



Harlaxton Village Voice

The Newsletter of Harlaxton Parish



Winter 2020

Parish Update

It's been a busy year in the Parish. We have been working with a number of businesses and agencies, investigating and trying to resolve a variety of flooding and drainage issues in the village.

We are grateful to Lincolnshire County Council for acknowledging our concerns and responding with action to clear the road gullies along the A607 and around the village. We've also been working with the church diocese and understand that the tenant of the church fields has made efforts to clear the culvert below Trotters Lane, all of which should further reduce the build up of water at the bottom of the High Street.

Ongoing work is progressing to resolve the problems with flooding that occurs along The Manor drive outside the Sports and Social Club car park. BT have moved a pole that had damaged a drain and we are working with The Manor to have the drainage ditches restored on their fields to divert flooding from over the sports field. We still have challenges to establish ownership of some of the other pipework, but are vigorously pursuing Anglian Water and Lincolnshire County Council to this end.

At the Village Hall, Parish Councillors have identified a number of infrastructure issues. There are now plans for significant upgrades to the heating system, along with improved ventilation and air circulation in the roof space and building generally. We are looking forward to the work being carried out and the Hall reopening soon, so that we can all benefit from this valuable village resource.

Other projects have included repairs to the fencing at the Sports and Social Club and the overhauling of the bench on the corner of West End and Rectory Lane. The Millennium Sign at the entrance to the village has also been repainted and restored.

We would like to improve the Grade II listed phone box. The costs are being considered and planned carefully. They are coming together, so you should see progress in 2021. We are also evaluating the cost of Gated Signs at the entrances to the village with a hope to reduce the speed of some road users as they pass through.

As a small group of volunteers, the Parish Council is constantly looking for new members to join the council and bring new ideas and new enthusiasm to benefit the village. We are several councillors short of our quota presently, so if you are interested in helping your village please contact us @ harlaxtonpc@gmail.com

Church News



Vicar's Retirement

On Nov 8th we said goodbye to our Vicar, the Rev'd Stephen Harrop, whose licence was extended during the first lockdown. We are grateful for his ministry here and his good preaching and will miss his sense of humour. We wish him well in his retirement. Our services are now being led by our retired vicars and our lay readers.

Church Services over Christmas

For some time we have been worshipping via Zoom and Facebook Live, as we are unable to worship in our Churches. This will continue over the Christmas period with online Carol Services.

Sunday 20th December 10:30am Service of Lessons and Carols via Zoom

Thursday 24th December 6:00pm Service of Carols via Zoom

Friday 25th December 10:30am Service for Christmas Day via Zoom

If you wish to join us for any of our services, please contact Peter Chalk on pchalk37@gmail.com and he will send you the required link. Alternatively, go to our Facebook page to watch live without "Zooming".

Village volunteers

A number of volunteers have continued to give their time to improve our community.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Irvin and Pam Metcalf for their regular litter picking on miles of roads surrounding our village, Irvin, along with Pip Watkins, also cuts and maintains a variety of roadside boarders which would only be cut twice a year by Lincolnshire County Council. Between them, they have for many years created a wonderful entrance to our village.

You will also have noticed that Sue Flindall has been tidying up and developing various flower beds around the Obelisk. She has created a wonderful splash of colour in the summer, right in the heart of the village. Watch out for the raised planters that are being planned for the spring at the Obelisk and the Millennium sign.

Finally, of course, we must all extend our thanks to all those who have stepped forward this year with Easter trails and Halloween nights and making VE Day such a special occasion. As we head into an uncertain winter, the COVID Helpline is still being run by Dawn Gabriel (07593 874 252), so lets all make sure we continue to look out for and help our vulnerable residents as we look forward to a brighter and more fun filled 2021.

If you need help or can volunteer to provide some support, please contact the Parish Council.
harlaxtonpc@gmail.com

If you have Facebook Search for "Harlaxton Village"



Simon, Keith, Jane and Andrew



Harlaxton Village Voice

The Newsletter of Harlaxton Parish



Winter 2020

Advent Windows

🕯 Celebrate Christmas 2020 in Harlaxton Village with a Real-Life Advent Calendar!

🕯 We are looking for volunteers in Harlaxton village to light up and decorate their windows / gardens to brighten up our village in December.

🕯 Each night from December 1st - 24th new windows will be lit up and revealed. Once revealed it will be displayed every evening at dusk 4pm until late!

🕯 I know an advent Calendar only has 24 windows, but ours hopefully will have more!

🕯 An advent trail, with addresses for you to follow, will be available in December

For more details on how to light up your window or garden, please message or email Jackie West at edengrantham@aol.com

Let's light up our village!

Gardening Club



Despite being unable to meet since March, we are still a club in spirit.

Barbara Tipton won the potato competition with an amazing weight of 6lbs 4oz from one potato!

We are looking forward to the splash of colour in our gardens in spring, from tulips the club have shared amongst its members.

Hopefully we will be able to meet in the new year to listen to speakers, share tips, and do some garden visits locally and further afield!

If you would like to become a member, please contact Karen or Jane for more information.

Karen Young 01476 571027
sencokaren@hotmail.co.uk

Jane Mann 07780 455632
jane.mann@live.co.uk

Village Hall



While the Village Hall had to close temporarily due to the pandemic, this time has been well used to source quotations for maintenance and improvements. With the completion of these works soon we are looking forward to inviting new and old hirers back for 2021. Please contact Jo Altham, Chair (01476 589254) or Wendy Whitton, Secretary (01476 574962) for information, or visit hvh.org.uk

Sports & Social Club



On a warm and sunny afternoon in August, we were once again allowed to open our doors to welcome back neighbours and friends.

More improvements have been made to the club to bring it up to date and future plans include remodelling the bar to create a more contemporary design to fit in with the modernised function room.

When COVID-19 restrictions allow, the bar will continue to be open from 7.00pm every Friday evening during the winter months.

As we head towards spring, we will be opening the bar earlier as the warmer weather allows.

Please keep checking the Harlaxton Village Facebook site for news of special promotional evenings!

For all enquiries please email HSSCbookings@outlook.com



The Towpath has been very popular for exercise. Maintenance and Restoration by volunteers has continued since the end of the first lock-down, but income for this has suffered from not being able to have boat trips and events.

We look forward to being able to start boat trips and fund-raising events again from Mothers' Day 2021. A Harlaxton Wharf Boat Trip Day may also be arranged.

Go to www.granthamcanal.org, Facebook and Twitter to keep up to date with progress.

Harlaxton Wharf Community Space Group

The Canal and River Trust have repaired the damaged fencing around the wharf. Stalwarts, Sue and Martyn Carr, of The Drift have kept on top of the vegetation on the paths and landing stage and there have been a few sparse, socially distanced sessions. Work is governed by an ecological management plan. More help is desperately needed as the team has depleted.

If your New Year's Resolution includes more exercise in the fresh air, please ring Sue or Martyn on 594347.

Harlaxton WI

The WI has not been able to meet physically since our February meeting, but we have been keeping in touch by phone, letters and our November Zoom meeting. Unfortunately we have had to cancel our Christmas lunch, but hope to be able to have a lunch in the spring, COVID permitting. Our monthly meetings will continue by Zoom until we can all meet up again.