

STOUR VALLEY ACTION GROUP NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2007

Dear SVAG members and friends,

Current situation:

In our February Newsletter I predicted that Buntings would re-submit their Planning Application before the end of March. I was wrong and it now appears that they will be holding a series of 'consultation' events in May and June with the submission of their Application sometime after these.

Our view is that this so-called 'consultation' is to make their Application look good for the Council, but it is hard to believe that they will make any significant changes as a result. You may wish to go to these meetings which are to be held in the Town Hall in Colchester on May 10th and 12th, Great Horkesley Village Hall on May 11th and are open from 10.00am to 8.00pm on the 10th and 11th and 5.00pm on the 12th. There will be further opportunities to see the plans at the Chantry the following week from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Please do not be taken in by the Bunting 'spin'; look underneath for the retail, traffic, noise, urbanisation of countryside issues etc that are so abhorrent and make your feelings known to them and their experts.

You may have seen that we have published Press Releases about the current Bunting campaign and articles have been published in the East Anglian and Suffolk Free Press amongst others. These and all our other publications appear on our new website www.stourvalleyactiongroup.org.uk.

Rosenthal Lecture:

In association with the Nayland and Wiston Conservation Society, we are holding a lecture in Nayland Village Hall on Thursday, May 17th at 7.30pm entitled:

"Who owns Constable's Country"

A look at Constable Country, then and now: the changing demands we have placed on the landscapes Constable painted, which are so firmly inscribed on our collective memory.

Professor Rosenthal is professor of Art History at Warwick University and is one of the leading authorities on John Constable and Thomas Gainsborough. He grew up in Great Horkesley and, like Constable, spent 'a careless boyhood' on the banks of the Stour, mainly fishing at Wiston. He was made aware of our plight by one of the television programmes last time around and is very concerned that the valley of John Constable should not be exploited. Tickets at £6.50 each are available from Kate Charlton-Jones on 01206 271259 or the Village Stores, Bear Street, Nayland or at the door. A bar will be available.

Please come and bring your friends. It will be a great evening and raise money for SVAG and Nayland. After six years of existence, this will be our first fund – raising event.

If you are unable to come to this event but would still like to make a donation to our fighting fund then please send a cheque made out to The Stour Valley Action Group to the Treasurer at PO Box 6587, Great Horkeley CO6 4TN.

Constable Trust Lecture:

We would also like to bring to your attention a lecture being organised by The Constable Trust called:

“Fame is the Spur”

Constable, the ‘six footers’ and the long struggle for recognition

To be given by Anne Lyles, art historian and world authority on John Constable.

The lecture is being held at the Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt on Thursday April 26th at 6.30 for 7.00pm. Tickets cost £15.00 (including wine and canapés) and are available from Penelope Hughes-Stanton on 01206 392717. We are sure it will be a most enjoyable and interesting evening.

e-mail

We are trying to build up our e-mail data base for speed and cost of communication. Please send your e-mail to info@stourvalleyactiongroup.org.uk and we will add you to our list.

Widen the message:

Please let your friends and acquaintances see this letter and encourage them to join us. This letter and all our information and how to join is on our web site at www.stourvalleyactiongroup.org.uk.

Best wishes,
Will Pavry
Chairman