

REACH

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The Reach website has been updated and can be visited at;

www.reach-village.co.uk

There is information on the **HISTORY** of the village as well as current day issues and opportunities.

In the **PARISH COUNCIL** area you can download the Minutes of previous meetings and see the Agenda for the next one.

Older issues of this magazine are available for download from the **MAGAZINE** page.

Anything **LOST and FOUND** can be advertised for free - and the **SERVICES** page gives helpful local support information.

So please check it out and if you have any comments or items to be included on the website then just let me know.

David Parr

20 Fair Green, Reach, CB25 0JD

Tel: 01638 744081

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Out of Reach



www.reach-village.co.uk

Reach Community Magazine Apr/May 09

Information

Parish Council Chairman Michael Aves 742800
Parish Clerk Dave Parr 744081
Village Hall Committee Andrew Towers 742484
Village Hall Bookings Joyce Harrison, 742405
County Councillor Hazel Williams
District Councillor Allen Alderson 01638 741744
Neighbourhood Watch Joyce Harrison 742405
Vicar Revd Canon Stephen Earl 741262
Hon.Assistant Priest Revd David Bush 741839
Asst.Curate Revd Gill Smith 743589
Licensed Lay Minister John Hooper 742026
Priest in Retirement (Reach) Revd David King 742924

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Distribution Joyce Harrison. 742405

Doctors (The Burwell Surgery, Newmarket Road, Burwell, CB5 0AE)

Appointments/Emergencies 741234

Doctors Dr Anne Shneerson, Dr Andrew Wills,
 Dr A Manning, Dr James Parry, Dr Maureen Birch
Surgery Hours Mon 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm
 Tues. 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm
 Wed 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm
 Thu 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm
 Fri 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm

Community Nurses 742382 11 - 11.30 am, 1.00 - 1.30 pm & 4 - 4.30 pm
Ante Natal Wed. 4.30 - 5.30 pm, Run by Midwife
Child Health Surveillance 2nd & 4th Tuesdays. 2.00 - 4.00 pm

Emergencies

Eastern Electric 01223 440221
Anglian Water 01603 225000
Police 999 Non Emergencies 0845 4564564

Church Services



Services at Burwell and Reach

May 09	<i>St Mary's Burwell</i>	<i>St Etheldreda & the Holy Trinity Reach</i>
3rd Easter 4	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Family Service	6.00pm Songs of Praise
10th Easter 5	10.00am Christian Aid Family Service at <u>Trinity Church</u>	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 7.00pm "Sunday @ 7" Informal Service
17th Easter 6 (Sunday before the Ascension)	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Family Service	
24th Easter 7 (Sunday after the Ascension)	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Parish Communion	11.00am Family Service
31st Pentecost Sunday	(5th Sunday at Reach)	9.30 am United Parish Communion

Church Services



Services at Burwell and Reach		
Apr 09	<i>St Mary's Burwell</i>	<i>St Etheldreda & the Holy Trinity Reach</i>
5th Palm Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Family Service 2.30pm Walk of Witness from Co-op to Trinity Church <i>Churches Together in Burwell</i>	
Mon 6 th Tues 7 th Weds 8 th	Each Night 7.00pm Night Prayer at CentrePeace	
9 th Maundy Thursday	7.30pm Holy Communion 8.45-10.00pm The Watch (vigil)	
10 th Good Friday	12.00 pm All Age Service	2.00 pm Devotional Service
12th Easter Sunday	6.00am <i>Sunrise Service on Castle Mound, behind Guildhall</i> 9.30pm Family Communion	8.00am Holy Communion (said) (No "Sunday @ 7" this month)
19th Easter 2	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Parish Communion 6.30pm "The Road to Emmaus" Deanery Devotional Musical at St Margaret's Chippenham (composer: Revd Tim Alban Jones)	
Sat 25th	5.00pm Fordham & Quy Deanery Confirmation Service at Bottisham with Bishop David Thompson	
26th Easter 3	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Parish Communion 42 6.30pm Service of Healing / "Sunday Serenity"	

Editor's Notes



The purpose of Out of Reach is to serve the whole village by circulating information and interesting articles free to every household in Reach. Issues are published bi-monthly with cover dates of Dec/Jan, Feb/Mar, Apr/May, Jun/Jul, Aug/Sep and Oct/Nov.

Items for inclusion should reach the editor two weeks before the 1st day of the first month on the cover. Inclusion date for June/July issue will be 14th May.

From the Editor

Reach fair is here again! Doesn't seem like 12 months has passed since our great day last year. There are lots of activities this year to keep all ages amused so get all your friends and family to come along and enjoy the day. Don't forget the Quiz on Sunday too!

The Fen Vision is still stirring the passions with some more letters this edition.

Also, please all have a look at the new updated website. Dave Parr has been working hard to include all sorts of useful sections including lost and found, articles for sale, Council minutes etc. See the back page of this **Out of Reach** for more details.

Talking of lost and found the recently found child's body warmer has still not been claimed, which is odd, but Rita's lost dog was soon recovered in fine health.

Hilary Fielding has joined the Parish Council with immediate effect.

Grahame Radford

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Contents



From the Editor	3
Dates for Your Diary	5
Notices	6
Swaffham Prior School News	8
Letters to the editor	10
Fair 2009 News	13
Bus Timetable	17
Parish Council Minutes	26
District Councillor's Message	37
County Councillor's Message	39
Church News	40

(The following are words from "Guidelines" Jan-April 09 which seem to aptly draw together these thoughts)

In his final prison letter before his execution at the hands of the Nazis in 1945, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote the following: "This is the end; for me the beginning of life". For Christians there is a double sense in which death becomes a beginning. As Paul writes, baptism is a kind of burial. Our old self is buried with Christ by baptism into death, so that "just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). And then there is the physical death that Bonhoeffer describes. It may look momentous, final and terrifying from one perspective, but from the perspective of eternity it is a way in, not a way out".

(Rosemary Dymond)

May Easter be for us all a time joy and renewal, of looking beyond our present burdens (whatever they may be) to the light of Christ which transforms everything and which can never be extinguished:

"O let the Son of God enfold you
with His Spirit and His love.
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let Him have the things that hold you –
And His Spirit, like a dove, will descend upon your life
and make you whole.

(John Wimber)

With every blessing,

Stephen.

There are several special services in St Etheldreda's church during April and May this year, which you would be most welcome to attend.

On Good Friday (April 10th) there will be a devotional service of readings, hymns and meditations at 2.00pm. This 'traditional style' service lasts about one hour and focuses on Christ on the cross.

On Easter Sunday (April 12th) we have Holy Communion at 8.00am. Again a traditional said service, it is a joyful occasion, so why not come and join us?

There will be no Sunday @ 7 in April because of Easter, but it will be as usual back on May 10th.

Of course, the May Bank Holiday weekend brings Reach Fair and we will be holding our usual Songs of Praise on the Eve of the Fair at 6.00pm in St Etheldreda's Church. If you've got a favourite hymn that you'd like to be included, do let me know (pat@patchtcs.co.uk)

Finally, at the end of May we have our regular quarterly service of Parish Communion at 9.30am. This is a full communion service with all the trimmings – hymns, organ, choir and sermon. It's usually well attended and refreshments are served afterwards, so we'd be delighted to see you.

Village Centre



To help raise money to run the Village Centre we have a 100 club. Tickets are just £10.00 each.

The 100 club has 10 draws a year.
8 draws of £20.00 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month
2 draws of £50.00
July and December

4
Please contact Joyce Harrison 742405

Church News



Dear Friends,

It's so easy to whinge about our politicians whose work involves immense responsibilities and who inevitably get things wrong sometimes. Fuelled by the media, we tend to focus on the mistakes of politicians and government instead of the great deal of good they do on our behalf. Today (or rather yesterday as I write this) politicians of all parties undeniably got things right, and so right that I really felt proud of them and proud to be a British citizen. Sounds extraordinary doesn't it! Following the sad death of David & Samantha Cameron's 6 year old son Ivan, suffering from a rare form of cerebral palsy, Prime Minister's Question Time in Parliament was abandoned (at the suggestion of our P.M.) as a mark of respect, and instead senior politicians of all sides took it turn to speak most movingly and with utter sincerity about the shared sadness of the situation, expressing I'm sure the feelings not only of the whole of parliament, but of everyone.

