

SAXTEAD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Saxtead Parish Council has had a busy and varied year.

Early in the year the Council looked at ways of ‘High-Lighting Saxtead as a village and not just a through route of the A1120, and the main road to Framlingham.

This finally resulted in a meeting with our County Councillor and the Community Liaison Engineer. This could be achieved by “Welcome to Saxtead” signs.

Another item that we asked them to look at was the possibility of extending the pathway from Framlingham, which ends at Saxtead Lodge, to the Green at Boundry Farm.

We are awaiting reports back on these items.

The Parish Council have been approached by the Rural Coffee Caravan and the Community Connector Project, regarding sites in Saxtead where they could park their caravan.

The Council have suggested two sites and are still waiting for feed- back on this.

The pond on the Little Green has been exposed by cutting back the large amount of brambles and small trees that over the years have taken over.

This task was carried out by members of the Community Pay Back Scheme who have done a wonderful job, for which we are extremely grateful.

The Old Mill House has finally been registered as an Asset Of Community Value.

We now have a defibrillator in the village which has been installed at the Saxtead Business Centre.

This whole project has been brought to fruition by the hard work of Lisa Handley, to whom we owe a great ‘thank you’ as she is also carrying out the various checks required to keep the equipment in serviceable condition.

In addition, Lisa and her husband are covering the day to day costs of the supply of electricity needed to keep the unit at the correct temperature

Without the generous help, for which we thank them, of SaxteadTownsland Trust who contributed 50% towards the cost of the Unit, the Parish Council would not have been able to go ahead with this.

During the year there have been a number of planning applications.

Among them the demolition of a stable block, and a replacement stable building at School Farm.

An extension to Brothers Farm, and removal of old extension and new extension at Little Green Cottage.

It is sad to report that Kevin Davis has resigned as a Councillor after approximately thirty years, for which of many, he was Vice Chairman.

I thank him for his great help and support over the years.

As a Parish Council we should have a complement of seven councillors but for many it has been down to five, and now only four.

It is hoped that possible new Councillors will come forward to make the council up to full strength, but as you have seen there are only four nominees for the elections in May.

Bureaucracy may be the cause for this situation, and has certainly not helped democracy.

It is with sadness that I report the death of our former Clerk, Barry Cable, we send our condolences to his Family.

My thanks to our Councillors, and our Parish Clerk, Lydia, for all their help and support over the last twelve months.

George Cullingford, Chair Saxtead Parish Council.