

UTTERBY *Voice*

Your Community Magazine



**Keep your distance - Wear a face covering
Wash and sanitise hands - KEEP SAFE**

JANUARY 2021

utterby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/



Utterby Parish Council *News*

Welcome to this new format of the Utterby Voice. Your Parish Council have decided to reduce the number of editions of the magazine to two per year.

We have also decided to enlarge the magazine to A4 which means that it will be printed in larger type which hopefully will make easier reading for many older residents.

Under the most extreme circumstances, as result of Covid 19, we have continued to meet every month. We have been regularly joined by Cllr. Edward Mossop our ELDC representative. I am pleased to state that we have been able to maintain the upkeep of our village grass verges, the village green and its hedge, the "Kissing Gate" footpath and our bus shelters. More daffodils have been planted along the length of the A16 as last Spring there were several stretches of the main road where our daffodils seemed to have perished. However with the great density of heavy traffic on the A16 it is surprising that any survive. It is the Council's aim to maintain all areas of our village.

It must be clear to anyone who walks around Utterby that a few building projects during the past year have had a negative affect on the appearance of the village. Another frustrating issue with recent building projects in the village is that once individuals have permission to begin work they sometimes appear to have little or no consideration for the residents. Large vehicles have caused disruption, whilst noise and anti-social working

hours have been unfair on neighbours close to the sites. Some sites appear to have not progressed over a long period of time. These issues have been brought to the attention of the Parish Council by concerned residents. The Parish Council are 'consultees' on planning applications and view each application and comment on its merits. We have found, however, that we have become increasingly frustrated that our comments appear to have little influence with ELDC.

The finances of the Council are in a healthy state and we hope to complete a number of new projects as well as a number of repairs around the village before the spring.

The precept for Utterby 2021/22 will remain the same as 2020/21 - no increase will be requested.

Finally, in October, Councillors Ann Van Spall and Glenda Thorndycroft resigned from the Parish Council. We thank them for the work that they did on behalf of the Council during their time. We have a new Councillor now in place, Cllr. Matthew Wright and we look forward to working with him over the coming months and years. We still have one vacancy left and therefore anyone interested in becoming a councillor should contact the Chairman or Parish Clerk (see back cover for contact details).

Alan Woodward
Chair of Utterby Parish Council

Benson Court

Over recent years Benson Court has been in decline. The original purpose of this sheltered housing project has gradually diminished and today a considerable number of units are sadly empty. However for some long term residents Benson Court is still their home and their interests and well being must be the number one priority. As a result preliminary discussions have taken place between ELDC and Platform Housing Group, the company responsible for Benson Court, as to a possible redevelopment of the site. At this stage several options appear to be possible.

We were assured that the Benson Court residents would be kept fully informed and updated at all times and that the residents of Utterby would be asked for their opinions and views.

ELDC sent out a survey to all residents of Utterby and surrounding villages to discover the potential interest in an upgraded Benson Court. We await to see the outcome of this research and feedback from ELDC / Platform Housing Group as issues such as this are important to the future well-being of Utterby.



Utterby Primary Academy *News*

After the pleasures of welcoming everyone back into school properly in September it is with some relief we approached the Christmas holidays, saying goodbye to what will surely be one of the most memorable years of our lives. A year in which the educational landscape changed somewhat as we went into national lockdown in March. Since then all our lives have been changed quite significantly in one way or another and we continue to adapt to changing guidelines and best practices within school.

Yet this has also been a time of new opportunities and ways of working for us. With necessity being “the mother of invention” we have embraced new virtual learning opportunities in and out of the classroom. This has been reflected in the high level of investment from our Trust in our wonderful school, with new interactive screens in every classroom (and another on wheels!) and new laptops for every child to ensure we are at the forefront of technological developments to assist our children’s learning.

The Trust have also supported us in getting 2 new minibuses to continue our pick-up and drop-off service in the mornings and afternoons, and to allow us to get out and about on local trips and visits once more as restrictions ease.