All the usual politics, bickering and point scoring were set aside as each senior figure stood up in The House of Commons to speak from the heart words they felt appropriate. First it was Gordon Brown, speaking from his own personal experience of the death of a baby daughter, and who clearly was fighting hard to contain his emotions, William Hague I think came next and then Vince Cable... all with wonderfully generous words of sympathy and condolence. And on this occasion the reporters themselves seemed to get it just right, avoiding (as sometimes happens) putting on affected or patronising tones or over dramatisation.

For many of us, the Camerons' loss will evoke powerful memories of young Oliver (from Burwell), a similarly delightful, endearing child who too died suffered from cerebral palsy and died in May 2000 at the tender age of seven. No doubt his family watching this recent news, and others who knew and loved Oliver, will have been struck by how deep feelings have been re-kindled (myself among them); and others too who've experienced the death of a much-loved child, in any circumstances and however long ago, may well have found themselves holding back their own tears.

When it comes to mourning the death of a child (or a young adult for that matter), grief at the death itself is also combined with grief at so much unfulfilled potential. And all the more compounded and over-whelming, I understand, in the case of those who've lived with severe disabilities. But of course there is fulfilment in other ways, different but special, such as Oliver's radiant smile and cheeky mannerisms.

As I *write* this it's the beginning of Lent; when you *read* it Easter will be upon us with longer and brighter days... the special time in the Christian year (indeed my favourite by far!) when our focus is on the Christian hope of new life and resurrection, of new beginnings, of light overcoming darkness, and of life beyond death – in this world and the next. A time of joy and Alleluias, and Easter eggs!

But Easter only happens because of what goes before it... For Jesus, the long and painful journey over his three-year ministry leading to Good Friday, and the bitter agony and seeming failure of the cross. For us, the 40 days' preparation of Lent **40**h its special focus on prayer, self-denial and the study of God's word, and the re-learning or reminding of what it means "to take up our own cross" and follow Him.

Diary Dates



DATES for your DIARY

April

Wed 1	Parish Council Meeting *	Village Centre	7.30 pm
Tues 7	Mobile Library	Village Green	1.10 pm
Fri 10	Recycling Day	(yes- Good Friday)	*****
Weds 15	Village Hall Committee	Village Centre	8.00 pm
Tues 21	Mobile Library	Village Green	1.10 pm
Fri 24	Recycling Day		

May

Sun 3	Fair Quiz	Village Green	7.30 pm
Mon 4	REACH FAIR	Village	12.00 noon
Tues 5	Mobile Library	Village Green	1.10 pm
Weds 6	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	8.00 pm
Sat 9	Recycling Day	NOTE CHANGE	*****
Tues 19	Mobile Library	Fair Green	1.10 pm
Wed 20	Hall Committee	Village Centre	8.00 pm
Fri 22	Recycling Day		
Sun 31	Pub Quiz	Dykes End	7.30 pm

Reach Village Centre 100 club

Remember to get your 100 club ticket to be in with a chance of the monthly draw. Only £10 for the year!

tel Joyce Harrison on 742405

March £20 winner - John Reed

REMEMBER – To win it you've got to be in it

Notices



Cambridgeshire County Councillor's report for March 2009

 **Reach & Swaffham Prior
Community Broadband** 
Your local internet / e-mail provider
(Before going to BT—contact us)
£20 per calendar month

Name.....

Address

.....

Tel No.....

**Please fill in this form if you require Broadband and return it to
Paul Catling, 10 Adams Road, Swaffham Prior
For further details contact Paul on 07005 800 991**

Village Games for Hire

Following this year's Fair we have a number of stall Games for hire.

These include:-

Feed the Frog, Drop the Dice, Splat the Rat and Hoopla.

Ideal for private parties, fund raising etc.

Interested?

Then telephone Jan Tabecki on 01638 742552
(Deposit required)

1.The County Council average Council Tax increase for 2009/10 is 3.9% (for a band D property) or £38 per year.

The opposition budget proposed an increase of 2.45% which was defeated.

2.Cambridgeshire Police report road deaths have fallen in Cambridgeshire by 30% in the past year.

3.The Guided Busway from Cambridge to St Ives is now scheduled to open in the late summer.

4.The Central Library in Cambridge City will reopen in early summer.

5.Journeys on Cambridge's Park & Ride have exceeded four million for the first time. The cost of a weekly park and ride ticket is £10. Individual return tickets will cost £2.50 per person when bought on the bus, compared to £2.20 if purchased in advance from machines at park and ride sites.

5.Cambridgeshire CABs are very busy with financial enquiries and have experienced a steep rise in employment queries. The county council is now directing more resources to the charity, which is working on the front line of those affected by the credit crunch.

7. The Transport Commission have a website (www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk) to give a picture of the transport and congestion problems in Cambridgeshire. Sir Brian Briscoe and Professor Tony Travers are not only looking at the TIF proposals but are able to make suggestions if they find other ways of helping improve the transport problems in Cambridgeshire. You can make your views known through the web site, by writing to them at Shire Hall in Cambridge or by attending one of the consultation meetings being held between March and May.

8.The Children's Centre is running from Bottisham with activities across the area, including the Swaffhams, Burwell and Reach, for families with under 5's. Activities include dads groups, health clinics, young parents support and messy play.

Cllr Hazel Williams

01638743897

REACH CHURCH NEWS

I notice as I write that the daffodils are all coming out, which may, perhaps, if the weather stops being unseasonal, mean that Spring is about to burst. We are looking forward to Easter now and we hope that you will come to Reach Church on Easter Sunday at 8.00 a.m, on the 12th April. We are hoping to make it all look beautiful for this most important festival. However, as I said in my last Contact article, we have very few people to care for the church at Reach, now. Would it be possible for some people to come along on Saturday 11th April and help to give the church an extra clean and polish or provide flowers, or even tidy up the churchyard.? I am thinking of getting a working party together at the church from 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. on that Saturday. Will you come and help us in any way you can? Just turn up whenever it is convenient. I would be most grateful.

Plans are now being made for Reach Fair on Bank Holiday Monday, May 4th. The Church will be holding its usual Bookstall in the church during the Fair. If you have any books in good condition, especially children's, please bring them to Jenny Moseley at Delph End Cottage, 26 Great Lane, Reach (Tel 741425).

The Songs of Praise will also, as usual, be held on the eve of Reach Fair, on May 3rd, starting at 6.00 p.m. I don't think it will any longer be possible to have a band on the Green, which is often rather a cold proposition anyway, but we hope you will come and sing lustily in the church and bring all your family and friends. If you have any favourite hymns you would like to sing, please tell Jenny Moseley and we will try to include them in the programme. See you, we hope, on April 12th and May 3rd and 4th.

Happy Easter to you all.

Jenny Moseley

For Hire from Reach Village Hall

Marquees - £80.00
(includes erection by
experienced personnel)

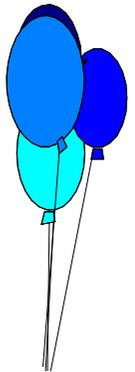
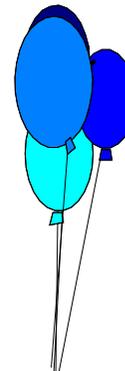
10' x 10' Gazebos - £20

Large BBQ - £20.00 deposit
(£10.00 returned if the BBQ is returned fully cleaned)

Please contact Andrew Hall on 01638 743737

Birthdays

Congratulations to :-





A message from your District Councillor

East Cambs District Council is using a special windfall payment from Central Government to reduce its council tax increase to help the whole district in these dire economic times. After receiving £39,500 from the Local Authority Business Growth Incentive Grant, we have decided to use the money to cut this year's council tax increase to 4.5%, which works out at 10p a week on a band D bill.

