



SWATON NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2016

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY . . .

**RECREATIONAL PARK CONSULTATION
SATURDAY 13th FEB – (in the Hut café)
(Apologies - date change from 6th to 13th)**



Alan Wilson and Elaine Penketh (Swaton Councillors) will be in the Hut during the morning café showing the proposed plans for the new Recreational Park and suggest all villagers pop in and have a chat about the current status, updated designs and equipment ideas and offer their thoughts. Consultation is a very important part of the planning stage and the data from

consultations is often required in grant applications. As the park is being designed for all ages, everyone is encouraged to pop along - Kids and adult alike. Consultation is also the way your voice can be heard, it's your village, your park. They can't please all the people all the time but by being part of the process the majority voice can be heard.

CINEMA CLUBS – SATURDAY FEBRUARY 6TH.

February sees the start of this year's Cinema Club (which is always the first Saturday of each month).

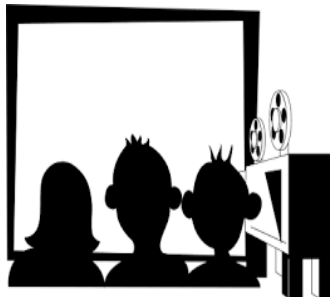
KIDS CINEMA – 3pm

A great way for the kids to meet up and enjoy a movie without having to travel. Tickets priced at £2.50 are great value & includes a hot dog, a drink and some sweets as well as the film. Doors open at 3pm, film starts at 3.30. Kids cinema is run by Saff Murphy-Mann. For further information, please contact Saff on 421 487.

ADULTS CINEMA - 7pm for 7.30pm

The films start promptly at 7.30. The bar will be open from 7pm and offers red & white wines, a variety of beers, spirits and cold drinks. Hot dogs, hot drinks & ice creams are available during in the interval. Membership £10 for the year or £2 on the night. Contact Nicola Arnold re membership for 2016 (07905 155 359).

Details of films for 2016 are listed in The Hut and village notice board.



REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN THE HUT



SATURDAY MORNING CAFE - 9.30AM TO 12PM

A range of delicious cakes are always on offer as well as freshly made bacon rolls and hot beverages - *a great way to start the weekend!* You can also collect your Saturday newspaper (which must be ordered in advance from Liz Harborow – 01529 421 217).

SOUP KITCHEN - MONDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

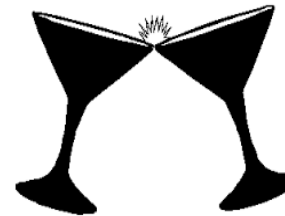
12 TO 1.30PM - 2nd Monday of every month.

You'll find a choice of soups as a starter or your main course as well as freshly baked jacket potatoes with beans &/or cheese and side salad. Excellent value – a bowl of soup & bread is £1.50 or two bowls for £2.50, Jacket spud with fillings and salad also £2.50.

EVERYONE WELCOME – NO NEED TO BOOK . . .



SWIGGERS BAR – 8.30PM TIL WE CLOSE



The bar is open every **Friday evening from 8.30pm** so come along for a drink and support YOUR VILLAGE HUT. The bar has a good selection of soft drinks, bottled / local beers & chilled lagers, red / white wines and a variety of spirits. Crisps, chocolate and snacks are also available - all offered at competitive prices.

CRAFT GROUP - EVERY TUESDAY 9.30AM IN THE HUT

If you're creative and enjoy any form of art or craft why not come along and work on your creative project amongst friends, have a chat, enjoy a cuppa and share, exchange or improve skills . . . so if its Crochet or Tattling, Beadwork or Cross Stitch, Lace or Patchwork or you're simply a dab hand with a pair of knitting needles or a paint brush and canvas then don't be shy – after all you'll be amongst friends.



Contact Liz Harborow for more info – 01529 421 217

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THE HUT - IT'S A VITAL PART OF YOUR VILLAGE - USE IT OR LOSE IT!

