



SWATON NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2017



Queen Elizabeth Park

This May saw the completion of Phase 2 – the installation of a ground level Roundabout and Team (or Basket) Swing. Both of the items are suitable for disabled and able-bodied kids of all ages and the new pathway leading to the roundabout will allow easy access for wheelchairs & baby buggies. The bulk of the money for these items came from Lottery funding to which was added some money left from the first phase. We were lucky as

many of the quotes were way out of our reach but Playdale (who supplied the play equipment) and AMG (who are installing it) were very sympathetic to our cause and generous with their discounts (having been badgered in to submission !).

During the May bank-holiday weekend you might also have seen Alan Wilson, John Wilkinson and Charles Campion giving up their free time to start Phase 3 - the construction of the park's shelter. Thanks to Bicker Windfarm who donated the money for the materials and to the design & engineering skills of our volunteers, the kids will have a shelter well in time for the school summer holidays.



FUNDING

Tesco Bags of Help is again fund raising for Swaton's Park project in the Sleaford store for 7 weeks from 7th May so don't forget to ask for a blue token when you're shopping there and pop it in to our section of the collection box which is near the door.

The Co-Op starts it's fund raising for Swaton Park as their Community Champion in five of their stores in our region this month. Grantham, Heckington, Methringham, Ruskington & Sleaford (not Billingborough) will be raising funds through the sale of plastic bags as well as a percentage of shop sales between June and September for our park.

Its hoped that Phase 4 will start in the Autumn once its known how much we are to receive from Tesco and the Coop. Phase 4 is totally dependent on what we are directed to purchase and available funds - items under consideration include a new goal post with basketball hoop, baby and toddler equipment, a trim trail and a play-tower & slide.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

SWATON VINTAGE DAY – SUNDAY 25th JUNE

Our annual event needs you! Can you spare an hour to help in the tea tent, serve drinks at the bar or man the gate? Or make a cake for the tea tent? Please contact Nicki – 421566 or Liz 421217 if you can.

LADIES NIGHT – SATURDAY 10th JUNE – 8pm

Come along to The Hut for a fun, informal get together and meet new neighbours. Bar. Bring a plate Buffet. Please contact Vicky for more details – 07539 179855



SATURDAY MORNING CAFÉ – 9.30am - 12 noon.

Tea, coffee, bacon rolls, homemade cakes and chat. Newspapers can be purchased but only available by pre-order from Liz)

FRIDAY NIGHT SWATON SWIGGERS – 8.30pm EVERY FRIDAY

Thank you to everyone who came to the BBQ night – a great evening had by all! We will be holding another one soon. More details to follow !

Please support the bar and come along for drink and a chat. Good selection of wines, beers, soft drinks and snacks at very reasonable prices.



SOUP KITCHEN – MONDAY 12th JUNE^{2nd} Monday every month. Choice of homemade soups & bread as well as jacket potatoes with various fillings.

CINEMA CLUB – Saturday 3rd JUNE 2017 & 1st JULY

1st Saturday of the month. Full details of the films are displayed in the hut or from Nicki 421566. Doors open 7pm, film starts at 7.30pm. Bar and refreshments available.



CRAFT CLUB

Every Tuesday morning from 9.30. For more detail contact Liz

If you have any ideas or suggestions to encourage more people to use The Hut or would like to book it for a party, meeting or event please let us know

Hut Committee.

Chairperson: Nicky Arnold – 01529 421566
Secretary: Liz Harborow – 01529 421217
Treasurer: Abi Eaves - 07950 663226
Hut Bookings: Jonathan Forbes - 07710 782943
Committee: Vicky Webb; Kate Brown; Mike Kempster

A word from our Rev

On the 4th June the worldwide Church celebrates what is often considered the birthday of the Christian Church. It is the Day of Pentecost when the disciples of Jesus were gathered in prayer after his resurrection and ascension waiting for the promise of Jesus to send the Holy Spirit to empower them for the task of mission.

The word 'Pentecost' means 'Fiftieth', a number that has rich symbolic meaning in the Bible. In this context however it was one of the three great Jewish festivals called the 'Feast of Weeks' that began fifty days after the Feast of Passover. The days were counted from the day after the first Sabbath after Passover, which in Christian terms was the day Jesus rose from the dead, our Easter day.

