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THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH
NEWSLETTER



Spring 2021

PARISH NEWS

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Welcome to the Tharston and Hapton Newsletter

Welcome to the Spring edition of your newsletter.

This month's newsletter being written with Covid still a factor in how the Parish Works but it is pleasing to have returned to face-to-face meetings now. These meetings will take place at The room at Hapton school as before but with relevant social distancing in place and numbers are restricted due to this at present.

The Hapton Community project is moving forward and it is hoped by the time this newsletter comes the field will be ploughed and the grass seed laid. Once this is completed, we can start looking at purchasing the play equipment along with planning the layout of the field. This will be done with parishioner's comments taken in as well. All events are welcome to be held on the new area and please contact The Clerk to register your interests in holding an event in the future.

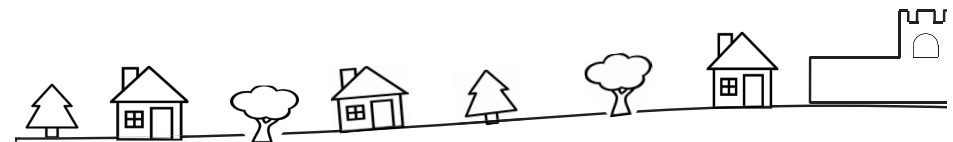
As Parish Clerk it is quite difficult with the new restrictions to get around the Parish as I would usually do. I must thank everyone that brings any issues that occur in the parish to my attention. I would prefer you use the parish email address rather than the website contact form as I see these quicker than the website forms. The email address is tharstonandhapton@gmail.com

The Parish Council were saddened to learn of the passing of Anthony Thwaite. Mr Thwaite was a Trustee of the Tharston Pools Allotments Charity and also served on The Parish Council who sadly died on 21st April 2021 and everyone at Tharston and Hapton Parish Council send their condolences to the Thwaite family at this sad time.

Finally, in this newsletter you will see details of any Tharston St Marys church events and also details of a mobile shop that currently only tours Flordon and Hapton but phone contact details are there for all parishioners to call and hopefully we can arrange for a vital stop in Tharston too

tharstonandhapton@gmail.com

The Parish Council



THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH MEETINGS CALENDAR

ALL MEETINGS TAKE PLACE AT THE SCHOOL ROOMS THE STREET HAPTON

MEETINGS START AT 7.30 PM PROMPT

Day	Date	Month	Year
Weds	14th	April	2021
			Annual Parish Meeting
Weds	12th	May	2021
Weds	16th	June	2021
Weds	14th	July	2021
Weds	15th	September	2021
Weds	13th	October	2021
Weds	17th	November	2021
Weds	8th	December	2021
Weds	19th	January	2022
Weds	9th	February	2022
Weds	16th	March	2022

If you wish to be added to the Agendas/Minutes distribution list please contact the clerk on tharstonandhapton@gmail.com

Parish Website

<http://tharstonandhapton.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

Barry Duffin District Councillor Report 2020-2021

The mark of a Council is not what it does when times are good and the sun is shining. The mark of a Council is how it responds to unexpected events and how it steps up when the chips are down.

When Covid arrived in March 2020 the District Council were best prepared to provide, the help and support that tens of thousands of residents and businesses desperately needed.

Over £80 million has been expended locally in the last 12 months to help the most vulnerable with hardship and isolation payments, council tax support and other help for the homeless and destitute, together with targeted grants to businesses to protect livelihoods and save jobs.

That's in addition to the national Governments furlough schemes, business rate rebates and increase in Universal Credit.

It isn't just the work South Norfolk has done with central Government that's made a difference. Our Help Hub staff have extended working hours and operated 7 days a week working with local community groups and Parish Councils to ensure every fridge has been filled whilst we have collected every bin. Many residents who would not normally reach out to their Council have been helped in one way or another.

We were delighted to recognise the tireless work of volunteers who helped with food shopping, collecting prescriptions, and assisting at vaccination centres.

Turning to the economy, over £1m per week has been channelled to businesses in direct grants during lockdown to help them survive until they can start fully trading again. This money has been a lifeline for employers including shops, pubs and other businesses who have been forced to close. I am proud of a dedicated staff that dropped everything to distribute funds quickly and without delay with the fastest and most generous schemes in Norfolk.

Whilst our leisure centres have been closed, a quarter of our staff have been redeployed to coordinate vaccinations, street marshalling and test and trace.

In addition, 25 staff also volunteered to work on our hospital wards and supporting the NHS in other ways when the pressure was greatest.

You may not have seen any of this work as you and your family members have been forced to stay at home. But be assured that your Council staff have never worked as hard or as flexibly to keep essential services going in the most difficult of circumstances to keep you safe and secure and nurture an economy that can bounce back when lockdown is finally over.

Some of our greatest challenges are ahead but be assured that everyone associated with our Council will keep our promise to create better lives and a stronger economy to benefit every resident and business in our district.

