

Isleham Informer

Issue 56 • April 2013

ed@islehaminformer.org.uk • 01638 780839 • www.islehaminformer.org.uk

On 23rd February a work party of sponsors and helpers planted maiden fruit trees on the Dunstall allotment site that the Parish Council has allocated for the Community Orchard. The majority of the trees are heritage varieties of apple, plus a few plum and pear trees. Over the course of the next few years we hope the orchard will



become an attractive amenity for every one to enjoy. The care of the orchard will be ongoing and sometime in the future we intend to provide seating areas.

We would like thank those people who have sponsored the trees and the hard working volunteers who helped with the preparation of the land. Special thanks go to Mervyn Crawford who created the sign at the entrance to the orchard.

For further information please contact Jeanette Malkin (780283) or Geoff Stafford (781712).

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VILLAGE NOTES

St Andrew's Church

We are now holding a "drop-in" session in the Social Centre every Friday from 12noon until 1.30pm. A member of the Church Ministry team will be there (usually Revd Jenny Gage). Please do call in if there is anything you feel the need to share/discuss, however big or small, or take the opportunity to discuss informally a Wedding or Christening, or just becoming more involved in Church life.

If you want to be sure of catching Jenny, then please call or text her on 07515 732687.

Discover Dance

Discover Dance is essentially a play dance session incorporating simple mime and dance steps to stories, nursery rhymes and well-known songs.

Boys and girls will improvise freely whilst learning about the concepts of dance rhythm and the overall enjoyment that comes from sharing the experience with others.

The after school club is for pre-school and reception class children. If you would like a place please contact Denise on 01353 969315 or email dancetuition@gmail.com

Denise Beaumont NATD (Diploma) fully CRB checked.

Annual Band Concert and BBQ

Newmarket Town Band will once again be playing at a BBQ to be held at St. Andrew's Social Centre on Sunday 19th May from 2pm.

Tickets will cost £10, or £7.50 for concessions, and will be available soon from: Angela Wells 780583, Mary Wightman 781022, or from the Post Office

Dates for Your Diary

Let us know if there is anything you would like included here for future issues.

Every Tuesday Coffee Morning at the Social Centre 09.00-12.00

April

Thursday 4th	Mobile Library	Church St	14.15-15.00
		Mill Street	15.05-17.00
Sunday 7th	Car Wash, Priory Green		10.00-13.00
Monday 8th	Isleham Parish Council		19.15
Thursday 11th	WI		19.30
Tuesday 16th	Isleham Gardeners		19.30
Thursday 18th	Isleham Society		19.45
Friday 19th	Mobile Library	Church St	9.30-10.05

Farewell to the Hall events

Saturday 20th	ICA Children's Disco		17.30-19.30
	ICA Teenage Disco		20.00-23.00
Saturday 27th	ICA Tea Dance		14.00-17.00
	ICA 18+ Party		20.00-23.55
Mon 29th	Parish AGM		19.30

May

Thursday 2nd	Mobile Library	Church St	14.15-15.00
		Mill Street	15.05-17.00
Sunday 5th	Car Wash, Priory		10.00-13.00
Tuesday 7th	Isleham Parish Council		19.15
Thursday 9th	INFORMER DEADLINE		
Thursday 9th	WI		19.30
Thursday 16th	Isleham Society		19.30
Friday 17th	Mobile Library	Church St	09.30-10.05
Saturday 18th/Sunday 19th	Isleham United Football Festival		
Tuesday 21st	Isleham Gardeners		19.30

INFORMATION

Thursday bus from Isleham to Ely Market Circular route:

9.15am Limestone Close – Malting Lane – Beck Road – The Causeway – East Road – Sun Street – Church Street – West Street – Hall Barn Road – Fordham Road – arrive Ely 10.00am; Return 12.00noon. Fares: Adult Bus Pass Holders £2.75 return, Adults £5.50 return.

Our buses are accessible to all; however, to improve customer service, wheelchair users and those with small children requiring booster seats are advised to contact Ely/Soham

Dial-a-Ride in advance: Ely Soham Dial-a-Ride 01353 661161

This service is financially supported by Isleham Parish Council.

Mobile Library

1st Thursday of the month:	Arrive	Depart
Church Street	14.15	15.00
Mill Street	15.05	17.00
3rd Friday of the month: Church St	09.30	10.10

Useful phone numbers

Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulance.....	999
Police (Non-emergency).....	101
Accident & Casualty (Addenbrooke's).....	01223 217118
Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge).....	01223 245151
Newmarket Hospital	01638 564000
West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds)	01284 713000
Staploe Medical Centre (Soham)	
- Appointments	01353 624121
- Prescriptions & Dispensary.....	01353 727695
- Enquiries, Home Visits, Emergencies.....	01353 624123
Minor Treatment Centre, Ely.....	01353 656675
NHS Direct (for advice).....	0845 4647
Electricity Emergencies	0800 7838838
Gas Emergencies	0800 111999
Anglian Water Leaks	0800 771881
- 24 hour	0845 7145145
Social Services - office hours.....	0345 0455202
- out of hours emergency	01733 561370
Refuse Collection.....	01353 665555
RSPCA	07599 522716
- Cruelty line.....	0300 1234 999
Citizens Advice Bureau	Ely 0845 130 6442
	Mildenhall 01638 712094
	Newmarket 01638 665999
District Councillor (Derrick Beckett).....	01638 780476
Isleham Village Hall (Diane Bayliss).....	01638 781687
Parish Council (Diane Bayliss: Clerk).....	01638 781687
Member of Parliament (Jim Paice)	01954 211450



Gala Queen, Princess and Prince Competition 2013

**Sponsored by
Isleham School
PTA**

Traditionally, it is the Gala Queen and her attendants, the Prince and Princess who lead the parade through the village on Gala Day.

This year, the competition to select the Gala Queen, Prince and Princess is being run by Isleham PTA, and winners will receive a number of fantastic prizes, including a tiara, hair-up/styling and a manicure or make-up for the Queen. The Prince and Princess will each receive a goodie bag packed with exciting treats.

