



Wilbarston Chronicle



PARISH NEWS

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Andrew Smith	20 Main street akgsmith@yahoo.co.uk
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Becky Jones (Clerk to the council)	clerk@wilbarstonparishcouncil.gov.uk

It does mean that there remains one vacancy on the council which can be filled by the council deciding to co-opt. If there is anyone who was unwilling to offer themselves for election but might be prepared to seek co-option please contact Nick Richards.

At the first meeting of the new council the following elections were made:

Chairman	Cllr. Richards
Vice Chairman	Cllr. Smith
Highways Representative	Cllr. Willatts
Footpath Officers	Cllrs. Walkling, Smith
Playing Field Survey Organiser	Cllr. Willatts
Snow Officer	Cllr. Walkling
Finance Committee	Cllrs. Richards, Dale, Walkling, Smith
Chronicle Editors	Cllrs. Dale, Royle Janet Mackintosh,
Representative on Care Committee	Cllr. Royle
Representative on Bonfire Committee	Cllr. James
Representative on Village Hall Committee	Cllr. Dale, Royle
Telephone Box Officer	Cllr. Walkling

GRASS MOWING IN THE VILLAGE



It will have been noticed that mowing of some areas, particularly the village green, has been neglected this spring. This had been undertaken in the past by Kettering Borough Council and in the case of the green augmented, but not replaced, in recent years by interim volunteer activity. The Borough Council Environmental Services were approached and it transpired that they cut a number of these areas on behalf of the county council, whose responsibility they are, but are no longer receiving payment for doing so. We appeared to have become part of an ongoing disagreement.

We pointed out that we had not been consulted, or even advised, about the decision not to cut our green and we asked that the service be reinstated whilst their discussions continued. This has now happened but it is another space which we are going to need to watch.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Annual Assembly took place on April 27th at the village hall attended by parish councillors and a small but select group of residents.

It was reported that there were contributions from Wilbarston Church of England Primary School, All Saints Church, the Parish Allotments Association and the Village Hall Management Committee as well as on behalf of local choirs and bands.

The school had had a busy year, including a competition amongst the children to design a new logo to replace that previously created by a former pupil. The school is now a secure site meeting OFSTED and Safeguarding requirements.

The church, in common with others in the area, had suffered the theft of a large quantity of copper from the roof and plans are in hand to replace with stainless steel. There is a strategy to re-hang the existing bells and to add a new one and ongoing work to re-open the north door, add toilets and create level access is again progressing. More support from the community would be welcomed.



The allotments had had a good year, being into their fourth growing season and with only a half plot vacant in addition to plot one, which to date has been used for communal activities. Work is required at the original Rushton Road site to improve the roadside boundary.

The village hall has benefitted from a steady programme of repairs and improvements and the committee was thanked for its efforts. The major project ahead is replacement of the roof, which is getting towards the end of its useful life; the boiler also will soon need replacement.

The village has a tradition of encouraging local musical talent. Both the Albany Singers, who meet weekly in Stoke Albany village hall, and the Praise Band, who support church activities, are open to new members.

The Chairman of the parish council then reported. Public transport had been a theme during the year, with dissatisfaction at the restricted 67 bus service having led to some proposed

amendments which will be published by the county council after the general election. Whilst awaiting these the council is gathering information on volunteer community schemes elsewhere.

Other problems on the agenda had been incorrect access to the airfield by HGVs using the restricted lane from the A427 opposite the village approach and horse riding on the playing field where there is no bridleway, as well as a recent issue with non-mowing of the village green. The council continues to liaise with Rockingham Castle Estate about the HGVs, signs had been erected to warn horse riders to avoid the playing fields and discussions were continuing with Kettering Borough Council about the mowing – see article elsewhere for later developments.

Reference was also made to the defibrillator, now fully commissioned. The vehicle activated sign which we now have use of on a rota basis, and the website, which is being promoted as a source of information on all activities and events in the parish.

Finally, attention was drawn to the council's 2017/18 budget which had previously been published in the Chronicle. No questions were raised.

Villagers were invited to raise issues of concern. Worries were raised over the extent and nature of school gate parking,



which was seen as creating a dangerous environment for children being dropped off or picked up, and it was asked that the school's current policy on the matter be ascertained. It was felt that this issue posed a greater risk and that which prompted the railings. It was also suggested that as communication methods continue to evolve it might be appropriate to combine the Signpost magazine, produced by the church, with Wilbarston's Chronicle and Stoke Albany's occasional newsletter to create one magazine with one delivery network. The parish council will investigate this.

