

Thanks to Nick Miller
for the Masthead



No: 629 December 2022

In aid of
Wormingford Rec
Trust

Christmas Craft Fair

- Craft Stalls
- Xmas Music
- Mince Pies
- Santa's Grotto
- Mulled Wine
- Kids Craft Table
- Tombola
- Tea & Coffee

Wormingford Village Hall

26
November
2pm-5pm

Come into the Kitchen and
keep warm!

Pending grant aid, from 10am until
2.00pm every Monday from January 23rd
until March 27th 2023, the Rec Trust hope
to offer you a place in the 'Warm Kitchen'.
Join us in the village Hall kitchen for a free
bowl of hot soup and bread. You're welcome to
stay for a chat, a game of cards or a rest!

- Free tea and coffee
- Dogs welcomed with water bowl and dog treats!
- Help with online forms and personal
computing/smart phones available
- Donations would be welcome but are not
required
- Or just pop in and say hello



Thanks to the Wormingford FC reserves for pulling out
the stops for some community engagement! The lads
came down to St Andrews Churchyard and, swapping
their usual football gear for rakes and blowers, went
into action with the regular veteran team, to carry out
some nifty leaf leverage in the churchyard, scoring
some winning goals for the village.

A repeat match is planned for December. Who needs
to watch the World Cup on TV when you can see these
lovely lads in action live!!!

DISCLAIMER: The statements, opinions and data contained in this publication are solely those of the individual authors
and contributors and not the Parish Council, the Editor nor the Publisher of the Worm.

Items for inclusion in the Worm must be with the editor by the 21st of the month by email to: thewormeditor@gmail.com

Affordable Housing for Local People & Identifying Need

As house prices and rents continue to rise, often beyond the means of those wanting to leave home and set up independently, or stay close to family, work or schools, it is becoming difficult for people to get on the housing ladder or to rent a home at a market rent. In Wormingford Parish there is the opportunity to identify whether local people here have a housing need and if so whether an affordable housing scheme could be developed to help address that need. This type of scheme is an **affordable housing scheme**, available only to small parishes (less than 3000 population) and for local people (or those with a connection to the parish) in perpetuity. Homes are affordable rental or shared ownership. Occasionally (if there is a need and want) one or two open market properties are required, however schemes are only built if there is a proven need. This housing is known as exception site affordable housing and is not large scale development, but small in numbers; typically a scheme ranges between 4 – 8 homes. The first stage is to identify if there is a local need. If there isn't a need within the parish then nothing more will happen. Wormingford Parish Council are in the very early stages of discussing this and invited RCCE's (Rural Community Council of Essex) Rural Housing Enabler to discuss this possible project with Parish Councillors.



RCCE is an independent charity working across rural Essex. Their role is to help the parish by undertaking a housing needs survey. This will be delivered to every household in the parish and the results (all anonymous, only a report with recommendations goes to the Parish Council) will inform the Parish Council whether there is a need and if so, what. The Parish Council will then look at who they could partner with to deliver a scheme. The housing needs survey is designed to see if there are households in the village or people connected to Wormingford who are in need of affordable housing. This is not a survey to justify large scale or open market developments and cannot be used for that. Properties in these schemes are usually provided by a housing association, either for rent or shared ownership. These properties cannot be sold or transferred into totally private ownership and would remain in perpetuity for people with a strong local connection, either through family or work. At this stage no suitable land has been investigated or identified.

The housing need survey does have a modest cost involved, therefore Wormingford Parish Council would like to hear from any resident who would be interested in this scheme so the Council can discuss whether to proceed with the survey. If we receive no response to this article we will assume that there is no need and will not take this any further forward at this time. This is your chance to speak up.

Please contact the Clerk at wormingford@outlook.com

An Update From Lewis Barber, our Essex County Councillor;

I appreciate that this is a challenging and worrying time financially for many households. That is why I am working with Colchester Borough Council (CBC) and at Essex County Council (ECC) to ensure that both the immediate financial difficulties are addressed alongside the root causes. This includes supporting a new £50m support package at ECC in October and the £100,000 Community Warmth and Welcome Spaces Fund. These are new support programmes on top of the existing policies in place. If you or somebody you know needs assistance, please do get in touch with us so that everybody who needs support is aware of what is available.