PLANNED SOCIAL EVENTS FOR THE NEAR FUTURE

QUIZ NIGHT – SATURDAY 19TH MARCH

Swaton Village quiz night is a twice yearly highlight in our social calendar. For the price of a ticket you'll enjoy a fabulous two course meal, the bar is open all evening and you'll participate in the quiz. If there are only a few of you don't worry - you can join fellow village quizzers and make up a team or bring your own team along - it's great fun, a fabulous social gathering & a great way to catch up with your neighbours. **TO BOOK TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT JEAN ON 01529 421 317 or LIZ ON 01529 421 217.**

AFTERNOON TEA – SUNDAY 22ND MAY

In celebration of Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday we're having a tea party . . . well any excuse for a cream tea is a good one especially when there are homemade scones and jam ! It may be ages away but get the date in to your diary now and we'll remind you nearer the time.



A GREAT VENUE FOR A PARTY OR MEETING

The HUT is an ideal location for a get-together, group activity, kids party or business meetings. To book 'The Hut' please **contact Elaine or Peter Penketh on 421769 / 0785 222 3535**. . . discount given to Swaton residents.

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EVENT IDEAS . . .

If anyone has any suggestions / ideas for social / village events, then please do approach any of the Hut Committee - you'll always find a few committee members in the hut on a Saturday morning or pop a suggestion in to the letter box which can be found to the left of the Hut's front door.

COFFEE BREAK

CROSSWORD

(Solution on page 11)

Across

- 9. Anxious (7)
- 10. Drool (7)
- 11. Hearable (7)
- 12. Luxurious (7)
- 13. Brine (9)
- 15. Fruity-smelling compound (5)
- 16. A small kitchen appliance (7)
- 19. Wander aimlessly (7)
- 20. Mistake (5)
- 21. Becoming proficient (9)
- 25. Nightclub (7)
- 26. Walk emphatically (7)
- 28. Insert (7)
- 29. Fasten (7)

Down

- 1. Chronicles (6)
- 2. Pertaining to a bride (6)
- 3. Newbie (slang) (4)
- 4. View (6)
- 5. Graphic symbol (8)
- 6. Vilify (10)
- 7. Disapproved (8)
- 8. Educator (8)
- 14. Rainproof (10)
- 16. Carved deeply into (8)
- 17. Cardiopulmonary exercises (8)
- 18. One who makes payment (8)
- 22. Personal security (6)
- 23. Set aflame (6)
- 24. Putting surfaces (6)
- 27. Unrestrained revelry (4)

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PARISH COUNCIL

Everyone is welcome to attend Parish Council meetings, in fact, you are encouraged to do so. The first 15 minutes of any Parish Council meeting is an open for the public to make comment or raise concerns, it is your chance to voice your opinion, ask a question or make suggestions after

which if you wish you can stay and hear what is happening in Swaton...

FUTURE 2016 PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday 15th March Tuesday 17th May Tuesday 19th July
Tuesday 20th September Tuesday 15th November

Notes of the Parish Council meeting held Tuesday, 19th Jan 2016

PRESENT: Cllrs A Deptford, (Chairman), A Dunlop, C Richardson, A Wilson and the Clerk, Mrs S McIntyre. Two members of the public were present.

PUBLIC FORUM, 7.30pm:

Two members of the public addressed the council on various issues including: Maintenance of fence adjacent to park; sending details of faulty street lights via web site does work; Footpath across the field not yet been sprayed out and stile at the Pepper's Lane end has collapsed; West End – vehicles driving over the verges to get past parked vehicles has created a mud bath.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllr Mrs E Penketh'. Apology & reason accepted.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS:** Block exemption granted by the Clerk for matters in connection with the Swaton Play area.
3. **SIGNING OF THE MINUTES:** Clerks' Notes from the meeting of November 17th that these be accepted as Minutes. All agreed, the Resolution was passed, the Chairman signed the Minutes.
4. **COUNTY/DISTRICT/POLICE MATTERS:** Neither C/Cllr Young nor any Police representative was present.

* District Cllr Mrs K Cook was not present but had submitted a report. Congratulations were given on the extremely impressive Annual Litter Picking report from Henk and his team !