The Chair of the parish council, having earlier thanked all volunteers for their contributions in the parish, thanked all for attending and the meeting closed.

OPEN GARDENS

The Wilbarston Open Gardens took place on Sunday 7th May and the clouds miraculously cleared for glorious sunshine to radiate down on us! This brought out a large number of visitors (some from as far away as Norfolk), making the day a huge success.

The Village Hall was the start and finishing point, offering an excellent base for a plant sale, art exhibition and textile stall, along with home-made cakes and refreshments.

Eleven beautiful gardens were open around the village for people to look around and they varied from large mature grounds to smaller well-stocked plots. Many boasted stunning views, secret hide-away areas and all were looking glorious for the occasion. Wilbarston is certainly a village to be proud of and has many fantastic corners tucked away.

The Parish Allotments were open for viewing on the day providing extra interest and All Saints Church was also on the route. Throughout the afternoon bell ringing demonstrations were taking place with a live webcam in the church tower showing the bells in action!

The proceeds from the event raised an impressive £1900 for the church and the plant sale raised a tremendous £695 for the church bell project.

A huge thank you to everyone who made this day an enjoyable and successful fundraiser.



High Tea in the Post Office Garden

To raise money for the Seniors' Christmas Party, we will be hosting afternoon tea on



Sunday 6th 13th and 20th August 2017

Please reserve your table at the post Office. £15 pp

FASHION SHOW

A BIG thank you to everyone who supported the Fashion show in the village Hall on Monday 22nd May. We made over £300 towards the Seniors Christmas party.

SOS fashion Company came with a van load of high street garments, at greatly reduced prices, for us all to try on.

The clothes we expertly modelled by ladies from Wilbarston and Stoke Albany. We had homemade cakes and a chance to win excellent raffle prizes. What's not to like? A lovely evening was had by all.



FANCY A DAY OUT?



When the public bus service ceased to include Rushton, the village was able to get funding to purchase their own 16 seater mini bus as part of a community transport scheme. The bus has nine qualified MiDAS trained drivers who deliver a service for their residents to Rothwell on Monday and Kettering on Friday.

The rest of the time the bus is available for use / hire after 9am.

Wilbarston could buy into the service for a booking fee of £20 plus 80p a mile. So, a trip to Corby would cost £20 plus 8miles @80p = £6.40 divided between 16 passengers, would be £1.65 for a return journey if the bus was full.

Wilbarston Parish Council would like to know if you have any ideas on how we could benefit from using the Rushton bus and how we could guarantee numbers for covering the cost.

Possible suggestions might include booking the bus:

- Once a month for a day's shopping in Oakham or Stamford.
- A weekly service into Corby allowing more time than the present service bus offers.
- We could organise an evening trip to the cinema or theatre.
- We could arrange a monthly 'jolly' to Foxton locks or other neighbouring villages for lunch and a stroll.

If you have any ideas, would like to help in the organisation of trips, or would like to be trained (free of charge) as a volunteer driver, please contact: Cllr. Georgina Royle 771428 or pop in for a chat - 4 Chapel Lane, Wilbarston.

Over 80's Garden Tea Party

Thursday 3rd August 2017

If you know of anyone in Wilbarston or Stoke Albany who is 80 or over and would like an invitation, please contact:



**Sharon at the Post Office or
Georgina on 01536 771428**

Those who attended last year will automatically receive an invitation year

THE WILBARSTON PUDDLE

Over the last year a large puddle has appeared outside the Post Office whenever it rains to the inconvenience of all. When reported to Street Doctor it was drained, but the **cause** of the problem was not addressed. So I reported it direct to the Highways with a photograph followed up by telephone discussion. A camera was sent down the drain which revealed a pipe through the Highways gully. Gigaclear which was working close to the gully last year has been informed and asked to investigate. It has referred the matter to its contractors who did the work. We will wait and see what happens.

Rosalind Willatts, Highway Warden



WILBARSTON BELL RINGERS

Hello everyone from the soggy end of the village (well it had been raining persistently when I wrote this piece).

