WICTOFT VILLAGE NEWS & VIEWS



August / September 2019

Village Events In The Coming Months Wigtoft Village Hall Summer Fair
Sunday August 18th 10am - 2pm
Wigtoft Flower Festival, Wigtoft Church
Friday, Saturday, Sunday Sept 13th, 14th & 15th
Harvest Celebration, Wigtoft Church
Sunday September 29th, 3pm Service
followed by Meal & Auction

Wigtoft Village Contact Details

Parish Council Members Peter Craven (Chairman) Graeme Wright (Vice Chairman) B. Leggott S. Baxter S. Collingwood A Fletcher (Clerk) 07383 276892 email: wigtoftpc@gmail.com Parish Council Website: www.parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/wigtoft Follow us on Facebook (Wigtoft Parish Council)

Village Hall Committee

Jeff & Wendy McCombie 01205 461005	Shaun Taylor01205 460000
Pete & Sally Smith01205 460117	Allison Goad 01205 461522
Janet Sargeant01205 460017	

St Peter & St Paul Parish Church

Priest in Charge	Rev. Charles Robertson	01205 820223
PCC Contact	Jane Barkham	01205 460714

Sutterton Methodist Church

Police

Boston Police Station	01205 366222
Kirton Police Station	01205 722002

Sutterton Doctor's Surgery 01205 460254

Police Non Emergency	. 1	.()1	L
Medical Non Emergency	. 1	1	1	1

General Contacts

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Boston Pilgrim Hospital01205 364801	
Boston Borough Council01205 314200	
BBC - Out Of Hours Emergencies 01205 360300	
BBC - Refuse Department 01205 311112	
Anglian Water Emergencies 03457 145145	
Western Power Distribution 0800 6783105 or (to report a power cut)	just 105

From The Editorial Team August / September 2019

In our last News and Views the Editorial Team made a request for a treasurer, starting January 2020, and some immediate help to deliver magazines. As yet, no one has volunteered for either role, neither is arduous but necessary if the magazine is to continue. If no one kindly comes forward to help the team, who works so hard to deliver a much appreciated magazine, the inevitable will happen.

- The magazine will not continue.
- There will be no advertising for village events organised on behalf of St Peter & St Paul's Church, the Village Hall, or for any other organisation. The consequences of this will be that fewer people will attend clubs and events.
- General information and news will cease.
- This will not just be sad, but a loss to our village and community.

So, if anyone is out there who is willing to offer a small amount of time so that we are able to continue then please contact a member of the Editorial Team.

DISCLAIMER

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多t. 浄eter & 多t. 浄aul Wigtoft Parish Church News

Cream Tea

On Saturday 29th June we held our annual Cream Tea in the Church. This was a very enjoyable afternoon with lots of chatter and laughter. Revd Charlie called in to see us and have a chat with everyone. This event is always a very happy occasion and raises much needed funds for the Church. £277 was raised for Church funds this year.

A big thank you goes to everyone that came to join us for the afternoon. Also to Jean and Ann for preparing the food and doing the shopping. Thank you also to Jackie for all her help.

A raffle had been running through June at the coffee mornings and it was drawn on the afternoon of the Cream Tea.

If you missed this event but would like to join us at the other events that we put on then please keep an eye on this newsletter for future events. We will be very pleased to see you all.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the Group of Friends for putting on the events that raise funds for the Church.

Jane Barkham PCC Secretary

Thank you!

Many thanks to John and Carol Kelk for their generous donation of plants to the Church. Jean Knight has kindly potted the plants which are on sale at Bacon Butty mornings, raising money for Church funds.

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The Members of the Wigtoft Parochial Church Council are:

Rev. Charles Robertson
Jane Barkham------ Secretary
John Craggs ----- Treasurer
Virna Atkinson
Jackie Core
Colin Scrupps
Malcolm Franklin

Wigtoft Church Cleaning

The next cleaning of the Church will take place on Wednesday August 14th and September 11th All who would like to help are welcome

•	The Haven Group Church Services For August								
Date	Wigtoft	Swineshead	Sutterton	Donington	Bicker				
4 th	10.30am Group Service								
11 th	9.15am Communion	10.45am Communion	10am Communion 3.30pm Jelly Church	9.30am Communion	8am Communion				
18 th	9.15am Communion	10.45am Communion	9.15am Communion	9.30am Communion	10.45am Communion				
25 th		10.45am Communion	9.15am Communion	9.30am Communion	4pm Evensong				
The Haven Group Church Services For September									
1 st					10.30am Group Service				
8 th	9.15am Communion	10.45am Communion	10am Communion 3.30pm Jelly Church	9.30am Communion	8am Communion				
15 th	9.15am Communion	10.45am Communion	9.15am Communion	9.30am Communion	10.45am Communion				
22 nd		10.45am Communion	9.15am Communion	9.30am Communion	4pm Evensong				
29 th	3pm Harvest Service	10.45am Joint Service with Methodists	9.15am Communion						

Church Lottery Winners June 2019

Methodists

 1^{st} Mrs A Taylor (£20) 2^{nd} Mrs J Simpson (£10) 3^{rd} Mr M Franklin (£5)

