

UTTERBY *Voice*

Your Community Magazine



JANUARY 2023

utterby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/



Welcome

On behalf of Utterby Parish Council I hope that you had a lovely Christmas and I send you all our best wishes for 2023. For many people these are challenging times. Our Parish finances are in a healthy position as a result of sound decision making and a strong commitment to securing best value for everything that we spend on your behalf. I would like to thank the Parish Councillors for their work on your behalf and to our Clerk Maria Vincent, who plays a major role in everything that we do. Her contribution is extremely important to the efficiency and effectiveness of Utterby Parish Council. I would also like to make note of the support and valuable input that we receive from Cllr. Edward Mossop (ELDC) and Cllr. Alex Hall (LCC) who regularly attend our meetings and keep us informed of wider issues.

Our monthly meetings begin with a 15 minute session set aside for the public to have an input on any issues that may concern them. We also use this time to receive feedback from our ELDC and LCC Councillors. I need to mention Mr Graham Dalton who is our one consistent attendee and who always contributes to this public forum section. His support is really appreciated.

There are issues that come before the Parish Council time and time again: The volume, speed and noise of traffic on the A16 is a constant complaint brought to our attention. We have supported residents to try and improve this situation, with little or no success from the County Council, however we will continue to pursue this important issue at every opportunity.

The building development between Grange Lane and Chapel Lane has been extremely frustrating for a number of residents. Modifications to original designs, noise and pollution and a disregard for the originally agreed building

permissions have been a cause of disappointment and annoyance. The Council has tried its best to support the villagers affected by this long drawn out project and we have contacted ELDC on a number of occasions to challenge alterations to those originally agreed on the site, but again with little success.

As planning applications continue to come before the Parish Council they will be considered with objectivity and in the best interests of Utterby. I feel that it is important that we always have an input into these applications even if we are disappointed with some of the decisions made by ELDC; it could be considered that Parish Councils have to accept a reduced role when it comes to the decisions which affect their residents, it seems to be a disappointing trend.

I hope that you enjoy this latest edition of the Utterby Voice. Any comments, suggestions or feedback for future copies of your village magazine would be very welcome.

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

Happy House Solutions

Painting and bespoke home improvements
Lee & Stella Overall
Melbourne, Main Road, Utterby LN11 0TP
Email: happyhousesolutions5@gmail.com
Mobile: 07388515069 or 07899800838

SWH Electrical

We are a fully registered and insured electrical installation and maintenance company that operate on all domestic, commercial and agricultural premises.
s.w.h.electrical@outlook.com
07759111299
<https://m.facebook.com/swhelectrical/>

A Look Back at Utterby

The Village Hall has an excellent display of old photographs of Utterby which they have kindly allowed us to include in the Utterby Voice.



Walking along Church Lane toward the A16



Midlane House on Grange Lane (then the village shop) in the 50s or early 60s. It looks like an Austin 35 van parked outside.



A gathering on the Village Green in 1948, possibly a meeting of Utterby Women's Institute.



Snowy weather at the poultry sheds on Church Lane, present day site of Chesnut House and Grantham House.



Nativity play thought to be 1950s



Christmas Party at the Village Hall, thought to be 1960.

Utterby Primary Academy News

Another Autumn Term has come and gone. We've had two unsettled years due to COVID and so have been pleased to have a very normal Autumn term once more. At least until a myriad of coughs, colds, sore throats and flu depleted pupil numbers so much we sadly had to abandon our planned Christmas performance in the last week of term. It was such a shame as the children and staff had worked so hard, however with us missing 8 main characters and postponing once already left us with little other choice.

However, a last minute change of plan allowed us to invite parents into school to hear the children sing a range of carols and a selection of songs from the play they had rehearsed. We also took the opportunity to draw the Christmas raffle organised by our ever supportive 'Friends of Utterby Primary', raising over £350 for the school.

Back in September we welcomed 12 new starters into our Early Years Foundation Stage. The children are really impressing us with their hard work and great attitude to life at school! Along with the other children in Years 1 and 2 they have been enjoying the run up to Christmas and the cold weather we experienced in December.

panto performance of Mother Goose. Enjoyed by all! Thanks to Friends of Utterby Primary for the generous donation to make it possible!



