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COGNITA

Gosfield Grapevine



Glacier at Chamonix – The Road to Father Christmas !

Issue 93 – December 2020

Gosfield Parish Council

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The next Parish Council meeting has been brought forward to Monday 14th, December, to allow for Christmas preparations.

Many thanks to Julie and Max Ford for their stint delivering the magazine to Gosfield residents. Volunteers are now required to cover their patch, The Street, namely Park Lane to Sparrows to Beeches. It could be split in to two zones. It would only require a couple of hours every two months. A good hang-over and excess eating cure !

Covid-19 has not yet gone away. Hopefully, the various vaccines will smooth the way out of the lockdowns. Please continue to follow the appropriate Government guidelines in order to keep down the rate of transmission of the virus.

Note: the deadline for things to go into the next Gosfield Grapevine magazine is:

Friday, 22nd January, 2021

Anything sent in after this will be put forward into subsequent magazines.

If you would like to advertise your community event, club, or business, and for anything Grapevine related, please contact the Gosfield Grapevine editor at:

grapevine@gosfieldparishcouncil.org

OTHER DATES TO NOTE:

Monday, 21st December – Winter Solstice
Friday, 25th December – Christmas Day
Saturday, 26th December – Boxing Day
Thursday, 31st December – New Year's Eve

DATES TO NOTE (all Covid-19 dependent):



GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP:

Opening Times:

Monday to Saturday: 8 am to 4 pm

Sunday: 8 am to noon

Please contact Isla, or Jo, if you would like to become a volunteer at the shop.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

The Community Shop:

It is not usual for me to attend Braintree District Council planning meetings with any great optimism because often I see them pass Applications which we have opposed as a Parish Council.

However on Tuesday 10th November it was a very different story because I watched them (online) unanimously approve our application for an extension to the Pavilion to accommodate the community shop. Not only that, and unusually, they were full of praise, not only for the design but also for whole concept of a community shop and the support it has received from the public and the volunteers who run it.

Now the real hard work begins-fund raising. When the Parish Council first came up with the idea of adding an extension to the pavilion, they promised the new group who had taken over the management of the Shop that they would organise the fund raising leaving the new group to get on with the everyday management, which they have done admirably. Now there is a considerable overlap between the two groups because we all have the same object in mind.

I know that you will all shortly be circulated with details of the new Community Benefit Society which will run the shop but there will also be a fund raising group set up for the building project which we hope as many people as possible will contribute to. This will be done as soon as the lockdown is lifted.

69 Halstead Road.

This property has been the subject of some controversy as mentioned in the last edition of the Magazine. Now the Parish Council has received a planning application for the present house to be knocked down and a new 5 bed roomed house to be built in its place. Now the Parish Council does not object to the present property being replaced since it is within the village envelope, but did feel that the size and bulk of the planned building on what is a narrow site was too great and rejected it in the hope that something more appropriate to the site will eventually be put forward.

Remembrance Day

A short ceremony did take place at the War Memorial on 8th November because it was felt important that we honour the village who died in the two World Wars. I would like to thank all those who attended and who kept the required social distance and wore face masks.

Bob Waters.

Ongoing planning applications for building works are given overleaf.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Ongoing planning applications building works (tree works not shown), including:

Proposed erection of a detached ancillary outbuilding to form swimming pool and related games / leisure uses, Home Farm House Hall Drive Gosfield Essex CO9 1RZ, Ref. No: 20/01841/PLD.

Proposed two storey side extension, 59 Greenfields Gosfield Essex CO9 1TR, Ref. No: 20/01806/HH.

Replace Damaged and corroded guttering to front aspect, Byford Cottage Church Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1TL, Ref. No: 20/01731/LBC.

Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new semi-detached pair of dwellings and associated development, Church View House Church Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1UD, Ref. No: 20/01721/FUL.

Proposed Replacement Two Storey Dwelling & Cartlodge, 69 Halstead Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PG, Ref. No: 20/01617/FUL.

Remove existing economy 7 heating / radiators and remove existing hot water tank cylinder system. Install combi-boiler with new flue, Byford Cottage Church Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1TL, Ref. No: 20/01578/LBC.

Gosfield (Mobile) Library Nuns Meadow, Saturday,	Halstead Library (Not open public holidays)
9:45 am to 10:15 am:	Monday 9am to 5pm
5 th December	Tuesday 9am to 6pm
26 th December [?]	Wednesday Closed
16 th January, 2021	Thursday 9am to 6pm
6 th February, 2021	Friday 9am to 5pm
	Saturday 9am to 5pm
	Sunday Closed
Gosfield Horticultural Society Show,	TBC
Primary School Car Show	TBC
Gosfield Open Gardens	Sunday, 13 th June, 2021
Gosfield Fete	TBC

CHURCH-RELATED NEWS:

Services: All welcome ! Just join in.