PC MEETING (Cont.)

* The Garden Waste Charge will be increasing from £25 to £30 in 2016/17 Mrs McIntyre attended the County Council Budget Consultation Event in Sleaford. She urged everyone to keep a close eye on developments as County Council will have to make £40 million of cuts during 2016/17. The County Council budget will be set on 19th February 2016 – see County Council website for details.

* Mrs McIntyre attended the Performance and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting on 18th January which looked at the District Council's General Fund Target Budget 2016/17. The Panel recommended that the Target Budget be approved for consultation and that council tax be increased by 1.99% in 2016/17.

* We are still waiting to set a date for Anglian Water to attend the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting at the District Council regarding flooding and sewerage issues.

* Highways concerns were noted. The Chairman has met with LCC representatives. Environment Agency work is being currently being carried out along the road towards the A52. A road closure notice for LCC maintenance work to be carried out between mid-February and the end of March was noted.

5. **PLAY AREA UPDATE.** Block Dispensation. A grant from Tesco has been applied for, other grants can't be completed until after a new consultations and new quotes gathered. A working group of interested people of all ages and a 'Consultation Morning' has been organised. Cllr Wilson is updating the original quotes and revising some of the specifications. It seems that the removal of the power pole is underway and quotes are being obtained for some tree work.
6. **FLOODING ISSUES.** Cllr Richardson updated the meeting from a report published earlier this month. He explained some of the listed options and the costs involved. This report had been circulated around the village. Cllr Richardson will keep members informed of any developments.
7. **NEWSLETTER.** The Church has agreed to print the newsletter.
8. **SPEEDING ISSUES.** The Chairman explained that Cllr Mrs Penketh was looking at setting up a Community Speedwatch scheme to use the hand held speed gun.
9. **GRASS CUTTING.** The Chairman had contacted LCC and spoken to the current contractor about the grass cutting for 2016. Some verges to the North End are to be added to the areas to be cut. He had circulated an email explaining costs etc to all Councillors. It was proposed by Cllr Richardson and seconded by Cllr Wilson that the Chairman contact LCC and continue his negotiations about an increased grant. Also that he confirms a verbal quote from the Contractor, and if confirmed, then the work for 2016 is agreed. All agreed, the Resolution was passed.

PC MEETING (Cont.)

10. **EMERGENCY PLAN.**

The Chairman said that Mr Penketh and Mr Arnold were progressing with a new Emergency Plan and a final draft is nearly complete. This will be checked by an Emergency Plan representative before final submission. The Hut committee are looking at funding for the purchase of an emergency generator with sufficient power to support the Hut should the need arise.

11. **FINANCE –**

- **Monthly report** from RFO. It was proposed by Cllr Dunlop and seconded by Cllr Wilson, that the report be accepted. All agreed, the resolution was passed.
- **Budget 2016/17.** The draft budget was agreed by all present. This will mean a total of £2500 to be requested from NKDC as the village precept. Despite the NKDC contribution being reduced by more than 40%, the cost to a Band D property in Swaton will actually decrease by 0.52%, To £37.86. (£38.06 last year).
- **Signing of Cheques and approval of BACS payments.**
The following additional BACS payments were proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Richardson and resolved.

Mrs S McIntyre	Expenses Nov/Dec	£23.00
Henk	Half year Litter collection	£37.50
Electricians	Wiring Defibrillator	£193.96

The Chairman explained that the electrician's invoice for the Defibrillator will be shared equally between the PC, the Church, the Hut Committee and the Village Fund.

- **Audit changes.** The 2015/16 financial year will see the end of the current external audit. The Clerk explained some of the implications for "smaller councils" (under £25k). There will more emphasis on publishing financial details on the web site. Although exempt from external audit, it seems that a small annual charge will still be made to cover potential enquiries to the auditor from parishioners.
- ### 12. **CLERK'S REPORT AND UPDATES.** Details of consultation events.
- **SE Lincs Local Plan.** Details circulated, Swaton notified as an adjacent parish.
 - **Electoral review on Lincs.** Draft recommendations received. Consultation until Feb 8th. LCC reducing their councillors from 77 to 70, with one councillor per ward.
 - **HM Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations.** Details of events are starting to be circulated.

