

# UTTERBY *Voice*

*Your Community Magazine*



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

**JULY 2021**

[utterby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/](http://utterby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/)



# Welcome

Welcome to the second publication of the the Utterby Voice in its new format. The December publication was well received by our residents.

We held the Village Parish Meeting in May on Zoom and there were excellent annual reports from the Academy, Village Hall and Church, and so we thought you would like to have the chance to read them too in this edition.

The national crisis has continued to blight all of us and life has been difficult for everyone, to say the least. I'm sure that the majority of Utterby residents have now received the first of their Covid 19 vaccinations and a large number of you may well have received both. Hopefully this will be one of our first steps back towards normality.

Sadly since December 2021 the village has lost more of its residents. Many of us have been saddened by the very recent death of Wendy Berry who lived in Grange Lane for many years. Wendy was a lifelong resident of Utterby and over many years made a huge contribution in many areas of life in the village. I first met Wendy through St Andrew's Church where she was always involved in everything. She will be a great loss. Our thoughts are with her family and with others who have lost loved ones. Also we must remember those residents who currently in residential care.

For a small village lots of new arrivals and departures are happening, with the house market appearing to be quite buoyant. It may be of interest for you to know that in the past few months Utterby has welcomed newcomers from as far away as Suffolk, Dorset, Northumberland, Wiltshire and Warwickshire. This is a lovely compliment for our village. To all our new residents, may I take this opportunity to welcome you and hope that you quickly adjust to your new surroundings. Hopefully you will take every opportunity to join in and support the various activities and events that hopefully will soon be returning to Utterby post Covid 19.

I am very pleased to inform you that our June Parish Council meeting returned to the Village Hall. This is another indication of the improving situation. All council meetings begin with a short section where the general public have the opportunity to raise issues and ask questions. As a Council we look forward to seeing you in the near future when restrictions are fully lifted. We would really appreciate any contributions to our meetings which may be beneficial to Utterby.

**Alan Woodward**  
**Chairman**  
**Utterby Parish Council**

## Businesses *In the Village*

The Parish Council is aware that there are a number of local small businesses or organisations based in Utterby and we think would like to support them by giving them coverage in the Utterby Voice.

If there are any local residents who would like us to include their local business in future publications then please contact the Parish Clerk [clerkupc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkupc@gmail.com)

### **SWH Electrical**

We are a fully registered and insured electrical installation and maintenance company that operate on all domestic, commercial and agricultural premises.

#### **Contact**

[s.w.h.electrical@outlook.com](mailto:s.w.h.electrical@outlook.com)

07759111299

<https://m.facebook.com/swhelectrical/>

### **DF Stitching Bridal Wear and Clothing Alterations**

Tel: 07834924891



# Beautiful Village Trees

In recent weeks our Parish Clerk and Parish Council have been reviewing the TPOs on our village trees. We now have a more current and accurate record of the wonderful trees in our village which should help in their well being and protection in the future.

One sad note however is that the wonderful willow tree on the Village Green is to be removed. This tree has caused some concern recently and we have taken advice from the Tree Officer at ELDC and in his opinion the best plan of action would be to fell the tree and plant a replacement.

I know that many residents will be sad to lose this beautiful tree. The Parish Council has resolved that a young willow tree will be planted on the Village Green in a suitable position so that in a few years time there will again be a splendid willow tree for us all to enjoy. Finally in the near future two new white beam trees will be located on the Village Green to replace trees lost in recent years.



*Photos of some of the beautiful trees in the village which includes the Willow tree which is shortly to be felled, but replaced with a new Willow.*





# Utterby Primary Academy *Annual Report*

Since March 2020 we have been operating under enhanced COVID-19 restrictions and combining physical and virtual provision to educate our children.

During the first lockdown we temporarily closed the Utterby site and worked out of the North Thoresby site for children from both schools, as well as opening up for children from Fulstow and North Cotes Primary Schools. When restrictions eased later in the summer term 2020 we reopened for a month for all pupils before the summer holidays. During the Autumn Term between September and December we were fortunate enough to have no positive cases amongst either pupils or staff and as a result had very limited absences during this time, which was important to help children return to their routines and help us close some of the gaps caused by lost learning.

