



# Marks Tey Parish Council Newsletter

July 2015 Edition

## From the Chairman

## A Rising Tide of Change – but What Do You Think About It?



The Chairman's Annual Report on what has happened externally and internally over the last 12 months, has been presented to the Council and is available on the website if you want to read it (or phone and ask for a copy). However, the Parish Council wanted to ensure that you are aware of the issues and changes that are about to impact upon Marks Tey, and to seek your views about them and your help to interact with them because if we are going to interact – **we have to do it NOW.**

Allan Walker – [Chairman@marksteyparish.co.uk](mailto:Chairman@marksteyparish.co.uk)

**We are holding a Public Meeting in the Parish Hall at 16.00 on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July to outline the following, what we've done, and what we can do about it. Please come and give your views. Cream teas, coffee and cakes will also be on sale/available as refreshments.**

### A12 and A120

**Design work** is being started by Highways England on **adding two additional lanes (one north. one south)** to the A12 through Marks Tey and all of the way to Chelmsford for construction to start in 4 years time, yet there are currently NO proposals for any substantial improvement to the overloaded A120 which we can expect to get even more busy with works on the A12. Haven Gateway and others have been **canvassing heavily for work on a route for a dualled A120** and ECC have offered £5m to assist this and some local improvements, which the Conservative Party also committed to match fund before the election – but still no actual work has been committed. The Parish Council meets and keeps contact with Highways England, Haven Gateway, the County Council, and Essex Police to support the drive for upgrading and shorter term local improvement, and to gain information to pass on to you on the limitations of living with 2 trunk roads and what we can and can't do. Highways England have confirmed that the whole of the **A120 between Marks Tey and Braintree is to be re-surfaced during 2015/16** including the footpaths and have agreed to work with the Parish Council to look at putting a **full width footpath on the northern (fields) side of the A120** from the rail bridge to the Red Lion. We are also going to work on a **cycleway** from Marks Tey to Coggeshall with Highways England and the Parish Council will seek to create crossings at the entrances to the estate.

### 15,000 houses for Marks Tey? \_ The Emerging New Local Plan

Four of the six Options in Colchester Borough Council's new emerging Local Plan for 2017 onwards suggests upto 15,000 new houses around Marks Tey, being the bulk of Colchester Borough's and Braintree District's housing growth into 2030s.

The Parish Council has submitted a four page response to the Borough Council's consultation on their Issues and Options for the new Local Plan (available on our website, or phone to request a copy) which has been described by one Borough Councillor as "balanced and thoughtful". CBC has reported on the consultation exercise to its 8th June Local Plan Panel and this is available on the CBC website and again there is a link to this on our website.



The associated "Call for Sites" has seen owners/developers putting land forward around Mark Tey, covering an area bigger than Tiptree for potential development (shown shaded red on the adjacent plan). There is a larger copy of this plan in the Local Plan section on our website.

To take things forward the Parish Council asked the two major developers, **RF West Ltd and Gateway120, to informally share their initial proposals** with the Parish Council. Plans from their presentations are shown over and the full presentations are on our website or available by request. They have agreed to do

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larger public meetings as their schemes develop.

Illustrative Master Plan



Sophie Smith Ltd  
landscape · planning · urban design

ARDENT CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Andrew Martin  
Planning  
Planning & Design Services



RF West Ltd Aspirations

Gateway120 Aspirations around Marks Tey

## Neighbourhood Plan – Your say on how Marks Tey should develop

To interact with the above The Parish Council have resolved to sponsor a Neighbourhood Plan for Marks Tey. A Neighbourhood Plan has to tie in with any existing and emerging Local Plan, but it will **give the community more say and control** over how any new development takes place in Marks Tey and what any community benefit from that development should be directed towards. It gives the community the opportunity to think about and **shape how our village should develop**. Without it the community has no say in how a Local Plan is applied to an area other than through response to normal planning applications. It is something that has to be undertaken by the community as a whole not just by the Parish Council and to a set procedure. More will be said about this at the **Public Meeting on 19th July** when we will seek volunteers for a Steering Panel.

## Estate Roads

Old London Road has been resurfaced (apart from the County Council portion at the top!) and the County Council have told us that Mandeville Road is **scheduled for re-surfacing during 2015/16**. The Parish Council are pressing to clarify the extent of this and for a detailed programme.

