

the Brandeston



New homes plan for Mutton Lane: village demands 'what happened to localism'?

Brandeston has reacted with puzzlement and fury to the decision by Suffolk Coastal planners to grant permission for six new homes in Mutton Lane.

The plan has been on the table for some time, but was previously rejected by planners.

But at a meeting in September, the planning committee performed a volte face and agreed to support the proposals.

The decision came in spite of a presentation to the committee by Nick Hayward, who was instrumental in drawing up the parish plan. He opposed the decision, and further opposition from local district councillor Bob Snell, who chaired the meeting.

The issue of 'localism' has come up frequently in angry discussions around the village.

It was claimed to be one of the government's big ideas when it came to power.

Yet according to angry villagers, developers are being given the green light to build as and where they like.

In February 2009 two planners attended a public meeting in the village hall at which they encouraged villagers to

produce a parish plan.

The reason was that if the opinions of villagers were known 'officially' then those views would carry much greater weight with the district council.

Two planner attended.

One was called Brown. He declared that Brandeston's wish to retain its 'village envelope', restraining future building, would be supported by the district council.

He recommended that the village envelope be retained. He also recommended that the incorporation of land in Mutton Lane be vigorously opposed.

The meeting agreed unanimously.

But the land he declared should be opposed for building is the very land on which the planning committee have given just permission for building houses.

New landlord at the Queen in new year

As we go to press it has just been revealed that the Queens Head is to have a new landlord.

Present popular incumbent Alan Randall announced earlier this year that he would be moving on.

But weeks have passed with Alan still running the pub and no news as to his successor.



Alan Randall: his last Christmas at the Queen

Regulars were beginning to be concerned at what might become of their favourite watering hole.

It is known that several interested parties were

shown around the pub, though there were no takers.

At one point there were rumours that the pub might be taken over by a present inhabitant of the village.

(Let's face it, at one point there were probably rumours that Elvis Presley would shortly be seen pulling pints.)

Yet for weeks there was no news.

But now, *the Brandeston* can reveal that the new landlord is due to take over the pub on 4 January.

He is a young man from a family of publicans. His parents have kept both the Glemham Crown and the Bramfield Queens Head though it is understood they are no longer involved in the licensing trade.

The intended new publican is already employed in catering locally and it is also understood that he knew the pub before he agreed to take it on.



It's that time of the year again and on Hallowe'en the editorial offices of this great organ were invaded by two terrifying creatures of the night, Thomas and Kyle, who also brought along their mums

Was shock sex ad on parish notice board a spoof?

A lurid sex ad which appeared on the parish notice board has been dismissed as a spoof.

The ad claimed to offer 'a class act for discerning gentlemen' through 'a discreet home based service'.

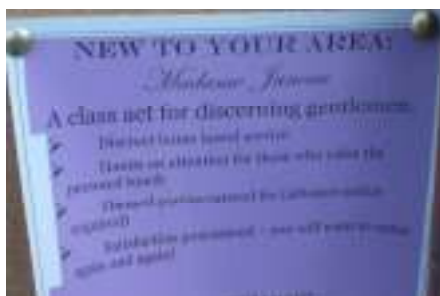
It then goes on to make further lurid suggestions, including 'themed parties catered for'.

In the interests of decency the ad is shown here in a form hopefully too small to allow the details to be read, (though a magnifying glass would do the trick).

As it happens, the parish council met the very evening it

appeared. When they were told of the shocking poster, parish council bosses removed the offending notice.

The sex ad became the subject of wild rumour at the subsequent



The offending advertisement as it appeared on the parish notice board

Brandeston souk (aka the coffee morning).

But in a new twist, an anonymous note was delivered to the offices of this publication, claiming the ad was a spoof.

'My card was a protest drawing attention to the fact that the notice board is locked and information controlled by a few key holders,' it says.

It goes on to suggest that a locked notice board is the work of a 'despotic regime' and 'unworthy of a leafy and hopefully democratic village'.

So, sex act or political act? Disappointed Brandies can decide for themselves.

A bumper Brandeston Christmas



The Christmas schedule is as busy and varied as ever. We have a return of the Brandeston quiz, always a favourite, so if you'd like to enter a team of six you may need to book your place soon.

We're also squeezing in two tastings by the wine society, including the sleek black tie dinner. (The additional tasting has been arranged at short notice because we are fortunate enough to get a free consignment of wine which had, as they say, *tombe d'un camion*.) Everybody is welcome. Prices haven't been worked out yet but Martin Churchill has the details.