When National Lockdown recommenced in January we kept the Utterby site open for approximately 50% of our pupils who were still attending. The remaining 50% accessed virtual content in parallel with their peers in school.

Academies Enterprise Trust (AET) continue to be our school sponsor and have been exceptional in their support for our schools, both in terms of preparation for being open to pupils and in financial support. They have ensured we now have at least 1 laptop for every child, which has been a significant investment in our schools and helped greatly in ensuring that lost learning was kept to a minimum during the last lockdown period.

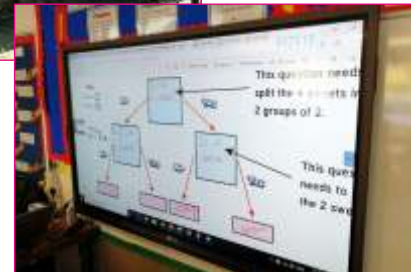
Since March 8th we have been re-open to all pupils again and look forward to a summer term with hopefully more easing of restrictions to allow parents to come onto the site again.

Admissions and Cohort – The Pupil Admission Number (PAN) is 10 per year, with a school capacity of 70 overall. We need to aim to get 10 per year to fill up the places. Currently we have 63 on roll, which is due to stay the same in September as we expect another full year group of 10 pupils.

*Two new minibuses for the academy*



*New roof and one of the new interactive whiteboards*



For about 60% of our pupils Utterby is not their nearest school and we have a strong uptake of pupils attending from Louth.

Families are choosing to send their children here to enjoy our relatively small class sizes and good behaviour, and we now operate 2 minibuses to facilitate this demand.

Because of continued good numbers the school is financially very buoyant moving forward.

School Grounds – There has been in the past plans to expand and renovate the school building. We currently have 2 substantive classrooms inside the main building with a 'mobile' classroom to the side of the main building. The 'mobile' is a pleasant learning environment, and suits our current Year 5 & 6 class well, however this will be replaced with a new more permanent structure in the next 12 to 18 months to expand our learning environments and free up some playground space.

Over the Easter holidays we had some major structural work done including replacing the hall floor, replacing the front roof elevation of the main building and replacing the gable end fascias and soffits. This work was all funded centrally by our trust.

"Return to Normalcy" – As COVID restrictions ease further we will look to return more practical elements of the curriculum including school trips and having parents back on the site for assemblies and performances, etc.

Much of what happens in school now feels very normal and the children have adapted quickly. When social distancing rules get relaxed we will continue with many preventative measures such as increased ventilation and handwashing for example.

Tom Hawkins  
Executive Headteacher



# St Andrew's Church *Annual Report*

In 2020 things started well for St Andrew's Church. The project to refurbish the church bells was completed and the annual Snowdrop day was held in February, with record attendance.

Then came the first lockdown and churches were instructed to close their doors. All planned events had to be cancelled and church services could not be held unless via the internet. All services at St James, our Deanery church in Louth, are streamed live.

During the lockdowns, the Churchwarden has rung the church bells to signal support for the weekly clap for carers, for Armistice Day and other national moments. In September 2020 with social distancing and hygiene measures in place we could re-open for services. Numbers attending were limited and restrictions meant there could be no singing for the congregation and no socialising after the services. Nevertheless, it was heart-warming to see church members again and our small congregation has been steadfast in its support. Services continue to be held on the fourth Sunday of each month and the church is open for private prayer each Sunday between 10.00am and 12.00 noon. The one place which was not locked down was the churchyard. This remains open to all, is well used, and much appreciated as a place of quiet beauty and remembrance. With a grant from the Wolds Countryside service a new bench seat has been obtained and repairs to fencing have been achieved. Volunteers help with many of the churchyard maintenance tasks; thank you one and all. For grass cutting and hedge trimming a professional service is necessary. This involves costs. As lockdown eases, we plan to hold an event to focus on raising the funds for churchyard maintenance and improvements.



With limited opportunity for fund raising since 2020 finances are a concern. Bills for such things as insurance and clergy costs still must be met. Service collections and generous private donations have kept us afloat. The DCC is indebted to everyone for their support.

As 2021 progresses we can hope for better things. We aim to provide fund raising events but most of all we would like to see more people joining us, whether for services, for social events or for just learning about and enjoying the special building that is Utterby St Andrew's Church. Everyone is most welcome.