Before the second national lockdown we did manage a trip down to St Andrews in the village for a small harvest festival. Whilst parents were unable to attend this year it was great to be able to get all the children out for an event which is a mainstay of our annual calendar. We collected donations for the food bank in Louth which as always were abundant and gratefully received.

In the run up to Christmas we were also delighted to support the Neighbours Kitchen Project in Louth. This project was set up at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic to support vulnerable groups in East Lindsey who have suffered due to the isolation and restrictions that coronavirus has created. The team there was overwhelmed by the generosity of the school community and we were pleased to be able to help such a worthy cause at such an important time of year.

As the New Year starts it brings us new hope and a step closer to normality, albeit slowly. In the meantime, on behalf of everyone at Utterby Primary Academy we wish you a happy and healthy start to 2021 and we look forward to seeing you (hopefully) in the not too distant future.

Best wishes,

Tom Hawkins
Executive Headteacher



Neighbour Hood Watch

After many years Rod and Nadine Must, residents of Church Lane, Utterby have decided to end their role as local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators. On behalf of all the residents of Utterby I would like to thank them for their commitment to this voluntary role. The following information may be useful to anyone considering becoming our local co-ordinator. Anyone interested in taking on this community role should contact one of the Parish Councillors or the Parish Clerk.

The role of a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator is to set up and maintain a Neighbourhood Watch scheme within a specific street, neighbourhood or area. Whilst each crime prevention coordinator may develop specific procedures, the following are suggested as the main duties which coordinators will need to manage.

- Encourage vigilance amongst scheme members and actively encourage the early reporting of suspicious incidents.
- Receive crime information from the Neighbourhood Watch messaging system and distribute these messages to scheme members.
- Encourage neighbours to join Neighbourhood Watch through the website to receive up to date messages on national campaigns and initiatives and member benefits.
- Encourage scheme members to be aware of and put into practice crime prevention measures, such as property marking and security devices.
- Keep a check on vulnerable households and provide advice to members about dealing with callers at the door.
- Circulate newsletters and other relevant information to scheme members.
- Welcome newcomers to the neighbourhood and invite them to be part of the scheme.
- Supply each scheme member with Neighbourhood Watch and crime prevention literature, such as Neighbourhood Watch window stickers. These are the main tasks that would be expected of a coordinator, tasks will vary according to the needs of each individual neighbourhood.

St Andrew's Church News

St Andrew's has missed you and all of our visitors.

2020 came and went, everything was on hold at the church: No Primrose Day, no Easter Bistro, no Saturday café, no 'Church Open', no school children's visits and, until September, no services. Sadly for me it also meant no cake! Writing in December, with ever more places in the country in lockdown, the prospects for social events in the next few months are not too promising. When we can plan an event, we will do so with great joy and ask everyone to join us. With Covid-19 safety measures in place and with restricted numbers attending, our Sunday services began again in September 2020. The plan is to hold a Sunday service at 10.00 am on the second Sunday of each month. Changes will be posted on the churchyard notice board.

Work behind the scenes has carried on as usual:

Rosemary Kirk has done a wonderful job of collating information about the Utterby Embroidery Group which existed and worked from 1997 to 2015. They made all the church kneeler cushions as well as offertory bags and bookmarks. The collated information can be seen in the Parish Chest display case. Their work culminated in the large tapestry portraying St Andrew, which hangs on the south transept wall in the church. **Thankyou Rosemary and the Embroidery Group.**

The cleaning teams do a great job to keep the interior of the church sparkling. With grass cutting and hedge



trimming maintained, with repairs made to the fencing and extra seating installed, the churchyard has never looked better. It was great to know that many people have visited and enjoyed the churchyard on their walks during the Covid crisis. When you read this we will have had Christmas (hopefully with joy and peace) and be looking forward to a sensational display of snowdrops. To everyone who helps to maintain our beautiful churchyard and **especially to Alan, Roger and Geoff, a big thankyou...**

So for 2021 we look forward with hope and wish everyone a very happy and healthy new year.

