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and the VIP'S would like to thank everyone who has supported our panto, Aladdin, this year! Oh Yes we do!

The village magazine produced for the people of Bildeston www.bildeston.org

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#### BILDESTON BUGLE ADVERTISING AND FREE CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION

Our aim is to provide every resident and organisation in Bildeston with a magazine which provides information of local interest FREE OF CHARGE. To that end we are required to be efficient in the space we use to print free notices. We endeavour to include interesting items, announcements for events open to the general public for free and items of a charitable nature free of charge. Ongoing free announcements need to be reduced to minimum size or make a contribution towards printing costs. Please check with us before submitting your advert and ALWAYS provide us with all of your contact details in order for us to send an invoice and receipt.

email: editor@bildestonbugle.co.uk

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1/2 page	£10.00	£60.00	134mm W x 92mm H
Full page	£15.00	£110.00	134mm W x 190mm H

#### THE SMALL PRINT

All adverts, payments and items are required <u>before</u> the 17<sup>th</sup> of every month for inclusion in the following month's issue (except December before the 15th). The earlier free contributions are received the greater the chance of inclusion.

The Editorial Team are not responsible for the accuracy of articles or adverts and reserve the right to alter, shorten or refuse any item submitted for publication.

Ask for BACS details or make cheques payable to Bildeston Bugle and send to:

The Editor, Bildeston Bugle, 14 Squirrells Mill Rd, Bildeston IP7 7DY

If we do not receive payment by the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month your advertisement may NOT be included

## The Bildeston Bugle Management Team is:

Alan Jacobs (Editor) 01449 741645
Tricia Baldwin (Marketing & Advertising Revenue)
Christine Hubbard (Treasurer) 01449 740633
Stuart Law and Alison Sims (Assistant Editor)

Angie Biddulph, Lisa Chinery, Tracey Rose & Pam Weaver (Printing Assistants)

# **ED'S COMMENT**

2020 is a Leap Year. This month has an extra day, the special day in a special month (not just because of BREXIT!) but to make sure the made-up human calendar fits with the natural cycle of the sun and Earth. It's still close enough to Christmas, and the 'joy' of exploding a cracker and reading the worst jokes ever written, to share some about Leap Years and Leap Days:

What do athletes wear on Leap Day? Jumpsuits.

What kind of music do you listen to on Leap Day? Hip Hop.

What do kids play on Leap Day? Hop-scotch

What do you tell a hitchhiker on Leap Day? Hop In.

What does a lawyer do on Leap Day? Jump to conclusions.

What do surgeons perform on Leap Day? Hop-erations.

Leap Day, when tradition has it that a woman can propose marriage to a man and they should accept. Or else thay must buy the woman 12 gloves. One for each month of the year to hide the ringless finger!

What else is special about the 29th February? How about this question? What happens if you deliberately choose to take out a subscription for something that lasts a year, like magazines or film channels like Netflix? When would it be renewed?

Anyone born on February 29th may be called a "leapling" or a "leaper" or just a Leap Day baby. In ordinary years they tend to celebrate their birthdays on February 28th or March 1st. It's been said that some 'leapers' have a special celebration at exactly midnight on 28th February wishing themselves a special happy birthday within the next 60 seconds. Maintaining that 60 second gap as their special time before the 1st March!

In Gilbert and Sullivan's famous comic opera, The Pirates of Penzance, the character of Frederic the pirate apprentice who was born on 29th February, comes a cropper when he discovers that he is bound to serve the pirates until his 21st birthday; rather than until his 21st year which is what he thought! But when it comes to legal matters — like being old enough to get a license or vote or buy alcohol, it's more complicated. It is also varied, depending on where you live around the world. Most countries accept a 'Leap Day' person's birthday as March 1st, but some go for 28th February. In America even some states have different laws. For example in United Kingdom it is 1st March, but in New Zealand it's 28th February! Leaplings can find each other by joining the Honor Society of Leap Year Day Babies. It's an American organisation founded in 1997, it currently has over 10,000 members. On Facebook, they have over 800 members. Probably more by now. In America Daisy Belle Ward turned 100 on February 29, 2016, but only her 25th birthday! According to astrologers, people born under the sign of Pisces on February 29th have unusual talents and personalities reflecting their special status.