Barry Duffin District Councillor

Barry Duffin District Councillor Forncett Ward
South Norfolk Council

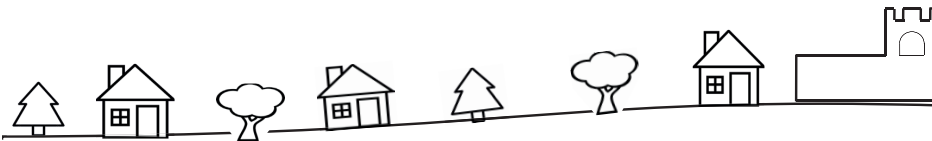
Tharston St Mary's Church

CHURCH SERVICES

Church Services at Tharston have now resumed and from June they will be held on the 2nd Sunday of each month starting at 11.00. The services will alternate between Morning Prayer and Holy Communion commencing with a Morning Prayer service on June 13th. The lessons are being read by children from the Village and we would warmly extend an invite to all Families to attend these services. If you would like your child to read a lesson, please contact Chris Lawson (01508 530055).

CHURCH FETE

The Fete is our major source of income and being unable to hold it in 2020 was a serious blow to the Church Finances. We are intending to hold the Fete in 2021, once again at Wheeler Barn, by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Massey and a date has been set for September 11th, which you might like to enter into your diary. Once everything has been confirmed and finalised, we will be circulating the Village with the full Fete details.



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Hapton Community Project

The Community Field is in the process of being seeded and hopefully we will see the grass take quickly.

Thanks to all parishioners that filled in the questionnaire from the last newsletter and the findings have been passed onto the contractors for their quotes to be altered to reflect parishioner's answers on the forms of what equipment they would like to see.

At our recent meeting, the councillors were discussing a name for the field and agreed that it would be named from these three options.

1. Huggle Field
2. Hapton Meadow
3. Barn Owl Field

We would value your comments on which name you would prefer. This can be done by tearing off the bottom strip and again putting it in the phone box or emailing the clerk on tharstonandhapton@gmail.com with your preferred option.

The Parish Clerk has also submitted a grant application with Norfolk Community Foundation utilising the Local co-op fund for local projects to add extra monies to the pot but a decision will not be known till mid-July. Let us all keep our fingers crossed it is successful. Finally, if you have any comments or ideas for the project, please email the clerk in the first instance.

I think the best name for the community project is as follows

HUGGLE FIELD.....

HAPTON COMMUNITY FIELD.....



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Diss, Harleston & Long Stratton

April 2020



Message from T/Inspector Symonds

Local Policing Commander for Diss, Harleston and Long Stratton

As Inspector for the Diss, Harleston & Long Stratton districts I recognise that these are very different times since our last Newsletter, and the recent Government announcement of a further extension to the current restrictions may be a worry to some in our communities. But I would like to reassure you that we are all in this together; I and my colleagues extend our sincere thanks to you all for your assistance by way of complying with the restrictions to #StayHomeSaveLives and #ProtectTheNHS. I would also like to express my thanks to all of the local businesses and residents for their support over the last few weeks. It is heart-warming to see such a positive community spirit and the support is very much appreciated by us all. I would like to assure you all officers here are still working, we are still policing; continuing with business as usual with patrols, investigative enquiries, crime prevention and providing advice in the face of the current pandemic.

On behalf of myself and officers THANK YOU for your help and assistance, and stay safe.

What is Happening In Your Area

We just wanted to send you all a message from the Safer Neighbourhood Team during these challenging times we find ourselves in. Although we are finding different ways of working and engaging, we want to let you know that your Beat Managers are still here for your communities; dealing with local priorities and concerns. We have been conducting foot, cycle and vehicle patrols getting to as many places as possible, hopefully some of you will have seen us and given us a wave. We are really keen to continue to hear from our communities about issues and concerns you have and as always we are reliant on you being vigilant and reporting incidents and information to us. This can be done through the normal routes, for instance if it's a crime in progress or threat to life always call 999; otherwise call 101, or use the online reporting forms at our website www.norfolk.police.uk or you can contact your local Beat Managers via email at SNTHarleston@norfolk.pnn.police.uk, NTDiss@norfolk.pnn.police.uk or SNLongStratton@norfolk.pnn.police.uk.

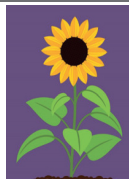
When we are able, we will be holding our usual Local Public meetings and Engagement Surgeries where we will provide you with a detailed update on local priorities. In the meantime, we can advise there have been a number of positive arrests due to proactive policing to combat criminality, despite the change in demand. We have identified a number of people still committing crime and have arrested people on suspicion of drug dealing; burglary and a series of Anti Social Behaviour related incidents; notwithstanding identifying suspects for a rural arson.