In recognition of its importance to many residents in the south of the district, we have also decided to provide an additional £10,000 to Newmarket Citizens Advice Bureaux over the next two years. This is on condition that it is match funded by both Cambs County Council and Forest Heath District Council.

As this has now been agreed, Newmarket CAB will be receiving £30,000 over the two years.

We are also giving Ely Citizens Advice Bureaux £20,000 this year and £14,000 next year. The CAB's are proving critical to many of our residents in these testing times, this funding will help them to continue their excellent work.

We also felt it was important to see what could be done about local transport from community dial-a-ride to local buses. This is why we have decided to do a detailed review of transport to see what we can do to make sure that those who live in very rural areas are not left isolated.

From February to June 2008, NATS (National Air Traffic Control) ran a consultation on proposals to redraw its aircraft route map. This would have involved extra stacking of planes over an area of East Anglia that would have directly affected the area around Newmarket. There was public concern at this proposal, and the issue was taken up by our south area neighbourhood panel. Following feedback, NATS is to undertake a second consultation later this year on revised proposals. I am confident that the clear approach that the panel took in responding to the original plans, plus additional meetings with NATS and the involvement of ECDS Environmental Service made a very real impact. This is another example of the neighbourhood's panels influence and value.

I would like to finish on a lighter note. On Saturday march the 7th a UKTV crew were in Ely market to film for a future programme in the series 'Your Brilliant Britain.' Peter Carter, the last eel catcher in the district, and the well known wood turners Robin and Vanessa Fawcett had stalls that day and were interviewed. I understand that the programme is to be screened on Tuesday the 14th of April. Following on from that, BBC 2's 'Escape to the County' visited Ely the following week to film episodes, due to be televised this coming summer.

Allen Alderson



Would you make a good School Governor?

Can you spare some time?

Do you enjoy working with other people as part of a team?

Are you interested in serving your community?

The Governing Body at Swaffham Prior CofE Primary School are looking to appoint a new Local Authority Governor.

If you are interested in finding out more about the role and what it involves, please contact the school on 01638 741529 or email

office@swaffhamprior.cambs.sch.uk



Midday Meal Supervisor Vacancy

Could you play games with children, encourage children to play together, help out with First Aid? Then we need you!

We currently have a vacancy for a Midday Meal Supervisor. The hours are 12-1pm, Wednesday to Friday. The hourly rate of pay is £6.57 (minimum). We would like to employ someone as soon as possible.

Application packs are available from the school office on 01638 741529 or email

office@swaffhamprior.cambs.sch.uk

Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor

Commenting on the Wicken Fen Vision debate, I cannot identify with the regularly aired and jaundiced remarks of Geoffrey Woollard but certainly welcomed those of David Thomas. We are regular walkers on neighbouring Tubney Fen and have already noticed an increase in wildlife using that habitat. What we have not witnessed is an overflowing roadside carpark or additional traffic through the village. As Cambridge continues to explode I would ask you to consider - where exactly can the wildlife go? Fortunately for those of us who are interested, it could just be right on our doorstep.

On another note – isn't it part of life in a rural village that eccentricities exist? Where's the harm in the sights and sounds of a loose pig grazing the village green, a dozen peacocks cohabiting, or two turkeys meandering up Great Lane? Or for that matter a local long-standing farmer trying to make a living from hauling sugar beet? How long before the sound of cockerels crowing, bonfire smoke or horse dung in the road become tedious suburban issues?

Joss Goodchild

From the Editor

Although I agree with the majority of your comments Joss, I am getting really fed up with wandering peafowl eating my garden flowers, wild bird seed and vegetables and leaving their calling cards all over my car and patio. And I am not alone. I think we need to have these birds properly controlled and then I am sure they would then be an asset to the rural life of the village.

Grahame Radford

Friends of Bottisham Village College
Cordially invite you to the
'CASINO LAS VEGAS
BALL'

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE 2009

Starting 7pm, carriages at midnight
◆Champagne Reception◆
◆Three Course Meal◆

Dance the night away to the music from
'Shredded Beat'

◆ Entertainment throughout the Evening!!◆
◆Bar◆
◆Black Tie◆

Tickets £40
Please contact:
Claudine Bateman for tickets or in-
formation
Telephone: 07747484058 or 01223
811250 Ext 275
Email: friends@bottishamvc.org

(From Geoffrey Woollard, Chapel Farm, River Bank, Nr. Upware, Ely, Cambridgeshire. CB7 5YJ. Telephone 01223 - 861823)

Dear Editor,

I am grateful to Philip Lewis for his kind comments and to David Thomas for his contribution to your columns, both in regard to the National Trust's so-called 'Wicken Vision.'

Some have complained of not knowing enough about this vexed issue, but there has recently been first-rate coverage by you and your several correspondents and I, for one, am happy for people to make up their own minds.

The trouble is, of course, that, regardless of local opinion, the Trust, having made up its own mind in 1999 following minimal 'consultation,' is still determined to buy up and flood or junglefy several thousand acres of fine food-growing Cambridgeshire Fen land, the best of Britain's most basic resources and close by the ancient Fen-edge settlements of Reach, Burwell, Wicken, Upware, Swaffham Prior, Swaffham Bulbeck, Lode & Longmeadow, Bottisham, Stow cum Quy, Fen Ditton, Horningsea and Waterbeach.

I and my friends deplore the loss of this land, the threat to homes, livelihoods and businesses, and the grave danger to a place of worship (the well-known and greatly-loved 'Little Chapel in The Fen'). We are concerned that additional car parks and extra traffic in and through the villages - as well as more flies and mosquitoes - will affect residents adversely. How will such as Reach cope, I ask?

Most of all, we are angered by the pointless and enormous estimated £100-million-plus expense (to include the £20-million so-called 'Bridge of Reeds' over the A14) and believe, in this recession, that there are other and better objects and causes to support.

As to 'conservation' or 'wilding,' the last time I went round the existing Wicken Fen I was bored to tears by the lack of wildlife and, as my dear friend Tony Day of Wicken has written, the place is striking for the very absence of wildlife (other than the aforesaid flies and mosquitoes) due to the intervention of the very visitors that the Trust encourages. There is more wildlife in my quiet back garden than at Wicken Fen. 'Success' for the Trust means failure in the real world because 'wildlife' and human beings don't hit it off too well, though some so fondly suppose the opposite.

If your readers agree with me, I ask them to sign the new on-line E-Petition to be found at -

<http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/SaveOurFens/>

Yours sincerely,

Geoffrey Woollard.

13. Speedwatch

Reach has signed up for Speedwatch – an initiative which has residents volunteering to check the speeds of vehicles in local villages (including their own village), using equipment supplied by ECDC. Reach has two volunteers and is seeking at least one more having contributed £40 to the cost of the equipment required. All Panel areas will have their equipment with trained volunteers by Saturday, 21st February.

For complete details on Speedwatch please go to: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/around/carjourneys/communityspeedwatch/community_speedwatch_aims.htm

Planning Applications

None.

Any Other Business

- a. The opportunity for CPALC training for councilors may be taken up following discussions with the organiser.
- b. Road sinkage outside Snib End was reported to the Highways Agency by the Clerk. Their response was that funds were not available to carry out repair work at this time. The Parish Council asked THE CLERK to reply, saying that this response was not acceptable and to also highlight the poor condition of certain areas of the Burwell road.
- c. The National Trust is planning to put a bridge across Reach Lode which will link Burwell Fen Farm with the Split Drove. They would like to show the Parish Council the designs for comment and this is planned to take place at the next Parish Council meeting on March 4th. THE CLERK will confirm this or may request a postponement of one month if time permits.

Payments

These were made as follows and from the Parish Council's Precept Current Account unless otherwise indicated.