The interesting thing about adding a day every four years is that, actually we don't add one every four years. Adding a whole day turns out to be a little bit too much, like being in credit on your Direct Debit. We end up with too much time, so at the beginning of a century, even though it's a four year, there is no Leap Year. For example 1700, 1800, 1900 etc. This allows a catch-up and the experts are happy! The odds of being born a Leap Day baby are very long. Especially nowadays where it is possible to elect a birth day and avoid the 29th February! But if there is a Leap Day person living in Bildeston, we'd love to know! Meanwhile, enjoy this special, indeed historic, February; and enjoy the Bildeston clock bong!



# Kevin Hollings KITCHEN STUDIO



Unit 14 Lodge Works, Stowmarket Road, Old Newton, IP14 4EE 01449 257160 www.kevinhollings.com info@kevinhollingskitchens.co.uk

# Bildeston Primary School

#### **Thomas Gainsborough**

During the autumn term Kestrel's art topic was Thomas Gainsborough. The topic began with a very interesting trip to Sudbury and to Gainsborough House. While at the house the children looked closely at the work produced by Gainsborough and discussed the detail in the pictures. Following this trip we came back to school and looked at the painting "The Blue Boy" by Gainsborough, looking at the clothing worn, the texture of the painting and the tone of the colours used. Children then produced their own painting of "The Blue Boy" and a "Modern Day Blue Boy"





In the lead up to Christmas, the children had a very busy time attending the Christingle service at St Mary Magdalene Church, making Christmas hats, calendars and Christmas cards. They also took part in seasonal quizzes and class parties. The staff worked very hard all term and were determined to make Christmas a very special time for the pupils.

#### **Pantomime**

Spring term began with a fantastic opportunity for the whole school to attend the pantomime at The Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds. The children enjoyed a performance of the classic children's story of Peter Pan which had been brilliantly transformed into the perfect festive family show, complete with everyone's favourite features: slapstick, jokes and audience participation.



#### Pantomime Workshops

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January Key stage 2 pupils took part in pantomime workshops where they took on the role of one of the characters from Peter Pan and acted the part in their own way. They were also able to ask questions all about the production from "How do the actors manage to get changed so quickly?" to "How long do they have to rehearse before the first performance to an audience?"

#### **U9 Dodgeball Festival**

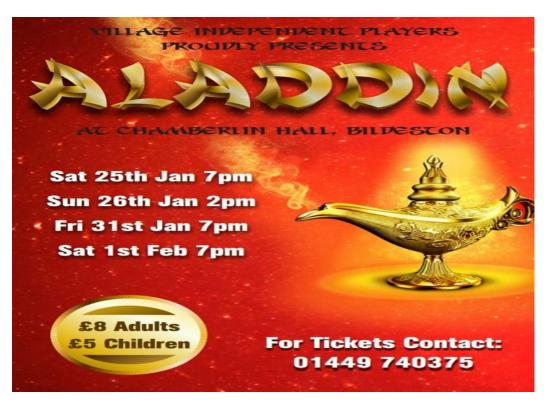
On Thursday 9th January a group of children from Kingfisher Class attended Inspire Suffolk to compete in a Dodgeball Festival. The children showed their ability to be fair players and had a fantastic time at the event.

If you are considering Bildeston Primary as a school for your child, we would welcome a visit. Please phone the office on the number below or email us. We would love to meet you.

Bildeston Primary School Newberry Road, Bildeston, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP7 7ES Telephone: 01449 740269

Website: www.bildeston.suffolk.sch.uk





# Chamberlin Hall Snooker Club



# Welcomes new members For details contacts Neil 01449 741362

Chamberlin Hall also hosts a variety of other events throughout the year, including pantomimes, theme nights and fundraisers. To keep up to date with the latest events see our Facebook page: @chamberlinhallbildeston



## What's on in February

Monday/Tuesday from 3.45 MLSPA Performing Arts (07957 351941)

Every Tuesday 7.00pm Snooker Club

Every Tuesday 7.00pm Adult-dance-keep fit! (part of MLSPA)

Tuesday 7.15pm Carpet Bowls (practice night & home games)

Wednesday 6.30pm Drama Group (call Debbie: 01449 740375)

Every Wednesday 3:45-5:45 Children's Mini Tennis (starting Jan 15th - please

contact Laura for details: bugg.laura@outlook.com)

Every Thursday 7.30pm Badminton Club and Table Tennis

Every Thursday 10.30am-11.30 Zumba Gold with Sarah

Every Thursday 6 - 7.15pm Yoga contact: catherinerolfeyoga@gmail.com

1st Thurs of Month 7.30pm Ladies Club

Every Friday 13:15-14:15 Tots (3-5yrs) Mini Tennis club (starting Jan 17-

contact laura for details: bugg.laura@outlook.com)

