

# Sixth form proposals on show to public

More than 100 Holt residents visited Gresham's School on July 4 to view the latest proposals for the new Sixth Form Centre and for three surplus plots of land off Grove Lane with related highway improvements.

Also on show were revised schemes for car parking near the centre of the town. The new proposals took into account responses from the first consultation in January.

The exhibition displayed updated plans for the school's new Sixth Form Centre with adjoining pupil and teaching accommodation into the north of the Auden Theatre.

The initial consultation in January received more than 120 completed response forms, which included comments about highway issues on Grove Lane, and concern about car parking accessed off Station Road and Pearson's Road. Strong views were expressed that more car parking should be provided around the

new parish hall near the church.

Highway issues on Grove Lane have been addressed in discussions with Norfolk County Council with concepts to reduce "rat running" and speeding.

A new footpath would be created along Grove Lane with the road widened slightly. "Build outs" have also been proposed to calm traffic in either direction.

Endurance Estates and their engineers held meetings with residents of Ainsworth Court in Grove Lane to discuss further highways options. An emerging proposal, welcomed by residents, is to create a layby for doctor/emergency use.

Outline proposals for a small supermarket on the landmark Old School House site in Holt received little support from residents in January so were withdrawn. New proposals, likely to comprise residential or retirement accommodation or a hotel, will be developed during the summer.

Endurance Estates director Tim Holmes said: "We were conscious that most of the

objections to the original H15 proposals were about traffic on Grove Lane. We hope that by responding to residents' views in January and at our recent consultation our revised proposals will be acceptable."

Gresham's Headmaster Philip John said: "The school is in an increasing competitive market; we see the Sixth Form Centre as a key part of future growth.

"We were pleased to hear a significant number of positive comments about the proposed location of an iconic building at the heart of the school campus and we are keen to hear local residents' views on this location and the way this and other buildings can benefit the town. We intend to make the new facility available for summer schools and conferences which would inevitably bring trade to Holt."

The proposals are the first phase of a 10-year plan being developed by Gresham's School.

Further comments can be made at [www.holt@endurance-estates.co.uk](mailto:www.holt@endurance-estates.co.uk).

## Boys in the saddle to help

Two students from Gresham's in Holt hopped on their bikes on July 1 to cycle approximately 400 miles from Holt to Newquay in aid of the school's charity of the year.

Max Hunter and Nathan Lomax, were raising money for The Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House. They are no strangers to charity work having slept in an igloo overnight last winter where they raised £1,000 for the hospice.

Max said: "This is our last year at the school and we wanted to go out with a bang and set ourselves a big challenge while raising lots of money."

The hospice (see story right) provides skilled and compassionate care to people with cancer, neurological and other life-limiting conditions. The school has been undertaking a



range of fundraising events to help meet its annual target of £15,000 which will go towards the provision of kitting out a room for a young person in the hospice's care in Hillington.

The boys who are determined to help the school achieve its target will set off at 6am on July 1 and they estimated the journey would take about five

days. Nathan said: "This was particularly special to us, as it will also be an opportunity to remember pupils from Gresham's who were evacuated from the school during the Second World War to Newquay."

Max said during the journey: "Two days down, four to go, but my knees and ankles are very sore."

## Volunteers needed for local hospice

Tapping House hospice is looking for volunteers to help support its work with local families.

Although based King's Lynn way, the hospice works with families in the Cromer, Sheringham and Holt areas caring for patients and supporting families.

One of its many strengths is that it is supported by people who live in the area, with more than 308 active volunteers with varied roles.

These include fundraising, helping in charity shops (including the one in Holt), driving and escorting patients, gardening, reception and administrative tasks in the hospice and, in particular, helping families.

It is in this last area that the hospice is looking for more volunteers and help with the following roles:

- Bereavement support
- Chaplaincy support
- Drivers and escorts
- Home befriending service
- Support for families and carers

The roles all involve support for terminally ill patients, their families and carers and this support may be practical, emotional or spiritual. It may include sitting with them, listening to them or helping in practical ways in their homes and gardens. Companionship is as important as clinical support.

Comprehensive training and on-going support will be provided.

For an informal discussion call 01485 543163. For further details go to [www.norfolkhospice.org.uk](http://www.norfolkhospice.org.uk) or by email [volunteers@norfolkhospice.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@norfolkhospice.org.uk).