100859	Moore Stephens	Annual External Audit
£211.67		
100860	ECDC	Speedwatch
£40.00		

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 4th March at 7.30pm. The Agenda will be issued on Wednesday 25th February.

8. Willow Trees on the Hythe

There is concern regarding three willow trees on the Hythe which are considered to be in a dangerous state. Advice has been taken from Cathy White, Tree Officer and two quotations have been received for the required remedial work (a further quotation will be sought by THE CLERK). The **PARISH COUNCIL** will visit the area on Sunday 8th February at 10.00am to get a common understanding of the problem. **THE CLERK** will continue his endeavours to establish whether there is an owner for the land (it is not registered with the Land Registry). Due to the condition of the trees, a decision will be taken on how to proceed as a matter of urgency.

9. Cemetery Fence Repair

THE CLERK will contact the proposed contractor to establish timescales for the required repair work to be carried out.

10. Haulage Activities within Reach

There have been complaints regarding the activities of a haulier in Reach, based on the size of the vehicles involved, their leaving and arriving schedules, parking issues and potential pollution problems. One complainant has escalated their complaint to ECDC. The investigation continues with a visit by ECDC to the site during week beginning 2nd February. The Parish Council will be informed of the outcome in due course.

11. Pollution in Agricultural Land

The Parish Council has been contacted by a Scientific Officer from Environmental Services at ECDC regarding a letter sent to the Parish Council in April 2006 regarding this problem. A site visit by the Scientific Officer took place on Friday 7th November 2008 with a representative of the Parish Council in attendance. The Scientific Officer recognized that there was a problem and in conjunction with the landowner, an action plan has been instigated.

12. Rights of Way

There are a number of footpaths within Reach and the Clerk has made contact with the Rights of Way office at the County Council. Documentation and maps have been provided to THE CLERK who will circulate them to the Parish Council.

Dear Editor

A murky shade of green

Mid March brought spring sunshine and happy optimism. It also brought an uncanny coincidence. On the village green, a fleet of new mowers were being put through their paces as young Craig Reader tried to assess which was the best. Then across the green came Mr Postman with the day's catch. Lurking amongst the post was the dreaded Community Charge announcement, containing the remarkable news that the Reach precept had increased by almost 20%.

And the coincidence? The huge increase in rates is because the PC has taken the decision to contract out the village grass cutting, and Craig has won the tender. Good luck to him, he'll no doubt do a good job. But for many of us, the way the PC reached its decision was at best lazy, and at worst, a little murky. It is going to cost villagers a four figure sum each year, and it is a firm two-fingered insult to village self-help. Remarkably the rate rise might have been even greater had the new Clerk not noticed that the PC had forgotten to reclaim VAT in recent years. Though not involving huge sums, that a multi-year retrospective application had to be made is perhaps symptomatic of what appears to be sheer incompetence.

So what happened? The PC bought a second hand mower (with a grant from East Cambs) for £5.5k in the mid 1990s once we had opened the then new Stephen Folkes playing field. The old gang mowers had given up the ghost and the green was being cut on contract. To extend the contract to also cut the playing field was deemed unaffordable. The community thus took control of managing the greens, the playing field, the Hythe, the woodland, and various other pockets of grass in the village. Over the years a considerable number of villagers took a turn, and the job generally got done on time. Just occasionally holiday or other commitments allowed the grass to grow a little longer than was ideal. Throughout the PC stoically avoided getting involved, though of course picked up the fuel and service and repair bills, and issued an annual 'thanks' in the annual report.

Unfortunately they seem to have thought the mower would carry on for ever and made no financial plan or provision for a replacement. When last Summer we were hit with some major repair bills, there was outrage at what was claimed by the Chair of the PC to be the result of negligence on behalf of the drivers. Not surprisingly, the drivers – with evidence – disagreed. Extraordinarily the PC's antipathy was egged on by Hazel Williams our Lib Dem County Councillor who advised them that the village precept was ludicrously low, and went on to promote the idea of contracting the job out as it would be easier. Hazel... our precept is low because we are a small village. Your advice has catapulted Reach up the league table of East Cambridgeshire's parish precepts.

Undeterred, as the keeper of the mower I sent word that I would be happy to explore replacement options. Michael Aves initially objected, but after discussion it was agreed that it was not totally illogical for me to look into the matter. Prior to the next PC meeting (August) I called Michael prior to the meeting to say that I had a report and was happy to attend the meeting. When the item came up... rather than ask for the report, the PC blathered around aimlessly for a few minutes, though did hear the astounding outcome of Ross Clark's visit to local vendors of mowers in the area who had advised him that "it is best to buy new". Wow Ross! Eventually, and again only very reluctantly Michael allowed me to present a report. In it I introduced a mower Big Dan had come across in Swaffham Bulbeck. It was £18k's worth of professional landscaping mower and cutters, just one year old and because of good use in its first year, available for £7.5k with the offer of free servicing

forever! To us it was a complete no brainer. And surely there would be a grant out there for its purchase? I agreed that if the PC was to have to fund the purchase of a machine it would not be viable. But I urged that with a bit of effort, surely we can find the funds. The PC was underwhelmed. The Clerk was asked to look at grant options, along with getting quotes in from contractors to do the deed for us.

Three quotes were obtained and young Craig, as a new start business and still living at home, not surprisingly undercut the established grass cutters by about a third. In the meantime I had found a grant source that looked perfect. The Donarbon Trust had four funding strands including "OBJECT D The provision, maintenance or improvement of a public park or other general public amenity". I called them and spoke with the secretary. "What chance a mower to help maintain the character of a pretty village?". She thought we'd fit perfectly, especially if we didn't ask for 100%. So half from Donarbon and half from the Village Amenity Fund? Frankly if maintaining the amenity didn't come under the Amenity Fund remit then I'm a Cambodian. But just in case, I called Sean Manchett to see if he could assist with a finance deal (as if a motor car) if we needed such for the balance. Not a problem.

Rather than attend the next meeting (and embarrass the Chair by asking to submit a further report, I sent a one page letter of information detailing the financial options and urging that they at least try to apply for the grant that appeared to be available. I'm told that the letter was passed round, and when Penny Lang suggested that it should be discussed, Helen Platt commented that "Mr Pearson isn't on the Parish" and with that it was dismissed! So much for representation of the people...

The decision was taken to contract out, and the Chair deputed himself to work with the Clerk to finalise a contract with young Mr Reader. I am left feeling uneasy about Michael's role. His son and Craig are very best friends. I'm not sure if he was quite in 'declaring an interest' territory, but I think he would have been advised to have been very much in the back seat rather than engineer, architect and schemer.

But my biggest grouse about all this is the effect on the community. To me, the dynamism of a community is the sum of its moving parts. For the PC to throw two fingers at a number of individuals who literally cared for their environment, is arrogant and negative. It is also entirely and unnecessarily expensive to all those who pay their community charge from a hard earned income. And now we can only hope that the grass cuts happen at the right time for Reach Fair... and for Sports Day. And we give thanks for the cut in mid March when the machines were trialled. The contract was not due to start until mid April. I think the PC is also in denial about global warming... as we have been regularly cutting from a date in March to a date in November in recent years. For the future these will be extra cuts... and extra cost, over and above the extra grand that this action is bound to cost villagers every year.

Bryan Pearson
bryan@fsg.co.uk

P.S Dear Councillors... I have been waiting to read about what is going to happen to the old mower which continues to clutter my yard. I didn't mind when it had community gain, but I'm damned if I am going to continue to give up a carport if it is flotsam and jetsam which is being left to rot.

2. Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council has a vacancy which will be advertised by THE CLERK with a closing date for applicants being the 28th February 2009. It is planned to complete the selection process at the next Parish Council meeting on the 4th March 2009.

3. Garden Waste Issue

The Clerk had written to a resident to try and establish ownership of garden waste which lies outside the resident's property. The resident responded promptly – and to the full satisfaction of the Parish Council. No further action is required. THE CLERK will inform the resident of this outcome.