For information Tel 01507 354078 or email [lindasproston@btinternet.com](mailto:lindasproston@btinternet.com)

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

## Resourcing Our Church

During 2021 the Anglican church has been consulting on ways and means of staffing and resourcing churches. In Lincolnshire, the Diocese in Lincoln is asking all churches to assess their future organization. Utterby church has begun this process and will join other local churches in responding to the Deanery in Louth by the end of July. When all representations have been considered, a final proposal will be published for implementation of any changes during 2022. We will make this available to village residents. Keep an eye out on [www.utterbychurch.co.uk](http://www.utterbychurch.co.uk).





# Enjoying Our *Gardens*

Just some of the fantastic private gardens that we have in the village.  
Thanks to all residents for letting us show them off!





# Spending Time In Our *Gardens*

As so many of us have been spending time working in our gardens due to Covid, so they have come alive and look splendid, a real treat to look at as you pass by.





# Village Hall Annual Report

Like other community/voluntary organisations for the Village Hall it has been a year with no public activity in the Hall because of COVID 19 & lockdown. These facilities, because of the nature of the activities, makes Village Halls places that are vulnerable to the spread of COVID.

However the Committee has been very busy of late. Due to the intervention of the previous Village Hall Chairman and current Chairman of the Parish Council Councillor Alan Woodward along with District Councillor Edward Mossop we secured the Restart Grants (IRSG) Local Restrictions Support Grant paid by Central Government, and we thank them for this.

The Committee have installed a French drain outside and around the building which has eliminated water ingress. 20 tons of stone was purchased and our thanks go to Pat, Glenda and Kevin Committee members who carried out the work.

The Committee had agreed to a new UPVC double door for entrance to exit on the side of the building to replace the existing door. UPVC windows have been installed along the back of the Hall with replacement glass being substituted for blown panels on the side of the building. We have also installed a brand new state of the art kitchen together with new appliances.

Further works are programmed in including another cubicle and ladies toilet and refurbishing of new lighting and vanity unit.

Thursday 6th May was our first booking hosting Local Elections.

**Ann Van Spall**  
Treasurer, Utterby Village Hall



Above: main hall area Below: brand new kitchen



**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR  
VILLAGE HALL**  
For bookings and enquiries call  
Mob: 07394 957 227



## **LOUTH RURAL POLICE TEAM**

Chief Inspector Dave Plumb  
Inspector Sarah Constantine  
Police Constable Richard Precious  
PCSO Jo Drake  
PCSO Justin Mekkaoul

LouthRural@lincs.pnn.police.uk  
NON EMERGENCY CALL - RING 101

Sign up for the  
Environment  
Agency  
Flood Warning  
Service  
Call 0345 988 1188  
[www.gov.uk/flood](http://www.gov.uk/flood)

## **Bag it & Bin it!**

**Picking up your dog's  
mess is an important  
part of being a  
responsible  
dog owner.**

*Thank you*



# Utterby Parish Council *Annual Report*

In May 2019, for the first time in many years, an election was successfully held to appoint seven Utterby Parish Councillors. However in Autumn 2020 Ann Van Spall and Glenda Thorndycroft resigned leaving two vacancies. I wish to thank both of them for their contributions to Utterby Parish Council. I am delighted to report that we were able to quickly co-opt Matthew Wright and Nicola Gallant to bring our Council back to a full compliment and I feel that Utterby has a strong Parish Council. I would like to thank all Councillors for their support and work over the past twelve months, a year which has been an incredibly difficult time for everyone. In addition, the Parish Council has been ably supported by our local representative from ELDC, Councillor Edward Mossop who has attended almost all of our meetings.

## Parish Clerk

On behalf of everyone residing in Utterby I would wish to thank our Parish Clerk, Maria Vincent for her excellent work. She brings expertise, thoroughness and enthusiasm to the Council and her contribution is vital to the smooth running of our affairs. During these difficult times we have managed to hold our monthly meetings electronically through Zoom whilst some other Lincolnshire parishes did not meet for some time as a Council in the first half of the year. Utterby Parish Council continues to meet on the first Wednesday of each month and offers a 5 minute slot for public participation whilst on Zoom, 15 minutes when we get to meet again face to face.

