ISSUE 76 – SEPT 2022

UPDATE

THE NORTHAW AND CUFFLEY PARISH COUNCIL MAGAZINE

A message from the Chairman:

Since the last Update issue, we all celebrated a landmark, and record breaking, reign of our monarch – 70 years and still going. At the same time, we saw another record-breaking landmark as we entered the 7th year of our Local Plan consultation – a record for any local plan in the country, 6 years of consultation and examination, and its still going. So what, you will be asking yourself, will we see first, a new plan or a new monarch? At this rate it will be the latter and that's likely to be William, maybe George.

The council have voted to go back to the to the Inspector with a more realistic housing target down from the current target of 15,200 by some 2,500 homes and avoiding building on high harm green belt. A proposal that the Inspector has made it quite clear he will not accept.

However, there has recently been an edict from Greg Clark the minister for Levelling Up to the chief of the Planning Inspectorate effectively saying that that he doesn't want to see Inspectors find any Local Plans unsound until all avenues have been exhausted. This is eminently sensible as the current process is an all-or-nothing approach – you either accept a target of 15,200 or none at all.

Its anyone's guess what happens now. Does the Inspector capitulate and accepts the councils position? Does the Head of Planning Inspectorate intervene? Will the council soften their stance? Will there be legal challenges from developers who find themselves without a site to develop? Is there room for a legally acceptable compromise? One day we might find out but not before a couple of coronations.

Colesdale Farm

Premises Licence Appeal

Following the continuing nuisance generated by the live events held at Colesdale Farm during August, you will be pleased to hear that that the Colesdale Farm appeal hearing has been listed for 29 November and 6 December at Stevenage Magistrates Court.

Until then, we will keep working with the teams at Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council to ensure that this hearing takes in to consideration all the concerns and experiences of residents this summer.

To this end, if you have directly experienced problems related to any of these events, we would urge you to contact Environmental Health at WHBC using **e.health@welhat.gov.uk** . The more issues that are logged, the stronger the case will be when WHBC get to court.

While I'm sure you are all aware, here is a quick recap of the current circumstances relating to the premises licence for Colesdale Farm.

After receiving a torrent of complaints from local residents relating to the events in 2021, Environmental Health at Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council (WHBC) called the licence in for review earlier this year. An application supported by Hertfordshire Police.

On 30th March the premises licence was reviewed by the Alcohol and Regulated Entertainment Sub-Committee at WHBC. At this review hearing various organisations and individuals, including the Parish Council, expressed their concerns regarding the delivery of these large music events, and the impact on our local community relating to public nuisance and public safety.

After considering the evidence presented to them, the sub-committee took the decision to revoke the Colesdale Farm premises licence.

Unfortunately, following this decision, the licence holder chose to lodge an appeal. This means that their premises license remains valid, and that events could continue to take place, until the appeal hearing takes place.

Bit.ly URLs are being used in this publication. Bitly is a service that enables us to shorten long webpage links to make reading them, and accessing them, easier for residents.

A message from your local Sergeant

I'm Alex Smedley, your new Sergeant for your local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) covering Cuffley and Northaw and the surrounding areas. The SNT are your traditional 'bobbies on the beat', tasked with tackling local neighbourhood issues that affect you.

I joined the police service in 2009 and apart from a stint in East Herts, I have always been based in Welwyn Hatfield - firstly as a PCSO before becoming a PC and now as a Sergeant - so I know the area really well. I also grew up in the local area so I feel a personal connection with making sure the community feel safe and listened to by the police.

I am very keen to hear your views about local policing. What do you think we are doing well? What could we be doing better? Is there something you would like to see us prioritise? Please let me know by using echo, the constabulary's community voice platform at **www.bit.ly.police-welhat**. I am enthusiastic about ensuring the public have a say in how we police the area so any feedback, good or bad, is welcome!

Sergeant Dan Bales is now working as an Inspector in Watford.

Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Neighbourhood Plan has been finalised by the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The Plan has been sent formally to Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council who have put the approved plan out to formal public consultation, which took place from 3rd August through to 14th September. The consultation was managed entirely by the Borough Council independent from the Parish Council.

All representation arising from the consultation will be considered by an independent Examiner who has recently been appointed. The Examiner is entirely independent of both the Borough and Parish Councils and is a very experienced planner who has performed a similar role on many Neighbourhood Plans throughout the Country.

