

# Great Finborough— Newsletter

No. 14.

January 1976

## EDITORIAL :

### A NEW DEAR

- A NEW OPPORTUNITY ....

When the proposed Community Council is discussed this month, a new opportunity will be presented to you to help foster the community spirit in the village.

A Community Council would be a base for future community activity provided a broad base of support is obtained. If this support is shown, the scene would be set for the promotion of regular entertainments, community activities and the assistance of those less able to help themselves.

So ..... even if you do not intend to serve as an Executive Committee member .... please attend the meeting and indicate the measure of support for this venture.

The Editor.

# PROGRAMME FOR ELECTIONS

.... Over the next few months it is intended to provide a service to those of you who may wish to become candidates for the Parish Council. This month a summary of the workings of the Council is published. Next month, a pamphlet giving information about the elections will be included.

.... In March, the Parish Meeting will be held at which prospective Candidates can put questions (and be questioned) about local affairs.

.... In March and April issues of the Newsletter, any prospective candidates wishing to set out their 'manifesto' will be given the opportunity. This can include comments on the Programme of Work for 1976-77 as agreed by the current Council.

## FOR PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

In May, the Parish Council elections take place.

For those of you who are considering becoming a candidate, the following may help clarify the work of a Parish Council :-

### What is the Parish Council ... ?

The Parish Council is a body set up by the Local Government Act 1894 and consists of seven Councillors who are elected by parish electors every three years.

### From where does it get its' powers ... ?

The Parish Council can only exercise powers given it under various Acts of Parliament. A recent Local Government Act helped to widen these powers so that the Council can now help in most areas of village life.

### What are its functions ... ?

1. To provide services not provided by other local authorities. The Council can either provide the service itself

(What are its functions ... ?) - continued....

(e.g. footway lighting) or in conjunction with a voluntary body (e.g. the provision of a notice board).

2. To assist voluntary bodies by making contributions or loans. This includes the encouragement of Entertainments, Arts and Crafts and Tourism.

3. To make observations on all planning applications affecting the Parish.

4. To act as a platform for opinion on local matters (e.g. By-Products Factory).

5. To act as a liaison body and a 'pressure group' on District and County Council matters (e.g. highway maintenance).

6. To improve the parochial environment (e.g. to organise entry into the Best-Kept Village Competition) and to encourage community spirit (e.g. the Newsletter).

7. To oversee Parochial Charities.

8. To appoint a School Manager for the Primary School.

### Where does the money come from ... ?

The Parish Council has power to levy a rate (the precept) for the money required to carry out its functions. Otherwise, it can raise money by obtaining a loan (e.g. for the footway lighting), through public subscription or by providing a service (e.g. advertising in the Newsletter).

M.J.Baker.

Clerk to the Council.

O YEA, O YEA ..... CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS ..

A PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD

IN THE PETTIWARD HALL ON ..

TUESDAY, 20th. JANUARY 1976.

AT 7.30 P.M. ... TO  
DISCUSS THE FORMATION OF ..

A COMMUNITY COUNCIL



## THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

In spite of a very foggy evening, our birthday party was well attended and out thanks are due to Mrs. Rushbrook of Church Farm, Hitcham who opened up her home to us. An excellent buffet supper was prepared by the committee and competitions followed. The birthday cake was made by Mrs. F. Proctor and cut by our oldest member, Mrs. Quinton. Several visitors were present and we look forward to seeing them at our future meetings.

The Village Hall Management Committee are hoping to present a concert in the Pettward Hall at the end of February and we shall be required to do a "turn". Any ideas on what we can do and any offers of help will be most welcome.

M. Underwood,  
President.

## ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

### CHURCH SERVICES :

Sunday	18th. January	11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.
..	25th. ..	11.00 a.m. United Service of Morning Prayer. Preacher - the Rev. Phyllis Tee of United Reformed Church.

(18th. to 25th. is the week of prayer for Christian Unity and we especially welcome members of all churches to the services in the Parish Church)

Sunday	1st. February	11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
..	8th. ..	11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.
..	15th. ..	9.00 a.m. Holy Communion. (United Service at Harleston at 11.00 a.m.).

### CHRISTMAS

All services were reasonably well attended and the Children's Society benefitted from the three carol services by £13.

(ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH) - continued ....

### BLUE PETER APPEAL

I took up to London, on the 29th. December all that was left at the Vicarage in the way of cottons and woollens; thank you for your support in this. Would the owner of a blue suitcase please reclaim it from the Vicarage.

H. Wake.  
Vicar.

## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

On Thursday, 11th. December, the branch held its annual Bingo night in the Chestnut Horse, to raise funds for the ex-service pensioners and widows Christmas vouchers. Although not up to the standard of other years when Ken Wheeler was the organiser, the event was well supported and a total of £44.22p. was raised.

Our very sincere thanks to all who supported us and to those who donated prizes, our hosts Mr. and Mrs. Swale and to Mr. P. Jordan who loaned the public address system.