This will be a postal competition open to all children aged 5 to 16 years who live in Isleham or who attend Isleham Primary School. Girls aged 11 to 16 on the day of the Gala will be eligible for the Gala Queen. Girls and boys aged 5 to 10 will be entered for the Princess/Prince competition. It costs just £2 per entry. To enter, you need to complete the form below, and on a separate

sheet(s), provide your response to the questions asked. Send or email your entry to ptachair@live.co.uk, 28A Hall Barn Road, Isleham, Ely, CB7 5QZ, or take into the school.

Please make sure you have read the terms and conditions carefully, as by submitting your entry, we will assume that you agree with them.



Competition Terms and Conditions

1. Winners must be available to participate in the Parade and to make presentations throughout the day on Saturday 6th July 2013.
2. Winners are asked to jointly organise their transportation to lead the procession of floats on Gala Day.
3. You must live in Isleham or attend Isleham Primary School.
4. All forms must be signed by a parent or guardian and accompanied by the entry fee of £2 per child. Photographs are not required for this competition; entrants will be judged on their responses and artwork.
5. All entries must reach Alison Oliver by Saturday 27th April 2013 for selection by a panel of independent judges. Winners will be notified in writing and published in the next edition of the *Informer*.

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Isleham School PTA is Registered Charity No 1109379

Entry Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

School: _____

Phone: _____

Signature of _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

On a separate sheet(s) of paper:

1. Imagine you are King or Queen for a day, what three rules would you bring in?
2. Design, draw and colour a float suitable for a King or Queen to ride in on Gala Day.



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Village clubs: information

CLUB	CONTACT	TEL	DAY/DATE	TIME	PLACE
Angling Society	Ivan Houghton	01638 780333			
Board Games	Alison Young	01638 780351	Last Thursday	2–5pm Sept–June	High St. Church
Book Club	Doreen Spiers	01638 780783	2nd Friday	2pm	Social Centre
Brownies	Bridget Clements	01353 624103	Thursdays	6–7.15pm	Village Hall
Craft Club	Hazel Thompson	01638 780633	Tuesdays	1.30–4pm	Limestone Centre
Cubs	Angela Dann	01638 781947	Tuesdays	6.15–7.45pm	Village Hall
French Conversation	Francine (all levels)	francine@the waytofrance.com	Monday	6–7.15pm	1 Mill St
Isleham Gardeners	Jenny Hodd	01638 780729	3rd Tuesday	7.30pm	Village Hall Isleham Marina
Isleham Society	Vernon Place	01638 780449	3rd Thursday	7.30pm	Limestone Centre
Paper, Patch & Sew	Victoria Rattle Julie Porter	01638 781301 01638 781390	Saturday Bi-monthly	10–4pm	High St. Church
WI	Glenda Preece	01638 780734	2nd Thursday	7.30pm	Limestone Centre

Sure Start Children's Centres



What's on for FREE for families with children under five at Soham Children's Centre, next to Weatheralls Primary School

Breast Friends Breastfeeding support group meeting every Tuesday 11.30am–12.30pm. For new and pregnant mums. Pop in for some free advice and support from a Lactation Consultant.

Stay & Play Play and chill session for parents/carers and under fives. Every Monday 9.30–11.30am at St Andrews Primary School, Soham.

Breast Friends Breastfeeding support group meeting every Tuesday 11.30am–12.30pm, for new and pregnant mums. Come along for some free advice and support from a Lactation Consultant.

Well Baby Clinic Tuesdays 9.15–11.15am. Weigh your baby and have tea and a chat with the Health Visitor about any of your concerns.

Time Out Tuesdays For parents under 25 years. Every Tuesday 9.45–11.30am. Come along and make friends and get support.

Fordham Tea & Toast Every Thursday at Fordham Victoria Hall, 9.30–11.30am. Play session for the under 5s and a chance to meet other parents and carers. Just turn up!

Sensory Saturdays A free play session for families of children with additional needs of any age. 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, 2–3.30pm at Soham Children's Centre.

Making the most of your money Free 6 week course with crèche where you will learn how to increase your income, deal with debts and look forward to a positive future. Starts 18th April 1-3pm at Soham Children's Centre.

Call or email Soham Children's Centre to book your place.

For more information call us on 01353 727188

sohamchildrenscentre@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

www.cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk

or follow us on Facebook at Sure Start Children's Centres – Bottisham, Burwell and Soham areas

Police officer fuels charity projects



An Ely youth group will be presented with new sports equipment thanks to a local police officer.

The pool cues with accompanying care kit were presented to the Garage Youth Project, which is run from the Lighthouse Centre in Ely, by PC Steve Hinks on 26th February.

The equipment was purchased thanks to a fuel card scheme run by PC Hinks, in which police vehicles using filling stations in Cambridgeshire can collect Nectar points at BP as well as Texaco, Shell, Tesco, Sainsbury's and Morrisons stores reward schemes.

When enough points are accrued, PC Hinks uses them to buy items for good causes.

In 2011, he presented about £400 of new sports equipment to the Darwin Drive Boys group from the Arbury area.

PC Hinks said: "I run the fuel card scheme because it is an ideal way of putting something back into the community. The Garage Youth Project seemed like a very good cause and I'm sure this equipment will help them out.

"I will be looking to donate goods to other worthy causes and groups in future so anyone who wants to be considered should apply to me, stating what they want and why they want it.

"There are police charity cards at Nectar BP and Sainsbury's and Tesco filling stations, along with charity cards held at Shell and Texaco, so any members of the public who don't collect

points themselves are welcome to donate them to us."

The Garage Youth Project was formed in 2004 and is open to young people on a Monday and Wednesday evening.

Andy Fisher, who works at the project, said: "We can't thank Steve enough for his generosity.

"Our volunteer team provides a safe environment where young people can enjoy a range of theatre, sports, cookery, craft and other activities each week.

"We really appreciate the support from Cambridgeshire police."

For further details about the project, please contact the Lighthouse Centre in Ely.

Sarah Silk

More Choice in Social Care

Social care is provided to people who have been assessed as having substantial or critical support needs with personal care, getting meals, managing medication and staying safe.

If you need social care the County Council will arrange your care for you, but they now have a duty to offer and provide Direct Payments. Direct Payments are an alternative way of getting the care and support you need. They are cash payments made directly into a Direct Payment bank account so that you can use the money to make your own social care arrangements.

With a Direct Payment you have more choice, control and independence about how your care is organised. If you would like to find out more about Direct Payments visit the Your Life, Your Choice website at: www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk, pick up a leaflet from your library, phone adult social care enquiries on 0345 045 5202, or contact the Cambridgeshire Direct Payment Support Service on 0845 6000 684.