Drawn at the Coffee Morning June 29th

Church Lottery Winners July 2019

Wigtoft Village Hall Dates & Information

August 2019

September 2019

	41	ugus			50	Peemb	0. 2017
Thu	1			Sun	1	10am	"The Gathering"
Fri	2			Mon	2		
Sat	3			Tue	3	10am	Scraps R Us
Sun	4	10am	"The Gathering"	Wed	4	6.30pm	Dog Training
Mon	5	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Thu	5	6.30pm	Dog Training
Tue	6	10am	Scraps R Us	Fri	6	6.30pm	Bird Auction
Wed	7			Sat	7		
Thu	8			Sun	8	10am	"The Gathering"
Fri	9	6.30pm	Bird Auction	Mon	9		
Sat	10			Tue	10		
Sun	11	10am	"The Gathering"	Wed	11	6.30pm	Dog Training
Mon	12			Thu	12	6.30pm	Dog Training
Tue	13			Fri	13		
Wed	14			Sat	14		
Thu	15			Sun	15	10am	"The Gathering"
Fri	16			Mon	16	7pm	Gardening Club
Sat	17			Tue	17	10am	Scraps R Us
Sun	18	10am	Summer Fair			Noon	St Barnabas
Mon	19	7pm	Gardening Club	Wed	18	6.30pm	Dog Training
Tue	20	10am	Scraps R Us	Thu	19	6.30pm	Dog Training
		Noon	St Barnabas	Fri	20	6.30pm	Bird Auction
Wed	21			Sat	21		
Thu	22			Sun	22	10am	"The Gathering"
Fri	23	6.30pm	Bird Auction	Mon	23		
Sat	24			Tue	24		
Sun	25	10am	"The Gathering"	Wed	25	6.30pm	Dog Training
Mon	26			Thu	26	6.30pm	Dog Training
Tue	27			Fri	27		
Wed	28			Sat	28		
Thu	29			Sun	29	10am	"The Gathering"
Fri	30			Mon	30		
Sat	31						

Village Hall News

Wigtoft Village Hall



Sunday August 18th 10am - 2pm Come along and join the fun Many Various Stalls Refreshments

Including sausage rolls, a selection of our delicious home made cakes and lots more

Stalls, £5, please call Wendy on 01205 461005

Bacon Butty Mornings

Bacon butties will once again be starting in the Village Hall in October, more information will be in the next edition of the newsletter.

Village Hall Committee Vacancies

Wigtoft Village Hall needs a new Book Keeper and a new Chairman from December 2019

If you feel you could help in either of these roles please contact, Sally Tel:- 01205 460117 or Alison Tel:- 01205 461522

Booking Wigtoft Village Hall

To book the Village Hall, please contact Wendy on 01205 461005

The hire charge is £9 per hour, which includes heating, lighting and the use of the kitchen and all crockery.

Bereavements

It is with much sadness we convey the passing away of two residents of our village.

Firstly, David Goad who lived with his wife, Alison. David loved village life and attended many events. Particularly enjoying Bacon Butty mornings.

Secondly, Christine Cowling has recently passed away. Christine and her husband Maurice have lived in the village for many years. Although a quiet lady she showed neighbourliness to those around her.

Both these people are much missed within our community. Our condolences are extended to Alison and Maurice at this time.

A Poem From One Wigtoft Resident To Their Neighbour

You're our favourite neighbour On that we both agree. There's no need to give us any thing We do it all for free!

From fixing garage doors
To hooking up TVs.
It really is no trouble
We don't charge any fees.

When driving in your car We know you have aversions To those black and yellow signs That say that there's diversions.

Were lucky you're our neighbour We couldn't wish for more. But please, please don't call me If you break the door!

So to our "pest next door"
We want to say one thing,
If you need something doing
Don't hesitate to ring.

WIGTOFT **SECONDARY**FLOWER FESTIVAL

St. PETER and ST.PAUL's CHURCH

FRIDAY 13th SEPTEMBER
AFTERNOON TEA 2pm TO 5pm

SATURDAY 14th & SUNDAY 15th 10am - 4pm

Proceeds donated to: LOCAL CHARITIES

Further information from 01205 460400 01205 460546

HOSTED & ORGANISED BY WIGTOFT & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Bacon Butty Morning In Aid of MACMILLAN.

Our annual MacMillan Bacon Butty morning, led by Jean Knight, is to be held once again in Wigtoft Village Hall from 10am to mid-day on Saturday October 5th.

There will be a raffle, craft stalls and of course delicious cakes for you to buy.

All proceeds go to this worthwhile charity.

Topical Talk

I was reading recently about "Freckles", a giant manta ray. She is about 30 years old and she has swum with divers and visitors in the shallow lagoons of Ningaloo Reef, off the western coast of Australia, for several years.

