



HEYBRIDGE BASIN

Parish Council

Welcome to the latest edition of the Heybridge Basin Parish Council Newsletter.

NEW CLERK

Since our last newsletter advertising the vacancy for a Clerk. We are delighted to announce that Gemma Lake has taken over the position from John Watson. We would like to express our thanks to John for all the hard work he has done for the Council, including mentoring our new Clerk.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Councillor Lawson placed a wreath on behalf of Heybridge Basin Parish Council on Remembrance Day. Special thanks to the STITCH, KNIT and NATTER Group that worked hard to produce all the poppies from plastic bottles for Remembrance Day, and the Christmas decorations on the village sign and post box.



SLUICE GATE SAGA

Residents will no doubt have seen or heard of the recent flooding around the Jolly Sailor PH. This is not the first time the sluice has stuck open and allowed the tide to flood the road and front gardens in this area. The Parish Council wrote to the Environment Agency in respect to this long running issue pointing out that the frequency and the severity of these events is increasing, and residents are having their gardens destroyed by salt water almost as soon as they restored them from the last event. Not to mention the safety issues involved with flood water.

The response was that the site has been visited and options are being considered. However, any resolution depends on the chosen remedy meeting the necessary cost benefit tests, and then being included in a funding programme.

The Parish Council Members were not satisfied with this response and instructed the Clerk to write again, expressing our concern with what could be described as a rather vague answer to our letter, asking for more details and some idea of when a solution would be put forward for funding.

ESSEX HERITAGE TRUST

The Council are in the process of applying for funding from the Essex Heritage Trust, in the hopes of installing some Heritage Information boards, detailing the history of the village.

MEADOW CAR PARK

Following the resident's survey and the two village meetings held in July the PC has interviewed six potential operators of a Pay and Display car park service to manage Daisy Meadow. From these six we narrowed the field to three, who we invited to tender. The PC has now selected a preferred operator – Smart Parking Limited and are in final contract negotiations with them. If all goes to plan DM will be Pay and Display early in the new year.

The car park will have an Automatic Number Plate Recognition system with cameras based around the car park. These will operate on a 24/7 basis and should also help to deter unwanted activity at night in the car park.

We have set the parking tariff at a reasonable level compared to other local car parks to not deter visitors from using DM and parking in side streets. We have this issue now with a free car park at busy times and until we can review the overall parking regulations within the village this is unlikely to change.

Payment will be accepted by contactless debit/credit card and the Ringo phone app; no cash will be involved. The charge for 1 hour will be £1, rising to £5 for 24 hours.

There will continue to be a residents parking concession within DM and the eligibility criteria will be published shortly.

We are looking forward to Daisy Meadow generating funds for its maintenance and a surplus for other projects within the village!

CHRISTMAS TREE

We are delighted to see the Christmas Tree back this year, thank you to Richard for organising and for everyone coming together to get it up and decorated.

