

NEWS LETTER APRIL 2022.

HORSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL:

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer: Melvin Grosvenor
Four Seasons, Bardney Road, Baumber. Horncastle, LN9 5NE Tel: 01507 578657
Contact email: horsingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

Meetings in the Village Hall have now resumed following the cessation of covid restrictions. It's hoped that after the positive response to the first newsletter, continued publication will encourage more to attend and participate. The Annual General Meeting of Horsington Parish Council (HPC) will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday 11th May 2022. At the start of each meeting, time is given for the public to raise matters which concern them or to comment on topics on the agenda. The chairman of the meeting can also suspend standing orders during the meeting to allow those present to contribute, in the hope that decisions are as representative as possible of the views of Horsington's residents.

PLATINUM JUBILEE OF H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II, Friday 3rd June 2022:

Horsington Village Hall Committee and Horsington Parish Council cordially invite all residents of Horsington Parish to celebrate the Jubilee. Meet at the Village Hall at 4.30 pm for a 5 pm start. There will be a toast to Her Majesty followed by a free traditional afternoon tea and then at 7 pm, entertainment by Nigel "Boy" Syer: "Norfolk's funniest accordionist comedy-cabaret act". Village residents may bring guests if numbers allow for a fee of £10 pp. Please book your ticket/s through any Village Hall Committee member/ Cllr. Rowland Hill ("Witham View", Moor Lane, Horsington) or the Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr. Chris Bates ("Fenfields", Main Street, Horsington) giving your name, address and number of residents'/guests' places requested. or email: horsingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

GONE DOWN: THE PARISH COUNCIL'S PRECEPT:

At a time when we are all facing unprecedented rises in the cost of everything, it is refreshing to report that HPC has succeeded in reducing its parish precept as a percentage of the total bill shown as 3.3% on the Council Tax calculation (the money which pays for the parish council, collected as part of the bill for council tax, the police, and adult social care). The parish council recognises the very real hardships many are facing and hopes not to have to increase the precept for the next financial year 2023/24.

ROAD SPEEDS IN THE VILLAGE:

There's been a generous offer from a resident to construct and pay for "speed reduction gates" (such as those at the boundaries of some nearby villages) to remind drivers at the three entrances to the village, to observe the speed limit. At this time, HPC does not have the financial resources to meet the full cost of these gates, so this offer is especially welcome. It's hoped they will improve road safety in the village. The offer was made after the Annual Parish Meeting, where concerns were also raised about the state of footpaths leading to the village, the noise from some speeding motorcycles approaching and leaving the 30 mph zone and the road safety benefits of imposing a 40 mph limit on the approach to that area. A survey form on speeding – whether it is a problem or not and how to minimise any perceived nuisance – was given out and put on line and the results are being analysed. They should be available to be considered at the May AGM.

THE 2022 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:

HPC has to call and organise it, but it's a meeting for the public, not the council. There was a good turnout (on Wednesday 16th March) despite torrential rain. Cllr Rod Howard reported on progress towards a village Emergency Plan; Dan Annekin gave an update on plans to reopen the Elder Tree Inn which it's hoped, will happen in the autumn; Cllr. Hill gave an update on the revival of the Horsington Snooker Club and All Saints Church Warden Andy Price (from Bucknall) provided a report explaining why the physical state of the building and the resignation of the Parochial Church Council has now caused the cessation of regular Sunday services and All Saints to be re-designated as a "Festival Church," only available for weddings, funerals and special occasions.

POTHoles AND BROKEN ROAD SURFACES:

Horsington's potholes remain a source of irritation, expense to vehicle owners and a danger to all. Some potholes have been filled but inexplicably, some adjacent ones have been left and remain a nuisance. HPC continues to raise its concerns with LCC Highways and is aware that national funding to them to deal with the problem has been (effectively) reduced, at a time when there are unprecedented demands on their budgets. HPC continues to draw LCC's attention to the unacceptable state of the locality's roads. You can also report potholes, blocked roadside drains, fly tipped rubbish and other problems yourself through the Fix My Street website, <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>. Of course, you can continue to draw attention to these problems to parish, ELDC and LCC councillors.

BLOCKED DRAINS:

Yet again, huge pools of water have formed in the lay-by opposite the church and further towards the junction of Main Street and Moor Lane, despite LCC being aware of the problem and admitting that there are blockages. Both areas are hazardous to motorists and pedestrians and those trying to get in or out of vehicles, or park there. HPC continues to chase LCC as this is not acceptable and will continue to do so until this matter is satisfactorily rectified.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN (ERP):

The Horsington Emergency Plan is to have preparations in place in the event of an emergency, and in case emergency services or relevant authorities are delayed by the nature of the emergency. This will involve provision of expertise and voluntary support in a safe way initially in this and neighbouring villages. The ERP is already up and running and was put to good use when a sink hole appeared in Main Street recently and the team were able to get Police and a repair team on site promptly, to avert an accident. Together with new and existing local resources, the Coordinator and/or Deputy will be able to notify and direct residents to a place of safety (village hall) if an appropriate and necessary, and with volunteers, go door-to-door to ensure safety of all residents. Basic requirements such as dragon lights, hi-vis safety clothing, walkie-talkies etc., together with additional resources from local locations such as generators, tractors etc., will be located for use.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS DOES NOT REPLACE 999 IN AN EMERGENCY.

Any further information or offers of help with this initiative, please contact Cllr. Rod Howard (01526 388022).

PROPOSED HOLIDAY PARK AT ROSE COTTAGE FARM:

The application for planning permission for this project has been withdrawn. It's not known if this was as a result of objections from the Environment Agency, the Planning Enforcement Dept of ELDC and some residents. Whether a revised application will be made, remains to be seen.

KEEPING IN TOUCH:

The new notice board by the memorial bench opposite the village hall and snooker club is now in use; the website has been updated and more will be done to it shortly:

<https://horsington.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk>.

The Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/175423274149702> is attracting an increasing number of followers.

You're always welcome to contact any of the parish councillors: Chris Bates (Chairman, 01526 388540; "Fenfields", Main Street, Horsington); Adam Reavill (Vice Chairman); Rowland Hill; Rod Howard; either via the Parish Clerk, or in person.

DID YOU KNOW?

Baldric was not just a fictional character in BBC TV's *Blackadder*: Baldric of Lindsey was one of the three lords of Horsington recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086.

<https://opendomesday.org/place/TF1968/horsington/>

Distributed: April 2022.