

REFUSE FREIGHTERS

There will be attended refuse freighters in the Village Hall Car Park for the disposal of garden rubbish and bulky domestic rubbish between 9.30 a.m. and 10.45 a.m. on 9th June and 4th August. Fridges, freezers, commercial refuse or hazardous waste will not be accepted.

SCOUTS, GUIDES ETC.

Our uniformed organisations – Rainbows, Beavers, Brownies, Cubs and Scouts - continue to thrive. Help is always welcome and if you are able to offer your time occasionally or on a regular basis, please call Anne Hughes on 734168.

DEFINITIVE MAP

The Parish Council holds the map that shows all footpaths and rights of way in the village. To view it, please make arrangements with the Clerk.

POLICING

PC Melanie Wilson is our Neighbourhood Constable (NC) who supported by John Howard our Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), works actively with the Parish Council, School and the wider village community to resolve any local policing issues. She can be contacted by phone on 07966197404 (Answer machine, not 24 hours) or by e mail at melanie.wilson@essex.pnn.police.uk. The new non emergency phone number for contacting the Police is 101. The Emergency number remains, of course, 999.

BUSES

The village currently benefits from a regular bus service into Colchester which is subsidised by ECC. This subsidy relies on passenger numbers and the overall usage of the service. Fortunately, in the past year the numbers using the buses have shown a small increase, and this has enabled ECC to preserve the service to the village for the time being. It is important that these numbers stay up to ensure that the service remains viable for the future – so please consider using the bus for your trips into town. Information on times/stops etc. can be obtained from the Traveline website or 0871 200 2233 (10p per minute).

PARKING

Car parking is a constant problem around our school, the Village Hall and Heather Close. It is vital that routes are left clear for the Emergency Services to gain access. Your co-operation in parking considerably would be much appreciated.

PARISH WEBSITE

The Parish Council has its own website where you will find information about the village and Minutes of Parish Council meetings. There is also an Events Diary. If you would like a regular meeting or special event included please notify the Parish Clerk. www.essexinfo.net/layerdelahayepc

DID YOU KNOW?

You can report highways problems, e.g. potholes, directly via the Essex County Council website <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Travel-Highways/Report-a-highway-problem/Pages/Report-a-problem.aspx>. You can also view and comment on planning applications on-line at www.colchester.gov.uk.

Please recycle this newsletter

LAYER DE LA HAYE PARISH COUNCIL 2012 NEWSLETTER



THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillors

Mark Jones *Chairman*, Andy Stallan *Vice Chairman*
Peter Bunting, Paul Cope, Anne Hughes MBE,
Duncan Jones, Simon Jacklin, David Lennox, Mike Strain
Parish Clerk: Sarah Hughes
(Oaklands, 153 High Road, Layer de la Haye CO2 OEB)
Tel: 01206 738056 email layerclerk@hotmail.com
Website: www.essexinfo.net/layerdelahayepc

The Parish Council will hold its Annual General Meeting on Monday, 14th May at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

The Parish Council is manager of the Recreation Field, Malting Green, the Cross and War Memorial, the Multisport Courts on Church Road, the Village Hall Car Park, Heatherfields and the Play Area at Millfields.

Parish Council meetings are usually held on the second Monday of each month in the Small Village Hall at 8 p.m. The schedule and the Agenda are published on the Parish Council Notice Board at the Cross. All are welcome to attend.

Mrs. Jo Jones runs the 'Parish Network', which enables parishioners to keep up-to-date with village news and share information by e mail. This is a completely free service and if you would like to join, please contact her on 734258 or jojn@hotmail.com.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Our Borough Councillors try to attend our monthly meeting and are always willing to help in any way they can. They are:

Kevin Bentley: Willoughby End, 32 Willoughby Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester CO5 8AU Tel: 01206 548100 (work) 01206 382405 (home) 07740 123753 (mob)
email kevin@birchandwintree.com

Andrew Ellis: Ransomes, Wigborough Road, Peldon, Colchester CO5 7RA
Tel: 07768 986611 (mob) 01206 735166 (home)
email andrew@birchandwintree.com

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2 – 4 JUNE 2012

In June 2012 the country will be celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and so will we - over the 'Jubilee Weekend' there will be lots going on to get involved in; a Village Fete & Hog Roast, a Street Party for the children, Open Gardens, a Flower Festival, 'Memory Lane' Exhibitions in the Village Hall and Forge Garage and a 'Last Night of the Proms Concert'. There really will be something for everyone. Celebrations for the children in the village start on Saturday, 5th May when they collect their Jubilee Mug from the Village Hall between 1 – 3 p.m. Refreshments will be available and the children will also be able to decorate their own crowns to wear at the Street Party in June. As always, events like this take a huge amount of organisation and if you would like to help in any way please contact Anne Hughes on 734168.

