**Holme Parish Council News**

After almost 11 years working as the Clerk (following a long Civil Service career from which I was made redundant) I have decided to retire. The Council is recruiting now for my replacement so if you are reading this and would like a flexible and varied administrative job for 20 hours a month, at a reasonable hourly rate of pay, please do not hesitate to apply – closing date 15 August. The 9 Councillors are friendly and supportive and whilst there are a lot of different things to learn, the one thing I can say with certainty is that life as Parish Clerk is never dull! Full training delivered by the County Association of Local Councils is provided and I will be about (in between holidays I hope!!) to help the new Clerk settle in.

I look forward to introducing my successor in the next issue!

Being in a reflective mood I had a look at some of my first articles back in 2012. I could have written them yesterday! Dog poo, verges getting too long and noisy dogs were the issues then. Nothing much changes! We had the Reading Room empty and up for let – this was before its sale and conversion and the establishment of the Holme Reading Room Trust with the proceeds and the moving of the War Memorial. We were worried about losing the Mobile Post Office Service and we were setting up a website. However email could not be used to summon Councillors to meetings, the agenda had be delivered personally, or posted, to each one on paper. I am glad to say this is no longer the case!

The new dog poo bin is being heavily used and the District Council have included it on their round. Thank you for using it. Unfortunately we can’t install another one at the woods end of the Church field path as it can’t be emptied there. It’s not fair on the householders along the concrete road off Holmewood to leave your poo bags on their private road so please don’t do that.

Talkin+g of the path across the Church field, it is clear from the beaten down grass that some people are choosing their own paths through the grass. **Only the marked path is a public right of way**. Please **do not** go off the route and have picnics etc. It’s private land and to deviate is to trespass.

Have a lovely summer – I’m writing this in the July heatwave!

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 15 September, 7pm at the village hall.

Janice Osborn, Clerk to Holme Parish Council

01487 831451 holmeparishclerk@gmail.com

Find me on Facebook HolmeParish Clerk

**Change at the top for Sawtry Chorale**

Stilton based musician Ollie Hamilton-Box is the new Musical Director of Sawtry Chorale. He will begin in September, succeeding Jeremy Jepson, who successfully conducted the choir for the last four years. In addition, there will also be a new accompanist, Emily Smith, who is also locally based. Both Emily and Ollie are well known in the musical world, having led and accompanied other choirs in the area, as well as being part of Peterborough’s “Summer Strings, “where their personal musical talents are proven and celebrated.

The choir is particularly excited to be starting this new chapter in their musical journey, especially after the compulsory hiatus during the recent pandemic.

If you would like to join this friendly, enthusiastic and motivated group, why not come and give us a try?! We do not insist on formal auditions, but some experience of choral/ part singing is a distinct advantage. Our new term begins on Wednesday, September 7th from7.30pm to 9.30 pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Green End Road Sawtry PE28 5UX

If you would like more information on any aspect of the choir, please visit our website or Facebook pages Alternatively, you can contact directly: - sawtrychorale@gmail.com

**News from St Giles**

**St Giles’ Gift Day Saturday 10th September**

Rev. Becky Dyball, Churchwardens and PCC of St Giles are very grateful that, as ever, local people help us to maintain St Giles and keep it open and in good repair.

All maintenance is costly in an old building and we try to keep the Church open for Sunday services, school services and all the other events that happen during the year. In the last year we launched our coffee and cake event on the 2nd Sunday of each month, and a new service on the same day at 4.30pm.

We continue to raise funds for the work identified by the Church architect but our focus this year is the church heating system which failed over this winter. We are very much hoping to be able to replace this in the next six months or so.

Gift aid envelopes will be available at the Church. If you do feel able to give a gift to the Church bring it to the church between 10.00am and 4.30pm on Saturday 10th September or give it to any church official. If you are able to gift aid please place it in one of the envelopes and complete the details. If you are a taxpayer and complete the reverse of the envelope, it will enable us to claim money back from the taxman. We shall be very grateful for whatever you can give.

As always you are welcome to enjoy your parish church, whether or not you are able to give a gift. There will be cakes for sale and hot and cold refreshments on offer all day. We look forward to seeing you there.

You will also be welcome to stay for the 4.30 pm thanksgiving service.

Thank you for your help.

