

A Parish Council Meeting was held on Monday 8 March 2010 at Great Plumstead Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** Mr E J C Wiley (Chairman)  
Mrs K Bartram  
Mrs D Bensley  
Mr R Claxton  
Mr R Cossey  
Mr J Dixon  
Mr G Edwards  
Mr B Hamilton  
Mrs M Palmer  
Mr A P Skipper  
Mr A Townly

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** The Chairman allowed public participation.

**010310 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE -** Councillor Vincent.

**020310 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 FEBRUARY 2010.**  
These were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**030310 MATTERS ARISING.** Bus Shelter, Thorpe End – the Clerk confirmed receipt of the Norfolk County Council grant of £4,500. Cllr Townly requested authority for a down-payment of £970 to Forest Burr Furniture. This was discussed and agreed – see Agenda Item 070310. There was a query over the base construction which should be resolved on the return of Steve White NCC from holiday.

**040310 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** There were no declarations of interest.

**050310 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS.** Mr Wiley reported correspondence from the vicar asking the Parish Council to investigate a Trust Partnership at Lt Plumstead Hospital Site. He had replied pointing out the difficulties involved with Cofton being involved in administration. This had yet to be resolved. Mr Walpole asked that the PC pursued Broadland to resolve the many issues of the Lt Plumstead Hospital Site. The question of the verges at Crowes Loke adjacent to the village hall has also been raised under Public Participation and the Chairman would make recommendations after discussion of Agenda Item 140310.

**060310 CORRESPONDENCE AND ADMINISTRATION.** The Clerk reported that he had written again on 26 February 2010 to Mr Warvill regarding the private road outside Copellas, Thorpe End asking for an indication on when the road repairs would be completed. Cllr Townly had been in contact with County Cllr Mackie regarding information on traffic projections/pollution relating to the proposed Northern Distributor Road. Cllr Townly reported on his attendance on behalf of the council at the Emergency Meeting of Broadland District Council. He expressed his total disillusionment with Broadland's policies and would continue to represent us on this matter. His presentation regarding the Joint Core Strategy had been circulated to all Councillors. Mr Wiley and Mr Townly had agreed to attend a meeting with Phil Kirby to discuss the local development framework. There was no agenda for this meeting. The Friends of Lt Plumstead School had requested permission to use Gt Plumstead Recreation Ground for the May Day Fair on Monday 3 May. This was agreed. Concern was expressed regarding the allegation in the last Church and Parish

Magazine that the Parish Council were responsible for the closure of the play equipment on the new development at Lt Plumstead Hospital. It was agreed that we would place an article in the Church & Parish Magazine's next issue pointing out that this information was totally incorrect. Cllr Palmer reported that the buses coming from Norwich had created a large muddy lay-by on the nearside of Church Road which had created difficulties for passengers alighting from the vehicle. Mrs Palmer agreed to investigate this with Passenger Transport Services to see if a hard-standing could be created.

**070310 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.** The Clerk reported the following items of **INCOME** Norfolk County Council – Bus Shelter Grant £4500.00. Great Plumstead Bowls Club – Rent £700.00 (Contra), Great Plumstead Scout Headquarters – Rent (£25.00. Bank of Ireland interest February 2010 £0.03p. The following items of **EXPENDITURE** were unanimously approved: Great Plumstead Bowls Club – Grant £700.00 (Contra), I Bishop – Stationery £85.73 (includes £12.77 VAT), Forest Burr Furniture – initial down payment – Bus Shelter – Thorpe End £970.00, Mrs D Bensley – Shingle for Gt Plumstead Village Hall driveway £364.25 (includes £54.25 VAT).

**080310 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.** Councillor Dixon reported that he had queried two items on the planning application for the proposed new school. The following decisions were approved by the full Council:

**NO OBJECTIONS**

20100173 41 Woodland Drive, Thorpe End single and two storey extensions.