4. Land Registration

The Clerk has visited the Land Registry in Peterborough to establish ownership of land within Reach. The car park near to the playground is owned by Cambridge County Council. THE CLERK will contact the council to confirm that it is in need of repair. It was also established that the Hythe and the Drying Ground are not registered. **THE CLERK** will collect further information to establish the benefits/drawbacks of the Parish Council registering and thereby taking ownership of this land.

5. Peacocks Nuisance

The Parish Council has received a complaint regarding the presence of a number of peacocks in the village. Allen Alderson has discussed the issue with ECDC and action is to be taken by ECDC to overcome the problem. ALLEN ALDERSON will continue to monitor progress and report back to the Parish Council.

6. RaSP Mast

ECDC has received a complaint regarding the presence of a RaSP mast in the garden of a house in the village. The ECDC has reviewed the mast and will discuss any planning needs with the resident concerned. The Parish Council will be kept informed of progress.

7. Track Encroachment

The Parish Council has received a complaint regarding the narrowing of the right of way known as Green Lane (the track just before Ditchfields as you approach Reach from Swaffham Prior). THE CLERK will look into the matter, getting advice from the Rights of Way Officer at the County Council.

District Council Report

ECDC is now debt-free having paid off its loan (to fund the car park at Angel Drove) using funds from its reserves. Adequate funds still remain in the reserves.

Following refurbishment of the restaurant, bar and kitchen, the Maltings will re-open at the end of March. It is proposed to hold a number of reopening events.

The 2009/2010 budget was discussed at a meeting on the 22nd of January. The Government's rise of only 0.8% and the impact of the credit crunch will make life difficult. If all proposed savings are made a 4.9% increase in council tax will be proposed at the Full Council meeting on February 24th.

The latest South Area Neighbourhood Panel meeting took place on January 6th at Burwell. It was well attended, covering issues such as Speedwatch, fly tipping and anti-social behaviour. It was also suggested that reducing the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph in many villages was not being given enough urgency. Mike Davies from CCC explained that a review of speed limits was being undertaken, but could take some time.

Financial Report

The Parish Council's bank account is in a satisfactory state. It is forecast that the Parish Council will overspend its income in the year to March 2009 by approximately £500.

Police Liaison Committee Report

For local crime information, visit www.cambs.police.uk/myneighbourhood/locate.asp. To look at all aspects of local policing, visit www.cambs.police.uk. Maria Green is our local Police Liaison Officer and can be contacted on 07710 994972. She will attend the next Parish Council meeting on the 4th of March. The Parish Council gave its full support to the police carrying out random speed checks in areas not designated as accident blackspots.

Village Hall Committee Report

Preparations for Reach Fair 2009 are making good progress. There remain some problems with the new curtains but these are being overcome. All electrical appliances in the Village Hall are to be PAT tested.

Matters Arising

1. Cemetery Mowing

THE CLERK will write to the current contractor confirming our acceptance of their terms for 2009.

Reach Fair News

As this is the last edition before this year's Fair there are a number of items to mention.

QUIZ !

Don't forget the Reach Fair Quiz. Taking place in the Beer Tent on the Green, 7.30 pm on Sunday 3rd, it is open to all. We have arranged a larger marquee this year to accommodate everyone!

HELP !

We need volunteers to man the Village stalls during the day on the Monday. These can be of short duration, say an hour, but are essential to the overall results of the day. Please contact Jan Tabecki on 742552 who is co-ordinating these activities.

CAR PASSES !

We will be using the new car park on Burwell Road again this year but the road closures will be in place from Wiers Drove and Rogers Road so you will need car passes for family and friends to access the village from 10.30am until 5.00pm.

**Please contact Grahame Radford on 742814
or e-mail gnk@btinternet.com**

REACH FAIR GRAND DRAW

This year we are again having a **Grand Prize Draw**
Tickets are only **20p** each and come in books of 5. We again have lots of prizes — the top prize being worth £150!

We are asking each household to sell 5 books (although you can have more!) before the day and you will receive these within your April edition of **Out of Reach**. We feel that this gives an opportunity for those friends and relatives who like to support the Fair, but are unable to come on the day can do so.

For additional tickets and returns contact :-

Karen Carpenter, 14 Ditchfield . Tel 742814



CAKES, CAKES, CAKES

**We need lots of lovely cakes for the Cake Stall
so get busy in the kitchen!**

**It doesn't matter if its small or large and
we will collect if you can't deliver**

**If freezer storage space is a problem let us know - we have freezer
space at the Hall.**

Sue Clifton - 742895 Sue Elliott - 742268

County Council Report

Cambridgeshire Police report road deaths have fallen in Cambridgeshire by 30% in the past year.

A decision has been made to open the Guided Busway from Cambridge to St Ives in the late summer following a review over the New Year period. All the features the scheme promised will be ready for passengers from the beginning.

Contractors are expected to hand over Central Library in February and subject to that, the Library will reopen in May.

Journeys on Cambridge's Park and Ride have exceeded four million for the first time. Stagecoach have been criticised for a rise in the price of park and ride tickets - just weeks after announcing charges would not go up.

The cost of a weekly park and ride ticket has now risen from £9 to £10. Individual return tickets will cost £2.50 per person when bought on the bus, compared to £2.20 - the same as the current price - if purchased in advance from new machines being installed at Park and Ride sites.

Cambridgeshire Citizens Advice Bureaus are very busy with financial enquiries and have experienced a steep rise in employment queries. The county council is now directing more resources to the charity, which is working on the front line of those affected by the credit crunch.

CCC's Integrated Plan and proposed budget for the next financial year are now published. Part of its "protect and invest" strategy includes budget concentration on social care for adults and children; support for people during the recession and addressing items such as transport and road safety. The report considers a poor Government grant which has placed added pressure on next year's 2009/10 budget. The outcome is a proposed average council tax increase of 3.9% (for a band D property) or 70p per week. This will mean the tax levy is expected to be lower than neighbouring counties. The proposed budget is going through scrutiny at the moment. The opposition budget proposes an increase of 2.45% (44p per week) and this is also going through scrutiny. The budget will go to full council for approval on 12 February.

The Transport Commission have a website to give a picture of the transport and congestion problems in Cambridgeshire. Sir Brian Briscoe and Professor Tony Travers are not only looking at the TIF proposals but are able to make suggestions if they find other ways of helping improve the transport problems in Cambridgeshire.

The Children's Centre is running from Bottisham with activities across the area, including the Swaffhams, Burwell and Reach, for families with under 5's. Activities include dads groups, health clinics, young parents support and messy play.

Payments

These were made as follows and from the Parish Council's Precept Current Account unless otherwise indicated.

100855	Anglian Water	Cemetery Water	£18.93
100856	D M Parr	Clerk's wages Oct-Dec	
£387.60			
100857	D M Parr	Clerk's Expenses	£55.57

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 4th February at 7.30pm. The Agenda will be issued on Monday 26th January.

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Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 4th February 2009

Attendance

Michael Aves	Chairman	Present
Ross Clark	Vice Chairman	Present
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Present
Angela King	Councillor	Present
Helen Platt	Councillor	Present
David Parr	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Part-time
Hazel Williams	County Councillor	Part-time

Forum for Members of the Public

A complaint was made regarding the erosion of the grass verge on Great Lane caused by vehicles driving inconsiderately. THE CLERK will visit the property affected and send photographs of the damage to the Highways Agency seeking advice on how the problem can be overcome.

Declaration of Interests

None

Amenity Fund Applications

None

Minutes of Previous Meetings 30

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 7th January 2009 were reviewed and signed.

News from Wicken Fen Vision

Representatives from Reach recently participated in a workshop organised by the National Trust to assist in the development of a sustainable Visitor Travel Plan for the Wicken Fen Vision. Sustainable travel is about creating access to the countryside in a way that will not affect people, wildlife or the landscape detrimentally.

