

# Babraham

AUTUMN 2017

## Roads and New Village!

There are a number of proposed developments in the South Cambs area, most of which will have a direct or indirect effect on Babraham.

There is currently a proposal, incorporated within the A1307 upgrade, to build a park and ride in this vicinity. Three possible sites are currently being investigated by South Cambs council and include a site adjacent to Oak Lane, with access from the High Street. We have opposed this option as strongly as possible and await the final decision regarding placement of the park and ride.

Another concerning development is being formulated for a 5,000 home development at Gt Chesterford. If this goes ahead the A505 will surely become even more congested, as would the A1307 to Cambridge.

Cambridge City football ground construction is once again under way with the full support of Sawston Parish Council. It should provide facilities for sport and entertainment in this area. Hopefully the traffic through Babraham will not become excessive.

## Neighbourhood plan

This brings me to very important decision for the residents of Babraham. We are proposing, following a preliminary instruction from residents, to formulate a neighbourhood plan. Such a plan would be initiated by the residents and driven by the Parish Council. Once established it would provide us with greater control over future village development. We were approached by Sawston PC with a view to producing a joint plan incorporating Sawston, Babraham and Pampisford. This makes good sense as Sawston already provides most of the amenities for the area, it would reduce costs and we have received a guarantee from Sawston, that although they are the largest of the three Parishes, there would equal representation for

the final submission of the plan. The alternative is go it alone and produce a plan purely for Babraham. You will be asked to decide which alternative you would like to follow via a referendum to be held shortly.

## Speeding traffic

We are currently looking into the problem of speeding traffic through the village. The speed indication sign has helped but not slowed traffic as required. We are in consultation with South Cambs Highways department to find a sensible solution.

## The pocket park

Following a report from a tree consultant we carried out essential work to make the pocket park area safer. We continue to maintain this area for the benefit of residents.

## Garden area

Following a generous donation from Scotsdales Garden Centre we have replanted the garden situated opposite the George Inn. Much thanks to Gill Attwood for all the work she has put in.

## Litter pick

It is planned to carry out a litter pick in the near future. We are always looking for volunteers so if you can help please contact Cllr Rob Attwood

## Village Hall

Unfortunately the response from the planning authority regarding the siting of a village hall, between the school and church road, was not favourable. The main reasons being that the proposed site was on the flood plain, on existing farming land, on a possible archaeological site, and access would be difficult and planning would be unlikely to be agreed. Given this information the Village Hall Committee have decided not to pursue this option further. They are currently investigation alternative sites.

## Communication

Although we are a small parish communication is always difficult. If you wish to receive updates of events, road work reports for the area etc please forward your email address to [gareth.j.walker@gmail.com](mailto:gareth.j.walker@gmail.com). He will add you to the mailing list. All minutes of

meetings and important information relating to the village can be seen on the village notice board or the Babraham village web site.

We, the Parish Council, are here to represent you. If you have any points to discuss you can either attend a monthly meeting held

at the school at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of every month (excluding December) or email or phone a member of the council.

**Stuart Laurie**

**Chair Babraham Parish Council**



**Monday:** Lynton Way, Sawton - 6.30pm

**Tuesday:** Whittlesford Memorial Hall - 7pm

**Wednesday:** Lynton Way, Sawton - 6.30pm

**Thursday:** The George, Babraham - 9.30am  
Lynton Way, Sawton - 7pm

Angela will put you  
through your paces  
**07799 696815**



# Our History

## part 2

### 1632

Two brothers, Richard and Thomas Bennet, married to two sisters, bought the manor and estate of Babraham (with their mother-in-law's help) from Tobias Palvacino, son of Sir Horatio Palavicino. He had squandered everything he inherited.

### 1651

Parliament took over Babraham estate, possibly because of Thomas Bennet's support for the King during the Civil War. But in 1660 Thomas Bennet's loyalty to the crown was rewarded by Charles II – he became Sir Thomas and the estate was returned to him.

### 1730

A school and almshouses were built following the death of Judith Bennet, granddaughter of Sir Thomas Bennet, in 1724.

### 1765

The estate remained in the hands of the Bennet family until it was sold to William Mitchell who proceeded to demolish Babraham Place in 1767. Some of the materials from the mansion were used to repair the sluice at Chesterton. So much for conservation.



## Heartfelt thanks from Alison, Chris and Emily Morris (and not forgetting Milly Morris our family dog)

Our beautiful village of Babraham served us proud on 27th March 2017. It was alive with love and support for our family at the funeral of our beloved son Rob aged only 25.

St Peters Church was splendid in its glory, the sun shone down. So many people from far and wide came to give their respects to Rob and to show support for our family. Our beautiful church was packed to the rafters.

Reverend Alan Partridge led a truly special service, a true reflection of Rob and his struggles in the latter part of his short life and he would have been proud, if only he had believed how much he was loved. Thank you Alan and St Peters Church.

After the service afternoon tea was served in the church and

we were able to sit outside by the river as the sun continued to shine.

Thank you to everyone who made cakes and helped to serve and clear up after the tea. Many people walked down to The George afterwards and sat on the front green, still the sun shone.