20100121 9 Stanford Crescent, Little Plumstead – new roof over garage and garden room.

**090310 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT.** County Councillor Mackie presented the following report:

I just wanted to state a few things at the front of this report – firstly, my deep appreciation for the support and guidance you, as Parish Clerk, have given me as the local County Councillor since 2005.

The second point is that the County Council has set its budget for 2010/11 – with its lowest ever council tax of 1.9%. We have also frozen wages in this period and provided only limited uplifts to departments, those with greatest demographic demand and inflationary pressures. In 2010/11 we face cost pressures of £45 million, only £12 million of this is met by a government grant, the rest will have to be met by making savings (£25.6 million) and the small increase in council tax. Departmental budgets are under incredible scrutiny as we do all we can to weather the economic recession and central budget squeeze on local government spending, but with additional requirements. However, we are working to ensure that our essential services are maintained to the best possible standard and our long term strategic objectives are met.

Finally, I just wanted to record my own personal thanks for the contribution Cllr Ray Cossey has made in the local area, his advice and local knowledge has been invaluable to me – if you need to get something done, if you have Ray on your side, you know you have a both common sense and steadfast support.

## 1. Highways Matters

- Following the last meeting I requested for the Little Plumstead cycle path hedge be cut.
- **Brick Kilns Junction** – The Highways Programme and Budget Team have met and the Brick Kilns junction has been allocated funding for detailed design in 2010/11 and funding for construction has been allocated in 2011/12. However, this is still some way off and could be subject to change. Nevertheless, this is a step in the right direction and I will continue to lobby for this matter to be undertaken as soon as possible. The Highways Team have spoken to our local Highways Engineer, Steve White, about keeping on top of maintenance at the junction. I believe some drainage works were done recently in the vicinity of the junction and officials have asked that the junction markings were refreshed and some additional signing put up/replaced as part of this.
- **PFI Street Lighting Contract** – I am able to confirm that some lamp unit replacements will be taking place in 2010.
  - Broadmead Green (13) - 22/02/10 – 23/03/10
  - Heatherwood Close (3) – 24/02/10 – 25/03/10
  - Plumstead Road (19) – 24/02/10 – 24/03/10
  - Seppings Way (4) – 24/02/10 – 24/03/10

## 2. Northern Distributor Road - Update

At the last meeting I received a number of questions from Cllr Townly regarding the Northern Distributor Road and promised to try and secure material for the Parish Council. The Council should be aware that planning will be sought to the A1067, as agreed in 2005. The Council very much wishes to eventually join the A47.

The Parish Council and residents will of course be able to submit comments on the Planning Permission when it is submitted.

**I can report the following in regards to traffic flow projections, based on the 2006 survey:**

Norfolk County Council is still working on the traffic modelling for the NDR to give it the information that will be used for the planning application. This modelling will take account of interventions within the Norwich Area Transport Strategy implementation plan, and the recommendations within Greater Norwich Development Partnership - Joint Core Strategy. The base traffic model is also currently being reconstructed, to comply with updated methodology for assessing trip choices within the model. The revised base model will not be completed until April, so modelling of the NDR based upon the reconstructed model cannot start until then and will not be available until late spring. Once the information has been modelled, the County Council intends to hold another round of pre planning exhibitions at which we will be showing scheme details and traffic predictions.

The original modelling includes consideration of the am and pm peak situations. The indications are that the NDR would affect traffic flows on Plumstead Road, but the effect will be different on different sections of the road. Currently, residents are using the existing network for destinations in and around the City. Construction of the NDR is predicted to result in this road being used for many of these journeys in the future, with residents travelling eastbound through the village (towards the NDR) instead of westbound towards the city, hence relieving the highway network in the city, particularly the inner and outer ring roads. In the am peak at the outer ring road, there is likely to be an overall reduction in flow of some 8 to 10%.