Remember you can follow some of our activities on Twitter @SouthNorfPolice and Facebook- South Norfolk Police - you don't need to be signed up or registered to view these, although if you are signed up you can leave comments for us.

Message from your Engagement Officer, PC Andy Hudson



Working together with the East of England Ambulance Service, Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service and other public services, Norfolk Police are encouraging communities to display sunflowers in their windows. These can be drawn, painted, knitted, or created in any other way. Homes which are seen displaying their sunflower display by officers, or members of the other blue light services, whilst on shift/patrol will receive sunflower seeds through the door which can be planted. Homeowners can then watch it grow over the coming weeks and months – with a beautiful sunflower to look forward to at the end.



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COMMUNITY UPDATE COVID-19



This week has seen the most significant easing of restrictions since the third national lockdown was introduced in January and we know these last few months have been extremely challenging for everyone, regardless of your circumstances.

The move to Step 2 of the government's roadmap out of lockdown will have come as a huge relief to many, with non-essential shops, hairdressers and gyms among those allowed to open their doors once again. It's also seen the reopening of pub, bar and restaurant gardens

Naturally, people will want to enjoy these greater freedoms, taking advantage of the chance to meet with family and friends at venues outside. We want people to enjoy themselves but to do so safely and responsibly. We know from experience of policing the night time economy that things don't always turn out that way. With restrictions having been in place for so long, there is always a bit of a concern that people can overdo it, especially when there's alcohol involved. So please go out, enjoy seeing your friends and family but be sensible and stay safe.

I also think it's important we remember there will be people, particularly those from vulnerable groups, who are nervous and remain cautious about socialising. While the continued roll-out of the vaccination programme is a really positive step, the virus is still with us and a large proportion of the population is yet to be vaccinated. Even then, vaccination does not fully protect you from the virus. This is why it is still important people continue to follow social distancing guidelines.

Recognising that areas will be busier this weekend than they have been for some time, we have additional resources in place and have worked with partners, making sure venues are aware of their licensing obligations and Covid-19 guidelines.

Tomorrow is potentially a big day for Norwich City in their Premier League promotion bid. Whatever the result, please keep your celebrations within the regulations and avoid gathering in groups of more than six people. Remember - larger gatherings are still prohibited under the Health Protection Regulations.

Our journey on the roadmap out of lockdown has been overwhelmingly positive with most people embracing the gradual return of freedoms sensibly. I am sure we can expect nothing less this weekend and thank you as ever for your continued support to drive out this infection. Let's continue to protect ourselves and to protect Norfolk.

Assistant Chief Constable Julie Wwendth



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Borderhoppa are pleased to say that we are continuing to help people to reach the vaccination centres for people who have an appointment but do not have a family member or friend who is able to transport them to their appointment.

We are also still providing our door to door dial-a-ride service for essential journeys in our area whilst maintaining social distancing on our buses. Passengers will need to continue to wear face masks when travelling.

It has been a long time since our members have been able to enjoy the weekly outings with us, but we are happy to announce that we are hoping to start these again in July 2021, fingers crossed! If you would like to receive a copy of our outings leaflet please contact the office and we'll post one to you as soon as it is finalised.

For all enquiries please call our office 01379 854800 or email adminborderhoppa@btconnect.com and we'll do our best to help.

Norfolk Flooding Alliance

Meeting Report

Please see below the details of the recent Flooding Alliance Meeting and what was discussed and agreed in principle.

Leaflet and One Emergency Number

- It has been agreed that these will be signed off at the next meeting at the end of May – which is good news.
- NCC has committed to producing the leaflets and having them delivered to every household in Norfolk. There will probably be two: a short one to be pinned up next to the phone or 'pinned' to the fridge with a magnet – one will be a longer 'reference' type leaflet.

Emergency Plans

- Help will be forthcoming to formulate and update plans – a lot from the Fire Brigade and us

Webinars

- More are being organised and Lord Dannatt will speak at them

Progress

- Overall, the short-, medium- and long-term plans are emerging with the core being firmed up daily. Not surprisingly there are lots of loose ends to tie up because it is a hugely complex issue developing a plan which has to last many, many years. There were 51 people invited to the meeting representing probably 30 plus relevant organisations which gives you the idea of the complexity.

Key issues still to be properly addressed

- Planning: at the moment it is the hands of seven (City, District and Borough) planning authorities plus a little by the county, all of which are a tad constrained by national guidance & legislation which will take a lot longer to change.
- Enforcement of statutory duties. The current consensus is that as much as possible should be achieved by persuasion rather than enforcement.

Drought

- There was some discussion as to whether the alliance should also look at ameliorating the effects of drought but because it is a key part of what WRE has to consider, it was left on the table for the moment.

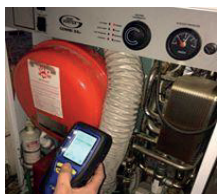
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