Good news! Cambridgeshire County Council has signed the contract with BT that means our businesses and communities will have some of the best fibre broadband coverage in the country by the end of 2015.

The next step is to undertake detailed planning work with BT to draw up the roll-out plans. Once we've worked this through we will be able to publicise more details.

Follow this link to the Connecting Cambridgeshire Website to read the news release - <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/CMSWebsite/Apps/News/Details.aspx?ref=917>

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Gala Competitions 2013

Last year the usual Competition Marquee covering, Fruit, Vegetables, Flowers, and Baking had a record number of entries. Entries into the newly introduced Craft Competition Marquee also surpassed all expectations. With the experience gained from needing to cope with not only the registration and display of so many entries



but also the weather (last word on that), we plan to start registrations earlier this year and full details will be published in the June edition of the *Informer*.

Hanging baskets and containers will feature this year, so start planning and planting up in greenhouses and under fleece so that your exhibits are ready.

Don't forget to start off vegetable planting (if you have not done so already). All the usual things will be included: peas, broad beans, carrots, potatoes, parsnips, rhubarb, soft fruits etc.

Cut flowers and arrangements of course!

Crafters: Start thinking about what you want to show off to your village neighbours – and beyond.

If you plan to exhibit a quilt you will need to provide your own quilt stand.

Bakers/Cooks: Adults and children alike – start to practice your favourite bread/roll recipes.

Details of all categories and recipes where applicable will be published in the June *Informer*. However, if you would like advance information on all the categories in each of the Marquees and copies of recipes, where applicable, e-mail margaret.a.davies@hotmail.com or phone 781175

With this year bringing the new and exciting changes to the Gala programme, we decided a change to the writing and art competitions would be appropriate too!

Both competitions will be completed at home and not in school, entry forms will be sent home from school and will include clear guidelines. The competitions are open to Pre-School and Primary aged children who live in Isleham or surrounding villages and attend the school.

The Art competition is to design a 3D collage that represents something that you love about Isleham, you can use a variety of materials such as cardboard, paper, fabric, beads and ribbons.

The Writing competition is to write an acrostic poem (see example) about Isleham and what it means to you.

For ELY the poem may be:

Everyone loves Ely.

Long walks by the river.

You must come and visit Ely!

All entries must be on A4 sized paper, the poem can be typed or written and both entries will be judged on their creativity.

Entry forms and instructions will be given out via the school. The Gala Committee would like to thank the school for their continued support.

Entries must be submitted to the school by the 27th of April for entry into the *Informer* and the overall winners have the chance of being published in the *Informer* and Gala programme. Good Luck

Adventure races

Shortly to be released from the military after 24 years, I will be returning to sunny Isleham and was just wondering if there are any walking, running, swimming or triathlon clubs already in Isleham or surrounding area? Or indeed if there would be enough interest in creating one. I currently reside in Cyprus but will be back and training in Isleham from May. I'm in no way an elite athlete but I do like a challenge. Currently aiming for marathon completion in the near future but am interested in open water swims, fun runs and cycles. I have competed in a mid distance triathlon and would like to complete a full ironman within the next 2 years.

There are so many adventure races, river, lake and sea swims, and all number of cycle races happening around the UK and abroad that I would like to know if there are any fellow competitors who would also like to train, race, compete and of course socialise together! I like to do an event at least every month varying in distance and type and would be good to car share and encourage others to do the same.

When home on leave I have seen people out training at various times of the day and just wondered what level of interest there would be in a social fitness group for all levels and all ages. Please get in touch if you're interested.

Trev Sallis, trev.sallis@gmail.com

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Melanie Murdoch



theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

Our AGM was held in February. Reports of the previous year were given by the President, Minutes Secretary and Treasurer, and then the election of President took place. Jane Grant was elected for 2013. The Committee all indicated their willingness to stand again, and as there were no more volunteers from the members there were no changes.

The Rose Bowl was awarded to Ginette Hawes.



Jane Grant cuts the WI's 90th Birthday Cake

On 21st February we celebrated 90 years, to the day, of the establishing of a WI in Isleham. We celebrated with an evening meal held at the Bowls Club, where we enjoyed a three-course meal in the company of representatives of Chippenham, Soham and Fordham WIs and the Cambridge Federation, and were then entertained by a gymnastic duo from Isleham's Got Talent, who were excellent, and some 'sing-along' songs from Mark Goldsack and friend.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening, in the company of good friends. Thanks go to all who helped to making the evening so successful, especially Jane Grant who was

responsible for most of the organisation, Margaret Davies who made the delicious birthday cake and provided lovely flower arrangements, Brenda Downey who did the catering and Mark Goldsack who arranged the entertainment.

On 23rd February we held our annual Jumble Sale; a well-attended event that will provide funds to help run the WI during this year.

Fran Saltmarsh came to our March meeting and gave an interesting and informative talk entitled 'Corsets, Crinolines and Camisoles'. Her descriptions and slides of the things both men and women have done over the centuries in the name of 'fashion' were amazing, and I am sure all our members were very grateful we are no longer expected to undergo the excruciating discomfort that must have been the lot of the fashionista of the Elizabethan era whose corsets were made by blacksmiths!

At our April meeting on Thursday 11th we will welcome Karen Newton who will tell us about the work done by Milton Hospice, and on 9th May Malcolm Busby will talk to us about 'Tales from Cambridge'.

If you would like to join the WI or simply come to a meeting to see what it is like, please do come along. We meet on the second Thursday of each month in the Village Hall, 7.30pm for 7.45pm, and new members are always welcome.

Please note that all future meeting will be held at the Limestone Close Community Centre.