Highways do expect an increase in traffic travelling through Thorpe End, both east and west bound, particularly during the am and pm peaks. The eastbound traffic originates mainly from the residential areas within Thorpe End and the immediate surrounding south and west areas. This is mainly local residential traffic which is being attracted to the NDR and would have otherwise used the B1140 in the opposite direction to access the city or via rat-running, through residential estate roads for example, and is particularly prevalent in the am peak (am commutes to work). The NDR allows residential traffic to access other areas of the city, particularly the north area (which is supported by the original modelling). This indicates that the NDR will perform as it is designed to.

A similar pattern is shown for the westbound traffic; the large majority of westbound traffic on this stretch of Thorpe End originates from the north of the city, using the proposed NDR to serve the residential areas which are located in the vicinity of Thorpe End and the B1140. This illustrates again that predominantly local (Thorpe End) traffic which will be coming in from the NDR to access residential areas, particularly during the pm peak as residents travel home from work.

The original modelling in 2006 therefore suggests that there is an increase in traffic flow to the east of Thorpe End as local residents travel to gain access to the NDR. The modelling also shows that there should be a decrease on the following roads;

- Plumstead Road East – 25 – 35% - less traffic
- Green lane – 65% or greater - less traffic
- Broad Lane – up to 25% – less traffic
- Hare Road – 65% or greater – less traffic
- Norwich Road – 25% - 35% - less traffic

#### **A140 – A1067 - NDR**

As I suggest above, the County Council should be submitting a planning application for the ¾ route to the A1067. DfT funding has provided the financial opportunity to start that process, with funding to the A140, which could be open in 2015/16.

It is however apparent that the A140 NDR does provide similar traffic benefits in the north-east quadrant of Norwich in comparison with the A1067 NDR, with the variations generally only +/- 10%. This indicates that the A140 NDR is providing the capacity to accommodate any growth in the north-east quadrant of Norwich in much the same way as the A1067 NDR.

**The County Council has provided us with the following information:**

NCC is currently carrying out a number of studies to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment which will be required to accompany the planning application for the NDR scheme. Some preliminary work has already been done in looking at the impacts of pollutants which may arise from the new road and this information will be refined when up to date traffic projections on vehicle numbers, which may use the new route, becomes available.

**CO2 emissions and area of spread to the Thorpe End Garden Village from the proposed flyover?**

Carbon dioxide is not generally considered a pollutant in the normal sense. Increase in CO2 levels in the atmosphere may raise concerns with respect to global warming but do not relate to issues regarding human health. Carbon dioxide emissions will be calculated in respect of the scheme as a whole compared to the present day. Changes in emissions from any particular road link would not have any local impact as they affect everyone equally.

**Carcinogen emissions, and the area of spread, from the proposed flyover at Thorpe End Garden Village?**

Whilst the combustion of fuel can lead to very small quantities of emissions of pollutants which may be suspected carcinogens, these are regulated both in terms of their presence in fuel (for example lead free fuels) and by the Government through the Air Quality regulations and managed through the national Air Quality Strategy. The prevailing background concentrations of such pollutants are extremely low and because the emissions for vehicles are also extremely low, current best practice guidance does not require their levels to be assessed when determining the environmental effects of road schemes. This guidance does however require the assessment of NOX and particulates and preliminary assessment results are given below.

An assessment of the effect of the NDR on nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) concentrations will be required however. Preliminary work was undertaken in 2008 based on traffic assumptions at the time to determine the changes in pollutant concentrations at a number of locations across the route of the NDR. Results from the preliminary work were compared to the national air quality objectives which have been developed for the protection of human health. In the Thorpe End area the receptor likely to experience the highest pollutant concentrations was modelled; this receptor is located approximately 70 metres from the NDR and is situated off Plumstead Road approximately 400 metres from the main

Thorpe End village. An assessment of the effect of the NDR on nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) concentrations is also likely to be required at a later stage.