Recently, a group of snorkelers realised that there was something wrong as Freckles appeared to be asking for their help. As the ray, which measures 3 m across, swept through the water she seemed to recognise Jake Wilton, a wildlife guide who was leading half a dozen other swimmers, and approached him. When the animal rolled over and hung still Jake was able to spot the problem: three fishing hooks were embedded under her right eve. Jake said that he often guides snorkelers in the area and it was as if the ray recognised him and trusted him to help. Manta rays have the largest brains of any fish and the manner in which they co-ordinate their feeding in large groups suggests a social intelligence. They are able to maintain eye contact with you and are very curious and can build relationships. Jake spent several minutes swimming alongside Freckles trying to get a closer look at her injuries - the ray unfurled her lobes, two horn-like protuberances on the side of her head; it was then that he was able to see the hooks: it appears that the ray was showing him her problem. Jake set about the task of removing the hooks using a pair of pliers; he made about a dozen attempts; but as he approached with the pliers the ray would pull away at the last minute but she kept returning, inviting him to try again. He finally managed to extract the hooks; two weeks later he was overjoyed to see Freckles again - she was feeding and "she stopped right on top of me and sat there for about 20 seconds; it was as if she recognised me" he said.

I see that the benefits system is coming under attack again; this time it appears that fraudsters are targeting the system and getting away with large sums of money. In one case a man applied for benefits and named his three children as Fish, Chips and Beans, yet he still received his payments. Some fraudsters are fleecing the system for as much as £1500 a time in advance payments. Senior officials admit that a large fraction of claims are bogus but say that stopping the fraud is not a priority. Figures released last year revealed that benefit fraud cost more than £3.8 billion, with about 5,000 people convicted. A member of the DWP is quoted as saying that their hands are tied because of "politics".

In 1929 a little girl of 3 years old was playing on the beach with a tin spade. She had wandered a little distance from her mother, who did not see what happened next. Someone moved swiftly across the beach and began talking to the girl, it may have been someone she knew as no sounds were heard as they coaxed her away – one minute she was there, barefoot and absorbed, spade in hand and seconds later she was taken off the sands at Chapel St Leonards.

"Thus was my mother kidnapped" writes Laura Cumming Fortunately this has a happy ending as the little girl was discovered three days later and returned to her parents.

A book written by Laura Cumming, whose mother was the little girl in question, is factual, and is called "On Chapel Sands".

The recent devastating floods in Wainfleet grabbed the national headlines after the heavy rains caused the swollen river to burst its bank I gained first hand knowledge of this as we have a niece and her husband who live in the affected area. She told me that, although the water had not got into their bungalow as it stood a little higher than the garden, it was in the front garden and had crept up towards the garage door. They had been advised to evacuate, which they did. They had nothing but praise for the Fire and Rescue services – she said they were brilliant, placing membrane over the exterior doors and sandbags to hold it in place.

As for the river itself – both my neice and her husband are course fishermen and stated that the depth of the river, in the middle, was no more than 3 feet, yet when it was constructed, the middle depth was around 8 feet. The section where the bank burst was, in actual fact, not the river itself, but what is known as a "cut" - this is the equivalent to a bypass, and was dug out in the 1920's. Over the years, with lack of maintenance, this has silted up and has reed beds growing in it. At a recent meeting the Environment Agency, or whoever has responsibility, stated that the depth of the waterway had no relation to the problem – if this is the case why make it 8 ft deep in the first place?

Colin Scrupps

Garden Club Outing In June To Fairhaven

On the morning of Tuesday the 25th June we boarded the coach, with overcast skies over head, for our trip to Fairhaven Woodland and Water Gardens. During the journey we went through torrential showers, but when we arrived the sun came out and it was lovely. Everybody agreed it was a very relaxing day. Those of us who took advantage of the boat trip on their own bit of the broads saw the gardens from a very different view point .

The café was excellent value for money with a good selection of food stuff, and large portions.

We would like to thank the non-garden club members for their support again.

We hope to welcome you to join us on our outing on Tuesday the 17th September to Thorp Perrow Arbouretum, North Yorkshire. They have a bird of prey centre, mammals, glorious walks and gardens, and of course a café.

News From Mousehound No.2

Avis M Padley

- May 10 Heavens opened yet again! My scarlet waterproof coat always attracts acid comments. Poor me! No garden fun today
- May 13 Sunshine at last. Met friendly pooches while enjoying my exercise. Great fun!
- May 15 My human was feeling generous so bought me a pile of treats from the dog-shop.
- May 16 I dashed into a field of rape and pretended not to hear the dog whistle.
- May 19 Up with the lark. Disagreeable drive to a dog show with human's dogminded friend. Hairy Shepherd dogs in the back of the van made my life a misery. I grimaced at them as they were caged. Only saw two Manchester terriers. We don't seem to be fully appreciated!
- June 5 I have a new and longer yellow lead. Human says she is exhausted by the mayhem I cause when meeting vehicles on the byroads.
- June 11 Visited 44A today. I asked the old one to take me into her conservatory. I really wanted to chase the neighbour's ginger pussies. As the hostess is my servant I asked her to open the door into the secluded back garden. The tip of my nose told me that it was cold, wet and windy so I hastily dashed back into the warm lounge.



June 18 My aquiline nose detected rain yet again as we arrived at 44A. We had been away for my human's birthday, so the old one and I had a very loving reunion.

Blisbury Charity Student Grants

Every year the Blisbury Charity has a small sum of money which is available to help students to buy books, equipment, travel etc. Students eligible to apply for this grant must be continuing in Further Education, eg Sixth Form, College or University and residing in Wigtoft. If successful the grants will be paid towards the end of September.