Every Friday 7.00pm Social evening

Every Friday 11am Pilates for Improvers (call Claire: 07900 440141)

Every Friday from 12.00 Pilates for Beginners (call Claire: 07900 440141)

Saturday 1st 7.00pm Aladdin the Panto

For bookings contact: 07716 921514 and chamberlin.bookings@gmail.com

# BILDESTON BOWLS CLUB

Bildeston Bowls Club is pleased to announce that the signing on meeting for the 2020 season will be

Friday 13th March 7.00pm at Chamberlin Hall.

We warmly welcome all existing and new members of any age and ability.

Come along and join our friendly local club.

Have a drink and try your hand at short mat bowling afterwards.

All details of the club and the forthcoming season will be available on the night.

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# BILDESTON

# ALLOTMENTS

Have you ever thought of growing your own vegetables and flowers?

There are currently vacant plots, both full size and half size. Water is available on site, and the rents are reasonable.

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Robin Weaver, 741048, or Ashley Hubbard, 740633



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## **COUNTRYSIDE OBSERUER**

Yesterday's seasonal frostiness nipped at the fingers under a perfect blue sky providing a good chance to get out and enjoy the beauty of the winter landscape surrounding Bildeston. The keys to Number Ten are now either in safe hands, or not, depending on your political persuasion. The keys will be safe, but will we? We can but hope the nation faced with a critical political fork in the road where left or right were the only viable options saw the direction from which the daylight came, and took it. Talking of seeing daylight, lighter evenings are now on their way.

I have talked about our winter visitors in past jottings, now most of our avian friends will have arrived from overseas for their winter break. For the readers amongst us who dislike the winter months with its cold days, take comfort that these visitors do so for the simple reason that its warmer here then at home...! Woodcocks abound, and on my weekend walk last week no fewer then four took to the wing as I got to close. The exquisitely camouflaged Woodcock is mainly nocturnal, hiding in the dense undergrowth of woodlands and heathlands during the day, where it probes damp ground for earthworms and beetles to eat. Its a fairly large, short-legged bird living in woodlands and on heathlands where its mottled plumage provides it with excellent camouflage. If you happen to disturb one, it will fly off in a zig-zag pattern between the trees before dropping back to the ground and the safety of a dense cover in undergrowth. The UK's Woodcock are mostly residents, but they are joined by wintering cousins from Finland and Russia. They can be confused with Snipe but Woodcock are mostly brown, with an intricate pattern of black and grey barring, and broad, dark bars across the crown. They have short, greyish-pink legs and a very long, straight bill. They are smaller than the Snipe and a bird of woodlands, rather than grasslands and moorlands. Did you know that the Woodcock's pin feathers were highly prized by artists as fine brush tips for use on exquisite works, and were also used to remove fine particles, such as dust, from people's eyes.

But back to my thoughts writing during the December events. Friday 13th December, an historic day in our Nation's political footprint! Superstition dictating that such a day/date combination is a harbinger of bad luck. The degree of today's bad luck depends on your political persuasion, a post upon which I will not lean, but like it - or not - the fog of uncertainty has shifted, blown into oblivion by results that are now unequivocal. With ten days to go before the Christmas a period of mixed emotions begins its annual round for many, but nonetheless it is the season where fun and goodwill hopefully takes pole position for a while. Today 20th December, I have never seen flooding south of the village as we have had. The Brett, a raging torrent, has burst its banks and flooded huge areas of low lying land. Grass airfields are all suffering from water logging, so no chance of leaping aboard the Cessna for a photographic mission to capture the images for posterity. Global warming suggests hotter summers and wetter winters I am starting to believe!

Well we have arrived in 2020 and I trust all the Bugle readers had a great Christmas and new year was celebrated in style. It's with a heavy heart as I type from Cork airport's terminal that my next copy will be my last Country Observer. I thank all those who have commented and enjoyed my jottings these past 4/5 years, shortly leave for pastures new.

Mike Biddulph

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# Bildeston Ladies Club

I am sure we have we will all remember learning in our school History lessons about the Viking invaders who came to our



shores - and indeed many of us here in the east of England may possibly have Viking blood in our DNA!



