

## COUNCILLOR JAMES MALLINDER – MY YEAR AS YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Dear Resident

In May I have been your District Councillor for a year. My first year in local politics has proven to be both positive and inspiring.

I hope very much I have lived up to expectations to be an active councillor involved in your community and getting to know as many residents as possible. Over the last year I have attend nine village fetes, an inspiring afternoon in Shottisham at their open gardens and Sutton's beautiful flower festival.

In September I held a number of surgeries across the ward where I was able to help residents' individual concerns.

Then at the end of 2019 a carol service, two harvest festivals and an afternoon making apple juice with Boyton Parish council.

Asked to be the first Cabinet member for the Environment at East Suffolk is a great honour and I am grateful to the Leader in trusting me with this important portfolio.

I have approached this with energy and enthusiasm to push the agenda and make a real difference. Making sure environmental considerations are at the top priority of everything we do and completely embedding into our decision process and policy formation.

Unfortunately in March all of this was suspended. In reaction to the Coronavirus I want to express my thanks on behalf of all residents to how proactive, caring and thoughtful you are on the Peninsula. All villages have a volunteer group who are keeping an eye on vulnerable residents and I am helping to make sure support is focused in the right direction.

We are blessed in living right in the middle of some of the most beautiful countryside of the UK and looking outside there is something reassuring to see blue skies, watching the birds start nesting and to see the spring flowers, proving everything will eventually be back to normal.

### THE PENINSULA PRACTICE

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[www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk](http://www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk)

Due to the rapidly changing situation relating to Coronavirus/Covid-19 and how it affects the services we provide, please visit the dedicated Coronavirus/Covid-19 Practice Update page on our website to find out the latest information.

*If you would like your Bulletin emailed to you, or if you have any future items, please email [louiselennard127@btinternet.com](mailto:louiselennard127@btinternet.com) ★★ It may be appropriate to distribute useful information between Bulletin circulation dates, especially useful during the current situation. Please be assured that your email address will never be circulated to third parties. ★★*

# Bawdsey Bulletin

May 2020

No. 220

## A BULLETIN WITHOUT ANY NEWS

Dear Bawdsey Resident

As nothing at present is quite as usual, here is an unusual Bawdsey Bulletin. I am writing to you as Parish Council Chairman, to pass on some of the things I might well have talked about at the Annual Parish Meeting – reflecting on the life of this village over the past twelve months or so.

I certainly would have said there should be some sort of award issued to every Bawdsey resident for what you have coped with over the last year. No other small village that I know has faced such things:

- Going on for years – all the traffic and work connected with the Windfarm landfall site – a huge national project on our doorstep
- Major changes and challenges arising from PGL's stewardship of Bawdsey Manor
- Two large housing developments involving private and social housing – both on sites in key parts of the village
- The challenge of coastal erosion, which continues to eat our land and beaches at an alarming rate – so that our coast is hard to recognise in places – and not forgetting the Shoreline Management Plan review for East Lane
- And the river at Bawdsey Quay and the site of Shingle Street continuing to draw countless visitors for longer periods each year – with the additional prospect of the National Coastal Path which will attract more walkers

I can assure you that all these matters and others have kept your Parish Councillors pretty busy over the past year as they have tried to determine and represent the best interests of our village. It is, quite simply, a continuing struggle with issues, regulations and paperwork – and the commitment and support of Councillors and Clerk has been absolutely vital to any success achieved.

On the plus side, we are pleased that the SID has had the desired effect of reducing speeding through the village in conjunction with the additional 30mph roundels that have been painted along The Street and Ferry Road. The brand new pavement has also meant that the look of The Street has been greatly enhanced as well as making it safer for pedestrians.

Just when you might have thought life could not get any trickier for us, along comes an international disaster in the shape of Covid 19, completely dominating our lives in the UK as elsewhere.

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While here on Islay with our daughter, we have kept in touch through e-mails and phone calls with the life and times of Bawdsey during a national tragedy. It is heartening to hear how well the village is looking after those in need – potatoes, onions, prescriptions, shopping, companionship, etc, have all been readily available. It is what I would have expected from Bawdsey during this grim time, but very encouraging nevertheless, and a tribute to all concerned. Thank you!