For further information contact:

Glenda Preece

01638 780734, gjpreece@aol.com



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• APRIL •

Saturday 20th: Band: Eden Burns

Friday 26th: Karaoke (Clive)

• MAY •

Saturday 4th: Band: Crimson Trio

Saturday 11th: Band: Menumiteno

Mini Beer Festival:

Saturday 25th: Band: Five Ska

Sunday 26th: Band: Halo

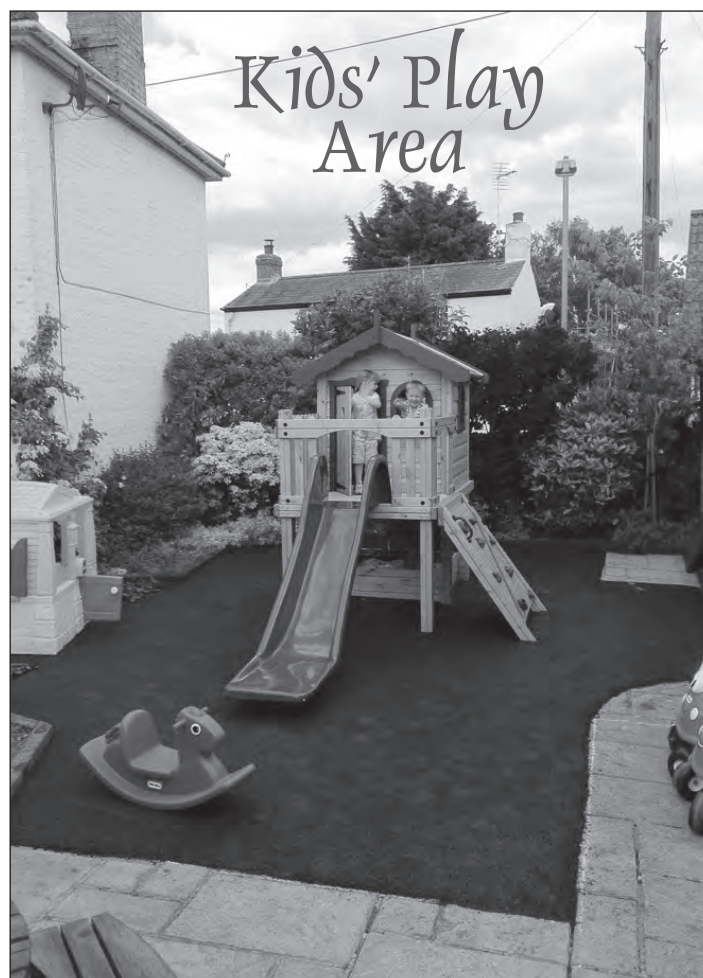
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Monday: 7pm to Close

Tuesday to Thursday: 12 noon to 3pm, 7pm to Close

Friday, Saturday: 12 noon to Close

Sunday 12 noon to 10.30pm





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Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

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Smoke alarms – Make sure you have a working smoke alarm on each floor of your home.

Practise your Home Escape Plan if a fire were to occur at night.

Ring 999 in the event of a fire – Don't attempt to tackle it yourself.

Instructions – Read safety instructions for DIY tools carefully to avoid accidents.

Never attempt complex DIY electrical wiring yourself.

Get free home fire safety advice at www.cambsfire.gov.uk.

Be hoax aware during school holidays: Making a hoax call to the emergency services is a criminal offence and we are asking residents, especially parents, to make young people aware of the consequences of making a hoax 999 call.

Diary dates: Open evening for those thinking about becoming an On-call firefighter at any station in Cambridgeshire. Monday, April 15, 7-9pm at St Ives Fire Station.

March Fire Station on-call firefighter recruitment day, Saturday, April 20, from 10am until 3.30pm.

Log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk. Like our fan page on Facebook by searching Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue, and follow us on Twitter @cambsfrs.

To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 99 94.



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Isleham Community Association

SPRING 2013

Farewell to the Village Hall

Saturday 20th April

5.30pm – 7.30pm

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S
DISCO

**Isleham
Village Hall**

TICKETS £2 each including squash and crisps
SNACKS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM: Alison Oliver 07772 469174,

CLIVE PATTERSON 01638 780669 / 07771 830336 patterson.clive@gmail.com,

Craig Boneham 07789 930171, Mark Goldsack 01638 780350



Isleham Community Association

SPRING 2013

Farewell to the Village Hall

Saturday 20th April

8pm – 11pm

UNDER 18S

**Isleham
Village Hall**

DISCO

TICKETS £3 REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

NO ALCOHOL ALLOWED!

NO PARENTS ALLOWED!

(UNLESS THEY VOLUNTEER TO HELP...)

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Alison Oliver 07772 469174, Mark Goldsack 01638 780350



Isleham Community Association

SPRING 2013

Farewell to the Village Hall

Saturday 27th April

2pm - 5pm

Afternoon Tea Dance

Isleham
Village Hall



Dancing to famed international organist Nicholas Martin bringing back the nostalgia for a proper dance event.

**TICKETS £5 • REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED &
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Craig Boneham 07789 930171, Mark Goldsack 01638 780350



Isleham Community Association

SPRING 2013

Farewell to the Village Hall

Saturday 27th April

8pm - 11.45pm

Over 18's Party Night

Dance to and
entertainment by

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Community Centre – Building on firm Foundations

With the weather holding out this update on the Community Centre sees steady progress on the build. During January the highways entrance was rebuilt (by C J Murfitts) to meet regulations and enable a sound access to the site.

Finishing off January and into February saw removal of the turf and topsoil to make way for hardcore, which now forms access to the building site. The site office and other Portakabins were also placed onsite allowing the contractors to establish their operations centre.

Continuing into March and with the weather holding out, good progress was made in laying the concrete foundations. All seems to be on track – our monthly site progress meeting saw reports of 8% completion, which meets our current timescales.

March saw the completion of the foundations and the start of the erection of the steelwork. There was also a press announcement in the Newmarket Journal praising the 6 years of hard work and thanks to the major grant providers for their support.

There is still a lot to do and work continues in the background, this includes continued monitoring of the build progress, further fund raising, grant seeking, and management infrastructure such as Centre working documents.

A Facebook page has also been set up to track progress of the build. This incorporates a timeline with many old photographs of events from the old village hall as we don't want to forget the good times that have been had.

Some time back a decision was made by the ICA to arrange an event to remember the many years of service the old village hall has given the village. It was felt that all age groups should have a chance to celebrate the old village hall. This has culminated in four events being planned for the last two Saturdays in April.