Delegates attending the workshop were asked to consider three key challenges:-

- How can the National Trust ensure that additional visitors to the Wicken Fen Vision area do not have a negative impact on local communities and the conservation interest of local sites.
- How can visitors to the Vision area, both from the local area and further afield be persuaded to use "greener" travel options.
- What alternative means of transport could be made available within the Vision area that adds to the visitor 'experience'.

Encouraging visitors to leave the car at home and travel by more environmentally friendly means, such as foot, bicycle, bus, coach or train is a key element of a sustainable Visitor Travel Plan. The challenge of tempting people away from cars is highlighted by a current lack of public transport options available to visitors. Anglesey Abbey can be accessed by bus from either Cambridge or Newmarket, which has limited services on Sundays and bank holidays, whilst the nearest bus service to Wicken Fen calls at Soham, a distance of 3 – 4 miles away.

Suggestions discussed at the Workshop included provision of a shuttle bus service to and from the Network Rail station at Ely linking to communities bordering the Vision area. Such a service would not only assist visitors but could be used by local residents whose access to public transport in some cases is limited or non-existent. The provision of water taxis from Cambridge with access via Waterbeach or Upware making the journey to Wicken Fen a key part of the overall visitor experience was a popular suggestion.

The movement of people within the Vision area received considerable attention with suggestions including the development of cycle and canoe hire and pony trekking offering visitors not only the potential to explore the Vision area, but providing healthy exercise and opportunities for economic development and employment opportunities for local communities. A detailed report from the workshop will be available in April.

A few weeks ago pupils from Waterbeach Primary School spent an afternoon planting a new hedgerow on White Fen. A key element of the Vision is community involvement and it was great to see the children enjoying their time in the countryside helping to create a habitat that wildlife and visitors will be able to enjoy whilst at the same time getting some healthy exercise. We are always keen to hear from schools or clubs and societies who would like to be involved in similar projects.

As reported in the last edition of Out of Reach the Wicken Fen Vision celebrates its 10th anniversary this year and we would like to invite readers to join us for a day of celebrations on Friday 1 May at the Wicken Fen Visitor Centre. As well as free admission to Wicken Fen, there will be a range of free events from early morning bird ringing demonstrations, guided walks, boat trips to minibeast hunting and pond dipping.

Throughout May the Wicken team will be holding a series of information roadshows, where we will be presenting the latest information on the new paths and bridges and staff will be on hand to answer any questions you may have on the Vision. The nearest events to Reach are at the Gardiner Memorial Hall on 9 May (2-5pm) and Swaffham Prior Primary School on 16 May (10am -1pm). We hope to see you one of the events.

Spring is with us and Wicken Fen will be hosting a range of events of the Easter holiday period. Why not have an egg-tastic day out and head to the Fen for the annual Wicken Fen Easter Egg Hunt from Friday 10 to Monday 13 April. All contestants who complete the Easter Trail will receive a chocolate prize. Other Easter events include, 7 April - Easter crafts (4-10 yrs, 10.30 and 14.00) 9 April- Prancing Ponies and Hairy Highlands (4-10yrs, 10.30 and 14.00) 15 April - Fairies, Pixies and Water Sprites (3-8 yrs 10.30 and 14.00) 17 April – Wildlife Detectives (5 -12 yrs 10.30 and 14.00). The ever popular Pond Dipping sessions will be held on 6, 14 and 16 April from 12.30 – 15.30. For further information and bookings please contact the Wicken Fen Visitor Centre on 01353 720274

Hope to see you at the Fen soon.

Howard Cooper
Communications Officer



REACH FAIR 2009

As usual I will be running the bottle stall at the fair. Over the next couple of weeks I will be door knocking, collecting bottles of any shape and size that hold lots of interesting products.

Many thanks

Sue Dimmock

9. Cemetery Fence
Ron Greenhill will carry out the work, based on an estimate of £80.

10. Footpaths
There are a number of footpaths within Reach and [the Clerk](#) will document these and make contact with the Rights of Way office at the County Council, specifically Simeon Carroll, to establish their responsibilities.

11. Haulage Activities of John Cole
There have been complaints regarding these activities based on the size of the vehicles involved, their leaving and arriving schedules, parking issues and potential pollution problems. One complainant has escalated their complaint to ECDC. The investigation continues and the Parish Council will be informed of progress some time during week beginning 19th of January.

12. Land Registration
[The Clerk](#) has arranged to visit the Land Registry in Peterborough to establish ownership of land within Reach so that individual responsibilities can be established, including the car park near to the playground which is considered in need of repair. Areas of common land will be reviewed to see whether the Parish Council should take ownership.

13. Willow Tree on the Hythe
There is concern regarding a willow tree on the Hythe which appears to be in a dangerous state. [The Clerk](#) will revisit the offending willow tree and endeavour to quantify the work needed, for review by the Parish Council at the next meeting.

Planning Applications

The planning application for 15 Great Lane was discussed and no objections raised.

Any Other Business

- a. The mowing contract for the village, between the Parish Council and C R Contracting, was signed,
- b. Penny Lang resigned from the Parish Council. She was thanked by the Chairman for her tremendous contribution to the Parish Council, initially as Clerk and then as a Councillor. [The Clerk](#) will follow the official procedure for replacing her.
- c. [The Clerk](#) was asked to write to a resident to try and establish ownership of garden waste which lies outside the resident's property.
- d. [The Clerk](#) will arrange for the street light outside 13 Ditchfield to be repaired.
- e. [The Clerk](#) will report a hollow in the road outside the Snib End property.

2. Bus Service Quality Update

Ross Clark provided an analysis of information provided by Reach bus users. Overall the service was deemed acceptable over the analysis period.

3. Pollution in Agricultural Land

The Parish Council has been contacted by a Scientific Officer from Environmental Services at ECDC regarding a letter sent to the Parish Council in April 2006 regarding this problem. A site visit by the Scientific Officer took place on Friday 7th November 2008 with Helen Platt in attendance. The Scientific Officer recognized that there was a problem and has had subsequent meetings with the landowner and the person farming the land. The proposed solution is that the worst affected land at the western end will be grassed over and not farmed. Following the Parish Council meeting the Scientific Officer reported that progress was being made and that he continues to monitor the situation closely.

4. Peacocks Nuisance

The Parish Council has received a complaint regarding the presence of a number of peacocks in the village. Allen Alderson has discussed the issue with ECDC and action is to be taken by ECDC to overcome the problem. [Allen Alderson](#) will monitor progress with the ECDC contact concerned and report back to the Parish Council.

5. Salt Bin

The salt bin near Ditchfields has been installed and filled.

6. Speedwatch

Reach has signed up for Speedwatch – an initiative which has residents volunteering to check the speeds of vehicles in other local villages, using equipment supplied by ECDC. Angela King and Helen Platt volunteered from Reach and there will be a training session for them and other volunteers in January 2009. Volunteers from other local villages will monitor the speed of traffic coming through Reach. Reach Parish Council will contribute £40 to the cost of the equipment required. All Panel areas will have their equipment with trained volunteers by Saturday, 21st February.

7. Telephone Box

The Clerk has contacted BT regarding the dilapidated state of the red phone box in the village. BT have sent out an inspection officer who confirmed that painting is required and that this will take place some time in the next financial year, starting April 2009.

8. Wicksteed Leisure

One of the legs of the swings was, in the view of the Parish Council, not satisfactorily dealt with by the contractor when work was last carried out. The Clerk wrote to the contractor asking them to remedy this particular fault at their cost. As a gesture of goodwill, the contractor has carried out the work at no cost to the Parish Council.

Bus Timetable



We are indebted to **Ian Massini** who has kindly volunteered to provide and maintain an up-to-date timetable in “Out of Reach” for the residents.