**Linda Sproston,
St Andrew's Church DCC**



St Andrew *Find Out More*

St Andrew was born in the village of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee in the 1st century AD.

The name Andrew means manly or brave. He and younger his brother, Simon Peter, were fishermen. At first Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist. He then became the first disciple of Jesus Christ, who called him to be a “fisher of men”

St Andrew is celebrated in several countries and is the patron of Scotland and the Catholic patron saint of fishermen. St Andrew’s day is celebrated on November 30th. November 30th is the national day of Scotland.

Legend says that Andrew died circa AD70 in Patras in Greece, where he was martyred by crucifixion on a cruciform cross.

In 1964, relics from the Vatican in Rome, were sent back by the Pope Paul IV to St Andrew’s Basilica in Patras, where most of the relics of St Andrew are now kept.



A cruciform cross is found on many flags and known as a saltire.



Village Hall *News*

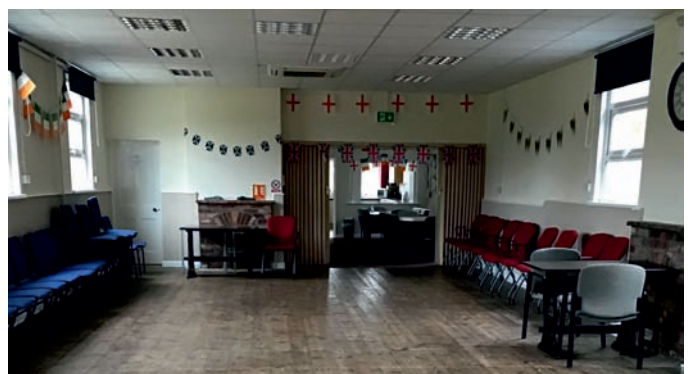
The Village Hall has been an integral part of Utterby village life for many years. Unfortunately like hundreds of similar village halls up and down the country at the present time, Utterby Village Hall appears to be a very sad building. Instead of being an important element in the social life of Utterby our hall has had to stand empty for many months.

As we all know the Covid 19 pandemic has engulfed activities and since March there has been virtually no activity with regard to bookings.

However finances, as a result of grants and support from Central Government, are in a healthy state and thankfully this will carry us forward in the months to come.

If anyone is interested in a hiring or for an update on the status of the Village Hall please contact Glenda Thorndycroft on 0739 4957227.

The Utterby Village Hall Committee Members as of January 2021 are: Glenda Thorndycroft, Ann Van Spall, Pat Doherty, John Mackin, Nicola Mackin and Kevin Litchfield.



The Trees in Utterby

During the past year the Parish Council have had to deal with a variety of issues concerning the trees and hedges in our village. As a result it may well be useful for you as residents to consider your own personal responsibilities with regard to these issues. Have you any trees on your property that are subject to preservation orders? Do you take responsibility for keeping hedges on your property neat and tidy and to ensure that they are not a health and safety issue to others? This is especially important for hedges that are adjacent to public rights of way or where they may obstruct vision onto highways. This is really important in Utterby as we have four village lanes which all require safe access onto the dangerous A16.

As a Parish Council we hopefully lead by example by taking responsibility for the hedge bordering the village green as well as other hedges in Utterby. Occasionally we contact residents when we are contacted by local residents or we feel that action is required with the hedges obscuring the main road. Such communications require sensitivity, however we are hugely grateful and appreciative to people who respond to our requests in a positive and supportive manner.

The Council is undergoing a review of trees within Utterby. As a result a number of mature trees in Church Lane, the Millenium Oak and the large Willow tree on the Village Green have been found to be in need of attention. The required work on the Oak and Willow will hopefully be completed in early 2021. We are still in the process of locating the owners for the other trees in Church Lane in question.

THE VILLAGE GREEN AND TREES

During the last few years we have lost three Lime trees from the Village Green from natural causes. These are to be replaced by two new Whitebeam



to cover the gap adjacent to the A16.

