

PARISH PLANET



THE BURSTON AND SHIMPLING PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Editor: Christine Stevens

Have you any news items or stories the parish might be interested in? Please send your items by email to c.stevens864@btinternet.com

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

We are approaching a busy time for the Council, it's the end of a four year term in May and elections will be held if there are more than seven candidates for the seven parish council seats. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor please contact Ann Baker, the Clerk, who will be able to give information, guidance and any necessary forms to be completed. Forms to be delivered by hand to S N Council by 3rd April 2019.

During the past four years there have been some major achievements. Installation of new play equipment, the removal of 'the shed', the creation of the memorial garden, the memorial stone, registering of the playing field and Church Green with the Land Registry, obtaining a share of a SAM speed indicating camera, the establishment of a 'speedwatch' team, the organisation of litter-picks, and campaigning to keep the Shimpling BOAT closed to traffic, just to mention a few.

Council has also been busy doing all those jobs, never noticed until they are NOT done, such as maintaining the playing field, liaising with landowners about footpaths, budgeting and balancing the books, dealing with planning applications, liaising with 'Highways' about road repairs, maintaining Shimpling churchyard, and contributing to the maintenance of Burston churchyard, supporting the local youth groups of the church and the chapel, cutting hedges and mowing odd pieces of grass around our villages, maintaining benches and picnic tables, installing dog bins and having them emptied, and publishing our full colour quarterly newsletter again to mention just a few.

Thank you to all councillors, past and present, who have contributed to the team effort of the past four years.

Council will have to make some difficult decisions in the coming months and to help us you will find with this issue of 'The Planet' a questionnaire. It will help us greatly if you can complete the questionnaire and have it ready for collection in the next ten days or so. The questions are wide ranging and Council will welcome any comments that you wish to put in the final box. Your answers will help to shape policy in a number of areas as we move forward. Nigel Frankland - Chairman



THE DON SWANTON AWARD

Help us find our parish's un-sung heroes.

The Don Swanton Award is set up to thank someone who happily gives their time for the benefit of others in our community. We are pleased to announce that the nomination box is now open for 2019.

The award can be given to someone of any age and for any activity, whether it is for ongoing work or a single event. So if you know of an individual or group who you think should be rewarded for their contribution to our community, please send us your nomination with:

- the name of the person that you wish to nominate for the award
- the reason why you think they should be given it.

Email: isobel.pc@btinternet.com

Or post to:-

Church View, Diss Road, Burston IP22 5TP

The deadline for nominations is Sunday 24th March. Entries will be reviewed by the Award panel and the winner will be announced at the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 16th April. We look forward to hearing from you.

Isobel Pugh

Last years winners Burston Crown.



IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT BURSTON CROWN

We are in the process of changing the outside front of the pub. The new car park was our first step and now we are working on a green at the front of the pub, creating a car free zone with tables for those wonderful sunny days that will be with us soon.

Our first Quiz Night of 2019 in January had a packed house and the winners from Burston collected £42 in prize money. Look out for the next quiz on 25th Feb and every third Monday in the month.

The season of plays continues with lovely crowds coming to the pub for performances of the highest quality, funded by Creative Arts East and the Arts Council.

March 8th sees our first celebration of International Women's Day when we have a line up of amazing female talents coming to sing and play.

Beer, Bikes and Bands returns on 5th May, raising funds for local youth mental health support charity Nature and Nurture. In 2018 £7,200 was raised and we are looking to increase on that this May.

May 26th sees the first Burston Crown folk festival in cooperation with Waveney valley Folk Collective. There will be 12 or so bands/musicians playing during the day from around 1pm.

Friday night is Tapas night and each week our tapas menu will change adding new delights to tapas.

We have music most second Sundays with amazing and very popular Yorkshire folk musician Katie Spencer on the 10th March, Norwich blues stars Dove and Bowevel Band on the 24th March, Irish folk legend John Blek on 7th April and Hot Stove league on the 28th April.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

BURSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

My name is Mark Carlyle and I am the new executive headteacher of Burston and Tivetshall Primary Schools.

I took on the role in January 2019 and I feel honoured and privileged to have been given the responsibility to lead both of the schools.