There is welcome news that the speed indicator device posts will be installed in Wormingford in December. I wish to thank the Parish Council for their work in this joint project with Aldham and Fordham, which I was pleased to financially support through my locality budget. These speed indicator devices have been proven to assist in reducing speeds.

Following an all-parish meeting for the villagers I represent, we have now also held our first HGV forum. This will discuss with interested parties, including HGV users, how rural communities and HGV users can better co-exist in everybody's interest and look to implement change as a result. Any ideas are warmly welcomed.

I continue to lobby for improved and more affordable public transport and I am pushing Colchester Borough Council to use their over £500,000 Rural Prosperity Fund from the Government to support the rollout of the digigo scheme, which is a new Department for Transport backed on demand electric bus service for rural areas. The scheme is currently being trialled successfully in rural Chelmsford and Braintree and being expanded into Tendring. I wish to see similar in rural Colchester.

One of my promises before the election was to secure more resources for our rural highways. I have been working hard to fulfil that promise during my first year. I also voted in February for an additional pothole repair fund which means, rather than just seeking to secure resources from the general maintenance budget for repairs, I have a small fund to guarantee repairs outside of the general maintenance budget. This is now the second round of this fund following an earlier one. Please do let me know of any suggestions that I can put forward in this round of funding.

Building Digital UK, the national agency with responsibility for the £5 billion investment in poor broadband areas, is undertaking a review of the provision in Essex. If you are having any challenges with broadband in the village, please do get in touch so I can see what support is available for you.

Finally, a reminder that admissions for primary schools are now open until 15th January 2023 via the ECC website.

If there are any other issues or matters you wish to discuss, please do get in touch. cllr.lewis.barber@essex.gov.uk



Thanks to Helen Huq, who requests that villagers take extra care when walking out on our roads now that mornings and evening are dark. Time to break out your reflective clothing and check your torch batteries! Let's help keep Wormingford safe by being bright and visible.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH SERVICES NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

For this month only, all services for November and December are posted on-line

Please note – During the winter months St Andrew's Church will only have regular services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays although special services at Christmas will still be held.



Churchwardens :

Mike Crisp - 07747 623172

Richard Batterham– 01787 228172

Remember our Foodbank collection point is in the Church Porch. Let's try and keep it filled and show the true meaning of Christmas.

Reflecting back on the last year—Words from Reverend Heather

The past year since my being licenced, has flown. Moving to a new area was difficult for us; it was hard to say goodbye to friends and to remember names and faces as we created relationships in new parishes. Your openness and forgiveness of my mistakes has been much appreciated. We have felt very welcome and supported. In turn I hope you see the Rectory door as always open to you.

Arriving prior to Remembrance Sunday last year left no time for me to ease into my new role. Despite the busyness, I wanted to find space for parish prayer. I found Morning prayer during Advent a good time to slow down and pray. I'm pleased that some of that pattern of prayer has continued. Prayer stations during Lent and at other times in St. Mary's, West Bergholt and across all the churches for 'Thy Kingdom Come', opened our churches up for all as places to come and pray. Prayer is central to all we do; I want to encourage more opportunities and creativity in prayer.

A regret is that I've been unable to do much visiting. I'd aimed to visit everyone on the electoral rolls- this has proved impossible. This bothers me but I've come to accept it, although I'm not giving up! I'll prioritise visiting those less able to get out and about and in need of specific pastoral support. If you, or someone you know, would like a visit, call me and I'll be happy to arrange to see you.

The highlights this year have been the Jubilee celebrations, which showed real community spirit and were a joy to be part of. The launch of FiSH last year saw families enjoying activities and hot meals throughout school breaks. Our volunteers are amazing; I'm proud to be part of such a wonderful team.

Our good work with schools has been strengthened this year. Year 6 retreats took place in all three church schools. A trial run of 'Open the Book' in Heathlands, has resulted in a request for regular collective worship. A team will be established to go into this school over the coming months. I hope to re-establish and strengthen links with non-church schools. I'm taking my first collective worship in Langham school come Advent and welcoming Langham to the church for Christmas celebrations. It's great that schools are coming into churches for festival services. School choirs also join us on special occasions.

In thanking the Ministry team, I rejoice that there are so many now leading active worship. This provides opportunities for variety and creativity across the parishes. A special mention to Anne for her supportive work and gracious acceptance of my flaws; Annes' Curacy has been a huge blessing to these parishes, and I look forward to her licensing service in 2023, when she will officially serving across all six parishes. It's great to be journeying alongside Emma through her final year of training before Ordination in September 2023. I look forward to seeing where Emma's Ministry takes her.