In addition the Parish Council intends to eventually plant a small copse of trees on the Village Green to accompany two new benches, which should be in place early in the new year. The intention is to eventually create an attractive area where residents or visitors may be able to sit and relax when the weather allows. Our intention is to plant two Rowen trees and a Silver Birch which hopefully will be an attractive addition to the area as well as attracting a variety of insects and birds. It was noticeable during the national lockdown that there was a big increase in people walking in and around the village. It was also noticeable just how few places there are in Utterby for walkers to take a seat and rest for a few minutes. A good example of what we are hoping to achieve are the seats in the churchyard which are used regularly by walkers and visitors. Hopefully our new seats will be appreciated and used by just as many people.

It should be noted that prior to the October Council Meeting two Parish Councillors spent a morning “walking” the village on 28th September with Colin Horton who is the Tree Officer for East Lindsey District Council. His advice and expertise was much appreciated.

Sadness in Utterby

The Covid 19 crisis has resulted in a really dreadful and disrupted year for everyone. However several families in Utterby have suffered the loss of a loved ones and the village has lost people and personalities who have spent many years, and some cases their whole lives, in Utterby. Their contribution and commitment to our village, in a wide variety of ways, should be recognised and thanked by us all. They will be very sadly missed. Also we must remember those residents of Utterby who are either hospitalised or sadly find themselves in long term care at this time. Our thoughts are also with them and their families.



Tree Preservation Orders

The following information may be extremely useful to you if you have responsibility for trees that are on or bordering your property.

What Is A Tree Preservation Order?

A Tree Preservation Order is an order made by a local planning authority in England to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity. An Order prohibits the:

- *cutting down
- *topping
- *lopping
- *uprooting
- *wilful damage to trees
- *wilful destruction of trees



without the local planning authority's written consent. If consent is given, it can be subject to conditions which have to be followed. In the Secretary of State's view, cutting roots is also a prohibited activity and requires the authority's consent.

What Are A Tree Owner's Responsibilities?

Owners of protected trees must not carry out, or cause or permit the carrying out of, any of the

prohibited activities without the written consent of the local authority. As with owners of unprotected trees, they are responsible for maintaining their trees, with no statutory rules setting out how often or to what standard. The local planning authority cannot require maintenance work to be done to a tree just because it is protected. However, the authority can encourage good tree management, particularly when determining applications for consent under a Tree Preservation Order. This will help to maintain and enhance the amenity provided by protected trees.

Arboricultural advice from competent contractors and consultants, or the authority, will help to inform tree owners of their responsibilities and options. It is important that trees are inspected regularly and necessary maintenance carried out to make sure they remain safe and healthy.

Many of the trees in Utterby do have preservation orders on them. Residents should be aware that than non observance of these orders is liable to result in a hefty fine. To find out more, speak to the Tree Officer at East Lindsey District Council.

Maintaining Our Village

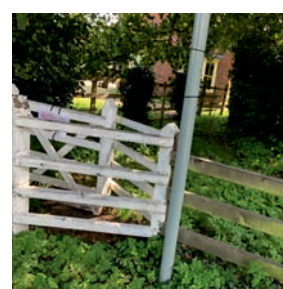
One of the responsibilities of the Parish Council is to repair and maintain existing amenities in Utterby. The Council have highlighted three renovation projects which will hopefully be completed in the near future. It is important that we continue to maintain these areas of interest as they have been part of our village for many years and enhance Utterby's appearance and charm. The Millennium Oak on Church Lane is to be trimmed and tidied up. The seating area around it, which is rotten and a health and safety issue, is to be replaced or restored where possible. The existing signage will obviously be relocated on the replacement seat to acknowledge the generosity of Utterby residents back in 2000 when it was installed.

The Parish Council Noticeboard is in a poor state and needs an overhaul. Its scruffy state does not encourage people to refer to it. The Kissing Gate on Church Lane needs repairing and this will be completed before the spring. This

repair is an important one since the Council have started to maintain the footpath that links Church Lane to the A16.