Thank you to The George for making everyone feel so welcome

We have lived in Babraham since the 1994 and it has never let us down

Thank you Babraham.

Cherish this village and give support for all it offers it will do you proud when you need it to. Be a part of your community.

The poem below was written by Rob in India in 2014

An amalgamated mind  
Summer vines flourish on pungent meadows  
Dandelions spark sun vitality  
The ingredients of positive mentality bloom  
With fragrance and anonymity  
Am I free and you will see  
My spirit resides in the minds of the tired and aspirational

I conclude the end of an era  
With the beginning of a subtle imagination.  
Effervescent is the scent of a mind that repents  
Refined harmonics provoke to the tonic of sweet life  
Honeysuckle tangents and magnanimous antics  
The art of self-beauty.  
Sustained by an aura of utter contentment is heaven sent.

I am one of the fixtures of a glum sorta guy  
Plum sorta life  
I will go to my higher self  
For I am free  
Free to be me  
Free to perform the rights of my own reality  
Of laughter upon laughter.

Then still the solitude and gratitude for all that will go after.  
Never a shafter just a master class of pure consciousness.  
The honeysuckle vine entwined on layers of an amalgamated mind

Robert George Morris 2014

# News *around the village*

## Cycleway

The opening went according to plan and the route to Cambridge is now in full swing. Horses of course are welcome.

## Walking

The walks around the village are really good I expect most of you know them. I spotted a egret one afternoon down by the weir which was great to see. taking the binoculars next time. There must be a Kingfisher somewhere along that stretch of water.



## Pocket Park

This is just a lovely little spot in the village. The trees have assessed and any deadwood has been cut and taken away. The jetty is a good place to do the 'pond dipping bit'

### From the past

The tollkeeper lived in Granta Cottage by the bridge and charged 1d for a horse and cart to go through the tollgate and over the bridge. Mmmm! maybe we should start this again! Car toll.

## The George

The George continues its upward spiral and you always get a friendly welcome from all who work there. We are lucky to have a great pub on our doorstep so keep using it. Once again Friday night you can almost guarantee you will meet someone from the village for a good chat and a bit of a laugh.

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

## Tree down in the High Street

As darkness fell on a stormy February night there was a distinct cracking of bark and down came a tree plum across the road just before the bridge. Excitement in the village and actually joy that the speeding cars were at last put in their place. Luckily no one was hurt but the road was closed for the night. Jane and Mike Goody did a very good job of diverting the traffic and everyone in the village had a peaceful night. Best traffic calming ever! Anyway, its nearly October and Butch has recently reformed the Hole in the Wall gang and will be out there on the prairie picking the bass and singing the blues!

**Mystery photos** anyone know where this is in Babraham?



# General ...

www.babrahamschool.org.uk

www.babraham-village.net

 @babrahamvillage

## **HOOP (Housing Options for Older People)**

We are working with South Cambridgeshire District Council on an exciting 6-month pilot project which launched at the beginning of August in South Cambridgeshire – HOOP (Housing Options for Older People).

The project offers specialist housing advice and support to older people. The customer journey starts with a questionnaire asking older people (over 65s) about their home and how it suits them. This can be completed on line or via a leaflet. The answers are then used to put people in touch with local housing options (sheltered housing, extra care schemes), support services and community groups that can provide a mixture of practical support and advice - with the aim of helping people to make informed choices about their housing and wellbeing at an early stage.

This is only the second place in the Country the service has been localised, up until now HOOP has been a national

tool. We want all people to live independently in their own homes for as long as possible and are committed to helping them to do that, therefore this pilot proposes more local solutions and suggests alternative independent housing opportunities and support to help people think through their housing options. It is hoped that if the pilot is successful, a full Cambridgeshire HOOP tool will be developed in 2018.

We are starting a programme of rolling comms to let people in South Cambs know about it – leaflets have been produced and dropped in a number of places in the district such as GP surgeries, libraries etc and I launched a targeted Facebook ad last week in Linton and Sawston.

An article will be going in the SCDC magazine next month to let the wider public know about it and over the next couple of months I will send out a media release and do some more social media.

Here is a link to the website [hoop.eac.org.uk/](http://hoop.eac.org.uk/)

I will keep you updated on any more developments in the

coming months. Should you require further information please get in touch.

## **Useful Contacts**

### **Parish Council**

**Stuart Laurie**

[stuartmlaurie@gmail.com](mailto:stuartmlaurie@gmail.com)

**Charlotte Rodgers**

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**Jane Goody**

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**Gareth Walker**

[gareth.j.walker@gmail.com](mailto:gareth.j.walker@gmail.com)

**Robert Attwood**

[attwoodrobert@gmail.com](mailto:attwoodrobert@gmail.com)

**Sam Bramley**

[clerk@babraham-village.net](mailto:clerk@babraham-village.net)

### **South Cambs Councillors**

Kevin Cuffley and Roger Hickford

### **District Councillor**

Tony Orgee

The Parish Council meets on the second Thursday every month at the school 7.30. Members of the public are more than welcome to attend.

## Nick Gager

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