

Village contacts.....

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District Councillors:

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Mary Green 0791171554 Cllr_Mary_Green@n-kesteven.gov.uk

County Councillor Marianne Overton 01400 273323 CllrM.Overton@lincolnshire.gov.uk

All Saints' Church - Rev Christine Goldsmith 01400 679081

Roadworks www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/overnight-roadworks road-
works@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Report Potholes 01522 782070 <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/potholes> Or use "Fix my
street" - <http://www.FixMyStreet.com>

Report Litter 01529 414155 customer_services@n-kesteven.gov.uk



Lincolnshire County Council LCC
North Kesteven District Council NKDC

March News and Greetings from
Marianne Overton MBE

Nominate your hero

The awards would not be possible without the support of
the community-focused businesses who are on board
again this year and who are just as keen as NKDC to
ensure the huge amount of community-centred
endeavours which goes on within the District are
celebrated, applauded and awarded.

You can nominate anyone living, working and carrying out
their voluntary community work within North Kesteven
within the two categories of www.lincolnshire.gov.uk



Flooded fields of Lincolnshire

NK Plan and Budget

I was pleased to support the business plan and budget at
NKDC this year, crafted from an extensive and inclusive
process to support local people, places and our
environment. Passed unanimously by Council for the first
time in years!

Especially pleased to see funds ear-marked for investment

Don't forget that
Marianne Overton's
very informative
monthly Newsletter can
always be seen on the
website under Latest
News

The Beckingham & Sutton Bugle

June 2020



Beckingham and Sutton Village News and Information

*"After much discussion the Village Fete Committee has recommended
to the Parish Council that, in view of an uncertain future of self dis-
tancing and shielding, the Fete be postponed until 2021. We would
look to time an event then to coincide with the postponed Olympics.*

*It is with regret that we make this recommendation. However, the
plans we have already made will easily placed on hold. "*

Page 2..... Playing Field News

Page 3.....Sheep and things

Page 4.....Nobody told me there'd be days like this.....

Page 5.....VE Day

Page 6.....Zoom and Parish Council meetings

Beckingham Village response to Covid-19

Page 7.....Social Club news

Page 8.....Village contact information

**The Parish Council receives a monthly newsletter from the local Police in place of attendance at
Parish Council meetings and a copy of the latest can be found on the website and on the Village Hall
noticeboard.*

For more village news and to stay up to date with the latest Parish Council business visit
the Village website at:
beckinghamvillage.co.uk

PLAYING FIELD NEWS

The Parish Council has been working towards some alterations to the Playing Field on Sutton Road. The most visible has been the planting of nearly 2000 saplings of many species of native British trees and shrubs. These were provided by the Woodland Trust, a Charity conveniently based in Grantham and the PC paid for the planting by approved contractors. Up to now in spite of the dry weather they seem to be growing and thriving. The plastic tubes were recommended by the Trust as they protect the saplings from being eaten especially by deer. After a couple of years they are usually able to be removed. A start has been made in a small way to underplant some areas with flowers appropriate to a woodland. This it is hoped will be improved upon with some specialist help at a seasonally more beneficial time and that some residents might want to volunteer to help with planting.



More visible from the aerial photograph can be seen the walkway that has been created round part of the Field. At just over 1 km in length it provides a walkway through what in time will be a woodland. A walk that will be accessible to people for measured exercise or just to walk the dog. In this respect we are trying to make the field accessible to the whole community, so that we can all benefit from the area.

A hedgerow, again courtesy of the Woodland Trust is to be planted to delineate the Play Area from the rest of the field. The Field entrance nearest to the Village is to be altered from its current "no way in" mode (blocked off as an entrance after 2 unauthorised and expensive caravan rallies) to a safe pedestrian entrance with perhaps another litter bin placed nearby for the use of litter and bagged dog waste. Of course the No Dogs signs will need to be modified.

We are also looking at what can be done economically to improve the Play equipment.

These are the thoughts that are currently being considered by the PC, if anyone has other suggestions or ideas by all means please let us know.



Social Club News –June 2020

In line with Government regulations the Social Club closed the bar on 20th March, as did the village hall for public use. In the circumstances it was agreed that no further rent would be payable to the Village Hall Management Committee until re-opening and the Sky TV subscription has also been suspended, so that apart from the annual licence fee there has been virtually no expenditure incurred during closure. Most of the stock of drinks has good 'best before dates' and it has only been necessary to dispose of a very small amount.

However that does not mean that the Club has been inactive. The club's email, WhatsApp group and Facebook page have provided invaluable methods of communication during the lockdown. As well as encouraging residents to celebrate V.E. Day in an appropriate manner, it enabled members to share shopping trips, identify places to buy difficult to find items as well as providing some light hearted fun with topical jokes and videos. There have also been several on line competitions including the best poem, spotting the names of 34 teddy bears, the funniest jokes and recognising members from childhood photos. There were also special V.E day quizzes for children and adults. These have been well supported and hopefully provided some entertainment for members during the Lockdown.

Stock donation to food bank: We have been monitoring the dates on snacks and drinks that form part of the current stock and as they approach "use by" have been donating them to food banks in local stores so that they are not wasted. The value of these donations is in excess of £150 to date.

50-50 Weekly draw: This has been run on line as a virtual "open the box" with the winning numbers being randomly selected by a software programme and half the proceeds going to the Lincolnshire Air Ambulance our chosen charity for the current financial year. Since "lockdown" we have raised over £150 for this charity.