Please apply by letter giving full particulars by the 7^{th} September 2019 to:

Blisbury Charity, Five Bell Lodge, Five Bell Lane, Wigtoft, Boston Lincs. PE20 2PX



Sam Snail's Jobs In The Garden

This month, prune and shape early flowering shrubs such as Winter Honeysuckle, Forsythia, Weigela, also Viburnums unless you want them for the berries. Next year's flowers form on this

years' growth. With all shrubs, cut out dead or weak stems and let light into the centre to keep them fresh. Remove last year's dead flowers also the dead and congested branches from Hydrangeas, if they are badly damaged cut down to new shoot near the base.

Water pots, baskets and the greenhouse most days and give them all a tomato feed once a week. Potted Hostas, particularly, do better if kept well nourished.

I have had a couple of pickings of my broad beans, courgettes and mangetout and very nice they were too. The cucumbers are fruiting well especially the smaller variety, we have had three to eat already.

Lawns and hedges grow so quickly they seem to always need cutting, and weeds sprout up overnight.

Don't forget to sit and enjoy your tea or coffee, or something "stronger", in the sunshine in your own garden. There is nowhere nicer .

Regards from Sam

WIGTOFT and DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB COACH TRIP TO Thorpe Perrow Bedale, Yorkshire Tuesday 17th September

Pick up 8.30am KIRTON, SUTTERTON, WIGTOFT, BICKER

COST £25 per person (Includes Entrance Fee of £9) £10 deposit

For further details please contact 01205-460400 01205-460546

St Peter & St Paul Church Wigtoft

Harvest Celebration Sunday September 29th

Harvest Songs Of Praise Service 3pm

Buffet meal followed by Auction from 4pm

Tickets - £5 5-12 years - £2.50 Children under 5 years - Free Available from Virna 01205 460259 and Jane 01205 460714

The Gathering

This month we shall be bringing you the summer edition of "Hope for All." We have been shocked recently by the sudden passing of Christine Cowling who lived within the village for eighteen years.

Is there life beyond the grave? Christine emphatically believed so. Read Jeremy's story "Hope of Heaven" in the centre pages of the above magazine.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the Cowling family in their loss, knowing that Jesus who died on the cross to secure life beyond the grave for us all will comfort them through this sad and difficult time.

Whether sunshine or rain we hope you will enjoy these summer days to the full. Our Bible course is going well. Look out for the next one in the autumn.

August 18th The Gathering is at "Pasturelands" 10.30am as the Hall is unavailable.

Daphne and Bridget Tel; 01205 723259.

Readers Letters & Comments

Once again the annual afternoon tea at Wigtoft church was an outstanding success and huge credit must go to everyone involved especially the hard working ladies who worked tirelessly throughout the day to provide the food. The tea was of the highest quality and fantastic value for money. Everyone involved should be really proud of their efforts

Graham and Christine

Letter to the Editorial Team.

On entering the church one day in June I was pleasantly surprised with some wonderful flower arrangements. I now understand this was for a wedding celebration. These "feasts for the eyes" were made by Virna Atkinson and Jean Knight, two very talented ladies. Thank you both for giving of your time and talent to make our church look so beautiful, an enhancement to any wedding.

Name and address supplied



WIGTOFT and DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN GARDENING?

YES. THEN WHY NOT JOIN LIKE MINDED PEOPLE AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF OUR CLUB. WE MEET ON THE 3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7pm, WIGTOFT VILLAGE HALL

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

August 19 th	Meeting in member's garden
September 16 th	Sue Jakeman, A light hearted look at bee keeping
October 21st	Tom Holland, Preparing for winter

WE ALSO ARRANGE VISITS TO PLACES OF INTEREST FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:

Barbara - 01205 460400 or Jean - 01205 460546





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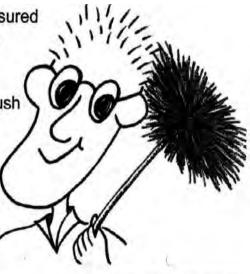
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August 2019

Wigtoft Vil

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	Green Bin Collection	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Wigtoft Parish Church
4	വ	9	7	8		10
10.30am Group Service Wigtoft Parish Church	7.30 pm Parish Gouncil Meeting <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	10am Scraps R Us Wigtoft Village Hall	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Sutterton Methodist		6.30pm Bird Auction Wigtoft Village Hall	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Wigtoft Parish Church
11	12	13		15		17
9.15am Holy Communion Wigtoft Parish Church			10am Church Cleaning Noon Friends of the Church meeting		icreen bin Collection	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Wigtoft Parish Church
18	19	20	21		23 Blue/Brown Bin	24
9.15am Holy Communion Wigtoft Parish Church 10am Village Hall Summer Fair	7pm Gardening Club Member's Garden	Scraps R Us Wigtoft Village Hall 12-2pm St Barnabas Bereavement Support	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Sutterton Methodist	Craft Morning Wigtoft Parish Church 6.30pm Bird Auc	6.30pm Bird Auction Wigtoft Village Hall	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Wigtoft Parish Church
25	26	27	28	29		31
		2pm PCC Meeting Wigtoft Parish Church			Green Bin Collection	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Wigtoft Parish Church