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH 50/50 CLUB

October Winners:	No. 7, Mrs. D Holt	No. 61, Mrs. C Hough
	No. 50, Mr. & Mrs. F Haselden	No. 162, Mrs. J Lowe
November Winners:	No. 32, Mrs. S Wilson	No. 42, Mrs. D Collier
	No. 38, Mrs. K Hughes	No. 118, Mrs. M Pawsey

Anyone wishing to join, please contact **Hazel** on 01787-472593

To find out more about hatches, matches and dispatches, plus more, much more, including a brief history of Gosfield, baptism, confirmation, photographs, Jesus. More than anyone can read, and interesting too, head to:

www.stcatherineschurchgosfield.org.uk

Continued...

We were able to remember the Battle of Britain on 20 September, and if you are interested to hear the remembrances of that difficult time, do watch the service on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Catherines-Church-Gosfield-224520591303087>

or on our YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_0EAWFYHS01YUlfGwepO8Q/

GOSFIELD SENIOR CIRCLE PROGRAMME

Maurice Rowson Hall, 2 pm to 4 pm

All meetings for the foreseeable future are cancelled.

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REV. ROSE'S RAMBLINGS

Hello, Gosfield !

This year's proving to be a bit of a shambles, isn't it ? Lots of missed celebrations for lots of people (bang went our own Golden Wedding celebration, for one!), and more seriously, lots of sadness and worry for so many. My thoughts and prayers, like yours I'm sure, are for those suffering, those mourning, as we approach what is usually such a joyful time of the year.

No sooner did we get back into St. Catherine's than it was Lockdown Groundhog Day, and (as I write) we still don't know whether we can sing as a community in church. So I've worked on the basis that we must err on the side of community safety – and we can't sing together except on Zoom, when nobody can hear us sing along on mute, but at least we can sing !

If lockdown instructions change in the meanwhile, we may have to change plans, but the current service plans for December are attached (p 27). Do come along and join in, in our lovely St. Catherine's where possible, on Zoom or by listening to our phone service recording. Because we can be together in spirit across time and distance: we can join with the Church everywhere (including in heaven) to gather round the that simple miracle of birth among the straw and mess in Bethlehem, when the Lord of All Creation entrusted himself totally to the love and care of a human couple in a shaky relationship, far from home and normality, kipped down in the animals' stable for a bit of privacy as she bore her first, her Holy, son. Not very glossy, not very "Christmassy", no tinsel, no doting grandparents to visit; rough locals came to stare and stayed to worship; peculiar presents were delivered later by a bunch of foreign academics; but that not-Christmassy Christmas changed the world for ever.

So, if the only way we can sing carols together is through the mystery of Zoom, it's nothing compared to the mystery of the Incarnation, of God-become-Man, Jesus, who came to save us from our obsessions with possessions and status and security by having nothing, by becoming that risky, helpless mite whose birth we celebrate on Christmas Day, and whose death and resurrection we celebrate at Easter and on every Sunday. Jesus, man and God, whose gift to us is eternal life, if we follow him.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas, for despite the aggravation of Tiers and Bubbles and Rules of Six we are actually all brothers and sisters, Children of God, on the journey to make sense of life and to understand its ultimate meaning. Draw near to that ultimate meaning this Christmas, at the mystery of that simple crib of Bethlehem, and be blessed.

As ever, with prayers and blessings, RevRose

01245-361927, or revrosebraisby@btinternet.com.

Continued 28

GOSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL:

ROLE:	NAME:	CONTACT INFORMATION:
Parish Clerk	Diane Jacob	5 Crocklands, Greenstead Green, CO9 1QY parishclerk@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07907-631172
Chairman	Bob Waters	21 Meadway, CO9 1TG bob.waters@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-473863
Vice Chairman	Tricia Edwards	Home Farm House, CO9 1RZ tricia.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-472958
Councillor	Maggi Pawsey	Tye Beams, The Street, CO9 1TP Via the Parish Clerk 01787-472967
Councillor	Carol Betty Hough	13 Braintree Road, CO9 1PR Via the Parish Clerk 01787-477208
Councillor	Sara Moutard	27 Meadway, CO9 1TG sara.moutard@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-479655
Councillor	Sam Cowie	Duval, Kings Head Field, CO9 1TN sam.cowie@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07902-322588
Councillor	Joanne Lisa Colyer	13 Nuns Meadow, Gosfield, CO9 1UB joanne.colyer@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-477808
Councillor	Mark David William Bloomfield	Kota Tinggi, Market Weston, IP22 2PE mark.bloomfield@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07879-604074
Councillor	Jo Beavis	The Retreat, New England, CO9 3HY jo.beavis@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07771-984365

For anything Parish Council related, please contact the Parish Clerk, as above.

GOSFIELD PLACE

I see that there has been quite a lot of interest on Facebook about this great lost house of Essex. I can add a bit, but do not know the whole story and would like to.



Map of the Area, 1880's (excerpt from The Library of Scotland)

There were in fact 2 houses called Gosfield Place. One was a Georgian House built in the 1700's and a new garden for it was designed by Sir Humphrey Repton, one of the great garden designers of the 17th century. It included an ornamental lake (Sparrows Pond) created by damming the Bourne Brook, and a boat house. It had an ornamental bridge over the lake which still survives although in a poor condition. I am not sure what happened to that house; it was either knocked down, or burnt down, and in its place a new Victorian style house was built in 1865 on the same spot, typical of the period. The family who owned it, the Sparrows were bankers and for a time Sparrows Bank was one of the largest of the 'country banks' in Essex. Later on in the 1870s it amalgamated with other small Essex banks and was eventually absorbed into Barclays Bank.

