

PARISH NEWS



Clare
Parish Council

ISSUE ONE - APRIL 2008

Welcome to the first edition of the new Clare Parish Council Newsletter. Together with the new website launched early in 2008 the Council aims to ensure that parishioners, businesses and visitors to Clare are kept up-to-date with all that's happening in our town. We aim to publish quarterly with additional releases if there is something important going on.

Clare Playing Field Pavilion - up and running!

Clare's new Pavilion has now been completed. Fortunate weather, an excellent builder and project management team has ensured that the project is on time and within budget. Funding was jointly provided by the Football Foundation, Clare Parish Council and St. Edmundsbury Borough Council. This is an exciting new facility that will provide superb football facilities for future generations of home and away teams.

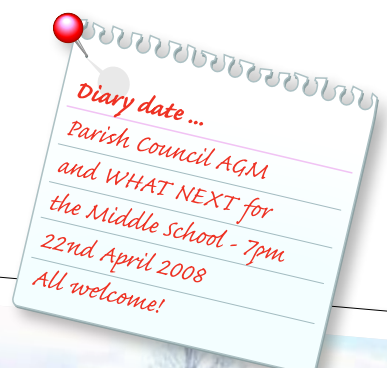


Parish Meeting & 'WHAT NEXT' for the Middle School?

The Annual Parish meeting will be held on April 22nd 2008 at 7.00pm in Halls 1 & 2 at The Old School Community Centre with the **WHAT NEXT for the Former Middle School featuring as the special agenda item.**

Parish Councillor & Chairman of C.L.A.R.E, Jim Meikle promises 'now that the required consultation process is out of the way, we can get on with the real work of pursuing the options for procuring a new secondary school for the rural communities'.

The new proposals require demonstrable community & parental support. Your Parish Council has been at the forefront of the campaign. So please come along and add your support for the exiting new options as well as seeing what is going on in the Council.



WHAT NEXT for the Middle School see above for detail! Everybody welcome.

Boost for Clare Tourism.

Earlier in the year St Edmundsbury Tourism Officer Sharon Fairweather visited the PC and agreed support to boost the campaign to attract tourists to the Clare and surrounding economy.

As a result The Nuttery project was awarded an £800 Rural Areas Community Initiatives Fund grant to design and construct a guide board for the project. Cllr Keith Mison said 'The grant will enable us to enhance the visitor's experience by

describing the history and development of The Nuttery and the contribution it makes to the environment'.

St Edmundsbury tour guides supported by the District Tourist Board will be coming to Clare the first Saturday of every month during the summer, starting on Saturday 3rd May at 2.00pm to undertake a series of guided walking tours in the area. Watch the parish notice boards for further details. The walks are open to everyone.

Changes to local government are coming to the county.

The Boundary Committee for England is examining the future options for the government of the county and are due to outline their conclusions later this month. One option reported to be under consideration is the introduction of single Unitary Councils for regions of the county replacing the County & District Councils.

To be ready for the future the Parish Council is about to embark upon developing a Parish Council Plan that will present the community's aspirations for the future. A Parish Council spokesperson said, 'The Parish Council always ensures that the voice of Clare is heard in issues that concern the town as they arise.

However we believe there is value to be had from developing a vision and strategy for Clare and the surrounding area for the next ten years that can be promulgated to the new local government structure in the county'.

Public contributions within the parish are vital to ensure that the parish plan is relevant. Therefore the working party undertaking the project will be seeking views of parishioners with an inevitable questionnaire. However that census will provide you with the opportunity to Have Your Say on any community ideas you may like to see developed.

Come and join us and make a difference in Clare.

The Parish Council has a vacancy for a Councillor by Co-Option. If you would like to find out more about the Parish Council then either come along to our regular monthly meeting or to the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 22nd April and have an informal chat over a glass of wine

after the meeting. Both meetings start at 7.00pm in Halls 1 & 2 at The Old School. If you are interested in what's happening in our Community and making a difference then please apply in writing to Mrs. Ailsa Jobson, Clerk to the Parish Council, at the address opposite.

Does Clare produce Value for Money?

BBC crews have been filming in Clare in April asking just that question for a new BBC2 programme called 'Beat the Bank'. Watch the BBC schedules for details.



The NEW Clare website.

The Clare website has been transformed and went live in January 2008 - www.clare-uk.com.



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**The Old School
Callis Street
Clare
Sudbury CO10 8PX**

Email parishclerk@clare-uk.com

Don't forget to visit the NEW Clare website at www.clare-uk.com