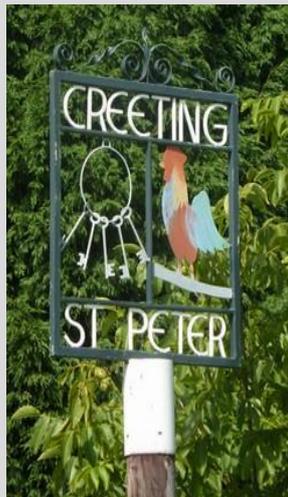


# Parish Council News



Issue 28 - July 2017

## Parish Councillors:

Chairman: Cllr Machala Peacock - 07828300664  
Vice-Chair: Cllr Mark Valladares - 07912620187  
Cllr Sue Lawson: 01449 676113  
Cllr Richard Hitt - 01449 721899  
Daniel Mason - 01449 678160

## Parish Clerk:

Jennie Blackburn  
The Wren  
1 All Saints Road  
Creeting St Mary  
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Welcome to this Summer edition of the Creeting St Peter Newsletter.

To include articles in future issues, please contact the Parish Clerk.

## Creeting St Peter Newsletter

### A message from District Councillor, Keith Welham District Councillor's Report for Creeting magazine. July 2017

**Relocation of District Council offices** - Work is still progressing with planning the move to Endeavour House in Ipswich. The physical move is now likely to take place in September. Most staff are expected to be able to work without going into Ipswich on a daily basis, by working at home or at one of nine 'Touchdown Points' when between site visits or meetings out in the wider district.

**Customer Access Points** - As part of the strategy which includes the move of MSDC and BDC Headquarters to Ipswich, a customer access point will be set up in Ipswich Street, Stowmarket. Residents will be able to drop in to discuss any queries with staff either face to face or, for more complex queries, via a link to Endeavour House. It should not be necessary to travel to Ipswich to meet with MSDC staff - they could come to you or meet you in a local community building or the customer access point in Stowmarket. It had been suggested that formal meetings, such as Planning Committee meetings, could be held in a local village hall but this is not now likely due to the difficulty in setting up for the meeting and due to concerns about security.

**Review of Ward Boundaries** - The Boundary Commission have agreed that the number of ward councillors should be reduced to 34. Because the number of electors in each ward will need to increase, this is likely to be by increasing the geographical size of each ward. In the case of the Stowupland and Creeting St Peter Ward, this could be achieved by adding another parish into the ward. I would be very sad if Stowupland and Creeting St Peter are separated and added into other wards. The District Council are tasked with producing warding arrangements and then consulting residents on their preferred option. This should take place in late summer/early autumn. The new boundaries will come into effect for the 2019 District Council elections.

**New Joint Local Plan** - A huge amount of work has been completed and drafting of the Plan should be complete in time for the full Council Meeting on 20 July. If Council approve the draft Plan, public consultation will commence in August and continue into late October or early November. Appended to the Plan will be maps showing areas of land submitted by owners, developers or agents as bids for allocation as housing land. It will be very interesting to see whether or not any land in Creeting has been offered and deemed suitable for further consideration. This would not

be a green light for development - but comments on the suitability of any such proposal should be made during the consultation period.

Locality Awards - You may recall that two years ago I was able to make grants towards the cost of projects within Creeting, including putting money towards work in the church hall and at the Play Area. Money is available again and bids need to be made by 30 September. I will be happy to speak to a representative of any club or organisation which has a project, new or existing, which aims to have a community benefit.

Pre-Application Advice - MSDC is offering advice to anyone wishing to make a planning application before they actually submit their application. This could save time and money, for instance the cost of architects or planning agent's fees for anyone planning a house extension. There will be a cost which will depend upon the scale of the development and the amount of work requested. But it is not mandatory to use this service. For minor house extensions it may not be required; for a new dwelling it would be worthwhile considering seeking advice.

Keith Welham

District Councillor for Creeting St Peter and Stowupland

[Keith.Welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Keith.Welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk)

### **Dedication of the Apple Trees in Memory of Violet Martin and Keith Sheldrake**

We gathered in the shade on the playing field on one of the warmest days of the year for the Big Lunch. We were joined by the late Violet Martin's and Keith Sheldrake's families for the dedication of the apple trees planted in their memory. The apple trees were purchased by the Parish council from the East of England Apple and Orchard Project and Suffolk Traditional Orchard Group.

Alice Mathewson and Russell Stott gave heartfelt tributes to the two neighbours of many years. Violet Martin had been a churchwarden in the village for over thirty years and when she went into hospital in January she was still on the PCC and flower rota. When I visited her in hospital one of the first things she asked was about the first village wildlife meeting. She loved wildlife, dogs and her garden and made wonderful cheese scones.

Keith knew Creeting St. Peter as both man and boy. I was told that he remembered as a boy seeing the walnut tree that was planted in Violet's garden by a previous occupant being wheeled up the hill from the cottages. He witnessed many changes and it was a privilege for anyone to have listened to his accounts of the village. When entering the village via the bridge you would be greeted by a cheerful smile.

Creeting St. Peter Wildlife Group If you are interested in joining the group please email me, [virginiataylor31@gmail.com](mailto:virginiataylor31@gmail.com) . If you see any interesting wildlife please record it on our online survey. <http://poll.fm/es/2347414/11624094> Next meeting 8pm 14.09.17 at Lacedean The Lane. Ginny (Tree Warden)

I've been asked if we could mention that it is important to keep dogs under control, especially as harvest will be underway soon with increased use of farm machinery. Please could people only walk on footpaths and not cycle or cut through farmyards. If the right of way is not clearly signed or is impassable then this will need to be reported.