For a time the Sparrows were great rivals of the Courtaulds at Gosfield Hall and owned a large estate (which included the Green Man public house), mainly to the East of the Street and what is now Gosfield School in Halstead Road. They also built what is now the Rowson Hall as a school and were leading lights at the church. (Samuel Courtauld being a non-conformist did not attend the village church). Eventually a connection between the two great families was made when a Sparrow married a Courtauld of Cut Hedge House (now Gosfield School).

Did the Sparrows run out of money like many families after the First World War and couldn't afford to maintain it, or was it unsound, or did the Sparrows simply die out? These are questions I would like to get an answer to one day. We do know that the estate was auctioned off in 1924, because the Auction records still survive. However, there were no bids for the house itself and it was later sold to a builder from Braintree for its materials. The house was knocked down and the brick and stone work was used for building other houses, notably Aldercar (the first house in Braintree Road.) In the past I have traced the foundations of the house but of course today it is on private land and can't be visited today. The ornamental lake (Sparrows Pond) still exists but is now badly silted up. A photo of each design of the house is included overleaf.

St Catherine's Services for December Everybody's welcome. Happy Christmas!

Access codes are advertised on our Facebook page: St Catherine's Church, Gosfield.

December	What & When	Where	Zoom ID & Passcode	Zoom Meeting Direct Link
Sunday 6 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	10.30 a.m. Communion	Church & Zoom	Meeting ID: 884 6450 4186 Passcode: 198391	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88464504186?pwd=eFoySVBSNDRDSE1DVGZld2FWTWEvdz09
All week	Traditional BCP Communion	Phone 01376 317669		
Sunday 13 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	10.30 a.m. Traditional Communion	Church & Zoom	Meeting ID: 826 0821 7840 Passcode: 636575	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82608217840?pwd=VnBqV09PK1lIMjUrZVczY25tenpiUT09
	4 p.m. Nine Lessons & Carols	Zoom	Meeting ID: 879 5737 1510 Passcode: 148640	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87957371510?pwd=bXBBOXV2T0QrWklEalU1Tm5DazMxdz09
All week	Traditional BCP Communion	Phone 01376 317669		
Sunday 20 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	11 a.m. Zoom Sunday Worship	Zoom	Meeting ID: 867 0601 5097 Passcode: 225453	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86706015097?pwd=RUNEb1N6R2pPYVBJOGs1Qkl6ZVgvQT09
All week	Traditional BCP Communion	Phone 01376 317669		
Christmas Eve	5 p.m. Zoom Christingle	Zoom	Meeting ID: 854 0148 3916 Passcode: 963320	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85401483916?pwd=TkhvUTBlUW1za1lIQORQeGpLRmZ1Zz09
	11.30 p.m. Midnight Mass	Church & Zoom	Meeting ID: 840 6621 2132 Passcode: 769916	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84066212132?pwd=OTV5eTcvMWFBOUhzMjM5bWFFcDdW9zQT09
Christmas Day	10.30 a.m. Christmas Service	Church & Zoom	Meeting ID: 816 9629 6307 Passcode: 978401	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81696296307?pwd=O3JOeGpmlZgxTEF5UjVicFIMRXgvdz09
All week	Traditional BCP Communion	Phone 01376 317669		
Sunday 27	Area Team Service – details TBA			

GOSFIELD VILLAGE ENTITIES, continued

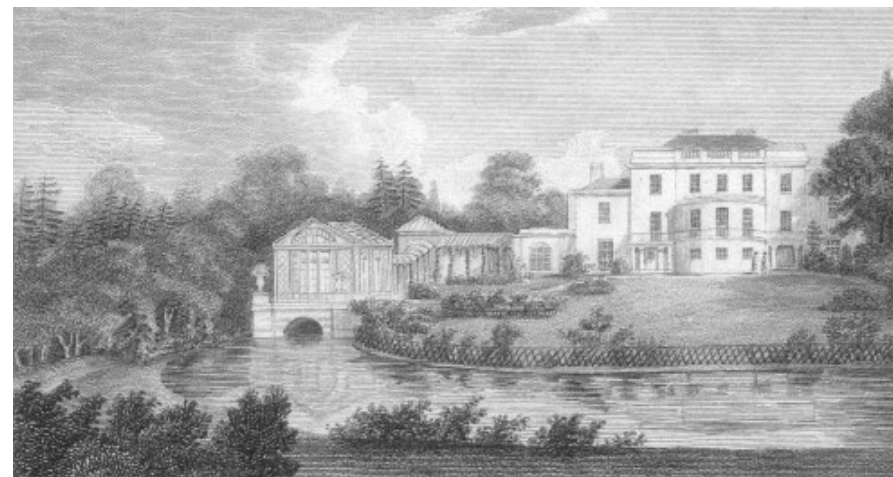
GROUPS, SOCIETIES AND COMMITTEES:

Toddler Group	Emma	07872-916917	
Gosfield Players	Jules Wilkinson	07958-903932	
Gosfield Rainbows and Guides	Stacey Creak	07814-233219	
Gosfield Brownies and Guides	Gill Hillman-Crouch	01787-478097	Or: 07801-265603
Gosfield Cubs and Scouts	Steve Sudbury	07885-467712	stephensudburygardens@gmail.com
Gosfield Women's Institute	Michelle Hine	01787-469359	Tuesday, 2nd week, 2 pm
Gosfield Senior Circle	Joan Cornell	01787-478235	Tidings Hill
Gosfield Twinning Association	Bridget Waterer		bridget@gosfieldtwinning.co.uk
Gosfield Horticultural Society	Rebecca Westover	01787-477331	
Gosfield in Bloom	Mandy Adams	01787-273494	mandyladams@icloud.com
Gosfield Fete Committee	Chris Flint	01787-474573	
Gosfield. Playing Field	Isla Gill	01787-473398	isla.gill@hotmail.com
Maurice Rowson Hall	Amanda Degnan	01787-274992	rowsonhall@gmail.com
Rowson Perpetual Fund	David Jarvis	01787-474562	davjar33@gmail.com

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH:

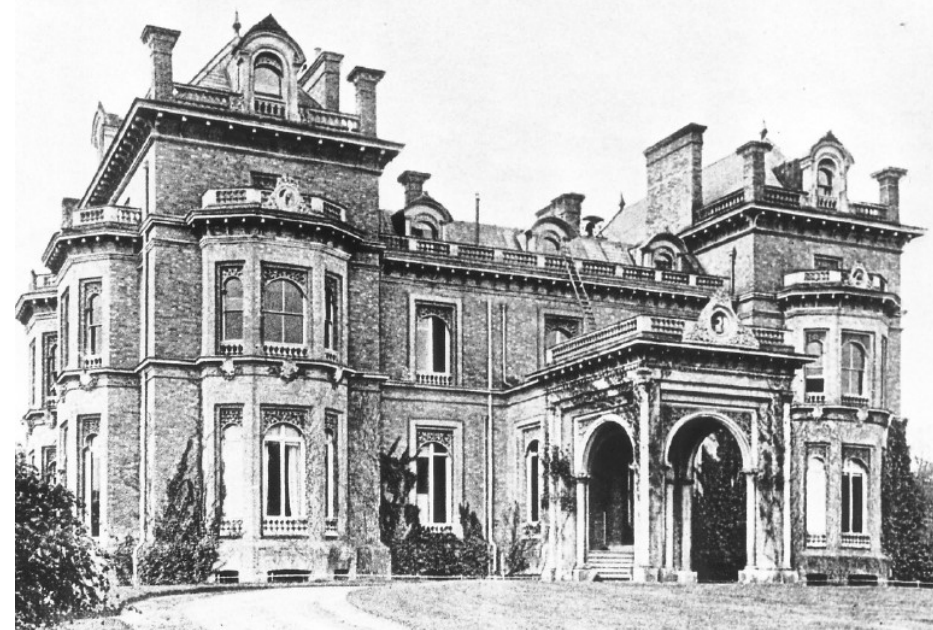
Priest -Reverend	Rose Braisby	01245-361927	revrosebraisby@btinternet.com
PCC Secretary	Judy Paterson	01787-472514	
Church Wardens	Bob Waters	01787-473836	
	Dave Patmore	01787-474047	
Bell Ringing - Tower Captain	Laurence Carter	01787-472225	laurencejcarter@gmail.com

Please note: bell ringing practice on most Tuesday evenings, 7.45 pm to 9.00 pm, novices and experienced ringers welcome.



Gosfield Place. Home of J G Sparrow (etching)

Accommodation bridge. Circa 1865. Wrought and cast iron, timber deck, rendered brick abutments. Single span, bar-stayed cantilever design. Four cast iron towers with spike finials. Decorative cast iron balustrades.



Gosfield Place. Second Build

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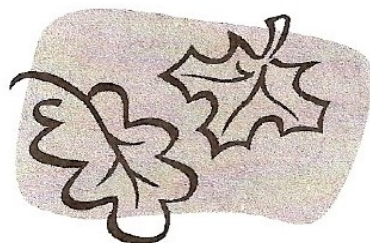
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GOSFIELD VILLAGE ENTITIES

SCHOOLS:

Gosfield Primary School	Jo Morgan (Head Teacher)	01787-472266	admin@gosfield-pri.essex.sch.uk
St. Margaret's School	Carolyn Moss (Headmaster)	01787-472134	admin@stmargaretsprep.com
Gosfield School	Guy Martyn (Principal)	01787-474040	enquires@gosfieldschool.org.uk

SPORTS CLUBS:

Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club	Paul M Nicklin	01787-478269	paul.nicklin39@gmail.com
Gosfield Lake Golf Club	Tony O'Shea	01787-474747	gosfieldlakegc@btconnect.com
Gosfield Juniors Football	Mark Wiskin	07930-990013	
Gosfield United Football Club	Simon Fraser (Chairman)	01206-211470	
Gosfield Tennis Club	Sheila Goldsmith (Secretary)	01787-478519	
Gosfield Lake	Linda Turp (Office Manager)	01787-4785043	turps@gosfieldlake.co.uk