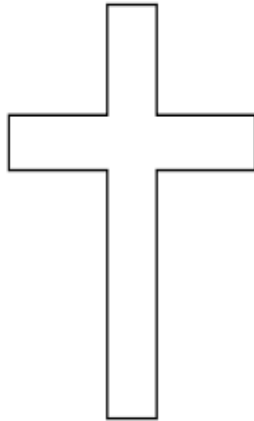
On that first Pentecost festival after the resurrection the disciples experienced the arrival of the Holy Spirit as the sound of a rushing wind and what looked like tongues of fire resting on the heads of the disciples. They began to talk in other languages (often referred to as 'speaking in tongues'), which turned out to be the praises of God in languages understood not by the disciples themselves but by those who heard them. This strange event took place in the Temple in Jerusalem where Jews from all over the known world were gathered for this sacred festival. The commotion resulted in questions being asked by the crowds as to what was happening. This gave Peter and the other disciples the opportunity to tell them about Jesus and his message of faith, forgiveness and the need for repentance. As a result over 5000 people were baptized as a sign that they too were wanted to follow Jesus and his teachings and be reconciled to God and were prepared to turn from their old selfish way of life. After they were baptized they were wrapped in white garments hence the festival became known as white Sunday or Whitsun.

From that day on the followers of Jesus continued to grow in number as those who responded took the message back with them. Eventually it became known as the Church.

As we approach the general election, Pentecost is perhaps a reminder that we too would do well to turn from our selfish desires of what might be best for us personally and to reflect on what might be best for our country and for its future, remembering that it's policies not personalities that will make a difference to our country and its future. May God give you wisdom as you cast your vote on June 8th.

THANK YOU

Thanks to all who came to Heckington church to experience the Illuminations art installation last month.



EVENTS IN JUNE

During this coming month I will be taking part in a **concert at Great Hale Church on Saturday 17th June at 7pm** with the Rocking Revs. Tickets for the concert are £8 which includes a buffet supper. Tickets are available from Elaine Huckle on (461704) (Elaine is the new church warden at Great Hale).

Heckington is holding it's Open Gardens afternoon on Sunday 18th June from 2pm till 5pm – maps available at the church. Refreshments will be served at Simon's the Hairdressers on Eastgate thanks to Mark and his staff who make the lovely cakes.

Swaton is hosting it's annual **Vintage Day & Egg Throwing Competition** at Thorpe Latimer **on Sunday 25th June**. Across the **weekend of Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th June** it is also **Lincolnshire Heritage Weekend** and Heckington St Andrew's will be taking part with tours of the church on offer. There is also an **organ concert** in the church on the **evening of Friday 23rd June at 7pm** – see Chris Cullen for tickets or phone him on 460272.

As summer is finally here once again I hope you find the time out of your busy life to relax and enjoy the beauty all around us as hopefully the sun shines and we can enjoy the garden.

SERVICES

June 11th - 11am Morning Praise

No service on 25th due to Swaton Show.



Every blessing

Rev 'Captain' Chris

Rector of Heckington & Helpringham Group of Parishes

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Mob: 07502410798.

Email: c.r.harrington@btinternet.com

SWATON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – CLERK'S NOTES

Tuesday, May 16th, 2017 at 8:00pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs A Deptford, (Chairman), A Dunlop, C Richardson, Mrs E Penketh, A Wilson, and the Clerk Mrs S McIntyre. District Councillor Mrs K Cook.



1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN. Cllr Richardson proposed Cllr Deptford, seconded by Cllr Mrs Penketh. He was willing to stand and there were no further nominations, Cllr Deptford was elected Chairman. The Declaration of Acceptance was completed.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. There were no individual declarations. The Clerk confirmed that that the block dispensation for the play area continues until May 2019. Some amendments had been made to individual Declarations of Interest forms – these to be submitted to NKDC.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. There were none.

4 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN. Cllr Deptford proposed and Cllr Dunlop seconded that Cllr Richardson be Vice Chairman. He was willing to stand and there were no further nominations. He was elected unopposed.

5 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES - Clerks' Notes from the meeting of March 21st 2017, – accepting as Minutes. It was proposed by Cllr Richardson and seconded by Cllr Wilson that these be accepted as Minutes. All agreed, the Resolution was passed, the Chairman signed the Minutes.

6 TO REVIEW/RE-ADOPT: The following documents to be accepted and adopted. Standing Orders, Financial Standing Orders, Asset Register, Grievance Procedure, Model Disciplinary Procedure, Complaints Procedure, Risk Assessment procedures. The statement agreeing to the Openness of Local Government, the Code of Conduct, the Health and Safety policy, the Internal Audit Review and the Freedom of Information declaration. It was proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Mrs Penketh that all these documents be adopted en bloc. All agreed, the Resolution was passed.

7 APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES;

Responsible Finance Officer Cllr Deptford	Flood Liaison Cllr Richardson
Police/Speeding ASB Liaison/S.I.Ds - Cllr Mrs Penketh	Footpaths and bridleways Cllr Richardson
Play area – Cllr Wilson & Cllr Mrs Penketh	Road and Path Lighting Cllr Wilson

It was proposed by the Cllr Dunlop and seconded by Cllr Richardson that the above representatives for Swaton PC be appointed. All agreed, the Resolution was passed.