Mondays to Fridays

Newmarket Rookery	Reach	Swaffham Prior	Cambridge Drummer St	Bus
06.22	06.54	06.57	07.38	10
—	07.39	07.42	08.36	10
09.22	09.54	09.57	10.35	10
Then .52 & .22 past each hour	Walk	Then .27 & .57 past each hour	Then .05 & .35 past each hour	10/10A
12.22	12.54	12.57	13.35	10
Then .52 & .22 past each hour	Walk	Then .27 & .57 past each hour	Then .05 & .35 past each hour	10/10A
16.22	16.54	16.57	17.35	10
17.22	17.54	17.57	18.35	10
17.52	18.24	18.27	19.08	10A
18.52	Walk	19.27	20.05	10
—	Walk	21.52	22.30	10

Cambridge Drummer Street	Swaffham Prior	Reach	Newmarket Rookery	Bus-
07.00	07.32	07.35	08.11	10
09.00	09.32	09.35	10.08	10
09.22	09.54	09.57	10.35	10
Then .30 & .00 past each hour	Then .02 & .32 past each hour (walk)		Then .38 & .08 past each hour	10
12.00	12.32	12.35	13.08	10
Then .30 & .00 past each hour	Then .02 & .32 past each hour (walk)		Then .38 & .08 past each hour	10
16.00	16.32	16.35	17.08	10
17.00	17.32	17.35	18.08	10
18.00	18.32	18.35	19.08	10
18.30	19.08	(Walk)	19.38	10A
19.00	19.38	(Walk)	20.08	10
21.00	21.38	(walk)	—	10
23.00	23.38	(walk)	23.08 (Tesco)	10

Saturdays

Newmarket Rookery	Reach	Swaffham Prior	Cambridge Drummer St	Bus
06.52	(walk)	07.27	08.05	10A
Then .52 & .22 past each hour		Then .27 & .57 past each hour	Then .05 & .35 past each hour	10/10A
09.22	09.54	09.57	10.35	10
Then .52 & .22 past each hour		Then .27 & .57 past each hour	Then .05 & .35 past each hour	10/10A
12.22	12.54	12.57	13.35	10
Then .52 & .22 past each hour		Then .27 & .57 past each hour	Then .05 & .35 past each hour	10/10A
16.22	16.54	16.57	17.35	10
17.22	17.54	17.57	18.35	10
17.52	18.24	18.27	19.08	10A
18.52	Walk	19.27	20.05	10
_____	Walk	21.52	22.30	10

Cambridge Drummer Street	Swaffham	Reach Prior	Newmarket Rookery	Bus
07.30	08.02	(walk)	08.38	10A
08.30	09.02	(walk)	09.38	10A
09.0	09.32	09.35	10.08	10
Then .30 & .00 past each hour	Then .02 & .32 past each hour (walk)		Then .38 & .08 past each hour	10
12.00	12.32	12.35	13.08	10
Then .30 & .00 past each hour	Then .02 & .32 past each hour (walk)		Then .38 & .08 past each hour	10
16.00	16.32	16.35	17.08	10
17.00	17.32	17.35	18.08	10
18.00	18.32	18.35	19.08	10
18.30	19.08	(Walk)	19.38	10A
19.00	19.38	(Walk)	20.08	10
21.00	21.38	(walk)	_____	10
23.00	23.38	(walk)	23.08 (Tesco)	10

Sundays and Bank Holidays

Newmarket Rookery	Reach	Swaffham Prior	Cambridge Drummer St	Bus
_____	(walk)	09.09	09.39	10
_____	(walk)	11.09	11.39	10
_____	(walk)	13.09	13.39	10
_____	(walk)	16.09	16.39	10

Cambridge Drummer Street	Swaffham	Reach Prior	Newmarket Rookery	Bus
10.25	10.52	(walk)	_____	10
12.25	12.52	(walk)	_____	10
15.25	15.52	(walk)	_____	10
17.55	18.22	(walk)	_____	10

A draft action plan by EDCD to deal with the effects of the credit crunch was presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on December 15th. This is to be followed by a Seminar for Council members on January 8th. The final plan will be reported to the Policy and Resources Committee at its February meeting.

We have to examine the impact of the credit crunch on the following aspects;

The impact on the capacity of the Council to deliver its corporate and operational objectives

The impact on individuals and families within our local communities, particularly those who are vulnerable

The impact on businesses and the local economy

The action plan will address what we need and can do to ensure the Council is as effective as possible in meeting its operational and strategic objectives and assist during the downturn.

Financial Report

The Parish Council's bank account is in a satisfactory state. It is forecast that the Parish Council will overspend its income in the year to 2009 by approximately £300.

Police Liaison Committee Report

For local crime information, visit www.cambs.police.uk/myneighbourhood/locate.asp. To look at all aspects of local policing, visit www.cambs.police.uk. Maria Green is our local Police Liaison Officer and can be contacted on 07710 994972. [The Clerk](#) will invite Maria to a Parish Council meeting.

Village Hall Committee Report

There was no meeting in December.

Matters Arising

1. Audit Report 2007-2008

Reach Parish Council accounts for the financial year 2007-2008 have been audited both internally and externally and approved. The external auditor commented that any comments provided by either the internal or external auditor should be reviewed by the Parish Council and any actions duly minuted.

In previous accounts the Parish Council has been reminded that there are deadlines to be met for the Parish Council approving the accounts and this comment was re-enforced and confirmed to the Clerk who will ensure that these deadlines are met for the 2008-2009 accounts and beyond.

The role of the Clerk was discussed and it was confirmed that to the knowledge of the Parish Council, H M Revenue and Customs have accepted that the Clerk for Reach Parish Council can be considered as self-employed.

Parish Council Meetings



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on
Wednesday 7th January 2009

Attendance

Michael Aves	Chairman	Present
Ross Clark	Vice Chairman	Present
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	Not Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Present
Angela King	Councillor	Not Present
Penny Lang	Councillor	Present
Helen Platt	Councillor	Present
David Parr	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Present
Hazel Williams	County Councillor	Not Present

Forum for Members of the Public

There was no input from members of the Public.

Amenity Fund Applications

None

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 1st December 2008 were reviewed and signed.

County Council Report

There was nothing to be reported since the last meeting.

District Council Report

The 21.00 and 23.00 10/10A Monday to Saturday service from Cambridge will be served by the number 12 bus that will be re-routed to pass through Swaffham Bulbeck, Swaffham Prior and Burwell on its way to Newmarket.

Hastoe Housing Association is to undertake a development of affordable housing at Bell Road in Bottisham. It is being proposed by Bottisham Parish Council that residents of the Swaffham ward will be included in eligibility for these houses.



PRESENTS

IT'S ON! IT'S OFF!

By Ray Lawrence

MAY 14TH/15TH/16TH 2009

Main Hall, Bottisham Village College
Curtain up 7.30 pm

Its two days before Tina Humphrey's wedding & her parents, Gerald & Daphne, are expecting their daughter's future mother-in-law for dinner to meet the family. However Robert, their son, is coming home with surprises of his own - and who is Monica? With infidelity, illegitimacy and a case of mistaken identity, all Daphne wants to know about the wedding is whether it's on or it's off!

This hilarious and witty comedy of mistaken identity and not knowing who is related to whom, will hold your attention to the very last word. It's On Its Off features Reach's Grahame Radford as Gerald and Lode's Sophie Wilson directing her first full length production. With a wealth of experience from the Bottisham Players regular members supporting them both on and off stage, this is a play you will not want to miss.

Tickets are available from Bottisham Post Office & Village Stores, Chris Clarke Hair-dressing & Tina's in Burwell, or you can call our Box Office on 01223 811033. Ticket Prices are £7.00 adults, £5.00 concessions on all performances.

We look forward to seeing you there.

For more information visit our website at www.bottishamplayers.org.uk

Neighbourhood Panels: continuing to progress and take effective action

Speedwatch training has now taken place on January 17th for volunteers in the South Panel area. The team now have the Speedwatch equipment and will be soon using the device in our local area in 30 mph and 40 mph zones. By the end of February all areas within East Cambs will be operating the scheme. The aim is to reduce speeding through our village and in our area, with a view to the police being able to more effectively target their enforcement campaigns (leading to possible prosecutions and endorsements). If you could volunteer a few hours of your time on a regular basis, please contact Alan Williams (see contact details below).