## Commuter Parking

After 8 years of pressure by the Parish Council we have finally got **parking restrictions** in Old London Road, but commuter parking is now moving into Church Lane and the estate. The Parish Council are liaising with Colchester Borough Council and the County Council to get further measures applied to Church Lane or elsewhere that incur problems.

## What you can do Immediately to Help with the Above

- **Come along to the Public Meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> July** or give us your thoughts, experiences, and let us know if you want to be involved in developing the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Keep an eye on our **website** for changes and notifications.
- **Let us know of any incidents** that you have using the roads. We are stronger canvassing together.
- When driving in Marks Tey, **let people out of the junctions** onto the A120 and from the properties along it.
- **Drive at 30mph** through the village (on the times you can do this speed). **It will slow the traffic down.**
- Write to your Borough Councillor, County Councillor, and/or Priti Patel MP and tell them what you think

## Home to School Transport

The County Council have removed free transport to Marks Tey secondary school children to either Stanway or Coggeshall Honeywood. It is only now available to the nearest secondary school if over 3 miles walking distance from your home. Taking the **Marks Tey estate** for example **everyone is entitled to free transport** being more than 3 miles for their nearest secondary school, but if you choose to go to the other school which may only be 0.5 miles further away or less your entitlement to **free transport will be completely removed**. The consequence of this also assumes more children will walk or cycle along the A120. The Parish Council have been canvassing the County Council and Priti Patel MP and have **suggested a revision** to the rules to say that where pupils are eligible for free transport due to **being over the 3 mile walking distance, transport will be provided to any chosen school at a similar (less than 1 additional mile) distance to the nearest school**.

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## Parish Hall – We have some of the best community facilities in Colchester

Improvements are happening to the Village Hall. A **new kitchen** has been provided next to the Recreation Hall meaning all three Halls now have access to good kitchen facilities. **Acoustic panels** are to be fitted to the Main Hall in conjunction with the Jazz Club and all of the **wooden floors are to be resealed** over the summer. Disturbance will be kept to a minimum but apologies for any you encounter.

## Our Changing Village - Your Parish Needs You - Parish Councillors required

With all of the above, you can see that there is a huge amount of interesting and challenging work for the Parish Council and we need your help. We have **three Parish Councillor vacancies** with our long standing Chairman, Nigel Fitch, and Dave Wrenn standing down after years of successful hard work on the community's behalf. We thank them both. The Parish Council are looking at how to best use Councillors time and skills to deal with the above and want to open this up for 'helpers' to assist with the Parish business and the Neighbourhood Plan. Come and tell us if the issues above are the correct issues for the Parish Council or even if the Parish council should be doing anything at all, but also, please, tell us how you can help.

Being a Parish Councillor is a challenging, interesting and rewarding role to undertake.

No previous experience of local government is required and full training is provided if needed. The Parish Council would welcome applicants of all ages, gender and backgrounds in order to best represent the community.

**Please contact the Parish Clerk with your interest and/or questions on 01206 213250 or [parish.clerk@marksteyparish.co.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@marksteyparish.co.uk)**

## Recycling boxes and bags

Marks Tey Parish Office has available to parishioners the following recycling items:

### **Glass and Cans Green Boxes, Food caddies, Clear plastic recycling bags**

These can be collected from the parish office at the hall but it is advisable to call first on 01206 213250 to ensure that stock is available.

## Weaning Workshop – Monday 13 July 2015 – Marks Tey Village Hall

This workshop is for parents and carers of babies under 6 months and explores topic around weaning including;

- Signs and readiness of weaning
- First foods to try
- How to start weaning
- Family mealtimes
- Healthy eating

To book onto this workshop please contact Little Hands and Discovery Childrens Centre on Telephone - 01206 216 240 Email – [Marianne.martin@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:Marianne.martin@barnardos.org.uk)

## Message from Essex Police on Crime Prevention

**Burglary** A house that is left insecure is an attractive target for thieves. Your belongings may mean a lot to you but to a thief they're just a way of making quick and easy cash. Burglars can strike at any time but most burglaries can be prevented by securing your home. Most burglars are opportunists and in 3 out of 10 burglaries, access is gained through an open door or window. Burglars love it when you make their job easier for them. There are simple steps you can take to beat the burglar.

