

# GLEMSFORD GOSSIP

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## STREET LIGHT FIASCO

We have had something of a nightmare few months with our street lights. Due to new health and safety legislation, the electricity company will not repair a number of lights in the village due to overhanging trees or overhead power cables.

It has taken us many months to persuade the company to provide us with a list of these lights and an estimated cost to rectify the problems, although in some cases there is no remedy as the lights can not be moved to any other location. The estimated cost for all of the work is in the region of £23,000 which of course we can not afford to pay in one go, as it would mean that your Council Tax bills would increase by a ridiculous amount.

To this end, we will be asking both EDF and Alfred McAlpine to undertake the work light by light, as and when we can afford it. The first two lights that we hope to get repaired are Nos. 15 and 17, which are outside Hunts Hill House and the Church Hall. We would imagine that this work will take some months and would ask residents to bear with us whilst we work with the electricity companies (who are notoriously slow) to bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion. There is not going to be an instant fix and it will be a slow process, but we would ask for some understanding while the lights are repaired.

We do have concerns about new poles being sited in conservation areas, and until we have had approval from various sources, no work will begin.

## SPORTS CLUB

The Sports Club has been a fantastic success and it is due to the hard work of our coaches that the children all seem to enjoy it so much. The club runs on a Thursday evening from the village hall and anyone is welcome to come along and see if they like it. We do samba soccer from 5-6pm and a variety of other sports from 6-7pm. Admission is £1.50 for 1 hour or £2.00 for two hours and all children from 6 years upwards are welcome.

The coaches who run the sports club: Jack Turner, Andy Hatley, Scott Lawrence and Ben Bolton were all recently nominated for a community achievement award for their hard work at the club. We are delighted to announce that they have been successful and will be collecting their awards at a ceremony in March. We think it's a fantastic achievement for the lads, the youngest of whom is just 17, the oldest 25, and would like to thank them once again for the hard work they put in with the children week after week. WELL DONE!

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## RECYCLING

The glass bin continues to be well used in the village hall car park. We are hoping that a textile bank will soon be in situ, but we have been promised this for months and nothing has materialised yet (no pun intended!)

If you spot that the bin is full, please give the clerk a ring on 01787 282740 so that she is aware as soon as possible. It normally takes three to five days after reporting the bin to get it emptied. Thank you!

## CEMETERY

Just a reminder that the brown bin at the cemetery is to be used for all floral wreaths and these are not to be placed on the heap to the left of the mortuary stores. We are placing signage at the cemetery in the near future and would ask that visitors respect the instructions and put their wreaths in the proper places when they are disposing of them.

## STREET CLEANING

Our two street cleaners do a fantastic job, but they are only employed to clean the main streets and the village hall/recreation ground area. We appreciate that other areas are occasionally untidy, so if you spot any dirty footpaths or roads, please get in touch with the Clerk and she will arrange for the offending areas to be cleaned.

## NEW CONTACT DETAILS

We have some new email addresses. For all normal enquires, please send an email to [council@glemsfordpc.co.uk](mailto:council@glemsfordpc.co.uk). For enquiries relating to the village hall please email [villagehall@glemsfordpc.co.uk](mailto:villagehall@glemsfordpc.co.uk) and for sports club queries, please email [sportsclub@glemsfordpc.co.uk](mailto:sportsclub@glemsfordpc.co.uk).

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## VILLAGE HALL

We are holding a meeting for the village hall working party at the end of the month to discuss the proposed extension.

We have recently had a large cupboard built in the hall which is now housing all the sports equipment, and we hope to have another built within the next few months. We have also purchased new chairs and tables and all users agree that the hall is looking much more welcoming!

Village Hall fees will be increasing from April 2008. The new charges will be £8 per hour during the week and £11 per hour at weekends. This will affect regular hirers as well as occasional users.

Jamie Ditton is running the London Marathon this year and he wants you to sponsor him as all his proceeds will be put toward the village hall extension. Please call the Clerk for a sponsorship form.

## DOG BINS

If you are a responsible dog owner, you will know the importance of dog bins in the village and on the footpaths. We are constantly striving to provide bins in sites where they are needed so if you know of any places, please let us know.

Just a reminder: if you are caught letting your dog foul the village, you can be liable for a substantial fine, so PLEASE use the bins for the purpose they are intended!

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