lage Calendar

September 2019

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Saturday	7	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Wigtoft Parish Church	14	10am - 4pm Flower Festival Wigtoft Parish Church	21	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Wigtoft Parish Church	28	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Wigtoft Parish Church		
Friday	6 Blue /Brown Bin	6.30pm Bird Auction Wigtoft Village Hall	13 Green Rin Collection	2pm - 5pm Flower Festival Wigtoft Parish Church	20 Blue/Brown Bin	<u> </u>	27	Green bin Collection		
Thursday	5		12		19	10am Craft Morning Wigtoft Parish Church	26			
Wednesday	4	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Sutterton Methodist	11	10am Church Cleaning Wigtoft Parish Church	18	10am - Noon Coffee Morning Sutterton Methodist	25			
Tuesday	3	10am Scraps R Us Wigtoft Village Hall	10		17	Scraps R Us Wigtoft Village Hall 1.2-2pm St Barnabas Bereavement Support Wigtoft Village Hall	24			
Monday	2		6		16	7pm Gardening Club Wigtoft Village Hall	23	3pm Newsletter Meeting <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	30	
Sunday	1		8	9.15am Holy Communion Wigtoft Parish Church	15	9.15am Holy Communion Wigtoft Parish Church 10am - 4pm Flower Festival Wigtoft Parish Church	22		29	3pm Harvest Celebration Wigtoft Parish Church





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Folkingham

The House of Correction

In the early 19th century Folkingham was part of the Quarter Sessions, which were held in the village – this was the higher court that dispensed justice in the area and this explains why a House of Correction or minor prison was built here. It was constructed on the old castle site; the present day buildings that exist here are the original governor's house and the gatehouse, both dating from 1808 and 1825. The institution was closed in 1878; the present buildings were taken over in 1980 by the Landmark Trust and the gatehouse is now a holiday home.

Prisoners convicted of less serious offences at Lincoln Castle Assizes usually served sentences of several weeks, months or one or two years at prisons known as Houses of Correction. In Lincolnshire the larger of these were located at Louth, Spilsby, Folkingham, Kirton-in-Lindsey and Spalding. The regime at these places was intended to reform prisoners

through hard work. The conditions and punishments they endured were deliberately grim to deter them from re-offending and others from criminal intentions

Convicts sentenced to hard labour at Folkingham's House of Correction could expect to endure back-breaking work on the treadmill or the crank. The power generated by these devices was sometimes used to grind flour or pump water, but the main function was punishment.

The prisoners would be aroused at 5.30 am in the summer and 7am in the winter and go to bed at 8pm. Those sentenced to hard labour had to work on the treadmill or crank for 7 hours a day; the treadmill was basically for punishment but the crank was used to pump water for prison use. There were seven hard labour machines in the prison, used principally for vagrants, disorderly prisoners or boys. The number of revolutions required to be performed was 10,000 daily (no record of who counted them!). Prisoners were often employed as tailors, shoemakers, seamsters, knitters were employed within the prison to do washing, clothes repairs and white washing.

The number of prisoners accommodated was usually around 80; built in 1808 it was enlarged in 1825 and the treadmill added. Twenty new cells were added in 1849 and the west wing was added in 1852.

After it was closed in 1878 the staff wing of the prison was used to house local people until after WW2, when new housing was built elsewhere in the village. The prison, apart from the two buildings that still exist, was eventually demolished.

The old House of Correction (1609-1808) was in the market place and is now two cottages. This old prison consisted of 4 small cells for men and 2 for women.

The Church

The C of E church of St Andrew originates from the 12^{th} century and was largely completed by the 15^{th} . Restoration was carried out in 1825, 1858 and 1860. on the south side of the church are the remains of stocks and a whipping post. In 2006 the building was badly damaged when gale force winds blew down two of the four pinnacles, one of which fell onto the roof causing damage costing more than £100,000 to repair.

Early in its life the church here was connected to Bardney Abbey: this patronage was held by the Abbey until 1307. In 1624 Gervase Holles MP for Grimsby visited here and wrote about the ancient stained glass windows, but there is little left of these now. Some were probably damaged in the Pillage of 1547 and some later by Cromwell's forces (1649-60) In 1689 some of James II's Scottish troops, The Dragoons who had been captured at Spanby Bridge, were imprisoned in the church.

When the font was moved in the 19^{th} century an octagonal stone, the remains of a former font, were found beneath it.

The earliest church clock was dated 1690 and had a major overhaul in 1816. The original clock was not wound up by a key but by a miniature windlass – this was of wrought iron, probably locally made and had lasted through three different centuries.

To be continued Colin Scrupps

Sutterton Methodist Church Services for August / Sept 4th August 4 pm - Church Anniversary 11th August 10.30am - Mr Barry Chapman 18th August 10.30am - Mr Michael Jessop 25th August 10.30am - Rev. Alan Barker 1st Sept 10.30pm - Mrs Liz Steel 8th Sept 10.30am - Rev. Keith Rowbottom 15th Sept 10.30am - Rev. Alan Barker 22nd Sept 10.30am - Rev David Howarth 29th Sept 10.30am - Mrs Libby Craggs

The Blackbird

Avis M Padley

Fascinating, though common, our native blackbirds are clever songsters. I never hear a nightingale but our resident blackbird sings the sweetest song, which is fluent and varied.

