

PARISH OFFICE

The council hopes to open a new office and tourist information point at the Art and Craft Centre in Brook Street in February. Munnings Museum has offered support and an application will be made for a grant from the LEADER programme, an EU fund administered by Suffolk council.

FOOTPATHS

The council will apply for a grant from Essex County Council's new Local Services Fund to help pay for maintenance of footpaths and other vegetation in the village. A three-year grant, with matching funds from Dedham council, would allow footpaths to be cut as they were previously under the Parish Paths Partnership arrangement. See volunteer article on opposite page.

MOBILE LIBRARY REVIEW

Essex County Council is to review the mobile library service which visits Dedham every other Tuesday, stopping at Royal Square, Dedham Meade and Parson's Field. The mobile library vehicles are around 18 years old and nearing the end of their lives. There is also a separate 'home library service' which delivers books and other materials direct to people who cannot get to a library. Use of the mobile library is steadily decreasing. In Dedham, only the Royal Square stop is regularly used. To express your views, use the link on the Dedham Parish Council website, or collect a form from any library or mobile vehicle.

CHRIS CLARK

Chris Clark has resigned from the parish council as he has been in poor health recently and has moved out of the village. He has been active as a member of the council and in village life for many years. His wealth of knowledge and experience will be much missed. All parish councillors thank him for his dedication and wish him well.

PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Colchester council's consultations on the proposed new parking restrictions in Crown Street, Southfields, Manningtree Road and Forge Street has now been completed and the new arrangements are expected to come into force shortly.

LOCAL BUSINESS CONTACTS

We have been asking Dedham businesses for their views over the past couple of years. Although we have contact details of village centre businesses and some at the Birchwood junction, we would like to contact other local businesses, including those run from home. To join our mailing list, please contact the Clerk.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES

We are changing our e-mail provider and the new e-mail addresses for councillors takes the form firstname.surname@dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk.

NEXT MEETING

Monday 6 November 7.30 in the Duchy Barn.

Nicola Baker

DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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