Modelled results indicated that at this receptor an increase in NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> would be experienced. Modelled results predicted that the maximum annual average NO<sub>2</sub> concentration at this receptor would be 20.4µg/m<sup>3</sup> and the maximum annual average PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations would be 20.5µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Modelling undertaken as part of the initial assessment (representative of the current conditions) showed the existing concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> to be 17.7µg/m<sup>3</sup> and PM<sub>10</sub> to be 21.7µg/m<sup>3</sup>. **All of the concentrations are well below the national air quality objectives of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> for both NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>.**

In addition, government guidance states that contributions to pollutant concentrations from road sources become negligible beyond 200 metres. It is therefore expected that based on preliminary studies concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> at all locations in and around Thorpe End village would be below the national air quality standards for both NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>.

#### **Noise volumes and the area of spread from the proposed flyover at Thorpe End Garden Village?**

Noise from road traffic fluctuates continuously. In order to quantify this noise it is necessary to use statistical indices, which involve averaging over an appropriate time period. The L<sub>A10</sub> measurement is the sound level in dB which is exceeded for 10% of the measurement period and is the method used for traffic noise. It is a useful indicator of freely-flowing traffic noise as it excludes short term noise levels of duration less than 10% of the measurement period.

Existing noise levels at the north eastern side of Thorpe End Garden Village, as measured in 2006 and 2008, range from approximately 45dB L<sub>A10</sub> near properties furthest from Plumstead Road, to approximately 50dB L<sub>A10</sub> at those nearest to Plumstead Road. Preliminary calculations of the existing situation have yielded similar results. Calculations using previously-forecast traffic flows with the NDR suggest increases of approximately 6dB in the opening year at the majority of properties facing the proposed NDR, while at locations adjacent to Plumstead Road increases are predicted to be approximately 3dB.

These preliminary calculations have assumed mitigation in the form of a one metre bund where the road is not in cutting. This mitigation is currently being revised and the final design should provide for additional noise mitigation.

#### **Light Pollution and the area of spread from the proposed flyover at Thorpe End Garden Village?**

**It is not proposed to light the section of road crossing the flyover at Thorpe End Garden Village.** The nearest new street lighting would be at the

proposed new roundabout 250m south of Plumstead Road and 250m east of the existing railway line. Approach roads to the roundabout would also be lit for a distance of approximately 100 metres. The lighting has not yet been designed in detail but the intensity is likely to be between 20 and 30 lux average and the lanterns would be full cut off to direct the light source downwards and minimise light spillage.

The design of the bridge embankment would provide a false cutting effect with the road level being below the top of the planted embankment and this, together with the bridge parapet would also help mitigate the effect of headlights of cars crossing the bridge at night.

**The history of the consultation process can be found in Annex A**

### **3. Little Plumstead Primary School - Update**

The planning application has been submitted to the County Council Planning Department and was received as valid on 11 February and is currently out for consultation. The consultation period expires on 18th March. However, any representations received after the consultation period but before the decision date must be addressed.

I have submitted my overwhelming support to the application. This will be placed on the application file. I have also urged the swiftest possible resolution to the plans. Planners are aware of the importance of this application.

If/when issues arise Planners shall address them as appropriate. If consultation responses have not been received after the consultation period has expired, NCC shall chase the relevant organisations for a response.

If NCC receives an objection that cannot be resolved, then the application will be reported to Planning (Regulatory) Committee. Due to timescales, the next committee would be 14th May. However, it is possible that this application could be issued under delegated powers, in which case the timescales will be shorter. This would be fantastic given the high time risks associated with central government funding.

