CODDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2019

Coddenham Parish Council Elections
Why not stand as a candidate on 2nd May 2019



All 11 parish council seats will be up for election this year. Councillors serve a 4-year term. This is the opportunity to have your voice heard. In recent years most councillors have come from the retired or semi-retired part of the resident population of the central part of the village. Young people, residents from Greenhill and the outlying parts of Coddenham parish (Coddenham Green, Shrublands Estate) were notably under represented. Parish councillors are not elected on political party lines, but most want to support the community. Many give their labour free of charge to help with projects that they are interested in.
Over the last few years the parish council has been cutting back on the amount it spends on facilities in the parish. If you think that this is correct or if you think that the trend should be reversed, then you should stand as a councillor.

The parish council currently looks after open land at the Community Centre, Mill Hill, Broom Hill, the churchyard and three-cocked-hat. It provides allotments in Love Lane. The council maintains the recreational facilities at the Community Centre, children's playground and adult gym equipment.
Issues that you may wish to have a say in during the next 4 years that the council is likely to make decisions on will include:

Future administration of the Community Centre – possible transfer to charitable status
Renewal of children's playground as the equipment reaches the end of its serviceable life
Review of current council's position not to renew the existing street lighting

Maintenance of open spaces and the amount of amenity cutting
Cutting of footpaths during the summer
Your pet project whatever it may be. Convince other councillors to support you and funding is available.

Basic Facts:
If you want to find out more about being a councillor then visit https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/local-elections-in-england
The main eligibility criteria for a councillor are that you must live or work in the parish of Coddenham at the time of the election.
If you want to be notified when application packs for candidates become available then please email the clerk parishclerk.coddenham@gmail.com who will notify you how to obtain your application pack.

CODDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2019-20

The full budget approved by the council is at the end of this newsletter and is also available on the website. A precept of £29,342 has been requested by the parish council to support a total planned spend of £52,261. The precept will be collected through your council tax payments to MSDC. This is about a 5% increase over last year. The precept is being supported by the Day Foundation who are once again giving a grant of £13,512 to match the interest payable to the Public Works Loan Board on loans to build the community Centre and purchase the freehold of the land on which it is situated.

The council continues to maintain both earmarked and general reserves. The earmarked reserves are for specific likely expenditure, such as the cost of elections in 2019, or funds necessary to have a tree made safe if high winds cause damage. The general reserve should be at least equivalent to 3-months total expenditure by the council.

The Community Centre continues to require direct support from all of us as planned expenditure is £10,000 more than the expected income. The Community Centre is available for private hire for parties and events at preferential rates for Coddenham Parishioners.

A major general expenditure is £4000 for grounds maintenance. The council competitively tenders this contract every 5 years to ensure the best value for money is obtained. This work is substantially supported by volunteers who help maintain Broom Hill, Mill Hill and the Allotments.

The council decided not to renew the street lights that it owns in the village in 2018 and the amount required for this project (£11,000) remains as an earmarked reserve at this time.

FROM COUNCIL TO CHARITY
OUR HALL AND RECREATIONAL FIELD

BACKGROUND - In 1921 various members of the de Saumarez family donated the Recreation Ground to the inhabitants of the Parish of Coddenham. A Village Hall Trust owned the old village Hall which is now a private house. At a public meeting held in the Old Hall in 1998 the building was declared "no longer fit for purpose". This meeting triggered a set of events which culminated in a new Community centre and Sports Hall being officially opened on the 2nd May 2004. Suffice it to say that this build consumed an enormous amount of effort both in building and financing. In the meantime the Hall Trust sold the old Hall and retained the funds on the instructions of the Charity Commissioners (C C). It was not until December 2008 that the C C agreed to the old village hall trustees releasing the funds of the sale to Coddenham Parish Council (P C). A period of over 4 years that created some anxious moments. One of the implied conditions for the release of this money was that the PC would place the replacement hall into a charity. It has always been the policy of the PC that this condition should be adhered to. This was further confirmed by Council Resolution in 2018. In 2011 the P C acquired the freehold of the land that the new Hall sits on. An initiative in 2006 for a Charity to be created to receive the P C assets of Hall and Recreation Ground was deferred, but 2 prospective Trustees survived to re-live the scheme.