Earlier in the term, across the school we had a fantastic time celebrating Lincolnshire Day. The children in Y5 & 6 took a trip to Lincolnshire Showground to see all things Lincolnshire. They took part in a range of exciting activities run by local businesses including yoga, smoothie making, leather stamping, flower arranging, football and sausage making; as well as exploring the history of local aviation and finding out all about chalk streams. What an amazing place Lincolnshire is! Again in partnership with North Thoresby Primary Academy the children also had a fabulous Egyptian Day as part of their topic. Led by a real life Egyptologist, highlights included wrapping one another in toilet paper whilst learning about the mummification process!



For another festive treat, the children from Utterby joined our friends over at North Thoresby to watch a thrilling

It was also wonderful to welcome parents, carers and community members to our school harvest celebration at St Andrew's Church. The pupils performed songs and poems brilliantly. All the generous donations were gratefully received by the Louth Community Larder to help those in need.

continued...



As always we have lots planned for the Spring Term which we look forward to share with you later on. For now, from everyone at Utterby Primary Academy, we wish you a happy and healthy start to 2023.

Best wishes,

Tom Hawkins
Executive Headteacher



The Packhorse Bridge

Beyond the Church of St Andrew's on Church Lane is a 14th century Packhorse Bridge, a Grade 2 Listed monument and thought to be one of only three in the country. This bridge crosses a small stream and was thought to have been built by Gilbertine monks from the nearby Priory (now demolished) to give them access to the nearby church. It was also used in times past by drovers bringing their animals from summer grazing on the marsh to market, and also it is thought to have been part of the salt route with packhorses carrying the salt from the coast to the inland towns.



Village Hall News

Bookings remain steady, with a rise in children's birthday party bookings.

We have our regulars "Toddle This Way" Baby & Toddler Group, Band Rehearsals, Parish Council Meetings and Utterby Community Coffee Mornings which are very well attended.

If you want to enquire or book for a special event, then have a word with Glenda 07394957227.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US

Ann Van Spall
Treasurer, Utterby Village Hall

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



1948

2022



St Andrew's Church *News from the Pews*



Looking back on 2022 at St Andrew's Church there is much to celebrate: Monthly Sunday services were held, including a Harvest

Festival service where we collected a huge amount of food which was donated to the Louth Food bank at Trinity Church. Utterby School also held their Harvest Festival in church, together with parents and again there was a collection of food items which was taken to the Food Bank.

We might think that it is a sad comment on the times that a food bank is so much needed. Or we might be encouraged by the generosity shown by the givers, who are pleased of the opportunity to help their community in this way.

When we run fund raising events in church peoples' generosity never ceases to amaze me. Everyone, from the congregation to those who do not attend any services, are always ready to help. No one refuses to supply a cake or goods, to work on a stall or to decorate the church. It's a pleasure on fund raising days to see loyal supporters returning again and again to buy whatever is on offer.

St Andrew's is also fortunate to benefit from private donations during the year and we are so grateful for the generosity shown by these donors. The ways in which funds are raised (and costs are therefore met) signals to me that the Utterby church community is so much wider than the members of the congregation.

It's widely but mistakenly thought that the Church of England funds its village churches. This is not so, and St Andrew's has to raise enough each year to meet its running expenses, essential repairs and maintenance. The support and generosity of the community is therefore vital to the survival of St Andrew's, and we do thank everyone for their generosity and support. Thank you one and all.

We did suffer some difficulties with Christmas activities 2022. The church was beautifully decorated with greenery but not everyone was able to enjoy the volunteers' efforts. Illness amongst the pupils at Utterby School led to the cancellation of their concerts, usually held in church. A power failure and subsequent lack of heating led to the relocation of the Churchwarden's 'Jolly'. Thanks to our host for the evening. Suffice to say a good time was had by all and Christmas will come again in 2023.



Above: The church beautifully decorated for Christmas



Below: Everyone enjoying the church 'Jolly'



As we look forward to 2023 we hope to provide the usual religious and life services and a programme of social events for everyone to enjoy. We are pleased to liaise with Simon and his Community Coffee mornings and will hope to provide Coffee and Cake sessions in church, alternating with Simon's dates.