If a cat or other predator appears the blackbird will scold loudly, warning any smaller birds in the area.

Shakespeare wrote of blackbirds in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. It was then referred to as the "ousel cock" so black of hue, with orange tawny hue.'

The blackbird, a member of the thrush family, is still to be seen in most gardens though the song thrush and mistle thrush are in decline.

'Sing a Song of Sixpence' reminds us that sixpence bought twenty four birds to make a large pie. It was usual to make birds into pies until the early 20^{th} Century.

The blackbird can be heard from dawn until bats appear in the evening. Spring is a very vociferous time for the birds and they can be heard as they fly back and forth to feed ever hungry nestlings. There are millions of resident blackbirds in the UK and their numbers are increased by Scandinavian ones in winter months. Those we see in our gardens are not often the same birds we know so well.

Blackbirds will eat a wide range of food including seeds, fruit, and berries, as well as worms, which they will pull from their holes by head or tail.

They were once forest birds but now live happily close to humans. They do benefit from living, eating, drinking and bathing in our gardens.

Fortunately few nested early, in spite of a mild February, so we have the usual abundance of nests in neighbouring hedgerows. Sometimes they nest in unsuitable places where they can be discovered by predators including the neighbours' cats and dogs. They have been known to nest in car engines, wheelbarrows, hallowed buildings and even a set of traffic lights.

Both parent birds help to build the nest. Eggs hatch after about a fortnight's incubation, then parent birds become very busy. The baked mud nest lining is very durable even though made by birds.

The hen has streaked brown feathers and a light ring around her eyes, so should be known as a brown bird. In the 'Twelve Days of Christmas' the three colly birds are thought to have been blackbirds



Local Worthies Gamaliel Ratsey (Highwayman)

Gamaliel Ratsey was a highwayman in the late 16th century: he was the son of a well-to-do merchant, Richard Ratsey, of Market Deeping. According to records Gamaliel "took to evil ways" as a boy. In 1600 he enlisted into the army and was part of the force sent to Ireland to put down a rebellion. In those days the army was often the refuge of many dubious characters and thus it was with Gamaliel. He returned to England in 1603: his next exploit was to rob the landlady of an inn in Spalding of £40 – he was arrested for this but



managed to escape from prison. He then stole a horse and made for Northamptonshire, where he teamed up with two other thieves, George Snell and Henry Shorthose. The men took to highway robbery and became notorious; Gamaliel seemed to have been a "Robin Hood" type character; although he robbed well-to-do travellers he is known to have given money to poor and hungry people.

At the time it was said that the only people to fear highwaymen were the wealthy, for the poor blessed these "Knights of the road" for they were often generous to the poor and needy. There was also the fact that the poor had nothing worth stealing.

During his exploits he wore a hideous mask as a disguise; on one occasion the three ruffians robbed a group of nine people. Within two years of starting his exploits he was betrayed by his two partners and was arrested and was hanged at Bedford on March 26^{th} 1605.

He was the hero of several ballads after his death but none of these now exist, having been lost over time. There is a pamphlet which is now in the Bodleien Library; the pamphlet itself has no title but is described as "The life and death of Gamaliel Ratsey, a famous thief of England executed at Bedford the 26th March last."

Colin Scrupps



St. Mary's Church. Sutterton

Last Night of the Proms Friday October 4th 7.30pm

Swineshead Silver Band and Singers conducted by John Lyon. Licensed wine and juice bar. Raffle. Free Flags. Tickets £5 from Janice 01205 460590 ex2 or on the door

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9th May 2019

Present: Cllr. S. Collingwood; Cllr. P. Craven; Cllr. S. Baxter;

Cllr. B. Leggott; Cllr. G. Wright.

Also Present: Borough Councillor, M Cooper.

To elect the Chairman and Vice Chairman for the coming year

Cllr P Craven put his name forward for the position of Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr S Baxter and seconded by Cllr S Collingwood. The vote was unanimous in favour of electing Cllr PC as Chairman.

Cllr P Craven proposed Cllr G Wright as Vice-Chairman. Cllr GW indicated that he was willing to stand. This was seconded by Cllr B Leggott. The vote was unanimous in favour of electing Cllr GW as Vice Chairman.

Cllr Craven proceeded to chair the remaining part of the meeting. The Chairman thanked the outgoing Chairman, Cllr Collingwood on behalf of the Council for his work as Chairman over the last 2 years.

To receive the Acceptance of Office, Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and Local Choice Interest registration forms from The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillors.

The above forms were completed and handed to the clerk.

To confirm the notes from the annual meeting held on the 14th May 2018.

The notes from the above meeting were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as minutes.

To review and adopt the updated Financial Regulations

The Financial Regulations were reviewed and minor amendments made due to the use of online banking. It was resolved to accept the revised Financial Regulations.

ACTION: Clerk to post the updated copy on the website.

To review quotes received for the insurance policy for all insurable risks and agree which quote to accept.

