

Update on the Solar Community Fund & Village News



This Bulletin edition is an opportunity to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas from the Solar Community Fund Committee and the Parish Council. We are also going to show you some 'Before, During and Afters' which highlights some of the work that has been going on.

THE WORLD WAR ONE WAR MEMORIAL IS NOW RENOVATED, the installation by Rob Wells the Stonemason took place on Monday 24th October in readiness for the Remembrance Sunday Service on 13th November. The service was well attended and now the local family names are clearly set out on the roll of honour for all to see. Those who perished at war, are marked with a cross.



NOTICEBOARDS REFURBISHED

Both of the smaller noticeboards - East Beckham and also Sheringham Road board (featured left) were letting in water, rotting, which made it more difficult to read notices. The Sheringham Road board now has new glass and both have new backs and pin-boards. They have been given a wood treatment which will hopefully keep them in good order for a few more years.





THE BUS SHELTER, West Beckham

Work is on-going to make this a more useful and pleasant place of shelter in the community. So far it has been scrubbed of green algae, painted to make it lighter inside, earthworks outside started to keep the banks from rolling into the telephone box and a repair to the roof to keep it dry. Still to come; a new, more comfortable bench to be installed, a new public noticeboard installed inside, the Parish Noticeboard under the old Chestnut Tree to be moved to the space at the left for easier access, and investigation into new secure cycle stowage.

A MOBILE POST OFFICE IS BEING INTRODUCED

The Post Office are introducing a service to assist rural areas who have recently lost the amenity of their local Post Office. It has been working in the highlands of Scotland and now we have heard that the Aylsham Main Post Office, in conjunction with CT Baker Budgens, is going to bring the service to Norfolk villages. Villages are widespread including Smallburgh, Sutton, Newton St Faiths, Erpingham, Bacton, Hevingham, Frettenham, Lower Wroxham, Worsted, Salhouse on the coast and most importantly for us, BODHAM. The service will be available on a weekly basis at Beckham & Bodham Village Car Park for 2 hours every TUESDAY between 12PM - 2PM. The plan is that every counter service offered at the main Post Office will be available from the mobile unit, so banking, pensions, posting parcels etc. should all be possible! In addition, CT Baker Budgens are allowed to offer a small product 'shop service' for example cards or chocolates, or items pre-ordered for the following week.



As this is all very new, some of the details are yet to be finalised but watch out for the RED POST OFFICE VAN from after the 10th January 2017. Further details will no doubt be in local newspapers.

THE WHEATSHEAF PUB Daniella and Steve are also busy! They have established their B&B accommodation and are now working on getting a shop/deli set up, so this creates more opportunities for local shopping. The Wheatsheaf Pub continue to do a splendid job hosting the monthly 'Beckham Socialites' gathering on the 1st Thursday of the Month. For more information about the lunches contact please: Ann and Martyn Waring on 01263 820148 or the Wheatsheaf on 01263 822110

CONSERVATION PROJECTS

The Conservation Volunteers have been engaged to help make our 'Special Beckham Places' even better. The two ancient woodland common areas (one in each village) have been let to get overgrown and the common plants like bracken and bramble have in many spots taken over.

The entrance has been cleared and a new path has been created to establish a circular route around the pleasant woodland. More open areas have been created which will eventually house a new bench seat and possibly a picnic table or two. If you haven't been to Beckham Village Green before then try it out. It is situated off Sheringham Road close to the 30mph signs at the Lodge Hill end.



Full of bracken and brambles, the effective clearance by TCV has really helped improve the area.



Look out for the rare White Admiral Butterfly



East Beckham Common runs off The Loke opposite the Allotments and follows a very old pathway. Here are photos of the two ends, which have been cleared and opened up!



The middle photo shows some of the TCV crew who had been working hard on our behalf to improve the landscape. We will have them back in Spring.





East Beckham Common has a very large and ancient holly tree. The winding lane has been broadened a little enabling us to enjoy the view by letting in the light which will give plants, wildlife and walkers a better experience.

Please note: During the shooting season there is a permissive pathway/track at the top end of the Common leading back down into East Beckham which has been closed temporarily for public use. This is a safety measure, and will reopen when the local shoots come to an end.

URGENT: PLEASE HELP FUND MORE WORK ON 'BECKHAM'S SPECIAL PLACES'!

Shopping during **DECEMBER** in **Tesco Sheringham Metro** or **Mundesley Cromer Express** will help us to win the 'Groundwork UK - Tesco bags of Help' competition. We have been shortlisted to one of 3! Please ask the at the check out for a voting counter and choose to vote for **Beckham's Special Places**. Please tell your family and friends to do the same!

Traffic Calming 'Village Gates' for East and West Beckham They are on order! More next issue in the Spring.

A Vacancy for Handyman or Woman for Parish Maintenance is under consideration. If you are interested in applying for a part-time role, with varied DIY skills then get in touch with Kathryn Lord. The idea is to help the Solar Community Fund Committee to action smaller manual or labouring works which means it's hard to find suitable contractors to take them on.

A Defibrillator for East and West Beckham Village. Two will be purchased soon but investigation has found different suppliers have various benefits and costs. Once this has been established they will be bought and put into operation. One to be sited in the Telephone box next to the Bus Stop in West Beckham and the other at the gable end of the barn almost opposite the East Beckham Village sign.

Contacts

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