I wanted to take this opportunity to give you a little bit of information about me and about the ambitions the staff and I have for the school. I have been teaching for over twenty years and I have been a headteacher in Norfolk and Suffolk for the last nine years. During that time I have secured a thorough understanding of the importance of small schools in rural communities and the role that they can play. It is very much a partnership and I am always keen to understand ways that we can support each other.

There is a huge amount to be proud of at Burston Primary School. The staff are extremely hard-working and dedicated and passionate about doing their best for the children. Our pupils are kind, courteous, welcoming and determined to do well and we have a school with a great learning environment. We are proud of who we are and what we want to achieve; all of our children should have the opportunity to develop their curiosity, challenge themselves, discover and nurture their interests and develop a sense of social responsibility. One of my jobs as headteacher is to help everyone achieve these ambitions and to listen to all stakeholders, to grow my sense of how this can be achieved.

If you would like to contact me then the best way to do so is via email at head@burston.norfolk.sch.uk. Alternatively, please contact the school office and we would be more than happy to show you round.

Mark Carlyle

FOBC

Did you enjoy 2018:-

It started with our coffee morning on 24th March



**Coffee Morning
planned for 6th
April 2019
Don't miss it!**

And finished with our Carol Concert on 10th December



PLAYING FIELD UPDATE

Maintenance and upkeep of the playing field area is limited through the winter but we are pleased however to report that the repairs to the climbing wall and one of the swings have been completed and these are now back in action. The annual inspection report identified that areas under and around some of the play equipment need levelling off or topping up with soil and grass and we plan to carry this out once the weather improves. None of the equipment is unsafe or unusable so parents can rest assured that it remains safe to use.

Following recent requests the dog waste bin in the children's play area has been moved to a more suitable location by the car park entrance where it can be seen by dog walkers passing the playing field as well as those on it – so please use it.

The drainage works installed last summer to the BMX track appear to be working, hopefully enabling the track to be used most of the year. We have agreed a grass cutting contract with a local resident to keep the grass in the community orchard and memorial stone/flower bed regularly cut to allow better access to this whole area. Regrettably rubbish is being dumped in this area (child's broken trike, bicycle tyres, bin bags) and the Parish Council has to pay for its removal as with all fly tipping on the playing field. This eats into our limited financial resources so please if you see anybody leaving rubbish around, other than in the bins provided, remind them to take it home or let a parish councillor know.

On a much brighter note we have been advised that our application for grant funding from the Geoffrey Watling Charity for the play area fencing has been successful with an award of £1500. Also we won top slot with Tesco's Bags of Help charity and received £4,000 so thanks to all who voted. We now await a decision from the Norfolk Playing Fields Association and should then be in a good position to start planning the work – so watch this space.

Keith Cowley

BURSTON HOUSE HOSPITAL NEWS

Hello to everyone reading. We hope you all had a good Christmas and a positive start to 2019.

Over the past three months we have had festive celebrations, Recovery College courses and planning for Red Nose Day. To celebrate Christmas, we held a Christmas cake decorating competition, karaoke and film afternoons. The cake decorating competition was judged by our Hospital Social Worker, who found it very hard to choose. She liked something about each cake, but eventually managed to make a decision. There were some disappointed people, but that's the risk of entering a competition.

You may or may not have heard of "Recovery College". It was initially set up for people suffering with Mental Health issues. The idea being for those affected to plan a course of their choice, with the help of professionals, and deliver it to their peers. It is very good for their self-esteem and gives them something to focus on, as well as a chance to develop a range of skills. We have our very own Recovery College, here at Burston House. Patients attend monthly working party meetings, which is their opportunity to review the courses that have been offered and share new ideas. As you would probably expect, Cooking from Scratch is a firm favourite. This is a six-week course, following a different recipe each week. It is graded from a fish finger sandwich, up to Chicken Fajitas.

Now it's on to Red Nose Day. This year it is on Friday 15th March and they have said the UK can "do things big and small, that will add up to something massive". So, we will be doing something small. Patients have already started generating ideas. The next step is to have a meeting between patients and staff and get some firm plans in place. It's less than a month away, so we need to get our skates on! Have you made any plans? We will be sure to update you in the next edition of Parish Planet, when we will be heading into Summer.