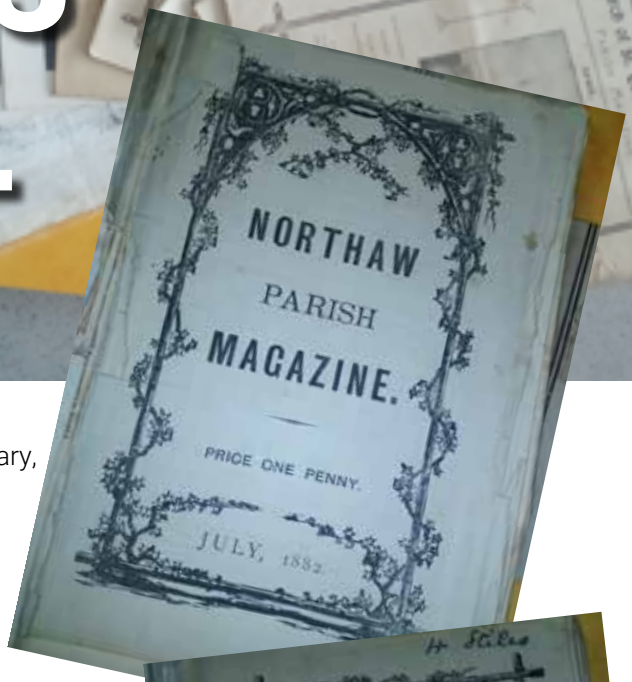
The Examiner will review the Plan to ensure it is fit for purpose and complies with all the relevant statutory requirements. It is not the Examiners role to veto policies or insert additional policies. Where the Examiners considers a revision is required, he will raise the matter with the Parish Council and revisions may be made. Generally, these revisions are minor to ensure that the meaning of policies and/or statements are clear and consistent. Where revisions are required, the Plan will be revised and only in exceptional circumstances would it be subject to further public consultation.

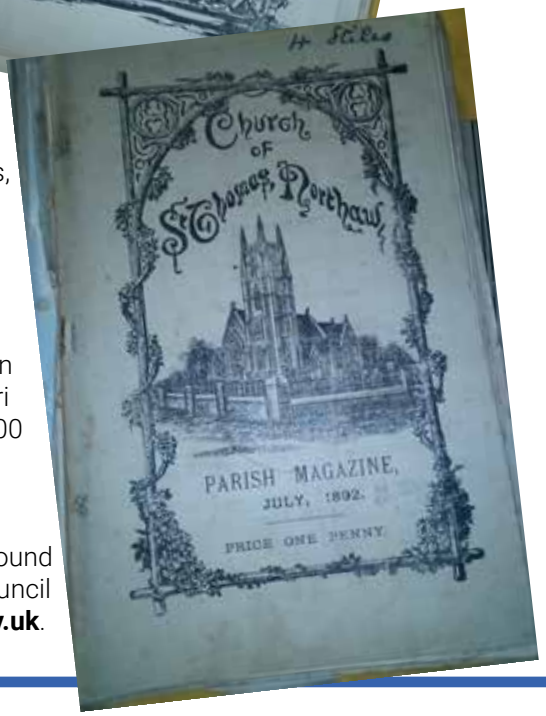
Assuming that in due course the Examiner signs off the Plan either in its original form or with amendments then a Community Referendum will take place, organised by the Borough Council. All residents of the Parish of voting age will be entitled to vote. It is a simple majority vote with no lower limit for votes cast. A majority vote either way will be binding and should the Plan be supported by a majority vote then it will very quickly come into force.

Once the Neighbourhood Plan is in force the Parish will have far more control over the determination of all formal planning applications and will be able to access significant additional funding.

We will keep the community informed of progress and in particular the details of the referendum.

100 YEARS OF LOCAL HISTORY





In May 2022 the Parish Council were contacted by a former resident of Northaw, now living in the Isle of Wight, asking us how they should go about donating their family collection of Parish Magazines.

The collection, consisting of 26 items, included examples of a century of Parish Magazines covering the period 1882 to 1982, booklets from the 1950's relating to Northaw Church and Parish, and a copy of "Bell News and Ringers Record" from 1902.

The range of content makes the magazines fascinating reading: From serialised story chapters, to the notices recording daily life in the Parish - Especially poignant are those listing the missing and dead in the period following WWII.

After conversations with both Northaw and Cuffley Parish and Cuffley Community Library, the decision was taken to donate the entire collection to the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS) Library, in Hertford. This means that these delicate magazines will be properly preserved and will be readily available to local residents, students and historians.

If you wish to view the collection, or other local records, please contact HALS either via hals.**enquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk** or by calling **0300 123 4049**.

The Archives, located at County Hall in Hertford, are open Tues-Thurs 09.00 - 17.00 and Fri 09.00 – 12.30, plus 10.00 – 14.00 on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month.

Further information on the Hertfordshire Archives can be found on the Hertfordshire County Council website **www.hertfordshire.gov.uk**.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Cuffley Art Society

Cuffley Art Society will be holding an Exhibition and Sale of paintings by our members in Cuffley Hall on Saturday 29th October from 10 am to 3pm. Free entry.