I hope you have noticed a further improvement in the standard of ringing from the team since the last Chronicle was issued. We are still receiving a number of complimentary remarks as we go about our daily routines in the village which is very encouraging.

Fund raising for the rehangng and augmentation of the bells is still progressing with the last event we were involved in being the open garden day on Sunday 7th May with our plant sale at the village hall and ringing demonstrations that took place throughout most of the afternoon.

The plant sale raised just over £700 and still counting. The sale was organised by Siobhan Lovell who was ably assisted by Helen Churchman and Ann Dowling. Contributions for the sale came from various sources including the three ladies mentioned and Siobhan also enlisted the help of the school who grew various plants under the guidance of Margaret Madams. A huge thank you must go to the three ladies, other ringers, villagers galore and the school.

I must also mention the weather on the day. Having had such poor weather on the Saturday before, we were all quite concerned that it may put a dampener on the various events taking place but out of the blue came a truly glorious day and from my point of view, having only lived here for three and a half years, we had a village packed to the gunnels. The Open Gardens were also a huge success along with the other activities that took place in the village hall. I'm sure there will be more detailed reviews of these events on another page in this newsletter. I should though mention another bell ringer who organised the open gardens and that's Diane Atter. Thanks Diane.

I'm pleased to say that we also had a steady stream of people in the Church during the afternoon and quite a number asked questions about how we ring, what the different parts of the bell are, and how the bells themselves actually function. We were able to show the functioning of the bells during the ringing periods by a "Bell Cam" that was rigged up by Nick Churchman in the ringing chamber with the pictures being sent down to a monitor in the church.

The whole event was a huge success to the point where instead of ringing for short bursts every half an hour or so we rang almost continually until around 4:30

I'd like to say a big thank you to all the ringers who helped out during the afternoon. We had a number of guest ringers dropping in throughout the afternoon who more than ably assisted the local ringers. We even had one session of some rather obscure change ringing methods.

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part and helped raise a staggering £700 +

We are progressing well with our application for a Faculty from the Peterborough Diocesan for the work on the bells and I hope to bring positive news in the next edition of the Chronicle

Peter Chilton for the Wilbarston Bell Ringers

FUN DOG GAMES AND DOG SHOW

PLEASE bring your dog to the Wilbarston summer fete on Saturday 1st July to join in the fun.

At 1.30 pm there will be FREE fun games with prizes - Musical mats, best trick, longest staydown, egg and spoon race.

The 'Dog Show' starts at 2 pm and has 8 classes. You can register your dog from 1 pm at the show or you can use the form included in this Chronicle.

EVERY dog wins a prize and there are rosettes for each class from 1st to 6th place.

For more information please phone Julia Walkling on (01536) 771121.





**DESBOROUGH & DISTRICT
GROUP OF THE WILDLIFE
TRUSTS, UPCOMING OUTDOOR
MEETINGS**

For Tuesday events meet at 7.00 pm or for Sunday events 10.00 am, unless otherwise stated, in Station Road, Desborough, opposite the dentist surgery. If you know where the venue is you can go straight there. All events are free to attend unless otherwise stated. Please wear stout footwear and bring waterproofs and for 10.00 am starts bring a packed lunch and drink.

Tuesday 13th June: - A walk around The Plens with Bill Featherstone. Explore this local reserve in Desborough.

Friday 16th June at 7.30pm: - Concert at Brampton Ash Church entitled 'Summertime, a celebration of music and words' featuring local group of musicians 'Sirocco'. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children, to include drink and finger buffet. Tickets available from Desborough Heritage Centre or Keith Walkling, call 01536 771121.

Sunday 25th June

10.00am: - A guided visit to Pitsford Reservoir with Neil McMahon, one of the wardens. Booking essential, cost £5. Find out about the wildlife to be seen at this wetland reserve.



Tuesday 11th July at 10.00am: - A walk in Fineshade Wood with Steven Ashpole, the group's chairman.

Sunday 16th July at 10.00 am: - Butterfly walk with Bill Featherstone visiting a site of special interest, venue to be announced.



Tuesday 8th August at 7.30: - Visit to Stoke Wood and Stoke Wood End Quarter site of special scientific interest with the warden.

Sunday 20th August at 10.00 am: - A walk in the Rutland Water area with Steven Ashpole.