I hope as many residents and Parish Councillors write in support of the application using the link below or write to the Planning Department at County Hall, using the reference below:

[http://ptweb.norfolk.gov.uk/planning\\_applications/read/PlanAppDisp.asp?RecNum=6760](http://ptweb.norfolk.gov.uk/planning_applications/read/PlanAppDisp.asp?RecNum=6760)

Y/5/2010/5001	Little Plumstead CE VA Primary School, Hospital Road
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#### **4. Local Government Boundary Review**

Following the last meeting, there was the news that the Secretary of State had recommended a Norwich Unitary Council on existing boundaries, in the face of value for money objections from his Permanent Secretary. Norfolk County Council and the District Councils would continue. The Orders have been placed before Parliament. Initial research demonstrates the complexity, cost and risk to services this could pose. There would have to be a separation of assets and resources between the City and County Council – the County has over £320m worth of assets in the City. We would have to unpick the Norwich Schools PFI Contract and establish new Social Services and Education Authorities for both Councils. Mechanisms would have to be established to account for cross-boarder working, such as Norwich pupils in County Schools and visa versa. 2600 staff would have to be TUPE to the City Council. May elections would be cancelled for the City Council.

However, before this becomes a reality it will have to pass both the judicial and parliamentary process before the General Election. The Lords Merits Committee has rejected the Orders and a Motion has been placed before the House of Lords to respectfully send this legislation back to the House of Commons for further consideration. Norfolk County Council is also undertaking legal action and a hearing is scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> April in the High Court – there are 7 grounds on which we are contesting, primarily that the Minister has rejected the advice of both his Permanent Secretary and Boundary Commission.

#### **5. Agenda Item 14 – Crowes Loke Verge – Village Hall**

At the last meeting I was asked to gain some clarity of action regarding the verges near the village hall; in Crowes Loke. I am very grateful that there will be an opportunity for the Parish Council and all members of the public to discuss the ongoing issue of the verge at the Little Plumstead village hall, rather than ad hoc correspondence, given the numbers of local stakeholders involved.

I am pleased to report that Highways officials have provided me with at least three options to share at meeting;

1. Do nothing and allow a natural solution, given we have had nearly 6 months of wet weather;
2. In the spring, programme in a re-seed and raise the verge in front of the play field hedge and install temporary reflector posts;
3. In the spring, programme in a re-seed and raise the verge in front of the play field hedge and the bollards, and install temporary reflector posts.

Highways officials are looking for a public steer as to best serve the widest interests of the area, and I am confident that holding a discussion in public will allow for all views to be carefully considered.

**100310 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT.** Mr Vincent had submitted the following report:

**Monthly Report – March 2010**

**Great and Little Plumstead Parish Council**

The last full Council meeting was held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2010, at BDC Offices at Thorpe Lodge, starting at 7pm. In addition, an Extraordinary Council Meeting has held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 to cover the Core Joint Strategy. The next scheduled Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010, at BDC Offices at Thorpe Lodge, starting at 7pm.

**Unitary - Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)**

And still it goes on. The Government's decision on a Norwich Unitary on existing boundaries was the outcome, despite the Boundaries Committee already stating that this would not be sustainable on the existing City boundaries. Legal challenges are expected. More information can be found on the website [www.broadland.gov.uk/lgr](http://www.broadland.gov.uk/lgr).

The Conservatives have said they will oppose these plans in Parliament and should the legislation be passed look to scrap this restructuring and abolish any shadow authority that may or may not have been elected. This will be a manifesto pledge.

**Council Tax 2010 – 2011**

The council tax for the coming year is being increased by 1.9%. A small increase required to maintain the current high standard of service provision.

**Planning Decisions**

<b>20100033</b>	First Floor Rear Extension and Alterations to Roof	
<b>Location</b>	18 Plumstead Road, Thorpe End	
<b>Applicant</b>	Mrs S Howes	Planning Officer: Mr M Thirkettle
<b>Decision</b>	Full Approval 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2010	

**Next Planning Committee – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

- On the published agenda there are no items affecting to our Ward.

