

Cotton Quarterly

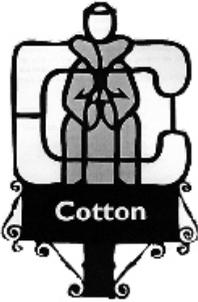
Cotton Parish Council Village Newsletter

Autumn 2015



Cotton Parish Council

Welcome to the Autumn issue of the Cotton Quarterly Newsletter.



A well attended meeting of the Parish Council was held on the 17th June when the planning application for 47 new homes on the west side of Broad Road (Bacton) was discussed. Several members of the public spoke against the application, all of them citing the problems of speeding traffic and the difficulty of pedestrian access from the proposed site to Bacton' village amenities. Noise and light pollution, effect on wildlife, water drains from the land to land on the opposite side of the road, this will be severely affected by the proposed development. Since the closure of Eye Police Station there has been a marked increase in emergency service vehicles using the B1113 at higher speeds than the speed limit. All members of the public felt that the development would have a detrimental affect on Cotton, destroying the boundary between the villages of Bacton and Cotton. After discussion the Parish Council objected to the application on comprehensive grounds. The objections can be read by viewing the minutes of the meeting which are now on the web-site.

The Council welcome Marian Cocksedge and Elliott Knight who were co-opted onto the Council at the meeting held on the 8th July. The Council has been informed that some residents do not know who their Parish Councillors are, Councillors names and contacted details are printed in every issue of this magazine, these details with their photographs will shortly be displayed on all the village notice boards and the web-site.

Signs have been erected at both ends of the bridleway along Cotton Lane and the footpath between Scuffins Lane and Broad Road warning of the risk of large fines for dog walkers who do not clear up after their dogs.

The next scheduled meeting of the Council is on Wednesday 9th September at 7.30pm in the village hall.

Colin Hall

Clerk to Cotton Parish Council

Village web-site

www.cotton.onesuffolk.net

N.B. Copy for the Winter Newsletter by end of October please

Cotton's Parish Councillors are:-

Chairman	Mr. Peter Gibbs	Tel:- 01449 781308 email:- peter.gibbs@talk21.com
Vice Chairman	Mrs.Sarah Weban	Tel:- 01449 781095 email:-sarahwenban@hotmail.com
Councillor	Mrs. B. Ellis	Tel:- 01449 780007 email:- ber.35@hotmail.com
Councillor	Mr. D. Williams	Tel:- 01449 781645 email:- sanddwilliams@btinternet.com
Councilor	Mr. C. Tester	Tel:- 01449 782134 email:- ctnego2@aol.com
Councillor	Mrs. M. Cocksedge	Tel:- 01449 780491 email:- cocksedge191@btinternet.com
Councilor	Mr. E. Knight	Tel:- 01449 257381 email:- Elliott.o.knight@gmail.com

Mid Suffolk District Councillor / Suffolk County Councilor

Mr Andrew Stringer

Tel:- 01449 780339

emails:-

andrew.stringer@midsuffolk.gov.uk / Andrew.Stringer@suffolk.gov.uk

Parish Clerk Mr Colin Hall

Tel:- 01449 781400

email:- cottonparish.clerk@gmail.com

The Facebook page 'Cotton Parish Grapevine' has been slowly attracting interest over the last year or so, if a village matter gets an airing about eighty odd people see it, it a picture or video of a barn owl or a water vole appears suddenly about 400 people seem to take an interest. That probably says something about our love of the countryside and the environment we live in.

Over the coming months the new Parish Council will be setting out some ideas for the future. Some of you will recall the village published a Parish Plan in 2009 this was a document produced after a lengthy process of discussion and surveys but some of the issues raised then are still in need of sorting out. The Plan was produced just before the recession so a few of the ideas within it withered with the cuts in Local Authority funding. Nonetheless, there is clearly a need to review the plan again but more importantly to have another sweep of the community to see what residents, businesses and visitors would like to see happen. The process for this is likely to be different to last time but it is certain things put on the Facebook page will be included.

So if you have an issue you feel needs 'airing' let one of the Parish Councillors know or put some words on Cotton Parish Grapevine, it is open to all. On an individual basis everybody will have some ideas, we just need to make sure they all get heard.

If you don't still have a copy of the Parish Plan, you can find a summary on the Cotton Village web-site at <http://cotton.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/parish-plan>.