## Governance

The Parish Council is a member of the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils, benefiting from their training programme and legal advice access. It continues to ensure that its framework of policies is regularly reviewed and updated. Key documents include the Code of Conduct, Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Risk Management/ Strategy. A complete list of the policies and documents are available on the Council website.



*Millennium Bench on Church Lane before and after refurbishment*



*Kissing Gate on Church Lane following refurbishment*

## Delivery of Parish Council Amenities

The Council continues to maintain the Village Green and the amenity grass verges on the A16. The verges are a part of the Parish Agreement with Lincolnshire County Council and 2020/21 was the second year that we had signed up to this contracting 13 cuts for the year. We maintain the trees on the village green, its trees and its hedge, and now organise three cuts per year for the footpath from Church Lane to the A16 to keep this clear for walkers as LCC no longer maintain it and this year we have also planted many more daffodils on the verges adjacent to the A16. We are grateful to the ELDC Tree Officer for the help and advice he has given us over the past year.

The Parish Council is committed to improving the fabric of our village. In 2019 we purchased planters for the end of our four lanes and in 2020/21 we replanted them twice in spring and autumn. Having found that walking in the village increased during lockdown in 2020 we purchased two teak benches in January and sited them on the Village Green. The Kissing Gate and Millennium bench was completely refurbished in February/March 21. We have now taken delivery of litter picking equipment so that any local volunteers can also join in with keeping the village tidy. Hopefully we will be able to continue with similar initiatives in the future.

Welcome Packs continue to be delivered to new residents and the Council continues to maintain and update its website and publishes and distributes the Utterby Voice in its new format twice a year in January and July.

## Finance

In 2020/21 the precept was £8843.84 but due to the covid pandemic some of the projects we hoped to fund out of the precept could not go ahead and so at the end of this financial year our spend was £7,088.23, leaving a balance of budget and reserves of £ 14009.66. During the





*Noticeboard outside the Village Hall following refurbishment*

year the Council resolved to make no increase on the Precept for 2021/22 keeping it to £8843.84.

We ensure that all contracts and purchases give the residents of Utterby best value. An Internal Audit took place in March 2021 and the AGAR (annual governance and accountability return for 20/21) will be completed at the Annual Parish Council Meeting and submitted to PKF Littlejohn LLP Auditors.

### **LCC Highways and Other Issues**

The Parish Council continues to report on the state of the roads and the traffic refuge in the village and we continue to make Lincolnshire County Council aware of the speed and volume of traffic on the A16 and will keep doing so as one of the major issues in the village. We ask that mobile speed units continue to be deployed in the village and we

report to the County Council on the current mounted speed signs which only work intermittently.

### **Planning Matters**

Four planning applications were considered during the year.

- 1.LAND OFF CHAPEL LANE, CHAPEL LANE, UTTERBY
- 2.DUNHAM, CHURCH LANE, UTTERBY
- 3.UTTERBY METHODIST CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE, UTTERBY
- 4.TEMPLETON, MAIN ROAD, UTTERBY

The Council considers all planning applications objectively and with regards to the village as a whole - it has been supportive of residents inconvenienced by building traffic and will continue to report to Building Enforcement when conditions stipulated by planning applications are ignored or planning permission is not applied for to begin with.



*Village Green showing one of the new park benches*

## **More Village Updates**

### **Welcome Packs**

The Parish Council continues to provide residents new to Utterby with a simple Welcome Pack. It has been extremely successful and well received. It provides our newcomers with useful information, but more importantly highlights the important role played in Utterby by St. Andrew's our historic church, the Village Hall and the local school. The pack also gives new residents details of all the Parish Councillors' telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. This will enable newcomers to ask us any questions or queries which may arise when they first arrive. During the past eighteen months we have delivered an unprecedented number of packs as the turnover in village properties has been really high. Hopefully all of these new residents will enjoy our lovely village and make valuable contributions to Utterby in the future.

### **Village Planters**

We continue to replenish the four planters at the end of each village lane. By the time this edition reaches you we will have replaced the early primulas with geraniums. These require less watering so the maintenance involved is reduced. It is on the Council's agenda to possibly place more of these planters in suitable sites around the village. Watch this space!