So, at our first meeting of the year on February 6<sup>th</sup> we will get a chance to learn much more from Thorulf Hammrson - Viking adventurer! (a local re-enactor)

I think this will be a very entertaining evening, so why not come along and give us a try.

Club fees are just £5 for the year with subs of £2 at each meeting attended.

Guests are welcome at £3 per meeting.

Each month we run a small raffle and during the year we raise money for our chosen charity, which this year is the Suffolk Oxygen Therapy Centre Hope to see you there!

Chairlady -Jo Silburn - 01449 257045 Secretary - Jean Radley - 01449 743650

We would like to thank Chamberlin Hall Committee very much for the Oversixties Christmas Lunch on December 14th which we both enjoyed and much appreciated.

Norman and Mary Ruffell

# Chair-based Exercises

# at Monks Eleigh Village Hall

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**Our NEW Chair-based exercise classes** will be held each week and are suitable for all ages. The classes are a fun and affordable way to improve your mobility, flexibility, strength and confidence as well as being a great opportunity to meet others in a sociable environment. Monks Eleigh Village Hall is a wonderful venue with a large, daylight-filled hall, kitchen facilities, toilets, disabled access and ample car parking on site.

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Nigel, Susie, Ryan and Freya and the team look forward to welcoming you to the Bildeston Kings Head.

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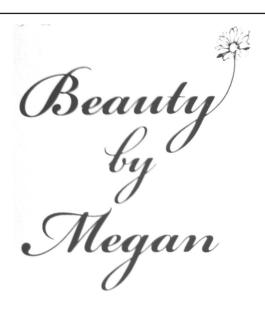
- Here's our free live music for February: every Wednesday is Open Mic Night from 8:30pm; from 9pm on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Rag Mama Rag simply one of the best country/rag-time blues acts in Europe, a treat for your ears & eyes; and from 1pm on Sunday 23<sup>th</sup> have a relaxing lunch with Kevin Nightingale on contemporary classical acoustic guitar.
- Thursday is bar games night, there's all the usual plus Poker, Skittles and table top football, snooker & tennis. Roy's Open Deck/Vinyl night is the 20<sup>th</sup> Feb. Charity quiz night is 27<sup>th</sup> Feb at 8:30pm, please arrive by 8pm. To book a quiz table telephone Sue/Nigel on 01449 741 434. Thank you to December's teams who raised £225 for Cancer Research.
- Our good value homemade food uses quality ingredients that are locally sourced where possible. We are well known for tasty beer-battered fish & chips, delicious boozy beef pie (Suffolk red poll beef) and our freshly prepared traditional Sunday roasts. Meals are cooked to order, available to eat-in or take-away and in child sized portions. To reserve a table please phone Sue or Nigel on 01449 741434.
- We brew our own real ales on-site (tours by arrangement) with at least one other from a local independent brewer.

Our opening and food/takeaway times are as follows:

Wednesday Open 6pm-12am (open mic/buskin night)
Thursday Open 6pm-11pm (bar games night)

Friday Open 6pm-11pm (bar games night)
Open 4pm-12am (full menu 5-9pm)

Saturday Open 12pm-12am (full menu 12-2pm & 6-9pm) Sunday Open 12pm-10:30pm (roast/Sunday menu 12-3pm)