For details of these events and others run by the Beds, Cambs and Northants Wildlife Trust please visit their website events page.
Keith Walkling



WILBARSTON VILLAGE HALL

Website:

www.wilbarstonvillagehall.btck.co.uk

Also on Facebook:

<https://facebook.com/wilbarstonvillagehall/>

As reported in the previous edition, planning continues apace for the Summer Fayre which will be held on the 1st of July from 12 noon till 4pm. There will be a wide range of fun activities to suit all ages so come along and enjoy the day and support your village hall! A big thank-you is due to the dedicated group of volunteers who are organising the many stalls, activities and events. It requires a huge amount of time and effort to bring it all together and there is still a need for more volunteers from our village community to assist. If you want to get involved please contact Judith Farr on 771178.

In terms of social activity at the hall, there is a lot happening at the present time. We are looking to have regular Disco/Karaoke and Bingo nights – the latest was on Saturday 20th May. There will also be an adult comedy night on Friday 16th June. More details about these and future events, and other things happening at the hall, can be found on our website and on Facebook.

The committee continues with its strategy to improve both the maintenance and appearance of the hall. New roller blinds have been fitted to the upper windows in the main hall. With the funds raised from last year's Summer Fayre and Xmas Fair, the committee has been able to purchase a replacement set of curtains for the main hall and we hope to be installing these shortly. A special thanks to Diane Atter for organising this.

Following the start already made, we hope to continue a gradual process of decoration throughout the hall.

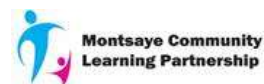
Recent changes have been made to the membership of the committee. We say good bye to Linda Whitehead and Judith Farr, and thank them for their contribution over many years. We welcome John Hooper and Georgina Royle onto the Committee and look forward to working with them both. We still have vacant positions on the committee so if you want to participate in running our village hall for the Wilbarston community, please contact me, Mike Doyle on 770036 or email mikedoyle429@btinternet.com.

Finally, there are still a number of days during the week when the hall is available for hire at very reasonable rates (currently Wednesdays and Fridays and during the evenings). If you or anybody you know might be interested in hiring the hall for clubs, keep-fit, dancing etc please contact Glennys Potter on 01536 770820 or email glennyspotter@btinternet.com for more information.

Mike Doyle, Chair, Village Hall Management Committee



WELCOME TO THE SUMMER NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL.



We are all hoping that the lovely summer weather (as I write) continues to help us with our summer events!

As always, the last few months have flown by and lots has been achieved. At the moment, all classes are working hard to learn their country dances ready for our Midsummer Fair. All classes perform two dances on the day. Last Friday all classes also celebrated International Dance Day. We had a specialist dance teacher in school who taught each class a national dance. Class 1 learnt an African dance, Class 2 a Chinese dance with fans, Class 3 Irish dancing, Class 4 a Greek dance and Class 5 a South American dance. The children had great fun in their sessions and performed for one another at the end of the day. It was fabulous.

Class 4 & 5 pupils continue to benefit from specialist French lessons with Mme. Horne from Montsaye. Class 4 are finding out about another world faith this term – Hinduism. Class 5 are working with an external Design specialist on an architectural design project to encourage children to gain an interest in architecture and engineering.

Children in Class 3 are learning about natural events such as volcanoes – always a popular topic. They are working with a specialist Science teacher on their rocks and soils element and had fun making fossils from materials.

Class 2 children are working on their local studies and this will culminate in a trip to Foxton Locks, which they are really looking forward to.

Class 1 pupils are having fun learning to be mechanics and writing up MOT reports alongside running a local Post Office in their role play. This time of year, is great for our youngest pupils to use the better weather outdoors for many more activities – although it is an all year-round area of learning the sunshine makes it a lot more fun!

I know parking around school continues to be an issue. Sadly, we now see our PCSOs twice a year (Bonfire Night and Trick or Treat talk and Drugs Talk for Y6 pupils) and so their role in challenging parking has diminished. As we approach our busy time of summer events we will be reminding our families to follow our travel plan to park at the Village Hall or walk to school if possible to ease the congestion around school. We do often remind parents to be respectful of their parking.