**Planning Enforcement**

<b>2009ENF421</b>	Development Description Two Storey building without p.p.	
<b>Location</b>	Apple Tree Farmhouse, Smea Lane, Great Plumstead, Norwich, NR13 5AX	
<b>Actions</b>	Case Officer: Miss L Fawkes Under investigation – 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2009 Site visit has been undertaken Expected that will be resolved by planning application – see no. 20100031	
<b>2010ENF051</b>	Annex being used as a separate unit of accommodation.	
<b>Location</b>	Oakdene, Church Road, Gt Plumstead, Norwich, NR13 5AB	
<b>Actions</b>	Case Officer: Mr C Judson Under investigation – 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2010	

**For Information – Pending / Outstanding Planning Applications**

<b>20090886</b> <b>Brook Farm</b>	Development of Sustainable Urban Expansion Comprising 600 Dwellings, Link Road, 14.6HA of Employment Land for B1, B2 or B8 Purposes, Local Centre (Including 1035M2 of A1 Retail/Community Hall), Site for Railway Halt and Associated Open Space (Outline)
<b>Location</b>	Land at Brook Farm & Laurel Farm, Green Lane, Thorpe St Andrew
<b>Applicant</b>	Lothbury Property Trust Company Ltd Planning Officer: Mr B Burgess
<b>Decision</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> July consultation until 5 <sup>th</sup> August 2009 – <b>Outstanding</b>
<b>20100031</b>	Extensions to Outbuildings to Form Two First Floor Bedrooms and En-suites as Ancillary Accommodation to Main Farmhouse (Retrospective)
<b>Location</b>	Apple Tree Farmhouse, Smeel Lane, Great Plumstead
<b>Applicant</b>	The Trustees of TSA Group Ltd Planning Officer: Mr C Judson
<b>Decision</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> January consultation until 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2010 – <b>Outstanding</b>
<b>20100173</b>	Alterations & Extensions
<b>Location</b>	41 Woodland Drive, Thorpe End
<b>Applicant</b>	Mr Eliot Barker Planning Officer: Mr M Thirkettle
<b>Decision</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> February consultation until 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2010
<b>20100271</b>	Single Storey Side and Rear Extensions
<b>Location</b>	26 Broadland Drive, Thorpe End, NR13 5BT
<b>Applicant</b>	Mr Michael Garvey Planning Officer: Mr C Judson
<b>Decision</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> February - consultation until 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2010
<b>20100244</b>	Construction of New Primary School including Car Parking, Hard Play Area, Soft Play Area, Formal Sports Pitches, Pond Area & Landscaped Area, following the Demolition of existing former Hospital Buildings
<b>Location</b>	Land Adj Little Plumstead Hospital, Hospital Road, Little Plumstead NR13 5EW
<b>Applicant</b>	Diocese of Norwich Planning Officer: Mr M N Harriss
<b>Decision</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> February - consultation until 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2010
<b>20100269</b>	Application For Removal of Condition No. 4 (Occupancy Restriction) on Planning Permission Ref No. 20041813
<b>Location</b>	Ibble Dibble, Honeycombe Road, Little Plumstead, NR13 5HY
<b>Applicant</b>	Mr Paul Anderson-Cowles Planning Officer: Mr M Thirkettle
<b>Decision</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> March - consultation until 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2010

**110310 RESIGNATION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR COSSEY.** Cllr Cossey explained the reasons for his resignation and the chairman thanked him for his advice and help and expressed the view that his presence would be sorely missed as would his expertise.

**120310 THORPE END – PROVISION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT.** Cllr Bartrum reported that she was awaiting quotations and had also raised a query regarding the necessity for a planning application. This would be an agenda item at the April meeting.

**130310 GREAT PLUMSTEAD – PROVISION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT.** Cllr Palmer reported that following further meetings a decision regarding the funding should be made on 12 March 2010.

**140210 VERGES, CROWES LOKE, LITTLE PLUMSTEAD.** Following further discussions under Public Participation the Chairman outlined a proposal involving the removal of the hedge and moving the line back to allow parking on an established hard surfaced area. This would accommodate far more cars and he intended to arrange an urgent meeting with Highways to pursue the legality of such a proposal. He would report back at the next meeting.