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#### BILDESTON'S WHO'S WHO

This month I met up with Ashley Bruce, Cameraman, film maker and producer of several books. Ashley was born near Hampton Court, and was brought up in East Sheen near Richmond, London. Ashley attended Wimbledon Art School, then on to Hornsey College of Art where he was part of the sit in rebellion in 1968. Ashley got his Masters of Art degree at the Royal College of Art Film School, which is the same college that Ridley Scott attended. In 1971 Ashley started work as a researcher at Granada and ATV working on documentaries and drama-docs, including working with Ken Loach. In 1977, just as Ashley was turning the key to his new home in Bildeston, the Red Arrows flew over, (Ashley said it was for the Queen's birthday, but he felt special!). In 1978 Ashley became a producer, doing a fortnightly studio programme for the over 60s with Gillian Reynolds, then a director, making "Nature Watch" programmes with presenter Julian Pettifer, in those days ITV audience were huge. Ashley made one film about a bat expert that had over 14 million viewers. Ashley also did a series called "Automania"- a social history of the car. Ashley always had time for his family, his son Ewan along with some mates made a film around Bildeston, it was a gangster and cowboy film and some of the scenes were filmed in Bildeston Village Stores. The 1980's were a busy time for Ashley, making one hour documentaries, including one with Yehudi Menuin about the gardens of Britain. Ashley also made five half hour programmes for kids, about the environment which involved piloting a narrow boat around the Midlands canals with Chris Baines and three investigators cast from Central TV's childrens workshop. Ashley was making Earth Reports for BBC World, from 1997 onwards; film making had changed, instead of crews of ten, they were now made as one man bands: researching, shooting, editing even doing the commentary, and increasingly from home. Travel for Ashley became even more global- Afghanistan, South Lebanon and Yemen were high points. China, Lesotho, Namibia, Syria, Indonesia and the Maldives; Ashley has travelled to over 60 countries. Ashley has always travelled with work, but lugging camera equipment across the Bangladesh countryside became a little tiring, once past 65! Ashley was always pleased to return home to Bildeston, to recharge the batteries. Retirement brought corporate filming, like the train depot in Norwich, for SKF, the bearings manufacturer. Bildeston is also the home of the world's foremost trolleybus book publisher – Ashley (!), Trolleybooks is based here and has seen the return to a childhood passion. Ashley has also written two of the books and produced a trolleybus database DVD which he says was great fun to do. I asked Ashley how he became interested in filming, Ashley said while on holiday with his parents at the age of 14, he stopped off at a restaurant in Switzerland in came a film crew, one of the guys had a golden eagle attached to his shoulder and they seemed rather jolly and interesting, and



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# **Goes to the Dogs**

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# Parents, Teachers and Friends Association

Bildeston Primary School Newberry Road Bildeston Ipswich Ips 7EU 01449 740269

of Stowmarket. If you wish to place an order, please complete the form below and return it to the school with your Bildeston Primary School PTFA are pleased to be able to offer a selection of plants for sale, supplied by Narey's payment (cheques should be made payable to Bildeston Primary School PTFA) by 31 March to enable plants to be delivered in May/Early June. Many thanks for your continued support.

Plant/Item	Description	Plants	Cost Per	Total	Total
		per Tray	Tray	Required	Cost
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French Marigold	Safari Tangerine	12	£3.50		
African Marigold	Marvel Yellow	9	£3.50		
African Marigold	Marvel Orange	9	£3.50		
Verbena	Quartz Mix	9	£3.50		
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# Recipe of the Month Spanish-style Lentils with Eggs

with thanks to Alison

#### Ingredients

serves 2 people

2 tsp olive oil

1 small onion finely chopped

1 clove garlic crushed

½ red pepper deseeded and diced

1/2 vegetable stock cube

1 tsp smoked paprika

410g can drained green lentils

2 tbsp fresh parsley chopped

1 large beef tomato or 2 medium sized

2 medium eggs



#### Method

- 1. Heat the olive oil then add the onion, garlic and diced pepper. Fry for about 10 minutes until tender
- 2. Crumble in the ½ stock cube and paprika then stir in the lentils. Add half the parsley and cook for a further 2 minutes
- 3. Chop the tomato into 1cm cubes, add this to the lentil mixture. Make two wells in the mixture and crack an egg into each well.
- 4. Cover the pan and cook for a few more minutes until the egg is cooked to your liking.
- 5. Scatter with the remaining parsley and serve.

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#### Bildeston Bookworms

Hello Bildeston. Christmas seems so very long ago now. With all the build up and festivities, it strikes me as sad, but inevitable that we return to 'normal' so quickly, picking up our everyday lives and moving and looking forward.

As is often the case at this time of year, with dull days and the year stretching ahead, we can become a little down, especially as it seems that the news at the moment is full of doom and gloom. This is where a good book can make all the difference. Well, I can certainly recommend our next book choice, 'The Road' by Cormac McCarthy. It is easy to read, quite a short book and has some beautifully descriptive passages that are almost poetry. It was one that I was not looking forward to picking up, but one by which I was, almost unexpectedly, spellbound.

Sadly, it may not improve your view of the World at the moment as it is set on a postapocalyptic Earth. We follow a father and son on their journey across a desolate, dark, cold and dust covered America as they strive to reach the coast. A grey world. Little remains and the few people they meet are to be avoided as most have given up any moral compass and have turned to murder and cannibalism to survive.

Cleverly, we never know the names of the characters or what has happened. This adds to the general feeling of desolation, but within the darkness, the two carry 'The Fire'. Another ambiguity, as again we don't know what 'The Fire' is, but it defines the two. It separates them from the others! There is a determination to survive, but to live on their own terms. That they are the 'good guys'.