The next fund raising event is Snowdrop Sunday 19th February, 11.00am to 3.00pm.

In the meantime, a very happy and healthy 2023 to all of Utterby's residents.

**Linda Sproston
St Andrew's DCC.**

Community Coffee Morning

In aid of

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

We started Utterby Community Coffee Morning on Friday 30 September 2022, with a Macmillan Coffee Morning, to link in with the national fundraising event. After all the restrictions that Covid brought, we wanted to provide an opportunity for people from the village to come along and meet up. We thought a Macmillan coffee morning would be a popular launch event.

But how do you let everyone in the village know about it? We turned to the tried and tested method of leafleting all the houses. Firstly one month before, so people could "save the date" and then again, a week before, we dropped off reminders. Thanks to our team, Mel, Clare, Joan, Glenda & Pat who put in the leg work, and helped with the leaflet drops. Thanks also to Linda for promoting it through the church.

Having no idea of how many might turn up, we baked enough cakes to feed an army...chocolate, coffee, lemon drizzle, ginger, Bakewell...just a few that were on the menu. Luckily, we had catered well, as the morning saw lots of people coming through the door. The cake mountain was gradually demolished! The coffee cake and chocolate and raspberry cake were particularly popular. A special thanks to Val for all her baking. Also to Glenda and Ann for their support with drink making, waitressing and washing up. At £3 for a drink and cake (or a donation of choice), our charity fundraiser made £277. Some people that were unable to attend kindly sent along donations too. We were delighted.

But, as we had hoped, this was not just about making money for charity. Many commented on how pleased they were that the event had provided an opportunity to get out and meet others from the village or catch up with people they hadn't seen for some time. We had a wide selection, from those who have lived here for many years, to those of us



Locals enjoying the chance to chat again at the coffee morning.

who are new to the area, and also people from nearby villages. Many people signed up to our new coffee morning email address (see below), so we could keep them informed of future dates/plans.

As a result, we also held a Christmas get together on 2 December, which was also very well attended, with lots of positive feedback and desire to come along to more.

We are aiming to hold more coffee mornings in the new year. Our hope is that the £3 for coffee/tea & cake will pay for the hall hire and incidental costs for some consumables. We will then put aside any "profits" and donate them to a charity/charities (to be decided) for the coming year.

If you'd like to sign up to our email address and be kept informed, please email us, letting us know your name, at utterbycoffeemorning@gmail.com Everyone is welcome!

Thanks for making Utterby Community Coffee Morning a success so far. With your support, we look forward to this continuing as the year progresses. We may also plan an evening quiz night sometime in the Spring/Summer. Watch this space!

**Simon & Andy
@The Barn**

Village Project Ideas

What is the Parish Precept? Parishes may charge a parish precept to fund the parish council and all the activities they undertake on behalf of your community. Each parish must forecast how much they are going to need in the following financial year. The precept levy is sent to the billing authority, in our case East Lindsey District Council, which collects the tax for the Parish Council. The 'Precept' is converted into an amount per Council Tax Band that is added onto your Council Tax bill.

Every year the most important item on the agenda for our Parish Council meetings is setting the level of the precept for the forthcoming year. For the last three years we have not raised the precept because we are in a relatively good financial position at this moment in time, so again for 2023/24 the precept will be £8843.84. We are always committed to spending your money prudently and with regard to best value. As a result it was agreed that the Parish Council would contact residents to find out if they might suggest any initiatives or ideas that could enhance and improve Utterby. A flyer was delivered to every residence asking you for suggestions. The response was encouraging and the Parish Council really appreciated people's comments. Following is a list of the feedback the Parish Council received, in no order of importance.



Village Green showing one of the benches installed in 2020.

- A signboard to be placed adjacent to the bus stop outside the village hall where village events could be promoted.
- Some sort of play equipment for children on the Village Green.
- Organising and financing for rural touring productions to perform either in the village hall or the church.
- Footpaths towards the northern end of the village redefined, refurbished and made safe to walk on.
- A community orchard, play area and wildlife pond on the Village Green.
- Tasteful and effective speed calming measures [decorative gates / village signs] on the main road.
- Traffic safety mirrors to be attached to the bus shelter opposite Chapel Lane to aid vision when pulling out onto the A16.
- More Trees and benches on the Village Green.
- Speed bumps installed in Church Lane to slowdown vehicles that completely ignore the speed limit.

