

## **Nicola Baker writes**

### **DEDHAM SPORTS CLUB**

The Parish Council has now received planning permission for improvements to the sports club building on the Drift by the Duchy Fields. The council is working with the Sports and Football Clubs to improve facilities and access for the disabled. The next stage is to secure the remainder of the funding.

### **RUBBISH COLLECTIONS**

Some problems that arose after Colchester Council's changes to waste and recycling collections in June appear to have been resolved. Anyone who still experience problems with collections should contact *Nigel Chapman*, the borough councillor for the Rural North ward on **(272 908** or email \*[cllr.nigel.chapman@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.nigel.chapman@colchester.gov.uk) Missed collections can be reported online or by phone to Colchester Council.

### **CAR PARKING IN THE VILLAGE**

The Parish Council is aware of the frustrations resulting from insufficient parking in the village. The August Bank Holiday was particularly busy with many cars parked on the Suffolk side of the Mill Lane bridge. Unfortunately we have no influence over parking enforcement in this area. However, discussions continue with various agencies and individuals in an attempt to find additional car parking in the village.

### **DEDHAM LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

The Parish Council has completed a new 20 year lease with the Tennis Club which runs its club on land owned by the council.

### **OVERGROWN FOOTPATHS**

The Council is aware of continuing concerns about the infrequent footpaths maintenance. We are continuing to talk to Essex County Council and Colchester Borough Council to see if we can secure any improvements A plan for volunteers to take over some of the maintenance has had to be abandoned because of difficulties in arranging the necessary training with Essex County Council.

### **NEW PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE**

We have agreed to proceed with establishing a parish office and tourist information point in the Art and Craft Centre. This will provide a focus for residents who would like to talk to a parish council representative and also somewhere for our many visitors to get information about the village and surrounding area.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** Monday 2

October, 7.30pm, the Duchy Barn.