



Marks Tey Parish Council Newsletter

February 2020

Welcome to the Parish Council February Newsletter

As this is the first newsletter of 2020, we do hope the New Year brings health, happiness and contentment to you and your family.

Last year we had some great community events and get-togethers, we aim to continue these as we received a lot of positive feedback.

We also had strong concerns expressed from some residents at a public meeting at the end of November. This followed agreement by the Parish Council that they would support the Highways England consultation proposal that would, only in the event of the Garden Communities proposal in the Local Plan being agreed by the Inspector, divert the A12 between Marks Tey and Copford.

The Parish Council analysis suggested that in these circumstances, at least 155 Marks Tey properties in London Road and Old London Road would have a greatly improved environment by diversion of the A12 between Copford and Marks Tey against 13 Marks Tey and Copford properties who would have a worsened environment (within 100m each side of the likely routes).

However, following the strong objection to this at the public meeting, the Parish Council's submission to Highways England was withdrawn together with our concerns about what effect relocating Junction 25 in both options would have on access to the A12 and from the A12 to the station.

There were also significant concerns expressed about the Parish Council's view on the Garden Community. This has consistently been that if it is done brilliantly then it could have significant benefits for Marks Tey but we have strong doubts that it can be done brilliantly, and that any development has to deliver benefits in improving the concerns that have been expressed by residents – improving our ability to walk or cycle safely, improve the A12 and A120, make the village more cohesive, preserve green spaces, and improve amenities, amongst others.

In this regard, we will make representation to the Local Plan Inspector on the lack of involvement in proposals that greatly affect our community contrary to the Garden Community Principles.

The whole of your Parish Council works hard and selflessly to try to make Marks Tey better, but inevitably we will not please everyone. You do however have elections to the Parish Council this May and we will all be standing down. It is imperative that between now and May you tell us what we are doing right and wrong and/or put forward other candidates for the Parish Council that better reflect your views.

Following on from the above, we have been repeatedly consulting with you on the Parish Council's draft Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan states the things that you have said are important about Marks Tey and those things that need improvement and sets down policies that need to be taken into account in any future development. You will see further information on the formal consultation on the Plan which will now take place during February, March and April.

Allan Walker, Chair Marks Tey Parish Council
01206 211424
chairman@marksteyparish.org.uk

Community Christmas Party and Carols and Cheer!

It was great to see the Christmas lights back on the tree in the Recreation Park.

A special thank you to UK Power Networks for supporting the village by putting them up for us!

Our Community Christmas party was held on Saturday 14th December. Thanks to your support about 50 children, their parents and grandparents attended and enjoyed a disco, party games, and food.

This event was followed by Carols and Cheer. Songs in the small hall with live music, mulled wine and mince pies.

Thank you to all our lovely volunteers who helped to make both of these events a success.

Proof that you're never too old to visit Father Christmas!



Community Picnics

The Community Picnics were a great success throughout the school holidays in 2019. We will be continuing with a bouncy castle and craft table at every meeting this year!

2020 dates are 8th April, 27th May, 29th July, 5th, 19th and 26th August with the final picnic of the year on 28th October.



Our Young at Heart group continue to meet on the second Wednesday of every month. If you are over 50 why not join us for tea and cake and more importantly chat. We hold a raffle and a quiz with a quick game of bingo too if time allows. It's a great way to meet new people and get up to date with local news.

The next meeting dates are 11th March, 8th April, 13th May 2-4pm. Come and join us, if you need a lift contact Mo on 01206 672612

Litter Pick 14th March 9:45am at the Parish Hall

Our spring litter pick is taking place on Saturday 14th March. If you would like to take part please arrive at the Parish Hall at 9:45am where you will be briefed and given your hi-vis and litter grabber before forming small groups to head off around the village. Refreshments provided in the hall afterwards. We have collected over 300 bags of litter in the last couple of years which makes a huge difference to our environment. Is there a problem area you would like tackled? Please let us know.

Community Library

The Library has been growing from strength to strength throughout the year with us reaching our 100th member at our Saturday session on 1st February. The café has also been very busy with library users and people just coming down for a chat over a cuppa and cake. A big thank you to everyone who has baked for us over the year. An even bigger thank you to all our volunteers who help with the library and the refreshments as we couldn't run it without you and especially to all the strong men we have to help us put out and put away the books at every session.

We have got our 1st birthday on 7th March where we will be cutting a special cake made for us and raising a celebratory toast at about 11am so please come down and join us. We are more than just a library, it's a good place to come and meet new people.

We are open 10am – 12:30pm on the 1st Saturday and 2:30pm – 5pm on the 3rd Wednesday.

The next sessions are 19th Feb, 7th and 18th March, 4th and 15th April, 2nd and 20th May

Community Defibrillator Update

We are delighted to say we have now placed our order to acquire two Community Defibrillators for Marks Tey. To achieve this a number of local businesses and residents have supported our fund-raising efforts for which we offer our sincere thanks. These include, Penny Meadow, Way to the Raj (who hosted a very successful Charity night) and ATH Training. We have also received a number of personal donations.

The Defibrillators will be sited in the two BT phone kiosks in the village, which we have recently acquired. We are now working with Community Heartbeat Trust ("CHT"), a non-profit organisation, who have installed a number of defibrillators around the country.

Once the Defibrillators have been installed, we will host a training awareness session which we will advertise on our Facebook page alternatively email assistant.clerk@marksteyparish.org.uk to advise you would like to be notified of the training date.