The events are:

- **20th April 5.30–7.30pm** - Children's Disco
Primary School ages children, up to 12 years
£2 entry, including unlimited squash and a packet of crisps
- **20th April 8–11pm** – Teenage Disco (under 18s)
£3 entry - Soft drinks will be available (no alcohol)
- **27th April 2–5pm** – Tea Dance with Live Music by organist Nicholas Martin
Tickets £5 – refreshments (by the WI) and a draw

- **27th April 8-11.45pm** – 18+ Adult party with live band 'The B4's'
Tickets £5

Tickets can be bought via Facebook or contacting any of the following organisers:

Alison Oliver 01638 781232; alison-oliver@hotmail.co.uk

Craig Boneham 07789 930171; Kirstyboneham968@btinternet.com

Clive Patterson 01638 780669/07771830336; patterson.clive@gmail.com

Mark Goldsack 01638 780350; mgelyvate@aol.co.uk

Details can also be found on the Facebook pages (just search for Isleham Hall).

If you run or belong to a local organisation that will be using the Centre when completed and you want to have an input into the Centre's facilities, now is the time to get involved. We are always looking for any additional help, so if you are willing to put yourself forward for possible inclusion in any aspect of Centre management, fund raising or grant seeking please contact Mark Goldsack 01638 780350, or the Parish Clerk 01638 781687 for an informal, no obligations discussion.

Watch this space, Facebook or the village website www.isleham-village.co.uk for details of fund raising, progress etc.

I'll sign off now wishing you all the best.

*Clive Patterson for the Parish Council/
ICA Management Committee*



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Parish Councillors address list

Derrick Beckett (Chairman)	Appleyard Farm, 1 Houghtons Lane Isleham CB7 5SR Tel: 01638 780476
Vanessa Bruyneel-Smith	115 The Causeway, Isleham CB7 5ST Tel: 01638 781708
Paul Chaplin	Jay Jay Lodge, Waterside, Isleham CB7 5SH Tel: 01638 781745
Jeannette Malkin	17 Little London, Isleham CB7 5SE Tel: 01638 780283
Bob Mitchell	10 Sparkes Close, Isleham CB7 5RR Tel: 01638 780707
Lionel Neal	104 Beck Road, Isleham CB7 5QP Tel: 01638 780066
Clive Patterson	21 West Street, Isleham CB7 5SD Tel: 01638 780669
Richard Radcliffe	45 Sun Street, Isleham CB7 5RU Tel: 01638 780831
Hazel Thompson	9 Limestone Close, Isleham CB7 5RP Tel: 01638 780633
Roseanna Thompson	Fenrose Farm, 1 Fen Bank, Isleham CB7 5SL Tel: 01638 780994
Pauline Wilkes	6 Limestone Close, Isleham CB7 5RP Tel: 01638 780640
Diane Bayliss (Parish Clerk)	37 Croft Road, Isleham CB7 5QR Tel: 01638 781687 islehampc@btinternet.com www.isleham-village.co.uk

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Friends of Isleham Nature Reserves



Regular visitors to the railway reserve will have seen some significant management work this winter. Encroaching scrub has been cut back to create more space to allow chalk grassland plants to re-colonise, and overhanging branches lopped along much of the track to allow in more light. We hope that eventually the cleared areas will develop some of the attractive diversity of plants that currently occur only in small areas of the reserve, and which provide food for butterflies and moths, as well as a nectar and pollen source for pollinators such as solitary bees and bumblebees. Some piles of brush and trimmings have been left as cover for small mammals, as well as for grass snakes and lizards which are quite frequently seen on the reserve. We have stripped the top soil from a couple of small areas as an experiment to see whether removing this nutrient rich layer of soil will hasten the appearance of the less competitive plants such as scabious and vetches.

Elsewhere in Isleham, members of the group have been active in helping establish the new community orchard (see an account of this project in this issue of the *Informer*). The first phase of work on Isleham village pond on East Fen Road has been completed – the tree has been trimmed and the pond has been dredged. We await some rain and spring sunshine before the next phase of planting. Cambridge and Peterborough Environmental Records Centre held a frog and toad hunt in the village on 9th March, starting at the pond. Led by Jane Andrews-Gauvain, the Biological Outreach Officer of the Records Centre the “Friends” group has been taking part in a number of surveys of different types of wildlife over the past year, to get a better understanding of the diversity of wildlife in and around the village.

We are interested in finding out how many people have ponds in the village, and whether you had any frogs, toads or newts this spring. Please let us know by phone or our Facebook page.

We now have a good range of collecting equipment and identification guides which we would be happy to share with anyone interested in finding out more about local wildlife. Work has also been carried out at Isleham Wash, which we hope will help attract more breeding waders and perhaps other wetland birds (you’ll see that a floating “tern platform” has been installed).

We will be holding our AGM on 15th April (in St Andrews Church social centre) at 7.30pm. This will include short talks about local wildlife and we will set out our plans for the year. Please do come along to our AGM if you’d like to get involved in the group, take part in some or all of the activities mentioned above or just to find out who we are.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact our reserve warden Andrew Garbett: 07903 092899, or chairman Alastair Burn: 01638 780553. You will also find us on Facebook – search for ‘Friends Of Isleham Nature Reserves’.

The Isleham Society

17th January – We are indebted to Christopher Goodwins for his report of this meeting:

A talk by Dr Carenza Lewis, on the archaeology digs held at Isleham.

"Hands up, anyone who has ever broken a plate, or dropped a cup?"

This was the opening question, to the 60 people who had gathered to hear Dr Carenza Lewis (of Cambridge University Archaeology Department and formerly of Channel 4 *Time Team*). Inevitably, we all raised our hands, as she then told us that, for hundreds of years, people like us have also dropped, and broken, or lost, all sorts of things, which then didn't see the light of day until dug up many years later, by accident, or by design, such as in the archaeological digs that took place here in 2011 and 2012.

About a couple of dozen of these digs took place in Isleham and in Little Isleham, where students from Mildenhall College and several interested adults, meticulously sifted through metre-square plots in back gardens and fields, to see what pottery, metal, bones, oyster shells or other items could be found. The findings from each plot were then painstakingly cleaned, classified and dated, under the supervision of the expert archaeologists on site.

Carenza used a PowerPoint presentation to show us what items had been found locally, and then treated us to a series of slides that showed the distribution of the finds, compared with what had been discovered not only in Isleham but also throughout East Anglia, during several periods of history, from well before the days of the Roman occupation of Britain, right through the Mediaeval period, to the present day.

