

BARKWAY BULLETIN

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL OF BARKWAY



ISSUE 20

JULY 2014

WELCOME to the second edition in 2014 of the Barkway Bulletin. It contains many items including updates on the Pavilion Project and Neighbourhood Plan. We hope that you find the articles informative and if you have any questions please pass them to the Parish Clerk. I am very pleased to welcome Giuseppe Frapporti to the Council. He will be a great addition to the team and means that we are back to being a full complement. I would also like to say a very big thank you to Steve Alsop who has stepped down as Chairman having served in the role for two years. Steve will remain a Councillor and head up the newly formed Pavilion Committee.

JIM DALTON, CHAIR, BARKWAY PARISH COUNCIL



AN INTRODUCTION TO DR GIUSEPPE FRAPPORTI

I have lived in Barkway for over 10 years, in a pretty cottage on the High Street. I'm a Chartered Geologist, and have a team leader job in the public sector. My specialism is in water resources and water quality, particularly groundwater, which we all drink from our taps in our village. I was born, bred and educated to Ph.D level at Utrecht University, the Netherlands. I have Italian nationality, and I came to the UK over 12 years ago.

I'm married to Karin, a geophysicist, and we have two children, Angelina and Giancarlo. Angelina is in Paris class at Barkway Primary School and Giancarlo will go to pre-school soon. We keep a few horses on paddocks just outside Barkway. I like to play tennis and ride a motorbike or Vespa scooter. In my role on the Parish Council I'll focus on Environmental matters (trees, paths, river, waste).



AN INTRODUCTION TO STEVE FOSTER

I moved to Barkway with my wife Jayne in 2004, and the following year our daughter Jessie was born. I am a keen triathlete, having competed in many events, including an Ironman and Helvellyn (Britain's toughest triathlon).

Most of our involvement in the village has revolved around bringing up our daughter, but as she prepares to leave Barkway School I am looking for other ways to remain involved and give something back to the village. I graduated from the University of East Anglia with a degree in Electronics Systems Engineering and have worked as a software engineer for the last 10 years.

I believe that the skills I use in my job such as project management, problem solving and analytical thinking, will enable me to make a valuable contribution to the Parish.

PAVILION AND COMMUNITY ROOM

Work on the new sports pavilion and community room on the Barkway recreation ground started officially on the 11th June and despite a slight delay in having to employ a specialist firm to remove the asbestos roof, Paul Duncan, the principal contractor says that "plans are on schedule for completion to take place in early November".

Barkway Parish Council has entered into an arrangement with Royston Town Football Club for their junior teams of both genders to use the football facilities throughout the football season. Having an arrangement such as this was a strict requirement of the Football Foundation in providing the Parish Council with a grant of nearly £60k. This arrangement has immediate and long term advantages for the young people of Barkway. The Football Club has contracted to provide coaching, training and sport education to the young people in the area. This will be of interest to the School and the Preschool, allowing children from a very young age to benefit from professional and qualified coaching, and also have the opportunity to play for a notable club, like Royston Town FC.

It must also not be forgotten that an important aspect of this project is that the new community room will have kitchen and toilet facilities, ideal for the organisation of outside events on the recreation ground. This is an immense chance for a small village like Barkway, not only to improve the amenities and facilities within the village, but to allow the village to develop and grow when perhaps similar villages are suffering from disappearing or reducing facilities.

The job is not totally complete as money is still being sought to add the finishing touches to the building. The Project Committee is actively seeking small grants to provide additional facilities such as a disabled toilet. The Committee has been successful in arranging for Ridgeons to supply a brand new kitchen. The "Buy a Brick" scheme continues and anyone who wishes to make a donation, no matter how small, can do so through the village website - www.barkway-village.org.uk. Or donations can be made by contacting Gordon Baker on 01763 848755 - gordon.baker@barkway-village.co.uk

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 third quarter of 2014 are 11 August, 8 September and 13 October.

PARISH MATTERS.....

FOCUS ON PUBLIC HEALTH BURNING OF WASTE

There have been a few recent instances of burning of waste. Your own domestic waste, for example garden waste, can be burned as long as this does not cause pollution or harm to people's health. If a garden bonfire is happening in a manner likely to cause pollution to the environment or harm to human health (including offence to the senses), then it is an offence. Please contact North Hertfordshire District Council and ask for the Environmental Health department on 01462 459368. The website <https://www.gov.uk/garden-bonfires-rules> outlines the rules.

