

Village Newsletter

SPRING 2022

What's happening in the Village? *Check our website: www.draughton.org for the latest news*

This is a rather optimistically and somewhat dubiously-named Spring edition of our newsletter!

It is published now, somewhat in advance of the titular season, since we need to highlight some important news, not least on the progress of our climate initiatives in the village (see over for details). We also want to consult with everyone on road safety issues.

There is an article inside to fill you in on this, as well as a separate insert which you can use to give us your views, if you prefer to do this rather than email us.

For the diary:

*Climate Event & Pub
19 February from 6.30pm
Next Council Meeting
22 March 7pm
Queen's Platinum Jubilee
2-5 June*



But first, a quick update on recent work by the Vergers.

In the Autumn, a small group of volunteers, including some of the village children, may have been seen busily occupied along the verges. They were clearing weeds and planting up a few test sites with wildflower seeds. If the planting is successful, we would aim to roll this project out more widely around the village. Let's see what blooms once Spring is definitely upon us!

As you might imagine, all this activity means that the Vergers' equipment has been well-used in recent months. So much so, that the Parish Council has decided to replace our aged mower. We have been lucky in attracting grant funding from our ward representatives to pay for it. A shiny new motor may shortly be glimpsed, as it proudly trundles around the verges and green. If anyone fancies a go on it, and would like to join the Vergers, please let us know—email the Clerk (details below).

Finally, see the back page for news of a project to come: there has been some interest in setting up a Draughton photo archive. Many of us will have a collection of photos which could possibly form part of this and it would be fascinating to set the images within the context of a narrative history of the village. If anyone is interested in contributing to this project, please let us know—parishclerk@draughton.org

Featured in this edition....

.....traffic safety in the village—what can do about it? Also, should we be taking some action to do our bit towards climate change— *see inside!*

Get in touch with us to let us know your views and ideas, and help us maintain our communications networks.

Read on overleaf to find out how to do this. To update your details at any time, email us: parishclerk@draughton.org



Climate Change—Update!

The local churches, as a group, continue their work, with the help of consultants, on a zero-carbon energy project, “Towards Carbon Neutral Churches in Craven”, which aims to plan a path to carbon neutrality by 2030.

The churches now have a final report on possible measures which could be introduced to achieve the project’s aims, and further action is being taken to research detailed questions raised by each of the churches. In Draughton, on the assumption that roof-mounted solar panels may work for us, we are specifically looking at the best means of utilising the energy so generated by means of an air source heat pumping system and separate heating devices for the pews.

Plans are being put together now for a film show, display and exhibition, to be held on February 19th as part of a social event with Pop-up Pub in the village hall. Come and find out exactly what’s happening—the event kicks off at 6.30pm.



Solar panels on church roofs may become ubiquitous by 2030

To support the church’s work, and to start thinking about ways we can all, as a community, do our bit to help mitigate the effects of climate change, the Parish Council has applied for grant funds from the Lottery Community Fund to pay for feasibility studies into a number of other initiatives.

These could include installing electric vehicle charging points on public land, buying a community wind turbine, and supporting the village hall in putting solar panels on its roof.

Anyone with a particular interest in this, and with ideas to share, could come along to any of our council meetings, or ask the Clerk for more details. In the meantime, and especially if you are unable to visit our special event, please do let us know your views on climate change in general and possible mitigation measures in particular – simply email your thoughts to the Clerk (details below).

News from the Parish Council

It may seem surprising to most people, given recent concerns with the rapid spread of the Covid-19 Omicron variant, but parish councils are not legally permitted to meet remotely at present, following the withdrawal by the Govt of the regulations that enabled them to do so during the first lockdown. The Council therefore held an online consultation and briefing meeting in January, instead of a physical meeting; this is possible, as long as routine decisions can be taken by the Clerk under delegated powers. All decisions and information on key business issues are posted on our website and news is circulated to the village contact list by email. Hopefully, formal meetings will resume soon; the Annual May meeting will definitely take place, as decisions are taken there which cannot be delegated. A Police representative will also be one of the key speakers at the meeting. May will be an important month! One of the consequences of the Yorkshire reorganisation of local government, and the introduction of the new unitary authority, is that elections will again be held in our ward in 2022. All the parish councillors will be standing for re-election to the seats which they’ve held for only 2 out of the normal 4 year term.

Find out more by visiting our village website: www.draughton.org. Email: parishclerk@draughton.org. Don’t forget, we also have a village Facebook page, Draughton Chat (thanks to Vicky for running this!) as well as the group email contact list. If you are not already on this, and would like to join, please use the slip below.

I give my permission for the Clerk of the Parish Council to contact me by email in order to notify me of:

Parish Council business

Village Hall events

General community news and events

☐
☐
☐

Signed Date..... Email.....