All are very welcome at our annual Parents Association BBQ which is on the evening of **Friday 9th June** – come and have a burger and help us to raise much needed funds in these challenging times for budgets. We are raising money for more technology in school e.g. some new ipads and for improving our outdoor areas further – come and see the great Multi Use Games Area we bought with our last few years fund raising when you visit!

All best wishes, Andrea Green and all at school.

FRIENDS

The year continues to go well for Friends. In March Hilary Miles came to talk about her extended visit to New Zealand (not Australia and Canada as I mistakenly said in my Last Chronicle entry!). She brought some slides and the time passed very quickly. New Zealand is clearly a fascinating place and I'm sure she was envied by all of us there. Hilary also kindly brought some delicious New Zealand recipe cakes and biscuits for us to have with our tea and coffee. Many thanks, Hilary, for a very interesting and pleasant evening.

In April Ian from Ganders Goat Farm came to talk to us about the farm and how he and his wife, Lauren, had ended up running a goat farm and making goats milk soap and ice cream. He, too, brought slides for us to look at and was both interesting and amusing. He brought some samples of goat milk ice cream for us to try and it was delicious. I can absolutely recommend that you try the ice cream, which comes in several flavours and which Sharon sells in Wilbarston shop.

This week we are looking forward to our meal out which is at the Fox in Wilbarston and in June I will be hosting the members of Friends to my house for a barbeque. I'm just hoping the weather will be good – I have been told that June is to be hot and sunny. (The words 'believe' and 'see' come to mind!)

In July, we have chosen to go fruit picking at Dovecote Buttery in Geddington, followed by lunch. Again, we are hoping for good weather. After that we have a break in August with no meeting and then in September David James will be coming to talk to us about his work as a blacksmith.

As you could see we have a good variety of things going on at Friends. Ladies, please feel free to come along to any of the meetings and sample the 'goodies'. Wishing everyone a warm and sunny summer.

THE FOX INN – WILBARSTON



OPENING TIMES

Sunday	12pm – 9pm (Food 12pm – 4pm)
Monday	5pm – 9pm (kitchen closed)
Tuesday	5pm – 11pm (kitchen closed)
Wednesday	5pm – 11pm (Food 6pm – 9pm)
Thursday	5pm - 11pm (Food 6pm – 9pm)
Friday	1pm – 12am (Food 6pm – 9pm)
Saturday	12pm – 12am (Food 12pm – 2pm & Food 6pm – 9pm)

***Wilbarston Summer Fete on Saturday 1st July.
Last year the Classic Vehicles were very popular,
therefore, this year there will be a bigger display.
Hope you will come and enjoy the day.***



ENTRY FORM FOR PRODUCE SHOW AT WILBARSTON FETE

1ST JULY 2017

Show Categories - Open entries – 50p per class – all villagers welcome to enter

VEGETABLES AND FRUIT

- Class 1: Potatoes x 5 Class 2: Lettuce x 1
Class 3: Peas in Pod x 5 Class 4: Broad Beans in Pod x 3
Class 5: Carrots x 3 Class 6: Soft Fruit x 8

FLOWERS

- Class 7: Fresh Flower Arrangement (no artificial flowers or foliage). Max size 40cm x 40cm
Class 8: Rose – Single stem in vase Class 9: Sweet Pea stems x 3 (scented)
Class 10: Cut Flower stems, all the same x 4

BAKING

- Class 11: Carrot Cake with iced topping (use own recipe)
Class 12: Cup Cakes, decorated x 6
Class 13: Biscuits x 5 of own recipe

OTHER CLASSES

- Class 14: Piece of Artwork Class 15: Piece of handicraft

CHILDREN'S CLASSE'S (11 or under)

- Class 16: Piece of 2D Artwork: Class 17: Ginger bread novelty, shaped and decorated
Class 18: 'Welcome to Wilbarston' card (maximum size A4 folded)
Class 19: Miniature garden/landscape/beach max size 740 sq cm (e.g. 35cm x 22cm seed tray)

Please tick the classes above that you are entering and give this form, with 50p per class, to the produce organisers when you arrive with your entries, **no later than 10am on Saturday 1st July 2017**

If you are willing for your entry to be sold after the show please tick here:-

Name..... Address.....

Copies of this form can be found on the village hall web site www.wilbarstonvillagehall.btck.co.uk , in the Fox, the shop or contact John Hooper, 01536 770888 johnbarbarahooper@btinternet.com
