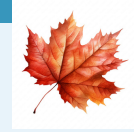


# A NOTE FROM...

## YOUR (BROUGHTON) PARISH COUNCIL



AUTUMN 2024

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter.

It took a long time for us to shake off the rain and summer doesn't seem to have lasted very long at all, fingers crossed that there are a few more sunny days to come yet before the seasons alter and we turn into real autumn and winter.

Going back to school is always a landmark time on the calendar but it does feel that this year with world events and a change of government, there is a lot more for all of us to be thinking about.

### Save the Date !

Broughton Parish Council will be holding a Drop In event at The Red Lion on **Saturday 5th October** (from 11am-1pm) so please come along for a (free) coffee or tea and a chat and let us know if there is anything that is bothering you, you want us to be aware of or, if we can help with something. The feedback from the last session was great and we can advise that all queries raised with us were either answered on the day or have been dealt with subsequently.

We are going to be supported this time by Jenni who is a Rural Officer and member of the team from Northants ACRE - she will also be able to supply lots of information and help for anything that you might just not quite know where or who to go to. FYI, Northants ACRE is an organisation supporting villages and rural communities in Northamptonshire. Broughton Parish Council has been working with them for many years and we are very happy that they can come along. Jenni will have a few warm-pack give aways with her but it will be first come, first served!

*Broughton Parish Council is always looking to promote Broughton whenever it can and has been representing the village at various meetings recently. Please pick up on all news, reports, agendas and minutes via our website : [www.broughtonpc.co.uk](http://www.broughtonpc.co.uk).*

# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING.....

## Christmas Lights

We are getting to that time of year where, dare we say it, Christmas is there on the horizon (and in Tesco already!)

The Parish Council is very aware that we have previously had a great Christmas display with the lights in the trees in the big park on the High Street that could be seen from quite a distance. This display came about as John Stamper, previously of the parish and long-time former Parish Councillor won a competition on behalf of the Parish Council with EON with a seasonal poem and the lights were put up in the trees by the then, Kettering Borough Council.



Former Parish Councillors John Stamper, Jean Farenden and Joan Page with the all too important cheque for £2,500

# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING.....

## Christmas Lights (cont)

Sadly, whilst many can remember these lights clearly, it was in 2006. Time and weather took its toll on the lights themselves until we were down to one tree and then eventually, they broke down completely. When we tried to renew these lights, we discovered that the power source had been removed. The Parish Council has been trying to resolve this and have the power source reinstated but we are currently at an impasse as the Parish Council is not the billholder and until we can find a route through beyond this, we are stuck.

We do still have the other Christmas lights on the tree to the side of the Chapel and we hope that we can keep these going as long as we can but the tree has grown a lot and the lights are getting a bit tight! By the way, the Parish Council also planted this tree and both John Stamper and Malc Darlow kept it watered until it took root. They would be delighted to see it looking so good now.

We have plans for just as soon as we can get a power source going in the Big Park and in the meantime, failing everything else, we will be dressing the two smaller trees by the Red Lion.

### Christmas Cheer (winning poem by John Stamper)

As largest village in the Borough  
Our public duties must be thorough.  
So seeking to make Christmas bright,  
The Council studied how they might  
Erect and decorate a tree  
With coloured bulbs for all to see

What site to choose, the Church or not?  
Perhaps the High Street was the spot?  
Each year we opted to select  
A site which gave the best effect

Alas as funds become depleted  
It seems our aims may be defeated  
We need financial recognition  
To carry on this great tradition.  
Some kindly soul might pay the debt  
But E-ON would be a safer bet!

# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING.....

## Memorial Garden update

We have completed the new grass garden planting scheme in the memorial garden which thankfully, has survived the summer in good shape and we hope that this will now provide us all with a changing display as the seasons move through.

It was a bit of a battle of the never ending weeds at one point but we did win and we can say that it has been a great and really rewarding project for the Parish Council to do. Although the ground itself belongs to North Northants Council, we are pleased to have been able to have had the chance to make this corner look a little bit more loved and will bring pleasure to all. More improvements will follow in due course.