Friends of Cotton Church

Reg Charity 1053483



We have just had our Annual General Meeting and after nearly two decades of dedication to the Friends of Cotton Church, Tony and Jeannie Hutchinson have retired as Trustees of the Charity. They have worked tirelessly to ensure the future of our beautiful church. The remaining Trustees, and, I am sure the wider community thank them very much for all their efforts.

The FCC supported the Parochial Church Council's bid to secure funding for roof and rain water repairs. This was successful and with a contribution of £20,000 from the FCC work will commence on the Chancel roof in the near future. This will mean that after many years of hard work St Andrews will be protected from the elements for the time being. Clearly a building such as St Andrews will always need to be cared for so your continuing support is most welcome.

As a consequence of Tony and Jeannie's decision to stand down there are vacancies on the committee of the FCC, if anyone is interested in becoming involved with our project then please contact Christine Tester (Secretary) on 01449 782134 or by e-mail at acejt1952@aol.com

Finally a date for your diary; Friday 11th December. The Edmund Octet will again be performing in the church to celebrate the Christmas season. They have proven to be very popular in recent years with a mixture of traditional and contemporary Christmas music, refreshments will of course be provided.

Andrew Stringer

Chairman F.C.C.

01449 780339

Christine Tester

Secretary

01449 782134



Parochial Church Council

St Andrew's Church Cotton

Progress towards appointing a new Minister is disappointing and slow. A sole applicant was interviewed in June following re-advertising, but the Bishop declined to make an appointment. Although the position will continue to appear on our diocesan website a new deadline will not be set until after press advertisements have been published in October. We pray earnestly for suitable candidates, but realistically there will be no person in Office until 2016. Meanwhile we are ever grateful to our small team of Ordained and lay people who support Rev'd Canon Barbara Bilston, the Rural Dean of Stowmarket, in providing leadership for all our Worship.

The Chancel Roof Repair Grant should have received official Permission to Start (as they call it) by the time this is in print, and the designated contractors expect to commence works at the beginning of October for just a few weeks - depending on the horrors lurking beneath the old tiles! Drainage problems are more difficult to assess but we hope to be able to use some of the Grant finance to finally identify the real cause(s) of our perennial mould and damp problems especially in the tower north west corner and around the font. If we could solve this issue then we could actually look forward to re-plastering and future decoration!

At the annual meeting of Parishioners we were **delighted to appoint a second Churchwarden** - Carole Jones, an existing but fairly recently appointed PCC member; she together with myself and others from around the deanery were confirmed in Office at a Visitation Service in Buxhall in June. I am very sure that her continuing service to the community in this capacity will be much appreciated, not least by myself! We were

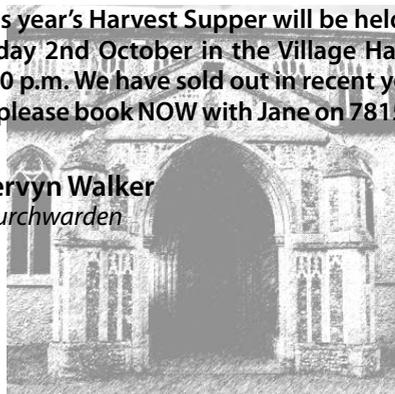
sad that Myrtle Hales decided that the time had come to step down from the PCC; her record of service to St Andrew's is outstanding with very many years as Churchwarden and we are deeply grateful to her; she remains an active member of the congregation and her advice still much sought after when none of us "newcomers" knows the answer! We would very much welcome a new member so why not come to a meeting and see if you would think of joining us.

We are grateful to acknowledge the gift of a new carpet runner for the central nave of the church from the daughter of a family now at rest in the churchyard, and in their memory - Roy and Kathleen Watkins; many will recall their contributions to the musical life of worship at St Andrew's.

The Flower Festival was a great success despite (or perhaps because of) the miserable wet weekend of 13/14 June, and we made a very useful profit which will encourage even more adventurous catering next time! Very many thanks to everyone who contributed and especially to our organiser Chris Marston.

This year's Harvest Supper will be held on Friday 2nd October in the Village Hall at 6.30 p.m. We have sold out in recent years so please book NOW with Jane on 781594.

Mervyn Walker
Churchwarden



Cotton Village Hall



News

Cotton Village Hall AGM was held on the 20th May 2015 the committee was re-elected with the addition of Jacob Stringer; anyone wishing to see the chairman's report or the treasurer's report contact me on 781083..