FAST FORWARD TO 2018/2019 - Councillors Fawdry, Fowler and Peecock attended a seminar on The Structure of Village Halls given by Robert Horn of the Charity 'Groundwork.' Following this a request was made to P C to engage Robert to produce a report to Council. This report was delivered to the P C in January 2019. In the meantime Andrew MacPherson and Ray Collins, the 2 previous prospective Trustees, expressed their continuing interest in forming a Charitable Trust and have been joined by Mitch Lock, Angela Thompson and Mark Darell-Brown all of whom are residents of the Parish and volunteering their time. In the intervening years since the original initiative the Government have launched a new set of rules to make Charities a little more flexible and remove the Trustees personal liabilities for the operation of village halls. This is known as a CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION (C I O). The P C formed a Working Group, consisting of the 3 Councillors above and Cllr Burton. Its purpose was to review all available documentation, reporting to full Council making recommendations. After many hours reviewing nearly 20 years of history and several reports the P C position as at the time of writing is:- The P C wholeheartedly supports the proposed Trustees in their application to register a charity with the Charity Commissioners. Initially to be known as the CODDENHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE CIO. They will offer financial support to achieve this objective. Both the P C and the Trustees have considerable work still to do, both individually and collectively. This process will take some time and finally will depend on C C approval.

WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS MEAN TO YOU - The theme running through this exercise is Community involvement. When completed your involvement will be vital. The Council may have no involvement in the day to day operation of the Hall or the Rec. This is a project, as are all of the Parish halls around us that will depend on your voluntary input. All of the Trustees are unpaid volunteers. All members of Parish organisations using the facilities may be involved in the Charity. The Deed is attached to the Parish Council minutes. It is in draft form but gives a flavour of the responsibilities involved. There are exciting future developments in the pipeline which could never have evolved under Council control. The success of this venture will depend on Community effort. There is an opportunity to discuss this and ask questions at the Parish Meeting on the Thursday 25th April. After the words of a First World War General…

CODDENHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE WILL NEED YOU!

Cllr Allan Fowler 3rd March 2019

CODDENHAM OPEN GARDENS AND SCARECROWS 2019



Sunday 23rd June from 11.00 am to 4.30pm
Preparations are moving on well for this year's event, we currently have about 12 gardens confirmed to open plus our beautiful Church Yard and we hope to have Suffolk Wildlife Trust present. The traditional Scarecrow competition will be taking place and I am very pleased to confirm that the wonderful Roy Hudd will again be judging (professional commitments permitting).

New this year is a Mini-Scarecrow I-spy trail for children which should be great fun.
Katies Garden are supporting us and will be selling plants by the Village Hall where teas, coffees and snacks will be available.

We also hope to run a "Garden Shop" so we would be grateful for any unwanted garden items you could donate. Please either take them to Haysel House on Saturday 22nd June between 2-5pm or contact me as below.

All profits will be divided between St Mary's Church, Coddenham and The Stone Foundation, a new local charity set up to provide Housing and Tenancy support for vulnerable people.
More help would be very much appreciated so if you feel you could volunteer for a few hours or even an hour, staffing a stall, helping with teas, car parking or selling tickets, we would love to hear from you. Also, if there is anyone still considering opening their garden, please contact me so I can answer any questions you may have.
Please make a note of the date and let's hope for good weather.

Eleanor Margaritelli
Chair, Open Gardens and Scarecrows Working Group
01449 761885, eleanor.margaritelli@hotmail.com

SPEED OF TRAFFIC IN THE VILLGE

This report details the results of an analysis of the data recorded by the Speed Indicator Device over a three week period leading up to the Christmas break.

The Speed Indicator Device, (SID), has been in operation since the start of October 2018, placed at two sites on School Road, at either entrance to the Recreation Ground. The SID has been moved from one site to the other at approximately monthly intervals.

Results of an analysis, taken from the full data-set, of the speed of vehicles over the period between the 3rd and 23rd December 2108, are shown below.

At the beginning of this period the SID had been in operation for some 3 months, giving regular drivers on School Road sufficient time to become used to the device reminding them of the 20mph speed restriction.

The SID takes multiple measurements of the speed of a vehicle approaching the device from either direction, hence the number of measured values, (113,153), which are used in the calculations of the comparative percentiles, is a multiple of the number of vehicle passes, (21,975), being monitored. The 85th percentile displays the average speed of 85 percent of vehicles monitored.

This analysis examines drivers' behaviour during the working day period between 7am and 7pm, monitoring vehicles in both directions simultaneously.