# CURRENTLY .....

## Green Spaces

Once again, this year has been tedious with North Northants Council with our green spaces in the village looking very poor for much of the time.

This is hugely disappointing and almost makes what service we do get virtually worthless as the mess that is left after a very long overdue cut sometimes looks less tidy than it did beforehand.

The Parish Council is all too aware of the dilemma that we have and has remonstrated repeatedly with NNC but we have not seen any improvement which is deeply frustrating as we are all left feeling that valuable resource is just being wasted. The Parish Council is committed to be looking at all options to achieve a better solution going forward.

## Speeding Traffic

You may have noticed over the last few years that we have a mobile speed monitor that we have been using at various locations in the village to map where we have speeding issues and to what extent. This is helping us to inform the discussions we have been having with Highways with regard to what measures we can secure to help reduce the problems that we have.

Unfortunately we have a legacy from when the bypass went in that has left us with the main route through the village being largely just as it was when it was the main road. This really should have been modified at the time to reflect the newly declassified road status and reduce traffic speeds but very regrettably, it wasn't.

Our data from the speed monitor indicates that traffic is moving through the village in parts at speeds well above the legal limit but it is no surprise to us all that we have a significant problem in Northampton Road with some really excessive speeds that we just don't want to see.

Broughton Parish Council will continue to update via this magazine and through parish council meetings/minutes on further progress on measures that Highways are proposing to help improve the speeding traffic.

# CURRENTLY .....

## Still a Hot Topic

Everyone is asked to please always park throughout the Village with consideration for others. Broughton was built before cars came about and in places it really isn't straightforward in today's world of often multiple cars per household.

However, we have to work with what we have and sometimes things can be made a bit easier if we work together.

Firstly, if you have a driveway, please do use it as this can only help.

If you are parking on the road please take a moment to think if your parking could be causing someone else a problem – this can be for other vehicles eg are you obscuring visibility near a junction and equally for pedestrians – are you obscuring their visibility, not leaving enough room on the footpath for them to pass safely or making someone with a pram or wheelchair walk in the road.

As this is now a new school year a reminder please that parking on Cransley Hill at school drop off and pick up times is contentious and has been for a very long time. The appropriate road markings and signage are in place and all car drivers are requested to observe these at all times.

Many parents do walk their children to school but for some who are going on to work or who are travelling in to the village, walking obviously isn't practical and they need their vehicles.

For parents who are using their cars, please do whatever you can to park with consideration and with due regard for the safety of all children, pedestrians, residents and other vehicles.

Do not park irresponsibly or dangerously. If parking is not available immediately outside the school, please allow yourself a few minutes so that you can park a little bit further away and walk the remainder to the school itself.

# CURRENTLY .....

## Local Election

As we are issuing this newsletter, a snap local by-election has been announced to fill the vacancy that has arisen for our local North Northamptonshire Council (Burton/Broughton/Pytchley) representation. Former Councillor Chris Smith Haynes has retired from NNC due to ill-health, generating this vacancy. Election day is Thursday 10th October. Last day to register to vote is 25th September. Postal votes will start to be sent out from 25th September.

Candidate details were not available when we went to print.

## Free Food in the Chapel

The Broughton bags 4 Good food table is available at the Chapel - please feel free to make use of this food - The Chapel is trying to help reduce food waste with the supermarkets by keeping these distributions open. Food Donations are very varied each time as it is simply what becomes available. The Food Table is open each Tuesday and Friday at 10am. Tea, coffee and a chat are also available!



# CURRENTLY.....



Northamptonshire Police is relaunching its countywide Street Watch programme and is inviting local people to come together as volunteers to contribute to community safety and crime prevention in their neighbourhood.

Street Watch enables local people to take an active role in keeping their community safe by patrolling their local area as part of an organised scheme, identifying potential issues and engaging with local residents, encouraging them to report things like antisocial behaviour, vandalism and suspicious behaviour to the police. Volunteers are supported by a coordinator who liaises with team members and their local neighbourhood policing team to share information and help progress any initiatives that can help prevent crime and improve safety in their local area.