We have a number of events happening at the hall in the coming months that include two theatre companies presenting their shows. The evening with **Quirkhouse Theatre Company on 5th September** is called '**Head to Head**', which comprises three one-act plays called '**An Extraordinary Rendition**', '**Body and Soul Mates**' (both by local writers) and Harold Pinter's '**The Dumb Waiter**'. Ticket £9-00 (£6-00 Students). On the **8th December** the production by the **Spinning Wheel Theatre Company is 'A Christmas Carol'** and the ticket prices will be £7 and (£5 for concession).

Keep a look out for the posters on the Children's Halloween Party (*Don't be scared be petrified*).

There was a disappointing show of teams (only 3 teams) at the last Quiz, dose the village still want them?

John Doherty

Chairman, Cotton Village Hall

All entries are from the diary 31st July 2015 any additions after this date see Parish magazine or notice boards.

What's on

September

1st 15th 29th

2nd

5th

5th

7th 14th 21st 28th

8th 22nd

9th

12th

13th

15th

October

4th

2nd

5th 12th 19th 26th

13th 27th

13th 27th

20th

21st

31st

31st

November

2nd 9th 16th 23rd 30th

7th

10th 24th

10th 24th

14th

17th

18th

December

2nd

7th 14th

8th

8th

African Drums & Dance
Village hall Committee
meeting

VPA Show

**Quirkhouse Theatre
Company** (*evening*)

Zumba

Circle Club

Parish Council

Café

Private party

Dog Training

Music museum to use
field car park

Harvest Supper

Zumba

Circle Club

African Drums & Dance

Dog Training

VPA

Café

**Children's Halloween
party**

Zumba

Private Party

Circle Club

African Drums & Dance

Charity Show

Dog Training

VPA

VPA

Zumba

Circle Club

**Spinning Wheel Theatre
Company** (*evening*)



'Head to Head'

Three one-act plays called 'An Extraordinary Rendition',
'Body and Soul Mates' (both by local writers)
and Harold Pinter's 'The Dumb Waiter'.

Cotton Village Hall

7-30 Saturday 5th September

Ticket price for the evening is £9 (£6 for students).



Spinning wheel Theatre Company

Present

A Christmas Carol

Cotton Village Hall

Tuesday 8th December

Ticket £7.00 (£5.00 concessions)

Community Circle Club and Café

September-November 2015

Venue: Cotton Village Hall, Blacksmith Road, Cotton

Tuesday 8 September 2pm – 4pm Community Circle Club

Saturday 12 September 10am – 12pm Community Circle Café



Tuesday 22 September 2pm – 4pm Community Circle Club

Tuesday 13 October 2pm – 4pm Community Circle Club

Tuesday 27 October 2pm – 4pm Community Circle Club

Saturday 31 October 10am – 12noon
(Hallowe'en) Community Circle Café



Tuesday 10 November 2pm – 4pm Community Circle Club

Tuesday 24 November 2pm – 4pm Community Circle Club

Saturday 12 December 10am – 12noon
(Christmas Café 2015)



Cotton Community Circle – Tuesday Afternoon Club

We are a social group and we meet at Cotton Village Hall on the second and fourth Tuesdays of most months from 2pm until 4pm.

(NB: No meetings during July, August, and December.)

So why not come along? You choose – board games, darts, table tennis, plus a collection of books and DVDs to swap. And there's always friendly, lively conversation! Coffee or tea, biscuits (and sometimes cake) are available. What's not to like? Bring your friends!

All this for only £1.00 per person

For more information, ring 01449 781083

Neighbourhood Watch Report

The end of last month saw Suffolk Police mount a major operation on the A140 in Coddendam.

The aim was to disrupt criminal activity, to carry out enforcement, and to deter and detect criminal activity. In all, thirtyeight vehicles were stopped and only three vehicles were clear of any offences. Offences included the using of red diesel, a suspect vehicle which was previously involved in a burglary was stopped and the two occupants arrested on suspicion of burglary and theft. Another driver was arrested for careless driving and having an insecure load. Drug dogs were present and a number of persons searched. Some cannabis was recovered and three cannabis warnings were given. Traffic offences discovered were defective tyres, driving whilst using a mobile phone and having no insurance. Follow up enquiries as a result of this operation will continue regarding unregistered businesses and some Trading Standard enquiries. These operations will be repeated over the coming months. Well done Suffolk Police.