The Clerk was only able to obtain 2 quotes as not many insurance companies provide bespoke policies for Parish Councils. The quotes received were: Zurich £521.33 (existing provider); Axa £390.59 plus £50 admin fee; Axa for a 3 year deal, £371.06 plus £50 admin fee. The Clerk had compared the 2 policies and found that both policies would provide sufficient cover for the Parish Council's requirements. It was resolved to take out the Axa policy with the 3 year deal.

ACTION: Clerk to set up the new policy by the 1st June 2019.

To review the Council's subscriptions to other bodies.

As the only current subscription is to the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils which is due to be paid in April of each year, the Clerk suggested it would be better to review subscriptions in February. It was resolved to add this agenda item to the

agenda for the February meeting. ACTION: Clerk to action.

To review the Council's Data Protection Policies and procedures

These policies and procedures were reviewed and it was resolved that no changes were needed.

To review the Council's Communication Policy

The policy was reviewed and it was resolved that no changes were needed. The Clerk summarised the key points of the policy.

<u>To review the Council's expenditure incurred under s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the general power of competence.</u>

The Clerk advised the Council that the maximum amount which could be spent under the above Act for 2018/19 is £7.86 times the number registered on the Voters Roll. This equates to £3128.28. The Council sets a budget each year for this spend which cannot be more than the amount mentioned above. The total amount paid out as donations/grants last year was £490.00 which is within the 2017/18 limit.

The Chairman closed the Annual Meeting at 19.55 and announced that the usual monthly meeting would now start.

New Parish Council Chairman & Vice Chairman

Both Peter Craven and Graeme Wright would like to introduce themselves as your Parish Council Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2019-2020. We would like to welcome anyone with any issues or ideas to join us at one of our meetings which are normally held on the first Monday of the month in the Village Hall. There is a public forum at the beginning of each meeting where you can speak to the Councillors. Alternatively, please



Peter Graeme

contact our Clerk, Ann Fletcher, on 07383 276892.

Could we also extend a very big thank you to both Marion Scrupps and Matthew Tunnard for all their contributions to Wigtoft Parish Council over many years. Both Marion and Matthew have been a great asset to the Parish Council and their input will be greatly missed. Thank you both.

We look forward to meeting up with you soon, Peter & Graeme.

Peter Craven Graeme Wright 07767 703535 07734 069100

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9th MAY 2019

Present: Cllr P Craven; Cllr G Wright; Cllr B Leggott;

Cllr S Baxter; Cllr S Collingwood.

Also Present: Borough Councillor M Cooper;

Public Forum: None

Chairman's Remarks: Cllr P Craven thanked the outgoing Chairman,

Cllr S Collingwood for his work over the last 2 years.

Apologies for absence and reasons given

County Councillor M Brookes sent his apologies.

To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

None

Police report

There was no Police presence. No report received.

Notes of the meeting held on 1.4.19 to be approved and signed as minutes.

It was resolved to accept the above notes. The notes were confirmed and signed as minutes by the Chairman, Cllr PC.

Accounts for payment, budget figures and financial report.

Date of invoice	Details of payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	Overall total
30.11.18	Footway lighting costs	511.42	102.28	613.70
30.4.19	Payroll Services	18.00		18.00
3.4.19	Printer Ink	6.66	1.33	7.99
20.4.19	Stamps	11.52		11.52
15.4.19	Clerk use as home as office	20.00		20.00
1.4.19	Travel	5.25		5.25
15.3.19	Pay	208.00		208.00
15.3.19	PAYE	52.00		52.00
15.4.19	Stationery	2.95		2.95
8.4.19	Drainage rates	54.97		54.97
17.4.19	Internal audit	73.25		73.25
18.4.19	Tree removal playing field	300.00	60.00	360.00
TOTAL		1264.02	163.61	1427.63
RECEIPTS				
1.4.19	PRECEPT	4624.50		4624.50
1.5.19	LAND RENT & DRAINAGE RATES	399.97		399.97
TOTAL		5024.47		5024.47

Finance report

The invoice for the land rent and drainage rates has been sent. Payment has been received.

The precept for the first half of the financial year has been received. The invoice for the footway lighting costs has been taken off this amount and the net amount paid. The Precept amount is £4,624.50 less footway lighting costs of £511.42 plus £102.28 vat giving a net credit of £4,010.80.

The new Lloyds bank account is up and running and the Nat West account is now closed. The Clerk has received a debit card and has access to on line banking. All payments will now be made by internet banking when possible. A cheque, which was sent to Abbey Payroll Services on the 2nd April, was not banked until after the Nat West account was closed. Payment was made by internet banking on the $1^{\rm st}$ May.

It was resolved to accept the accounts for payment and the budget figures to date.