8 COUNTY/DISTRICT/POLICE MATTERS. No County or Police representative were present. C/Cllr B Young apologised for not being able to attend and asked to be notified of any LCC issues. D/Cllr Mrs Cook said that the Central Lincs Strategic plan had now been approved. For the next Cluster meeting another parish had asked for someone to talk about planning – as it changes so often Swaton councillors supported this.

9 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – any items to be brought to a PC meeting? Some questions had been raised and Councillors present had answered or had agreed to make enquiries. If appropriate, these will come into future meetings.

10 PLAY AREA UPDATE – Cllrs Wilson and Mrs Penketh updated the council on progress. Cllr Mrs Penketh described the various grants obtained and those in progress. A Tesco selection is currently in progress and she asked everyone to put the counters in the Sleaford store. Next week a wheelchair friendly roundabout and a team swing will be installed together with a pathway. The Co-op will be sending volunteers to weed and clear the area. Bicker windfarm is supporting the purchase of materials for the shelter. The No Dogs signs have had some effect. Cllr Dunlop thanked Cllrs Wilson and Mrs Penketh for their work.

11 COUNCIL INSURANCE. Renewal date June 1st – Approval to pay by BACS. It was proposed by the Cllr Mrs Penketh and seconded by Cllr Richardson that the Insurance be renewed and that it be paid by BACS. All agreed, the Resolution was passed. The provision of insurance for the play equipment has been checked. All future installations should be notified.

12 GRASS CUTTING. Letters received from LCC Highways confirming that Swaton was one of the parishes agreeing to maintain their own LCC verges. They will cut recognised 'risk' areas on verges and junctions twice a year. NKDC will be looking after their grass areas as previously – in and around any Council properties.

13 PLANNING: 17/05444/FUL. Erection of 2 new 2-storey four bed houses with access off Parson's Grove. Church House, High Street. There was discussion about aesthetics, tree loss and tree root protection, access, hedging and increased traffic. These issues, if relevant, would be picked up by NKDC and LCC officers. It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Wilson that Swaton Parish Council supported the application. The Council has been made aware of comments by residents who have submitted these directly to NKDC. All agreed, the Resolution was passed.

14 LALC. Nothing to report for this meeting. Quarterly magazine circulated by e mail. Future paper copies not approved. The Clerk will pay for a paper copy for her records.

15 URGENT MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION. Any urgent matters which have occurred after the agenda was published – these can be discussed but no resolution can be made.

- LCC lighting person met the Chairman on site. An additional light near the telephone box was agreed, subject to funding

PC Meeting notes (Cont).

16 FINANCE

- **End of Year/Audit:** Passed and approved and all relevant documents are on the website.

17 CLERK'S REPORT AND UPDATES -

- **Nuisance/threatening leaflets in the village.** The police had been informed and are investigating. No feedback from them to date.
- **Minerals and Waste Local Plan** – site locations document circulated.
- **LCC Maintenance Programme for 2017/18.** A52 at Swaton crossroads surfacing date TBC. High Street – patching May 2017. North Drove – retread carriageway Summer 2017.
- **LCC New Highways Service** – Contact details circulated.
- **LCC Transport survey** – Groups supporting people with disabilities – circulated.
- **Resilient Communities Conference** – June 15th in Lincoln - circulated.
- **Central Lincs Joint Strategic Plan** – now formally adopted.
- **Better Broadband** – possible grants available. Circulated.
- **NKDC Discovery Days** – details circulated.

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday July 18th, 2017.

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TREES AND HEDGES

Unfortunately, some of the trees and hedges around our lovely village are overhanging or encroaching on to the footpaths making clear passage difficult. Complaints have been received concerning people being scratched & clothing snagged by hedges, with particular concern for infants in push chairs potentially being injured.

It is the responsibility of the owner or tenant on whose property the trees and hedges are growing to keep them in reasonable order. The Council is asking everyone who has trees* on their land that overhang paths to cut low branches back to at least 7ft above the pathway – supposedly a tall man wearing a top-hat should be able to walk under the tree without his hat being knocked off !

In regards to the hedges, they must not obstruct a footpath user – even odd stray branches and runners, so do trim those with clippers so as not to disturb nesting birds.

Ultimately, if nothing is done, Lincs County Council are obliged to have this work done by their contractors - the cost of this is then re-charged to the householder.

*If you have trees with TPOs you may want to check with NKDC first on what can and can't be done.

(It should be noted that the Council is obliged to publicise the concerns and issues raised by it's parishioners. This is NOT members of the Council 'getting at' individuals. Please 'don't shoot the messengers' !

Do you sing? Would you like to sing?

If so, the Group Choir has been re-named Dulciana (meaning sweet sound) under the leadership of Brian West.



This small friendly choir sings a range of music. Meeting on a Thursday evening in Screddington Church between 7-30 to 8-30pm and would welcome new members of any age. No previous experience or knowledge necessary. Come along and give it a try --- Singing really does lift the spirits !

For more info contact Wendy Kerby on 421930