The Millennium oak tree and bench to be refurbished in 2021



The Kissing Gate on Church Lane and the notice board to be refurbished.

Utterby Parish Council

Chairman - Councillor Alan Woodward,
Moat Farm, Church Lane, Utterby LN11 0TH
Email: alanutterbypc@gmail.com
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Councillor Mr Terry Buckley,
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Councillor John Mackin,
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Councillor Nicola Mackin,
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Councillor Jacqueline Woodward,
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Email: jackieutterbypc@gmail.com

Councillor Matthew Wright,
Chapel Cottage, Chapel Lane, Utterby LN11 0TR
Email: matthewutterbypc@gmail.com

Parish Clerk

Maria Vincent, 3 Church Walk, South
Cockerington, Lincolnshire LN11 7EE
Tel: 01507 328149
Mob: 07932 000341
Email: clerkupc@gmail.com

Useful Contacts

Abandoned Vehicles	ELDC	01507 601111
Blue Badge Scheme	LCC	01522 782232
Bus Pass	LCC	01522 873700
Call Connect		0345 2343344
Citizens Advice Louth		0808 278 7904
Crime Stoppers		0800 555111
Dog Wardens	ELDC	01507 601111
Floodline	Env. Agency	0345 9881188
Fly tipping	ELDC	01507 601111
Highways	LCC	01522 782070
Lifelong Learning	LCC	01522 782011
Missed bins	ELDC	01507 601111
Mobile Libraries	LCC	01522 782010
Parish Clerk	Parish Council	01507 328149
Pest Investigation Advice	ELDC	01507 601111
Police Non-emergency Number		101
Streetlights	LCC	01522 782070
Trading Standards	Citizens Advice	0808 223 1133

East Lindsey District Council

Councillor Edward Mossop
New Farm, Coalshore Lane, Grainthorpe, Louth
LN11 7JF
Mob: 07502 111030
Email: Edward.Mossop@e-lindsey.gov.uk

Lincolnshire County Council

Councillor Tony Bridges,
Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland,
Lincoln LN1 1YL
Mob: 07710 224466
Email: cllrt.bridges@lincolnshire.gov.uk

How the Parish Council Works

The Parish Clerk works for and with the Council to action its decisions. The main role of a Parish Councillor is to represent the views of all residents within the Parish, to listen to and understand the views and needs of residents and different groups in the community.

The precept is the parish council's share of the council tax. The precept demand goes to the billing authority, East Lindsey District Council, which collects the tax for the Parish Council. The Parish Council may only undertake actions if it has a statutory power to do so and it must also fulfil certain obligations.

Have you ever wondered what your council tax pays for in Utterby?

We try very hard to use the precept wisely and with best value always a priority.

Your Parish Council owns/maintains the following.

4 Bus Shelters and benches
Kissing gates (x 2)
Decorative village sign
Parish notice board
Planters at the end of four lanes
Village Green, hedge and trees on the green
Millennium oak tree and bench
Lockable cabinet, located in Utterby Village Hall for the safe keeping of Parish Council records.(rental charged).
Laptop computer and jet printer

The Council facilitate contracts related to:

Cleaning of Bus Shelters
Cutting of Village Green grass and hedges
Cutting of A16 grass verges (in the main village)
All tree work required to Parish Council trees
Pest control to village green and verges when required

Utterby Parish Council organise/administer

Parish Clerk's salary
The Utterby Voice
The Parish Council website and Facebook page
The Annual Parish Meeting

Utterby Parish Council check on behalf of other agencies

Telephone Box (Open Reach)
Packhorse Bridge (LCC)

Sign up for the
Environment Agency
Flood Warning Service
Call 0345 988 1188
www.gov.uk/flood


LOUTH RURAL POLICE TEAM
Chief Inspector Dave Plumb
Inspector Sarah Constantine
Police Constable Richard Precious
PCSO Jo Drake
PCSO Justin Mekkaoul
PCSO 2337 Ian Porter
LouthRural@lincs.pnn.police.uk
NON EMERGENCY CALL - RING 101