Volunteers are asked to spend a minimum of two hours a month, at times that suit them, patrolling with other scheme members in their local area.

Chief Inspector Dave Wakeman, explained that "Street Watch is based on a very simple idea – it's about going for a walk with your neighbours, getting to know people in the area, being a visible presence to help deter crime and anti-social behaviour and generally building up a greater sense of community spirit.

Anyone who would like to get involved or set up a Street Watch scheme in their area can find out more at [northants.police.uk/streetwatch](http://northants.police.uk/streetwatch) or email [citizensinpolicing@northants.police.uk](mailto:citizensinpolicing@northants.police.uk).



WHAT'S COMING UP....



# **Broughton Parish Council**

# **Drop in and Chat**

**The Red Lion  
11am til 1pm**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October**



Free tea, coffee and biscuits

# WHAT'S COMING UP.....

Do you have any artistic flair – would you be able to help us?

Broughton Parish Council is looking to start a new project for our Village Map. The current map is placed by the wall to the High Street Park but it is looking very tired these days and is out of date.

We would like to do a shout out for any artists in the village to help us with the new Map ?

We are hoping to make this new map more relevant and helpful in today's world and would like to make it interactive so that by scanning a QR code, this will reveal the history of certain of our village buildings.

This is quite a big project so we will break it down into various stages but above all, it will require a new map design and this is what we need your help with initially.

If you think this is something you would like to join in and help us with, please contact Alison, our Clerk who will be happy to take some details from you.



# USEFUL INFO

Free impartial advice and support is available to help check if you can save household energy and reduce your bills. Green Doctor is delivered by Groundwork Northamptonshire Charitable Trust.



## GREEN DOCTOR



### Home Energy Efficiency Advisory Service

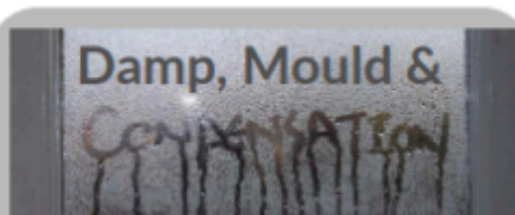
Your paragraph text

#### What do Green Doctors do?

We offer impartial advice and support to help you save energy, reduce your bills, and live in a warmer, more comfortable home.

Here are some of the **FREE** services we offer when you sign up for a visit:

- Identifying causes of heat loss in your home
- Helping identify and tackle damp or mould problems
- Offering useful tips for saving energy and water whilst ensuring your home stays safe and comfortable
- Installation small energy and water efficiency measures, such as draft excluders
- Supporting you to switch energy providers to save money
- Supporting you to access other services, such as emergency heating, government subsidies or grants, advice on energy or water debt.



#### Did you know...

The more humid the air is in your house, the more energy it takes to warm your house because it is also warming the water in the air. This means it will be more expensive to heat

Our Green Doctors can help, offering advice plus handy hints & tips for controlling damp, mould and condensation problems with your home



Green Doctor services are fully funded and  
**TOTALLY FREE**  
Don't miss out - book your consultation now



- Telephone 07739 327022 or 07936 941056
- WhatsApp 07756 869879 (text only - leave your name & contact number, & we'll get back to you)
- or self-refer at <https://groundwork.my.salesforce-sites.com/britishgas>

An in-home consultation usually takes around one hour. The service is 100% Free, impartial and confidential.  
We do not share your data with anyone else.

Northamptonshire Green Doctor is delivered by Groundwork Northamptonshire Charitable Trust

# USEFUL INFO

## Community Transport Service

Community transport providers in Northamptonshire provide a valuable and often essential service to vulnerable people. Poor rural bus networks cause isolation and push more people into difficulty or poverty. Community transport schemes across Northamptonshire help 1000's of people reach doctors and hospital appointments and take them to fetch groceries. The 2024 directory features every community transport provider in the county with detailed information about the services they offer. The directory also includes village lists to help find the schemes that operate in each area.