Well all felt that it was a thought-provoking novel. Some thought challenging. All agreed it was dark, maybe depressing at times and even a little scary, but the overall feeling was one of hope and salvation and we all agreed we would recommend this book and that we all enjoyed reading it. An incredibly visual read, pictures came easily to mind and one that caused more in-depth discussion than any previous book our group had encountered.

On a personal note, I found the lack of speech marks off putting, but that is the teacher in me!

I do hope you take the time to consider this book. As I have previously mentioned one of the joys of a book club is reading books from outside of your comfort zone and in so doing finding an author that may inspire you or even just a book that brings people together.

I wonder what the future would be like for the boy? With all the destruction around him, you feel he will survive and more importantly survive well. Maybe he will find a book and it may open him to a better future. As his father advised 'Keep a little fire burning: however small, however hidden' because then there are always possibilities.

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## **BILDESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

DRAFT minutes of the meeting of Bildeston Parish Council held on Monday 13th December, 2020 at Baptist Church Hall at 7.30pm In attendance:

#### Councillors:

Peter Hutchings (Chair) Angela Chapman, Andrew Guttridge, Ashley Hubbard, Sarah Leigh-Hunt, Richard Lester and Virginia Tuck

Also Present: David Blackburn (Clerk)

Fiona Lemon (Community Development Worker) County Councillor Robert

Lindsay



An apology for absence was approved from Councillor Powell.

#### C107/19/20 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The following declarations of non-pecuniary interest were made:

Kings Pightle Management Committee - Councillors Hubbard and Lester

Parochial Church Council - Councillor Lester

Sportsfield Management Committee - Councillors Chapman and Hutchings

#### C108/19/20 DISPENSATIONS IN RESPECT OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

#### C109/19/20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was AGREED: That the minutes of the meeting of 11th November 2019, and the Finance & General Purposes meeting of 11th December, 2019 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

#### C110/19/20 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions on this occasion.

#### C111/19/20 MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

It was noted that there was currently one vacancy on the Parish Council and that an expression of interest had been received from a local parishioner who would be invited to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council.

#### C112/19/20 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report was submitted by Councillor Lindsay on the following matter:

- · A proposal to increase Suffolk County Council's Precept by 4%;
- Rather than remove the Citizen's Advice grant (currently £0.184m) in 2020-21, the County Council had committed to provide £0.12m in each of the next three years; and
- The County Council was planning to bid for around £20 million from the Department for Transport for an electric bus pilot scheme.
- Babergh District Council was conducting a review of its Planning Enforcement service. The public was urged to keep using the "Report It" on the District Council's website to report planning enforcement matters as this was the most effective way of recording them and seeking action;



- The Government had announced that New Homes Bonus payments to Councils for each house built would be phased out by 2023/24;
- After four years of reductions, the District Council was proposing to increase Council house rents by 2.7% meaning a £2.19 per week increase for tenants;
- The proposed increase in the District Council's Precept by 4%;
- Council tax was proposed to rise by £5 (equivalent to just over 3%). The empty property discount was being changed so that it only applied for 28 days rather than three months; and
- Long stay car parking charges at Sudbury and Hadleigh would be increasing from £2 to £3 although short stay parking remained free.

Councillor Lindsay had sought a meeting with the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Rural Affairs (SCC) about the proposed reduction in funding for bus services however, he had been referred to the officers dealing with the matter. He indicated that a letter of support from the Parish Council would be helpful.

Councillor Hubbard asked Councillor Lindsay to raise the possibility once again of a speed monitoring site being approved near to Taylor Made Joinery Interiors. Councillor Lindsay responded that he could do this but felt that a 20mph speed limit would address the problem. Councillor Lindsay asked if a letter of support could be sent from the Parish Council supporting a 20mph speed limit across Bildeston as per discussions held at previous meetings of the Parish Council.

#### C113/19/20 PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING

Fiona Lemon, Community Development Worker, reported upon the procurement of a new Village Website. The specification criteria were: look and feel; accessibility; online and calendar; support and maintenance; self-service; content; timeline for build and launch. A cost matrix was submitted containing details of the quotations provided by four potential suppliers. Various points were made by Members of the Parish Council about the functional requirements of the website and Councillors Lester and Leigh-Hunt and the Community Development Worker were thanked for the work that they had undertaken.