See you there! -

Sam Hogg - Basic skills teacher

SHIMPLING BOAT (BACK LANE)

Back Lane, Shimpling was on the original route of the main road through the village, but the road was re-routed in the late 1800's. Back Lane became a grassy track through pleasant woodland. Some years ago Back Lane was designated a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT), but it was many years later that 4x4 owners 'discovered' the track, and it was widely used for 'fun in the mud'. The track was closed by bollards to enable the signs of damage done by the 4x4s to recover. Norfolk County Council are now taking steps to place a Road Traffic Order in place so that the track can legally remain closed to motorised vehicles, following a successful 'crowdfunding' exercise that has raised almost £5,000 to pay the associated legal fees. It may be necessary to file letters in support of the continuing closure, and if you wish to help in this regard, or just want to be kept 'in the picture' as to what is happening, please contact nigel.pc@btinternet.com.

BURSTON CHAPEL

Sunday Morning Service at 11 am
Sunday Evening Service at 6.30 pm
Prayer Meeting - Tuesdays 8 pm (call 741816 for details)
Jamie's gang (school age club) Wednesdays 5 pm to 6.30 pm in term time only
All Welcome - see the Burston Chapel Website:-
www.burstonchapel.co.uk

ST MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

10th March 8.00 am Holy Communion
17th March 9.30 am Home Team
24th March 11.00 am Burston Chapel
31st March 10.30 am Mothering Sunday (Home Team) also:-
31st March 10.30am 5 parishes HC Tivetshall
7th April 9.30 am Morning Prayer
14th April 8.00 am Holy Communion
21st April - to be arranged
28th April 11.00 am Burston Chapel



Informative emails are sent to about 150 email addresses in the parish from time to time with news of event, road closures and other items of interest. If you would like to receive these emails please send your email address to nigelfrankland@btinternet.com. If you later change your mind and do not want to receive them any more your name will immediately be removed from the list of recipients.

YOUTH CAFE

Every Thursday during term time in St Mary's Church. If you are High School Age the Youth Café is open from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm and you get free pizza and milk shake.

MOBILE LIBRARY

16.20 - 17:05 Burston Primary School

29th March, 26th April, 24th May, 21st June

The Parish Council

The members of the Parish Council are:-

Nigel Frankland (Chairman) 01379 644788
Alison Wakeham (Vice Chair) 07768 927182
Christine Stevens 01379 740505
Lindsey Bilston 07713 944509
Jim Rudd 07793 041577
Keith Cowley 01379 742766
Isobel Pugh
Ann Baker (Clerk) 01379 742937

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LITTERPICK

Have you seen the roadside litter that has accumulated on the verges throughout the parish in the last twelve months? **WANT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?** We are going to have another 'litterpick' on Saturday 6th April, starting at 10.30am at St Mary's church Burston. Equipment will be provided, but you would be advised to wear old clothes.

If you can help with this event in any way, please let me know.

Nigel Frankland

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH SHIMPLING

St. George's Day is 23rd April and this year it falls on the Tuesday after Easter Monday.

The Church of St. George's Shimpling is 'redundant', but two services are organised in the church each year, the popular Candlelit Carols (Thursday 12th December this year - make a note of it now) and a St. George's Day service. There must have been a service in the church on this day each year for the last few centuries, and the tradition is being maintained. Please come to a service of Morning Prayer at 10 am.

The track may be muddy and slippery, depending on the weather, so please park in the farmyard to stop yourself being 'stranded', and have sensible footwear. There is no electricity or plumbing in the church so if it is cold weather, wrap up warm.

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH - SHIMPLING

Morning Prayer 10.00am Tuesday 23rd April

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings are usually held in St. Mary's Church Burston starting at 7.30 pm on the following dates:-

Tuesday 19th March - PC meeting
Tuesday 16th April - Annual Parish Meeting
Tuesday 21st May - Annual PC meeting
Tuesday 25th June - PC meeting

TWO VILLAGES • ONE FUTURE