



Woolverstone News

March 28th 2018

Dear All

“April is the cruellest month” according to T.S.Eliot. Perhaps this is because it is full of hope and promise; yet Winter’s fingers will not quite let go their grasp.

The St Matthias’s Day weather lore proved accurate! We have certainly had some cold weather over the last few weeks. Let’s hope the cool weather soon starts to lift and, with temperatures rising, Spring will be full of growing.

Of note in the snowy weather, thank you to the people who offered their 4 x 4 vehicles to help vulnerable people in the snow. The offers were much appreciated. Fortunately, none were needed. We should, perhaps, organise a good neighbours scheme within the village. Are there any enthusiastic organisers out there?

Happy Easter.

Boundary Commission draft proposals. Final round. Consultation closes 30th April

The Boundary Commission is re-shaping wards in Babergh District with the aim of cutting the number of councillors and balancing the voting populations for the next five years. Following a first round of consultation the Local Government Boundary Commission has produced new draft recommendations. You are invited to have your say by 30th April.

Following our representations regarding the previous proposals severing Woolverstone from wards containing our local surgery, school, shops and breaking down the community of the peninsula, the LGBC propose a 3 member ward that would cover the Peninsula and include Belstead. They are also consulting on the name Berners for the electoral ward.

We still think there is a case for a two member ward across the peninsula with Shotley and Erwarton a separate ward. We continue to look at the numbers as do our District Councillors who think a three member ward would be difficult for a variety of reasons.

I have attached a section from the documentation that pertains to Woolverstone/Peninsula in particular. There is more detail on the LGBC website. The useful links at the bottom right of the page will take you to further, detailed information about the proposals.

Have your say through:-

1. Interactive portal: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>
2. Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk
3. Writing: Review Officer (Babergh), Local Boundary Commission for England, 14th Floor, Millbank Tower, Millbank, LONDON. SW1P 4QP.

Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty boundary review

Natural England is currently consulting on an extension to the Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The proposed areas for extension are: the Stour Estuary - the entire estuary and the majority of the southern valley slopes and northern valley slopes at Brantham; the Freston Brook valley – tributary to the river Orwell and extends inland from current boundary westward to include plateau woodlands; and, the Samford valley – a tributary to the river Stour and extends inland from Stutton Bridge and includes some areas from Shotley Peninsula Plateau.

The area in which we are privileged to live is recognised as one of the most beautiful parts of the country which deserves and needs protection. These proposals should give added protection to the landscape we know and love.

Deadline for responses Friday 20th April

Find out more on the AONB website:

<http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/about-us/aonb-boundary-review/>

AONB Fact sheet:

<http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/assets/About-Us/Boundary-Review/NE-Boundary-Consultation-Factsheet.pdf>:

Have your say on-line:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/natural-england/suffolk-coast-and-heaths-aonb>

Planning Applications for the Walled Garden

The Walled Garden which provided vegetables, fruit and flowers to Woolverstone Hall is a Grade 2 listed structure and part of the valuable heritage assets in our village. The owner of the Walled Garden site has put in three planning applications. The most significant of these is the turning on its head of the rationale for the current lay-out of the site. He is requesting that the large house, which was given *exceptional permission* to be built in AONB countryside in order to take responsibility for the Walled Garden, is removed from this responsibility. He would like to build a three bedroom house partly *within* the central walled garden area. This house, he requests, should be responsible for the Walled Garden. Furthermore, he is asking Babergh to rescind the legal agreement that prevents the garden being sub-divided and also allows for one day a year when people from the village could view the Grade 2 listed garden and associated structures. The Parish Council is currently considering its position, has huge concerns about the implications and is minded to object to these proposals.

If you would like to know more the plans are on the Babergh website. There is also a short article on Shotley Peninsula News and Features:

<http://shotleypeninsulanewsandfeatures.com/Woolverstone.php>

If you would like to voice your views then you can do this directly on the Babergh website.

If you want to write your comments online you need to go to Babergh's planning portal and register.

Go to Babergh Planning Applications > Click on "Applications, search, track and comment" > Type "Woolverstone" in the Search box at the bottom of the page. Go to the "Register" tab at the top of the page if you aren't already registered or "log in" if you are already registered. If you are registering for the first time you just need to fill in a simple form. Once you have logged in you can select the planning application you want to comment on and leave your comments in the appropriate space. Planning application DC/18/00535 is the key one:

<https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=P30F0NSHJYY00>

Please be sure to check the box that best represents your view: "object", "support" or "neutral".

Otherwise you need to send a letter to: Elizabeth Flood, Case Officer, Babergh District Council, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich IP1 2BX; or, email to the planning department:

planninggreen@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk <<mailto:planninggreen@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>>

Responses have to be in by Friday 6th April.

Some Dates for your Diary:

St Michael's Churchyard. Maintenance team. Friday 6th April 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. There is some clearance work to be done as well as hedge cutting around the boundary of this area. Thick gloves, secateurs etc. would be useful.

Woolverstone Parish Council. Berners Hall. Thursday 12th April. 7.30 pm

Agenda posted on Noticeboard by Horsepond's Green in advance. In months to come it will be on our village website which is in process of being upgraded.

Monthly Morning Market at St Michael's Church. Saturday 14th April. 9.00 – 12.30

Theme: "Car Boot Sale".

Pitches £15.00. Book through Jane Gould 780777 or jane.gould@btinternet.com.

Don't miss the bacon butties and Woolverstone sausage! East End Butchers are back. There will be local fruit and veg from Tattingstone, specialist artisan breads from Anchor Bakery, Aloe Vera products, Game Keeper's Daughter with wild meat goodies, local crafts, plants and trees and much more.

