

# GREAT WAKERING NEWS

Issue 2



Welcome to Issue 2 of the Parish Newsletter. Thankyou for the number of complimentary remarks about Issue 1.

This and the next few newsletters will provide you with information about Parish Councils, how they work, what they do and how they are funded. We hope you will find this informative.

## **TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS**

Parishes are the smallest areas of civil administration in England and provide the statutory tier of local government closest to the people. A Town Council has the same powers as a Parish Council, it is simply that the council has decided to take on the title 'town' where appropriate. Elections to Town and Parish Councils are held every four years are an essential part of the structure of local democracy and have a vital role in acting on behalf of the communities they represent.

They

- \* give views, on behalf of the community, on planning applications and other proposals that affect the Parish
- \* undertake projects and schemes that benefit local residents
- \* work in partnership with other bodies to achieve benefits for the parish
- \* alert relevant authorities to problems that arise or work that needs to be undertaken
- \* support the other tiers of local government enabling them to keep in touch with their local communities.

**Which King's coronation was the Church clock installed to commemorate?**

## YOUR COUNCIL PRECEPT

Parish Councils are funded by an annual precept which is calculated in the form of estimates based on money that will be used for specific resources and events in the parish. The precept is added to the Council tax which is then collected by the District and paid to Parishes in two six monthly instalments.

Parish and Town Councils can apply for other funding such as grants and funding awards, ( as we did to finance the new village sign), but do not receive funds direct from national government.

Parish precepts account for less than one and half percent of total council tax collected. For most households the parish precept is a very small component of the council tax bill. This year Great Wakering has precepted the parish rate for 2009/10 at £55,000 which is the first real increase for twelve years. This means that the average annual Parish Council rate for a Band D property will be £27.44, ( In 1996 it was £26.84). In comparison, over that period, the increase from both County and District Councils was over 230%.

### Villager of the Year 2009

Mr Roger Sampson was presented with Villager of the Year 2008. The Council would like to present the award again this year and ask that nominations are delivered to the Council's Office by 31st March 2009 and councillors will select the winner. The proposer and nominee must be residents of Great Wakering, not politically active or a member of the Parish Council. The nominee must be over voting age and have made a significant contribution to village life. The proposal should be made in no more than one hundred words.

**The figures below give a comparison of our expenditure and income for the last three years.**

**EXPENDITURE**

	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8
Administration	11,896	10,446	11,064
Street lighting/highways	3,100	4,201	4,158
Allotments	511	2,236	8,559
Open spaces	1,370	2,918	3,097
Burial Ground	9,676	10,635	15,187
Staff costs	31,800	33,265	35,233
Councillors allowance	2,248	2,232	3,436
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>60,601</b>	<b>65,933</b>	<b>80,733</b>

**INCOME**

	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8
Administration	1,121	83	3,468
Street lighting/highways	0	0	781
Allotments	6,016	5,520	2,317
Open spaces	0	0	2,994
Burial Ground	5,600	11,265	12,920
Precept	50,000	60,000	50,000
Interest	2,051	2,555	3,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64,788</b>	<b>79,423</b>	<b>75,780</b>

**In 2006 the Parish Council held a referendum in the village and agreed to raise the precept by 10,000 to go towards funding youth projects in the village. We are pleased to inform you that the monies, together with funding from Rochford District Council and Extended Schools are being used to fund the Youth Café held in the primary school. There are currently over 200 children and young people registered to use these facilities on Monday and Wednesday evenings. The Council would like to thank all staff and volunteers who have contributed to making the Youth Café a great success.**

Great Wakering Parish Council would like to extend sincere condolences to the family of John Ford who died in tragic circumstances on 30th December 2008. John was a Parish Councillor for many years and always held the well being of the Village upper most in his work.

## Parish Councillors

### East Ward

Anthony Awin 01702 216108  
Michael Osher 01702 535378  
Karen Perring 01702 217987  
Barbara Wilkins 01702 218631

### Central Ward

Vicki Brandon  
Tony Porter 01702 217399  
Trevor Goodwin 01702 219977  
Lyn Rodger 01702 217778

### West Ward

Brian Wright 01702 585668  
Hilary Wilson 01702 219778

### County Councillor

Roy Pearson 01702 218737

### M.P.

James Duddridge 01702 616135

***Did you  
know  
that we  
currently  
have  
councillor  
vacancies?***

*Contact  
Harry, the  
Council Clerk  
if you would  
like to find out  
more.*

#### **NEXT MEETING DATES—ALL WELCOME**

**04.03.09 Annual Parish at 7pm followed by Full Council  
15.04.09 Full Council  
21.05.09 Annual Full Council**

**Parish Council Office. Little Wakering Hall Lane,  
Great Wakering,  
Essex SS3 0HH 2  
( The Lane is next to the British Legion Building)  
Telephone/fax ( 01702) 219343**

**Email:enquiries@greatwakering-pc.gov.uk  
Website:www.greatwakering-pc.gov.uk**

**The answer to the question on the front page is  
King George V in 1911**