To receive a copy of the directory, please call ACRE on 01604 765888 or you can email : [acre@northantsacre.org.uk](mailto:acre@northantsacre.org.uk)

Don't miss out !



# NOSTALGIA CORNER

We have an aerial photo from 1972 showing the bottom end of Northampton Road, Wellingborough Road and then out of the village towards Kettering. This shows the main A43 through the village with the garage on the corner of Wellingborough Road. Interesting to see how things have changed - zooming into the image, it looks as though everyone is growing their own veg!

We can share a higher grade copy of this image with you if you want to try and see more - please contact Alison, our Clerk



# USEFUL INFO.....

## How to Report Potholes

You can report potholes, follow the progress and view other highways maintenance issues via the North Northants Council Street Doctor service using this link :

<https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/contactus>

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## Please Close the Gate at The Cemetary

Knowing that our loved ones are safe brings great comfort. If you are visiting or even just passing the Cemetary, please have a look to see if the gates are closed. In years gone by, the gates were closed each day, this is no longer the case so if we can all take a look when passing, this will help.

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## Phone Box Library

The old red phone box at the corner of the High St park has been turned into a library. Anyone can borrow books from the library at no cost but we do ask that you return them when you have finished or swap them for an alternative book. If you are donating books we do ask you not to put them on the floor as they will get damp and be spoiled.

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## Would you like to be a Broughton Parish Councillor?

We currently have 4 vacancies available to us to welcome new Councillors. If you are interested, please contact Pat Scouse, Chair of Broughton Parish Council or Alison McDaid, Clerk to the Council for more information

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Please remember that we are looking to reduce our footprint in the world and are actively working towards being a paperless organisation – this magazine will be shared electronically across our social media pages however if you have a neighbour who doesn't have access and they would like to catch up, please collect a copy for them from one of the following locations: the porch @ St Andrew's Church, Broughton Chapel, the Telephone Box Library and Broughton Post Office.

# USEFUL INFO.....

## Where to find Planning Applications and how to comment

All Planning Applications relating to Broughton Parish are available to view on the North Northants Council - Kettering Area website and discussed at the regular Parish Meetings. It is possible to comment on any application if you wish to via the NNC-Kettering website : [https://www.kettering.gov.uk/info/20002/planning\\_and\\_building](https://www.kettering.gov.uk/info/20002/planning_and_building)

## Reporting Crime

It is always essential for all crime to be reported to the Police. Without this information, it is difficult for the Police to help us. At a recent Rural Forum Meeting, Inspector Paul Cash, Inspector for the Rural Area stressed the importance of community reporting and engagement to help the Rural Profile as without this, it is more difficult to draw support and resources to our communities. We will always share any consultations that are available and reporting can be via 999 for immediate and urgent help, 101 for general reporting and via Crime Stoppers for anonymous reporting

## ABOUT US

Broughton Parish Council is a non political body and operates in the interests of the residents and community of the whole Parish. A Parish Council is the lowest tier of local government. Councillors are un-paid and are elected every 4 years (or co-opted if there is no election). We currently have 7 councillors but we can have up to 11. We are assisted by our Parish Council Clerk. Come and meet us at our Monthly Meeting every 3rd Thursday @ 7pm (excl. August) at Broughton Baptist Chapel Meeting Room.

### Meet the Team

Chair : Pat Scouse,  
Vice-Chair : Robin Shrive  
Clerk : Alison McDaid  
Councillors : Hilary Bull, Martin Rose, Carol Taylor, Mark Gray, Bev Davies



**BROUGHTON  
PARISH COUNCIL**



## FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

[www.broughtonpc.co.uk](http://www.broughtonpc.co.uk)

find us on Facebook as Broughton Parish Council Live

Email : [broughtonparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:broughtonparishclerk@gmail.com)

Meetings are held @ Broughton Baptist Chapel on the 3rd Thursday of each month @ 7pm