



Charity No: 267775

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Dear Resident

Welcome to the Spring letter from Capel Community Trust (the Trust).

At the end of February we had our Annual General Meeting and I am pleased to report that all existing Trustees volunteered to remain as Trustees enabling us to continue with the plans we developed over the previous year.

We continue to face challenges in Capel and the Trust will need to ensure that it continues to provide the much-needed facilities in the Village with the support of the Parish Council precept, the fund-raising activities of the Association and the voluntary donations we receive from those keen to support the operation of village amenities.

Our aim is always to enhance the facilities we offer, and key to this has been the refurbishment and development of the Hall which brings in essential income enabling the Trust to maintain the support it provides to many Village Clubs and Groups at the same level as in previous years.

Each time the Hall is hired out we invite feedback from customers asking how we might improve their hire experience. This has resulted in improvements to lighting, the introduction of round tables, better signage and much-improved acoustics. We collate and monitor this data, and our next project is to refurbish the bar areas attached to the village hall. As a primary income generator for the Trust we need to ensure they are up to scratch for regular users along with those that hire the Community Centre.

A joint approach between the Trust and the Association has produced an ambitious plan which will see significant improvements to both bar areas to ensure they are what our regular customers and hirers of the Community Centre expect. The first phase of this process commences later this year, with significant changes to the bar areas, better fridges and displays, improved lighting and more flexible service. This work will take several weeks and it is hoped that minimal disruption will be caused during this period.

Later phases will include improvements to furniture and décor in the Vine Lounge and Family Bar. These can only take place once funds have been accumulated to achieve this. Trustees and Association Members are seeking grants and other funds from a number of sources which will enable these changes to happen sooner.

If you are not a Member of the Association I would urge you join as this will enable us to introduce these improvements earlier than we plan. Membership forms are on the website or behind the bar.

Fun Day is enjoyed by many hundreds of Residents, their families and their friends and as always a few people work tirelessly to make this event work effectively. However we could always use more help from others if only for a few hours on the day. For this event to continue, it is fundamental that you let us know if you are willing to spare a couple of hours to help with this Village Event which is so important to us all.

The Association continues to offer a wide range of events during the year and I would encourage Residents to look for events that attract them and we are always open to new suggestions (and helpers!) for different events.

Dog poop on the Playing Field continues to be an issue. I would urge dog owners to clear up after your dog to avoid the potential spread of disease before we need to look for alternative methods of enforcement.

As many will be aware Sandra Bumphrey is a long serving administrator for the Trust and has decided to step down from this significant role and will be leaving at the end of August 2018. Sandra has been key to much of the development the Trust has been able to achieve in recent years and has undertaken numerous additional tasks on behalf of the Committee and will be missed by Trustees.

We are now seeking expressions of interest from those who may wish to join the Trust as an employee supporting the work the Trust does on behalf of Residents. Please contact me direct at chair@capelcommunitytrust.org by Friday 25th of May 2018 and it is anticipated an appointment will be made in early June. A detailed Job Description and Person Specification will be available shortly and I look forward to hearing from anyone interested in this role.

There is no Resident of Capel who is not aware of the potential and planned development of our Village. These decisions are not made by us, not endorsed by us, but, they do affect us all.

The Trustee's position has always been that changes to Capel are inevitable in the long term, and as much as we would prefer that these changes will not happen, we have a legal obligation to ensure the Trust's object is maintained.

In previous letters I have set out the Trust's views and these have not changed. We will continue to interact with developers to ensure that Capel is able to get the best deal we can for Residents and with this in mind we will be meeting developers as and when we can.

The Trust has agreed that the newly formed South Suffolk Pickleball club can convert one of the Tennis courts into Pickleball courts. The courts are due to be cleaned and marked out in June and there may be a demonstration on Fun day. It will be good to see a new club enjoying these facilities.

As always Trustees would be happy for members of the public to attend the committee meetings which are usually the 4th Monday of the month in the library at 7.30pm. Please check Capel Capers or the website for changes.

To enable us to update the equipment in the play areas we need to produce 'evidence of need' to funders. It is not enough for us to say The Trust would like a new shade sail, climbing frame etc. we have to show that we have spoken to residents and they have decided what is required. We would therefore like you to complete the following and return.

Regards
Mark Browning
Chairman



To be able to make improvements to the Play areas we need to establish evidence of need from the residents. Please consider the following questions;

Name:			Postcode:
Do you use the Play areas:	Hall:	Yes/No	Daily/Weekly/Occasionally
	Playing Field:	Yes/No	Daily/Weekly/Occasionally

What improvements would you like to see in the play areas and why:
Please consider the equipment, seating, shade etc.

Please return to Sandra Bumphrey, 5 Smithers Close, off Rembrow Road or to the box in the library (on the worktop near the kitchen hatch)