The following tables show the numerical results of the analysis:

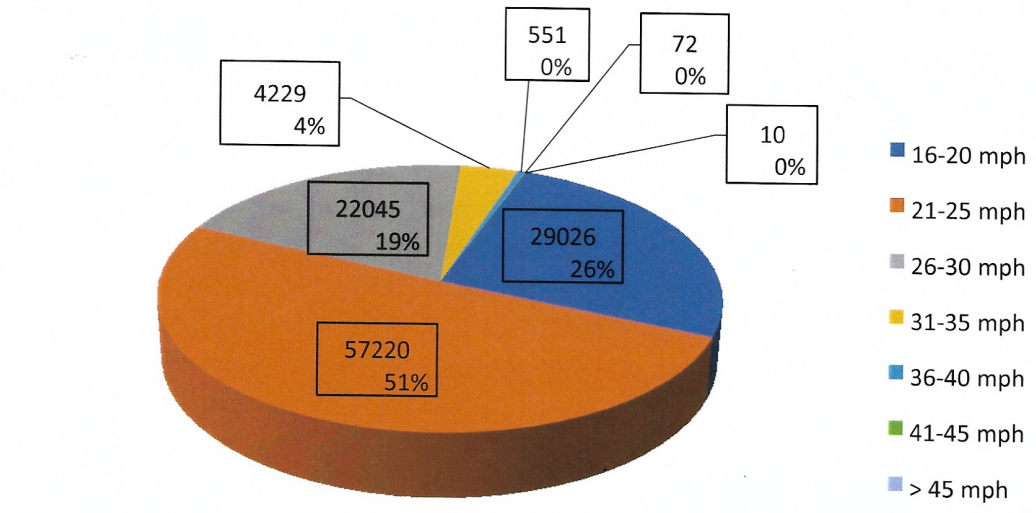
# of measured values	113,153
# of Vehicles	21,975
Speed limit	20 mph
Speed violations	74%

Average Daily Traffic	1,072
Average Daily Speed	23 mph
Max Speed	51 mph
85th percentile	27 mph

Whilst 74% of the traffic violated the 20mph limit during this 3-week period, the majority of these drivers were traveling at less than 30mph, which may reflect a reduction in the number of cars that would have been 'speeding' if the 30mph was still in force.

26% of the monitored vehicles were travelling at the limit of 20mph or less.

The following graphic represents the distribution of measured values within the speed ranges show:



The total of 633 measurements recorded at greater than 35mph across the three week period represents a total of 151 vehicles, which is less than 0.7% of the total 21,975 vehicle passes.

Peter Whitehouse

Parish Clerk

CHURCHYARD MANAGEMENT GROUP

The CMG oversees the maintenance of the Old Churchyard, surrounding the church, but not the 'New' churchyard down by the Three Cocked Hat, nor the actual church building. It is a voluntary group, including reps from the Parish and Parochial Church Councils, people with properties close to the churchyard and other interested persons. It is an independent forum to discuss and, where necessary, reconcile, conflicting demands on the churchyard, e.g. parking vs nature conservation, and wildlife value vs neatness. The area is now closed for inhumations (although not for the interment of ashes) and its maintenance is the responsibility of the Parish Council, although much of the necessary work is done by the members of the CMG in order to reduce the cost to the Parish Council and, therefore, the parish ratepayers.

The churchyard is a County Wildlife Site, with one of the best displays of wildflowers in Suffolk, and management advice is taken from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and, occasionally, English Heritage/Historic England.

Work over the last 12 months has included regular mowing of the grass paths and parking areas, pruning of trees and shrubs and weed control around the church walls. A diseased crab-apple tree by the south wall of the churchyard has been replaced with another traditional variety. Recently, ivy and a number of shrubs which were damaging historic 'table' tombs on the east side of the churchyard have been removed.
After a period of difficulty in recent years with the contractors, who cut the grass in the whole churchyard once a year, the 2018 cut was done correctly and at the right time. Credit is due to the landscape maintenance staff who did an excellent job. It is important for wildflower conservation that this is done properly.

I am also pleased to report that the problem with dog fouling in the area appears to have abated somewhat.
Lastly, CMG has agreed to have the churchyard open as a listed 'garden' for the June 2019 Open Gardens event, rather than just an ancillary attraction. Let's hope the weather is kind!
The churchyard doesn't look after itself, and my thanks go to everyone who helps out. More voluntary help is always welcome – the more volunteers we have, the more we can do and the less the cost to the parish's inhabitants. If you are interested, please contact me as below.