Re-opening: As soon as we have some clarity from Government on when and how clubs can re-open, the Management Committee will meet to consider future plans. It is hoped that we will be able to offer a full programme of events with a special re-opening celebration evening. This will depend on guidance on social distancing, which given the constraints of the village hall, could present a problem.



Parish Council Meetings

Because of the current Corona virus situation and the need for social distancing, at present Parish Council meetings are held by videoconferencing.

However they are public meetings and therefore any member of the public can "attend".

In addition the meetings still follow the normal practice of providing the first fifteen minutes of the meeting as Public Time. All the agendas and minutes are to be found on the website and the agenda will give details of how members of the public can access the meeting.

At the time of publication of this Bugle the next Parish Council will be held on the 29th July at 7.00 pm through Zoom. See you there!!

Beckingham Village Response to the COVID- 19 Virus pandemic

When the Government imposed restrictions to reduce the risks of catching COVID 19 through "lockdown", the Parish Council agreed that it should take some action to provide support for those who needed it. It was decided to appoint Phil Wells as the person to co-ordinate the Parish Council's response to the emergency situation. A first step was to circulate a leaflet via email and delivery to all households in the village setting out the basis of the service that was being offered. In essence it acts as a post box receiving requests for help and pointing people in the right direction for the service that they need. It also asked for volunteers for those who were willing and able to help with shopping, collection of, medicines etc. The response was encouraging and produced a list of volunteers..

The Beckingham COVID-19 Volunteer Group was then registered with the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum, North Kesteven District Council and other support agencies. This meant that all the latest information and access to other specialist support services was available to the village

So far the need within the village has been minimal and use of email and WhatsApp has helped with sharing shopping trips and providing support for those who needed it. It has reinforced the value of good communications within the village and the community spirit which already existed has been strengthened through this negative experience.

The Parish Council expresses its deep felt thanks to all those who have been so active in helping their friends and neighbours, and hopes you will continue to do so. If you need support during these difficult times please contact Phil Wells on 07930 990 950 or email: pandj.wells@btinternet.com in the first instance

SHEEP AND THINGS

Running parallel to School Lane lies a 2 acre parcel of land known as the Poor Field or Poor Gardens, that abuts onto Sleaford Road. In a will dated the 31st of March 1691, one Randolph Pattinson left "the income from the land to the poor of Beckingham and Sutton." A portion of the north end of the field was lost when in 1972 the bypass was built. The land is managed by one of the three charities based in the village.

Those of you who have recently walked along Sleaford Road will have noticed new activity in the Poor Gardens field. Ken and Glenis from the Corner Bungalow, have taken on the lease and are slowly developing their dream to create a small holding. The hard work had started with Ken driving in wooden stakes to make a secure boundary fence about half a kilometre long to provide for two secure sheep enclosures. This has been supplemented by the erection of 2 gazebos to provide shelter from the sun and rain as well as a more substantial wooden sheep shelter for protection from the wind and colder weather. These features provide a home to the first two resident sheep, called V and E, so named as they arrived on VE Day. They were joined shortly afterwards by 4 more, all 6 being Shetlands.

At the far end of the field, a chicken coup has been erected and is now home to 4 chickens as well as 2 geese. An owl box is being erected to see if it will tempt another resident to join the growing flock.

There has been a lot of work done and it is great to see the field being put to use in this way and the Trustees wish them every success.

The Poor Gardens are managed by a group of Trustees to fulfil the wishes of Randolph Pattinson, as Trustees, we aim to support individuals and groups by using the funds raised from the Poor Gardens, therefore the current lease agreement will continue to allow donations to be made to local people. The Trustees are always willing to hear from persons or groups who may be in need of support therefore please get in touch as all cases and any possible donations are treated with the strictest of confidence.

Nick Ashworth - 01636 626012





DAYS

"Nobody told me there'd be days like this, strange days indeed Mama", so sang John Lennon and he was right, no one was told that days like this were coming.

There is nothing new that can be written about the current situation, but on reflection it is comforting to look back since the start of lockdown on how the Village has reacted to it all. It can only be described as positively. Right from the very start, a letter drop to every house with an offer of help on receipt of a phone call, then on orders from higher authority the formation of a Committee to co-ordinate if necessary with the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum to represent the needs of the Village at District and County levels. Offers of help, help to do shopping, do prescription runs, help with some of the basic things that we normally take for granted, a lot of these offers coming from really unexpected sources, all of them very welcome for those in need of support. Spiritual support is also to the fore and to help us deal with the frustrations and tribulations of lockdown. The Social Club is there to provide support of a lighter but as just an essential kind. To date the Parish Council is not aware of anyone who has suffered untowardly throughout the period.

The spirit of togetherness and community was demonstrated for all to see on VE day. A day that 75 years ago people were able to celebrate freedom from the effects of a war and this year an excuse to celebrate in a different way the fact that we appear to be winning another war. The 1945 spirit was evident with bunting, and other tributes to the anniversary, people with full, half full and empty glasses in hand enjoying afternoon tea in the street, all obeying the current rules on behaviour.

When it is all over and we are back to as normal as we can be, we can all look back and proudly say, we did our bit.

The Annual Audit - it's your Money!!

Every year each one of the 10000 plus Councils (Parish, Town and County) have to report to both an external auditor and their constituents how they have spent their money in the previous 12 months.

The key feature is that the whole process should be transparent so that parishioners can have a clear understanding of their Councillors' activities. You can find the documents for Beckingham Parish Council on its website now.



All contributions for the next Beckingham Bugle welcome
News....Adverts....Articles.....Jokes.....Announcements
The deadline for the next June 2020 issue is August 13th 2020
Email all your news items and events to clerkpc@beckinghamvillage.co.uk