We'll be serving tea, coffee and homemade cakes all day and homemade soup will be served from 12 til 2pm.

Our friendly group meet every Monday from 2 til 4pm to paint together.

Why not come and join us? New members are very welcome

For more information phone Jan Aiken **01707874672**.

Northaw + Cuffley

Coffee Shop
St Andrews Church

Every Wednesday
10.30 to 12.30
Everybody Welcome.
Join us for coffee, tea, cake, biscuits and a chat.

STEP 2 SKILLS

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Cuffley Wednesday Games Club

The Cuffley Wednesday Game Club have a few vacancies for snooker players or people wishing to learn and vacancies for scrabble or other board game players.

The first visit is free after which the annual fee is £55 or £2 per week.

We meet at the Community Centre on Wednesday afternoons from 1.30 to 4.30pm.

If you are interested, please contact the Chairman, John White on **01707 875589**

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Cuffley Friends of Cancer Research UK

We have had a reminder from Cuffley Friends of Cancer Research UK that they have collecting boxes in shops and restaurants around Cuffley and Goffs Oak.

Please remember to donate any spare change you have when you check out.

1st Cuffley Scout Group News

We celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in style with a Big Lunch for our members and their families. There was plenty of bunting, picnics, a cake decorating competition, tug-o-war, best decorated hat and lots of games and crafts. The Group will also be adding to the Queen's Green Canopy with some new hedging, courtesy of the Woodland Trust, in our HQ grounds.

The Beavers have had a successful one-night camp, the Cubs joined in the District Camp at Well End and the Scouts spent a weekend camping at Tolmers Activity Centre. Some of our Explorers (14-18 year olds) are planning a 5-day expedition from Hastings to Sandwich in August, visiting the Cinque Ports; they've also been finding out about classic cars and vehicle maintenance.

Our summer was mostly outdoors learning new skills including fire lighting, saw and axe work, tent pitching and outdoor cooking. All of our Sections have made good use of local footpaths with walks from Bayford to Newgate Street, Crews Hill to the Scout HQ and around the Great Woods. Five members did a two day hike from Gilwell Park to Brookman's Park. Our Cubs also had a great evening at Northaw and Cuffley Bowling Club for an introduction to lawn bowling.

If you'd like to know more about Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers in Cuffley or if you'd like to volunteer to help please get in touch by calling 07784 861218 or through our website at **https://cuffley-scouts.org.uk**. We also maintain a clothes bank which contributes to Group fundraisining and recycling unwanted clothing. If you have any items you'd like to donate, we'd love to hear from you.

Do you look after someone, unpaid, that needs your help due to an illness, disability, their age or an addiction?

Are you or the person you support living in Herfordshire?

Yes?
There is support for you.
You don't have to care alone.

Call Carers in Hertfordshire on 01992 58 69 69
Email: contact@carersinherts.org.uk
Visit: www.carersinherts.org.uk

Carers in Hertfordshire
charity registration number 1085491

Hertfordshire

A SUMMER OF FUN AT CUFFLEY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER LIBRARY

It was a hub of activity at the library this summer with children and parents enjoying crafts such as decorating masks, making puppets and constructing flying unicorns! Donations from our book sale brought in much needed revenue enabling us to hold all of these children's activities for FREE. And our 'Guess the Gadget' competition had a lot of people scratching their heads and asking 'What does this do?"

64 children signed up to the Summer Reading Challenge this year and undertook to read 6 books in 6 weeks. Our volunteers really enjoyed listening to the children recount the storylines of the books they had read and upon completion the children were awarded a medal and a certificate and entered into the prize draw.

And there was great excitement at the August PCSO Surgery when PCSOs Griffin and Woods brought along the 4x4 police car for the children to explore. As well as providing advice on personal safety and security, the PCSOs gave away free gadgets to deter theft which were gratefully received. All in all we had our most successful day at the library with 175 visitors in 3 hours! Thanks to the Police for the time they spent with residents and the children.

We have a number of activities planned for this Autumn not least Baby Rhyme Time which returns on Monday mornings (term time only). No booking required. And don't forget our excellent range of books including many best sellers, audio and large print books and the extensive magazines we have available.

If you have a few hours to spare weekly, join us.

For more information, please email me at: **cuffleylibraryvolunteers@outlook.com**

Paola Munns
Chair Cuffley Community Volunteer Library

NORTHAW COMMUNITY ORCHARD
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Cuffley Library at the Orchard Fayre

The Community Orchard is a public green space in the heart of Northaw for all in the parish to enjoy. We aim to provide opportunities for education, conservation and healthy living. Open all the time for everyone

We had a very successful Orchard Fayre in July. It was good to see so many visitors enjoying the scything, storytelling and herbal walks, not to mention a glass of Pimms (or a cup of tea) and a hot dog! There was something for everyone among the various stalls and we also raised a good amount towards the upkeep of the Orchard which is entirely self-funded. This year's apple crop looks good in spite of the dry weather and is mainly due, we're sure, to our dedicated watering team. Well done everyone!

