News from Clare Town Council

Annual Meeting and Report You should receive a copy of this year's Annual Report with this copy of Chevron. So much has happened in the town this year, so we hope that you will find the report interesting and informative. Please do not forget that the Annual Meeting is being held in the Town Hall on Wednesday 8th May starting at 7 pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

Clare Country Park We continue to make steady (if frustratingly slow!) progress towards taking over the Country Park and have reached the particularly difficult part of ensuring that all possible problems of ownership have been identified and compensated for. Rigorous negotiations continue and we will be able to give you feedback on the current position at the Annual Meeting.

BMX Track After long delays due to the wet weather and then frozen ground, the lads of CYAC, and their dads, turned out on a bitterly cold March morning to mark out the ground before the digger moved in to finish a project which started almost two years ago. The new BMX Dirt Track off Stoke Road is one of the largest in the area and is already proving to be very popular with the local youth and their bikes. Huge thanks go to David Byford for allowing us to use his land, and to Martin of Contract Trenching who created the track in atrocious weather conditions.

Heavy Goods Vehicles Many thanks to everyone who took the time to fill in a survey sheet for us, or who spoke to councillors on Market Hill about parishioner concerns. All of the information has been extremely helpful. We continue to hold meetings with logistic companies and their customers, and greatly appreciate the positive response that we and the HGV Action Group have received from the Co-Op. We are also making steady progress on creating a file of evidence for presentation to Suffolk County Council. If you have any pictures of HGVs creating problems in the town, please let us know.

Land East of the Granary/Chilton Close You may have noticed that work has already begun on this major building project. Some trees have been cleared and protected reptiles are being collected and relocated to specially constructed sites in the area. Parishioners have expressed some concern over the current choice of name as there could be confusion with Chilton Street but we have been assured that this will not be the final name for the housing development. Suggestions welcome.

Maple Hill Wind Turbine St Edmundsbury Borough Council have approved the application to build a wind turbine on Maple Hill, in spite of the fact that well- argued and significant objections were raised by all of the local parish and town councils (including our own), our Borough Councillor, English Heritage, the Dedham Vale ANOB and many other organisations. We have concerns over the planning processes involved with this application and are in the process of asking SEBC to investigate the issue. We understand that STOC have also expressed major and well-founded concerns to the Leader of the Council.

Police Information Police report that there have been a number of thefts from garages and out buildings in and around Clare. Thieves are taking anything that can be sold e.g. at car boot sales. Gas cylinders are also being taken for scrap. Additionally, there have been worrying reports of unusual cat deaths, possibly due to the use of strong chemicals to kill slugs. We suggest using beer as a better alternative.

Combined Halls of Clare.

The Town Hall will be open on Saturday May 18th between 9.30am - 1pm. There will be a coffee morning, plant sale, and a raffle plus information about C.H.O.C. including future fundraising events. Free entry, everyone welcome!

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