The evidence very clearly suggested where Isleham people had lived, and what influence devastations such as the Black Death had had on the distribution of people and their houses in and around Isleham. An hour went by so quickly that it left us breathless, wanting to know more and more about this wonderful village and its former inhabitants.

Our hope is that the tremendous enthusiasm generated by the last two years' digs will now become a regular feature of Isleham life, creating a lot of fun, as well as bringing the community together, as we delve into our past history. It was a wonderful evening's talk by Carenza Lewis, introduced by Peter Flatt in the absence of Vernon Place, and summed-up by Ian Powys.

If you're interested in the archaeology of Isleham, look it up on-line*. It will enthral you!

* <http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/isleham.html>

21st February – *"Royal Newmarket and Palace House"* This should have been the subject of the speaker who didn't turn up! In his absence and with no prior notice, Vernon Place spoke of his experiences photographing the people involved in the racing community of Newmarket and various Racing stables and Studs. He photographed the inside of Palace House (which is the oldest surviving part of King Charles II's royal residence) both before and after it was restored.

He also visited The Palace House Stables when Bruce Hobbs trained there, who retired in 1985, bringing to an end the use of the yard for training since King Charles II's days. He covered the 'Royal Newmarket' aspects of as he photographed the opening of the Racing Museum by the Queen and the visits by several other Royals over the years. He was also 'Host photographer' for the Queen Mother on two occasions when she visited the town. We were so fortunate to have James Waugh as a visitor; he was

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invited by Vernon to give a first hand account of his time at the Palace House Stables when his father was trainer for Sir Jack Jarvis, not only did he do that, he also showed us his family photo album which illustrated the many aspects of his family's life at the Stables over many years. Many thanks to Jim for adding a great deal to our evening, also without notice!

21st March – *"Old Isleham Photos"* (No. 1 updated) An illustrated talk by Vernon Place

18th April – The AGM will be followed by a talk by Liz Howe: *"Update of my work in Romania"*, and then enjoy refreshments brought by our members.

We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to any of our meetings. The cost for non-members is £2.

NB. After the AGM there will be no meetings in the Village Hall. Our future meeting will be at Limestone Close until further notice.

Vernon Place, Chairman of The Isleham Society

Butchers – NOW OPEN in Isleham



It's an exciting time for Thompsons Farm Meat at Fenrose Farm, 1 Fen Bank, Isleham. On 29th January 2013 we opened a butchers and we

now employ a very skilled butcher,

Kevin Saggars. Kevin is on the farm on Tuesdays from 3pm and Thursdays from 9am.

We are able to offer fresh pork and beef weekly – we can guarantee beef, pork and lamb that have ONLY come from this farm. We know exactly what goes into every product.

All our sausages, burgers, bacon and gammons are made here. Our sausages and chipolatas are a Cumberland mix with no less than 72% pork, our burgers have 90% beef in them and the pork and apple have 90% pork in them, and we can also offer a gluten free sausage.

You can call us or email us with orders that can be delivered to your home if over £20 and Pensioners Packs of a selection of fresh beef and pork can be delivered weekly. We also cater for your dog, selling beef marrow

bones and dog meat.

Please ask us for a quote for your family or charitable events – we can now give a greater discount for large orders.

For 3 years we have been supplying Manchett Budgens with pork and beef and we now also supply The Five Bells pub in Burwell with joints for their Sunday lunches.

We look forward to seeing you down on our 'Red Tractor' Accredited Farm for your very local, high welfare and completely traceable beef, pork and lamb. Buying from the farm gates does NOT mean it will be expensive – TRY US!



New Camping and Caravanning facility in the local area



Trelander Camping and Caravanning are pleased to announce the opening of a new facility on the edge of Isleham

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- We welcome Touring Caravans, Tents and Motor homes
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10% OFF!

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We are located behind Scampers pet shop within Capture the Magic, 23 Northfield Road Business Park, Soham, CB7 5UE

Bring this voucher to redeem 10% off your purchases

Open Wednesday to Saturday
10am to 5pm

Valid until 1st June 2013



A new shop has opened in Soham, but with a twist

Dolly, Poppy & Co is a lovely gift shop but with every single thing for sale being hand-made by local people!

Inside you will find something for every taste and every pocket, with products ranging from jewellery to bags, pictures to baby blankets and including soft furnishings, turned wood, painted signs, statuettes, felting supplies, fat quarters and even designer shower caps!

Local mums, Louise Webber (Isleham) and Sarah Cawthorne

(Soham) have turned their love of crafting into an opportunity for other people to showcase their talents, all under one roof.

"It started as an idea for our weekly craft group to sell our things," said Sarah. "And now we have more than 30 different peoples' work in our shop," added Louise.

The shop is located inside Capture the Magic, on Northfield Road Business Park, Soham, and is open Wednesday through to Saturday from 10-5, and has ample free parking.



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CHURCHES

High Street Church

SUNDAY SERVICES: All are welcome to our Sunday services throughout the year.

Morning worship: 10.30am All ages are very welcome from the very young to the very old. The children have their own activities.

Evening fellowship: 6.30pm A less formal service usually with opportunity for individual sharing. Come and hear about God's goodness! Tea, coffee and good conversation are available after both the morning and evening services.

On Sunday mornings the following children's facilities are available:

Crèche is available for babies and tots up to 3 years old: the crèche workers are very experienced and provide a safe, fun playtime for the little ones.

Junior Church, for those who are aged 3–7, is a fun-filled session with singing, crafts, drama and stories. The older Junior Church meet at the Village Hall. This is for children who are 7–11 years old. Their morning starts from 10am with a craft, followed by a wide range of activities encouraging the children to discover the Christian faith for themselves. We would love to see some new faces and visitors would be made very welcome!

Impact is for the 11–14 year olds and on a Sunday morning they receive teaching that is relevant to pre-teens/teenagers. On a Friday night this group meets socially and they all have a lot of laughs!

OTHER WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Our midweek care structure called **High Street Life** gives a whole range of fresh initiatives to care, support and involvement in the local community. It includes: Life groups, plus Men's and Ladies' groups; Bible Studies; a Media and Creative Arts group using modern technology to convey the message of hope; a Quilting group, Papercraft group and much more.

Our **Rendezvous** group – for the more mature among us – meets

every Tuesday afternoon at 3pm. Around 60 to 70 of us enjoy this time together each week but new faces are always welcome.