David McDonnell
Chairman, CMG
01449 761793 or deborah.mcdonnell3@btinternet.com

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - 25th April 2019, community centre

The purpose of the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting provides an opportunity for parishioners to discuss parish affairs, and for village organisations to inform them and answer questions. It is NOT a meeting of the Parish Council.

- A Parish Meeting is NOT a council meeting. However, if present, the Chairman of the Council must preside. If the Chairman is not present, the meeting may elect a chairman from those members of the electorate present.
- Councillors are not compelled to attend the parish meeting and are not summoned. However it is good practice for serving councillors to attend.
- It is good practice to produce an annual report detailing the activities of the council, the annual budget and contact details of its councillors. It is also good practice to invite the District and County Councillors for that ward to give a report and the opportunity to answer questions from the electorate. It is also an opportunity for the electorate to hear from community groups.

The agenda will be posted seven days before the meeting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Council –followed by Parish Council Meeting. 16th May Community Centre

The purpose of the annual meeting of the Council is to elect the Chairman of the Council. The council may also appoint a vice-chairman and councillors to any committees and outside bodies on which the council is represented.

- Election of the Chairman must be the first business on the agenda, before any other business (including apologies). This item is taken by the outgoing Chairman, who must use their casting vote in the event of an equal vote.
- The chairman must sign a *Declaration of Acceptance of Office* before proceeding with the meeting.

In any order on the agenda a council may:

- Appoint a vice-chairman
- Appoint members to the council's committees
- Appoint members to outside bodies

The above two items contain guidance from the Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC)

Calor Rural Community Fund

Up to £5000 in grants is available for rural community projects under the Calor Rural Community Fund. The type of projects mentioned include; redecorating your community centre or village hall, buying some new equipment for a youth club or a scout group.

"**How does it work?** Applications for funding open on 5th March and close on 29th April 2019. Once the application period has closed, projects that receive the most votes online will be shortlisted in their category and a team of impartial judges will select the winning entries. This year we've also partnered with Crowdfunder to enable projects to raise additional funds - including matchfunding!"

There are 21 grants available this year, with a total grant pot of £70,000.

- 10 x £5,000
- 6 x £2,500
- 5 x £1,000

Projects that have already been supported include: "new books for bright young sparks at a rural school library to new play equipment for a community park."

For more information:

For more information and to apply for a grant visit the web site: **calor.co.uk/communityfund**

HISTORY RECORDER

One hundred years ago some women were waiting to cast their votes. Parliament had granted this right in recognition of their war work, both civilian and in the war zone. Many did not believe it to be their business, however. They were content that the UK remained only partly democratic.
Fighting had ended in November 1918 but a peace treaty was not to be signed until June 1919. As though nobody believed the "war to end all wars" rhetoric, Ernest Rutherford successfully split the atom in January and Sinn Fein proclaimed a republic in Ireland.

Today we have the nuclear power that Rutherford anticipated and nuclear weapons that perhaps he had not imagined. We have also DUP members of Parliament in opposition to the majority of Northern Irish citizens voting against a deal with the EU and of course Sinn Fein still refusing to take the oath of allegiance which would allow them to take their seats in Parliament.

It is no surprise that many people have become disillusioned with politics and politicians. That has been advanced as one reason for the Brexit vote in England and Wales, though not in Scotland or Northern Ireland. If national politics is too complicated for politicians, as has been argued, it is even more so for ordinary citizens. In comparison, the Brexit referendum was straightforward despite the arguments on both sides being suspect.

Local politics is a very different matter, and policies affect us all in ways we can see. Roads need repair, traffic speed needs regulating, bins need to be emptied and children need to have a school they can attend as well as transport to do so.

Most months we have a chance to hear not only our Parish Councillors but also the District and County Councillor for this area. They can tell us directly how decisions in council will affect us. The meeting about school catchment areas was very well attended and people had a chance to state their opinions.
Council elections are another chance to express preferences and (indirectly) opinions. Just after the Great War councillors were more or less self-appointed. That was another example of how undemocratic this country was. It has now changed but it can all too easily revert. To keep local democracy alive we all need to vote, provided the number of candidates gives us the chance. If there is a shortage of candidates democracy is the poorer. Anyone who has a strong opinion on the needs of Coddenham – all parts, not just the more privileged or picturesque – should ensure we have a sufficient field of candidates with a full range of concerns.
One way forward is to persuade a neighbour to stand; another is to stand yourself.

