

# Village Newsletter

APRIL 2017

The latest Village News and Views!

To keep up to date, visit our website [www.draughton.org](http://www.draughton.org)

**For the diary: ANNUAL PARISH MEETING—18 MAY 2017**

**For all forthcoming  
events at the  
Village Hall  
Pop-up Pub!  
Quiz Night!**

**See the new notice-board  
outside the village hall!**

## *A note from the Council Vice Chairman, Robert Clayton*

As many of you know, our Chairman, Meriel Curtis, sadly died last November, and I have been acting Chairman ever since. The Parish Council has been pleased to work with the Village Hall Trustees to have a plaque put up in the Hall in memory of Meriel—many thanks to William Lang for putting it up. We were also very fortunate in having quite a bit of interest shown in the vacant seat on the Council, and we are delighted to welcome Richard Neale as our new co-opted member.

We will be holding our Annual **Parish Meeting in May**, and this will be an opportunity for us to get together and debate matters affecting all of us in the village. There are a number of things we would like your thoughts on:



**Grass-cutting** The cost of having the green and verges cut by contractors has increased enormously this year. We have therefore taken the decision to cut the verges ourselves, so we need your help! Cllr Neale is coordinating teams of volunteers. To find out more, please email Richard, or complete and return the form below.

**Housing development:** Village opinion on housing development was surveyed for the Parish Plan in 2009, but events and people have moved on since then. Have views changed? See more information overleaf and let us know what you think at the Parish Meeting.

**Management and protection of the Village Green:** We maintain the green and have recently had some maintenance work carried out on the wooded area alongside the green to promote healthy tree growth. These areas are together registered village green, and the parish council has powers to protect them. We are concerned about the shed and back yard recently built onto the green at the rear of Besom Cottage. We would appreciate the village's views on this.

Please see further details overleaf.

I would like to volunteer to join a team to help cut the grass verges during the summer.

Please either email Richard Neale on [richardneale10@gmail.com](mailto:richardneale10@gmail.com) or fill in this form and post it into the box provided in the telephone box at the top of the village

Name..... Address.....  
Email address .....  
Signed.....

## Draughton Village

### Housing development:

A village meeting late last year unanimously agreed to oppose the building of 9 houses at the top of the village. Whilst that planning application has been withdrawn, there may be others in future. Do you still feel as strongly about housing development in the village? Please come along to the Parish Meeting and give us your views, or if you can't come, email our Clerk, Jane Markham:

[parishclerk@draughton.org](mailto:parishclerk@draughton.org).

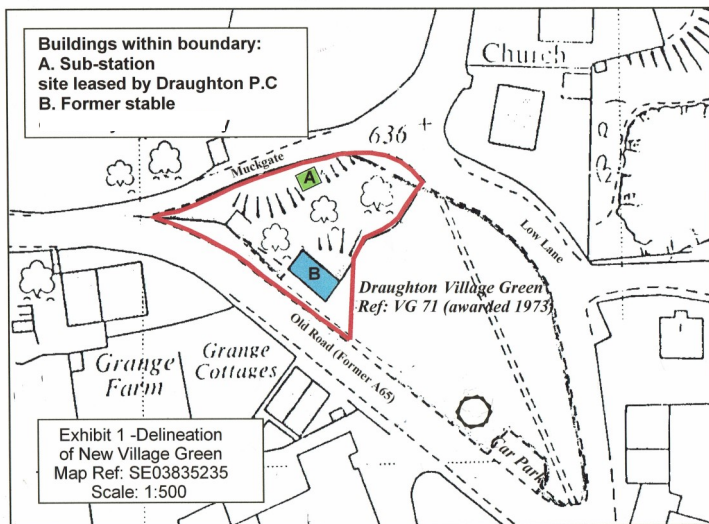
### Village Green

Those of you who have lived in the village for a little while will be well aware that encroachment onto the village green is not a new problem. Besom Cottage is a converted barn and the site belongs to a local landowner. The area around the house, however, is part of the registered village green—the map (left) shows the extent of the green, comprising both the grassed area which was originally registered, and the woodland area later registered (red bordered on plan).

The Parish Council has, in the past, asked the owners of the land to respect the boundaries of the green,

but unfortunately, there has recently been further encroachment. The yard area to the side and rear of the cottage has been developed and a small portion of the green has been built on.

Please take the time to look at this situation and let us know what you think. Is this something you feel strongly about and on which you think action should be taken, or is it nothing to worry about? Let us know at the Parish Meeting or email Jane on the address above.



**Produced by  
Draughton  
Parish Council**