Luncheon Club is for those of retirement age and happens once a month on the second Wednesday from 12–2pm. An excellent meal for just £3.00 not to mention the great company! For further details of any of the above, please contact Kathryn at the Church Office on 01638 780652.

Little Lambs is our parent/carers and toddler group which runs term time Fridays from 9.15–11.15am. Parents/carers can relax with a coffee while the children play. Each week we have a craft activity, juice time and end the morning with singing. All welcome!

Are you new to the village? High Street Life is more than just Church on Sunday so why not contact us, we'd love to get to know you and tell you what makes us tick.

New! Parenting Teenagers

Parenting teenagers is harder than ever before. There is no greater role in life. Discovering we are not alone in the challenges we face and sharing ideas with other parents can make a huge difference. This 6-week course, starting later in January at High Street Church, seeks to help us in this important and needy area of life. For more information contact Paul and Anne Clarinbold on 01638 780013.

So, whether it's on a Sunday or midweek, we would love to see you. Why not come along, give us a call or take a look at what we do on www.highst.org.uk? Please contact our church office on 01638 780985.

The erection of the Phase 2 frame for High St Church new build has been completed. In the next few weeks we will be roofing this part. The foundations have now been laid for the complete building. If you are interested in finding out more, visit arkproject.org.uk ■

Pound Lane Free Church

Pastor: Dave Hall (01638 781343 or 01638 780636, email pastor@plfc.org.uk)

Elder: David Brown (01638 780410)

Sunday: Sunday worship: 11am and 6.30pm.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper:

First Sunday following evening service

Third Sunday following morning service

A Crèche is available for babies to Year 3 during the morning service. Refreshments are served after the evening services, except the first Sunday of the month.

Fellowship Lunches are served after the morning service on the third Sunday of the month.

Kingdom Kids (3 years–Year 3): 10–11.15am (Sue Thompson 01638 780030)

All Stars (Years 4–6): 10–11.15am (John Martin 01638 737212)

Covies (Year 7–18 years): 9.30–10.30am (Steve Neale 01638 780717).



There is a hearing loop installed and signing for the deaf is available as well as Braille songbooks. We have a comprehensive Child Protection Policy and a CRB check has been carried out on all children's and young people's workers.

Monday: Music Mayhem: 9.30–10.30am.

(Sue Thompson 01638 781343 Preschool children during school term only)

A fun time for your pre-school children – action songs, musical instruments and the ever-popular “Sockeroo”, followed by refreshments and a time to relax with friends whilst the children play. New members always welcome.

All Stars Fun Night: 7.00–8.15pm.

Tuesday: 18–30s: 2pm.

(Suzanne Hall 01638 781805) Meeting in homes with monthly social events.

Wednesday: Fellowship (fortnightly) 2.15–3.15pm.

(Church 01638 781343) Meeting on alternate Wednesdays and catering for the more mature in age. They enjoy meeting together for a Bible talk, spiritual songs and prayer. Various fun events and meals are also organized during the year. New members are always welcome.

UFOs (third Wednesday of month) 9.30–11.30am (Suzanne Hall 01638 781805).

Church Night: 7.40–9pm. Bible study, prayer and fellowship; for mid-teens upwards.

Thursday: Coffee Morning: 10–11.30am.

Turn up any time between 10 and 11.30am for free tea, coffee and cakes. Chat with friends and make new friends. Open to any age. Includes an eight minute “In the News this Week” slot in the middle.

Covies Club Night: 7–9pm

Friday: Women's Meeting (fortnightly) 10.30–11.45am (Sue Hall 01638 780636).

UFOs (first Friday of month): 7–9pm (01638 781343).

Christianity Explored courses are run regularly – please ask for dates of next course.

For further information on any of the above, or if you would like to speak to Pastor Dave:

Phone: 01638 781343 (Church Office)

01638 780636 (Pastor's Home)

Email: pastor@plfc.org.uk; secretary@plfc.org.uk

Web sites: www.plfc.org.uk; www.isleham.com

Our Crafting sessions have been running for a couple of months now and as you can see they now have a name – UFOs! (UnFinished Objects!). If you have spare time on the first Friday evening of the month or the third Wednesday morning – do pop in and share a cuppa and bring your project – we'd love to see what you are working on. ■

Three Rivers Group St Andrew's Parish Church

Welcome to St Andrew's, the Parish Church here in Isleham. All are welcome in this community of faith in Jesus Christ. St Andrew's is part of the Three Rivers Group, including the villages of Chippenham, Fordham, Kennett, Snailwell & Isleham. Do join

us for worship and fellowship on Sundays and during the week.

Rector: The Rev'd Mike Banyard: 01638 721616, banyardmg1@yahoo.co.uk

Curates: The Rev'd Dr Jenny Gage 3rivers.jenny@gmail.com;
The Rev'd Becca Gilbert 01353 665420 becgilb@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Minister: Mrs Helen Banyard

WORSHIP

Sundays. The main service is at 9.30 am. Junior Church meets in the Social Centre. On the third Sunday of every month we worship together at an All Age Holy Communion service.

Midweek.

Monday: 9.15 Morning Prayer at 7 The Close, Kennett

Tuesday: 8.15 Morning Prayer, Social Centre Isleham

Wednesday: 8.15 Morning Prayer, Chippenham

4.15 Evening Prayer Snailwell

Thursday: 8.15 Morning Prayer, Fordham

Friday: 8.30 Holy Communion (BCP) Fordham

Tuesday Coffee Morning 9am – 12 noon Social Centre

Fridays

6.30 pm Choir practice. All welcome. Contact Mark Liversidge 01638 781696

7.30 pm Bell Ringing, beginners especially welcome. Contact Ruth Ogden 01638 780646

Sundays @ 7 Our Youth Group meets twice a month, alternating between Soham and Isleham, (usually in the Social Centre). Details from Rev'd Becca or Mike

Churchwardens:

Nick Carver 01638 781116, nick.carver@islehamchurch.org.uk;

Ruth Ogden 01638 780646, ruth.ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk;

Rob Savage 01638 780218 robert.savage@islehamchurch.org.uk

Tower Captain:

Ruth Ogden 01638 780646 ruth.ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk

Choir Director:

Mark Liversidge 01638 781696 mark.liversidge@islehamchurch.org.uk

Webmaster:

Andrew Stephens 01638 781468/780229

For more information about the Three Rivers Group and St Andrew's, please visit our website at www.islehamchurch.org.uk ■

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The Vicar, an outsider, is always after their pounds and pennies.

