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Wakes Colne Parish Council

www.wakescolne.org

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL WORKING FOR YOUR PARISH

Wakes Colne Parish Council wish you all Healthy, Prosperous and Happy New Year.

Please note that our next parish meeting is on **22nd January 2014** at 7.15p in the village hall. There will be no parish meeting in February. You are very welcome to attend any/all meetings.

The Neighbourhood Watch meeting will now take place in April the date when decided will be advertised. Please attend, the success of Neighbourhood Watch depends on your participation.

Broadband Press Release

Following the results of a Survey of Wakes Colne Parishioners for the introduction of Super Fast Broadband, it appears that very few are interested in the project. Out of over 190 'Make the Connection' leaflets delivered only sixteen were returned to Essex County Council, despite the leaflets being post paid. It is known that of those sixteen received six of them were from Parish Council Members and five from local businesses. Councillor Stephen Scrase who leads the operation for Wakes Colne Parish stated 'I am very disappointed with the response especially as Chappel Council had 56 replies, hardly a ringing endorsement of response but on the whole better than the Wakes Colne return. It makes me wonder whether the Parish wants to join the modern world by receiving improved download speeds for their computers, it will be mainly business practices and families that will suffer'. Another Councillor exclaimed that the result is 'pathetic' and is likely to put the Parish back in the likelihood of receiving a vastly improved service quickly.

If you still wish to action a return please contact ' Councillor Stephen Scrase via parishclerk@wakescolne.org, or register at www.superfastessex.org.

Local Highways Panel LHP (safety for pedestrians using for Station Road)

The £9,000 awarded to our parish for a Feasibility and Geotechnical survey of Station Road now appears to be taking place in 2014/2015 according to recent information sent to us from LHP. The Working Group and the Parish Council pulled out all the stops to present our ideas to the LHP before April 2013 on the assumption that our ideas would be considered and acted upon in that financial year 2013/14. Silly us!!

Lets hope that no serious or minor accidents happen to pedestrians using Station Road in the meantime. It appears that safety for pedestrians will have to wait, still we have only been complaining about this issue for as long as I can remember and I have been resident here for 30 years.

Perhaps I should not be irritated about the rather drawn out response of the LHP but I do feel as do other Councillors that safety for our villages should be a priority.

On a good note for highways at least repairs of potholes seem now to have been tackled. If there are any potholes that seem to have been missed please inform Diane Jacob our Parish Clerk.

Stella Hounslow
Chair Wakes Colne Parish Council.