John Pelling

CODDENHAM SUMMER BALL 2019

Due to unforeseen circumstances the date of the ball has had to change, it is now 6 July 2019. If you would like more information about this event, please contact me on *07766 508 016.*

Jan Fawdry

FIREWORKS

If you are planning on having fireworks it would be appreciated if notice could be given to enable people to make arrangement for pets/animals:
Please:

- Email coddenhamvillage@gmail.com for email cascade from this address and adding to the Coddenham Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Coddenham
- Contact the village website for inclusion via http://coddenham.website/contact/4593229285
- Notify Coddenham Food Store

CODDENHAM FOOD STORES - AN OPPORTUNITY

You may have heard that, after nine successful years, Jane and Julia will be ending their lease on Coddenham's much-loved village shop at the end of May.

The shop is very much a thriving and viable business, with a lively passing trade as well as serving residents of Coddenham and surrounding villages. It has a well-stocked grocery, off licence and deli, as well as a popular and busy café area – plus an outreach Post Office. It's very much the hub of the village – and has lots of potential for expansion and growth

The Food Stores has been owned by my family for generations and may even go back to the 17th century. I would very much like to let it to someone who wants to run it as a commercial enterprise. The business is available as a going concern, with NO PURCHASE PRICE involved

If you think you can see an opportunity for taking it on, and would like to discuss it with no obligation, please contact me as soon as possible as below.

Contact Details: Roy Gudgin Tel: 01449 761819

RECREATION GROUND TIDY UP



The safety inspection of children's play equipment in May 2018 indicated that the basket swing in did not have enough clearance between the bottom of the basket and the ground. A small group: namely Donald, Alan and Jill, Andrew Soanes, Christina and Ian rolled up our sleeves to remedy the situation on Friday 8th May this year. It was necessary to dig up the rubber matting beneath the swing, remove the weeds and top soil, in order to then dig down the required distance, remove the soil, level off and replace said matting. This is all now secured with plastic, garden ties ready for this year's inspection in May.

Our thanks to the group of volunteers and to Jane for providing cake and tea at the interval!

ANNAUAL BUDGET 2019-2020

Code	Title	Projected 2019/20 Receipts Budget	Payments Budget	Notes
Parish Finances				
1,000	Precept	-	-	
1,001	Reserve / Sink Fund	1,100.00	-	
1,002	Community Grant	-	-	
1,003	Community Infrastructure Levy	-	-	
1,004	Other Income	-	-	
1,005	Bank Interest	15.00	-	
1,006	WayLeave Fee	2.00	-	
1,007	Donations etc.	-	-	
1,008	Allotments			
		150.00	100.00	
1,100	Professional Fees inc Audit Costs	-	550.00	
1,101	Insurance Polices 50%	-	1,750.00	
1,102	Section 137	-	100.00	
1,103	Bank Charges (Main)	-	40.00	
1,200	Elections Reserve	-	-	
6,000	HMRC			
		1,267.00	**2,540.00**	
Clerks Office				
2,000	Clerks Salary	-	6,371.00	
2,001	Clerks PAYE+NI	-	-	
2,002	Clerks Mileage	-	250.00	
2,003	Clerks Pension	-	550.00	
2,100	Clerks Office / Postage, Telecoms, etc	-	225.00	
2,101	Clerks Office / Subscriptions	-	450.00	
2,102	Clerks Office / Consumables	-	500.00	
2,103	Clerks Office / Software Licences	-	275.00	
2,104	Clerks Office / Training	-	750.00	
2,105	Website Fees and Maintenance	-	100.00	
2106	PC Meetings	-	108.00	
2,200	Newsletter and Advertising	100.00	450.00	
2,300	Data Protection	-	-	
		100.00	**10,029.00**	
Estate Management				
3,000	Grounds Maintenance	-	3,500.00	
3,001	Footpath Assistant	240.00	300.00	
3,002	Churchyard Maintenance Reserve	-	-	
3,003	Playground Equipment Reserve	-	215.00	
3,004	Picnic Area Equipment	-	500.00	
3,005	Equipment Repair Maintenance	-	300.00	
3,006	Waste Management and Recycling	300.00	900.00	
3,007	Street Lighting	-	150.00	
3,008	Tree Surgery	-	1,000.00	
3,009	Info Box	-	25.00	
3,011	Roads Pavements Footpaths	-	100.00	
3,100	BroomHill	-	50.00	
3,101	MillHill	-	50.00	
3,102	Three Cocked Hat	-	50.00	
3,103	Village Sign	-	-	
3,200	Water Courses	-	250.00	
		540.00	**7,390.00**	