Notes: By providing your email address you confirm that we may contact you by this means. Your details will not be passed onto any other organisations. If at any time you wish to have your email address deleted from our records, please email the Clerk or contact us via the website. See the website for a copy of our Data Protection Policy and Privacy Policy

Please return this slip to us by dropping it off at The Pines or by emailing a copy to the Clerk

Thanks

Road Safety

Several of you have expressed concerns with the speed of traffic passing through the village, and reported worrying incidents of congestion when road closures elsewhere cause traffic to divert down Low Lane. Villagers also tell us they are concerned about the risk of using a number of junctions into and out of Draughton, as well as the junctions at the top of Low Lane and at the bend where turning traffic use Muck Gate.

Following a wide-ranging consultation in 2015, the Parish Council has kept all these issues under review with the highways authority and from time to time has requested specific improvements—to date, without success.

Time passes, however; new residents may want to have a say, and maybe the views of others have changed. If you would like to comment, please email the Clerk or complete the survey on the insert and let us know what you think. All comments will be reported to the Council and, if possible, followed up with Highways.



20's Plenty Campaign

One of the complaints of residents, followed up with Highways on more than one occasion in recent years, has been the inappropriate speed at which vehicles regularly pass through the village. We have requested a reduction in the speed limit, but to date, this has been resisted on grounds of costs and limited effectiveness—highways officers tell us that the limit could not be enforced and would have to be self-sustained with speed reduction measures such as speed bumps. We have had to take matters into our own hands and buy our own bin stickers and (non-statutory) roadside signs to suggest a lower speed

to drivers as they turn into the top of Low Lane.

Since our 2015 questionnaire, however, a nationwide pressure group, known as the “20s Plenty Campaign” has gained more traction and is vigorously promoting the adoption of 20mph as the default limit in rural residential locations. The Council has signed up to this campaign and has again approached the highways authority to press for action.



Do you have any thoughts on this particular issue of speed limits? What might you be prepared to see in the village by way of new road features, such as vehicle activated flashing signage, bollards, or even speed bumps? Would you support the introduction of one-way systems in the village eg on Muck Gate and/or on Donkey Neddy? Would you be happy to see Council funds spent on such initiatives if funds were not made available by the highways authority?

Email the Clerk, complete the survey, or contact any of the councillors —let us know what you think!

Draughton Village

Useful Contacts and Information

Waste Collections

Alternate Tuesdays or Wednesdays

(top of village/main village on different collection runs) —green bin/blue bin

(Collection schedule from Craven DC

Alternate Thursdays—brown (garden)

Subscription service only

Milk

Delivered Tues, Thurs and Sunday.

Contact: Fiona Whalley 07710906371

Fish

Van calls top of village and door to door on a Tuesday.

Contact: 07305 308006

Newspapers

Delivered daily for collection from the telephone kiosk (outside the Old Post Office)

Must be pre-ordered.

Contact: Newsagent 791220

Church Services

Every Sunday at 9.30am or 11.15am

Each 1st Sunday— family service

(Check the noticeboards)



**Produced by
Draughton
Parish Council**

History of the Village

In 2009, as part of the work involved in producing our Parish Plan, a village resident drafted a short history of the village. Why not have a look—it is downloadable from the Parish Plan section on our website.

As reported in the last edition of our newsletter, a small group of interested villagers, inspired by recent access to a collection of local photos held by one of the councillors, decided to update and expand on this earlier work to include photographic records and other illustrative material.

The group intends to start on the exercise of compiling photos and records soon, and they are looking for help in organising the material, and also for more contributions for the collection. If you have lived in the village for some time, why not have a check in the attic or in the filing drawers and see if you have anything to contribute? Please let us know if you would like to join the group, or could otherwise support the project—email the Clerk (*see front and inside pages for details*).

Draughton Village Hall

The Village Hall has remained open during the latest covid wave of infections, albeit with a limited number of events. The following sessions continue to be offered on a regular basis:

Tea party—every first Monday of the month 2.30pm

Pilates Class— Wednesday evenings (contact : Alison—see below)

Bridge Play U3A—Thursday 2-4pm (Douglas Goode)

Table Tennis—Tuesdays 6.30-7.30pm (children) 7.30-9.30pm (adults) (David & Anthea Goldie 710315)

Social events are normally held throughout the year to help raise money for the hall's upkeep. Our next events are shown in the featured Diary box on the front page.

The Village Hall is available to hire for groups and for meetings (numbers currently limited—details from Alison 07763 369397).

Hire charges are £15 per hour, discounted to £12 per hour

Check the noticeboard outside the Village Hall for details of all forthcoming events and visit our website

www.draughton.org.