**Reflection**

As I come towards the end of my first year as curate in the Benefice it has been good to reflect on the highlights of the year, which has been a busy one. A particular highlight has been being able to return to spending time regularly in the Holme Church of England Academy School. It has been lovely spending time with the children and being able to do collective worship once more. As I approach the end of this first, busy year it also seems appropriate to reflect on rest. Rest is an essential part, not only of the Christian journey but for each and every one of us. Jesus promised to bring rest when he said “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” (Matthew 11: 28-29) and he modelled rest as he often sought time away from the crowds. The Old Testament commands a Sabbath rest – setting aside a regular time, each week if possible, to rest from work, to attend to our wellbeing and our relationship with God. August is a time in the benefice when we try and slow down a little and encourage our teams to rest and reflect. You will notice in the diary for August there are less services and events but our full timetable will return in September. I hope you all find time for rest and recuperation this summer time.

Every Blessing

Rev Diane Kutar, Curate

Benefice of Sawtry, Glatton with Holme and Conington

**Services in August and September**

*August*

Sunday 7 Holy Communion at All Saints’ Sawtry, 10.30am

Sunday 14 Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Glatton, 9am

Sunday 21 Holy Communion at St Giles, 9am

Sunday 28 Holy Communion at All Saints, Sawtry 10.30am

*September*

Sunday 4 Holy Communion at St Giles, 9am

Saturday 10 Gift Day at St Giles, followed by thanksgiving service at 4.30pm

Saturday 18 Evensong at All Saints’ Conington at 3.00pm

**HOLME WI July 202**

Emma from CARESCO joined us at our July meeting and gave us a lovely talk all about the Sawtry based charity which will celebrate it’s 40th birthday later this year. The charity currently has 12 projects on-going and, as Emma explained, she could have spent all night talking about them all. So, she cut it down to the Foodbank, CARESCO Cave (formerly the Man Cave), and the charity shop. The Foodbank donates parcels of food to those in need, before the pandemic started they were donating about 3 parcels per week, during the pandemic that figure rose to 33 parcels per week, it has now dropped back to a lower level but is rising again, mostly due to the cost of living crisis we are currently in. They work off a list of preferred items such as tinned and dried goods and Emma said it is one of her favourite days when she is working in the foodbank. The CARESCO Cave is also very popular and is busy repairing and making items for the local community, and the charity shop is also very busy, once the pandemic restrictions lifted they are now very busy again. The charity does an enormous amount of work in the local area including providing travel for people needing to get to doctors or hospital appointments and delivering prescriptions, the list is endless and they have an army of volunteers helping in all aspects of the charity. Emma gave a very good talk and it gave us a good insight into what the CARESCO charity actually does. A well recommended guest speaker.

Our Knit and Knatter group has been busy again and another delivery of baby clothes is on it’s way to Poland for Ukrainian babies.

Anyone wishing to contact us please email WIholmevillage@gmail.com

Alison McGuinness President

**Holme Short Mat Bowls Club**

With the evenings starting to get darker are you looking for something new to do? Why not try short mat bowling at your local club?

The Holme Short Mat Bowls Club meets in the Village Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings 7.30pm to 9:30pm from September to April.

Short Mat Bowls is fun, helps you get some gentle exercise.

The club is open to everyone, whether you are a complete beginner or an experienced bowler, new members will receive a warm welcome. For people looking for some competitive bowling the club enters a team in the Cambridgeshire Short Mat Bowls League and the County also has some County Teams who play against other local Counties.

If you would like to come along to a club night or want further information please get in touch via email to holmesmbc.secretary@gmail.com or telephone Peter Dickman on 01733 241900.

**HOLME YOUTH CLUB**

We are now closed until 9th September but what a way to end the year – a visit for 36 members and 8 volunteer parents to Fenland Aquapark on 9th July.  A really hot day that was perfect for diving in and cooling off – Luca said “It was the best Youth club outing EVER” and lots of nice comments were put on our Facebook page to show everyone had a wonderful time.

 We welcomed the year 4s to our last two sessions so they could have a “taster” ready for becoming fully fledged members in September.  We now have 63 members on role so will certainly be looking for more volunteers to help out on Friday nights so that we dont turn anyone away.  We have found parents are struggling to access cash for admission to Youth Club and we are struggling to keep up with the change situation so from September we will be offering an “advance payment” card system where you can pay £10 and bring your card back each week for signing off until it is all used up.  Carly-Mai trialled it for us during the last 5 weeks of term and was very pleased with how it worked – thanks to her mum Sophie for the idea.  Our AGM will be held on 16th September at 7pm in Holme Village Hall and everyone is welcome to come along.