There are two other churches, and two public houses;

The latter are filled with men and their spouses.

The vicar's distressed and reaches for the Rennies.

Isleham – a village in the fens has a list of societies,

From Yoga, Book Club, French conversation to the Angling Society.

The youngsters have their Cubs, Brownies and Busy Bees.

They all play their part with WI making the teas.

Village life goes on with great velocity.

Isleham – a village in the fens. We rarely see the village cop.

Sadly, just recently, we lost our village shop.

The church is now part of the Three Rivers group,

And no longer has need to distribute the soup.

Isleham will continue to change and never stop.

Doreen Goodwins

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ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

The Parish Council normally meets on the first Monday of every month at 7.15pm in the Village Hall (Back Room). Members of the public are invited to attend the meetings and 15 minutes are set aside each month for public question time. Full copies of the minutes are available on the Website, the Notice Board and from the Parish Clerk Tel: 01638 781687 islehampc@btinternet.com



Annual Parish Meeting

- The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 29th April 2013 at 7.30pm in the village hall. Please come along to hear what the Parish Council and the various village interest groups have been up to over the past year. There will also be a presentation from Dial-a-Ride.

Police Matters

- New Contact Number for Police - 101
- Neighbourhood Panel forums have been set up to allow Parish Councils and members of the public to engage with the police and other services. No Police reports will be provided to Parish Councils outside of this forum

Village Hall Report

- The hall will remain in use until the beginning of May.

Recreation Ground Report

- A safety inspection of the MUGA has been carried out by ROSPA who have confirmed that it is safe to play on; a couple of areas have been identified for remedial works – these are being carried out by Mr Wilding.
- The MUGA is available to hire during the day and at weekends – please contact the Clerk for more details.
- The yearly inspection of the play area will be carried out by Wicksteed.
- The teen-shelter has been relocated and the kick-wall be installed as soon as some suitable surfacing has been found.

ICA Report

- Work has begun on the Centre and is progressing on schedule. Work should be complete by 15th November 2013.

Cemetery and Churchyard Matters

- Some concern has been expressed about whether the Robins memorial is safe as it seems to be leaning over. The Clerk has contacted Mildenhall Monumentals to look at this.
- The graves which have sunk continue to be refilled.
- As the mowing season has now begun, all ornaments and vases which obstruct the mowers will be removed and placed against the wall. Please would you kindly take them home or dispose of them.

Financial Matters

- The precept has been set for 2012–13 and there will be no increase in the amount paid to Isleham Parish Council for the forthcoming year.

Dog Fouling

- PLEASE REMEMBER TO CLEAR UP AFTER YOUR DOG!
- A number of dog bins have been installed around the village although there are still a number of incidents of dog fouling. The Dog Warden can be contacted on 01353 665555 or you can file a report on the website www.eastcambs.gov.uk

Highways Matters

- A number of the footpaths in the village are in a poor state; the Council has been informed by Gavin Wiseman of the County Council that a number of these have been put forward for re-surfacing but as yet have not been approved.
- Concerns have been raised about the condition of the verges along Waterside by the Council and by residents. The Council are currently looking into options to improve them.

Allotment Matters

- There are still a number of allotments for rent on Station Road and Beck Road. Please contact the Clerk for further details.
- The Community Orchard has now been planted. For more information please contact Mrs Jeanette Malkin 01638 780283.

Planning Matters

- ECDC held a public exhibition for Isleham Vision in the village hall on 20th February and was well attended. The consultation period ended on 25th March 2013.
- Planning applications were received for 41 Mill Street, Isleham, Floral Farm, Fordham Road, Isleham
- Planning approvals were received for Isleham Community Centre (renewal of existing permission), Chalk Farm, Temple Road, Isleham; 34 Prickwillow Road, Isleham, 41 Mill Street, Isleham and 18 Malting Lane.
- Planning Applications are available for viewing on the East Cambs District Council Website or an appointment can be made with the Parish Clerk.

Street Lighting

- Balfour Beatty is in the process of replacing the street lighting throughout Cambridgeshire over the next several years. The Parish Council will be consulted on the process and residents will be sent information a few weeks before work begins
- If your street light is not working please contact the Parish Clerk with the light number, she will then report it to the County Council.

The Parish Council continues to support the Ely/Soham Dial-a-Ride Bus Service to Ely on a Thursday morning and the Fenland Elite Youth Bus which visits The Priory on a Thursday evening (term time only)

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Bowls Report

Springtime is always about concluding the indoor carpet bowls season and preparation for the new outdoor season.

In the East Cambs carpet leagues, both teams are pressing for promotion. Team 'A' are top of their division with just two matches to be played and look certain to return to the elite division, so can expect much tougher matches next season. Team 'B' have finished their schedule and are currently top, although three teams could still mathematically overtake us; if we are not champions, we should hopefully still achieve promotion to Div 2.

As time now turns to spring and the onset of the new outdoor bowling season, perhaps YOU could get interested in taking up a new hobby. We are a few players down for the new season for various reasons, so you never know, it may be better than you expected. The season starts on Sunday 21st April at 2.30pm and anyone is most welcome to come along and see the set up and facilities. Any play on the bowls green is subject to the weather conditions on the day. You do not initially need to bring anything other than a flat pair of shoes as the club has a limited amount of bowls (+ some shoes if needed) that may be used.

During the season we play at all levels of the game so there is something for everyone. We play in a ladies only league and men only league on a Tuesday/Thursday evening and in two mixed leagues (one in the afternoon, Monday or Fridays, the other on various evenings during the week). There are so competitions at all standards and also just the basic entry level bowls.

For further information you can contact:

Barry Grimwood	01638 781943
Bob Cole	01638 662827
Terry & Sylvia Pinder	01638 720875
Rowley Wells	01638 780191
Doreen Raven	01638 780836

SO COME ALONG, we would be really pleased to see you!

Just a quick footnote to advise that the bowls club facilities are NOT available for hire during the bowling season from 1st May until mid-September.

Barry Grimwood, Club Captain

New projects - Rewires - Consumer Unit Upgrades
Minor works - Inspection and Testing

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