PUB, CLUB and EVENTS HIRE:

The Kings Head	Emma and Matt	01787-474016	info@kingsheadgosfield.com
The Social Club	Steve and Becky	01787-476235	
The Apple Tree	Maxine and Keith	01787-477715	enquiries@theappletreegosfield.co.uk
Courtyard Brewery	Tanya and Marc	07710-230662	

GOSFIELD SUPPORT:

Community Agent	Chivonne Claydon	07540-720603	
Neighbourhood Watch Group	Louise Smith	07962-268376	

GOSFIELD POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO):

PCSO 70714	John Thorne	07812-068636	John.Thorne@essex.police.uk
PSCO 70955	Jo Cooper	07812-068697	Joanne.Cooper@essex.pnn.police.uk
Special Constable	Harrison Green		

Continued:

The names of those who died are from the Wikipedia entry for the airfield. Other publications state that there were eight who died, but do not give any names to check. Of the four named in Wikipedia who died, one is buried not that far from us at the Cambridge American Cemetery at Madingley (right photo): George E Reilly, Technician Fourth Grade, US Army Air Forces, who had enlisted at Washington. Details from the website of the American Battle Monuments Commission, abmc.gov.

The other three do not appear on the website as being buried in a military cemetery anywhere, so I would assume that their bodies were returned to their families for private burial.

Lest We Forget.

'TIER 2' [HIGH ALERT] SNIPPETS:

- you must not socialise with anyone you do not live with or who is not in your support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place
- you must not socialise in a group of more than 6 people outside, including in a garden or a public place – this is called the 'rule of 6'
- businesses and venues can continue to operate, in a COVID-Secure manner, other than those which remain closed by law, such as nightclubs
- pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals
- hospitality businesses and venues selling food and drink for consumption off the premises can continue to do so after 10pm as long as this is through delivery service, click-and-collect or drive-through
- public attendance at outdoor and indoor events (performances and shows) is permitted, limited to whichever is lower: 50% capacity, or either 2,000 people outdoors or 1,000 people indoors
- places of worship remain open but you must not socialise with people from outside of your household or support bubble while you are indoors there, unless a legal exemption applies
- weddings and funerals can go ahead with restrictions on numbers of attendees
- if you live in a tier 2 area, you must continue to follow tier 2 rules when you travel to a tier 1 area.

Gosfield Parish Council in the 21st Century

Civil parish councils were formed in England under the reforming 'Local Government Act 1894' to take over local oversight of civic duties in rural towns and villages from the vestry committee. In 1894 the house in which I live was occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Jago and family. Though the Jago family would have been aware of the new changes to local administration, they would not have had a voice on the parish council. It would be another 24 years and a horrific world war before Mr. & Mrs. Jago would get the vote. I imagine a lot of the current residents can sympathize with Mr. & Mrs. Jago's position of having the pleasure of living in Gosfield and yet feeling voiceless.

At the Parish Council meeting on Monday 25th September, 2020, a planning application came before the parish council, 20/00500/REM bottom of New Road [17/00119/OUT]. Outline permission had already been given for the erection of eight houses, with a lot of objection from the residents of New Road, and Braintree Road, represented by Gosfield Parish Council. The concerns are very real, and the Parish Council could have asked for conditions to protect local residents during the build, for the local residents could be severely inconvenienced.

1) Proposed access for site material is between 25 & 27 Braintree Road. This is an unmade road with services underneath, totally unsuitable for HGV goods lorries. The Parish Council could have asked for this use to be on condition that all damage caused would be rectified by the developer. The developer is building 8 houses for profit, why should residents have to subsidize his business.

2) During the time of the build it's very conceivable that New Road will be home to many builders' vans and the inconvenience of having this daily onslaught. The Parish Council could have asked for a condition in the planning application for builders to use the designated parking area.

3) Details are vague, there is talk of a mature oak tree with a Tree Preservation Order [TPO] being felled to facilitate this development. The Parish Council could have asked for clarification and objected to any tree with a TPO being felled.

After the parish council had discussed this planning application, all too briefly, the response to Braintree District Council planning was simply, "No objection".

Before you reply that it's inappropriate for the Parish Council to ask for conditions to be imposed on a planning application that has already been approved, I would remind you that is exactly what the parish council asked for at its meeting in October, 2020. When discussing planning application 20/05460/REM land top of Meadway [17/01066/OUT] it requested that construction traffic access the site from Hedingham Road via the Old Airfield so avoiding heavy lorries passing the front doors of two parish councillors.

Tony Strudwick.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

National Coronavirus Pandemic.

The message from the Director of Public Health (DPH) at Essex County Council remains crystal clear: Wear a mask, continue to social distance and wash Your hands frequently, using an anti-bacterial wash and / or wipes.

Essex will come out of Lockdown 2 on December 2nd and it is hoped that it will return to Tier 1. Tier 1, based on the current data, may not be the same as before Lockdown 2. The DPH will advise Essex County Council shortly on what the restrictions may look like, post Lockdown 2. At a national level, guidance continues to be pushed down to the County Council on Covid-19 preventative measures. These include: local hubs for track and trace, testing and supporting the NHS to vaccinate a greater number of Essex residents with the Flu jab. Further updates on the Covid-19 vaccination jab will follow over the coming weeks.