1. **Windows-** Two thirds of burglars get in through a door and a third through a window so security is vital. Fit window locks to all easy to reach windows, for example, those on the ground floor, above a flat roof or near a drainpipe. DIY shops sell inexpensive locks to fit most windows but remember to remove keys from locks and store them somewhere out of sight. Your insurance could be affected if you don't. Security is vital, but at least one window in each room at first floor or higher level must have a means of escape.
2. **Doors-** Doors and their frames should be strong and in good condition. If your front and back doors are not secure neither is your home. Strengthen wooden doors by fitting a steel strip and plates to the door frame and around the lock. These are commonly called London and Essex bars. Make sure hinges are sturdy and secured with strong, long screws. For added security fit a pair of hinge bolts. Never hang a spare key inside the letterbox – it's an obvious place that a thief will check. Keep your doors locked even when you are at home.
3. **Outdoor and indoor lighting-** Lights triggered by movement can be dangerous to passing traffic and easily ignored at the crucial time if they are constantly activated. The most effective lighting is controlled

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by a dusk to dawn switch that comes on only when it gets dark. It costs very little to run and acts as a deterrent all night. An empty home is an attractive target for thieves. If you're going to be out all day or are going on holiday, set timers for one or more lights to come on when it gets dark.

4. **Alarms-** Burglars are less likely to target a house with an alarm so it's advisable to fit one. There are two types to choose from. Audible only alarms set off a siren or bell while monitored alarms are connected to a central monitoring service and alert police on activation. These must be installed to BS.EN 50131 standard and will involve monitoring and service charges. A house in darkness at four o'clock in the afternoon does stand out. It says that it's likely someone will not be there. Buy an alarm system that meets British or European standards. Contact a professional to install the alarm - a wrongly fitted alarm can cause all kinds of problems and end up costing you more.

### Essex Community Messaging

This is a service run by Essex Police to notify and warn subscribers of crime and incidents in their immediate locality. Users report it as being a good service - see [www.essex.police.uk/ecm](http://www.essex.police.uk/ecm).

### Mobile Library Services

Essex County Council mobile libraries carry a wide range of books and other items, but if you can't find a particular title you can reserve a copy. All mobile libraries are wheelchair-accessible

**June 6<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>      July 14<sup>th</sup> 28<sup>th</sup>      August 11<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup>**

**The mobile library visits St Andrews School, 13.20 – 14.10 and Leyfield, 16.40 – 17.15**

For more details or help please phone The Answers People on 0845 603 7628.

### Parish Councillors

Allan Walker (Chairman)	71 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1LS	211424
Malcolm Bailey	47 Godmans Lane, Marks Tey, CO6 1NE	212341
Danny Cooper	The Gatehouse, 1 Francis Court, Marks Tey, CO6 1FR	212050
Martin Cowan	Poplar Nurseries, Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1HR	210374
Juliet English	Willow Croft, Wilsons Lane, Marks Tey	210072
Kate Evans	75 Keable Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1XR	210767
Dave Johnson	2 Brickwork Cottages, Church Lane, Marks Tey, CO6 1LN	211652
Rachael Moore (Vice Chair)	36 North Lane, Marks Tey, CO6 1EG	210025
Vacancy		
Vacancy		
Vacancy		

### Office Staff

Parish Clerk	Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer	213250
Gill Sargeant	Hall Bookings Manager	213250

**Address:** Marks Tey Parish Office, Parish Hall, Old London Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1EJ

**Email:** [Parish.clerk@marksteyparish.org.uk](mailto:Parish.clerk@marksteyparish.org.uk)    [Bookings@marksteyparish.org.uk](mailto:Bookings@marksteyparish.org.uk)

### Parish Council meeting dates 2015 – all meetings are at 7.30pm

Members of the public are warmly invited to attend

#### Full Council

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July  
 Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August  
 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September  
 Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October  
 Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December

#### Planning and General Committee

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July  
 No meeting  
 Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September  
 Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October  
 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
 Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December

**Would you like to hire one of the Parish Halls or Playing Field for a family event, society gathering or business meeting? Please contact Gill at the Parish Office. Competitive rates and flexible booking arrangements available**

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