Join our monthly help-out sessions for gentle exercise in the fresh air. Every first Saturday in the month 10.30am to 1pm. Tools and excellent cake provided!

CultureWood Family Forest School. Fun outdoor activities for children 3 to 11yrs and their carers – every second Saturday from 11am - 12.30pm. To find out more and to book email Tanya at **culturewoodcic@gmail.com**

Apple Day Sat 1st October 1-5pm Cakes and refreshments, local cider and apple related activities for all. Come along for a great afternoon out.

Find the Orchard between No. 47 and 49 Northaw Road West (access road to the Scouts) or use the entrance in Church Lane (by the bungalows)

For more information visit our website **www.northaworchard.com** or email **northaworchard@gmail.com**

Save the date!

Whether you are planning out your December to include, or avoid, the World Cup games, please remember to save the date for the NCPC Christmas Lighting Ceremony on 2nd December from 4.30pm.
Please do come and join us in the Millennium Gardens, Cuffley to welcome in the festive season. Refreshments will be provided.

Hertfordshire County Council

Winter Self Help Scheme
Hertfordshire County Council have a limited amount of salt to give to community organisations to help local people grit their own area.

In addition to local councils, applications can be made by:

- Schools
- Resident associations/ community groups

Resident / community groups are defined as:

- **Residents' associations** – people living within a specific area who take up issues of common concern. They often have a written constitution.
- **Resident groups** – people living within a specific area who organise community events or meet regularly with housing officers to undertake regular inspections. They're less formal groups than associations, but usually have agreed Terms of Reference.
- **Community groups** – an organisation of people working for the common good of the neighbourhood, usually operating under a written constitution. They can be registered with charity commissioners, for example, church, scout groups.

Groups are then responsible for:

- Using the salt on the public highway and not private property.
- The health and safety of any volunteers.
- Giving volunteers advice on how best to clear snow and ice on roads and pavements.

Applications open on 23rd September and need to be received by 31st October, for delivery in November.

Please be aware that all the salt will be supplied in a single delivery!

For a resident or community group the application needs to be made via the URL below, but will be approved by Cllr Boulton our local County Councillor.

https://bit.ly/Winterselfhelp

Cuffley and Northaw Youth & Community Centre Community Open Day

Saturday 22nd October 2pm to 5pm

"Drop in and have your say"

Cuffley and Northaw Youth and Community Centre has been part of the community since 1972. The Centre has seen many changes over the years, and still to this day serves the community 7-days-a- week offering a wide range of activities for all age groups.

However, we would like to offer so much more - our location offers countryside views and wonderful outside space that is currently under-utilised. Our drop in day is a chance for you to come down, meet the team at CYC and sample some of our current groups and activities. Most importantly it will provide the chance for you to have your say in how CYC could serve our wonderful community more effectively for the future. We want to hear from as many people as possible - this is your opportunity to share your vision of what the future could look like for CYC in particular we welcome ideas on improving the building, and facilities to meet the changing needs of our local community.

So come along with the family and join us for a fun filled time including afternoon tea and watch performances from Ridgeway Dance Studios, be mesmerised by Mr Tiz's close up magic, demonstrations from Jane's Yoga Group and Cuffley Games Club and listen to the sounds of Steel Pan in Motion bringing the carnival vibe. Visit the Cuffley pre-school play area, plus fun competitions, and lots of activities for all the family to enjoy.

We look forward to seeing you all.
For more info see our Facebook page.

https://bit.ly/CuffleyNorthawYouthCentre

How to get in touch with us

Northaw and Cuffley Parish Council, 7 Maynard Place, Cuffley, EN6 4JA

The Parish office is open for your queries Mon/Wed 1pm – 5pm, and Tues/ Fri 10am – 2pm. These hours are dependent on staff availability, so please see notices in the office window for weekly updates.

Councillors can be contacted using the Council Members page on our website: **https://northawcuffleypc.org.uk/council-members/**

Our Office Manager, Sally Griffiths, will be happy to assist with any general enquiries and can be contacted on **01707 875 825** or **officemanager@northawcuffleypc.org.uk**

Our Clerk, Lisa Chaplin, can be reached on **07375 962 772** or **parish.clerk@northawcuffleypc.org.uk**

You can also find useful information, both on the Council and on Local Resources, at our website **www.northawcuffleypc.org.uk**

If you would like to keep up to date with regular news from the Parish Council, including general items of local interest, please go to our website and sign up for our newsletter. **www.northawcuffleypc.org.uk/newsletter/**

You can unsubscribe anytime.