The helpers rota for the first half term will be coming out very shortly so that we are all ready for September.

Membership of Holme Youth club is open to school Years 5-10 who live in Holme or attend or have attended Home school.  We are unable to offer membership to anyone who does not meet this criteria as we are at full stretch on our capacity.

**HOLME COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH**

We recently had support from a police officer with a speed gun on one of our sessions.  He issued 3 speeding and one failure to stop tickets which could mean points on your licence and in the last case a court appearance.  I have previously advised motorists through this magazine to please stay within the speed limit as you could find you get more than just a letter from the police.

 Sadly despite all this we have recently done another session with 176 vehicles and 20% speeding so we must continue with our attempts to educate the drivers passing through our village.

If you have any area or time within Holme village that gives you concern please contact us direct on csw.holme@btinternet.com dont moan about it on Facebook as we dont do social media and will miss it.

Although we continue to recruit additional volunteers we are still open to offers from other volunteers so if you feel you can spare an hour or so a month and would like to help us try to educate drivers to keep their speed down please contact holme.csw@btinternet.com and we will sort out your training with Cambridgeshire police and welcome you on board.

Anyone logged speeding by our Community Speedwatch team will be contacted by Cambridgeshire Police directly.  Any other communication you might receive is not connected to or generated by Community Speedwatch.

**Waste Managemen**t



Can Recycling Reduce My Carbon Footprint?

Amazed at the effect they are having on the environment, one of the #HuntsWasteBusters has shared some facts and tips in the hope to inspire others:

Did you know?

* Recycling a single aluminium can will save enough energy to power a TV for up to 3 hours
* Recycling everything you could in your kitchen recycling bins could power a TV for 6 months
* Recycling a single glass bottle saves enough energy to power a laptop for half an hour
* Recycling paper takes 60% less energy to produce than it does to make it from raw materials

It is reported that British households generate over 26 million tonnes of waste each year, equating to the weight of around 260 large cruise ships. England alone, only recycles around 44% of waste, leaving the bulk to go to landfill, a large contributor to greenhouse gases.

A few simple changes to our waste routine can have dramatic effects in the form of reducing our individual carbon footprint. Increasing the amount of items you recycle reduces the amount of raw materials required, whilst also reducing the energy needed to physically manufacture the product. This could vastly reduce production costs, driving down the price of everyday items as well as reducing our carbon footprint, assisting greatly in creating a more sustainable environment.

In many cases, certain items that are not accepted within your household recycling bin, used to require a great amount of research and travel to reach specific drop-off points. It is quickly becoming easier and more convenient to recycle, with many supermarkets across Huntingdonshire taking in soft plastics, making it easy to drop off when doing your weekly or monthly shop. Pharmacies have also followed this trend, offering the ability to drop off medicine blister packs and cosmetics, again increasing the convenience of recycling. There has been an increase in many Huntingdonshire residents, utilising food caddy bins to dispose of our food waste, which can be easily emptied into your garden waste bin and taken away for composting.

Over the last few years the ethos of ‘doing your bit’ for society has been installed across the world. It is now time to adopt this ethos for our environment and do what we can, on an individual basis, to reduce waste and increase recycling for the betterment and sustainability of our region, country and world. Making simple changes to your everyday habits can, and will, go a long way in reducing your personal impact on this earth. So why not challenge yourself today, to increase what you recycle and reduce your carbon footprint and play your part in a cleaner and greener future.

If you are concerned about environmental issues surrounding recycling, waste and littering, why not join the Hunts Waste Busters. Meeting virtually once a month to discuss actions can be taken to educate our district on how to minimise waste and increase recycling alongside arranging events and liaising with local groups to encourage change. To find out more, email WasteMinimisation@huntingdonshire.gov.uk.

\*Statics credit to [www.recyclingbins.co.uk/recycling-facts](http://www.recyclingbins.co.uk/recycling-facts)

**Danette O'Hara**

Waste Minimisation Support Officer Huntingdonshire DC