I'd like to thank the churchwardens for all they do to keep things running, and for the stalwart work of our PCC secretaries, treasurers, safeguarding officers and elected PCC members. These are unglamorous roles, often full of tiresome legalities and bureaucracy. Where would we be without our Churchwardens, officers and PCC members? I thank you all from the bottom of my heart and want to encourage you to carry on in all you do.

I would like to thank everyone who does anything in our churches, no matter how big or small a contribution you feel you are making. Everything that anyone does makes a big difference and relieves the burden on others, so keep going and know that you do them all for the glory of God.

And so I look forward and pray that as we continue on this journey together, we can be bolder in shining the light of Christ in our lives, both individually and together and draw many more people into the worshipping communities. May they, like us, know in the words of Paul to the Ephesians *'how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge that they may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.'*

May God bless us all as we journey ever onwards.

Heather

Your Wormingford Wanderers Update



The Firsts ; Where to begin?? The season so far has been a mixed bag , with 4 losses and two defeats. With only two wins in the league so far, it really has been an indifferent start, leaving us 11 th out of 14. A 7-0 defeat away to league leaders Dovercourt the weekend just past is very hard to take, but it really is a wake up call to the squad. Being part of Wormingford for nearly a decade now I have never lost 7-0 and can't say I, the management nor the squad are happy about it! There seems to be a lack of the determination that we had last season and this is something we can only work on and rectify as a collective. There remains 20 games of the league season to go, so it is far from over as far as having a successful season goes . That will begin this Saturday away to Rowhedge, formerly called 'Posties'; a team we have not played in years. We must respond positively to last weekends humbling defeat.

Reserves ; The reserves are having a better start to the season than the firsts and sit 6 th in Division 4, 3 wins, 1 draw and 3 losses, the clubs overall leading goalscorer is Harrison Clarke with 11 goals so far is having a great start, he really needs to be called up to the 1sts, and in my opinion run around more he'd score a lot more! A fellow reserve player Alfie Wilson Davies has had a call up to the firsts and so far given a good account of himself. Defensively the Reserves need to improve and conceding soft goals continues to be an issue. I have played for the reserves twice this season and there are some real signs that they can develop into a very good side, Jack Allen, James Cotier, Liam Meadows and Ryan Morgan along with the aforementioned Harrison and Alfie have really impressed me.

Sundays; After the merge of Wormingford and Newtown we got off to a great start making the pre season final of the Co4 charity cup, unfortunately losing on penalties to Essex champions, 15 degrees. We have had a strong start to our league campaigns winning 4 out of our first 6 games and only losing once

Clubhouse development ; Alongside Tommy Leggett and Lee Wiggins who manage the Worms youth sides, we have been busy in the background maintaining the club and looking to improve it where we can. The kitchen is due to be replaced and, with the assistance of the Recreation Trust, this is now possible. We aim to have this installed in the coming weeks and months. The car park has been extended and this we hope will alleviate concerns for residents of Robletts Way and Wormingford in general. We do try to be proactive with the Parking but there is always someone who doesn't really think things through and parks inconsiderately . We understand that this has caused some issues and complaints. Where this happens we react as quickly as possible to rectify it.

Tom Leggett, Manager of The Young Worms writes; It's been a mixed bag of results for The Young Worms, with both teams getting some great results, and some not so! The best result for our Blues was a 6-1 win against Wivenhoe while our Reds got an impressive 10-0 win away to Lawford! Though all the boys know that enjoying the game is the most important bit of taking part in football at this age and long may it continue! The weekend just past was Remembrance Sunday and a minute's silence was impeccably carried out before the game by all involved. The clubhouse is always open during matches so please feel free to come over and watch. Up the Young Worms!



Wormingford Village Book Exchange
Located in the Village Phone Box on Main Road, adjacent to the Bus Stop


"The Wormery"
is opening Sunday 20th
November 2022

Come join us to "Cut The Ribbon"
at 3pm and have a browse

You are then all invited back to The Crown for a cup of tea and cake

..... We hope to see as many of you as possible!

Project supported by the Wonderful Women of Wormingford, Wormingford Book Club, Wormingford in Bloom and Wormingford Parish Council.