**New telephone number for Mid-Suffolk District Council - The Needham Market**  
District Council offices will be moving during August/September of this year. If you need to speak to someone at the Council there will be a new telephone number in place. The number is 03001234000. By ringing this number you will be able to contact any department at either Mid-Suffolk or Babergh.

**Bonus Ball/Village Lottery Winning Numbers:** \*R indicates a Rollover

18<sup>th</sup> Mar - 43, 25<sup>th</sup> Mar - 28, 1<sup>st</sup> Apr - 14, 8<sup>th</sup> Apr - 21, 15<sup>th</sup> Apr - 48, 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr - 24, 29<sup>th</sup> Apr - 7, 6<sup>th</sup> May - 30, 13<sup>th</sup> May - 52, 20<sup>th</sup> May - 16, 27<sup>th</sup> May - 33, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun - 48, 10<sup>th</sup> Jun - 2, 17<sup>th</sup> Jun - 42 and 24<sup>th</sup> Jun - 24.. Congratulations to all the winners!



**Dog Fouling** - Can we please remind people to clean up after their dogs whilst walking through the village or on the Play Area. There are three dog bins available for your use. Thank you.



**Field Cropping**

Please be aware that over the coming weeks farmers will start to crop their fields surrounding the village. They always try their best to keep the dust to a minimum but obviously this can sometimes be difficult. We advise those of you who live alongside fields to close your windows if you are out! Also, please **do not** block the roads as the farmers will want to get their machinery through the village on occasions.

**20mph through the village** - County Councillor Gary Green has confirmed to the Parish Council that the 20mph through the village has been approved and will be implemented soon!



**Neighbourhood Watch** - We are pleased to say that Corinne Rigby at No. 8 Peterhouses has agreed to be the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. She is in the early stages of starting up the scheme but if there are any issues, then please do not hesitate to speak with her.



**Fen Alder Carr Nature Reserve -**

You may have noticed that the Nature Reserve has been closed for a little while as the boardwalk has needed to be repaired and weeds and overgrowth have been cleared. The maintenance requirements of this site are not inconsiderable given that we have a responsibility to safeguard the safety of people using it. At the same time, the funds provided by Suffolk County Council for the long-term maintenance of the Nature Reserve are running low. In view of this, the Members of the Parish Council are considering the future of the site. One option that is being considered is the closure of the Nature Reserve because it may not be economically viable to keep it open to the public in the future. Before the Parish Council takes a decision on this matter, it would welcome the views of local parishioners and any other interested parties. If you wish to make any representations you are welcome to attend the next Parish Council meeting which will be held in the Church Hall on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7.30pm. Alternatively, you can submit your views via email or in writing to the Parish Clerk.



**Telephone Box** - You may have noticed that the telephone box has been removed from the village. This was an oversight on BT's part, and now means that plans for a Community Defibrillator have needed to be put on hold. Another location is to be sought to move forward. Discussions are ongoing with the Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT), who are providing us with the Defibrillator as to other options the Parish Council can take.



**Play Area Update** - there is little to report on the Play Area other than regular checks are made and the equipment all seems to be in good order. Quotes are being sought to change the surface underneath the seesaw to that of bark chippings. In the near future the whole area is to be rolled which will make the ground flatter and therefore better to play on and maintain. The annual Inspection will take place over the summer but if anyone has any issues with the play area please contact the Parish Clerk.

### Services

Sunday 30th July - Benefice service - Stonham  
Aspal - 10am  
Sunday 6th August - Together on Sunday - 9.30am

### Garden Opening

It was extremely kind of Doreen Wrinch and Helen Whitefield to allow us to use their garden again for a fund-raising event. As always, it looked absolutely lovely and gave the perfect backdrop for Paige Risby's singing and delicious refreshments. Thank you to all who helped, donated and attended. Barbara Gallagher won the hamper.

### Pub & BBQ

As before, we were blessed with good weather and a good time was spent with friends while the children careered around. Dan was the No. 1 BBQ chef, Jenny and Margaret did sterling work on the serving and Martha minded the till. Russell and Sarah did an excellent job on the bar and the beer keg was finished too quickly! Thank you to Graham Stephenson for letting us use his field again.

### Churchyard maintenance

The grass is cut on a fortnightly basis by Robert Jardine. His busiest time with regard to work is the summer, so if anyone could share this job with him, that would be much appreciated. Until last year, John Christiansen took responsibility for spraying the weeds round the church and we thank him for doing this. Sadly due to ill-health and being 90 years old, he is unable to continue. It probably needs doing two or three times a year if anyone would be willing to take on this job. Recently Jason McPhee has done some tree surgery for the PCC. The PCC is extremely grateful for all this help.

### Coffee mornings

Thank you to Margaret and Sue for doing the coffee morning in July. Angela and Jayne are doing the next one on 12th August and the one on 9th September will be done by Ginny. At the September event, we will be fundraising for Sarcoma UK.

### Ladies supper

This will take place in the Church Hall on Friday 15th September at 7.30pm. Please let Jenny know if you will be coming (721899 jennyhitt@icloud.com).

### Church Hall

Thank you to Charlie and Sue Lawson for doing such a good job of cutting the church hall grass and hedge.

### Open Church

After many years of discussion, the PCC has decided to trial having the church open every day. So many people go to the churchyard on a regular basis to tend graves or walk dogs, that we want the building to be available to everyone. It gives an opportunity to enjoy our lovely church when it suits visitors, rather than having to make an appointment. We have already had several special messages in the visitors' book; for example "My first visit was when I was christened and this is my second 75 years later". All feedback on this new initiative welcome.