



The Mickfield Messenger

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From the Parish Council

Jubilee Garden Seat

At last, after all the talk and plans, the Seat has been placed on the Meadow to the side of the Jubilee garden. May it bring many happy moments. It is placed to ensure that parents can still see their children and also to enjoy the sun.

Play Equipment

Whilst the play equipment is an asset to the village, it does also require maintenance. We ensure that it is in a good state of repair and commission an independent ROSPA report for health and safety reasons. The last report was completed at the end of the summer 2013. The moss/lichen on the matting is still causing some concern as although we requested a contractor to clear it, the work has not yet been completed.

There are some running repairs to be carried out on some of the equipment during the Spring. We are currently gaining quotations for this.

Paper Recycling Bins

The paper recycling bins are only for Newspapers and Magazines - not plastic bags please! There is a litter bin attached to the Village Centre and we ask that you place any plastic bags in there as they clog up the recycling machinery. Thank you!

Parish Council Precept

We will all shortly be receiving our Council Tax bills for the year 2014/5. These will include the Parish Precept which covers the cost of Parish Council activities such as inspecting and maintaining the Play Equipment, providing and servicing the Dog and Litter Bins, Public Liability Insurance for both the Parish Council and the Village Hall, cutting the grass and maintaining the trees on the Meadow.

The Precept has not been increased since 2009 during which time the costs of the above have increased in line with or beyond inflation and in the last two years the Parish Council has had to dip into reserves to balance the books. There are also likely to be changes in the central government funding of local authorities which includes Parish Councils. It is against this background and following much consideration that the Parish Council has had to take the step of increasing the Precept for 2014/5 to a level that is sustainable for the foreseeable future. Your individual increase will vary according to the rateable value and tax band of your property.

If you have any queries on this or any other matter, please contact the Chairman or alternatively come along to the next Parish Council meeting at the Village Centre at 7.30 pm on Monday 3 March.

Diversions from the A140

This month has seen traffic chaos due to an accident on the A140. Due to the volume of traffic, vehicles had to encroach on the verges causing damage to them and also the side of the metalled road. We have requested that Highways repair same and understand that this will be done. This is in addition to the normal maintenance.

Mendlesham Bio Mass Burner

It is our understanding that this application is going to appeal. We have not yet received official notification. We will keep you informed.

Dates for Parish Council meetings in 2014

Jan 20th. Mar 3rd. Apr 14th. May 19th. July 7th. Sept 1st. Oct 20th. Dec 15th.
Meetings start at 19:30, in the Village Hall.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



more Mickfield Messenger

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Christmas Lunch

An oversight last month; this item should have been included in January's Messenger. Apologies to all.

A very big thank you to Emma and her team for serving up another delicious Christmas lunch - clean plates all round notwithstanding the extra gravy. Many thanks, too, to Lorraine, Nickey, Vanessa, Andy and Alan for setting up on Thursday night, to Vanessa for opening up for Emma on Friday morning, and to Lorraine, Davina and Nickey for meeting and greeting on the day.



It was, as always, a lovely occasion which we hope everyone enjoyed. Children from Sir Robert Hitcham School in Debenham, including Zara from Mickfield, sang for us beautifully after lunch, a fine combination of new Christmas numbers and old carols and songs to sing along with.



Q: How long to next Christmas??

Where is it?

The Mickfield Messenger offices received this photo. It's believed to be a building in the village. Can anyone help identify it?

(This is a genuine plea for information, not a competition!).

If you know, and have a guess, please email us;

Messenger@MickfieldVillage.co.uk

OR let Davina know.

Thanks!



A: 325 days as of Feb 2nd—getting excited yet??