PC MEETING (Cont.)

13. **TRAINING.**

- LALC Training dates – any seminars etc. of interest. LALC has asked that all Councillors to book via their Clerk and not directly to LALC.
- LALC Training scheme – cost £50 to cover all training costs for 2016/17 except lunch fees for all day courses. It was resolved to join the scheme for the coming year.

14. **PLANNING:**

- 15/1134/FUL. Change of use bakery/deli and café and siting of chiller unit (retrospective) Thorpe Latimer. Permission granted. Noted.
- [Erection of two storey side extension - 1 School Cottages High Street Swaton Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 0JP. The Council had no objections to the Plan.](#)

- ### 15. **LALC.** Latest LALC County Circular received. This had been circulated and was noted.

- ### 16. **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.

The situation about some overhanging hedges was noted.

- Overgrown Beech hedge – owner to be consulted.

- ### 17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday March 15th, 2016.**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.47pm.

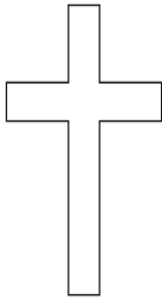
RUBBISH, TRASH, GARBAGE, WASTE . . .



Whatever you call it, it's still destined for one of the collection bins outside your house. What can or can't go in your 'Green' bin seems to change as advancements in recycling happen so it's been suggested that we mention a useful website run by Recycle Now (a Government funded national recycling & used by over 90% of English authorities). If you're unsure where to put used lightbulbs, batteries, electrical items, clothing and so much more have a look at the 'what-to-do-with' section on www.recyclenow.com



A MESSAGE FROM CHRIS HARRINGTON - OUR REV



Although it officially ends on 2nd February, our last service to mark the end of the Christmas and Epiphany season was the 31st January as we celebrated the feast of 'Candlemas' in Heckington St Andrew's with one of our regular healing services which are for the whole Group of parishes. As Easter is early this year, Lent begins this month.

Shrove Tuesday (Pancake day) is on 9th February and the following day, Ash Wednesday, marks the start of Lent. There will be a service of Ashing and Holy Communion at Great Hale Church on that day at 10am and in the evening at St Andrew's, Heckington at 7pm.

The following Tuesday (16th Feb) we will be beginning the first of our Lent courses: The Psalms: 'Prayers for today's church' will run at the Rectory in Heckington on Tuesday mornings at 10am, until Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on 20th March. This course of five sessions will look at various Psalms and consider what they might be saying to us today.

If you aren't able to make a morning course, there is also the opportunity to come for some fellowship and study on Friday Evenings at the Wesleyan Chapel in Heckington, starting at 7pm on Friday 12th February. This course, called 'The Mystery of Everything' by Hilary Brand (Author of the Chocolat course), is based around the Oscar winning film about professor Stephen Hawking and his wife Jane called 'The Theory of Everything', starring Eddie Redmayne. There will be six sessions including the first where we watch the film all the way through. After that there will be different clips from the film each week and passages from the Bible to aid our discussions and ponderings.

February Services at St Michael's Church, Swaton - All are welcome

- 11am Sunday 14th Feb - Morning Praise with Wendy Kerby
- 9.30am Sunday 28th Feb - Holy Communion led by Rev. Chris.

As these darker days become lighter at night, we pray the light of Christ burns brighter in the dark places of our world bringing hope and love and peace.

Every blessing

Rev Chris Harrington
Rector of Heckington &
Helpringham Group of Parishes
The Rectory, 10 Cameron Street,
Heckington, NG34 9RW
01529 460904 /
c.r.harrington@btinternet.com



VINTAGE DAY – SUNDAY JUNE 26th

There can be few people in Swaton who haven't heard of Swaton's Vintage Day and The World Egg Throwing Championship . . . always the last Sunday of June it's a great day out, although good weather can't always be guaranteed.