If the waste being burnt is of a different origin, trade waste or tyres for example, it is forbidden to burn this waste. You can report someone burning this type of waste to the Environment Agency incident line: 0800 80 70 60. The burning of manure is regulated in the same manner. North Hertfordshire District Council regulates burning on domestic premises/stabling. The Environment Agency regulates burning on commercial/agricultural premises. Controlled waste from commercial/agricultural premises can only be burnt under the conditions of the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2010. Under these regulations there are currently no exemptions available for the burning of manure. Therefore any site that wants to burn manure must apply for a bespoke environmental permit. Please report these incidents to the Environment Agency incident line: 0800 80 70 60.

FLYTIPPING

Fly tipping often occurs on private land. Smaller incidents of fly tipping (less than a lorry load of 20 cubic metres) should be reported to North Hertfordshire District Council. Larger fly tipping (several lorry loads) should be reported to the Environment Agency. Telephone numbers are the same as reporting waste burning. Fly tipping will be investigated and it is helpful if you can provide answers to the following questions:

- What type of waste has been tipped (Asbestos only - Is it fibrous or bonded)?
- Is the amount of waste greater than 20 tonnes (or greater than 5 cubic meters for asbestos)?
- Who has tipped the waste?
- Do you have any vehicle details?
- Is there any other evidence of who has tipped the waste?
- Where has the waste been tipped?
- Is there any immediate risk of pollution from the waste?

Please do not engage with fly tippers when you witness the event, but try to collect as much evidence and information as you can. Unfortunately, it is the land owners responsibility to clear any waste from their land.

FOOTPATHS

Footpaths are for pedestrians. Please try to avoid parking your car with wheels on the pavements. It is a hazard for the elderly, pushchairs, wheel chairs and small children whose heads are at the same level as wing mirrors. It is not illegal to park like this but it is illegal to park causing an 'unnecessary obstruction of the footpath'. Also please keep hedges and trees cut back. It is every homeowners responsibility to prevent them from encroaching on the pavements.

HOLE IN THE ROAD UPDATE

HCC called a meeting on site late in June with UK Power Networks (Elec), National Grid (Gas) and Affinity Water, plus Ringway, the road maintenance contractor and Jim Dalton from Barkway Parish Council. It was debated why tunnelling under the culvert was being considered. It will be almost impossible and certainly expensive to rebuild so it was agreed to dig it out, go deeper, put in tubes to take services and then lay concrete pipes for the water. After making good the connection between the old culvert and the pipes they will build up the road and resurface. A road closure order will occur during the school holidays (probably mid-August). The order will be for 2 weeks but the likely duration of total closure will be just a few days. The job has a permit time for the whole month but should be finished sooner.

BARKWAY & NUTHAMPSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP)

Very many thanks to all those who filled in the questionnaire for the NP. Roughly half of all households responded and we are now beginning to analyse the answers in order to develop our strategic vision and objectives spanning the next 15-20 years. This will encompass a broad picture of neighbourhood aspirations, describe a future composition of the villages, consider what land use and development challenges are likely and discern what needs to be done to achieve the vision. This will include a broad-brush policy of development scale, style and facilities and may specify suitable sites for specific developments as well as ring-fence assets to be protected. Preliminary findings: the hottest topic is 'potholes' - there are over 160 mentions! There is an appreciation of the quiet, rural countryside and friendliness of neighbours. Most seem happy with the prospect of modest housing development though a few are vehemently opposed. Generally new flats or large houses are frowned upon and any development should visually integrate. There is a strong demand for a general store and post office and some demand for medical facilities. The Recreation Ground, Village Hall and pub are the most popular neighbourhood 'attractions' and tennis courts would be popular. Once our villages are formally authorised as a Designated Area, the findings of this survey will be sent for consultation and a referendum will be held on it, which may enable it to be formally adopted by NHDC.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Jim Dalton: (Chair) Highways
Sonia Falaschi-Ray (Vice-Chair): Neighbourhood Plan
Steve Alsop: Pavilion Project
Steve Foster: Community Property
Fiona Tomkins: Community Liaison and Communication
Giuseppe Frapporti: Environment
Jenny Warren: Planning
Catharine Toms: Parish Clerk

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BARKWAY PARISH COUNCIL HAS A NEW COUNCILLOR

We are pleased to announce that we have a new Councillor. Giuseppe Frapporti was co-opted to the Council on Monday 10 March, welcome Giuseppe!

If you have any comments on the content of this edition of Barkway Bulletin, please contact the editor, Fiona Tomkins at fiona.tomkins@barkway-village.co.uk - we are always interested in hearing your views.

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www.barkway-village.org.uk