Our fund-raising efforts will continue over the coming year as we still need to raise monies to fund the full purchase and meet the cost of the annual maintenance contract which we will enter into with CHT. Donation boxes are located in various businesses in the village. All monies will be greatly received.

Saturday Household Drop-Off Service

Colchester Borough Council provide a free household waste collection service. They will be in Honeywood Close between 11am and 12noon on the following dates; 11th April, 6th June, 1st August.

You can't throw away items that can be recycled but you can bring garden waste which will be composted.

Please note they do not accept any of the following items: Large loads, fridges, freezers or other electrical goods. Hazardous waste such as asbestos, batteries, liquids, gas bottles or business waste.



Marks Tey Parish Council has set a target to plant 250 trees on our playing field and to clean up the copse at the back of the playing field to make a small woodland walk.

Looking forward, we would also like to identify other sites in the village for tree planting over the next two years so that we reach a total of 400 trees.

This is an investment in the future for our village, to provide environmental benefits and to provide shelter and support for wildlife.

On February 29th at 10am come plant a tree at the village hall to help build a woodland park for the future.

We have 250 trees to plant so please bring yourselves, a spade if you have one and a willing attitude to help shape the community we live in.

Tea and cakes will be provided as well as a great sense of achievement!

If you can join us, or want to join the working group, please contact;

Mo 07928 810404 / 01206 672612

Kate 07850 695154 / 01206 210767

Nigel Fitch

Marks Tey Parish Council would like to pass on their condolences to the family of Nigel Fitch who sadly passed away on 20th October after a long illness. He was born in Marks Tey, and lived almost all his life in the house which belonged to his grandparents. He made a huge contribution to Marks Tey as Chair of the Parish Council organising a local carnival, developing the Millennium Garden, Skate Park and the Recreation Hall. He ran a successful business, Marks Tey Radio, in the village and was a dedicated family man. We are very grateful for his long service to our community.

Save the dates



- Community Library – 19th February, 7th & 18th March, 4th & 15th April, 2nd & 20th May
- Community Picnics - 19th February, 8th April, 27th May 12-3pm
- Tree Planting - 29th Feb 10am
- Young at Heart - 11th March, 8th April, 13th May 2-4pm
- Litter Pick - 14th March 10am
- Saturday Household Drop-Off Service - 11th April, 6th June, 1st August

Marks Tey Parish Council – Staff vacancy for a part time Caretaker

Marks Tey Parish Council has an opportunity for a part time Caretaker for the Parish Hall. The caretaker will be a responsible part of the caretaking team, usually working alone, opening and closing the Halls for hirers and taking responsibility for security. You will cover for the Caretaker for part of the week and when absent. Flexibility in working patterns is essential, and caretaking/handyman skills an advantage. You will be liaising with the public, have good interpersonal skills, be responsible, proactive and dependable, and want to work with a small team for the benefit of our community.

Contact the Parish Clerk for more information, job description and person spec.

Closing date for applications 24 February, interviews week commencing 2nd March.

Parish Office Opening Times

Visitors are welcome to call at the Marks Tey Parish Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays to view documents and ask questions. Please make an appointment so that we can have the necessary documents available.



Recycling materials are available on Thursdays only between 10am and 1pm but it is always advisable to call first on 01206 213250 to ensure that stock is available.

PLEASE BE AWARE YOU WILL REQUIRE A VOUCHER FOR ALL CONTAINERS, BAGS AND GARDEN SACKS. THIS CAN BE DOWNLOADED AT COLCHESTER.GOV.UK/RECYCLING OR CALL 01206 282700

Parish Councillors

Allan Walker	Chairman	71 Coggeshall Road Marks Tey. CO6 1LS	Tel 211424
Malcolm Bailey		47 Godmans Lane, Marks Tey. CO6 1NE	Tel 212341
Karen Barker		32 Keable Road, Marks Tey. CO6 1XB	Tel 210195
Maureen Callen		Tintagel, Wilsons Lane, Marks Tey. CO61HH	Tel 672612
Kate Evans	Vice Chair	75 Keable Road, Marks Tey. CO6 1XR	Tel 210767
Allan Speller		283 London Road, Marks Tey. CO6 1EX	Tel 213643
Albert Thomas		34 The Rookeries, Marks Tey, CO61DY	Tel 213427
John Wood		63 Godmans Lane. Marks Tey. CO6 1NQ	Tel 212100
Robin Rust		196 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey CO6 1HS	Tel 212280

Parish Hall Staff

Gemma Humphries	Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer	Tel 213250
Brigitte Taylor	Assistant Clerk	Tel 213250
Tracy Millard	Administration and Bookings Clerk	Tel 213250
Sue and Ivan Dyer	Caretakers	Tel 07505 949645

Address: Marks Tey Parish Office, Parish Hall, Old London Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1EJ

Phone: 01206 213250

Email: parish.clerk@marksteyparish.org.uk assistant.clerk@marksteyparish.org.uk bookings@marksteyparish.org.uk

Colchester Borough Councillors

Kevin Bentley	cldr.kevin.bentley@colchester.gov.uk	548200
Andrew Ellis	cldr.andrew.ellis@colchester.gov.uk	735166
Jackie McLean	cldr.jackie.maclean@colchester.gov.uk	212128

Essex County Councillor

Anne Brown	cldr.anne.brown@essex.gov.uk	321241
------------	--	--------