In a shock move, however, the usual Christmas excursion to Southwold is to be replaced this year by a trip to Bury St Edmunds.

There will be plenty of opportunity for shopping among Bury's elegant Georgian streets and having lunch at one of its many restaurants.

The Christmas fayre appears

as usual, and then the Christmas period proper is heralded with the annual party at the old chapel.

The chapel in Mill Lane was saved from being turned into a workshop a few years ago. It has limited facilities, but its one big night of the year is to host the beginning of the Brandeston Christmas.



Jane enters into the Christmas spirit

Although the party is in a chapel it has no religious connotations.

There is always a big turnout—Brandies love a party—and the usual attendance is around 50. Much above 70 and it gets a bit cosy, but after all it is Christmas.

Jubilee plans to be discussed at hall AGM

The village hall AGM on 24 November will discuss plans for a permanent commemoration of the jubilee.

One suggestion already on the table are for a second set of steps from the terrace into the garden, leading from the centre of the terrace towards the sun dial.

Another idea is to plant an avenue of trees somewhere on the playing field.

A permanent reminder would be appropriate, since the playing field and the old hut were granted to the village to commemorate the Queen's coronation in 1953.

Also on the AGM agenda is a call for new committee members. Those presently serving will also be up for re-election.

Dates for your diary

5 Nov—Bonfire night at the Old Vicarage. Call Sue Thurlow for details (685673)

12 Nov—Opera & More: details from Patience on 685996

19 Nov—Quiz night: tables of 6 booked through Sue Thurlow (685673)

24 Nov—village hall AGM at 8pm. Mandatory for all those who don't wish to be thrown out of their cottages

26 Nov—Wine society: details from Martin Churchill (685303)

3 Dec—Bury St Edmunds by coach, details from Pat Morgan (685378)

10 Dec—Christmas fayre at the village hall

10 Dec—Wine society Christmas dinner

17 Dec—Christmas party at the old chapel

...and at the pub:

First Family Friday is the first Friday of every month—a family evening with all main courses at only £5

Takeaway fish & chips - phone your order to 685307



This dodgy-looking Frenchman was one of the many Brandies who celebrated the *jour de fete*

This girl's gonna go far, gonna be a star...*

It seems Brandeston has a new singing star.

Emilia Quinn from Mutton Lane is 14 and has been a singer songwriter for three years now, playing piano, keyboard and guitar.

Recently though she won a music competition called Ipswich Idol.

With it came two hours in a professional recording studio



and an interview on Radio Suffolk with Terry Baxter.

Since then Emilia hasn't looked back.

She has released one album and her second is due for release soon.

You can follow her on FaceBook, and read more about her on the Brandeston website.

* Courtesy of the Wolfman Jack



Our congratulations to Danny and Demelza, who married in Brandeston church

Parish pump... what's hot and what's not at the coffee morning and elsewhere

Donnie Calver has died. Donnie was publican of the Queens Head from 1971 to 1976, and he also built and lived in Wood View in the Street. He was 85...

An alert has been issued by police regarding possible intrusion by travellers. In view of the recent eviction from Dale Farm in Essex it is felt some may make their way into Suffolk...

Brian and Val Smerdon have just celebrated 50 years of marriage, with a party at the village hall...

Arrangements to celebrate next

year's royal jubilee are in hand, with Karren Piper, Kathy Churchill and Sue Fisher all involved in planning the street party and the ball...

The hall committee have plans to establish a boules piste adjacent to the hall car park...

Helen Buckingham's latest foodie article is now on the village website. You can follow Helen on Twitter: @MonGella12 ...

The Brandeston pig club kindly donated the pork for this year's successful harvest horkey supper.

The meat was universally acclaimed as delicious...

Fees for hiring the hall have been increased slightly, though to village residents it remains half price...

Those using the village hall may have been puzzled at the narrow trench which has appeared, leading from the hall to the gates. This is the heroic work of the redoubtable Fred Muggleston, who has dug it singlehanded in order to accommodate cables for the new lights which will illuminate

the entrance...

Once again the apple season passes with no attempt to organize and produce Brandeston cider. Surely it's possible...

The timing of the next edition of the Brandeston is uncertain, for the usual reason of the editor getting miffed at having nobody to do the reporting for him. It was originally due early in November, then there were plans for late November or early December. Now it seems unlikely till after Christmas.