The County Council has received approximately £4.5M on Tier 2 Corona Virus Restriction Funding. £2.2M will be allocated to the district and borough councils so that they can administer a streamlined grant scheme to support local businesses who are impacted by the Covid-19 restrictions. Businesses will need to apply for the funding directly from Braintree District Council.

A further £2.4M has been allocated to welfare support. This funding is designed to help those most vulnerable in our communities. Some of the funding will be paid directly to the Citizens Advice Bureau and Food Bank. Other supported funding, such as ELF (Essential Living Fund) will require local residents to apply for the funding to supplement their income. A further £125k has been allocated to support local community groups and sport clubs.

Speeding Vehicles in Gosfield.

Speed injures and kills and not just us, as human beings, speed kills our wildlife and animals too. Although Gosfield has a multitude of speed reduction signs and prevention measures, local residents would like to see more, particularly as the village population grows from new homes. A '20 is Plenty' has been approved at the primary school and post the Coronavirus restrictions further speed checks will be carried out in the village; particularly in the areas of: Hedingham Road, The Street, Church Road (close to St. Catherine's Church) and Braintree Road. Speed surveys in these areas have been carried out previously and I have requested the up-to-date data, when available. Without the data, additional speed reduction schemes cannot be considered. One of the opportunities I am looking at is have advisory speed roundels painted on the highway (to reduce speed), this has worked well in other areas of the Halstead Division.

Personnel History on Memorial QR Code

A new addition to our War Memorial this year is a QR Code which links into the Parish Council web page and contains information on the lives and families of each of the fallen from WW1 and WW2. The page can be updated at any time should anyone wish to contribute photos, or add information which can be sent to the parish Council Clerk. The QR code is located on the lower left side of the memorial [see arrow in left photo below] and is easily accessed by using a QR App on a mobile phone or other such device.

For future generations, these will not be just names on a stone monument, They Lived, Felt Dawn and Saw Sunset Glow, We Will Remember Them.



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY:

On Remembrance Sunday at the War Memorial, we paid tribute to those from Gosfield who had fallen during the two world wars. We also remembered those who had flown from RAF Gosfield with the United States Air Force.

On the night of December 11th / 12th, 1943, the airfield was attacked. The huts the men were in were sprayed with gunfire. The attack took place only a day after the airfield had been officially opened, and before pilots and aeroplanes had actually moved in. But fifteen members of the 833rd Engineer Aviation Battalion were injured, and four were killed.

Stacy J Lindsey, George E Reilly, Norman Shotnakoff Jr, and Fred Svensson.

The 833rd Engineer Aviation Battalion had been involved in the construction of the airfield, along with other units. Between them they constructed a number of airfields for use by the USAF, including Andrewsfield at Great Saling, and Stansted, now of course London Stansted Airport.

Continued overleaf

GOSFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

UPDATE

GOSFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



Well.....we've made a start !

We had scheduled some public events back in September & October, but we couldn't host them due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions.

They will be rescheduled when it is safe to do so, and there will be plenty of warning and information about these events when they have been rescheduled.

We can't wait to hear you views!!!

In the meantime, we have been working on areas of the Neighbourhood Plan that need little 'face-to-face' contact including analysing Census data & discussing how local businesses contribute to our community. We will report on all the areas we're working on in due course.

There will be regular updates in the Grapevine, but coming soon will be a dedicated website, a Facebook page & newsletters keeping you informed right throughout this process.

If you want to see what we've done so far, all agendas & minutes from meetings have been posted on the Gosfield Parish Council website.

Thank you to all those who have put themselves forward to get involved. And for anyone else who hasn't been in touch yet, please contact Mark Bloomfield (mark.bloomfield@gosfieldparishcouncil.org) or come along (virtually) to the next Gosfield Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting on 1st December, or 5th January, or 2nd February, next year.

Don't worry – everyone will be able to tell us what you think about planning matters, development of the village and how we can continue making the village 'great'. Stay safe & have a wonderful Christmas!

Mark Bloomfield (Chairman – Gosfield Neighbourhood Plan Committee)

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT, continued

Discretionary Funding:

I am delighted that I was able to grant fund Gosfield Parish Council £1,000.00 for the refurbishment of the rocking horse, in the Children's Play Area, following the ROSPA report which reported the Rocking Horse was not safe. I believe, we would all agree, that the Children's Play Areas is an essential facility for the young children of the village and surrounding areas.

Potholes:

Essex County Council Highways Engineers visit Gosfield on a regular basis to check for pot holes, broken or sunken drain covers and general highway and pavement defects. The County Council also relies on local residents and myself to report defects. Defects can be reported to www.essexhighways.org.

I truly hope that all local residents of Gosfield are able to enjoy a warm and wonderful Christmas, despite the difficulties of the Coronavirus restrictions.

Central Government will inevitably control what restrictions will be imposed during the festive season. Drive safely, Essex County Council Highways Department have commenced with the winter gritting programme; I am often reminded by the County Council that it is the same workers who repair the highway defects that grit our roads: Please drive carefully and reduce your speed during, particularly during the winter months ahead.