### **A16 Refuge**

Some years ago this refuge was constructed and situated on the A16 to provide a safe place for pedestrians to cross this extremely busy road. Whether or not the refuge is an asset to Utterby is open to debate. What is undeniable however is that the refuge appears to be constantly in need of repair. As fast as it is dealt with by the Parish Council and LCC it seems to suffer new damage. This provides a constant reminder of the hazards that the A16 presents to the village.



# A Little Bit of Utterby History

Recently the village has seen quite an influx of new residents. On behalf of Utterby Parish Council I wish you all a warm welcome to our lovely village. As a result all new arrivals may find the following very brief history of Utterby of interest.

Utterby is not recorded in the Domesday Book but almost certainly existed in earlier times. The name derived from the Danish 'Utter's Bye' meaning a habitation belonging to Utter. It may well have existed even earlier, particularly with the proximity of the pre-Roman road from Louth to the ford at Barton on Humber.

The Manor of Utterby was granted to Henry de Elye in 1220, and the name of Elye has been associated with the village for many centuries. The present Manor House in Church Lane was built in 1639, and bears the coat of arms of the Elye family. This fine house was altered and enlarged in Victorian times, White's Directory of 1856 tells us that Reverend Thomas Elye was at that time the Lord of the Manor and patron of St Andrew's Church.

The present St Andrew's Church probably originated in the 14th century, though the list of rectors displayed in the church goes back to 1220. This building and its impressive churchyard is the focal point of Utterby and deserves to be visited at the earliest opportunity.

Beyond the church is a 14th century Packhorse Bridge, thought to be one of only three in the country. This crosses a small stream, and was used in olden times by drovers bringing their animals from summer grazing on the marsh to market. This bridge may also have been part of the salt route with packhorses carrying the salt from the coast to the inland towns.

There are two other houses of note in Church Lane. Utterby House is Georgian and was built about 1800, and The Old Rectory, which was designed by James Fowler in 1863. There has been considerably more building in recent years and this is still continuing at the present time, however with a protection order on the many fine trees in the lane its attractive leafy appearance has been maintained. The south side of the lane is within the Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and every effort is made to maintain this standard.

The eastern lanes all lead to farms and are not through-roads. Holywell Lane, as its name implies, used to pass a holy well, which in ancient times was considered to have medicinal properties. Pilgrims who visited the well left their bandages on the surrounding bushes.

Chapel Lane contains the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, dated 1854, but now sadly is no longer in use. Utterby had three chapels at one time, the Primitive and Free Methodist

Chapels also being no longer in use.

Also in Chapel Lane is Benson Court, a group of homes originally intended for the elderly called after Mrs Katherine Benson who owned the Manor in the last century. She was an eccentric lady who fought to prevent the railway coming near to the village. The line did run about a mile east of Utterby where there was a halt, but alas, it fell to the Beeching axe.

There are many fine gardens in Utterby as the photographs in this edition of the Utterby Voice clearly illustrate. Beside Grange Lane is the Village Green which was used for local events until quite recently. On the other side of the green is the Village Hall where various organisations meet and which is in regular use during normal Non-Covid times.

Utterby also benefits from a regular bus service to Grimsby and Louth a real bonus in this rural county. Utterby still has a thriving primary academy although older children have to travel to Louth for their secondary education.

NB. Most of this information above is taken from the The Lincolnshire Village Book, written by members of Lincolnshire Federation of Women's Institutes and published by Countryside Books.



Above: Village info board Below: Packhorse Bridge





## Utterby Parish Council

**Chairman - Councillor Alan Woodward,**  
Moat Farm, Church Lane, Utterby LN11 0TH  
Email: alanutterbypc@gmail.com  
Tel: 01472 841472

**Councillor Mr Terry Buckley,**  
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**Councillor Nicola Gallant**  
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**Councillor John Mackin,**  
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**Councillor Nicola Mackin,**  
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**Councillor Jacqueline Woodward,**  
Moat Farm, Church Lane, Utterby LN11 0TH  
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 Alex Hall,**  
Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland,  
Lincoln LN1 1YL  
Mob: 07868 639417  
Email: cllra.hall@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
- Two park benches on Village Green (new in 2021)
- 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)