It was AGREED: That further information be circulated to all Members of the Parish Council and a further report be presented to the next meeting on the two preferred submissions so that a decision can be made and an order be placed for a new website.

Councillor Hubbard reported upon research that he had undertaken into the provision of a new Village Sign and sponsorship towards the project. The Clerk circulated a briefing paper on the project which provided details of the scope of the project to replace the Village Sign and improve the surrounding green space. An inspection of the site had been conducted by Councillor Hubbard and the Clerk and further enquiries would be made of the landowner, which was believed to be Suffolk County Council, and information sought regarding the utilities which had inspection chambers on the site. Members of the Parish Council were informed that information had been obtained from three potential suppliers of a Village Sign. It was recommended that a preferred supplier should be chosen and notified as the timeline for the design and installation was up to 15 months. The consensus was that suggestions should be sought from the local community later in the year for images that could be incorporated within the sign.

#### It was AGREED:

a. That "The Village Sign People" be appointed as the preferred supplier of a new Village Sign; and b. That pledges of support towards the financial cost of replacing the Village Sign should be sought from the local community (to be progressed by the Clerk and Councillor Hubbard).

Councillor Leigh-Hunt reported on the Parish Council's Work Plan and raised the items of work that were due to be progressed between December 2019 and March 2020.

#### C114/19/20 PARISH COUNCIL AMENITIES

The Clerk presented a report that had been prepared by David Bracey Play Safety Inspections on the Chamberlin Hall and Coronation Playgrounds. It was noted that there were no items where immediate action was required. There were some items that required monitoring with repairs undertaken if there was any deterioration.

It was AGREED: That the report on the Safety Inspection of Play Areas be received and appropriate measures be taken to maintain the play equipment as may arise during the course of the year.

Councillor Chapman reported on litter that was strewn across the Coronation Playground arising from vandalism of the two litter bins which required replacing. The Clerk was requested to action this. It was also noted that one of the bins was constantly full which meant that the bin was probably not being put out for emptying under the new rostering arrangements. The Clerk was also asked to action this.

The Parish Council recorded its thanks to Will Platt and the volunteers who had helped to put up and decorate the Christmas tree.

#### C115/19/20 VILLAGE AMENITIES

Councillor Chapman gave an update on the Sportsfield Management Committee, referring to the backlog of repairs and maintenance that was being addressed at the pavilion and the challenges faced in developing and sustaining an effective Committee.

#### C116/19/20 CLERK'S REPORT

There were no items of report.

#### C117/19/20 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### It was AGREED:

- a. That the budget monitoring report for the first quarter of 2019/20 be received; and
- b. That it be noted that secure access issues had been encountered temporarily with the Parish Council's business banking arrangements and that the mandate was in the process of being updated.

#### C118/19/20 BUDGET AND PRECEPT

The Clerk submitted a Budget Book in which was reported:

- 1. The regulatory framework set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations for managing the budget and calculating the precept;
- 2. The risks associated with the preparation of the Parish Council's budget;
- 3. The changes proposed to the budget compared with previous years; and
- 4. A three-year summary of income and expenditure for 2018/19, forecast income and expenditure against budget for 2019/20 and the proposed budget for 2020/21.

Members of the Parish Council considered the Budget for 2020/21 and the Precept required to fund it. The consensus was that the Parish Council should continue its approach of applying a modest increase to the Precept each year whilst being aware that the projects within the Parish Council's Plan would require funding if they were to be delivered.

#### It was AGREED:

- a. That the Budget for 2020/21 of £29,025 be approved; and
- b. That the Precept for 2020/21 in the sum of £25,400 (being approximately £65.77 per Band D property) be approved.

#### C119/19/20 PAYMENTS

It was AGREED: That the following payments be authorised:

Payee	Description	Budget Category	Amount (inc. VAT)
David Blackburn	Clerk's Pay Salaries & Expenses		£170.52
David Blackburn	Expenses	Salaries & Expenses	£18.00
Adrian Chinery	Grounds Maintenance	Salaries & Expenses	£393.40
Adrian Chinery	Expenses	Salaries & Expenses	£7.47
Fiona Lemon	Community Development Salaries & Expenses Worker		£114.19
HMRC	PAYE (to end Dec)	Salaries & Expenses	£649.80
The Bugle	Printing	Administrative & Legal	£30.00
Buildbase	Paint	Playgrounds & Open Spaces	
Ashley Hubbard	Reimbursement of Expenses	Community Events	£22.50

(Note: All items to be paid for from the General Fund).