**150310 PARISH NEWS ITEMS.**

## **Parish Council**

### **Councillor calls it a day**

Long-serving councillor, Ray Cossey has resigned, mainly for health reasons, after having represented both Great and Little Plumstead wards at various times over the past 18 years.

At last month's council meeting chairman, Joe Wiley expressed his personal, and the council's, regret at losing Cllr. Cossey's invaluable experience and knowledge of council procedures; especially with local planning matters.

Ray Cossey was the council's press officer as well as the creator, and webmaster, of its website. These duties will now be assumed by fellow Little Plumstead ward member, Cllr. John Dixon.

In his departing speech Cllr. Cossey pointed out to the chairman, that he felt it was time to call it a day when he realised that his father, Joe Wiley Snr. had been chairman when he first joined the council. Cllr. Cossey also thanked his fellow councillors and made special mention of the very close working relationship he had enjoyed with the clerk, Ian Bishop.

### **Unjustified accusation**

In last month's edition an anonymous contributor, 'Mrs K,' of Witton Lane, wrongly accused the parish council of closing the playground areas on the new housing estate, on the old Little Plumstead Hospital site.

In fact, the parish council has done no such thing. Had the anonymous 'Mrs K' taken the trouble to first check she would have been advised that the parish council has no ownership, nor any jurisdiction over these play areas.

The ownership remains with Cofton, or more correctly, with the administrators of their former business interests. As a consequence there is nothing the parish council can do, other than what it has already done, which is to urge BDC to see if anything can be resolved with the administrators.

If you have any legitimate complaints then it is preferable to write openly, and directly, to the parish council, giving your contact details.

### **Private Road – fronting shops**

The road fronting the parade of shops, at the Green Thorpe End is privately owned and, therefore, the council has no control over it, whatsoever. The upkeep is the sole responsibility of the various shop-premises owners.

The parish council has, over the past many months attempted to mediate, in an attempt to get the last remaining length of the road properly surfaced, but to no avail thus far.

### **Community SpeedWatch Volunteers**

This scheme operates throughout the parish and findings show that the general speed of vehicles has decreased overall, but some 30% of motorists continue to exceed the statutory speed limits.

Further volunteers are needed to assist with Community Speedwatch, in each of the three villages. If you are interested in helping, if only for 2/3 hours a month, please call Cllr. Adrian Skipper (01603) 433910, to have a chat, without obligation.

### **Norfolk Credit Union Ltd.**

With its Broadland Community Bank can assist with its Gateway Savings Scheme. Save £25 a month for 2 years (total £600) and get an extra £300 free from the government. (Subject to eligibility).

There is a range of banking services available for those who do not presently have a bank account.

For further information call 01508 533842, or e-mail: [info@norfolkcu.co.uk](mailto:info@norfolkcu.co.uk)

### **Parish Council Website**

Here you can read, or download and print-off, all council meeting agendas and minutes. The Events' Diary has full details about what's going on throughout the parish. Any local club, group or society can have their activities displayed on the site at no cost.

There's comprehensive advice on planning procedures and you'll also find information on how to contact your ward councillors. The Parish Notice Board has information of interest to all residents. All this and much more is on **your** website:-

[www.greatandlittleplumsteadparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.greatandlittleplumsteadparishcouncil.co.uk)

### **Next meeting**

Monday 12 April – Thorpe End Village Hall at 7.30pm. All parishioners are welcome to attend and have the opportunity to address the full council on any local matters of concern to them.

**160310 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS.** The Clerk reported that our sub-contractor for hedge cutting and grounds maintenance, Marcus Kett, had apparently disappeared from the face of the earth. The Clerk reported he was still trying to make contact. The Clerk also reported that the Caravan Rally due to be held in May was unlikely to proceed.

Meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

**Date of next meeting Monday 12 APRIL 2010 at THORPE END Village Hall at 7.30 pm.**