Altogether a total of £92.00 was distributed in Christmas vouchers as well as many issues of coal from central funds, which was much appreciated by many who, this year, missed the £10 bonus to pensioners.

We are sorry to have to record the death of another of our members from Rattlesden, Mr. F. Dykes. A past committee member, Fred was a very keen follower of the Suffolk Hunt.

Our December meeting was held on the 18th. December in the Crown Inn, Buxhall. Our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Knowles for accommodating us. Our next meeting will be in the clubroom, Pettward Hall on January 15th. at 8.00 p.m. This will be an open meeting for all members .. so why not come along and meet the committee.

Finally, a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to you all.

F. W. E. Smith.  
Hon. Secretary.

## YOUR LETTERS

'I would like to accept the opportunity given in the Editorial of last month's Newsletter, of voicing my opinion on the proposed expenditure for 1976/77.

1. 1975/76 - £3.40 per ratepayer.
- 1976/77 - £5.35 per ratepayer.

This seems to me far too great a percentage increase in view of central government's statement regarding increase in rates for 76/77.

2. I note that it is proposed to switch at least five street lights off. I feel I cannot let this go without objecting strongly and would suggest this is an act of sheer folly and downright dangerous to pedestrians. I fully realise I very rarely fall into that category, I am however proud of the very good, in fact it is excellent, street lighting installation in this village which previous Parish Councils had the foresight to install. Furthermore, how would the speed limit in the village be affected.

3. Item 11, page 5 (re grant to P.C.C. for upkeep of the churchyard)- my strong suggestion is that this be deleted in its entirety and the £30 saved would go a long way towards the street lighting mentioned above and thus preventing the possibility of a few more living people from joining those for whom the £30 is intended (i.e. the dead). Surely Great Finborough Parochial Church Council could organise a grass cutting rota as we do at Buxhall. I realise this is not the P.C.'s province but I really do think this is one item which could and should be deleted'

'Burwood'  
Borough Lane  
Gt. Finborough.

Paul Underwood

## WHERE WAS IT ?

"The visit I made to the village was in 1844. I had taken my daughter to the Boarding School there, run by the Misses Elizabeth

and Emma Muad. I had visited the very ancient church, being shown around by the Vicar, the Reverend F.H. Maberley. That was, of course, before this lovely old building was rebuilt.

I asked who lived in the mansion nearby and was informed that a Captain Robert Russell was in occupation, although the property belonged to Lady Hotham

Before walking back to the nearest railway station three miles away (only just opened), I took refreshment at "The White Horse" and also visited the premises of the local bootmaker, Archer Felgate, and arranged for walking shoes to be made and delivered to my daughter at the Muad's school. At the inn, kept by a Mr. George Andrews, I met, and chatted to, several interesting villagers - John Bradley (a shopkeeper), Meshal Chaplin (a farmer), John Halls (a wheelwright), John Parr (a blacksmith), Robert Thorns (a maltster) and John Whitehead (a miller)."

A report of a visit to Great Finborough 130 years ago - fictitious, of course, but all the names, occupations etc. are true. Yes - we had a Boarding School in the village and a bootmaker - and a "White Horse" pub .... These names were taken from an old directory at Bury St. Edmunds Record Office recently.

Apart from the Finborough Hall occupant, the only other "gentry" in the village, listed, were Mrs. Elizabeth Edgar and Joshua Halls, Esq. In addition to Mr. Meshal Chaplin, the following farmers were listed :-

Joseph Cooper,	Henry Crosse,	Henry Davis,
William Goymer,	Charles Hattan,	George Hattan,
John Hunt,	Thomas Lawson,	Denis Leasher,
Robert Russell.		

I presume Lady Hotham was a relation of the Pettiwards and that the property had come into her hands following the death of Roger Petteward in 1833.



## FROM - 25 YEARS AGO

The Council discussed the following :-

1. "National Thanksgiving Fund" - the Clerk was instructed to approach the Women's Institute and the British Legion with a view to arranging a house-to-house collection.
2. "Ownership of piece of land on the Finborough - Hitcham road opposite the southern end of the Bungalows. Efforts to trace the owner having failed it was decided to request a representative from the Gipping R.D.C. to meet a Councillor on site with a view to lessening the offensive drainage through the land in question."
3. The Council applied for membership of the County Association of Parish Councils.
4. It was agreed to approach the Gipping Rural District Council with a view to making recommendations for occupancy of the new Housing estate (Oak Close) now in course of construction in the parish.
5. To warn the Rural District Council representative of the unhygienic conditions of the Hitcham Road verge between Stone Farm Lane and Mill House.
6. Mr. Saunders to be advised of the danger arising from the lack of adequate cover to the exposed well on his property in Stone Farm Lane.
7. In considering the up-keep and appearance of the Village Green, it was decided to approach :-
  1. the County Council regarding the dumping of sand and
  2. the companies delivering coal and coke in the area over avoidance of the grass verges.

The matter of the renewal and re-spacing of the posts round the Green was left in abeyance.