Comm and Sports Hall				
4,000	PWLB (inc Grants)	13,152.00	13,152.00	
4,002	Hall Reserves (Replacement)	-	500.00	
4,003	Bank Charges (CaSH)	-	40.00	
4,100	Salaries (CaSH) (inc Clerks 30%)	-	9,000.00	
4,101	PAYE+NI (Hall) (inc Clerks 30%)	-	-	
4,102	Office Consumables (Hall)	-	75.00	
4,103	Software Licences (Hall)	-	275.00	
4,104	Training (Hall)	-	250.00	
4,105	BookAdmin Postage, Telecoms, etc. (Hall)	-	225.00	
4,110	Hall Staff Pensions	-	500.00	
4,200	Telephone and Broadband (Hall)	-	420.00	
4,201	Water Rates	-	750.00	
4,202	Electricity and Lighting	-	1,500.00	
4,203	Oil Fuel	-	2,000.00	
4,204	LPGas	-	50.00	
4,300	Marketing, Publicity, Printing	-	75.00	
4,400	Classes - Dance	1,500.00	-	
4,401	Classes - Mums+Tots	330.00	-	
4,402	Classes - Pilates	100.00	-	
4,404	Classes - Circuit Training	250.00	-	
4,500	Badminton	650.00	-	
4,501	Bowls	70.00	-	
4,502	Football Club	500.00	-	
4,503	Parish Council Meetings	108.00	-	
4,504	Tennis	-	-	
4,505	Youth Club	-	-	
4,600	Events - Weddings	500.00	-	
4,601	Events - Other	1,450.00	-	
4,602	Events - Dances / Balls	260.00	-	
4,603	Events - Parties	1,100.00	-	
4,605	Events - Elections	382.00	-	
4,606	Parish Council / Community Events	-	-	
4,607	Events - Conference/Training	-	-	
4,608	Events - Creative Arts	-	30.00	
4,609	Events - Parish Council (Ex S@S)		-	
4,700	Equipment Hire - Off Site	-	-	
4,701	Kitchen Hire	100.00	-	
4,800	Damages Deposit	-	-	
4,900	Hall Licenses	-	230.00	
5,000	Maintenance, Repairs, Refurbishment	-	1,000.00	
5,001	Fire Protection, H+S (PAT)	-	250.00	
5,002	Cleaning, (inc Windows)	-	500.00	
5,003	Boiler and Water Heater Maintenance	-	400.00	
5,005	Car Park Maintenance	-	300.00	
5,007	Hall Insurance (50%)	-	1,750.00	
		20,452.00	**33,272.00**	
	NET TOTAL	**22,359.00**	**53,231.00**	**30,872.00**
				29,342.00
				£1,530.00
				5.21%

Vacancy



Our thanks to James Chapman who has decided to retire from his role looking after the Village Info Box, after putting in much hard work.

We are now looking for a volunteer. The post would particularly suit a young person looking to offer a few hours useful service to the community and in addition add some positive comments to their curriculum vitae.

Anyone interested should contact the Clerk at:
parishclerk.coddenham@gmail.com

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The Gallery Kitchen

COFFEE WITH
TOFFEE THE PONY
PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

Parents with babies and toddlers are invited to join us at The Gallery Kitchen at Newton Hall for a morning of Coffee, Tea, Cake and Ponies!
Cosy indoor cafe with plenty of toys and entertainment

£5 per ride - *non riders welcome!*
Tuesdays - 11am

TOFFEE LOOKS FORWARD
TO WELCOMING YOU!

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www.eastofengland.coop/funerals

We are grateful to the sponsors who help to offset the costs of publishing this newsletter:

ENQUIRIES REGARDING THIS AND FUTURE NEWSLETTERS should be made to the clerk to the Parish at:
parishclerk.coddenham@gmail.com