

# Barkway Bulletin

A Newsletter from the Parish Council of Barkway

Issue 24

Autumn 2015



**Welcome to another edition of the Barkway Bulletin.**

## Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan is being sent to NHDC for independent scrutiny to confirm that it adheres to legal guidelines and is in line with the draft NHDC Local Plan. The final event to make it legally influential, and possibly binding on future planning decisions, will come with a referendum of all those within the Designated Area (Barkway, Newsells and Nuthampstead residents) who are entitled to vote in national elections. However, the responses to the questionnaire have already done their most important work, as the draft NHDC Local Plan suggests a similar number of new dwellings around us as the majority of us had suggested. This is unlikely to be merely a happy coincidence.

## Barkway Pier

The jetty in the pond needs replacing. We seek your views on the replacement design. Barkway Parish Council explored two options: like for like replacement with higher railings and a deck design, 5 by 3 metres, with railings. The deck design will provide access for pushchairs and wheelchairs, which is not achievable in current design. We also would like to have your view on the location of the deck if that is your preferred option. Please feed back to [parishclerk@barkway-village.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@barkway-village.co.uk).

Option 1 Like for like replacement



Option 2 Deck



## Wisbridge Solar Farm - Community Contribution - Update

The Parish Council can report that it is now in receipt of the first two annual payments (out of five) that were promised by Push Energy as mitigation for the Solar Farm development.

Out of the £22,000 that is now sitting in this fund, the Parish Council agreed at the last Parish Council meeting to approve a grant application received from Barkway Church of £4,000 for financial assistance towards their lighting project.

A further grant application received from Barkway Picture House of £1,627 was also approved by the Council to purchase an improved sound system which will enhance the cinema experience on film nights and it will also allow the Picture House to apply for a live screening facility to broaden the range of events that they can offer.

## Considerate Parking

Over the last few months the subject of parking has caused some contention in the village. Drivers must consider all other road users when parking. 'Road' also includes the footpath and consideration must given to allowing enough room for pedestrians, wheelchair users and pushchairs. Causing any obstruction of the road may be dealt with by the police. Vehicles must not obstruct entrances to roads or personal driveways. Please be considerate when parking and ensure you park close to the kerb and that you do not cause a danger to other road users.

The roads are busier than ever and anything people can do to reduce the danger benefits the community.

## Barkway Pavilion Update

The pavilion has hosted a number of children's parties, dance classes , an art session and various meetings. The feedback from users of the hall has been nothing but positive, and the Community Room is proving a real additional asset to the village. On the football side, the season has started and we continue to receive excellent compliments from both Royston Town and away team visitors about our changing facilities, pitches and facilities.

We have received a booking for our first Wedding Reception in August 2016. We are aiming to continue to improve the facility over the coming months, with the installation of sound panels to reduce the echo in the Community Room. Outside, we have cut back vegetation to widen the drive, we are laying more gravel to cover the temporary surface of hard core and we will move the entrance gate a few feet to create a few more parking spaces. We have cut back the vegetation along the West and Southern perimeters to reduce weeds and nettles.

We would like to remind you that the Community Room is available for hire for parties and events. For Barkway/Newsells' residents, the room can be used for meetings for a small donation. Visit the website for more details or email [BarkwayPavilion@barkway-village.co.uk](mailto:BarkwayPavilion@barkway-village.co.uk) Please spread the word.

Over the summer we successfully received a grant from NHDC to enable us to provide a new see-saw on the Recreation Area. This has proven to be a big hit with children visiting the Recreation Area. Unfortunately our Rota-Swing wore out and is not repairable, therefore we will be taking this out soon. Rather than replace it we decided to seek a grant to provide a further two picnic tables as one certainly has not been enough over the summer. We'll keep you posted on this.

Sadly dog fouling remains a bit of a problem. Despite the provision of dog poo bins, we are still finding dog poo being left on the Recreation Area - this is most disappointing as, with more and more visitors it is an increasing problem. We shall therefore be erecting new signs reminding dog owners of the need to be considerate to other users of the Recreation Area, and we hope to provide a further dog bin in the coming months.

We have also noted in recent weeks, that certain users of the Recreation Area have been lighting fires in the SE corner around the Ollie Pritchard Memorial bench. We would kindly remind everyone that unauthorised fires are NOT permitted on the Recreation Area, nor is camping without prior written permission of the Parish Council.

## STOP PRESS

Fibre broadband is now available to many residents and more availability is expected soon but no firm date has been given . The BT website is up to date but the websites of other providers may not be. BT are doing introductory deals (unsurprisingly).

### Dates for your Diary

Parish Council meetings are held in the Reading Room on the second Monday of every month, starting at 7.30pm. Scheduled meetings for the next quarter are : Monday 9th November, Monday 14th December and Monday 12th January 2016.

Members of the public are welcome.

### Your Parish Councillors with their responsibilities and contact details

Sonia Falaschi-Ray (Chair):	Planning	<a href="mailto:sonia.falaschi-ray@barkway-village.co.uk">sonia.falaschi-ray@barkway-village.co.uk</a>
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Bob Davidson:	Community Property	<a href="mailto:bob.davidson@barkway-village.co.uk">bob.davidson@barkway-village.co.uk</a>
Giuseppe Frapporti:	Environment	<a href="mailto:giuseppe.frapporti@barkway-village.co.uk">giuseppe.frapporti@barkway-village.co.uk</a>
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Rob Squire:	Media and Communications	<a href="mailto:rob.squire@barkway-village.co.uk">rob.squire@barkway-village.co.uk</a>
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