The struggle to deal with this virus is clearly going on for quite a while, so I wish us all well in trying to deal with the coming weeks and months. Our best wishes to all.

Andrew Block

Chairman (by default I guess, as there is no way of removing me at present!?)

#### **BAWDSEY VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE**

A very big thanks to Chris Mann for supplying a large amount of potatoes for the village. We have made up almost 200 individual bags from them over the last month.

Somebody has superglued the locks on the tennis courts. We have, as a result, put up some CCTV on the Recreation Ground for the sole purpose of deterring these thoughtless vandals.

It is with great regret that we have had to cancel this year's Fete. We look to the money we receive from it to pay our bills and make improvements. Maybe we can do the Fete later in the year, if things change, if not perhaps we can at least do a raffle/draw.

#### **EMERGENCY PLANNING – COVID-19**

Firstly, a massive thank you to everyone who has kindly volunteered their time to assist with help during these strange times. You have all been added to a list and if the need arises we will be calling on your services.

We have helped a few villagers over the last few weeks with shopping and collecting of medication, and if you would like us to help you, please call 07851 211 230 or email [rob@bawdseyemergencyplanning.co.uk](mailto:rob@bawdseyemergencyplanning.co.uk)

The SID speed sign in the village has been changed to display the message 'Stay at Home' below the speed while we are in lockdown and generally the public have responded.

However, over the weekends we have noticed an increase of cars going to the Quay. The rules clearly state that only local residents should be exercising at the Quay. If anyone is concerned about the lack of social distancing please call 101 and report. The Police have been making regular visits through the village and to the Quay and have asked people politely to go back home.

Stay safe and remember: Stay Home – Help the NHS – Save Lives

#### **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

Although there will not be any parish council meetings until further notice, the work of the council continues behind the scenes. The end of year finances has been approved by the internal auditor and all the relevant documents can be found on the village website under Annual Accounts on the Parish Council page.

Two outstanding planning applications are:

DC/20/0616/FUL Seventeen Acres Barn, East Lane, Bawdsey. Demolition of side wings and conversion of barn to a dwelling, erection of associate cart lodge, lifting of concrete apron and associated landscaping

DC/20/1515/OUT Middle Barn, Ferry Road, Bawdsey. Conversion of agricultural buildings at Middle Barn into dwelling house. Initial consultation on new public access to the site.

**Police Connect** are warning the public to secure their vehicles after cars were stolen at Stratford St Andrew and Sudbourne last month. Suffolk Police would like to remind residents during the spring and summer seasons to regularly check that garden gates, sheds, garages, outbuildings and barns are locked and secure. This follows a number of burglaries/attempted burglaries of sheds, garages and outbuildings in various locations across the County. In many cases, gardening equipment such as lawnmowers, strimmers, hedge trimmers, electrical equipment, tools etc have been stolen. We recommend that all property is security marked, insured, secured and locked away after being used.

**The Peninsula Practice** has said "Despite the Coronavirus which has meant organising work differently, we are still here to treat our patients. Please continue to contact the surgery if you have health issues."

**If you would like to order a selection box of freshly caught fish**, contact Jonathan Simper at [js@simperfarms.co.uk](mailto:js@simperfarms.co.uk), text on 07850847779 or register at [www.simpersoframsholt.co.uk](http://www.simpersoframsholt.co.uk). A box of the fish caught each day is £25.

**The Pump Street Bakery at Orford** is delivering bread and cakes in this area on Saturdays. Please order by 11.00am Friday for next day delivery by emailing [michelle@pumpstreetbakery.com](mailto:michelle@pumpstreetbakery.com) or calling 01394 459829. Orders over £30 are free delivery. A list of products is on the village website and on the notice board.

**Alderton Shop:** Many villagers are very grateful to Judith Vaudry and her team at the shop who have been keeping open in a safety-conscious way and delivering to those over 70s unable to get out. Some of you will have seen the shop featured in Look East last month. The range of delicious home-made meals she has been making on a daily basis have also been a god-send.

**Thanks to Chris Mann** for providing the village with sacks of potatoes and onions. Bags of potatoes can be picked up outside the village hall for free along with cans of drink from the pop-up pub, sold for 50p each.