In initial feedback from the pilot (Soham and East) area indicates that several local drivers are those who are ignoring the speed limits. So, please do take care as you drive around! At the last South area Neighbourhood Panel meeting in Burwell the main items were

Feedback on actions taken to address the priorities and issues of concern raised at the meeting in October. Please note that ALL priorities and issues were actioned, and this emphasises that the Panel meetings are not 'talking shops'! Multi-agency working to combat anti-social behaviour (ASB) in Burwell has been demonstrably effective and needs to be sustained. Crime is down and ASB incidents have decreased. People and agencies are understanding the benefits of working together to bring about improvement.

Transport and Traffic Management – speed limits of (30 mph and over) are being reviewed by the County Highways team on all the A and B roads in the County until Outcomes of the reviews will be made available to local members and Parish Councils. 4 villages were concerned for there to be a review of the extent of the 40 mph zone close to the heart of their village, with a view to extending the 30mph zone, and 20 mph close to schools. A letter is being written to the County authority on behalf of the Panel to attempt to progress these issues.

Identification of issues of concern (from local residents and Panel members), and setting priorities for action. The priorities for the next 3 months are

For the police (working in partnership with other agencies)
ASB in Burwell
ASB in Bottisham

For the other agencies
Review of the extent of 40 mph close to villages
Operation of Speedwatch scheme
Public meeting about the Wicken Fen Vision
Gritting of specific roads and paths

For on-going information about Neighbourhood Panels - minutes from the meetings, Neighbourhood Profiles, **Newsletters, Speedwatch; dates and venues for the Panel meetings in 2009** - please use the A-Z section of the East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC) website: www.eastcambs.gov.uk to access the 'Neighbourhood Panel' web-page.

20

Or contact Alan Williams, the Neighbourhood Panel Coordinator at alan.williams@eastcambs.gov.uk or on 01353 - 616349

KNOW YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

The council has 7 Councillors;

Michael Aves	Chairman	742800
Ross Clark	Vice Chairman	743725
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	742943
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	742405
Angela King	Councillor	742266
Helen Platt	Councillor	742331
Hilary Fielding	Co-opted	741853

The 2009 council meetings will be held on the following Wednesdays;

January	7th	July	1st
February	4th	August	5th
March	4th	September	2nd
April	1st	October	7th
May	6th	November	4th
June	3rd	December	2nd

In Reach Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

There is a Forum for Members of the Public at the beginning of the Meeting.

Proposed agenda items should be sent to any of the Councillors or to the Clerk to Reach Parish Council whose contact details are;

David Parr - 20 Fair Green, Reach, CB25 0JD
Tel: 01638 744081, Email: reachparishcouncil@live.co.uk

Other useful contacts;

Village Hall Committee	Joyce Harrison	742405
Police Liaison Committee	Ross Clark	743725
Tree Officer	John Reed	742140
Swaffham Prior Parochial Church Charities	John Robinson	743563

Cantilena Singers

**Sat 11th April 2009, St Mary's Church,
Stow cum Quy 7:30 pm**

A concert of music and readings to celebrate the refurbishment of St Mary's church. This concert will coincide with the completion of the refurbishment of St Mary's Church. It will feature both traditional Easter music as well as a range of celebratory anthems. **Director Daniel Spreadbury**

Programme to include:

- Hosanna to the son of David - Gibbons
- O Sing Joyfully - Batten
- Hail, Gladdening Light - Wood
- Tu Es Petrus - Palistrina
- Locus Iste - Bruckner
- Christus Factus Est - Bruckner
- My Spirit Sang All Day - Finzi
- Crucifixus a 8 - Lotti
- If Ye Love Me - Tallis
- Hear my Prayer O Lord - Purcell
- Remember not, Lord our offences - Purcell

Tickets on the door.

Details on our website www.cantilena.info or ring 01223 812115

ALLOTMENTS

The parish council is investigating the possibility of setting up allotments in Reach. If you would be interested in renting one, or you have some land you would be interested in renting for the purpose, please contact **Ross Clark on 01638 743725 or rossjclark@aol.com**

24

The next meetings of the South area Panel (all 7pm starts) in 2009 are

Wednesday, 1st April at Kirtling Village Hall
(inc dealing with the economic downturn)

Tuesday, 30th June at The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

Wednesday, 7th October at Burwell Village College

Please come along, become involved and help to bring about improvements in your locality !

(On the basis of increasing success of multi-agency Panels, they are being introduced across the whole of Cambridgeshire)

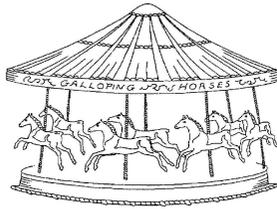
Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre 2009

The Mikado

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre proudly presents "The Mikado (or the Town of Titipu)" by Gilbert and Sullivan on Wednesday - Saturday 3rd 4th 5th and 6th June 2009 at 7.30pm with a matinee on Saturday 6th June 2009 at 2.30pm.

Performances take place in The Barn, Downing Farm, Swaffham Bulbeck (6 miles north-east of Cambridge on the B1102) The barn has been adapted to create a theatre. There is a licensed bar. Toilet facilities (including disabled) are available and there is off-road parking.

For ticket prices tickets or further information, please contact Kari Karolia on email kari.karolia@gmail.com or visit our website at www.sbstgands



Reach Fair

Since 1201

Bank Holiday
Monday 4th May 2009
12 noon—5.00 pm

Grand opening by the Mayor of Cambridge

- **Traditional Fairground Rides**
- **Childrens Fancy Dress (Nursery Rhymes)**
- **Music and Dancing / Country Crafts**
- **Stalls / Arts and Crafts / Children's Entertainment**
- **Local Archaeology / Raptor Foundation**
- **Grand Prize Draw**
- **Hog Roast / BBQ**
- **Licensed Bar.....Plus lots more**

Entrance and Car Park
from Burwell Road

£3.00 per car
(inc Programme)

22

Villager to run the London Marathon for Headway, the brain injury association



An appeal by Andy Mitchell

Those of you who know my family and I may know that someone close to us recently suffered a very serious brain injury. She simply slipped, hit the back of her head on a step and suffered a serious haemorrhage. Her intensive care consultants told us to expect the worst. Despite sustaining severe damage to her frontal lobes and remaining in a coma for three weeks, her subsequent recovery has exceeded every medical expectation.

From the early days of our relative's injury, Headway, which has a centre attached to Addenbrooke's, gave us a great deal of information and support. As the weeks went by our Headway representative told us what to expect, linking scans and prognosis with likely future outcomes. She also told us how the family could help to optimise both physical and cognitive recovery. We were sent booklets, website links and information on many useful contacts. The support given to us by Headway was totally unexpected. It helped us through an extremely difficult time and was absolutely invaluable. The support is ongoing too. Our relative's recovery continues, and she is now ending her rehabilitation and may soon be back at work. The road to recovery from brain injury is usually a very slow and gradual process and Headway offers their free and confidential support at every stage.

I will be running the London Marathon on Sunday, 26th April 2009 on behalf of Headway. Money I raise through sponsorship will help to ensure that the families and sufferers of future brain injury victims will be able to receive the kind of support that we have. Unlike more than 11,000 people in the UK each year who require lifelong care after brain injury, our relative is looking at a very bright future.

If you would like to sponsor me on my 26.2 mile run for Headway then there are three ways to do it:

- Pop your name, address, telephone number and pledge amount in the letterbox at 31 Fair Green. Your address is important so I can send a thank you and also to ensure we can claim 'gift aid' on your donation.
- Go to my marathon website www.justgiving.com/andymitchellrun
- Find me – 31 Fair Green or running in the surrounding area (I've always got a sponsor form on me!)

Thank you!

Headway is the UK's leading charity dedicated to promoting understanding of all aspects of brain injury and to providing support, information and services to brain injury survivors, their families and carers. Find out more at <http://www.headway.org.uk/>