RECREATION FACILITIES

We are very fortunate in the recreational facilities available in the village. The Parish Council has successfully applied for a grant from the Cory Environmental Trust to add a new piece of play equipment to the children's play area on the recreation field; this will be installed in the coming months. We also obtained a grant from the Abberton Community Fund to relocate one of the entrances on the Playing Field to a much safer footpath on the High Road. The tennis courts, which were refurbished and improved last year at a cost of £34,000 are available for hire at a cost of £4.00 per court for adults & mixed groups or £3.00 for children. There is a £10 deposit for the key. Bookings are taken at the Village Shop and our thanks go to Mr. Chew for providing this service.

VILLAGE HALL

The most noticeable change at the village hall in the past year has been the resurfacing and white lining of the car park; this substantial improvement was made possible with a grant from the Abberton Community Fund. The Village Hall Committee have organised a number of well supported fund raising events during the year including a Jazz Night, a Quiz Night and a very successful New Year's Eve Party. The Village Hall is licensed and is a very popular venue for a huge range of functions. Bookings can be made with Sue Priestland on 734708.

LAYER DE LA HAYE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school's key priorities for this year have been to further improve standards in teaching and learning and to develop children's problem solving and enquiry skills. A number of building projects have been undertaken this year: the erection of a large storage shed and the conversion of the old music room into two learning areas. In addition, the superb kitchen now serves tuck to the children at break times. The school is also working on areas for developing communication with parents and has introduced parent partnership sessions and a newly designed website: <http://www.layerschool.net>

HEATHERFIELDS

Heatherfields is rented by the Parish Council for the enjoyment of the village and a new lease is currently under negotiation. The paths through the woods are not for the use of horses and bicycles. Bonfires may not be lit in the woods and timber must not be cut or removed.

CHARIOT PARISH SHOPPING BUS

The Parish Council is very grateful to Martin Friend, Jim Anderson, Cliff Appleby, Derek Chaplin, Norman Hooke and Robin Orbell, who drive the Chariot Community Bus to the supermarket every other Monday. The bus seats 14, is open to all ages & delivers passengers and their shopping door to door for a very reasonable fare of £3. This is made possible by a substantial Parish Council subsidy. Information on times etc. is available from Martin Friend on 734555.

DOG FOULING

The most regular complaint that the Parish Council receives is about dog fouling. It is a real problem in the village; if you are exercising your dog ***please do clear up after it.*** Dogs should be kept on a lead on the Playing Field at all times. Dog poo bags can be obtained from the Borough Council at Angel Court, £1.50 for 100 bags or £3.00 for 300. Individual bags can also be collected from 17 High Road and 67 New Cut. Dog bins are sited at either end of New Cut and on the High Road - please use them.

VILLAGE LITTER PICKS and PALS (People Against Litter)

The litter pick last Spring collected some twenty bags of rubbish and other bulky items from around the village. We aim to do litter picks twice a year; Spring and Autumn, details are published in the Parish Gazette and on the Notice Boards and appropriate equipment is provided. If you want to get out and do something a bit more regularly perhaps you could become one of the PALS. This group aims to go out on a monthly basis to litter pick specific roads in the village. If you are interested in taking part please contact elizabeth.appleby@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01206 734493.

HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

There are a number of properties managed by Housing Associations in the village, consisting of flats at The Buntings, bungalows at Heather Close for the over 50s and houses at Millfields to rent and for shared ownership. The Parish Council has fought for the right for people with village connections to be housed in them. When a property becomes available, we need to be able to pass names to the associations. Vacancies do not occur very often, but to put someone's name down, please contact Anne Hughes on 734168.

PARISH GAZETTE

This is a monthly magazine produced by the Church for residents of Layer and a good source of local information. It contains Church news, details about village events and interesting articles contributed by people in the village. For a fee you can advertise your business. The magazine, priced at 70p, is on sale at the village shop. If you would like the magazine delivered to your home for an annual charge of £7 (and saving £1.40) please contact Martin Piper on 734369.

ABBERTON RESERVOIR EXPANSION SCHEME

Work on the Abberton Reservoir Expansion Scheme is progressing well. Council representatives attend Abberton Liaison Group Meetings to ensure that any concerns about the scheme are addressed by Essex and Suffolk Water (ESW). Working hours and delivery schedules that avoid peak school pick up and drop off times continue to be closely monitored. Any infringements can be reported to Louise Evans at ESW on 01268 664862.