Take a chance to catch up with friends and neighbours and buy some local produce in the most beautiful and peaceful surroundings.

The Jubilate led, sung Evensong at St Michael's Church. Sunday 22nd April 4.00 pm

There will be an Evensong led by Jubilate at St Michael's Church on Sunday 22nd April at 4pm. It will be followed by tea and cake. Jubilate is a choral group led by Martyn Bagnall, who lives in Woolverstone. Martyn returned to Suffolk in 2015 to spend more time making music, and he founded and is Musical Director of Jubilate, a group of 16 singers specialising in choral evensongs in Suffolk churches.

If you want to know more about Martyn and Suffolk Festival Chorus follow this link:

http://suffolkfestivalchorus.co.uk/?page_id=88

Throughout April

Throughout April St. Michael's Church is hosting an exhibition of sculptures in the Lady Chapel. It is entitled: "Way – Truth – Life". The sculptures are by Caroline Mackenzie and the series of five large striking images explores what it is to be human. They are powerful images in a beautiful, often sunlit setting.

"Traditionally, woman has been depicted as a static object. The main focus has been on the attractiveness of her body and this has been separated from her humanity. Here she is viewed as a whole human being. She experiences the pain of her cultural and economic inequality. She owns her anger – a basic human emotion not associated with female images. She endures her suffering within the archetypal context of Christ's redemptive suffering. Out of this attitude, she experiences resurrection. Finally she re-discovers her joy. This is an emotion often spoken of in Christian scripture, yet rarely shown in art – and never in a positive association with the female body. On the other hand, it is often seen in secular art, yet dissociated from other dimensions of the woman's humanity."

"These sculptures are not just about women – but about the whole of nature that is at present victimised and suffering. It also presents a new way for men to think about their feminine side and challenges them to view women as whole human beings and not as objects."

I hope you will take the opportunity to stop by and take a look.

A word from our Rector, Geoffrey Clement

Dear Friends,

Silence is Golden!

And if you are old enough you would know that it was the Tremeloes and the vocals of guitarist Rick West who took the saying to number 1 in 1967.

And if we travel back to 1964 we find Simon and Garfunkel celebrating the "Sound of Silence" on *Wednesday Morning 3 am*.

It is thought that the earliest recorded use of the saying Silence is Golden was in ancient Egypt.

The poet Thomas Carlyle wrote this on the subject:

"Silence is the element in which great things fashion themselves together; that at length they may emerge, full-formed and majestic, into the daylight of Life, which they are thenceforth to rule."

More recently silence was responsible for adding an extra \$166 million to the price of the (supposed) Leonardo da Vinci's Salvador Mundi. The auctioneer paused for about 30 seconds and the result of that half minute silence was that the bidding took off again and the "value" of the painting rose to \$400 million.

It can be very rewarding to take some time for silence. In today's frantic rush with it's "same day delivery" and "instant streaming" we should reconsider this need to fill every available space with something.

Take a break, take a breath. Listen to the sound of silence, it might not make you \$166 million richer, but it will make life seem richer.

I remain
Your friend and Rector
Geoffrey

Sunday Services at St Michael's.

Friday 30th March		Rector's Good Friday walk: church to church. Leaving Sutton 9.15; Holbrook 9.45; Woolverstone 10.45; Freston 11.15; (It can be muddy walking through the woods to Wherstead) 11.50. All times are approximate. This isn't a circular walk so walkers need to arrange pick up or drop off at points that are suitable for you.
Saturday 31st March	9.00 pm	Easter Vigil starts and ends when the last person feels they are ready to leave. This is a time when it is mostly silent.
Sunday 1st April	11.00	Easter Holy Communion
Sunday 8th April	11.00	Worship the Woolverstone Way
Sunday 15th April	11.00	Morning Prayers
Sunday 22nd April	4.00	Sung Evensong led by Jubilate
Sunday 29th April		Benefice Service, venue to be confirmed

Looking forward

One of our very own, James Hodgkinson, is a Canterbury Cathedral Chorister. We are immensely privileged to have a visit from the group of choristers to St Michael's Church, Woolverstone.

Canterbury Cathedral Choristers Present a Concert
In
St Michael's Church, Woolverstone

7pm Wednesday 27 June 2018

Tickets: £12.50 Including Summer

Refreshments

For more information and to secure your tickets ring Chris Hodgkinson: 07764 285 928

Or

Email: jchodgkinson@gmail.com

All proceeds to St Michael's Church Woolverstone and the Choir House Choristers' Social Fund

Helping our Community

Ipswich High School

A team of Eco Warriors from Ipswich High School cleared the Marina Road of rubbish during the "Spring Clean" period. Well done and thank you.

Local History

Did you know that Woolverstone House, originally called St Peter's House, was once a World War1 Red Cross Hospital convalescent home known as Woolverstone Park Hospital? Want to find out more?

This is one of the entries on our new Facebook page: Woolverstone: Notes and Queries. Here's the link:

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

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. Please join the group and feel free to add information and photographs about our historic village.

Parish Councillor

We have a vacancy for one Parish Councillor. If you think you would be interested in being part of the PC and would like to know more, please get in touch (780009)

Community Speedwatch

In order to have a continuing presence we really need people who are prepared to give a couple of hours a month to support us.

If you would like to be part of the team to help keep the traffic flow through the village to safe limits, please make contact with me. We've got the kit but need to get this project moving and regular. (780009)

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)