

Parish Council Meeting 18th March

Routine matters – and two important village issues

As anyone who has joined a Parish Council meeting in the village hall or on zoom will know, much of the agenda is taken up with receiving reports and correspondence – and in this meeting, checking our many policies are up to date. However, two items destined to make important changes to our village were also on this agenda:

Quiet Lanes - the Parish Council request that our lanes be classified and signed as Quiet lanes has taken a step forward. The public consultation mentioned in a previous Bulletin has happened, and a proposed pattern of signs drawn up. By using volunteer help, and with County Council support, there will be no cost to us as a parish. While Quiet Lanes do not come with a speed limit, the signage does make clear to motorists that these are places where dogs, horses, walkers, cyclists, etc, are to be expected, and they must recognise this and drive accordingly. Depending on progress with the scheme, Bawdsey could be in phase 2, with signs in place by July – very helpful for East lane in particular.

Bawdsey Quay and Ferry Rd – in a joint effort by the County, District and Parish Council to address the ongoing problems of parking, safety and river bank damage, three important steps have now been approved:

- A Temporary Traffic Regulation Order, financed by East Suffolk, to place temporary barriers along the stretch of road leading to the quay to limit parking there, to be in place after April 5th for the duration of the summer
- Re marking of parking spaces on Bawdsey Quay, with a central area of parking spaces clearly marked; no firm date for this as yet, but we hope to see this done within the coming weeks
- Permanent traffic regulation scheme – very much a long term solution, including such features as yellow lines, restricted waiting, additional small laybys for cars, etc. This is still at the design stage, and will of course be subject to public consultation – but a scheme could be ready for the autumn, and East Suffolk will finance this.

These steps represent a serious effort to tackle serious problems, and the Parish Council has struggled to arrive at a safe solution, a fair one for all users, and one that County and District are willing to finance. We are all hoping it will make a worthwhile difference. We will add further detail to the Parish Council website as it becomes available.

Andrew Block