

DEBENHAM PARISH COUNCIL- March 2024

Planning: DC/24/00341 Land off Low Road –The Parish Council had been approached regarding concerns of wildlife disturbance at this site. We contacted our District Councillor, as well as MSDC Planning, and reported the matter. The response received was as follows: *“The developers are testing the soil in the bank to ascertain pile depth for the access application. The EA have requested the information in their consultation response. They have a qualified ecologist on site overseeing and monitoring the works. If you or any residents have immediate concerns regarding harm to protected species, or damage to wildlife generally, it would be advisable to report to the Wildlife Crime Officer at Suffolk Police”.*

Allotments: After a comprehensive review, the Debenham Allotment Rules have been approved by full Council. The main change to the existing document is as follows:

Beekeeping: Bees are permitted to be kept on the Parish Council allotments providing the following rules are adhered to:

A) No more than two hives to be kept per plot. A total of 12 hives can be kept on the whole allotment site at any one time. If there are already the maximum hives on the site, the allotment tenant wishing to keep bees will have to wait until someone else removes a hive from their plot.

B) The tenant will be required to erect a 2m fence around the hive(s).

C) Any tenant wishing to keep bees should have a basic bee keeping qualification and should be a member of the BBKA. (This includes

insurance cover). Copies of the relevant documentation will be required annually and kept on file alongside signed Tenancy Agreements. Regular inspections will be carried out to ensure that the new rules are being adhered to.

The revised Allotment Rules will be available on our website in due course, but should a tenant have any enquiries please contact the Clerk or a member of the Allotment Committee.

There have also been further developments on our Community Plot, and we would like to encourage other tenants, local organisations, and members of the public to please support those involved.

Debenham Emergency Plan, Neighbourhood Plan, and Highways improvements: The Parish Council continues with their efforts of reviewing the relevant policies and making considerations in these three areas and will inform the parish as soon as definitive news are available.

Debenham Day: Members are considering holding an event over the next few months which aims at providing a well-earned break for our residents after the storms and floods which have affected the village. We are planning a road closure on the High Street, entertainment, food and drink, and much needed fund-raising. If you/your organization would like to get involved, please contact Cllr K Barlow.

Our next meeting will take place on **April 15th, 2024** at Dove Cottage. **Please note our earlier starting time of 7:00 p.m.**

Mrs Dina Bedwell, Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Tel. no: 01473 787861 / Mobile: 07423 184529 (please leave a voicemail if unavailable)

Email: Parish.Clerk@debenhamparishcouncil.org

Office hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 9.30 am to 3.30 pm.

Please note that the Clerk will be on annual leave from March 22nd to April 8th 2024.

For any urgent enquiries during this time, please contact one of the Parish Councillors.