pupils and parents were delighted with their new 'term-time home' and got on with unpacking which, for some, was a mammoth task! ... It has been a challenging week for our new boarders, who are getting used to new routines and, for the majority, a new environment. We are delighted that the boarders have embraced school life and learning at their new school." The students are getting to know and enjoy their surroundings; not just the beautiful grounds but also wider afield with trips to Ipswich and Thorpeness.

Phase two of the development, due for completion by Septmeber 2020, has been spilt into two sections. Section one is the refurbishment of the existing barns and section 2 will be the new build element. Hills Building Group are currently setting up the site compound and welfare facilities, with works scheduled to start in the next couple of weeks. Should residents have any concerns during the works please contact Leon Taylor, Site Manager for Hills Building Group on 07523 519213 or Leon.Taylor@hillsgroup.com

Vacancies

IHS has vacancies for: Chef, Teaching Assistant and Casual Mini-Bus Driver. If you are interested, details are on the HIS website.

https://www.ipswichhighschool.co.uk/recruitment-opportunities/

Local History

Have you looked Woolverstone's Facebook page yet? If not, stop by and see how it is growing. This month we have added: links to Ipswich Maritime Trust who have collections of photographs including some of Woolverstone Cat House hard/boatyard during the time it belonged to Austin Farrar who leased a launching area and Nissen huts to the Royal Harwich Yacht Club after the WW2

It has been a quiet month. However, membership continues to increase. We now have 163 members. Why not find out more about the history of our village and contribute your local knowledge, too? Join the conversation! Our Facebook page is called: Woolverstone: Notes and Queries. Here's the link:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/2044317292447243/

Do please take a look at the site. It is a growing and fabulous collection of information about Woolverstone's past. It would be of huge interest if we gathered history of the older houses in the village and the memories of villagers of Woolverstone in the past before they are lost to us. Please join the group and feel free to add information and photographs about our historic village. Or, indeed, ask questions! Someone may have an answer.

Earlier in the month I was lucky enough to show two visitors around Woolverstone Park and Woolverstone Marina looking at some of the features which have survived to this day from the time of HMS Woolverstone. This is the newspaper article, released by Ipswich High School to the EADT following the day's heritage walk.

How one Suffolk village deceived the Nazis ahead of D-Day

The former HMS Woolverstone will feature in an exhibition at Portsmouth Museum, commemorating its role in the D-Day landings

The 'vital' role played by a Suffolk village during D-Day is to be honoured in film at an exhibition at Portsmouth Museum.

The film will help tell the story of HMS Woolverstone's role in securing the Normandy beaches in northern France as the allies pushed back against the German tides.

Its feature is part of a wider film tracing the history of a D-Day landing craft 7074 tank - the only remaining landing craft tank from the invasion left in the UK.

The commanding officer inside the 59-metre tank received his final orders for D-Day from HMS Woolverstone.

On June 7, 1944, it carried 10 tanks from the 7th Armoured Division to Gold Beach in Normandy.

But this was not the only vital role played by the Suffolk base.

Between May and June 1944, the base took part in Operation Quicksilver - a successful mission in deceiving the Germans, making them believe the D-Day landings were in fact a diversion from the "real" invasion at Pays de Calais.

Local historian Simon Pearce explained: "The idea was to construct a fleet of dummy landing craft which would be moored along the south-east and east coast. Woolverstone Park, with access to the River Orwell and with a heavily wooded fringe, was an ideal location, and Waldringfield on the Deben was another.

"'A' Company, of the Worcester Regiment, was tasked with fabricating Bigbobs dummy landing craft in complete darkness before they were run down the slipway into the river on a wheeled undercarriage. From there they floated off onto the river and were carefully moored."

Incredibly, the fake army camp constructed between Woolverstone and Pin Mill was so successful that it also fooled the Women's Royal Naval Service who believed the craft were real.

Ipswich High School now stands on the site of the former base, with head teacher Oona Carlin interviewed as part of the film.

She said: "Thousands of men died in 1944 and it's important that we remember that.

"We have lots of local people who remember the site as HMS Woolverstone who can come in and talk about what happened at Woolverstone Hall and how fundamental it was to D-Day plans."

Some Dates for your Diary:

Macmillan Coffee morning RHYC 27th September 10.30

Bake or buy a cake to support this wonderful cause being hosted at The Royal Harwich Yacht Club. Bring some friends and buy coffee and cake. Every penny raised means Macmillan can help more people with cancer live life as fully as they can.

Coffee morning starts at 10.30 a.m.

Macmillan Coffee morning Foxwood 28th September 10.30

If you can't make Friday why not support this wonderful cause being hosted by Mandy, Sarah and Jay at "Foxwood", Nursery Lane. Bring some friends and buy coffee and cake. Every penny raised means Macmillan can help more people with cancer live life as fully as they can.