#### C120/19/20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

#### Planning Appendix A: Planning Applications Consultation

Reference	DC/19/05799 -	
Proposal	Householder Planning Application - Erection of a rear extension (following demolition of boiler room and WC). Internal and external works as detailed in design and access statement	
Location	Birkby Cottage, 81-83 High Street, Bildeston, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 7ER	
Decision	No objection	

#### Planning Appendix B: Planning Applications Decisions by Babergh District Council

Reference	DC/19/05510
Proposal	Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area and Protected by Preservation Order BT78 - T1 (Ash) - Reduce to previous pruning points
Location	6 Chapel Street Bildeston Ipswich Suffolk IP7 7EP
Decision	Granted

#### C121/19/20 MATTERS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Hubbard enquired about trading by the Pizza Van on the Market Square and the Chair confirmed that permission for an extended period of operation had been granted every second

Saturday of the month following the success of the trial period.

Councillors Guttridge and Tuck would liaise over the key for, and updating of, the bus timetable case. It was suggested that any new bus timetables received from the service operator should be published on the Parish Council's website.

Councillor Lester reported on the upgrade of the email system which was supported by all Members of the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

#### **CLERK'S COLUMN**

#### Parish Council Plans for the Future

May 2019, marked the start of the new four year term of the Parish Council.

Along with returnees Peter Hutchings, Richard Lester, Andrew Guttridge and Ashley Hubbard, we received expressions of interest to join the Parish Council from Angela Chapman, Sarah Leigh-Hunt, Richard Powell and Virginia Tuck - who were subsequently co-opted to the Parish Council. This leaves us with just one vacancy at the present time.

The Parish Council held two special meetings in September and October to develop an action plan containing projects and priorities for the next four years. We intend to provide updates in The Bugle about them periodically so that you know what we are doing and how you might get involved.

#### Village Website

At the moment, work is being led by Fiona Lemon, with support from Councillors Richard Lester and Sarah Leigh-Hunt, on the procurement of a new village website. Different options have been explored and quotations received. A final decision on the appointment of a website provider is due to be taken in the next four weeks with the launch of the new website expected to occur in Spring 2020.

#### Village Sign

Another project is being led by Councillor Ashley Hubbard supported by David Blackburn which will see the replacement of the Village Sign at the junction of High Street with Ipswich Road. Proposals will also be developed to enhance the surrounding green space including new planting subject to approval being received from the landowner. Suffolk County Council We are seeking donations from the local community towards the project and we are pleased to report that a total of £5000 has already been pledged; £2500 by James Taylor of TMJ Interiors and £2500 by James Buckle. We are extremely grateful to both of them for their generous support. Ideas for the design of the new Village Sign will be sought from the local community later in the year.

David Blackburn
Parish Clerk
clerk@bildeston.suffolk.gov.uk;
01449 721369



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9th Feb 4th before Lent	11.00 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion Morning Prayer	Bildeston Nedging
16 <sup>h</sup> Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup> before Lent	9.30 am 11.00 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion Church Family Service Morning Prayer	Naughton Whatfield Bildeston
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup> before Lent	11.00 am	Benefice Holy Communion	Naughton
26 <sup>th</sup> Feb Ash Wednesday	7.00 pm	Deanery Holy Communion	Polstead

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Lunch club			
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Craft it Together			
01449 740716/741606 for details	1st Monday every month		
Strollers & Striders			
Baptist Church Car Park 10.00	Every Monday		
Baby and Toddler Group			
Baptist Church 9.15 to 11.30am	Every Tuesday		
Church Bell Ringing Practice			
St. Mary Magdalene church bell tower 8.00 to 9.15pm	Every Tuesday		
Mens Breakfast			
Baptist Church 8.00amL	ast Saturday every month		
Panto Aladdin.			
Chamberlin Hall 7.00pm	Sat 1st		
Ladies Club			
7.30 for 8.00pm Thorulf Hammrson – Viking adventurer!	Thurs 6th		
Cycling Winter Warmer 5			
Market Square 9.30am	Sat 8th		
Parish Council Meeting			
Chamberlin Hall 7.30pm	Mon 10th		
Coffee morning/Bring&Buy in aid of St. Mary Magdalene Church & Tearfund			
Tankard House from 10.30am	Wed 12th		

Please tell us about your forthcoming events in **March** email: **editor@bildestonbugle.co.uk** 

