

Beyton Parish Council Chairman`s Report

We are well and truly into the end of Autumn and what a spectacular display Mother Nature gave us this year. The tree colours have been a delight to see and have of course enhanced the beauty of our village. Oh, I just forgot, we now have a garden full of leaves, clearing up will keep me off the streets and out of the pubs for a while. I would like to make a special comment and thanks to our local farmers as they have been particularly busy this year trimming hedgerows and clearing ditches – nice job guys.

Speeding in Beyton

Finally orders have been placed for a new Speed Camera and VAS (Vehicle Activation Sensor) for the Beyton Speed Watch (CSW) team. This is a major investment in the quest to make our roads safe. The cost is £5,500 however, we have been lucky to receive £2,000 from our County Councillor, Penny Otton with further donations of £1,750 each from the Beyton Village Association and Parish Council.

Events Noticeboard

I hope that you have noticed the blackboard on the front of the old bus shelter doors, if you haven't then it is not working ! The board is the idea of Max McGillivray to alert villagers to forthcoming events and may be used by anyone wishing to publicise what's on in Beyton. Please let me know if you wish publicise an event and I will give you the chalk pen – I never knew that I had such power !

By the way, the blackboard was donated by Thurston Community College, another example of the increasing collaboration with our learned friends.

Autumn Clean-up

This year the clean-up was combined with the opening ceremonies of the Village Map and Defibrillator, more of these later. Twenty five people joined the cleaning campaign and as usual the worst affected areas were the the two slipways off the A14 and the lay-bys along Bury road. I never cease to be amazed by what some people dump in the countryside. Jo Churchill, our MP stayed on after opening the Defibrillator and the New Village Map but unfortunately had to miss the beers afterwards and the

excellent spread put on by Hannah and Garry in The Bear for all the volunteers. Who said volunteers are not adequately rewarded ?

Village Green Lease

Apologies, I have not been able to pursue this subject because of other commitments, however, the subject remains high on the PC`s agenda.

Flooding in the Village

Current status is as follows:

Thurston Road: The adjacent ditch was cleared last year, however, no preventative maintenance has been done this year, so keep your fingers crossed.

Quaker Lane: Suffolk County Council has completed the remedial work on the ditches and drains and have also filled in the potholes – we should be ok for the winter.

Manor Farm Drive: Suffolk County Council has agreed to investigate the performance of the soak-away at the junction with Thurston road, however, progress is slow.

Drinkstone Road. The farmer has made a great job of clearing foliage in the ditch and we just wait for Thurston Community College to clear their area.

One way street along the Green: The storm drains have been sucked clear.

The bottom line is many of the jobs have been done but not all. We shall continue work with Suffolk Highways to deliver the best solutions.

Highways

A few road issues have been reported to Suffolk Highways department and are awaiting action from their side. These are broken railings on the sharp bend at the junction of Thurston Road and the One Way Street, broken fence at the bottom of the A14 slip road, a two way road sign too faded to read at the top of the west bound slipway (one parishioner had to mount the grass verge as a lorry approached on the wrong side of the road towards Tostock). Finally a split willow tree on the edge of Quaker Lane.

Emergency Plan for Beyton

The draft plan will be reviewed by Suffolk County Council and the Environmental Agency in December.

Defibrillator

Around fifty people gathered on The Green to join in the unveiling of Beyton`s defibrillator, Jo Churchill officially handed over the equipment to Ruby Last on behalf of our community. What a rewarding moment for Ruby whose acceptance speech made all in attendance feel proud of our future generation. Purchase of the equipment was made possible by a grant from the National Lottery Fund.

Subsequent to the installation two training sessions were held at TCC with nearly forty attendees. The trainer from Community Heartbeat Trust stressed that the defibrillator does not rely on “expert “ handling to be effective as the machine gives a simple step by step verbal instruction. The key message is that the defibrillator cannot harm the patient or the operator. Doing nothing in an emergency is not an option. Remember in any EMERGENCY -THE FIRST THING TO DO IS PHONE 999 and the service will give you clear instruction on what to do.

Several people attending the training sessions enquired what to do if there are only two people in the home and one of them appears to have a cardiac arrest. The answer is simple, ring 999 and do not leave the patient. The Parish Council will set up a VETS (Volunteer Emergency Telephone System) in the village that can be called to have a “runner” collect the defibrillator for you. We already have six volunteers. Please wait for details in future publications of the BVN

Beyton Geese

You may have noticed that one of our friendly flock was looking a bit dirty with its feathers stained brown. Nick Willis of Anglia Wildfowl was consulted and advised that maybe the goose needed worming or it may have eaten something that caused it to have diarrhoea. The feathers would become stained during the process of cleaning itself and the discoloured appearance would last for some period. Anyhow this goose is again feeding well with its friends. We are now giving supplementary feed to the flock as Nick Willis recommended as there is little nutrition in the grass at this time of the year. Feeding is taking place on the east side of The Green to encourage them spend less time on the play areas.

Quaker Lane Noticeboard

Quaker Lane has a new red coloured noticeboard to replace the old more traditional one that has served the community well over the past few decades. My thanks to John Clarke for helping me with the installation.

Beyton Village Map

David Kemplay`s masterpiece was unveiled by Jo Churchill (we certainly kept her busy during her visit) on the 22nd of October. Smaller versions have been given to our two pubs and also to Beyton Garage. This should help delivery drivers find their destination and who knows, even Santa may find it useful on Christmas Eve.

Cricket Bat Willows

Four Parishioners have now raised concern over the felling of 10 mature trees alongside the stream along the green. We have contacted the company that has historically managed the trees to explore the possibility for a compromised felling. The decision on how to proceed will basically come down to safety, the most important criteria and cost and will be considered at the PC meeting on Monday 28 November. We have also asked Dan Brown of Tall Trees to conduct an assessment of all the trees on the green.

Beyton Website.

We have a comprehensive new website thanks to Roger Brand, we should encourage all of the village clubs and associations to make use of this facility to allow parishioners a one stop shop to what`s on in Beyton. Roger will be very happy to receive your articles.

BVN

Many folks have expressed their praise and appreciation for our Beyton Village News, comments such as “magnificent” and “what a brilliant read” are typical-Well done Matt and team. We entered our magazine for the Suffolk Magazine of year competition, unfortunately we did not win. The winners in the larger village category were Ufford Punch and the smaller one, Levington & Stratton Hall. The comment for those entries that did not win being that the adjudicators want to see more content aimed at younger members of the community. There is always next year !

Beyton Parish Council wishes you all a very **Happy Christmas.**
Graham Jones. October 2016