These suggestions are really appreciated by the Parish Council. We feel that it is a positive step forward that residents are interested enough to want to contribute in the decision making process. It is your money that the Parish Council is entrusted to spend and any input into this process is welcomed. In my time as Parish Council Chair I have often felt a little disappointment from the lack of involvement by residents in village affairs, so hopefully this is now improving. Over the coming months the Parish Council will be looking at the feasibility and costings for the suggestions submitted and we will report back in the next edition of the Utterby Voice.

Check out the Parish Council website
utterby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/



utterbyparishcouncil

More Village News

Grass Verges

As the weather deteriorates the beautiful grass verges in all areas of Utterby will come under real threat. This occurs every year during the winter months. These green areas enhance our village and although the grass has a wonderful ability to recover during the spring and summer, it would be really appreciated if all residents, and more importantly visitors, respect our grass verges by considering where they park their cars and vans. We can all be more pro-active in protecting our green areas, especially in periods of extreme weather; hopefully residents can help by maintaining, wherever possible, the verges adjoining their own property also.

Litter

At a recent Parish Council meeting a resident commented on the disappointing amount of litter to be found down Church Lane. She was right to “flag-up” this issue. We all want Utterby to be kept in a tidy condition. The Parish Council are going to look at the provision of litter bins located at key locations around Utterby and apply to ELDC for extra bins where required.

Fix My Street

Many issues that occur in and around our village can be reported on “Fix My Street” www.fixmystreet.com which can easily be accessed online or even using your mobile smart phone. You can report or view local problems such as flooding, potholes, broken paving slabs or street lighting. Enter your postcode and you can then mark the issue on the map. It is advisable to add a photograph to any report regarding a highways issue.

Trees

During the past few years the council has been responsible for enhancing the village green by planting a variety of deciduous trees. Last Spring we planted four more trees on the village green. These had been



given to us as part of an initiative by Treescape. The timing of delivery was poor and subsequently the trees did not arrive in the greatest condition. Having been professionally planted the trees then had to endure the driest, hottest summer and despite our best efforts with watering two of the trees looked to have failed to survive. It is intended to replace these two trees at the appropriate time next spring to enhance this important public space. At the time of writing all other trees on the village green appear to be in a healthy condition.

Tragic Utterby House Fire

A 92-year-old man and 83-year-old woman died following a fire at a property in Main Road, Utterby, The fire was reported at around 11.17pm on Thursday 23 June 2022.

In response to this extremely tragic incident a minute’s silence was observed prior to July’s Parish Council meeting. This tragedy highlights the importance of safety in our homes. I would recommend that all residents check and update their home security arrangements with regard to fire. The following assistance is available for you.

Lincolnshire County Council

Online Home Fire Safety Check

The Online Home Fire Safety Check takes you through your home one room at a time helping you spot potential fire risks, offering tips and advice on the steps you can take to reduce those risks.

Once you have completed your check, you will receive a personalised fire safety action plan to help keep you and your household safe from fire.

You can use the tool to:

- Identify fire risks in your home
- Learn how you can reduce the risks
- Create your own home fire safety plan

Based on the answers you have given they may ask to contact you to arrange for one of their Fire Safety Advocate to come visit you. You will be asked to fill out a form with your contact details and they will get in touch with you.

Just put ‘Lincolnshire County Council Online Home Fire Safety Check’ into the search engine on your device to find the page.

Dogs and the Law

Our village has many dogs and a wide variety of breeds. Residents can be seen enjoying their canine companions every day through the village on the highways and lanes. Having a dog means you have to take responsibility for it - we hope you find the information below of interest.

Understanding dog law in the UK - There are laws in the UK regarding our dogs which are in place to help keep yourself, your dog, and everyone around you protected and happy.

The Animal Welfare Act was brought about in order to make sure your dog's basic physical, emotional and mental needs are met.