Coffee morning starts at 10.30 a.m.

St Michael's Churchyard team

Fri 4th Oct 10.00 -12.00

Restoration and maintenance volunteers: keeping our churchyard and open spaces beautiful. We are meeting at St Michael's at 10.00 a.m. Grass cutting and clearing around Headstones. Any help would be much appreciated to keep the churchyard looking beautiful.

Parish Council Meeting

Thurs 10th Oct 7.30 pm

Parish Council meetings take place on second Thursday of the month, except August. We receive reports from our County and District councillors as well as discuss local issues. If there is something you would like to raise, please contact one of our councillors, or come along to a meeting. The session is being opened by Andrew Sterling who will be talking about recognising the Climate Change Emergency and how the Parish Council and the Parish can help.

If you would like to raise your own issue(s) in the first 10 minutes of the meeting, please contact me, Simon Pearce, Chairman at simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk or Kathryn Deaton, our clerk, at kathryn@deaton.org.uk in the week preceding the meeting.

Weddings Open Day Woolverstone Hall Sun 13th Oct 10am – 3pm

Free entry. 60 plus exhibitors. Even an aisle to walk down and a top table to be seated at!

'Wear it Pink day' Spring Lodge Fri 18th October 11.00- 12.00

2.45 - 3.45 pm

Come along to a Breast Cancer Awareness & Dignity Day at Spring Lodge. Wear something pink!!

- Coffee morning for Dignity Day 11.00 till 12.00.
- Entertainment from Tania Ramsdale-Honey at 2:45-3:45pm.

All welcome

Peninsula Craft Weekend Ipswich High School Sat 25th & Sun 26th Oct 10 -4 pm

Entrance fee £1.00. Exhibition and Sale of original Arts and Crafts

Advanced Notices

Blossom Ball RHYC Sat 2nd November 6.00 pm

Please join us for this black tie ball. All money raised will be donated to The Blossom Appeal, raising £2.5 million for a new Breast Care Centre at Ipswich Hospital. Tables of 10 are £750 each (individual tickets are available) and include welcome drinks at 6pm, a three course dinner and live entertainment. Carriages at midnight. Entertainment on the night will be from "Sonic Architects", a fun casino, a live auction (Please bring your wallet!) and more! Please call Carly or Kathryn on 01473 780 319 to book your table or for more information.

Punch & Pie Christmas Fair Village Hall Sat 30th November 10.000 – 3.30

Christmas themed tabletops. Festive food and drinks. Meet friends old and new. Enjoy the festivities. Shop for Christmas gifts: silver jewellery, cosmetics, woodcraft, oriental handbags, purses and ornaments, Christmas cards, and painting, knitted/crocheted hats and toys, textile art and cards.

Sunday Services at St Michael's.

Sunday 29 th	Sept	11.00	Benefice Holy Communion, Wherstead Church. Holy Communion led by our new Rector Revd. Jenny Seggar
Sunday 6 th	Oct	10.00	BCP Holy Communion led by Revd. Jenny Seggar
		11.00	Café church
Sunday 13 th	Oct	11.00	Worship the Woolverstone Way
Sunday 20 th	Oct	11.00	Morning prayers
Sunday 27 th	Oct	11.00	Holy Communion

You will be pleased to know that the bells in St Michael's are being repaired. Scheduled for completion this week on 27th. So listen out for their distinctive sound.

Helping our Community

Our community is stretched out in a ribbon settlement, mostly along the B1456. People at No 1 are over a mile away from people at No 38. It is hard to stay connected. One of the ways to keep connected is through supporting local events, meeting and catching up with people. I hope you will be able to support the village through the different events that have been organised. We also need your help for some of the jobs that keep the community ticking away.

Services within the village

This is a new addition! Why not share the service or trade you offer with people in our village?

I was amazed, and probably the last to know, at what an Alladin's cave S& P Leisure is down in the Marina.

Here is some of what they have to offer:

S & P Leisure at Woolverstone Marina. Did you know we are here and what we sell? From camping and caravan spares and accessories, garden chairs, tools, trailer spares, number plates, fishing gear, knitting yarns and jigsaw puzzles.

Tel: 01473 780033

Web: http://sandpleisure.co.uk

If you would like to share what service you have to offer in our village newsletter, please get in touch and let me know. We may be able to create a space on our website, too.

Berners Hall

The facilities at Berners Hall are available for booking by anyone in the community. There are special rates for residents.(see below) Sessions are up to 4 hours. e.g. 9.am - 1 pm. 6pm - 10pm etc.

Weekday session: £15.00 Sat/Sun session: £18.00

Please contact BHMC Booking Secretary for availability.

Sarah Hutton Phone: 07754075684; or, Email sarahhutton7@btinternet.com

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.

If your neighbour is not on the internet, why not print off a copy and pop it through their letterbox?

Best wishes

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