There have been number of incidents involving the theft of mobile phones by means of a distraction in Ipswich Town. The distraction is by a woman aged 20 to 30years, slim build and with dark hair, sometimes tied in a ponytail. She distracts the victim with either a newspaper or a leaflet before stealing the mobile phone. Suffolk Police have issued the following advice:-

Don't leave your mobile phone unattended, especially on counters or tables in public places.

Always keep your phone hidden, not in your back pocket.

Property-mark your phone with your postcode and door number to make it identifiable if recovered.

Record details of serial numbers of your electronic devices and the IMEI number, which is a unique identifier for mobile phones.

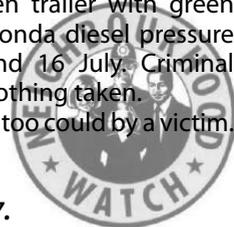
If your phone is stolen report it to the police and your phone network operator.

When using your phone whilst out and about, consider your personal safety and that of the phone. Don't advertise it and keep aware of who is around you.

Recent crimes in our area. Station Road, Finningham, in early June. A red and silver petrol powered mower was taken from a barn. Whether the barn was insecure or not I do not know. Burglary in Mendlesham, between 13th and 14 July. Offender entered outbuildings, a shed and stables; stole a wooden trailer with green wheels, saddles and other equestrian equipment and a Honda diesel pressure washer. Finningham, Westhorpe Road, between 15th and 16 July. Criminal damage, vehicle tyres were slashed and windows broken, nothing taken.

So they are about. Lock up your outbuildings securely or you too could be a victim. Let's keep Cotton crime free.

Tony Craighill. Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. 781917.



Cotton & District Village Produce Association

COTTON VPA ANNUAL SHOW 5th September in Village Hall
Doors open for viewing 2.30pm

Schedules available from:

Jane de beer 781594 or Christine Marston 781567

All entries to be returned before 26th August.

Have a go this year at exhibiting, you will find it good fun.

New members will be very welcome.



21st October Favourite Wild Flowers *a talk by Yvonne Leonard*

18th November AGM followed by Gardening Quiz

Evening meetings are held in the Village Hall and begin at 7.30

Cotton & District Village Produce Association Flower Show

Saturday 5th September in Cotton Village Hall
open 2.30pm

Class: Section I Vegetables

Section II Fruit in season

Section III Wine

Section IV Flowers

Section V Cookery

Section VI Children (up to 14)



Entries to be received by Wednesday 26 August

Bacton & Cotton Local History Society

Our new programmes for 2015/2016 are now available at our meetings and in the leaflet rack beside the Bacton Shop Post Office counter. We meet in Bacton Parish Hall at 7.30 pm every third Tuesday in the month from September to June except for December. All are very welcome.

Membership £ 5 a year. Entry per meeting - Members £ 2 Non-members £ 3



September 15th

Our Nuclear War Warning Post !

Below a field in the parish of Cotton is a concrete room that was this area's nuclear war warning post and part of a national network. Two of our committee, Peter Gibbs and John Insley, who were involved in the administration and management of this system will tell its story and some of those who manned our post will be at the meeting . (It is also hoped to arrange a visit to this site)

October 20th

Bonfires and Bells

Dr. Kate Jewell will tell us how medieval festivals and rituals were used to protect the rural landscape and ensure its fertility and were important to legal issues connected with the landscape.

November 17th

Frolic, Fervour and Fornication

We welcome back Pip Wright to tell us about the things that crop up in our Parish Registers and in papers that once resided in parish chests which also revealed a great deal about our ancestors that were not to do with baptism, marriage or burial !

This being our last meeting before Christmas we will end with our customary mince pies and tea/coffee.

Details from Peter Wenban at:-
01449 781095 or peterwenban@gmail.com



Reg Charity 1080734

CARTERS MEADOW



Two men went to mow

Under Peter's expert eye, Quentin took his first lesson in moving a tractor and cutting bar around a small field. Taking a super-tanker across the sea might have seemed easier to begin with but he soon got the hang of it and he and Peter performed a splendid duet cutting and turning the hay on the flower meadow. The good weather has meant we were able to rake it off and chose to burn it this year as the wasps had made themselves too comfortable in the old stack in the corner.

Soon we will see the return of the Soay sheep who will enjoy the rich diet of clover and other wild flowers and we are placing an owl box on one of the oaks in the hope of attracting one of Peter's young barn owls who will soon be flying the nest.

Autumn Work Parties

Sunday 6 September

Sunday 4 October

Sunday 1 November

10.00 - 12.00