



The Mickfield Messenger

Mar 2015
no 131

Published by Mickfield Parish Council
Contact Messenger@MickfieldVillage.co.uk

From the Parish Council

Mickfield Village Centre—Update

We have requested quotes for resurfacing the Car Park as a first step.

This, we felt, was not enough in itself as Disabled Access into the Centre would also need to be addressed. Likewise the toilet facilities are not currently fully adapted for disabled use. At present, a wheelchair could not negotiate the entrance to the toilet. The kitchen has also come in for some criticism and we understand that it needs updating and are taking advice on this.

Outside lighting is perhaps the easiest to resolve.

The question is – who can coordinate this? We as a Parish Council feel that we are not perhaps the most qualified as we don't have any experience as architects, surveyors, builders, etc.

Which brings us back to the questionnaire results – eight said they would be willing to assist with their expertise. We are not aware of your professions. Would you be willing to join a team of residents and councillors to help oversee the development work?

We all appreciate that time is in short supply but if a team shared the load it would be easier to run. No big meetings as after an initial meeting, updates could be shared electronically.

Please contact either davinalynk@btinternet.com or messenger@mickfieldvillage.co.uk

Traffic control

After last weeks' accident on the A140, we again experienced the chaos of vehicles trying to travel in both directions on the Wetheringsett Road.

Eventually the Police set up a diversion to bring only Southbound traffic through Mickfield. However no signs were put up showing drivers which way to go once they reached the crossroads in Mickfield which led to long delays along Wetheringsett Road. We raised this with the Police at yesterday's meeting and await further news on how they will ensure that future diversions are better handled.

Parish Council Elections

All Mickfield Parish Councillors will be standing for re-election in May this year.

Would you be interested in becoming a Councillor? It is not an onerous task but certainly a worthwhile one. There are six Parish Councillors to be elected. Presently, only five are on the Council. Meeting are approximately every 6 – 8 weeks and last usually about an hour although it may be longer on occasion.

Mickfield Village Centre Play Equipment

The slide has been painted and a chain put across the steps access as advised by the Safety contingent of ROSPA. This is very easy to take off for adults/older children but should deter very young children from using it unsupervised.

Broad- Band

County Councillor Stringer attended the last Parish Council meeting and gave an update on Broadband. He has been asked to join a group of county councillors, tasked with addressing the gaps in the roll out of the Suffolk Better Broadband programme. He represents Mickfield as one of the villages not covered by the first phase of the programme and thus still suffering with ridiculously poor Broadband speeds.

To help him build a case for the deployment of realistic Broadband technology to Mickfield, please would all residents carry out a line check, and let him know the broadband speed of different addresses in the village. The speed check is free and can be accessed at www.speedtest.btwholesale.com.

Ensure that no-one else is using your connection, select "Y" and then click the "BEGIN TEST" button.

Copy your "Download Speed" and "Upload Speed" results and email to andrew.stringer@suffolk.gov.uk & messenger@mickfieldvillage.co.uk (who will also collate the results) with "Mickfield needs better Broadband" as the subject line of your email!



more Mickfield Messenger

Messenger@MickfieldVillage.co.uk

HISTORY of the VILLAGE

MICKFIELD HISTORY CLUB

The second meeting of a "Mickfield History Club" was held in the Village Centre on February 18th.

It was again a very well attended meeting, with a lot of discussion of how the team could approach the task of researching, capturing and publishing historical details of Mickfield's buildings, residents and events.

The main points noted were;

- Attendees agreed that they needed to make a financial contribution to cover the costs of hiring the village hall for meetings, starting with an initial donation of £5.
- One option for publishing information about, and uncovered by, the Club is to use the existing Mickfield Village website. Colin Denny offered to assist in maintaining this.
- In the longer-term, we could publish the history via an on-line interactive map of the village - showing how it has developed through time.
- It was suggested - and agreed - that we start to build the history from a specific date for which there is known information, and to then work back and forwards from this. A census would be a good starting point.
- House deeds potentially contain a lot of information that would be very relevant to building the history, although the nature of these has changed recently. We should assess what information is held by the Land Registry as well as in individual property deeds.
- We should start, immediately, documenting the "recollections" of those now living in the village, and particularly those who have been here for some time and have invaluable memories. Sally and Rex Garrod are working to document Rex's memories, and we would very much like to sit with Alan Favell and Andy Bridges (and others!) to capture their memories. Alan also brought some similarly documented work, collected by Mrs Smith (Read's Hall) in the early 1990s.
- Colin Denny will bring a document scanner to the next meeting so that any hard copy documents and photographs can be digitised at the meeting, creating the start of the History Club database. Tony Vince already has some digitised documents provided by Alan Favell in recent months.

The next meeting will be held at **1930 on Weds 18th March**, in the Village Centre, when we will continue discussions and develop our action plan.

Anyone interested is again very welcome to attend.

The Fete

A reminder ...

After the success of last year's fete, the intention is to repeat the event. It is likely to be on the same weekend, so book this date in your diaries now ...

Saturday 13 June 2015

There will be a meeting of people interested in assisting early in the new year - please do volunteer if you have time or skills to offer or suggestions for attractions that you'd like to see at (or could contribute to) the Fete.

Drop us an email - to either Sally Blackmore (SallyBlackmore@btinternet.com) or to the Messenger.

Hiring the Village Centre

This centre remains available for hire for events. Please contact Mike Heyhoe with all enquiries.