Dogs in public places must wear a **collar** with a tag which states the owner's last name and address. A telephone number (preferably a mobile) is optional but advised. The details on the tag will all help in returning a lost dog to their rightful owner, so the more information you put on, the better! It is however advised against putting the dog's name on the tag as this may give someone looking to steal your dog the opportunity to call it over by name. It should be noted that there are some working and assistance dogs that are exempt from this law.

Microchipping is a legal requirement. Since 6 April 2016, all dogs in England, Scotland and Wales must be microchipped by the time they are 8 weeks of age and registered with a compliant database.

Cleaning up after your dog - The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014 provides Councils with the powers to deal with people who fail to clean up their dog faeces. East Lindsey District Council has a Fixed Penalty for dog fouling currently set at £100.00. If you are issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice you must pay the amount due within 14 days and if you fail to pay the amount due, the matter will be referred to the Council's solicitor.

There are a number of bins around the village. **PLEASE USE THEM.**

Dogs off lead - It is best to keep your dog on a lead on the highway and in public areas for everybody's safety, but there are designated areas where dogs **MUST** be kept on leads. It is also an offence if you are told to put your dog on a lead by an authorised person (ie Policeman or Council Officer) and do not do so.

Dogs and livestock - Your dog must not worry livestock. Farmers have a reasonable right to protect their livestock from you dog. Worrying livestock includes attacking livestock, chasing livestock in such a way as may reasonably be expected to cause injury or suffering to the livestock or, in the case of females, abortion, or loss of or diminution in their produce, 'being at large' (that is to say not on a lead or otherwise under close control) in a field or enclosure in which there are sheep. A farmer is **allowed to kill your dog** if it's worrying their livestock.



The Dangerous Dogs Act - It's against the law to let a dog be dangerously out of control anywhere such as in a public place, in a private place, for example a neighbour's house / garden or in the owner's home. It is worth noting that some types of dogs are banned altogether. You can report a dog that's out of control - your dog is considered dangerously out of control if it injures someone or makes someone worried that it might injure them. A court could also decide that your dog is dangerously out of control if it attacks someone's animal or the owner of an animal thinks they could be injured if they tried to stop your dog attacking their animal.

Barking Nuisance A dog's constant barking can be considered a nuisance and a local authority can serve a Noise Abatement Notice or Community Protection Notice, which if not followed, can result in fines/legal expenses.

Travel Rule 57 of the Highway Code states that when in a vehicle you have to make sure that dogs or other animals are suitably restrained so they cannot distract you while you are driving or injure you, or themselves, if you stop quickly. A seat belt harness, pet carrier, dog cage or dog guard are ways of restraining animals in cars.

It is our responsibility to care for our dogs, to be aware of the laws that affect them and keep them safe from harm.

Please be a responsible pet owner so that every one in the village can be happy!



A Look Back at Utterby



Three of these photographs show the farming community in Utterby early in the 20th century. The fourth photo shows a very different way of arriving at St Andrew's Church for a funeral... by horse and cart.

The originals of these photos can be seen hanging in the Village hall. Thank you for letting us use them in the Utterby Voice.



Check out the Parish Council website at utterby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/ or the Facebook page @utterbyparishcouncil for info and news.



Introducing the Anne Robson Helpline - if you or someone close to you is dying, you can talk to us. At the Anne Robson Trust we aim to be there to listen to anyone who faces dying or the imminent death of someone they care about. We know that facing the end of life can leave you feeling isolated and alone.

Being able to access support is so important. Gaining knowledge of what may happen towards the end of life and being prepared helps both the person dying and their loved ones to feel a sense of control.

Calls are free and confidential. Call us on 0808 801 0688 - we have time to talk. Please visit www.annerobsontrust.org.uk/helpline-service to find out more.

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,
Pear Tree Farm, Pear Tree Lane,
Utterby LN11 0XY
Email: terry.upc@gmail.com

Councillor Nicola Gallant
1 Jacobs Close, Utterby LN11 0GJ
Email: nicolaJutterbypc@gmail.com

Councillor John Mackin,
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Email: johnutterbypc@gmail.com

Councillor Nicola Mackin,
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Email: nicolautterbypc@gmail.com

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
- Kissing gates (x 2)
- Decorative village sign
- Parish notice board
- Planters at the end of four lanes and on main road
- Village Green, hedge and trees on the green
- Two park benches on Village 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)