Planning applications:

None

Correspondence

- 27.3.19 Email from Boston Borough Council containing the Parish Council Newsletter E-mailed to Councillors 6.4.19
- 1.4.19 Email from Boston Borough Council about new webpage listing all Councillor's Declaration of Interests E-mailed to Councillors 6.4.19
- 1.4.19 Email from LCC Highways with various documents about current street lighting policy E-mailed to Councillors 10.4.19
- 16.4.19 Email from LCC Highways advising that following feedback from Parish Councils, an extra £1M has been made available to improve highways services, including extra pothole teams, an extra cut and weed spray and highways gullies cleaned at least once a year. E-mailed to Councillors 19.4.19
- 16.4.19 Email containing the Rural Services bulletin. E- mailed to Councillors 19.4.19
- 30.4.19 As above E-mailed to Councillors 30.4.19
- 30.4.19 Invitation for residents and community groups to the 3rd Annual Resilient Communities conference 18.7.19 E- mailed to Councillors, posted on Face Book and website, details sent to Wigtoft News and Views
- 30.4.19 Parish Council Newsletter from Boston Borough Council E-mailed to Councillors, posted on Face Book and website 1.5.19

Councillors Reports

None

Clerk's Report.

Following the order for cleaning and treating of the wooden benches in the village last month, I have not received an invoice so I am assuming the work has not been completed yet.

Planning Department have been advised that the Clerk, Cllrs Collingwood, Leggott and Wright will be attending one of the training sessions.

Following a successful audit last year, The Parish Council is qualified to certify as exempt from the requirement to submit the audit paperwork to the Government appointed auditors. The audit process still needs to be followed.

To receive the report of the Internal Auditor. To retrospectively agree the appointment and payment of £73.25 to the Internal Auditor.

The report, which contained no adverse comments, was received by the Councillors. It was resolved to agree the appointment and payment as detailed above.

ACTION: Clerk to make payment.

To complete, confirm and sign Section 1 (the Annual Governance Statement) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18.

Section 1 was completed in conjunction with the Councillors. It was resolved to accept Section 1 as an accurate reflection of the activities of the Council. It was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

To confirm and sign Section 2 (the Accounting Statements) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18.

Section 2 had been completed by the Clerk. It was reviewed and resolved to accept the completed document. It was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

ACTION: Clerk to publish all audit documentation in line with regulations.

To confirm that Cllr SB will complete the check of the bank reconciliation and hand over the relevant paperwork.

Cllr SB volunteered to complete the check of the bank reconciliation. It was resolved to accept his offer. The Clerk handed the relevant paperwork to Cllr SB.

To retrospectively agree a payment of £300 to take down an unsafe damaged tree in the Play Area.

Cllr SC had reported a partly fallen tree in the play area after the last meeting to the Clerk. Councillors were e mailed to obtain their agreement to carry out the work as a matter of urgency. The whole tree was considered to be unsafe and was removed. It was resolved to agree the payment of £300 for this work.

ACTION: Clerk to make payment.

To review the requests from Citizen's Advice Bureau and Boston Community Transport for a donation.

The requests were discussed. It was resolved to donate £60 to each. As these payments would take the budget over the set amount for the current financial year,

Cllr SC suggested moving £100 from the Insurance budget to the donations budget as money had been saved on the premium this year. A cheque for a donation of £100 given in the previous financial year was not presented until the new financial year had started causing pressure on this year's budget. It was resolved to move £100 as detailed above. **ACTION: Clerk to make payments and adjust budget.**

An update on Highways issues

The Clerk reported that the repairs to Five Bells Lane have been completed. It was resolved that the Clerk should contact the resident who reported the required repair should be contacted. The Clerk reported that the repairs to Green Lane have been completed. Cllr BL advised that it did not appear to be fully completed. It was resolved to advise Highways. Following confirmation that vegetation had been trimmed back to improve visibility when exiting Burtoft Lane South onto the A17, Cllr BL advised that visibility is still poor when driving this route by tractor. It was resolved to re-contact Highways and advise of this issue.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways and resident.

To discuss the frequency of the Play area inspections.

It was resolved that the visual safety inspection should be carried out monthly by Councillors in rotation. Cllr SC volunteered to undertake the May inspection. It was resolved that the operational safety inspection should be carried out quarterly. Cllr PC volunteered to complete this inspection.

Borough Councillor M Cooper left the meeting at 8.30 pm.

To agree the actions required to fill the two vacancies for Parish Councillors.

It was resolved to advertise the vacancies in "Wigtoft News and Views", on the notice board, Facebook and Website. **ACTION: Clerk to advertise as above.**

To discuss the tenancy agreement for the 4.6 acres of allotment land and to review the rent (carried over from last meeting).

Cllr PC did not think that it is necessary to set up a tenancy agreement. He volunteered to find out if this is correct. **ACTION: Agenda item next meeting**

To discuss the purchase of any additional equipment for the Christmas Lights.

Cllr PC offered to talk to ex Councillor M. Tunnard about the equipment he previously purchased for the Christmas lights. **ACTION: Agenda item next month.**

To complete the questionnaire from LALC about clustering (carried forward from last meeting).

The questionnaire was completed in draft.

ACTION: Clerk to complete in full and forward to LALC.

Meeting closed at 9 pm

WIGTOFT NEWS AND VIEWS NEWSLETTER

The Wiatoft News and Views Newsletter team are:

Editorial Team Ann Mulbregt, Sally Smith, Colin Scrupps,

Liz Leonard, Virna Atkinson, John Craggs

The Newsletter is always grateful for any contribution towards the running costs of printing the magazine.

Advertisements are accepted for inclusion based on annual charges, the rates for which are: *Half page.....£70* Quarter page£40 *Eighth page.....£20*

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