

#### WEST BERGHOLT PARISH COUNCIL

# VILLAGE NEWS

Edition 7 - November 2012

## Your Village needs you!!!!!

#### West Bergholt Neighbourhood Planning Event

### Community Workshop - John Lampon Hall, Sat 24<sup>th</sup> November 10.30-12.30

The Neighbourhood Planning Group would like to invite village residents to take part in a Community Workshop to help identify key priorities for the Parish/Village which can subsequently be used to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. Neighbourhood Plans are a new form of Planning Document which have been devised for smaller communities such as ours, and whose residents want to play an active role in shaping the future. They have been made possible by the government's new Localism Act which aims to devolve responsibility on certain planning matters down to a local level.

The day will start with a presentation from the Rural Community Council for Essex after which we will break into smaller groups to discuss priorities for the village. At the close of the event there will be a chance for participants to express an interest in playing an active role in developing and writing the plan over the next 18 months. Refreshments will be provided and the event will be supported by Parish Councillors and Borough Councillors.

It is important to note that any plan developed will belong not to any Council as such, but by the village community, and new legislation enables this to be a genuinely community owned initiative which lies alongside normal Council planning activities.

Even if you know little about planning please come along. You have nothing to lose and will be able to give us the benefit of your experiences of living in the village, and your ideas about what is special and what you would like to see happen in the future, from housing to transport, from the environment to policing – the scope is very wide.

Why leave the future to chance or to be shaped solely by the County or Borough Council – come to the event and help the community put its best foot forward.

#### **Speedwatch in West Bergholt**

Many people have complained about the speed of some motorists in our village. "Speedwatch" is a small group of village volunteers who have been trained by the local police to check the speed of vehicles using an official speed gun. We are able to assess vehicle speed and those travelling above the limit will then receive a letter from the police. Any session requires a minimum of two volunteers. If you could spend an hour or so and would be interested in joining us, a training session with the police would be arranged.

Please contact me by phone at 01206 571910 or email anthonyrobin@hotmail.com,

Anthony Robin