My sincere thanks, on behalf of Essex County Council, to everyone who has worked relentlessly, on the front line, delivering essential services and support to those residents in and around Gosfield, who need supporting the most. Your efforts have created a community resilience that has kept the village operating through this year.

Thank you.

Joanne Beavis. Essex County Councillor – Halstead Division, the Colnes, Gosfield, Greenstead Green and HighGarret.

Contact and follow me at:

Email: cllr.jo.beavis@essex.gov.uk

Tel: 07771-984365

Twitter: @JoBeavis

FB: Joanne Clare Beavis

COUNCILLOR REPORT

Jo Beavis (JB) thanked the collaborative working between the Parish Council, Braintree District Council and Essex County Council regarding planning and enforcement issues at 69, Halstead Road. She advised she had also spoken to Essex Police to understand if issues of anti-social behaviour were evident from the site.

JB advised that the Director of Public Health for Essex, at Essex County Council, was proactively engaging with Central Government to monitor the Essex situation as regards to the Corona Virus Pandemic. She advised that Essex County Council was suffering huge income losses resulting from the Pandemic due to the cost of rising adult social care, children in care and lack of income from parks and open spaces. She was concerned that this could impact on front line services and that she would be proactively engaging in the budget process, on behalf of local residents, to protect local services.

JB advised that each County Councillor had a community budget of £10,000.00. She advised that she had supported the cost of the rocking horse repairs in the Children's Play Area and that the application process was in validation. She also advised that she would be supporting a new salt bin at the junction of The Limes with The Street, due to an increase in traffic that could result from the new homes development.

JB advised that the offices of Essex County Council remained shut and that all Council and Councillor meetings were taking place via Zoom and Teams (virtual meeting platforms).

JB advised that each County Councillor was to report their top 50 pot holes. She advised that the pot holes in The Limes, at the junction with The Street. School Park. The pot holes at the end of Hall Drive, at the junction of The Street formed a part of her top 50 list.

JB advised that Essex County Council had placed her on the Essex Adoptions and Fostering Panel for Essex, following training, DBS checks and an extensive interview. She advised that Essex County Council had received national recognition for Outstanding Children Services and that 1,050 young people remained in care.



Gosfield Grapevine Community Group

'Fugue' – polyphonic composition on one or more short themes contrapuntally harmonised and re-introduced from time to time !

GOSFIELD POST OFFICE:

At the Maurice Rowson Hall.

Opening Times are:

Wednesdays 2pm - 5.30pm

Fridays - closed (Covid-19)

Full Postal Service provided.

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A Knitting and Crochet group.

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and look at our website: www.gosfieldtennis.co.uk

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GOSFIELD BOWLS, continued:

- c) Essex Individual club team events , winners of this all Essex event play in the National Championships held at the famous Potters Academy
d) Individual championships, Essex and National for singles, two and four ball teams.

Not all clubs or players wish to play in competitive games, but enjoy the social aspect of the club evenings. Gosfield CBC play both social and competitive events throughout the year .As well as the competitive events we play other clubs in the area in " friendly" games which are only slightly less competitive, but there is not the pressure of having to win to maintain position in a league table. All club matches, whether social or competitive finish with the home team providing a late supper of sandwiches, cakes and coffee.

There are no club nights at present and, as with other indoor sports, we have no idea when we may begin to meet again. However, should you be interested in learning more of our sport please check out the Essex Carpet Bowls web site. Alternatively contact the Gosfield CBC manager, Paul Nicklin who will be pleased to discuss how the club operates and, perhaps, when we are able to play again you will be welcome to try your hand on one of our normal club nights.

Paul M Nicklin, Manager, Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club.

PARISH COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS:

Group:	Councillors:
Nature Reserve	Hough, Moutard
Playing Field	Hough, Pawsey
Allotment Officer	Waters
Footpath	Beavis, Hough
Finance	Waters, Edwards, Bloomfield, Moutard, Cowie
Appeals	Cowie, Colyer
Children's Play Area	Hough, Pawsey, Colyer
Planning	Moutard, Waters, Beavis, Pawsey
Grapevine Editor	Alan Summerland
Tree Warden	Hough
Information, minutes and agendas:	www.essexinfo.net/gosfieldparishcouncil

MEMBERS OF OUTSIDE BODIES:

Essex Association of Local Councils	Beavis
Braintree Association of Local Councils	Beavis
Coffee Rooms Trust	Waters
Maurice Rowson Hall Management Committee	Moutard
Rowson Perpetual Memorial Fund	Pawsey, Hough, Colyer

Member of Parliament:

Mr James Cleverly MP

or:

Braintree Conservatives
Association Office:

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk

Suite 11, The Centre, Lakes Industrial Park,
Braintree, CM7 3RU

Essex County Councillor:

Cllr. Joanne Beavis

The Retreat, New England, CO9 3HY

cldr.jo.beavis@essex.gov.uk

07771-984365

Braintree District Councillor:

Cllr. Peter Schwier

Gosfield & Greenstead Green Ward

Long Fen, Great Maplestead, CO9 2RJ

cldr.pschwier@braintree.gov.uk

01787-460473

THE FRIENDS OF ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH

St. Catherine's is, of course, the Centre of worship in the village. It is also much more. St. Catherine's Church itself, is a focal point for much of the village life and activities. St. Catherine's is a very beautiful and historic part of the heritage of England. This treasure is entrusted to the village of Gosfield to maintain, preserve and improve for everyone to enjoy and to be passed on for the pleasure and use of future generations.

