

Bradfield Combust with Stanningfield

Parish Council

Village Matters

Issue 5

January 2013

Welcome to Village Matters 2013

With Christmas now behind us and the New Year well underway, welcome to the first edition of "Village Matters" for 2013. April is going to be busy as you will see from the following topics. There are going to be a lot of projects and work that will need your help, both to keep the costs down and allow us to spread the money across as many things as possible.

£11,500 in Grants

In issue 4 of "Village Matters" we reported that grants to the value of £10,000 had been achieved to help develop Parish facilities. This figure has now grown to £11,500 thanks to support from Councillor Terry Clements and his locality budget.

Following the open Parish meeting held on 12th November last year, we are moving forward with spending some of this money on four key projects.

Village Hall

60 new padded chairs have been ordered for the hall, which will enhance this great facility and add much needed comfort for us all and anyone hiring the hall.

Teenage Shelter

This shelter has been ordered and will be placed on the Green at Stanningfield. The final location was decided following a meeting with residents who live around the Green. It should also be noted that the shelter, albeit called 'Teenage' and is indeed intended to be a safe place for our young people to meet and "hang out", can also be used and enjoyed by anyone spending time on the Green.

Bus Shelter at Stanningfield

A new shelter has been ordered and will replace the existing one. The new shelter will be of steel construction with clear panels all round. We will also take the opportunity to elevate it slightly to avoid the flooding that happens at the moment.

We will carry out a lot of the demolition and assembly work ourselves, which will save a considerable amount of money. We would very much appreciate any help you could offer.

We will endeavour to recycle as much from the existing bus shelter as possible, i.e. roof tiles, roof trusses and rubble, with a view to constructing a new BBQ hut at the Village Hall to replace the rather dilapidated existing one. So once again if you have a skill that could help, or are just willing to dig or barrow stuff, let us know.

Both the teenage and bus shelters will not be erected until the better weather is with us in April (fingers crossed). There will be some disruption around the bus shelter as the new base is laid and hardens off before we can put the new shelter on to it, so your patience will be necessary.

Woodland & Wildlife facility

Some of you will have noticed that the pond by the side of the Village Hall wood has already been cleared out, thanks once again to Barry Colson for another great piece of work. We will be putting a fence and hedge along the track on the Village Hall side of the pond and are talking to the Highways Department with a view to fencing the roadside as well.

Stuart Bradnam, who lives in Bradfield Combust and runs Bradnams Tree Services, has offered his services free of charge and is in the process of clearing dead trees, raising the crowns of others and generally creating a great environment for everyone. We are also going to need help from you to clear old brambles and start to really understand what is possible with this area. It would be great to see some of the younger members of our community helping and getting involved in the creation of this facility intended to be enjoyed by everyone. After all, it was our desire to create better facilities for the younger members of our community that got us started raising money to do these things

Stanningfield Village Hall (contribution from Barbara Mobbs)

The Spring bric-a-brac Sale will take place on February 23rd at the Village Hall from 2 to 4pm. Donations of books, bric-a-brac and jigsaws in good condition would be appreciated. Ring Barbara on 828669 if you need them collected.

Paper backs will be on sale for 50p, and hard backs from £1, so come along and support your Village Hall and grab a bargain at the same time.

We were able to get quite a lot of painting and a good Spring clean carried out last year. To those who helped thank you very much. We will be doing more cleaning and painting in April this year. Watch out for the dates as your help would once again be very much appreciated.

Project Support

As April will be a busy month particularly in Stanningfield, we are going to leave it nearer the time to set dates, but as you will see from the projects described there will be a lot of work going on. So if you would like to help, just contact anyone on the Parish Council list at the back of this news letter to register your interest in being part of these exciting developments. Then when final dates are decided we can give you a call

Scout Facilities at Bradfield Park

The Scouts have now submitted planning applications to retain and upgrade the existing huts in Bradfield Park and also to erect a new, smaller building on the site for which it had previously obtained permission to build a much larger building. These applications are in line with presentations made to the PC and to the residents of Ixer Lane and Bradfield Hall last autumn. It may well be some time before the plans are implemented assuming planning permission is granted.

St Nicolas Church (special contribution by Gerry & Judith Biggs)

Have you visited the Church? St Nicolas has served the village of Stanningfield for centuries. There was a church on the site when the Domesday book was completed. This one was reputedly built in the 14thC and the chancel was added in the 15thC, built for the village by the Rokewood family from Coldham Hall. The list of Rectors goes back to 1260.

The building is Grade 1 listed and of great historical interest with its Norman windows and architecture, its later (15thC) windows and chancel, the tombs of the Rokewood family and of course, the remains of the 15thC Stanningfield Doom (medieval painting). The latter depicts Jesus Christ dispensing justice on Judgement Day.

Walk around the church yard and see the 'squint', the architectural details round the North door (now blocked), study the headstones and see how many names you know from their descendants still living in the village.

This is what we endeavour to preserve, not just for its religious heritage, but for its place as the heart of the village, older by far than most of the other buildings in Stanningfield. It is open daily from 10am – 4pm. Unusually for an historic building, there is no charge for entry and if you would like a guided tour just call the number on the door and one of the churchwardens will be happy to escort you.

The chancel roof is now in the process of being repaired, although work has been halted until next April so as not to disturb the four different types of bats which have been discovered!!

Repair costs are high and this repair alone is estimated at £61,000. English Heritage has awarded a first stage grant of £5,000 with a second stage award agreed in principle of £35,000. Even with this support there is still a short fall of £20,000.

So if you see events advertised to raise money for the Church, please give your support.

Emergency Plan

Thank you to all who completed the forms to put forward their names and skills to help our community and the emergency services should a need arise. The contact list is quite wide-ranging, and of course if anybody else wants to volunteer details, please contact any member of the Parish Council. We are now finalising the plan and have included all who offered their assistance. Shortly we will publish the outline plan (without individual details) on our Parish website that covers both villages of Stanningfield and Bradfield Combust. (<http://bradfieldcombust.onesuffolk.net/>). Individual details are confidential and will be held securely.

For now, we include a small leaflet that will attach to your fridge. The leaflet gives emergency numbers and has a short description of what to do in case of emergency. These leaflets are being made available to all Parishes in the district.

New to the Parish

For anyone new to the Parish, first of all welcome, if you need to know anything relating to the Parish please feel free to contact a Parish Council member, or check out the Parish website at www.onesuffolk.net click on 'Parish, Town & Villages', and then click on B or S.

Up-dated List of Parish Councillors

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| David Staff | Chairman | 01284 828578 |
| Tony Langan | Vice Chairman | 01284 386125 |
| Marie Bluett | Councillor | 01284 828443 |
| David Crawford | Councillor | 01284 388944 |
| Mark Duchesne | Councillor | 01284 828566 |
| Donald Green | Councillor | 01284 828618 |
| Ray McKenna | Councillor | 01284 828691 |
| Clive Mears | Councillor | 01284 827462 |
| Colin Walters | Councillor | 01284 828565 |
| Victoria Waples | Clerk | 01284 787178 |

Website: www.onsuffolk.net, click on 'Parish, Town & Villages', and then click on B or S.

List of 2013 Parish Meeting dates

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Monday February 4th | Monday September 16 th * |
| Monday March 18 th * | Monday October 28th |
| Monday May 13 th ** | Monday December 9 th |
| Monday June 24th | |
| Monday August 5 th | |

* Methodist Schoolroom - Bradfield Combust

** Parish Meeting as well as Annual General Meeting

The Parish Council meets every six weeks in either Stanningfield Village Hall or Bradfield Combust Methodist Meeting Room. Meetings usually start at 7.30pm.