For those few who are unaware, the event started small on a field in Swaton and is now held at Thorpe Latimer Farm (next to Shrub and Grub). The event attracts various stalls holders and exhibitors selling a wide range of products from arts and crafts to plants, bread and clothing as well as a tea tent, food outlets, live bands, vintage and classic cars, dog races, face painting and a bouncy castle and more.



The highlight of the day features UK and international teams from as far afield as Japan, Germany and The Netherlands throwing eggs at each-other, either by hand or with the aid of a trebuchet, as well as smashing them over their heads in a game of Russian Egg Roulette !!! . . . sounds quite mad doesn't it, but its great fun to watch as well as participate in and a number of Swatonites do so and quite successfully too.

Aside from the fun aspect, the Swaton Vintage Day has a serious side to it – it pulls in around 4000 paying visitors to the area and **raises an enormous amount of money for various charities** but do you know where money raised goes to? . . .

. . . In the last 10 years alone, Swaton Vintage Day has given nearly £70,000 to a number of worthy causes including Macmillan Cancer Support, Leukaemia Research, The Air Ambulance, The Anthony Nolan Trust, British Heart Foundation, The Red Cross, L.I.V.E.S, Lincolnshire 4x4 Response, Sailability as well as local causes such Swaton and Helpringham's Defibrillators, local churches and Scouts Groups.

VOLUNTEERS: Sunday June 26th may seem ages away but if you are free that day and happy to spare an hour or so as a volunteer either on the front gate or in the tea tent or baking cakes or maybe you or a friend are interested in having a stall to sell some of your wares then please do make contact with Andy Dunlop (Vintage Day Chairman) on (07900 267 870) – he will gladly put you in touch with the person responsible for each aspect of the day.

Fingers crossed that this year we have a nice sunny day



COFFEE BREAK CROSSWORD & SUDOKU SOLUTION

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In The 'February' Garden – Advice from the RHS

Spring is in sight: - This month there are signs of the approaching spring, with bulbs appearing and wildlife waking up as light levels and temperatures increase. There's plenty to do indoors this month to prepare for the season ahead. Outdoors, as the garden comes to life again, it's time to prune shrubs and climbers, such as *Wisteria* as well as evergreen hedges.

Top jobs for February

1. Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover
2. Chit potato tubers
3. Protect blossom on apricots, nectarines and peaches
4. Net fruit and vegetable crops to keep the birds off
5. Prune winter-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering
6. Divide bulbs such as snowdrops, and plant those that need planting 'in the green'
7. Prune *Wisteria*, prune hardy evergreen hedges and renovate overgrown deciduous hedges and prune conservatory climbers
8. Cut back deciduous grasses left uncut over the winter

FLOWERS & PLANTING

- * Dahlia tubers stored over winter (or bought this year) can be started into growth. Place them in a light, warm place to sprout before planting. They will need additional misting with a spray-bottle of water, to stop them drying out.
 - * Lily bulbs can be planted in pots, for flowers this summer. After growing on indoors or in a cool greenhouse, they can be moved onto the patio when in flower, so that you can enjoy the blooms.
 - * Bulbs coming up in the rock garden or in containers may benefit from overhead protection from the rain and snow. A sheet of glass or Perspex placed on piles of bricks will do the job.
 - * Hardy annuals can be sown in pots or modules to provide colour.
 - * Summer-flowering Dutch iris bulbs can be forced and used as cut flowers.
 - * Place gladiolus corms in seed trays or boxes and place in a light, warm (around 10°C/50°F) spot to encourage them to sprout before planting. This will ensure an earlier display.
 - * Sweet peas can be sown under cloches, in a cold frame, or in a cool room in the house. Any sweet peas that were sown earlier in the autumn can now be potted.
 - * Root cuttings can be taken of *Papaver* (perennial poppies), *Verbascum* (mullein), *Acanthus* (bear's britches) and *Phlox*.
 - * Check on tender plants overwintering outdoors to ensure protective coverings are still in place
- For more info check out <https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/in-month/february>