The 'Friends of St. Catherine's Gosfield' is an organization formed to raise and manage funds for the maintenance and improvement of the church building and contents. The 'Friends' are a registered Charity so that full advantage may be gained from all allowable tax concessions and the affairs of the fund Management may be properly overseen.

The history of St. Catherine's goes back a very long way, did you know that there was a church building recorded on this site as long ago as 1100. The earliest parts of the present church date from 1440 whilst major parts were added during the 16th and 18th century. Improvements to the church fabric are always taking place. Have you seen the beautiful example of more recent (1980) craftsmanship in the beautiful stained glass window in the Wentworth chapel ?

The sole purpose of 'The Friends' is to establish and manage a fund of money so that there is a 'nest-egg' available when required to assist in funding the large costs that can be incurred when major, or indeed, minor problems are found requiring maintenance, or restoration. We cannot assume that St. Catherine's should, or would, be maintained by the Diocese. The upkeep of the fabric and contents of the church is the responsibility of the Village and we must take that responsibility very seriously.

By joining the 'Friends', for the very modest annual subscription of £10 per person, or £20 per family, you can support the valuable work carried out to protect our heritage.

For further information on how to support and join 'The Friends' or any other suggestions/comments, please contact Glen Brown on 01787-476616, or David Degnan on 01787-472291.

Bank standing order forms can be obtained from David (honorary treasurer) on the above telephone number, or pay your yearly subscription in cash / cheque.

A Lasting Gift to Your Church:

Once you have made provision for your loved ones, you have the opportunity to make a lasting gift to God, by leaving a legacy to His church. A gift in your will to your local church is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support its mission and ministry within your community.

A gift can be an expression of your gratitude and thanksgiving towards God, and can help keep your local church alive, and help transform its future.

GOSFIELD CARPET BOWLS CLUB:

The current lock down resulting in the suspension of all indoor sports programs has provided me with the opportunity to explain to the Grapevine readership the intricacies of the game of carpet bowls. It is a game of surprising skill, craft, tactics and judgement. The game is played in several formats, singles, or in teams of two, three or four players.

There is a misconception that the game is played on carpets in a manner that one would play within the home lounge. Far from it ! The game is played on special mats each measuring 30ft. long by 6ft. wide laid out on village hall floors with an 18 inch diameter wooden block in the centre. The floors of all halls vary from one another and also from one side of the floor to another within a given hall. This makes for players to have to interpret how each mat is playing i.e. is it on a slope, uphill gradient, or downhill.

The bowls are 2/3rd the size of standard Lawn Bowls but are only of one size, with a standard weight bias on one side which makes the bowl curve that way when bowled. (In Lawn bowls each player has a choice of the weight and bias of the bowls).

A Jack, smaller white bowl, is placed at one end of the mat and players in turn aim at the jack to get as close as possible. To do this each player has to ensure that the bowl misses the centre block, whilst judging the speed of the bowl, the degree of compensation of the bias and the variations in the mat layout in order to stop as close as possible .Players will aim to get as close as possible, or aim to stop short in order to prevent the opponents bowl from getting close or aim to knock the opponents bowl away from the jack.

The nearest to the jack, after all players have bowled their bowls, is counted and recorded. Play is then played in the opposite direction on the mat and again scores are recorded. Each play is recorded as an end and normally a game consists of 9 ends. The player or team that has the highest score overall is the winner(s).

Carpet bowls is the only game that I am aware of where there is no differentiation between gender and age of the players in the same game. What other games are there where a grandparent, a parent or a child may play in the same team and where the grandparent may well be the better player ? I have played a singles game against a female player of 93 years old and struggled to win (I was lucky to have won at that !). It is truly an all family sport without losing any of its competitive nature.

In normal times Gosfield CBC is involved in the following events during the year:

- a) Club nights. Monday and Wednesday throughout the year.
- b) Essex County Competitions, Winter Leagues, Summer Leagues both are team events of 12 players each team.

Continued ...

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GOSFIELD GRAPEVINE COMMUNITY NETWORK

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Message from Georgie:

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In consultation with the stake
holders, has been postponed to 2021

Due to COVID-19 restrictions

in aid of the new Gosfield Community

Shop and Braintree Mencap

Lessons have also been suspended !

Gosfield Rainbows



Places available for Girls aged 5-7
Meet on a Monday 4:45-5:45pm
term time only

Rainbows is exciting, messy,
friendly and a lot of fun!
Come join us!

Call Stacey, Rainbow Leader
on
07814 233219
or look online at
Girlguiding to register your daughter
TODAY!

Gosfield Brownies



Places available for Girls aged 7-10
Meet on a Monday 6:00-7:30pm
term time only

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world of new adventures,
challenges and fun!

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